



**Holy  
Spirit**  
CATHOLIC  
SCHOOL

**January 24, 2025  
School Newsletter**

**~Catholic Schools Week is Jan. 24<sup>th</sup> – Jan. 31<sup>st</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 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to celebrating with you throughout this Catholic Schools Week!

**~Sky Zone Field Trip** – The field trip to Sky Zone is on Monday, January 27<sup>th</sup>. Students should wear Walking With The Spirit shirts and athletic bottoms. Sky Zone socks will be provided. Y5/K will be there from 9:30-10:40, Gr.1-3 from 10:30-12:00, Gr.4-5 from 11:30-1:20, and Gr. 6-8 from 12:00-2:00. Parents are welcome to attend and watch your children from the seating areas. Thank you, PTA, for sponsoring this field trip for our students!

**~Parent-Teacher Conferences** – Conferences will be held on February 6<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. You will receive the sign-up link in today's eblast on how to schedule your conference. Students in Grades 3-5 will need to be present at their conferences because they are student led.

**~Meal Train for the Folberth Family**

In December, Ashley Folberth was diagnosed with triple positive breast cancer. This coming week she will begin chemotherapy treatments, followed by surgery. We know this is a difficult time for the Folberth family and any help would be greatly appreciated, along with your prayers. Please click [HERE](#) for more information and to sign up for the meal train.

**~Parent Speaker Series – Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>, 6-7:30pm at Cathedral Square**

Thomas Lickona, Author, *“Raising Good Children” – Moral Development*. Thomas Lickona, PH.D., is a developmental psychologist, character educator, and professor of education emeritus at the State University of New York at Cortland. A past president of the Association for Moral Education, he has spoken around the world fostering moral values and character development in schools, families, and communities. You will find more information on the attached flyer.

**~St. John Vianney School in St. Petersburg, Florida**

All of our students made cards for the families whose school and parish were destroyed in the hurricanes. Following is the note that they sent:

*Dear good people of Holy Spirit Catholic School,  
Your cards, prayers, and thoughtfulness really lifted our spirits as we continue to live through the effects of the hurricanes.  
In gratitude, Families of the St. John Vianney Community*

**~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 28<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 pm in the church.

**~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!

**Important Dates:**

**Fri., Jan. 24<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>**

~Catholic Schools Week

**Mon., Jan. 27<sup>th</sup>**

~Sky Zone w/WWTS t-shirt

**Tues., Jan. 28<sup>th</sup>**

~PTA Meeting 7:00pm

~Report Cards Online

**Fri., Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>**

~Mass 8:30am

**Wed., Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>**

~1<sup>st</sup> Communion Parent Class

6:45pm

**Thurs., Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>**

~Parent Teacher Conferences

4:00-7:30pm

**Mon., Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>**

~Early Childhood Info Night

6:00-7:00pm

~Parent Speaker Series at  
Cathedral Square 6pm

**Tues., Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>**

~Parent Teacher Conferences

4:00-7:30pm

**Mon., Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> -Tues., Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>**

~NO School /Mid-Winter

Break

~CDC Open

**Fri., Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>**

~Mass 8:30

~3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr. Midterms Online

~Newsletter/Calendar

**Fri., Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>**

~Mass 8:30

## HS Happenings



### ***Steepletown Preschool Collection***

***During Advent, our Student Government sponsored the collection of clothes, toys, and classroom supplies for the Steepletown Preschool. Thank you for your generosity!***



### ***Early Childhood***

#### ***New Parent Information Night***

***Monday, February 10<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 2025-2026 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, the **Bigorowski Family** on the death of their Great-Grandmother. May her soul, and all the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace. Amen.*

### **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](#)

### **Birthday Book Club**

Thank you to **Charlotte T.**, and **Henryk K.**, our newest Birthday Book Club members. Their donations to the school library are greatly appreciated.  
*In return for their generosity, they will receive a color day pass!*

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Ian H.  
Mila S.  
Jaxson R.  
Brooks D.  
Emma W.  
Jane B.

Christian D.  
Liberty P.  
Elyse B.  
Lila G.  
Coraline P.  
Mrs. Null

Quinn H.  
Eamon P.  
Carson A.  
Declan B.  
Finley M.  
Mrs. Clancy



Shawn H.  
Edwin F.  
Diego A.  
Ellory R.  
Sylvia B.  
Ms. Wright

Peyton B.  
Russell J.  
Lincoln S.  
Maxine J.  
Evelyn R.

## Religious Education News

**First Communion Parent Class** is scheduled for Wednesday, February 5<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 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am. Please be sure to return your envelope by March 12<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 2<sup>nd</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. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Just a reminder that these are the **only** businesses that you can choose Ship to Coordinator for. Not a member yet? Sign up at [raiserright.com/](http://raiserright.com/). Thank you.

