



Veterans' Day Mass ~ Thank you to all the very special veterans who celebrated Mass with us for Veterans' Day. We are very thankful for everyone who served in order to provide our freedom!

Parent Teacher Conferences ~ Thank you to those who attended the November Conferences. We look forward to working together with you and your children to achieve their learning goals. A **HUGE** Heartfelt **THANK YOU** to all the families who donated ingredients for the staff meals during conferences. Extra special thanks to Chef Michael and Andrea Dewicki for preparing amazing food. We are feeling blessed and grateful!

Robotics ~ We have three Robotics teams competing in the Grandville Tournament on Saturday, November 18th. Go, Titan Robotics!

Thanksgiving Vacation ~ No School Wednesday – Friday, Nov 22 -24. Enjoy!

Holy Spirit Christmas Breakfast ~ HO HO HO!!! It's back! Please join us on Saturday, December 2nd from 8:30-11:00am for a delicious breakfast, live nativity, kids' crafts, and Santa and Mrs. Claus. We are also looking for volunteers to make this year's Santa Breakfast MAGICAL! This event is fun for the whole family and builds the Holy Spirit community. Please use this [SignUpGenius](#) to join us in the fun. Your assistance is greatly appreciated!

Accreditation ~ Our staff has gone through an Accreditation self-study looking at our progress on National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Schools. On December 7-8, we will have a team of educators from the Diocese of Grand Rapids here in our building rating us and looking for evidence on the standards of Mission and Catholic Identity, Governance and Leadership, Academic Excellence, and Operational Vitality.

Advent/Christmas Program ~ This year's Christmas program will be in church on Tuesday, December 19th at 6:30pm, and there will **not** be an afternoon performance. Students in Young Fives-Grade 6 should dress up and meet in their classrooms by 6:15. Four-year-old preschool students should meet in the School Library by 6:15. We look forward to sharing the Advent and Christmas Story together! **Please note:** The church doors will be locked until 6:00pm. We are asking that you do not lay out coats to reserve spots early. Thank you!

Scrip News ~ No physical gift card ordering or pick up the weeks of Nov. 20th, Dec. 25th, and Jan. 1st. E-gift cards and reloads are still available anytime. Just a reminder that December 4th will be the next local order. For a list of current local establishments [Click Here](#).

Financial Aid 2024-25 ~ Families wishing to apply for scholarships for the **2024-2025 school year** will need to complete a **Blackbaud application**. You may access this via <https://studentfinancialaid.blackbaud.school/#!/login>. Please use **CODE: HSpiritGR** for Holy Spirit students. Note the **DEADLINE is Dec. 3, 2023** for the first round of applications. Feel free to call the office with any questions.

Important Dates:

Wed., Nov. 22nd-Fri. Nov. 24th
~ Thanksgiving Break

Tues., Nov. 28th
~ GivingTuesday

Fri., Dec. 1st
~2nd Qtr Midterms Online

Sat., Dec. 2nd
~Santa Breakfast 8:30-11am

Wed., Dec. 6th
~Knights of Columbus Christmas
Poster Entries Due

Fri., Dec. 8th
~Feast of the Immaculate
Conception Mass 8:30am

Mon., Dec. 11th
~PTA Teacher Gift Collection Due

Tues., Dec. 12th
~Titan Toddler Time 6-6:45pm

Tues., Dec. 19th
~Christmas Program 6:30pm

Wed., Dec. 20th
~Last turn in day for Advent Haiti
Water Filter Donations

Thurs., Dec. 21st
~Paper Gator Color Day
~Student Choir Concert 6:30pm

Fri., Dec. 22nd
~Newsletter/Calendar
~Mass 8:30am

Mon., Dec. 25th - Fri., Jan. 5th
~Christmas Break

Mon., Jan 8th
~Classes Resume



~ Clean Water for Haiti

As we count our many blessings this Advent, we will do a water-filter fundraiser for our friends in Seguin, Haiti. Haiti ranks the lowest of any country in the global water poverty index. During Advent we will be collecting money to buy as many water filters as we can. Each filter costs \$30. **Thank you** for supporting our friends in Haiti!

Reminders & Save the Dates

GivingTuesday – Mark your calendars for GivingTuesday on November 28, 2023! This year the focus will be on a new Church Sound System. GivingTuesday is a simple idea that makes a BIG difference. Follow us on Facebook for updates. We hope you will join the movement and make your gift to Holy Spirit!

Knights of Columbus “Keep Christ In Christmas” Poster Contest – An entry form with contest rules is attached. Entry forms which include contest rules, and poster paper may also be picked up in the school office. This contest is for grades K-8. Entries are due by December 6th.

