

September 1 2022

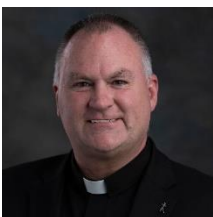
WE WERE MADE TO LOVE, BY LOVE, FOR LOVE



The week ahead:

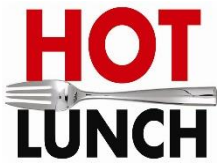
- Fri Sept 2 **NO SCHOOL LABOR DAY WEEKEND!**
- Mon Sept 5 **NO SCHOOL LABOR DAY**
- Wed Sept 7 **ALL SCHOOL ROSARY** in the Church 9am
- Fri Sept 9 Picture Day for Prk4, Y5, K-8
TMIY Mens Morning Ministry Kick off

Just a few short years ago, IHM was the pilot school, in the Diocese of Grand Rapids, for the Ruah Woods Theology of the Body curricula. Since then, it has become a common knowledge that we all are GIFTS, created to love, by God who is love Himself, for love. Throughout the year, IHM offers MANY ways to share that love through prayer, sacrifice and service for both students and adults!



SHARING THE LOVE WHILE HE'S AWAY Our Pastor, Fr Troy Nevins, leaves on Sunday for a 6-week sabbatical in the Holy Land and we want to blanket him with prayers. The IHM Spiritual Growth committee has created a sign-up genius, requesting the Family Rosary be said for his intentions while he is away. By signing up, your family promises to pray the family rosary on your designated day(s). As always, including your priest in your Mass offerings is a very thoughtful and effective way of keeping him protected and covered in grace. Here's the link.
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F44AEA72AA5FECE9-family>

LOVE OF THE ROSARY While Father is away, there will be no daily masses offered at IHM, including our Wednesday morning all-school Mass. **We are offering an all-school rosary this Wednesday at 9am in the church** where parents, grandparents and the whole IHM community are welcome to attend. Please join us in the back sections and baptistry side sections of the church.



LOVIN FROM THE OVEN Hot Lunch has been up and running very well! Still need to set up a lunch account on your kid's INFINITE CAMPUS? Contact Mrs. Kelly DeVries kdevries@ihmschoolgr.org The **September** Hot Lunch Menu can always be found on the **IHM School App** !



KEEPIN' THE LOVE ALIVE **Date Nights** are back here at Immaculate Heart of Mary! Beginning Saturday September 9th right after the 5:15 Mass. Couples of all ages are welcome! Enjoy a free Taco Bar dinner, fellowship and a short video from the Beloved Series, this time Season 2! BYOB! Kindly RSVP to IHMdatenights@gmail.com or scan this QR code with your smart phone.



KEEPING IHM SCHOOL SPIRIT ALIVE The **IHM Spirit Online Shop** is now open until **September 9!** Now is the time for new and returning families to stock up on all-things IHM! Several new items have been added. Think early Christmas shopping! The ever popular 1/4 zips are on there too! Think cooler weather! go to www.revbusinessstore.com/IHM

KEEPIN GOD'S CHILDREN PROTECTED All adults wishing to volunteer at IHM School/Parish must have first completed a one-time, **online VIRTUS Training** from the National Catholic Risk Retention Group. The online class is approximately 3 hours and you can start and stop according to your schedule. Once completed, you're in like flynn! Go to www.virtus.org



...AND HERE'S MORE PROTECTION! Digital safety is critically important to Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic School, which is why we are continuing to use **Bark for Schools** to help us protect our students both online and in real life. When possible dangers arise on school-issued accounts, **Bark for Schools** sends us alerts so we can address the situation in a timely manner. In the coming days you will receive an invitation to create your **free account** for the **Bark for Schools Parent Portal**. As soon as you opt-in, you'll be able to receive alerts if Bark detects potentially time-sensitive issues. Learn more here <https://www.bark.us/schools>

ALL GODS CHILDREN GOTTA SMILE **Picture Day is next Friday, September 9** for kids in all grades EXCEPT Prk3's. We will take PreK3's in October on retake days. Picture Day is typically a DRESS UP Day or school uniforms may be worn. Check the school website for appropriate dress code on Dress up Days. Order forms for pictures go home on Tuesday and Wednesday. You may place your order online this year, or use the paper form and return it with a check or cash.