### **Local Establishments Include:**

Arsulowicz Eye Care  
Beaches and Braces  
Grand City Dentistry  
Mansfield Family Dentistry  
Dr. Joel Carroll

Dr. Laura Fogle  
Enjoy Orthodontics  
Standale Dentistry  
Amway Grand Plaza  
Nawara Brothers

**If you have any questions, please contact April Alt - [scrip@hsparish.org](mailto: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 24, 2025



**Please pay your Sports Fee of \$125 for Grades 3rd-8th. Check is to be made out to Holy Spirit Athletics.** If you want this fee added to your tuition, please call the school office and ask for Terri Kelly to set it up.

**Spring Sports Registration opens on Wednesday, January 15th, and closes February 15th.**

Boys and girls in grades 3 and 4 can participate in the following spring sports:

- Lacrosse
- Track

Please register by February 15th. No late registrations will be accepted.

Register at [graceac.com](http://graceac.com).

Students in grades 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th can participate in the following spring sports:

**BOYS**

- Track
- Baseball
- Lacrosse
- Tennis (Only for grades 6th,7th, 8th)

**GIRLS**

- Track
- Softball
- Lacrosse
- Tennis (Only for grades 6th,7th,8th)
- Soccer

Please register by February 15th. No late registrations will be accepted.

Register at [graceac.com](http://graceac.com).

If interested in helping assist with Track, please email Rosemary Sweedyk.

Sports Physicals for next school year will take place in April. More information to come.

Go Titans!

Rosemary Sweedyk

Athletic Director

[athletics@hsparish.org](mailto:athletics@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.
<b>If the Public School District you reside in is closed in your area:</b>	<b>No Catholic Schools Transportation in the A.M. or P.M. into the closed Public School District areas.</b>
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.

## Spanish Class News at Holy Spirit- January 2025

¡Feliz Año Nuevo 2025! Happy New Year 2025!

KDG- Students will be learning winter vocabulary by playing games, singing songs, identifying in Spanish what they do in the winter and use their knowledge of colors in Spanish to color a winter tree.

1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grades- We are at the end of the unit that was mentioned in December's News. Be watching over the next few weeks for your child's work from this unit and activities that your child should be able to do with their work to show you what they learned!

4<sup>th</sup> grade- Fourth graders continue from where we left off before we started learning our songs for Christmas last month. We are learning about countries in Spanish and will soon be reading and learning about basic facts of Mexico in Spanish.

5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grades- Students are finished with Unit 2 quiz and will be starting with Unit 3 next week. The focus is on describing the calendar in Spanish and learning about Peru. Feel free to check on IC as to how your child did on their Unit 2 quiz.

7<sup>th</sup> grade Second hour- Students finished with Unit 2 quiz and will be starting Unit 3, with the focus on describing the calendar, using the verb HAY and learning about Peru.

7<sup>th</sup> grade Third hour- Students didn't have Spanish last week due to exams and will be starting Unit 4 next week. The focus will be on Guatemala and learning about the elaborate kites people create and fly during the Day of the Dead.

8<sup>th</sup> grade- We are into Unit 3 currently. Students are getting more proficient at describing the day and date in Spanish and learning about the influence of potatoes in Peru. Students will be taking a quiz in about 2 weeks to wrap up Unit 3 learning.



## Holy Spirit School Calendar, February, 2025

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

January 26 Student Choir <u>10:30 Mass</u> Gospel Lk 4:14-21	January 27 Walking With The Spirit Shirt <u>Color Day</u> Y5-Gr 8 Field Trip <u>to Sky Zone</u> Musical Practice <u>3:15-4:45</u> Spanish Club 3:15-4:15	January 28 USA <u>Color Day</u> Student Government 10:00 Mass <u>St. Andrew's</u> PTA Meeting <u>7:00</u> Report Cards Online	January 29	January 30 Favorite Religious Holiday <u>Color Day</u> Musical Practice 3:15-4:45	January 31 <u>Mass 8:30</u> <u>Love Like</u> <u>Jesus Shirt</u> Color Day with Uniform Bottoms	February 1
2 Gospel <u>Mk 1:29-39</u> 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat 10:30-2:30	3 Musical Practice <u>3:15-4:45</u> Sign-ups for conferences due by 8am	4 Choir 3:15-4:15	5 1 <sup>st</sup> Communion Parent Class 6:45	6 Parent Teacher Conferences <u>4:00-7:30</u> Musical Practice 3:15-4:45	7 Mass 8:30	8
9 Student Choir <u>10:30 Mass</u> Gospel Mk 1:40-45	10 Spanish Club <u>3:15-4:15</u> Musical Practice <u>3:15-4:45</u> Early Childhood Info Night 6:00-7:00	11 Parent Teacher Conferences <u>4:00-7:30</u> Choir 3:15-4:15	12	13 Musical Practice 3:15-4:45	14 Mass 8:30	15
16 Gospel Mk 1:12-15	17 Mid-winter Break <u>No School</u> Child Care Open	18 Mid-winter Break <u>No School</u> Child Care Open	19 Board Meeting 6:30	20 Musical Practice 3:15-4:45	21 <u>Mass 8:30</u> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter <u>Midterms</u> Newsletter/ Calendar	22
23 Gospel Mk 9:2-10	24 Spanish Club <u>3:15-4:15</u> Musical Practice 3:15-4:45	25 Choir 3:15-4:15	26	27 Musical Practice 3:15-4:45	28 Mass 8:30	



