



# Disciple Dispatch

August 30, 2024

## Disciples Lead



Fr. Troy's all-school Mass homily this week challenged us to check whose influence we assume and conversely, how we influence others. Do we lead others to Christ, or are we allowing ourselves to be led away from Him?

*Pictured: Jr. High students Molly W. and Jovie C. doing their best to steer their kindergarten Prayer Partners toward the Lord (and back to the classroom)!*



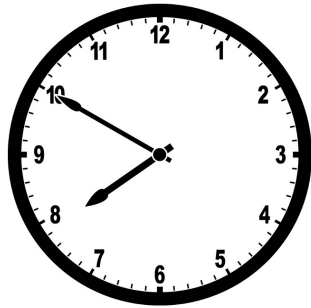
### DISCIPLES SERVE

Active IHM Parish Members worship together on the weekends, tithe regularly, and take part in a *Parish* ministry. Keep your membership alive by signing up to bring the gifts down during weekend Mass.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0E4BA8AC2FA1FE3-gift#/>

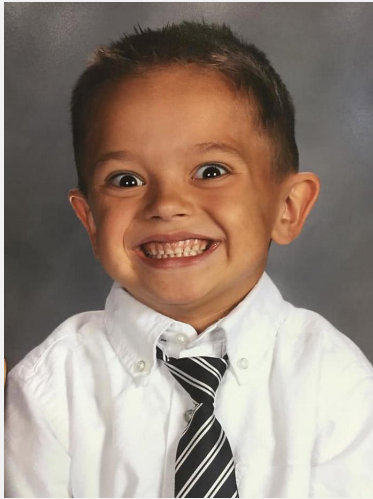
**PS The 8:30 Mass returns to IHM on September 15!**

**7:50 AM is the Goal!**



**Great before 8**

Please give your kids time to prepare for and settle into their school day by arriving before 7:50 am. Morning prayer and announcements begin promptly at 8 am and those running late miss both. It's also an interruption for the teacher beginning their instruction. Promptness is next to Godliness...or something like that. Thank you!



## SCHOOL PICTURE DAY SEPT 6

School Picture flyers will be sent home Tuesday for your chance to order either online, or send back in hard copy form on picture day next Friday. All students, except PK 3's, will have their picture taken that day. (PK3's at a later date) Yearbooks will be included in certain picture packages or available "ala carte."

Next Friday, Sept 6 will be a DRESS UP DAY. Follow the guidelines in our IHM Dress code here:

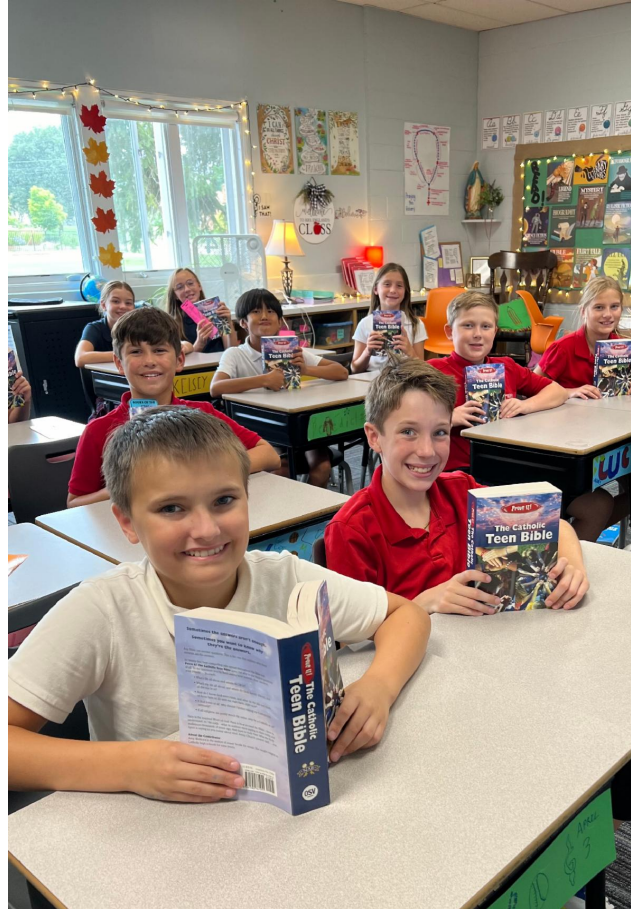
<https://ihmschoolgr.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2021/03/IHM-Dress-Code.pdf>

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## THANK YOU, KNIGHTS!

This Wednesday saw another IHM right of passage, this time for IHM 5th graders. A sincere *Thank You* to our Knights of Columbus for purchasing teen bibles for these kids. Fr. Troy blessed and distributed them at the school Mass.