FAMILY NAME CAR CARDS COMING HOME Each IHM School family will receive two laminated CAR CARDS for use in the after-school pick-up carline. Place it clearly on your dashboard so staff can identify you and corral your kids your way. Thank you all for making the parking lot a pleasant place to be!

ORDER BEFORE SEPTEMBER 8 Don't wait to save 40% off the cover price. Order a year subscription before Sept 8 for only \$30 at embodiedmag.org and use the promotional code of **IHM30**. You may also get a discount if you order as a gift!



GOOD NEWS AROUND CAMPUS **Isabella K** is back in the classroom this year after a year of cancer treatments. She's been working her way up to full days and we are so happy to have her back! **Mrs. Amanda Solt** is to deliver baby #3 tomorrow, Friday September 2. Our prayers for a safe delivery and happy baby are theirs! The grass is growing in the new green space behind school; we've have 2 spectacular examples of participation at kids' Masses; the weather has been absolutely P E R F E C T; tardies have been at a minimum (thank you parents); we have a fabulous looking four day weekend on the horizon; and Jesus has promised to be with us until the end of the age. You can't beat that!



(continued)

IHM WELCOMES NEW FAMILIES! This week, Welcome to the CULP Family!



This cheerful family of 7 comes to us from St Robert Parish in Ada. Evan, the youngest joined IHM this fall as a 7th grader. (see fun kid in the red jacket at left) "We made the decision to enroll Evan at IHM for two very important reasons: faith and academics. We felt it would be helpful for him to leave public school and prosper in a smaller, more individualized learning environment to better hone his academics for the challenges ahead while pairing that with greater guidance in his faith journey." We're so glad you're here!

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST EDUCATION IN VIRTUES Your kids have been learning how to effectively counter their vices with the practice of The Virtues. Every day during morning prayer we focus on particular virtues...what they look like in action and what they sound like. Awards are given at the end of each month, recognizing junior high students who have demonstrated exemplary acts of virtue. It's made Immaculate Heart of Mary a very lovely place to be. Next two weeks virtue focus:



Hello IHM Families!

Week 2 is in the books!

It's already going so fast!

We had a wonderful four-day week and it will be nice to all reconnect with families for a few days.

As Father Troy heads off for a sabbatical, please keep him in your prayers. We are working to plan some experiences for the school during school Mass time. Next week we will have a school rosary at 9:00. We have a wonderful Spiritual Growth committee working and planning for our kids this year!

*Our back-to-school speaker at the diocese a couple of weeks ago talked about how **gratitude** cultivates **joy**. So often we are grateful after we experience joy, but I'm making a conscious effort this year to focus on the gratitude first! We need more joy in this world, and too many times we get caught up in finding that joy from an external source, when we can cultivate it with our own gratitude. We are blessed to have so much to be thankful for!*

I am so grateful for everyone working so hard as we start the year. The teachers have been preparing and working hard with kids to set them up for a successful year. Our Home and School Association, especially Niccole Kakaty and Lindsay Lowery are working hard on our upcoming auction! I can't wait for our first auction since 2019! It's going to be so wonderful to get together and celebrate what a great place IHM is, and plan for a great future! I'm grateful for our wonderful 315 students and 25 new families and everyone's efforts welcoming them! Our welcome Mass last weekend was such a nice way to celebrate our new families.

Enjoy your long weekend!

Blessings,



Mrs. Holly Lake
Principal

Immaculate Heart of Mary School, immersed in the teachings of the Catholic Church, is dedicated to providing excellent spiritual and academic formation in the development of well-rounded individuals centered in Christ