



**Holy  
Spirit**  
CATHOLIC  
SCHOOL

**January 26, 2024  
School Newsletter**

### Important Dates:

**~Catholic Schools Week is Jan. 28<sup>th</sup> – Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>** - Please see the attached CSW schedule for details. Fr. Mark would like all family members to wear Holy Spirit apparel or uniforms to Mass on this weekend, January 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to celebrating with you throughout this Catholic Schools Week!

**~WinterFest 2024** – Load up your snow gear and your sleds, and get ready to kick off Catholic Schools Week after the 10:30 Mass! Food trucks, cookies, fire pits, and a hot cocoa station will be available.

**~Altitude Field Trip** – Parents who would like to attend the Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> Field Trip must sign a waiver upon entrance. If you would like to jump, the cost is \$10 plus the purchase of trampoline socks. Y5/K will be there 10:00-11:00, Gr. 1-3 from 10:30-12:00, Gr. 4-5 from 11:30-1:30, and Gr. 6-8 from 12:00-2:00. Thank you, PTA, for sponsoring this field trip for our students!

**~Parent-Teacher Conferences** – Conferences will be held in person on February 8<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. You will be receiving an email on January 26<sup>th</sup>, with information on how to schedule your conference. Students in Grades 3-5 will need to be present at their conferences because they are student led.

**~Burning of the Palms** – As we prepare for Lent, we will have a Burning of the Palms ceremony on Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, at 2:50 outside between the rectory and school. Last year's palms will be used for this year's ashes on Ash Wednesday.

**~Happy Valentine's Day** – To celebrate the feast of St. Valentine, students may have a color day and wear red, pink, purple, or white on Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>. We are celebrating a day early due to the date falling on Ash Wednesday.

**~Country Western Color Day \$1** – The Student Government is raising money for projects by sponsoring a Country Western Color Day for \$1 per student on Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Wear your plaid, or red, white, & blue shirts, jeans, and cowboy boots. Yeehaw!

**~YMCA Fun Night** – Family Fun Night at the YMCA will be Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, from 7:15-9:30pm. Come celebrate another record breaking WWTS! More details to come as the event gets closer.

**~Living Stations of the Cross** – To assist you on your Lenten journey, we would like to invite you to our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students' Living Stations of the Cross. This moving presentation, and Lenten reflection, will be presented on Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 pm in the church.

**~Girls on the Run** – We have four coaches ready to coach a Girls On The Run team for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade girls. Please sign up online at: <https://www.gotrwm.org/> if your daughter is interested. Thank you.

**~Thank You Parents** – A huge **Thank You** goes out from the teachers to the Holy Spirit parents for the very generous Christmas gift cards your donations purchased for all of us. We really appreciate you thinking of us!

**Sun., Jan. 28<sup>th</sup> – Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
~Catholic Schools Week

**Sun., Jan. 28<sup>th</sup>**  
~WinterFest after 10:30 Mass

**Thurs., Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>**  
~Altitude w/WWTS t-shirt

**Fri., Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
Mass w/Bishop 8:30

**Mon., Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>**  
~Early Childhood Info Night  
6:00-7:00pm

**Thurs., Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>**  
~Parent Teacher Conferences  
4:00-7:30pm

**Fri., Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>**  
~Burning of the Palms 2:50

**Tues., Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>**  
~Valentine Color Day  
~Parent Teacher Conferences  
4:00-7:30pm

**Wed., Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>**  
~Ash Wednesday Mass 8:30

**Mon., Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> - Tues., Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>**  
~NO School /Mid-Winter  
Break  
~CDC Open

**Thurs., Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
~Country Western Color Day

**Fri., Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
~3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr. Midterms Online  
~Newsletter/Calendar

**Sat., Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>**  
~YMCA Fun Night  
7:15-9:30 pm

## HS Happenings



### **Advent Haiti Water Filter Project ~**

*In total, students, families, and parishioners very generously donated \$5,761, providing 192 water filters. The Penny War was an amazing success! These filters will improve the lives of hundreds of our brothers and sisters in Seguin, Haiti. Thank you so much!!!*



### **Early Childhood New Parent Information Night Monday, February 5<sup>th</sup> ~ 6:00 – 7:00pm**

Spread the good news to your neighbors, friends, and relatives, interested in enrolling their child in our **Preschool, Young 5's, or Kindergarten** for the 2024-2025 school year. All **new** parents and their children are invited to learn more about the many opportunities Holy Spirit School has to offer children in growing in knowledge and love of God. Call 616-453-2772 or email Paula Ryan at [pryan@hsparish.org](mailto:pryan@hsparish.org) to RSVP your attendance. We look forward to welcoming new families!