Titan Toddler Time – You and your children (ages 5 and under) are invited to Titan Toddler Time on Tuesday, December 12th, from 6:00 to 6:45pm as we celebrate Advent and Wait for the Birth of Jesus. Enjoy a visit on the front playground and photo opportunity with Santa and Mrs. Claus, and their helpers too! Please RSVP by emailing Paula Ryan at pryan@hsparish.org or by calling the school office at 616-453-2772. Hope to see you there!

Paper Gator Color Day – Families who bring in a large grocery size bag filled with items for the Paper Gator on Thursday, December 21st, will have a Paper Gator Color Day. Acceptable items are school/office paper, newspaper, junk mail, hard & soft cover books, magazines, shredded paper (bagged in clear plastic), paperboard (cereal type boxes), and cardboard (12”x12” or smaller). Students will assist you as you arrive in the morning. Let’s care for the environment, raise funds for the PTA, and fill the Paper Gator!

PTA Meeting - The next meeting is January 23rd at 7:00pm. Information regarding PTA activities and the October meeting notes are attached to this newsletter.

AWESOME AUTHORS CLUB!

Congratulations to the following HS Published Authors:

- 1H:** Sutton B. **1S:** Lucy S., Emma W.
2J: Ryan L., Tucker J., Eden G., Ocea H. **2M:** Eva G., Mila S., Natalie G., Danica G., Ellie F., Jack P., Kane B., Oliver M., Meleah D., Nola A., Warren D., Emmett T.
3D: Zavyer H., Max S. **3K:** Evelyn R., Evelyn B., Ellory R., Anastasia S.
4D: Lucia L., Wiley Z., Elin M., Felix P., Morgan B. **4O:** Sam B., Jack L., Lincoln S., Leo H., Grayson N.
5C: Lyla D., Jane B., Charlotte P., Lucia S., Grace M., Owen A.

BIRTHDAY BOOK CLUB

Please consider donating a new book to our school library in honor of your child’s birthday. For a list of desired books, please call the office or click [HERE](#).

Your donation to the school library is greatly appreciated! In return for your generosity, your child will receive a color day pass.



December Birthdays



Alex M.
Edward B.
Kennidy C.
Roman S.
Hazel B.
Michael P.

Calvin G.
Helen K.
Lucy S.
Charlotte T.
Natalie W.
Ryder M.

Mila A.
Michael G.
Lawson Y.
Ellie W.
Lyla D.
Mrs. Russo

Nola A.
Leo J.
Leo B.
Isaac M.
Caleb B.
Mrs. Duffy

Religious Education News

Sacrament Reminders:

1. Confirmation registration forms due by Thanksgiving.
2. Parent Reconciliation homework due by Thanksgiving.
3. First Reconciliation is Wednesday, January 24, 2024 at 6:30pm in Church. Parents and child receive.

See the Flyers for Advent by Candlelight, Advent by Bonfire, and An Advent Retreat, attached to this newsletter. Reservations need to be made by the date on the flyers. The next YouServe event is scheduled for Sunday, December 3rd. This flyer and permission slip is also attached.

WC/CC Link Box ...

[CC Admissions/Shadow Days/Scholarships](#)

[WC Admissions and Shadow Days](#)

[WC Scholarships](#)

[WC Youth Basketball League](#)



In Sympathy

Please remember in prayer, the **Lanser Family** on the passing of their Great-Grandmother, and the **Richards Family** on the death of their Grandfather. May their souls, and all the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace.

Holy Spirit Mission Statement

Our mission at Holy Spirit School is to live, learn, and share the message and teachings of Jesus Christ.



WINTER WEATHER

Just a reminder that students are outside at arrival, during recess, and at dismissal, and must be dressed appropriately for the weather. As our weather turns “wintery” ~ please help your child/ren remember to bring boots to school for outdoor recess. Students who wear boots may play on the blacktop area...otherwise students without boots will remain on the sidewalk so that the salt, slush, etc...is not tracked onto the carpet in the classrooms. Students who are fully dressed for winter (i.e. – snow pants, boots, hats, gloves, etc.) may choose to play on the playground equipment, the upper/lower fields, and/or go sledding when offered. Let’s work together to keep all students healthy and warm!

ILLNESS

If a child is ill, he/she should remain at home. The Health Department suggests that a child who is well enough to be in school is well enough to participate in all school activities, including outdoor recess and physical education. If a child is ill and remains at home during the school day, the student may not attend extra-curricular activities on that day (Education Commission Policy #6146.2.)

If a child becomes ill during the school day, a parent, relative, or a person designated on the child’s enrollment form will be notified to come and get him/her.

What follows is a summary of the Health Department publication entitled, “When to Keep Your Child Home.” The school also uses these guidelines to determine if a child should be sent home from school as well.