[pkalahar@hsparish.org](mailto:pkalahar@hsparish.org)  
[pryan@hsparish.org](mailto:pryan@hsparish.org)  
(616)-453-2772

## 2025 Catholic Schools Week

**Friday, January 24**  
**Celebrating Our Faith**

School Mass at 8:30 with the Bishop

**Saturday & Sunday, Jan. 25-26**  
**Celebrating Our Parish**

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

**Monday, January 27**  
**Let's Jump Into**  
**Catholic Schools Week**

Y5-Gr. 8 Field Trip to Sky Zone  
Walking With The Spirit T-Shirt with athletic bottoms Color Day  
*Parents, please fill in the online Sky Zone Waiver Form before January 20<sup>th</sup>:*

<https://waiver2.haveablast.roller.app/skyzonegrandrapids/?ubid=DZL9vE6eFUmdBY1zRMiIQ>

**Tuesday, January 28**  
**Celebrating Our Nation**

Student Government attends Mass at St. Andrew's Cathedral  
*The livestream will be available on the [Diocese of Grand Rapids website](#)*  
USA Color Day – No pajamas  
Classroom Tournament Games  
Mix it Up at Lunch and Make New Friends  
Sit by someone different at lunch

**Wednesday, January 29**  
**Celebrating Our World**

Making Mission Rosaries with Super Friends  
Student Government vs. Teachers Volleyball Game  
Mix it Up at Lunch – Sit by anyone in any grade

**Thursday, January 30**  
**Celebrate Us Day**

Favorite Religious Holiday Color Day  
Easter, Christmas, Pentecost, St. Patrick's Day, etc.  
Mix it Up at Lunch – Sit by anyone in any grade

**Friday, January 31**  
**Love Like Jesus Day**

School Mass at 8:30  
Love Like Jesus Shirt Day with Uniform Bottoms  
Student Government will highlight names on crosses  
Classroom Championship Games  
Mix it Up at Lunch – Sit by anyone in any grade

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



# Raising Kids

"Train up a child  
in the way he  
should go; even when  
he is old he will not  
depart from it."  
PROVERBS 22:6

IN TODAY'S  
WORLD IS

# Hard

...BUT WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER!

## JOIN US AS WE KICK OFF OUR PARENT SPEAKER SERIES RENEWING THE CATHOLIC FAMILY

St. Thomas the Apostle, St. Paul the Apostle and Immaculate Heart of Mary schools invite you to join our parent speaker series this 2024-25-26 school years. The goal of this series is to educate, equip, and support parents in navigating key issues affecting children today, specifically technology and morality, through the lens of our Catholic faith.

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10**  
**6-8:30 PM | CATHEDRAL SQUARE**

360 Division Ave. S | Grand Rapids, MI 49503

6:00 pm **COMPLIMENTARY  
RECEPTION WITH WINE  
AND HORS D'OEUVRES**

6:30-7:30 pm **PRESENTATION**

7:30-8:30 pm **CONVERSATION &  
FELLOWSHIP**

### DR. THOMAS LICKONA

Thomas Lickona, Ph.D., is a developmental psychologist and professor emeritus at SUNY Cortland. As founding director of the Center for the 4th and 5th Rs (Respect and Responsibility) from 1994 to 2022, he earned national recognition for his work in character education and teacher/parent training.



Dr. Lickona's presentation will focus on children's moral development. We are excited to offer *How to Raise Kind Kids* and *Raising Good Children* for purchase at the presentation.

for more information on these books and more visit Dr. Lickona's website [thomaslickona.com](http://thomaslickona.com)

### SPONSORED BY



**PLEASE RSVP FOR  
PLANNING PURPOSES**

**QUESTIONS?**

email us at [rmissioneffectiveness@gmail.com](mailto:rmissioneffectiveness@gmail.com)