### **In Sympathy**



*Please remember in Prayer, **Mr. Foley** on the passing of his Mother, and the **Jones Family** on the death of their Uncle. May their souls, and all the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace. Amen.*

### **Birthday Book Club**

Thank you to **Felix P.**, our newest Birthday Book Club member. His donations to the school library are greatly appreciated.  
*In return for his generosity, he will receive a color day pass!*

### **Awesome Authors Club!**

**Congratulations to the following HS Published Authors for the month of January:**

- 1H: Sutton B.**
- 1S: Owen R., Vinny A., Finley M., Finley D., Jack R., Cole N., Oscar P., Lucy S., Shai D.**
- 2J: Graham G.**
- 2M: Charlee J., Danica G., Mila S., Declan M., Warren D., Luke F., Natalie G., Eva G.**
- 3D: Zavyer H., Max S., Landon B., Ava D.**
- 3K: Wyatt S., Brooklyn K., Aiden G., Ellory R., Clara B.**
- 4D: Elin M., Emma L., Russell A., Blake G.**

### **Link Box**

[GR Diocesan Blackbaud Financial Aid Application](#)  
[Western Little League Sign Up](#)  
[NW Youth Soccer](#)  
[Walker Rec Spring Soccer Registration](#)  
[Champion Force Cheerleading/Martial Arts](#)  
[WC Future Falcons](#)  
[GVSU STEPS CAMP](#)

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Ian H.  
Mila S.  
Elyse B.  
Lila G.  
Coraline P.  
Eliza A.

Christian D.  
Liberty P.  
Isabella P.  
Declan B.  
Evelyn B.  
Jane B.

Quinn H.  
Eamon P.  
Carson A.  
Ellory R.  
Finley M.  
Mrs. Null



Shawn H.  
Russell J.  
Lincoln S.  
Maxine J.  
Sylvia B.  
Mrs. Clancy

Peyton B.  
Jaxson R.  
Brooks D.  
Emma W.  
Evelyn R.  
Ms. Wright

## Religious Education News

**First Communion Parent Class** is scheduled for Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:45pm in the Multi-Purpose Room at church. If you had a child receive in previous years, you do not need to come. Check your packet to see if you have homework. Some did not turn it in during previous years. It may still be in your computer files or emails waiting to be sent.

**First Communion Platemarking** is March 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am. Please be sure to return your envelope by March 6<sup>th</sup>, either with your payment or mark it as “not participating”.

**Confirmation Retreat:** There will be a Confirmation Retreat here at Holy Spirit on Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, beginning with 10:30 Mass and going until 2:30. Lunch will be provided. See sign up genius for selections.

## Scrip News

The next **local** order will process on Monday, Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>. Please have your orders in by 9:00am. Thank you.

### **Local Establishments Include:**

Arsulowicz Eye Care  
Beckwith Family Dental  
Beaches and Braces  
Dr. Laura Fogle  
Dr. Joel Carroll  
Dr. Bryton Mansfield  
Standale Dental

Amway Grand Plaza  
B.C. Pizza  
Big Apple Bagel  
Countryside Greenhouse  
Field's Fabric  
Fruit Basket  
Lewandoski's Market

Mr. Burger  
Peppermill Grill  
Peppino's Pizza  
Sobie Meats  
Trendz Hair Salon  
Uccello's  
Walker Carwash  
Walker Roadhouse

**If you have any website related questions, please reach out to the “shop with scrip” customer service – they have both a 1-800 number and a chat service available. If you have any other questions, please let me know. April Alt - scrip@hsparish.org.**

### *Holy Spirit Mission Statement*

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

Titan Sports Update  
January 26, 2024

Titan Sports Are Advancing At All Levels

Sports Fee—Thank you to all those that have paid the sports fee of \$85.00. If you have not paid, please do so as soon as possible.

