



Disciple Dispatch

November 1, 2024
All Souls Day

Gifted. Sealed. Sent Forth.



Twenty-nine 8th Graders were presented on behalf of Immaculate Heart of Mary Church for the completion of their baptismal grace Wednesday evening. The seal of Confirmation, imprinted by Bishop Walkowiak, signifies these Confirmand's total belonging to Christ; their enrollment in Christ's service; and the promise of divine protection in the Last Judgment. The Church is made better and stronger by these young adult's fiat! Congratulations!

First Things:



IHM 3rd graders called upon the intercession of their favorite saint this morning at the All School Holy Day Mass. Fr Troy's homily expounded upon the call made at our baptism for ALL of us to become saints. His school homilies are just the best (and sent to parents via email every week.) Take a listen.



Celebrate IHM's Two Seminarians and Woman Religious

National Vocation Awareness Week begins this Sunday and so does our **Care Package Collection** for them at IHM school! Kindly support our Seminarians and Woman Religious by sending in gas cards, grocery cards, stamps, nuts, candy, warm gloves, teas, coffees, or any sort of goodie you think they would like to receive while away from home. **Turn your donations in this week, Nov 3-9, to the school or parish office. Homemade notes and cards of support and prayers are especially encouraged.** Please pray for: **Daniel Willison**, year 3 at St Thomas Seminary, **Sr. Mary Rose Thomas**, Sisters of St Francis of the Martyr St George; **Greg Wasinski**, year 4 at St Thomas Seminary. All are members of our IHM Family!

Conference Sign-Up
Closes Sunday 11:59
pm



Schedule your child(ren)'s Fall conferences now!
November 6,7,8 at this link below.

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

Fall conferences are mandatory for PRK 4's, Young 5's and K-5.



All Souls Day Memorial Wall

In commemoration of **All Souls Day, November 2**, IHM staff and students will keep the souls of our departed loved ones in prayer, especially these next two weeks. Send in a photo of a loved one(s) who has passed, to the office or

email them to Mrs. Lowe at clowe@ihmschoolgr.org They will be added to our Memorial Wall outside of the school office.



BIG, BOLD, DAY OF LOVE, AND HOLY MOMENTS!

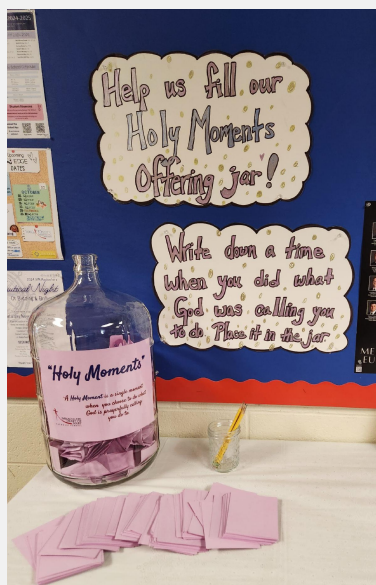
Last year, the Red Glasses Movement came to IHM to share Audrey Lou's story and the mission of the Red Glasses Movement. (RGM)

<https://redglassesmovement.org/about-us/>

Big Bold Love Day, a day of love and service in honor of Audrey's birthday, is **THIS WEDNESDAY, November 6th**. By **Living Boldly, Loving Big, and Passing it on**, IHM staff and students will celebrate the day by sharing their Holy Moments. Students will be challenged fill the Holy Moments jar, promoted in church all year in celebration of our Diamond Jubilee.

(A Holy Moment is any time in our day when we prayerfully consider what God would want us to do.) The jar is located outside of the school office and adults can add Holy Moments too!

Students can wear their red glasses to school on Wednesday, November 6 too!





WHO DOESN'T LIKE DONUTS?

Serving coffee and donuts at a Sunday morning **Munch and Mingle** is a sure way to keep your membership in the ACTIVE column. The donuts are delivered and the coffee is so easy to make. Just set it all out. Clean up afterwards. Involve the whole fam. Easy peasy. The rewards are many.

sign up here.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090C45A5A922A31-50875289-mingle#/>



IT'S YOUR FAMILY'S TURN TO BRING DOWN THE GIFTS

We all have a responsibility to give back to our Parish family and a quiet, easy way is to **present the gifts during Mass**. Signing up for a few Masses during the year takes the load off the 15% of parishioners who, very often, just fill in when no one steps up. Set a wonderful example of service to your kids and fill a needed liturgical role at the same time.

Please sign up here:

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



IHM SPORTS UPDATE

Winter Sports II sign-ups have begun.

