



Dear Parents,

Happy Feast of the Immaculate Conception! Today, we attended mass about both campuses honoring Our Blessed Mother's YES! It's almost too much to comprehend at times; our Lord knew before He made Mary. He knew she would be the woman to carry the Prince of Peace, our Savior, our Lord. Mary's courage and strength in her Yes changed the world. What opportunities does God give each of us, daily, to change the world? It might be the person we hold the door for, or it might be the person we smile at in line at the grocery store. We have the power, and responsibility, to continue our daily Yes, to honor His kingdom.

Monday we were visited by a consultant from Secure Environment Solutions (SEC). This company is an independent resource who completed security evaluations of all six buildings our children use while at HFRS. The report will be returned in the next four to six weeks, but he was impressed with what we already have in place at HFRS to keep our students and staff safe during the school day. There is always more we can do, which he will suggest in his report. We are blessed with Mr. Myers dedication to security, and it is obvious from the response of the consultant from SEC. I will keep you posted on the data from the report along with what steps we will be taking to address the suggestions.

This week our North campus students enjoyed Santa's Secret Shop. Thank you so much to our PTG coordinators and volunteers who put such a special event together for our children every year. Next week our student's at South campus will enjoy their opportunity to shop for family and friends.

Parents who drop student's off at South campus for athletics, please do not drop them off too early for practice. There are not people in the building to supervise them, and they are left unattended to roam around until practice starts. Please stay with them until the coaches arrive, or arrive close enough to practice when you know the coaches are already on site. I appreciate your help with this. It helps keeps the children safe, and our building respected as Holy Ground.

I wanted to alert everyone to the end of the second quarter, January 12, 2024. Families sometimes take extended vacations, which could negatively impact your child's grade for the second quarter. We return to school January 8th, and teachers will begin calculating grades, and it makes it very difficult when students are absent on an extended vacation. Please make sure you are communicating closely with the teachers, so they know if you are going to be missing for an extended period of time. The absences should still be reported to the front office staff.

Last week I mentioned a change to our tardy policy. It goes into effect for the second semester, beginning in the third quarter January 16, 2024. I have heard from those who have extenuating circumstances currently. Please feel free to reach out to me, Mrs. Vandercruyssen, or Mr. Durkin.

Have a Blessed weekend, as you continue to walk on your Advent journey.

Your disciple in Christ,

Bridget Hondzinski

Looking Ahead:

Tuesday December 12

9:15am PTG Meeting	North Camps
Christmas Gift Shop	South Campus

Thursday December 14

9:00am Mass (Gr 4-8)	St. Mary of the Hills Church
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Friday December 15

9:00am Mass (Gr Y5—3)	St. Andrew Church
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"You First: Let's consider the needs of others before your own" is our Friendzy message for the month of December. Questions were posed to the students like, what does it mean to be selfish, what does it look like, or what are some obvious acts of selfishness, or when is it really challenging to be unselfish? These are so appropriate for our season of Advent, as we prepare for the birth of Christ, a selfless act of our God, the Father, with His knowing the plan for His Son.

Have a blessed weekend. We celebrate the second Sunday of Advent.

Anne McClain

HFRS Friendzy Facilitator

Announcements:

Parish Verification

An important part of registering for the next school year is to confirm that you meet the criteria for the supporting tuition rate. Now is a good time to review the below criteria and make sure you meet the requirements.

Registered: Families must be registered at one of our 3 supporting parishes (St. Andrew, St. Mary of the Hills, or St. Irenaeus).

Supporting: Families are expected to support monetarily each year. In order to receive in-parish tuition rates for 24-25, contributions must be made to your home parish prior to December 31, 2023. It is important that your parish records your contribution. Make sure you are using your offertory envelopes or enroll in your parishes online giving program.

Annual Fund Update

Every week we get closer!!