Spring Sports

Spring Sports: If your child is interested in participating in a spring sport, please register them by March 1st. Graceac will not accept any late registrations. Register them at: **graceac.com** Click on the registration links.

Spring Sports offered for grades 3rd and 4th boys and girls

- Track

Spring Sports offered for grades 5th-8th boys and girls

- Track
- Lacrosse

Spring sports offered for grades 6th-8th boys and girls

- Tennis

Spring Sports offered for 5th-8th girls

- Soccer
- Softball

Spring Sports offered for 5th-8th boys

- Baseball

Please contact Mrs. Rosemary Sweedyk, if interested in coaching any of the spring sports.

Rosemary Sweedyk  
Holy Spirit Athletic Director  
rsweedyk@hsparish.org

## SEVERE WEATHER UPDATE

In the event that it is necessary to delay the start of school or cancel classes, Holy Spirit School will communicate with you through Grand Rapids area radio and television stations. You may also access school closing announcements through the following Web Sites:

[www.woodtv.com](http://www.woodtv.com) or [www.wzzm13.com](http://www.wzzm13.com).

Every effort will be made to make one of the following announcements by 6:00 a.m. or as soon as possible thereafter...

<i><b>Situation/Condition</b></i>	<i><b>Response/Policy</b></i>
If the announcement is Holy Spirit School is closed:	Students do not report for school that day. This always includes Preschool and Child Care Programs as well.
If the Public School District you reside in is closed in your area:	No Catholic Schools Transportation in the A.M. or P.M. into the closed Public School District areas.
Catholic Schools have a two-hour delay:	Catholic Schools Transportation will begin transporting two hours after regular time. There will be no AM Preschool or AM Kindergarten. Child Care will open at regular time for those enrolled in the program.
If the Public School District you reside in has a two-hour delay and Catholic Schools are on a regular schedule:	No Catholic Schools Transportation into the delayed district for the A.M. ONLY.

**If school is closed because of inclement weather, all extra-curricular activities, including athletic events and practices, scheduled for Holy Spirit or for Holy Spirit teams on that day, will be cancelled.** (Board of Directors policy #2060.1)

On those winter days when school is open but you feel weather conditions are unsafe for your child to go to school, you may keep him or her home. However, we ask that you call school and let us know that you are keeping your child home. While we do require you to call school when your child will be absent, please do not call school to ask if classes will be cancelled due to inclement weather. Instead, please monitor your email, our Facebook page, the Grand Rapids area radio and television stations, or their websites, which will be informed immediately of any cancellations or delays.



## PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION MEETING AGENDA January 23, 2024

- **CALL TO ORDER / PRAYER:** Meeting opened at 7:00 pm Emily Bouma
  
  - **BOARD IDENTIFICATION:** Individually
    - Emily Bouma - PRESIDENT | [ebouma1205@gmail.com](mailto:ebouma1205@gmail.com)
    - Melissa Radlinski- VICE- PRESIDENT | [melissaradlinski@gmail.com](mailto:melissaradlinski@gmail.com)
    - Philip Alt - TREASURER | [Philip.alt@altcc.biz](mailto:Philip.alt@altcc.biz)
    - Tanya Kooistra - SECRETARY | [tlkooistra@gmail.com](mailto:tlkooistra@gmail.com)
  
  - **STAFF RECOGNITION:** Melissa Radlinski
    - Paula Ryan
    - Pat Kalahar
    - Tom Wisniewski
  
  - Lisa Digiovanna
  - Kelly Clancy
  - Tanya Kooistra
- \*Thank you, Paula for putting out and picking up the reminder PTA signs on PTA Tuesdays!!\*\*
- **ROLE CALL:** Individual Parents: Parent Name(s), Student Name(s) and Grade(s)
  
  - **READING OF GOALS** (see goals at the bottom of agenda): Melissa Radlinski
  
  - **BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT:** Chris Abid (president)
    - Updates
      - The BOD approves the school's handbook, which includes the school's dress code
      - After accreditation, the board of directors (BOD) agenda/ minutes are now posted on the Holy Spirit School [website](#)
        - Meeting minutes must be approved at the subsequent meeting and then will be posted
      - The BOD's email is: [holyspiritschoolboard@gmail.com](mailto:holyspiritschoolboard@gmail.com)
      - Next BOD meeting is: **Wednesday, February 21, 2024**

