



IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY SCHOOL

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Week of November 18, 2018



Mission Statement

IHM Catholic School challenges students to discover God's gifts spiritually, intellectually, socially and physically within a community that nurtures, honors and respects the unique person.

Happy Thanksgiving!

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: "You are my inheritance, O Lord!" Psalm 16

A WORD FROM MRS. HICKS

As we near the Thanksgiving Holiday, it is the perfect time to remember how blessed we are. Tuesday nights I teach a class at MSU. On my drive home, I am usually thinking about my day and all the things I didn't get done. But driving home Tuesday night, my niece surprised me with a wonderful phone call. She and I have been setting little goals for her to work toward for many years. She has a cognitive impairment and has struggled to understand the effects of some of her choices. Her call was to let me know she met her goal and had a special note from her teacher. This was just the reminder I needed to be thankful for all the little things in my life, in this case a phone call from my niece. In this Thanksgiving season, I want to express the virtue of gratitude for all the kindness the Immaculate Heart of Mary School family has shown me. Have a peaceful and restful holiday.

Blessings,
Karen

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Family Life: Classes should be wrapping up Family Life this week or next. This week, classes all focused on God's Gift of Community. The family, as the domestic Church, is one of the key communities in which people live as disciples of Jesus and where discipleship is taught. An understanding of how people live with and relate to one another is an essential component of discipleship and family living. In this unit, students will learn the virtues and skills needed for a just society. These lessons will prepare them to take their responsible places in society both now and in the future. Students will learn how to answer the call to Christian social ministry. Students will develop these key Catholic values in association with this theme: A respect for interpersonal relationships and human interaction; an appreciation for the cooperation and mutual benefit needed for a healthy society; a willingness to implement Catholic social teaching such as solidarity and stewardship; and a recognition for all Christians to work together for the coming of God's reign of justice, mercy and peace.

If you have any questions or feedback on this program, please contact your child's teacher. It was a blessing to teach this unit to your child(ren).

Thanksgiving Almsgiving: Thank you for your participation in our annual Thanksgiving food and personal needs collections. If you have any more to give, please know that it will be welcomed and appreciated. Next week we will begin collecting funds for our assistance to our court families. Your helpful charities is appreciated so very much. God bless you.

Geography Bee: Students in grades 4-8 participated in the National Geographic Geo Bee in their classrooms this week. Congrats to all for doing their best and congrats to the class winners in each room. Grade 4: Katie E. and Sam L.; Grade 5: JP B. and Michael E/ - 3rd place was Jefferson Espinosa. Jefferson and Michael will be in the Geo Bee finals in January! Grade 6: Finn K. and Colm M.; Grade 7: Vinh N. and Nick L.; Grade 8: Austin G. and Anderson Y. These class winners will compete against each other in January for the school winner.

Blessings, Mary Margaret Utess

ADULT SOCIAL/AUCTION

Again, Thank you for your support and attendance at the Adult Social. Foremost importance – the event was well-attended and the participants enjoyed the evening. The Adult Social Committee hopes to make this a well-established event in our school community. It is important for our school parents to have the opportunity to meet and enjoy each other.

The good news about the profits is: \$12,752.13 profits! Wow!! \$9,131.28 is designated toward the gym and \$3,620.85 in an increase to the Mary Goeddeke Fund. Thank you for your generosity and enthusiasm.

On Sunday, Fr. John, reiterated that we should see progress soon, as the land to the north of the school is prepared for construction! Thank you, Fr. John, for all your continued work to see this plan through to implementation!

SHARING THE JOURNEY

During this time in the church year, the emphasis has been on Stewardship of funds through examples such as Elijah and the widow, the widow's pence, etc. Listening to them, I felt compelled to share one of my personal stories of stewardship and God's generosity that cannot be beat.

When our children were young, my husband and I chose that I would be an at-home mom. We knew this would be tight financially, but it was our best plan for raising children the way we wanted.

As happens so often when moms are at home, over the years different people asked me if I would be willing to do part-time daycare for their children. I had worked out arrangements with different families over the years including caring for my nephew part time.

When our oldest daughter was in eighth grade, she was emphatic in her desire to attend Lansing Catholic. That was definitely outside of our one-income budget. Steve and I prayed and considered the options and the good that it would be for our daughter. We decided it would be the best choice for her and a leap of faith for us to follow our hearts in having her continue in Catholic Schools. We promised the Lord that all of the babysitting income I brought in would be set aside and used only for tuition at LCC (after taxes!).

So began a sixteen year adventure with God providing families in need of child care and compatible with our family and tuition at Lansing Catholic. Sometimes the fund was in surplus and sometimes it was completely used up by a payment. It was tempting sometimes to "borrow" out of the fund, but each time we recommitted to strictly using that fund only for its promised use and trust God to provide.

All four of our daughters have shared their gratitude for being able to attend LCHS and their growth in faith through this example. God will not be outdone! He can use our finances as very concrete ways to bring us closer to understanding His unstoppable love for each of us! Take the leap in giving Him control of your finances and it will bring you to deeper faith!

Chris Wilcox

UPCOMING EVENTS: [Check out the Google Calendar on the \[ihmlansing.org\]\(http://ihmlansing.org\) homepage for more....](#)

December 7, 7:00 pm: Middle School Play, "Alice in Wonderland." LCHS

December 8, 2:00 pm: Middle School Play, "Alice in Wonderland." LCHS

WEEKLY LITURGY: Next Mass Wednesday, November 28, 8:00.

SCHEDULE: November 21-23: Thanksgiving Break; **NO SCHOOL.** November 30: ODC.

EVENTS: November 27: Principal Talk Time, 8:15.

TRIP (TUITION REDUCTION INCENTIVE PROGRAM): Sign up for Presto Pay to have access to huge bonus rebates on Thank-Scrip-ing Day, **NOVEMBER 20, 2018.** These are the biggest bonuses of the year, right when you are shopping for the holidays! Register now – and save, save, save! **The TRIP volunteers will process an order**

that morning if you choose to place an order for physical cards, but the cards will not be ready for pick up until Tuesday, November 27, due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

CHRISTMAS GIVING: We have a long-standing tradition here at Immaculate Heart of Mary school to work with the area family court to provide Christmas gifts for several families who are working hard to improve their situation, but struggling enough that they will not be able to have Christmas gifts at their house. You will receive an envelope in your family envelope marked Christmas Collection, Due Dec. 7. Please discuss with your family how you would like to respond to this need. Maybe children can take on extra chores at this busy time of year. Be sure and take advantage of this teachable moment to discuss gratitude and sharing with those less fortunate. Mark your calendar to join us for morning Mass on Wednesday, December 19, when the court reps share a bit of the story of our adopted families. It will be an amazing time of the true spirit of Christmas.

CAPITAL AREA LITERACY COALITION: Volunteers are available to help children and adults strengthen their reading, writing and English speaking skills. Do you need a tutor? Do you know someone who wants to improve their English? FREE services to struggling students, adults who want to improve their literacy or prepare for GED. Contact them today to start the services! mail@thereadingpeople.org or 485-4949.

In the month of November, we have focused on the virtues of Gratitude and Honesty.
Gratitude is to count the good things (blessings) in one's life. Express gratitude even when it is difficult.
Honesty is to be sincere, open and truthful in one's words and actions.
The Lord's Prayer will be our focus prayer in November.