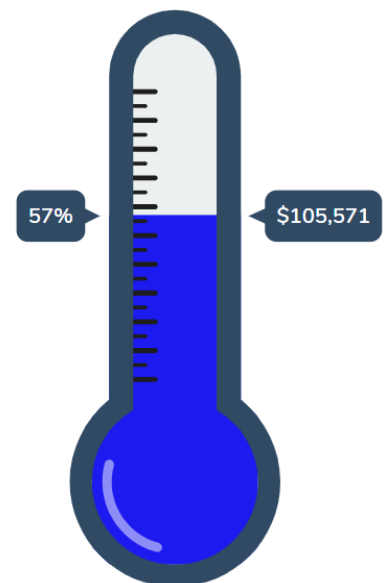
We are moving towards our goal with 20% of our own HFRS families participating.

We encourage **every** family to make a donation **in any amount** to help us meet our goal. Donations can be made on our website or by clicking the link to the [Annual Fund](#).

	Number of Donors	Amount
HFRS Families	115	\$49,940
Other Donors	221	\$55,631
TOTAL	336	\$105,571

* Donations received as of 12.6.23

GOAL: \$185,000



From the President

Dear Parents,

Once again, I would like to thank all of the parents who supported our Giving Tuesday live broadcast that took place after Thanksgiving. We received close to \$14,000 in donations from 44 families which brought us over the half way mark to our yearly goal of \$185,000. I am confident that we will reach our goal with the generous support of our parents, alumni, grandparents, and parishioners.

One of the best parts of my position is listening to the amazing stories of how our teachers, staff and students have made a positive impact on others. Whether it is service projects, academic achievements, or sharing the message of Jesus Christ, our school stays true to its mission in living out our Catholic faith. When sitting at the school Mass, watching the students pray and sing with enthusiasm and love for Christ, adults are impressed and moved with a sense of hope that our future holds promise.

As we approach Christmas, if you have not made a donation to our Annual Fund, I sincerely ask that you give this deep, prayerful consideration. Every donation is genuinely appreciated and helps us provide an amazing education for our children in a safe, secure, faith-based environment that aligns morally and ethically with our Christ-centered beliefs. There could not be a better place than HFRS for children to grow, learn and develop.

[Support Our School's Annual Fund](#)

As we head into 2024 you will begin sharing more about our Benefit Evening on March 8. This year's event is shaping up to be the largest and most exciting Benefit Evening that we have ever hosted. We will showcase the talents of our HFRS alumni during dinner and look forward to the live auction hosted by Fr. Gerry LeBoeuf, pastor of St. Irenaeus Catholic Church.

Sponsorships and tickets for the event are now on sale!

SPECIAL INCENTIVE

Purchase your tickets before December 15 and you could win:

Four Red Wing Tickets
January 27, 2024
Donated by: Lance Industries
(Floore Family)



The drawing will take place at the conclusion of the Christmas Program.

[Benefit Evening Tickets](#)

As we head into these last weeks of school in 2023, let us thank God for the many blessings in our lives. Let us continue to pray for the children of our school, that they be drawn to Christ, and know that they are children of God, and are loved.

Wishing you a blessed Advent season,


Mr. Jon Myers
President

Advancement
Alumni
Enrollment
Finance
Buildings
Strategic Plan



CAMPUS MINISTRY

DECEMBER

ISSUE 11 | 12/08/2023

A NOTE FROM MRS. MYERS:

Blessed Mother Mary

God needed a pure vessel to enter the world and so planned to use this special young girl named Mary. Today, December 8th, we remembered Mary's immaculate conception. This is often misunderstood, the Immaculate Conception is when Mary was naturally conceived in her mother, St. Anne's womb, but God kept her soul pure and free from sin. The celebration of the Immaculate Conception is a holy day of Obligation.