- Discussion about school uniforms/ dress code for physical education
  - BOD's November 2023 Meeting discussion on PE uniforms:
    - Holy Spirit does not have adequate changing areas for students to change
    - BOD is a voting board
      - Any proposed physical education/color day uniform changes need to be submitted, reviewed, and voted upon
      - Any change and ratification would take place for the 2024-2025 school year, no mid-year change in dress code will happen
  
- Parent PE Uniform Dress Code Concerns:
  - Appearance of some of the student's choices for color days/ PE days
    - skinny jeans, flannel pants, pajama pants (slovenly)
  - Additional comments from the [October 24, 2023 PTA meeting](#)
  
- Questions:
  - What are we trying to fix? What is the end game of creating/changing the color day/PE color day dress code?
  
- Suggestions:
  - Change ALL color day and PE color day expectations
  - Remove the name "color day" and call it PE Dress Code
  - Must be clear cut/ no gray area so it is enforceable
    - Vernacular is important with dress code (caution to not get stuck on one word suggestions- like pajama pants)
  
- Tasks:
  - PTA Board will propose a concrete PE Dress code to the BOD, Pat and Paula, and teachers
    - Opportunities for suggestions, changes, and improvements
  - Examine the language on Color Day dress code as well, if the complaint is that students look slovenly
  
- **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: Pat Kalahar**
  - December 2023 Accreditation
    - **December 20, 2023**, Holy Spirit School informed- WE PASSED ACCREDITATION!
    - Many thanks go out to the teachers and staff for the countless hours they poured into the school study
    - Thank you also goes out to the parents that were interviewed and provided feedback for the accreditation team
  - PTA Christmas Gifts- distributed on **December 21, 2023 and December 22, 2023**
    - Thank you from all the teachers and staff for the generosity of the parents (Santa's Elves) and the PTA.
    - Large stack of thank you notes expressing teachers and staff appreciation
  - Titan Toddler Time- **Thursday, January 25, 2024**
    - Location: Gym
    - We have had so many littles coming to these events, it is very exciting to watch the future Titans get to know the school, the staff, and each other

- Catholic Schools Week- **January 28, 2024- February 4, 2024**
  - Wear your Holy Spirit School uniform or Holy Spirit gear to Mass this weekend
  - Students will be doing the readings, petitions, greeters, and ushers during all weekend Masses
  - Still in need of students for **Sunday, January 28, 2024; 8:30 am Mass**- contact the school office if your child is available
- New Spanish Club- Begins on **Monday, January 29, 2024**
  - Over 30 students have signed up for this new club
  - Thank you to Araceli Barajas and Jennifer Van Zyll for leading this
- Early Childhood Information Night- **Monday, February 5, 2024**
- Parent Teacher Conferences- **Thursday, February 8, 2024 and Tuesday, February 13, 2024**
  - Sign up genius will be emailed soon
- Holy Spirit School Snow Days
  - 99% of the snow days are not called by Pat
    - Pat only makes school closing calls, if it is specific to our Holy Spirit School building (ex. broken water main, boiler out, temperature in the building deemed unsafe for students)
  - Holy Spirit is part of a Diocesan group, which is who makes the call for a snow day
    - Goal is that the Diocesan Office makes the call by 6am
- Holy Spirit School Athletics
  - Fee per athlete/ school year is and has been \$85.00/ year (All you can play) for many years
  - This rate is not sustainable
    - 2022-2023 School year, Holy Spirit School lost almost \$7,000 on athletics, not included an athletic director's salary or uniforms
    - In order to break even, the fee would need to have been \$185.00/ athlete
  - The Board of Directors have been working on a plan for the 2023-2024 Athletic Season(s)
    - Possibility of keeping a 1/year fee (All you can play)
    - Possibility of a per sport fee (different for each individual sport, depending on their needs)
  - Athletic Boosters Golf Outing
    - Booster's primary goal has been fundraising
    - 2023 Golf Outing helped reduce the athletic deficit- THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!
  - GRACEAC (5th-8th grade) pays for (generally speaking, different per sport): uniforms, equipment, director's salary, referees, facilities (line painting)
    - The cost of reconditioning a football helmet alone is astronomical!
- **TREASURER'S REPORT: Phil Alt**
  - Total Revenue to date- **\$49,059**
    - \$1200 in revenue besides WWTS
      - Titan Givebacks
        - Blessing of the Playground
          - Le Bon Macaron (100% give back)- **\$750.00**
          - Around Baking- **\$50.00**
          - Manning BBQ- still waiting on Derek's give back (Emily will reach out again)
        - Chick Fila- November 2023- **\$556.56**
- Expenses to date- \$22,805 (see [Financial Report](#) for breakdowns)