Girls Basketball (3/4th grade)

Girls Basketball (5-8th grade)

Coed Ski teams

Participants need a valid sports physical report to play (within the last year). Sign up here: <https://graceac.com/register/>

Volunteers are needed for Boys Basketball Homegames! In order for our sports programs to run effectively, each family should sign up for 2-3 assignments PER SEASON.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084BAEAE23A2FFC70-52856074-boys>

IHM ONLINE SPIRIT STORE is open for business and ...Christmas shopping! Store closes November 15th and look for delivery in early December. Shop here: www.revbusinessstore.com/ihm

Get Help Applying For Financial Aid

Meet in the DeMazenod room next Thursday November 7 at 8:00 a.m. for assistance in filling out the needed information for financial aid for the 2025-26 school year.

Smart Tuition
is now part of
Blackbaud.

The deadline for the first round of awards is **December 1, with notifications sent by December 20.** Two other rounds of awards to follow. (Psssst: It's best to get in on the first one!)

<https://aid.blackbaud.school/>



A SPOTLIGHT ON NEW IHM FAMILIES

The Bower Family

Christine (McKiever) and Matthew Bower were married at Immaculate in June 2019 and soon after began their family of five. Their oldest, Evelyn, is now the second generation to play in our hallowed preschool.

(Christine was a member of the first IHM preschool class, held in what used to be the convent and now the current preschool building.) When asked why they chose IHM, Christine remarked "It was a tradition I'm proud we decided to continue. I loved my time here and so does Evelyn."

Evelyn (and siblings Jack and Peter) got their first taste of IHM school at our LapTime and Open Gym these past two years.

Meet up with them at the Munch and Mingle after the 8:30 am Sunday Mass.

We are so glad you've made your family a part of ours!

VIRTUE OF THE WEEK:



Every two weeks , our IHM student body learns about a particular virtue: what it looks like in action and what it would sound like.

The current focus is on Patriotism.

Patriotism is the virtue of paying due honor and respect to one's country, with a willingness to serve

Patriotism looks like: Registering to vote when you turn 18 and voting in every election.

Patriotism sounds like: Its a civic and Christian duty to be informed and vote in every election.

IHM Auction 2024: Tomorrow!

"Nautical Night of Bidding and Brilliance"

Calling all captains and crews, skippers and sailors. Bring yourself and your first mate dressed in seaworthy attire for a night of fun and fundraising.

Looking for the tickets you already purchased? They'll be at the door when you arrive!

Tickets for sale at the door!



The Week Ahead

Saturday, Nov 2 Confessions 3:30-4:30 pm; Mass at 5:00 pm

Saturday, Nov 2 A Night of Bidding and Brilliance 6:00 pm Gym

Saturday, Nov 2 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME Fall back 1 Hour before bedtime!

Sunday, Nov 3 Mass at 8:30 am and 10:30 am/ Munch and Mingle after each

Sunday, Nov 3 Parents of 2nd Graders First Reconciliation Mtg 11:45 am

DeMazenod

Monday Nov 4 Vocations Awareness Week/ Care Package Collections

Tuesday Nov 5 Election Day

Wednesday, Nov 6 All School Mass 9:00 am Church

Wednesday, Nov 6 Big, Bold, Love Day!

Wednesday, Nov 6 After-School St Gregory Choir Begins 3:15 pm Church

Wednesday, Nov 6 EDGE NIGHT 6:45 pm

Wednesday, Nov 6 Parent Teacher Conferences by appointment

Thursday, Nov 7 Financial Aid Forms Assistance 8:00 am DeMazenod Room

Thursday, Nov 7 LapTime/Open Gym 10:00 am am Gym

Thursday, Nov 7 Parent Teacher Conferences by appointment

Friday, Nov 8 1/2 Day Dismissal at 11:00 am

Friday, Nov 8 IHM Men's Ministry 6:00 am-7:30 DeMazenod Room

Friday, Nov 8 All School Skate Party, 11:30 am - 1:30 am GR Skate

Friday, Nov 8 Parent Teacher Conferences by appointment

View our Calendar for more
events



Immaculate
Heart of Mary
Catholic School

Immaculate Heart of Mary **SKATING**

PARTY **GRSKATE**

& EVENT CENTER
KENTWOOD LOCATION

\$8 Per Person
Includes Regular Rental
Blades \$5
Free Skate Mates

Friday November 8th
11:30 - 1:30 pm
Food Specials * Games * Prizes & More
Parents Free to Spectate

Food Combo \$5
Add Pizza, Pop, & a Cookie



www.grskateandevents.com

Family Combo \$20
Lg. Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza
& Pitcher of Pop



616.534.8106
14 52nd Street SE, Kentwood 49548



**WANT TO RAISE MONEY FOR IHM BY
HAVING SOMEONE TAKE CARE OF YOUR
CAN/BOTTLE DEPOSITS?**

THEN, READ ON!