- FEVER** **Do not allow child to return to school until fever-free for 24 hours. (unassisted-without medication)**
- COLD, COUGH** **“Heavy cough” and hacking cough...keep home in bed even though no fever.**
- SORE THROAT** Sore throat, but no other symptoms...go to school...**BUT** check the throat for spots and check for a fever. If either is present, keep the child home and call the doctor.
- RASH** **Do not send a child with a rash** to school until your doctor has said that it is safe to do so.
- HEADACHE** Usually need not be kept home. (If you wish your child to take medication for headache, you will need to bring the medication to the office in a labeled container, with a completed Medication Administration Release Form. (see school web-site at www.holyspiritschoolgr.org under “Parent Information” – “Forms & Registration Info”).
- EARACHE** Consult your doctor without delay.
- TOOTHACHE** Consult your dentist.
- VOMITING** Please keep the child home. They may return 24 hours after their stomach has calmed. Consult your doctor if it persists.

Publishing Center Announcement!

Congratulations to Ellie F. and Danica G. in 2nd Grade, for being the **Featured Author of the Month**. Ellie and Danica have won a lunch of their choice and their story is featured below.

The Mysterious Backpack

Once upon a time, there were some backpacks. Every day Ellie and Danica went to take something out of their bags and something was always missing. Their backpacks were doing something naughty.

Every time they put their snack in their backpack it would gobble it up. When they put their backpack down, they went to get a drink of water. When they came back to empty their folders, their backpacks were missing!

They told their parents that their bags were missing, but their parents didn't believe them. They told their parents to come and see themselves that their bags were missing, but when they came back, their bags were there. They asked their brother Eugene and he said, "No."

The next morning, they went to fill their water bottle and it was missing. They went to school and they were super thirsty.

They told their teacher that their water bottle was missing and their teacher said, "Go get a drink from the drinking fountain." Then they came back to the classroom to do math.

After school, they saw their brother with all their stuff. Then they told their parents to come and see their naughty little brother. They kept Eugene away from their stuff.

About the Authors

Ellie has one brother and two sisters. At home, she enjoys playing Uno with her siblings. Ellie's favorite holiday is Christmas. She likes the color pink. Ellie's favorite animal is a giraffe and she once got to feed a giraffe at the zoo. Her favorite meal is spaghetti and garlic bread.

Danica likes to play basketball and do gymnastics. She also likes to play with her cousins that live next door. Her favorite holiday is Thanksgiving because her cousins from out of town come to visit. She likes to play softball and be the pitcher. Her favorite colors are teal and pink. Ivy and Bean is her favorite book series to read.



PTA | HOLY SPIRIT
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION MEETING AGENDA

October 24, 2023

- **CALL TO ORDER / PRAYER:** Emily Bouma
 - 7:00pm called to order
 - 7:02pm prayer

- **BOARD IDENTIFICATION:**
 - Emily Bouma - PRESIDENT | ebouma1205@gmail.com
 - Melissa Radlinski- VICE- PRESIDENT | melissaradlinski@gmail.com
 - Philip Alt - TREASURER | Philip.alt@altcc.biz
 - Tanya Kooistra - SECRETARY | tlkooistra@gmail.com

- **STAFF RECOGNITION:** Melissa Radlinski
 - Kelly Clancy
 - Laura Stroh
 - Kathleen Houdek
 - Paula Ryan
 - Tanya Kooistra
 - Pat Kalahar

*Thank you, Paula for putting out and picking up the reminder PTA signs on PTA Tuesdays!!**

- **ROLE CALL:** parents went around, said name, student(s) name(s), student(s) grade(s)
 - add this in each meeting: allows parents to get to know other parents that may have students in the same grade and put a face with a name

- **READING OF GOALS** (see goals at the bottom of agenda): Melissa Radlinski

- **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:** Pat Kalahar
 - WWTS- 2024/2025 School Year
 - Looking for a new chairperson, after 11 years, this is Kelly's final year
 - Kelly Clancy will stay on as a mentor, but her final child is graduating from Holy Spirit 2023/2024 school year
 - Outstanding committee members that help tremendously
 - Blessing of the Playground- **October 15, 2023**
 - Thank you so much to the Social Committee, PTA Board members, and the countless volunteers that gave of their time to help make this large event possible
 - Many hands made light work, and it is all greatly appreciated
 - Titan Toddler Time- **October 19, 2023**
 - Wonderful turn out
 - Exciting to see the future Titans in the building and excited about Holy Spirit School
 - Thank you to those that help make this possible- teachers and parents
 - Lower Elementary Report Card Improvement Meeting- **October 24, 2023**