- PTA Teacher Christmas gifts- **\$6207.00**
- Santa Elves Teacher Christmas gifts- **\$6200.00**

- **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- Committee Job Description Toilet Bowl Winner- Tanya Kooistra
  - Congratulations Social Committee, you were the last committee to turn in your committee job descriptions/tasks form
  - Awarded a 3D printed (Thank you Jon Grimshaw) toilet bowl trophy
- PTA Sponsored Written Publications- Tanya Kooistra
  - Praise and apologies to Rachel Jonaitis (Social Committee) for their Winterfest flier
  - Tanya Kooistra will work on a written publication checklist, for future publications, to ensure that all written communication/printed publications follow the guidelines required to be included in the school newsletter, Friday Followup, Parish Bulletins, etc.
- Committee Commitment and # of Volunteers- Tanya Kooistra
  - Tanya Kooistra is working on creating a form that each committee chair will complete, indicating how many volunteers they would like on their committee for the 2024-2025 school year, as well as the estimate time commitment required for each committee member
    - Will be emailed to Committee chairs by next **Friday, February 2, 2024**, with a due date of **Friday, February 16, 2024**
    - Hopeful that by specifying the number of volunteers each committee needs, the volunteers that sign up will be better utilized than they have in the past
    - we have a community of people who want to volunteer, so we would like to find a way to put their giving hearts to better use
- Tanya Kooistra and Paula Ryan working on digitalizing the Parent Participation Interest Survey
  - The hope is that this will be completed to be distributed in February, possibly with the registration paperwork
- Holy Spirit Apparel - Chair: Melissa Radlinski
  - Look for a new apparel order coming in the next month
  - Always looking for new designs and ideas, if you have any, email [pta@hsparish.org](mailto:pta@hsparish.org)
    - More options in toddler sizes
    - Athletic cinch style bags with option for student's name
- Birthday Board - Chair: Stephanie Kozlowicz
  - Looks awesome, as always!
    - Henryk Kozlowicz thought of the January idea- Good work buddy!
  - Not having to use much of the assigned budget, been using what has been left from years past and the Ellison Die machine in the art room
- Community Connection / Alumni Committee: Sarah and Dan Grey
  - Placed an ad in the bulletin- including a QR code- Google Form to collect names/information

- Aside from the operations part of collecting data, Question: How does this fit with PTA?
  - Looking to collect a list of names and places of employment so that we can support alumni/parishioners/ parents that have businesses for Titan Givebacks or other ideas, supporting our own families first
  - Holy Spirit Catholic Church has a past directory that could provide some dated information regarding parishioners
  
- Alumni committee plans to get with administration to see how else their role may play in the PTA and the school in general
  
- Alumni Gathering Event- in the future??
  - West Catholic- has an alumni gathering
  - Would want to want to make sure there is a purpose to the gathering
  
- School Family Outreach- Chair: Annie Williams
  - No chair present/ emailed report
  - No need for any new food trains
  - Cards for condolences and celebrations continue to be sent out
  - If you or someone you know needs anything from our school family outreach committee, please email [pta@hsparish.org](mailto:pta@hsparish.org) and we will get this information to the committee chair
  
- Hospitality / Staff Conference Meals - Chair: Andrea and Michael Dewicki & Mercedes Barnum
  - Spring Parent-Teacher Conferences are around the corner
  - Email with sign up genius to those that signed up as a Staff-Conference Meal volunteer- regarding items to purchase will be coming soon
  - No need for further volunteers, there is an allocated budget per PTA Budget that cushions the purchases the chairs need to cover
  
- Paper Gator - Chair: Kelly Toland
  - Many of the same volunteers help out each paper gator color day
    - It would be nice to see some others that have signed up for this committee to volunteer as well, as to not burn out those that continually do it
  
  - Kelly Toland is going to call and get the specifics of the dollar amount Holy Spirit School receives per dump and how this is figured out: per weight? per estimate?
  