***Thy Word is a lamp  
unto my feet and a  
light unto my path!***



## **IHM Home and School Association is Still Calling YOU!**

There are still classrooms without a Classroom Coordinator (think room mom/dad) in grades PreK -7th grade. Coordinators assist the teacher with class parties, miscellaneous activities, and getting other parents on board for Home and School activities. Bless you for signing up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoD4CADAC2EA2FCC52-50779206-classroom>



## **Traveling Mary is on the Move!**

What a response! **The Traveling Mary of Fatima Rosary Devotion** is now reserved each week until the end of OCTOBER! These families know the peace afforded their homes when they invite Our Lady in. Sign up to "host" the 2' statue in your home for a week and promise to pray the rosary, as a family, once a day or night for 7 days. To date, we've heard no regrets! Sign up here for details.  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10>





## Caring for Mary

Another way to grow your family's devotion to our Blessed Mother is the **Caring for Mary Ministry**. *This sign-up, too, netted a huge response! Thank you!* Sign up to provide fresh flowers for the Blessed Mother Statue inside the school office. Bring them from your garden or a small bouquet from the grocery. It need not be elaborate, just done with love. (We have vases)



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4CADAC2EA2FCC52-caring1>

## Looking Ahead

Friday, August 30 NO SCHOOL Long Holiday Weekend

Tuesday, September 3 Classes Resume

Wednesday, September 4 All School Mass

Friday, September 6 Picture Day PreK 4, Young 5, K-8th and Dress Up Day

Sunday, September 8 75th Anniversary Mass w/ Bishop Walkowiak and Parish Picnic

View our Calendar for more events



## Celebrate IHM's 75th!

**Save September 8** for a family celebration of our 75th year as a parish. Bishop David Walkowiak will celebrate the 10:30 am Mass, followed by a family group picture then its on to the food and fun! There will be something for everyone!

Sign up for a dish to pass [here](#).

Sign up to volunteer for games and or clean up [here](#).



### ART TEACHER NEEDED

IHM Catholic School is looking for a full or part time Art Teacher for the 2024-25 School year. This teacher would be employed through the Brighton Public School Shared time program. Ideal candidate would teach 4 days at IHM and 1 day a week at Holy Spirit Catholic School.

Please inquire/apply at this link:

<https://www.applitrack.com/s/haredservices/onlineapp/default.aspx?>

[Category=Teachers+Elementary+K-](#)

[8&subcategory=Art&AppliTrackJobId=2194&AppliTrackLayoutMode=detail&AppliTrac](#)



Catholic Central Hot Lunch Program serves Immaculate Heart of Mary School. We are in need of hot lunch personnel who may serve here and/or at Catholic Central High School. Position is for three days a week: Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays 10 AM-1 PM for lunch preparation and cashiering. Starting pay is up to \$14 per hour. Apply at this link: [application](#).



### CHILD CARE HELP NEEDED:

Adults are needed for our IHM Disciple Den program . We are looking for someone to supervise 4th through 8th graders who are registered for Disciple Den after school to assist with homework and other things more tailored to their age group. If you know anyone who would be interested and really good at that, please have them contact Mrs. Lake [principal@ihmschoolgr.org](mailto:principal@ihmschoolgr.org)



## **From the Principal:**

Hello IHM Families,

We are getting into the swing of things for the 24-25 school year! It was definitely a hot one, and we're excited that the building will be able to cool down a bit now looking at the forecast. In the Spring of 2023, we started a new policy regarding cell phones at school. Before that students were able to bring phones and keep them in their lockers. But when we started that in March of 2023, students had to drop their cell phones in the office if they brought them into the building. As awareness has grown recently about the detrimental effects of the phones with children, many schools are taking these necessary steps to have a phone free environment at school. We sent an app notification in early August referencing the book "The Anxious Generation" and the book club hosted by West Catholic. This way students and teachers can focus on the learning during the day. To that end, the Diocese of Grand Rapids has written a policy to support schools in their efforts to keep phones out of the school environment. The policy is [here](#) for you to read.

There is growing evidence that children should wait to get smart phones until high school at a minimum. We are working together with other Catholic schools to try to provide education for parents around this issue. There is so much going on outside of school hours with texting, messaging and social media that spills over into the school day. Parents might try to keep their child away from smart phones, but then when half the class has them and half doesn't, it only compounds the problems.

When students are at school we have filters and other safeguards in place that are difficult at home. We will often share tips and strategies for parents and [protectyoungeyes.com](http://protectyoungeyes.com) is a wonderful resource for this.

We are so thankful for a community that

is vigilant in protecting kids and maintaining the focus that our children are gifts from God. Our faith is the reason for everything we do. Here is a great article about how Catholic schools are keeping this as a focus as the technology world changes around us. ["Phone-free education: Catholic Schools rise to the challenge"](#)  
Have a wonderful long weekend!  
Blessings,

Mrs. Holly Lake

## Stay Connected



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Please be advised:

Unsubscribing from emails sent from IHM will remove your account from our email lists, including communications from our administration.

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*Guided by Mother Mary, our patroness, Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic School learns, leads, and serves as disciples of Christ.*

Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic School | 1951 Plymouth Ave SE | Grand Rapids, MI 49506 US

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