Simple. Safe. Can & Bottle Recycling Service.

**Sipzee is a company that will take your empty cans and bottles
and donate 50% of the deposits to IHM!**

1. Go to **Sipzee.com**
2. Type in your zipcode
3. Schedule a pick up day that works for you
4. Provide an exact count of your deposits or use the Sipzee estimator tool (It's actually very accurate!)
5. Select "donate to a non-profit" and choose IHM School
6. Put your cans/bottles out for the Sipzee collector to pick up
7. You now have a clean garage, and IHM earns 50% of the deposit money collected!

GUIDED BY MOTHER MARY, OUR PATRONESS, IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY
CATHOLIC SCHOOL LEARNS, LEADS, AND SERVES AS DISCIPLES OF CHRIST.

**IHM HOME & SCHOOL
ASSOCIATION**



Good News Around Campus

IHM third graders added to the beauty of today's Holy Day Mass with their images of the Saints. They are on the path to holiness...as we should be!

Today was not only the Solemnity of All Saints, but the first Friday of the month. Look for the **Litany to the Sacred Heart of Jesus** coming home with your student today. Pray it as a family tonight before bed. Read about it here: <https://fatima.org/first-friday-devotion/>

IHM eighth graders made their Confirmation Wednesday evening, much to the joy of their families and our IHM staff. True to form, the very next day they jumped into service around campus, raking, blowing leaves, hauling, washing windows etc. So grateful for their be-happy attitudes.

IHM Preschool Director and teacher Ms. Karen Gawronski is back from a medical leave! The kids are so happy she is back; the staff is so happy she is back; and so is Karen. We missed her! Sincere thanks to Mrs. Jamie Keesee for filling in during her absence. You rocked it!

IHM Preschool Aide, Mrs. Maria Weber is to be a Grammie again! Daughter Amanda and son in law Vince (also parish members) are due the end of February with baby Williams #2!

New young families have already begun inquiring about IHM Preschool for the 2025-26 school year. Our enrollment future looks bright!

The strain of flu, plaguing our students (and staff) since September seems to be dissipating. Absenteeism was virtually nil yesterday, but it was also Halloween and school parties so... Still striving for a perfect attendance day!

and...

"To give anything less than your best is to sacrifice the gift" *Steve Prefontaine*

Here's to using the gifts of the Holy Spirit this week to the best of our ability.

See you at Mass!

Send us your Joyful news
clowe@ihmschoolgr.org.



From the Principal

Hello IHM Families!

It was a busy week capped off with a beautiful Mass for All Saints Day today! Our 3rd graders did an amazing job holding up their beautiful saint portraits as their saint was called in the litany! Congratulations to our 8th graders who received the sacrament of Confirmation on Wednesday evening at the Cathedral adding a special, personal saint to their own name! I have fond memories of my grandma proudly rattling off all her names when I was a child, including her special confirmation name, Margaret! It's certainly a week of keeping all those Saints who have gone before us close to us and asking for their intercession on our behalf. This is such a beautiful and unique gift of our faith.

I want to update you on a couple of staff adjustments. As you are most likely aware, we haven't had an art teacher so far this year. We are beyond grateful to Sandi Bailey, who has been coming in two days a week to give our kids an art class. Our classroom teachers have also gone above and beyond by planning engaging art projects to do in their classrooms! The hallway does not lack beautiful artwork! We are pretty confident that we will have a new art teacher starting as soon as she can complete the paperwork she needs for the shared time program and we are grateful to have this in place before Ms. Bailey goes to Florida for the winter so the kids will get art the rest of the year! Also, Kaylynn Hire, our music teacher who welcomed a beautiful baby girl this summer has decided to move to a part time position and so will no longer serve IHM. We are also confident we have a replacement for her beginning when she steps down after Christmas. We thank God for all our answered prayers as we try to make sure our students get the instruction in the fine arts and are able to share those beautiful gifts with the community during a time that presents many hurdles! Thank you for all your prayers and getting the word out there!

Have a wonderful weekend!

Blessings,

Holly Lake

Stay Connected



Please be advised:

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

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

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49506 US

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