- Parent Ambassador - Chair: Kelly Clancy
  - End of 2nd quarter- Kelly will send on an email **Wednesday, January 24, 2024**, to remind ambassadors to email families and check in with them
  
- Publishing Center - Chair: April Alt
  - No chair present/ emailed report
  - Lots of kids have been writing, keeping those volunteers very busy
  - Used PTA funds to purchase more book covers

- Room Parent Coordinator - Chair: Amanda Sekelsky
  - No chair present/ emailed report
  - Classrooms will be celebrating Valentine's on **February 13, 2024** because February 14, 2024 is Ash Wednesday
  
- Social Committee- Chair: Ashley Braman
  - Winterfest- **Sunday, January 28, 2024**
    - Was hoping the awesome snow was going to stick around
      - The show will go on no matter what!!
    - Bring your sleds and your snow stuff, join the Holy Spirit community after the 10:30am Mass for loads of fun
      - 2 Food Trucks (Titan givebacks)
        - Around Baking - Pizza
        - El Jalapeno - Mexican
  
- Teacher Appreciation Week-**May 6-10, 2024**- Chair: Emily Bouma
  - Nothing to report at this time
  
- Titan Give Backs - Chair: Katie Johnson
  - Chick Fila- working on a March date
  - Whitecaps- offering a \$2.00/ticket giveback- working on a Spring date
  - Ed Dunnabeck and Girls Farm- working on a giveback
  
- Variety Show- **May 31, 2024**- Chair: Erin Gottleber
  - No chair present/ no report
  
- Walking With the Spirit-**September 13, 2024**- Kelly Clancy
  - 234 more days until the 2024 Walking with the Spirit
  - **Saturday, February 24, 2024**- WWTS YMCA Celebration Night- more info to come
  - Current WWTS committee has started to take a lot off of Kelly's plate
    - THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!
    - Still looking or a new WWTS Chairperson

### Topics of Discussion:

- PTA Meetings (2024-2025 School Year)
  - What is the appropriate amount of PTA Meetings for next school year?
    - Every month? Every other month, with the alternative month being time to meet as a committee? Or similar to what the 2023-2024 meeting calendar was?
  
- Mental Health Initiative
  - Possible grant \$\$ available to promote mental health among students, faculty/staff, and/or parents/parishioners
  - Looking for ideas- email [pta@hsparish.org](mailto:pta@hsparish.org)

- As our weather turns “wintery”
  - Please help your child/ren remember to bring boots to school for outdoor recess. Students without boots will remain on the sidewalk
  - 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

**Important Dates:**

- **Thursday, January 25, 2024-** Titan Toddler Time
  - 10:15-10:45 am- Activity Center
- **Sunday, January 28- Friday, February 2, 2024-** Catholic Schools Week
  - Weekend Masses: Wear Holy Spirit apparel or uniform to kick off CSW
- **Sunday, January 28, 2024-** PTA Sponsored WinterFest
  - 11:30am-2:30pm- Back parking lot/sledding hills
- **Tuesday, January 30, 2024-** 2nd Quarter Report Cards Online
- **Late February-** Registration for 2024-2025 School Year sent out
- **Friday, March 8, 2024-** Living Stations of the Cross
  - 7:00pm- Holy Spirit Catholic Church
    - Come one, come all- not just open to school families
- **Saturday, March 23, 2024-** 4th-8h grade Madagascar Musical
  - 2:30 pm and 7:00pm- Activity Center

**DISMISSAL**

- Color day pass drawing and distribution
  - #6- Dewicki Family
  - #3- Radlinski Family
- Meeting concluded at 8:15pm Emily Bouma

**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.

## **Spanish Class News at Holy Spirit: January 2024**

**Kindergarten**- We continue to learn the color words azul, blanco, rojo and verde for the winter months. The children are also learning a winter song in Spanish called “Invierno” to learn some winter weather phrases. As of late, we are learning the phrase for snowman (muñeco de nieve) as there are many in the library for us to see and find!