- Discussion about changing the report card stems/ standards
- Goal: to make it a more user friendly document for both teachers and parents, allowing teachers to showcase students strengths, while also setting goals for the upcoming quarter
- Staff Professional Development- **NO SCHOOL- Friday, November 3, 2023**
 - Diocesan wide professional development
 - Focus on the Diocesan curriculum
 - Year of the Eucharistic Revival- a focus on living in the Eucharist
- Parent-Teacher Conferences- **November 9 and 14, 2023**
- Veteran's Day- **November 11, 2023**
 - Veterans will be invited to the Friday morning school Mass
 - They will be recognized with a blessing
 - Veterans will have an opportunity to stay and visit with classroom, sharing some of their memories
 - Stay tuned for more information about this in future Friday Follow Ups/Newsletter
- Holy Spirit Musical-**March 22 and 23, 2024**
 - Madagascar Jr.
 - Mr. Inbody will be the musical director again
 - 4-8th grade auditions have already happened
 - Practices will begin soon
- CHANGES:
 - Friday and Weekend Masses
 - There is a possibility students/ children will no longer be invited up for a blessing during communion, they are to remain in the pew
 - Several points were brought up about the logistics of this, as well as the student disappointments
 - Stay tuned for further developments
 - Eucharistic Ministers
 - Short video, created by the Parish staff, will be shared with all Eucharistic ministers
 - Eucharistic ministers are to line up around the stairs leading up to the altar, instead of going up onto the altar first. Once Father consumes the precious body and blood of Christ, the Eucharist ministers will then approach the altar and receive themselves

TREASURER'S REPORT: Phil Alt

- Total Revenue to date- \$47,655
 - Thank you WWTS- main source of revenue for PTA-\$47,039
 - Thank you Paper Gator- October 12, 2023 Paper Gator Color Day-\$287.00
 - Interest income received- \$122
- Expenses to date- \$12,277
 - WWTS T-Shirt Year- \$2,528
 - Recess Equipment- mentioned at September 2023 PTA Meeting- \$405
 - Teacher Start up Funds
 - Used to receive a check and then submit receipts
 - Changed to having to provide receipt and then receive reimbursement

- 5 teachers have spent their start up funds so far
- Budget- Excess of Revenue over Expenses- \$35,501 to date

● **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- Holy Spirit Apparel - Chair: Melissa Radlinski
 - **Week of 10/30/23**- Holy Spirit Apparel Online Store- active
 - Orders will be due before Thanksgiving
 - Delivered in time for Christmas
 - Option to mark/comment- do NOT send home with student, if it is a Christmas gift
 - Always looking for new designs and ideas, if you have any, email PTA@hsparish.org
- Birthday Board - Chair: Stephanie Kozlowicz
 - No chair present/ emailed report
 - As always, it looks great
 - Thank you, Stephanie and kids for making our students and staff feel special on their special day
- School Family Outreach- Chair: Annie Williams
 - PTA Friday Follow-up/Newsletter Corner
 - We are working on creating a consistent spot in school communication
 - Holy Spirit School community can email pta@hsparish.org with deaths, births, sicknesses, and needs
 - These requests will then be passed along to the School Family Outreach Chair
 - Meal train for Angie (5th grade mom)/ organized around her treatments
 - originally sent to only 5th grade parents/ now have opened up this opportunity for the whole Holy Spirit School community
 - Almost all of the dates are full
 - Many financial and gift card donations have been given as well, which are much appreciated
- Hospitality / Staff Conference Meals - Chair: Michael Dewicki & Mercedes Barnum
 - No chair present
 - Sign up genius will be shared with Staff Conference Meals Volunteer list (signed up on the back to school volunteer form)
 - If you want to be added to the Staff Conference Meals Volunteer list, email pta@hsparish.org
- Paper Gator - Chair: Kelly Toland
 - No chair present/ emailed report
 - Great ideas on future dates, waiting on approval
 - National Recycling Day, National Wrapping Day, Global Recycling Day, Earth Day, National Alligator "Gator" Day, and National Magazine Day
 - Questions:
 - How often does the paper gator get emptied? Check written?
 - How many color days can we get attached to the paper gator?
- Parent Ambassador - Chair: Kelly Clancy
 - Nothing new to report

- Publishing Center - Chair: April Alt
 - No chair present/ emailed report
 - Students have been on fire for writing, this has been very exciting
 - **October 27, 2023**- First featured author in the Holy Spirit School newsletter

- Room Parent Coordinator - Chair: Amanda Sekelsky
 - No chair present
 - Halloween parties will be held on **Tuesday, October 31, 2023**, many room parents have sent out sign-up geniuses for supplies
 - Hallway parade will be held on **Tuesday, October 31, 2023** at ~2:30pm