This liturgy of the Mass on this day celebrates that Mary was full of grace from the very beginning of her existence. This special grace prepared her to be the Mother of God. Because of the saving work of her Son, Mary was totally preserved from the stain of original sin all personal sin. Neither did Mary commit any sin throughout her entire life. Pope Pius IX proclaimed this infallible dogma in 1854. Mary is the patron saint of the United States. The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate is located in Washington, D.C.

The beautiful prayer we pray below is derived from the words Angel Gabriel said to Mary at the Annunciation and the words Elizabeth spoke to her at the Visitation...at the end we ask our Blessed Mother to pray for us!

Hail Mary full of Grace,
the Lord is with thee.

Blessed art thou among women
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary Mother of God,
pray for us sinners now and at the time of our death.

Amen

Preparing the way for the Lord

This Sunday we will hear the Holy Gospel according to Mark 1:1-8. Take a moment to read this passage.

What did you hear when you read it? The prophet Isaiah (8 centuries before Jesus was born) was telling the people of Israel that someone will be coming and preparing the way of the Lord. He was telling everyone that God was coming... stay in faith, have hope, and be patient. Isaiah said it would be someone crying out in the desert. We know he was prophesying John the Baptist.

John certainly lived in rough lands and traveled all over, spreading the message of repentance. He bathed people in the Jordan River and cleansed them from sin. People were being transformed and he told them, "One mightier than I, is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." He was paving the way for Jesus to enter the lives of the people...he was paving the way for Jesus to enter our lives.

We are called to share this good news of salvation. The news that God came to the world in flesh. The good news that we are loved and should have faith, and hope, in what lies ahead...our days and our future is filled with light, because of Jesus.

Are you ready to meet him, in his birth at Christmas? Are you ready to meet him each day, in prayer, in one another and through the sacraments? Are you ready to meet him when he comes again?

I invite you to click [HERE](#) and join me in an Advent reflection time with your Domestic Church, you family.

Peace in our Lord Jesus Christ be with you,

Kim Myers,

Director of Campus Ministry

SERVICE HOURS NEEDED?

Service Opportunities December 16 & 17th.

Contact Margaret K. at St. Andrew Catholic Church [HERE](#).

DID YOU KNOW?

The word advent comes from the Latin term adventus meaning "arrival" or "coming," particularly the coming of something having great importance.

Did you know that the HFRS website has a prayer button where families can submit prayer intentions? These intentions are brought to the Altar during our School Mass so that they can be prayed over.

To submit a prayer intention

[CLICK HERE](#)

We would love to pray with you.



ST. MARY OF THE HILLS

- Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass
December 12, 6:45 PM
- Currently forming Children's Choir.
See information.

ST. ANDREW

- Advent Nights .
Please join us for Adoration and Reconciliation.
- Testimonies of His Touch
Saturday 12/16 6PM

ST. IRENAEUS

- Cocoa, Caroles, and Blessing Baby Jesus
December 15, 7 PM
- Youth Mass
Sunday December 17,
11:30 AM

HOLY FAMILY REGIONAL SCHOOL

MARCH 8, 2024 25TH ANNUAL BENEFIT EVENING

December 8, 2023
Issue #2



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to Follow on
Instagram](#)

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SPONSORS!**

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CLICK HERE

SCAN FOR ALL THE INFO



TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

**COME CELEBRATE WITH OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY
PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS BEFORE DECEMBER 15TH FOR A CHANCE TO WIN
4-RED WING TICKETS - 1/27/24 GAME
DONATED BY LANCE INDUSTRIES (THE FLOORE FAMILY)**

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MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:00AM-6:00PM / SATURDAY 8:00AM-3:00PM

PTG Connection

Connecting Parents, Teachers and Students



Quick Links

- [About Us](#)
- [Volunteer](#)
- [Events](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

Jingle All the Way!

We're all feeling very merry...Christmas is in the air!!!

Priest Luncheon

Monday, Dec. 4

The priest luncheon was a wonderful success this week! A very special thank you to chairs Lacey Savaya and Benedetta Morley for coordinating this extra special event.