**First**- We are learning winter weather clothing such as: gorra (winter hat), bufanda (scarf), pantalones (pants), botas (boots), and guantes (gloves). We are learning a few songs about winter as well.

**Second**- We just finished up our unit on numbers and will be starting to learn about the adventures of Chispa (a friendly monster) from the [rockalingua.com](http://rockalingua.com) site I use in class with them.

**Third**- We’ve been wrapping up the numbers up through 59, and will next move into a quick unit with St. Valentine’s Day coming soon in regards to friendship between a girl and her cat. This unit will also review the colors and introduce new vocabulary as well.

**Fourth**- Fourth graders continue to learn about Srta. Amarilla and Sr. Azul in the adventures they have together. Students are learning songs and new vocabulary through these episodes. We recently made flashcards with episode 2 and will be listening to the storyline and showing the cards that illustrate the Spanish.

**Fifth**- Students are about to wrap up Unit 2 with a quiz this last week in January. Students did a pretest back in November over this unit and they’ve been told that if they all show measurable growth on the post test, we will celebrate with a popcorn/hot chocolate party which they are excited about!

**Sixth**- Sixth graders just started Unit 4 recently. We missed Spanish classes last week due to testing and are now getting into the core vocabulary, Spanish professions and being able to answer the question, (“Que quieres ser?”) (What do you want to be?)

**Seventh/Eighth**- These students also did not have Spanish last week due to semester tests and we are now getting back into Unit 5 vocabulary (7<sup>th</sup> grade and 8<sup>th</sup> grade first hour) and continuing through Unit 6 (8<sup>th</sup> grade fourth hour).

I look forward to seeing parents at conferences next month!  
Sra. Loreal Long, K-8 Spanish at HS

## Featured Author of the Month

Congratulations to Elin M., in 4<sup>th</sup> Grade, for being the Featured Author of the Month. She has won a lunch of her choice, and her story is featured below.

### *The Mean Pickle*

*By Elin M.*

*This book is dedicated to my Great-Grandma.*

#### *Chapter 1*

*Once upon a time, there was a potato chip and its name was Potato Chip.*

#### *Chapter 2*

*Potato Chip's worst enemy was Pickle, because Pickle would judge him.*

#### *Chapter 3*

*Pickle worked at a factory that made chips, and one day Pickle fell into the potato chip maker.*

#### *Chapter 4*

*Pickle turned into a pickle chip and he was never going to judge Potato Chip again.*

***THE END***

#### *About the Author*

*Elin has two guinea pigs, Harlow and Wilson. Her favorite candy is Jolly Ranchers. Elin enjoys drawing. Her favorite sport is basketball. At school, Elin enjoys art class. Her favorite family vacation was to Arizona; they got to go to a baby shower. Elin's family consists of her mom, dad, younger brother, and older sister.*



## Holy Spirit School Calendar, February, 2024

[Lunch Supervision, Grade 4 /](#) For updated information go to [www.holyspiritschoolgr.org](http://www.holyspiritschoolgr.org)

				1 Walking With The Spirit Shirt <u>Color Day</u> Y5-Gr 8 Field Trip to <u>Altitude</u> Musical Practice 3:15-4:45	2 Love One Another Shirt Color Day with Uniform <u>Bottoms</u> Mass 8:30 with the Bishop	3
4 Gospel <u>Mk 1:29-39</u> Meet the Teacher Conference Sign-ups close at 8am tomorrow	5 Early Childhood Information Night <u>6:00-7:00</u> Musical Practice 3:15-4:45	6 Choir 3:15-4:15	7 1 <sup>st</sup> Communion Parent Class 6:45	8 Parent Teacher Conferences <u>4:00-7:30</u> Musical Practice 3:15-4:45	9 <u>Mass 8:30</u> Burning of the Palms 2:50	10
11 Gospel Mk 1:40-45	12 Spanish Club <u>3:15-4:15</u> Musical Practice 3:15-4:45	13 St. Valentine <u>Color Day</u> Parent Teacher Conferences <u>4:00-7:30</u> Choir 3:15-4:15	14 Ash Wednesday Mass 8:30	15 Musical Practice 3:15-4:45	16	17
18 Gospel Mk 1:12-15	19 Mid-winter Break <u>No School</u> Child Care Open	20 Mid-winter Break <u>No School</u> Child Care Open	21 Board Meeting 6:30	22 Student Govt Country Western <u>Color Day \$1</u> Musical Practice 3:15-4:45	23 <u>Mass 8:30</u> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter <u>Midterms</u> Newsletter/ Calendar	24 YMCA Family Night 7:15-9:30
25 Gospel <u>Mk 9:2-10</u> 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat	26 Spanish Club <u>3:15-4:15</u> Musical Practice 3:15-4:45	27 Choir 3:15-4:15	28	29 Musical Practice 3:15-4:45		