- Social Committee / Titan Give Backs - Chair: Ashley Braman
 - 2023 Fall Social Event: Blessing of the Playground/ Food Truck
 - Huge success and a great big thank you to the committee members and all of the volunteers it took to put this event together and to pull it off
 - Thank you for everyone who braved the wet, chilly weather to make this event such a success
 - The intention of the event was not a fundraiser, but PTA would accept givebacks from the food trucks to continue to fund additional fun activities for the Holy Spirit School community
 - Thank you, Le Bon Macaron- 100% of the macaron sales were donated back to the PTA, \$750.00!!!
 - Around Baking- donated 10% back after covering their costs. Delicious pizzas, who knew pickles belonged on a pizza! ~\$50.00 to PTA
 - Mannings BBQ- been in contact to receive the give back, but still waiting to hear from them
 - Chick-Fil-A Give Back- **Thursday, November 2, 2023**
 - 10% of the total will be given back to the Holy Spirit School PTA
 - You will not need a flyer or a code in order for Holy Spirit School to receive the kickback
 - More information about this will be in the newsletter
 - Currently working with Chick-Fil-A on social media advertising as well
 - 2024 Winter Social Event
 - Winter Festival
 - Looking at dates for approval
 - Avoid the WWTS YMCA celebration weekend
 - Avoid the Tarry Hall Roller Skating event
 - Considering a final celebration of Catholic Schools' Week
 - Ideas: chili cook off, sledding, s'mores and hot chocolate bars
 - More information to come

- *** **New** Community Connection / Alumni Committee: Sarah and Dan Grey
 - No chair present/ emailed report
 - Working on combining alumni databases into a master document
 - Alumni newsletter highlight- wanting to start including a write up of alumni and where they are now, what they are doing, and how they are still modeling the Holy Spirit School values that were instilled in them
 - Desire to utilize the community connection/alumni database to support our Holy Spirit School community businesses as we plan future events, activities, etc.

- Teacher Appreciation Week- Chair: Emily Bouma
 - **May 6-10, 2024**
 - Nothing new to report

- Variety Show- Chair: Erin Gottleber
 - **May 31, 2024**
 - No chair present

- Walking With The Spirit- Kelly Clancy
 - **October 9, 2023**- WWTS Committee Wrap-up Celebration- well attended
 - All of the committee members have agreed to come back
 - **Saturday, February 24, 2024**- WWTS YMCA Celebration Night- more info to come
 - **Friday, September 13, 2024**- Next Year's WWTS date

Topics of Discussion:

- PTA Goals/ Board Definition
 - Question:
 - Who do the parents say the PTA is, what is the role of the PTA, what goals should the PTA have? Email your thoughts to pta@hsparish.org
 - Executive Board Meeting on **November 7, 2023**
 - Define who PTA is, role of PTA, goals of PTA

- Parent Comments/Questions
 - Expressed that it seems that the same people do everything
 - Committee Chairs should reach out to those that signed up for things on the back to school volunteer form
 - Digital database has been created, if chairs are unaware of who has signed up to be on their committee(s)

 - Voice feels unheard/ uncomfortable presenting something at the meeting
 - Email all questions/concerns/comments to pta@hsparish.org, we would be more than happy to help, let us know if you want it to be shared anonymously

- PE Uniforms
 - Questions:
 - 4th-8th graders pre-covid changed for gym class, will this recommence and if so, when?
 - As class sizes increase and the square footage of the locker room doesn't, it is quite a tight squeeze
 - The locker room is one big open room and does not offer any privacy

 - Concerns:
 - The PE uniform code
 - 4-8th grade students, essentially get 1 color day each week
 - Students are wearing pajama pants, jeans, not gym attire on PE days
 - If odor was an issue, staying in the same clothes all day is not the solution
 - The what you wear for gym is what you wear for the day- basically color day
 - Unclear PE uniform code

 - Solutions:
 - Teachers could review clear expectations of what is appropriate and what is not allowed
 - Students could wear a Holy Spirit shirt of their choosing on PE days
 - concern of having to washing/fading of shirts that are asked to last multiple years

- Wear their uniforms for PE class
 - Students in grades 1-3rd do
 - Students where their uniforms for morning and lunch recess without any issues
 - Rewrite the PE uniform dress code
 - Solid/ no logo white, navy, maroon, light blue top (short sleeve/sweatshirt)
 - Solid/ no logo navy, khaki, black bottoms (shorts, sweatpants/warmups)
 - Offer a Holy Spirit School PE Uniform
 - Uniform would stay consistent for years
 - Wear multiple years, multiple family hand me downs
 - Concern of asking parents to spend more money- do not want to raise the cost for parents
 - PE fund- that helps fund the gym clothes cost
 - PTA assist in the cost
 - Parents already purchase other PE appropriate clothes, could be less money this route/ Parents spend \$ on uniforms, this is just one of the days of uniforms
- *Pat will present these questions/concerns/ideas at the **November 15, 2023 School Board Meeting***
- Committee Chair Guidelines
 - Congrats April Alt, publishing center chair for being first to complete and turn in the committee job description distributed at/after the September 2023 PTA Meeting- Starbucks Gift Card
 - Toilet Bowl winner for completion of the committee job description is still up for grab! A few are still outstanding.
 - Some committees have multiple chairpersons
 - Reduced the chairs down to 1/ committee
 - Each chair person received a committee chair guidelines to ensure they and their committee follow the appropriate steps for event planning, written communication, and digital communication
 - Chairs not present at the October 2023 PTA meeting will be receiving these electronically

