



# Disciple Dispatch

September 1, 2023

## IHM School Family 2023



*Our IHM Family keeps growing! This school year we welcome 28 new families, 7 new Teaching Staff, 2 new Maintenance Personnel, one new Business Manager and 324 Disciples of Christ! Parents prayed the Rosary for our Blessed Mother's protection and Fr. Troy celebrated Mass invoking the Holy Spirit to set us all on fire with the love of Christ. A great beginning! Now Go and Tell others the Good News!*



**NOW RECRUITING!** The IHM Home and School Association seeks enthusiastic IHM School parents as CLASSROOM COORINATORS (aka room Moms or Dads) Classroom Coordinators act as the liaison between the teacher and parents with regard to special occasions (i.e., parties, holidays, field trips, etc.) A perfect way to get to know a lot of people quickly, both the parents and students in your kids class. Contact Mrs. Lindsay Lowery [lowery.lindsay@gmail.com](mailto:lowery.lindsay@gmail.com) for details or with questions. Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4CADAC2EA2FCC52-classroom2#/>

**DON'T LET YOUR FAMILY DOWN!** Those receiving discounted school tuition as **Active IHM Parish Members** promised to celebrate Mass with us, tithe on a regular basis and get involved as a volunteer in the *Parish*. Coming soon: a link to volunteer your family as GIFT BEARERS at weekend Masses. Presentation of the Gifts is returning later this month and your family needs your participation! Link coming soon!

### **The Week Ahead:**

#### **Sunday, September 3**

Mass 8:30 am and 11:00 am

#### **Monday, September 4**

Labor Day Holiday ~ No School

#### **Wednesday, September 6**

All School Mass 9:00 am

Young Mom's Bible Study 9:30 am Church Basement

Seedling Choir Begins 3:30 pm Church

St Gregory Choir Begins 4:00 pm Church

#### **Thursday September 7**

Men's Ministry Football and Fellowship 7:00 pm

Athletic Association Meeting 8:30 pm

#### **Friday, September 8**

Picture Day PRK4, Y5, K-8

Free Hot Dogs @IHM Tailgate at CC Football Game





**LATE IS NOT GREAT** Our kids need time to prepare in the morning and late arrivals throw everyone off. **Please aim to have your K-8<sup>th</sup> graders out of the car no later than 7:50 am.** Ten minutes allow them to get to their classroom, unpack, say “hey” to their friends and to B R E A T H before the 8:00 Bell. NOTE: As a courtesy to the those on time, late arrivals stay in the front lobby until prayer, the pledge and announcements are done. **Thank you!**

of girls ages 5+ to **Family Info Night** scheduled for Thursday, September 21, 5-6 PM in the IHM All Purpose Room (church lower level) Current and interested families are welcome to learn about the AHG program, calendar, policies/procedures and how to volunteer! To RSVP, please email us at [ahg2010ihm@gmail.com](mailto:ahg2010ihm@gmail.com)



**ALTAR SERVER REFRESHER TRAINING** All IHM Students who have been trained to serve will be required to attend a refresher training, *during school hours*, on September 15. Altar Servers who have been trained to serve Funeral Masses will also be updated at this session as well. Current 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students who wish to become new altar servers will have the opportunity to be trained after the 11:00 am Mass on September 24. Contact Mrs. Christy Brown at [christinabrown77@gmail.com](mailto:christinabrown77@gmail.com) to RSVP

**FREE HEARING AND VISION SCREENINGS** will be provided by the Kent County Health Department for current IHM Students on September 11 and 12 during the school day. Please make sure your child is in attendance on those days.



**BEFORE AND AFTERSCHOOL CHILD CARE** The Disciple Den Staff is looking to hire part time help, most especially during 3-4:00 pm hour. Please inquire via the Director, Mrs. Lynda Davis at [ldavis@ihmschoolgr.org](mailto:ldavis@ihmschoolgr.org)



SEPTMEBER MENU WILL BE OUT NEXT WEEK But we do know Tuesdays menu will include: Taco Bites, Salsa Cup, Mango Cup and Ice Cold Milk!

Applications for Free and Reduced Cost Hot Lunches are available in the school office. Call if you would like us to send one home. 616-241-4633 These are due ASAP!

**From the Principal:**



*Hello IHM Families!*

*It is so great to be back together! Mass on Wednesday was absolutely delightful! The kindergarten through 8th graders were singing and participating and prayer partners were adorable helping each other! We are so very blessed!*

*Keep in mind that the beginning of the year is challenging for students. All the changes manifest themselves in different ways. After many years of teaching I always warned the parents that they are likely tired and making those adjustments are hard for children. I'm having to use a lot more grace with mine, that's for sure! They will get used to the new routines and new people soon enough and things will settle. Labor Day weekend is probably just what everyone needs!*

*Many factors helped determine that half day call last week. The heat index was scheduled to be in the 100s and the lows were still quite warm. This meant our building didn't really cool down at night. We also had a large funeral on Thursday, so the air-conditioned spaces weren't available for classes to take breaks from the heat. We do not disrupt schedules lightly. We are not allowed to go over six weather-related cancellations in a school year, so using one the first week is also tough! But I see fall approaching!*

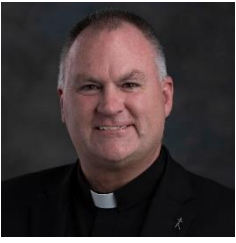
*Have a wonderful long weekend!*

*Blessings,*

*Mrs. Holly Lake*

**See A Note from our Pastor, Fr. Troy Nevins below**

## From the Pastor:



### Welcome back to a new school year!

Immaculate Heart of Mary is very proud of its school and strives to provide the best experience possible, for all involved.

### Disciples First

Recognizing the need to assist parents in their duty as the “primary educators” of their children (Catechism of the Catholic Church 2223), Fr. Killgoar first opened the doors to the school in 1952. Since then, thousands of young souls have been educated and formed.

As a ministry of the Church, Immaculate Heart of Mary School not only educates for success in this life but also for the life to come. The continued success of the school today and into the future depends upon **our** discipleship.

Passing on information about Jesus is only one aspect of the mission. The more challenging task is creating a culture where Jesus is taken seriously, and the Catholic way of life is modeled. Opening our hearts and disposing ourselves to God’s grace is the continual work of conversion. Work includes personal ongoing formation in the faith as well as stewardship of our time, talent and treasure.

Thank you to all who have invested in this ministry and welcome back to a new and exciting school year!

Fr. Troy

*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*