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## 2024 Catholic Schools Week

### Saturday and Sunday, January 27-28

#### Celebrating our Parish

Families wear Holy Spirit apparel or uniforms. Students participate in Weekend Masses as lectors and commentators.

#### Sunday, January 28

WinterFest, 11:30-2:30, Bring snow gear and sleds. Enjoy Cookies, Food Trucks, Fire Pits, and Hot Cocoa!

#### Monday, January 29

#### Celebrating our Staff

Teachers Share Favorite Stories during SSR  
Comfy Cozy Color Day

#### Tuesday, January 30

#### Celebrating Our Community

Class "Favorite Color" Color Day  
Student Government attends Mass at St. Andrew's Cathedral  
*The livestream will be available on the [Diocese of Grand Rapids website.](#)*  
In Classrooms: Gr. K-3, Rock Paper Scissors & Gr. 4-8 Kahoot  
No homework or tests

#### Wednesday, January 31

#### Celebrating Our Nation

Red, White, and Blue USA Color Day  
Write Letters to Homebound Parishioners  
Student Government vs. Teachers Volleyball Games

#### Thursday, February 1

#### Celebrating Our Students

Y5-Gr. 8 Field Trip to Altitude Trampoline Park  
*Parents, please sign and return the Altitude Waiver Form.*  
Walking With The Spirit T-Shirt with athletic bottoms Color Day

#### Friday, February 2

#### Celebrating Vocations

School Mass at 8:30 with the Bishop  
*Love One Another* shirt with uniform bottoms  
Tournaments: Gr. K-3, Rock Paper Scissors & Gr. 4-8, Kahoot

**Thank you for choosing Holy Spirit School!**

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





Holy Spirit  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

# WINTERFEST 2024

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28TH

11:30AM - 2:30PM

LOAD UP YOUR SNOW GEAR AND YOUR SLEDS, AND  
GET READY TO KICK OFF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

AFTER 10:30AM MASS!

FOOD TRUCKS, COOKIES,  
FIRE PITS, AND A HOT COCOA STATION!

PREFER TO SIT BY THE FIRE?  
PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN CHAIR.

IF NO SNOW – WE WILL STILL HAVE THIS FUN  
GATHERING IN THE MICHIGAN BREEZY WEATHER.  
KIDS WILL BE ABLE TO PLAY ON THE PLAYGROUND AND FIELDS.





# LENTEN SCHEDULE 2024

## ASH WEDNESDAY | FEB 14

*All services will include the distribution of ashes*

8:30 am Mass

12:00 pm Liturgy of the Word

6:30 pm Mass

## SOUP SUPPERS & STATIONS

*Every Friday during Lent, through March 22*

6:00 pm Soup Supper

7:00 pm Stations of the Cross

## LIVING STATIONS | MAR 8

6:00 pm Soup Supper

7:00 pm Living Stations of the Cross

## THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU: EVENING OF LENTEN PENANCE

March 14 | 5:00-8:00 pm

## EVENING OF WORSHIP | MAR 16

6:00 pm Dinner provided by the Knights of Columbus

7:00 pm Evening of Worship with Reconciliation

## LENTEN PENANCE

March 21 | 6:30-7:30 pm

## PALM SUNDAY

March 23 | 5:00 pm

March 24 | 8:30 am, 10:30 am

## HOLY THURSDAY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

March 28 | 6:30 pm

## FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

March 29 | 12:00 pm Stations of the Cross

1:00 pm Passion Reading & Veneration

## EASTER VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT

March 30 | 9:00 pm

## EASTER SUNDAY

March 31 | 8:30 am, 10:30 am