Important Dates:

- **Wednesday, October 25, 2023-** Accreditation Teacher Appreciation (presented at staff meeting)
 - Charcuterie Cup- Thank you Nibble and Nosh! and bottle of wine/water
- **Saturday, October 28, 2023-** Evening of Worship
 - After 5:00pm Mass
 - Praise and Worship band put their heart and soul into this
 - Let's pack the pews!!!
- **Sunday, October 29, 2023-** Trunk or Treat
 - Set up 4:00-4:30pm
 - Candy distribution 4:30-5:00pm
 - Matt Murphy will do the music again this year!
- **Thursday, November 2, 2023-** Chick-Fil-A Titan Give Back Night
 - 5:00-7:00pm

- **DISMISSAL**
 - Color day pass drawing and distribution
 - Meeting concluded at 8:15pm

This year's meetings:

~~September 26, 2023-7pm~~

~~October 24, 2023-7pm~~

January 23, 2024- 7pm

March 26, 2024- 7pm



Our mission at Holy Spirit School is to learn, live, and share the message and teachings of Jesus Christ.

FROM THE PTA CONSTITUTION, ARTICLE II: GOALS

The goals of this organization shall be:

- A) To bring into closer relation the home and the school, so parents and teachers may work together in educating children in a Catholic Christian environment.
- B) To develop between teachers and parents such united efforts as will secure for every child the highest advantages in physical, mental, social, and spiritual education.
- C) To offer through a well-planned program information of particular interest to parents in an effort to raise the standards of home life.



Holy Spirit School Calendar, December, 2023

Lunch Supervision, Grade 5 / For updated information go to www.holyspiritschoolgr.org

					1 <u>Mass 8:30</u> 2 nd Quarter Midterms Online	2 Santa Breakfast 8:30-11:00
3 1 st Sunday <u>of Advent</u> Mk 13:33-37	4	5 Choir <u>3:15-4:15</u> Advent by Candlelight	6 Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest Entries Due Today	7 Accreditation <u>Dec. 7-8</u> Advent by Bonfire	8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception 8:30 Mass	9
10 2 nd Sunday <u>of Advent</u> Mk 1:1-8	11 PTA Teacher Gift Collection Due	12 Choir <u>3:15-4:15</u> Titan Toddler Time 6:00-6:45	13	14	15 Mass 8:30	16 Evening of Worship 6:30
17 3 rd Sunday <u>of Advent</u> Jn 1:6-8, 19-28	18	19 Christmas Program 6:30pm	20 Last Turn-in Day for our Advent Haiti Water Filter Donations, Thank you!	21 Paper Gator <u>Color Day</u> Student Choir Concert 6:30	22 <u>Mass 8:30</u> Newsletter & Calendar	23
24 4 th Sunday of Advent <u>8:30 & 10:30</u> Christmas Eve <u>4:00 & 7:30</u> Student Choir 4:00 Mass	25 <u>Christmas!</u> Mass 10:30am	26 <u>No School</u> Child Care Closed	27 <u>No School</u> Child Care Open	28 <u>No School</u> Child Care Open	29 <u>No School</u> Child Care Open	30
31 Feast of Holy Family Lk 2:22-40	January 1 New Year's <u>Day</u> Child Care Closed	January 2 <u>No School</u> Child Care Closed	January 3 <u>No School</u> Child Care Open	January 4 <u>No School</u> Child Care Open	January 5 <u>No School</u> Child Care Open	January 6



HOLY SPIRIT TEACHER GIFT COLLECTION



Back by popular demand, this is the easiest Christmas shopping you will do all season long!

This eliminates the need for individual classroom collections, but does not replace the PTA gift given to the teachers each year.

- 1. Send your ONE per family contribution gift (any amount, if you choose) by cash or check payable to Holy Spirit to the school office no later than **Monday, December 11th.***
- 2. The PTA will divide the money among the full and part-time teachers and they will receive an Amazon gift card.*
- 3. Your child's room parent will circulate a Christmas card for the children to sign that will accompany the gift.*
- 4. Cross this off your Christmas to-do-list!*

*The students will present the gifts to the teachers on **Thursday, December 21st.***



Questions? pta@hsparish.org





JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL

HOLY SPIRIT

Santa Breakfast

Sponsored by the Holy Spirit Educational Foundation

SATURDAY DECEMBER 2ND, 2023

8:30- 11 AM

HOLY SPIRIT ACTIVITY CENTER (GYM)

Tickets available at the breakfast (cash/ venmo)

Adults \$10 | Kids \$5 | Under 2 free

ENJOY DELICIOUS BREAKFAST, KIDS CRAFTS,
LIVE NATIVITY, AND SANTA

1, 2, 3, 4

We declare a

P E N N Y W A R !

Wednesday, December 6th - Wednesday, December 20th

RULES:

Each grade has their own bucket for collecting money. **Add** points to your grades' total by adding **pennies and bills**. **Subtract** from other grades' totals by adding **silver coins** to their buckets.

Pennies & Bills

All pennies and bills **ADD** points to the grades' totals

Silver Coins

All silver coins **SUBTRACT** points from the grades' totals

GOAL:

• RAISE MONEY FOR HAITI WATER FILTERS •

Points:

Adding:		Subtracting:	
Penny	+ 1 point	Nickel	- 5 points
\$1 bill	+ 100 points	Dime	- 10 points
\$5 bill	+ 500 points	Quarter	- 25 points
\$10 bill	+ 1,000 points		
\$20 bill	+ 2,000 points		

WINNERS:

The grade with the highest number of points!



2023 ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE



Santa Breakfast

Sponsored by the Educational Foundation

Saturday, December 2
8:30 am-11:00 am

An Advent Retreat with Mary

Saturday, December 2
8:30 am-1:00 pm

Advent by Candlelight

Women's Event; RSVP needed

Tuesday, December 5
7:00 pm

Advent by Bonfire

Men's Event; RSVP needed

Thursday, December 7
6:30 pm

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Friday, December 8
Masses at 8:30 am & 6:30 pm

Titan Toddler Time

RSVP needed

Tuesday, December 12
6:00-6:45 pm

Advent Penance

Thursday, December 14
6:30-7:30 pm

Lessons & Carols

Saturday, December 16
6:00 pm Dinner
6:30 pm Service

Eucharistic Adoration with Confession

Monday, December 18
6:30-8:00 pm

Holy Spirit School Christmas Program

Tuesday, December 19
6:30-7:15 pm

West Catholic

Christmas Concert
Thursday, December 21
6:30 pm

Christmas Eve Masses

Sunday, December 24 | 4:00 pm, 7:30 pm

Christmas Day Mass

Monday, December 25 | 10:30 am



Advent by Candlelight

An invitation to all women to join us for an evening of Prayer, Reflection & Community as we hear words of wisdom from our guest speaker, Sr. Colleen Ann Nagle. FSE, MA, LPC



“How Our Daily
Activities & Challenges
Can Prepare Us to
Receive Christ”

Tuesday, December 5, 2023 at 7pm

Parish of the Holy Spirit

RSVP by November 28, 2023

at 453-1591 or reledoffice@hsparish.org

Select from one of these options when registering:

Choose the *Martha Hostess Option* if you are someone who enjoys decorating and being a hostess. Invite up to 7 of the special women in your life and treat them to a great dessert. We have 60” round tables to “reserve” while they last. Purple tablecloths are available upon request. You can decorate your table anytime between 2:00 pm and 6:30 pm on December 5.

Choose the *Mary Option* if you are not the hostess type and just want to come. This is a great way to meet new friends and to share this wonderful night.

“An Advent Retreat with Mary Not Just for Women!”

Join us for a one-day Scriptural retreat using the always enlightening work of biblical scholar Dr. Brant Pitre. As a first-century Jewish woman, how would the Virgin Mary have understood the mysterious events that led up to the birth of Jesus? What are the Jewish roots of Christmas?

Saturday, December 2, 2023

Holy Spirit Church

8:30-1:00pm

dschoof@hsparish.org 616 453-1591

Light Breakfast provided. RSVP by November 29

Advent by Bonfire December 7 6:30pm

**RSVP by November 21
Dan Wood 616 735-6032**

**Join the men of Holy Spirit for an evening of
Prayer & Reflection
Beverages and Bonding
to share the Advent season.**

**Outside Holy Spirit Church
Dress warmly
Bring a bag chair, snack to pass,
& your beverage of choice.**

**Brats and
German wieners provided.**





FAITH AND FAMILY NIGHT



Pastor Gabe Hartfield



Sunday, Dec. 3, 2023 | 3 PM
Van Andel Arena



Pre-game event starts at 1:30 PM

Attention Grand Rapids, Faith & Family Night is finally back! Enjoy this fun pre-game event with Cross Roads Young Adults pastor Gabe Hartfield and Holy Spirit Parish Worship Team! This is a time to be filled with a good word, enjoy some amazing worship, and on top of it all watch elite level basketball. Can't get better than this!

TICKETS: \$8

Scan the QR Code or click on the link below to purchase tickets now!

<https://fevo-enterprise.com/event/Faithfamily32>



For more information contact Hayden Johnson at hjohnson@nbagrandrapids.com



YouServe

Gilda's Club Chefs

Sunday, December 3, 2023 3-5pm
Holy Spirit Church Multipurpose
Room

Open to Grades 8 through High School.
Permission slip required.

Each week, Gilda's Club invites the people that attend their various cancer and grieving support groups to come together before their meetings for a community dinner. We will be cooking some main dish meals and freezing them for Gilda's Club to use as needed.

Please let us know if you are coming by Thanksgiving so we can be sure to have enough supplies: reledoffice@hsparish.org or 616-453-1591.



PARENT PERMISSION FORM FOR FIELD TRIP PARTICIPATION

Dear Parent or Legal Guardian:

Your child may participate in a parish-sponsored service activity. This activity will take place under the guidance and supervision of employees and/or volunteers from Holy Spirit Parish. A brief description of the activity follows:

Name of Event: Gilda's Club Chefs

Destination: Holy Spirit Multi-Purpose Room in church

Designated Supervisor of Activity: Diane Schoof, Amy Parker, Megan Ponik

Date and Time: Sunday, December 3, 2023 3-5pm

Method of Transportation: Parents will provide transportation for their child

Child Cost: No Cost. If you would like to contribute towards the meal, contact Diane.

Statement of Consent

I hereby consent to participation by my child, _____, in the event described above scheduled for Sunday, December 3, 2023. I understand that the event will take place on the school/parish grounds. I further consent to the conditions stated above on participation in this event, including the method of transportation.

In consideration of my child being allowed to participate in this event, I agree to waive and release, and indemnify and hold harmless Holy Spirit Parish/School, any and all affiliated organizations, its/their employees, agents, representatives, volunteers and drivers, from any and all claims I or my child may have, excluding claims for intentional misconduct or gross negligence, arising from or relating to my child's participation in this event.

I authorize Holy Spirit Parish/School to obtain necessary medical treatment for my child in case of illness, injury or accident. List allergies, medication, contacts, or other pertinent comments:

_____.

During this event, I can be reached at ()_____.

I certify that I am the (check one) _____ custodial parent _____ legal guardian of the minor child named above and I agree to the above terms for myself and for my minor child.

(Print Parent's Name)

(Parent's Signature)

(Date)

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS POSTER CONTEST

ENTRY FORM

I wish to enter THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS POSTER CONTEST in the age division (as of Nov. 1st) checked below. I realize that my entry becomes property of the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council Office.

AGE 5-7 DIVISION
(GRADE K-2)

AGE 8-10 DIVISION
(GRADE 3-5)

AGE 11-14 DIVISION
(GRADE 6-8)

COUNCIL NUMBER _____

Name of Entrant _____

Date of Birth _____

Street Address _____

City _____

State/Province _____

Postal Code _____

Telephone (Circle one: Home Cell) _____

Email _____

Signature of Entrant _____

This Section To Be Completed By Parent/Guardian:

Council No. _____

The undersigned hereby request and approve the Entrant's registration and participation in the KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS "KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS" POSTER CONTEST. In consideration of such registration and participation, the undersigned hereby agree to hold the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council and any of its subordinate units and their officers, members, agents and employees, blameless and without liability, and hereby agree to release, indemnify and hold harmless all of the above mentioned from any and all claims and expenses resulting from or relating to Entrant's said participation. The Entrant may compete in only one council-level contest. **Entries become the property of the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council which retains exclusive rights to use said entries in future promotional materials, with creative credit given to the artist.**

Parent/Guardian _____

Date signed _____

This Section To Be Completed Knights of Columbus Officials:

Score Sheet

SCORING INSTRUCTIONS: A 100-point scoring system is used to determine winners. Information on Rules and Judging are on other side of this form.

Competition Level	Slogan – 30 points	Artistic Merit – 30 points	Overall Impact – 40 points
Council Total: _____			
District/Regional Total: _____			
Jurisdictional Total: _____			
International Level Total: _____			



KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS

POSTER JUDGING FACT SHEET

RULES

Poster must reflect the theme of *KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS*.

Each poster should be the original work (including concept, layout, slogan and any visual images) of a single person.

Poster must be approximately 11x17 inches in size. If pastels, chalk or charcoal are used, the poster must be laminated or covered with clear plastic. Posters may be in color or black and white.

Each poster must be submitted with a Knights of Columbus "Keep Christ in Christmas" Poster Contest entry form. The name and age of the person entering the poster should be included on the back of the poster.

All entries become the property of the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council. **Posters will not be returned.**

JUDGING

Judging should be done by teams composed of students, Knights, teachers, administrators, Chaplin, Pastor, etc. In keeping with the theme of giving young people the opportunity to develop their own feeling towards Christmas and our savior Jesus Christ, it's important young people are included in all phases of the judging process.

A **100 point scoring system** will be used to determine the winner.

30 Points: Slogan — How clearly is the theme presented?

30 Points: Visuals — How well do the visuals convey the message?

40 Points: Overall impact — How effective was the poster in capturing your attention and causing you to reflect on the topic?

Council's Contact Information



Email a copy of this document to: fraternalmission@kofc.org
(Councils should also retain a copy of this completed form for their files)

5025 5/18