Family Dinner Night

Wed, Dec 6th

Thank you to Cheryl Moscato for coordinating this wonderful evening. What a great way to support HFRS and a local business!

Next PTG Membership Meeting

12/12 - 9:15 am - North Campus

In this issue...

- 1 PRIEST LUNCHEON
- 2 FAMILY DINNER NIGHT
- 3 GIFT SHOP
- 4 VOLUNTEERING
- 5 THANK YOU'S
- 6 RETAIL FUNDRAISERS

Christmas Gift Shop

North Campus - Dec 5th-7th,
South Campus - Dec 12th-14th

Thank you to everyone who made the North Campus Santa Shop a sparkling success! Special thanks to Christine Hurst, Missy Akash, Jessica Cossette, and Renee Sorgi, the amazing chairs who coordinated this event.

HFRS Christmas ornaments will be for sale at the South Campus shop next week! Please check out these beautiful baubles; they make great gifts!!!

Candy Land Countdown to Christmas!

Saturday, Dec. 9 & Sunday, Dec. 10

We could still use volunteers to assist in decorating the school with Christmas cheer this weekend.

High school students needing service hours are welcome! [Click here to volunteer.](#)

A Million Thanks...

The PTG wishes to recognize Christina Scollin (former co-vice president) and Christina Matway (former secretary) for all the time and talent you gave to PTG during your terms! You left an indelible mark on the PTG and the HFRS community. WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOU! And thank you as well to Claudia Morreale for coordinating staff gifts and your years of service.

PTG Executive Board

Presidents:

Lauren Kochenderfer

Kristen Baradihi

Vice Presidents:

Tricia Dennis

Chelsea George

Secretary:

Suzanne Bilodeau

Treasurer:

Dena Premo

Retail Fundraisers

Kroger Spotlight

It's December and that means time to stock up on holiday groceries. Why not head to [Kroger](#) and take advantage of our HFRS fundraising partnership?

[Box Tops](#), [Busch's](#), [Kroger](#), [RaiseRight](#), [Toyology](#)

All year, we participate in retail fundraisers that benefit HFRS. Click on the links above for more info on each program.

"Teamwork makes the DREAM work."



Send us your school pics!
They may be used on
social media and in the
yearbook!

Fast and Easy

1. Scan the QR code
2. Add your email
3. Upload pics





HOLY FAMILY
REGIONAL SCHOOL



COVER DESIGN CONTEST

YE
AR
BO
OK

Contest Rules

- The school name must be included
- This year's school theme must be included
- The school year (2023-2024) must be included
- Hard copy drawing must be submitted on plain white (no lines), 8.5 x 11 paper—portrait orientation
- Please keep a border of 1/2 inch to ensure that nothing is cut off (coloring can go to the edges, but designs may get cut off)
- Submit to either school office to Mrs. Fernandez by January 16, 2024





IT'S GAME TIME



WILDCATS VS. EVERYONE

ATHLETIC NEWS FOR THE WEEK

BASKETBALL GAMES

SPIRIT WEAR!

Friday, December 7th @ AWAY:

- 5:00pm: Boys 7th - Lambert @ St. Hugo #2
- 6:00pm: Girls 6th - Carrillo @ St. Hugo #1
- 8:00pm: Girls 7/8 - Ballor @ St. Hugo #1

Saturday, December 8th @ AWAY:

- 9:00am: Boys 5th - Knight @ WW Christian
- 10:00am: Boys 5th - Helms @ St. Hugo #2
- 11:00am: Girls 5th - Olender @ St. Hugo #2
- 11:30am: Boys 6th - Page @ St. Mary MC #1
- 12:00pm: Boys 8th - Kejbou @ St. Hugo #1
- 12:20pm: Girls 7/8 - Ballor @ Divine Child
- 12:30pm: Boys 7th - Schmidt @ Shrine #3
- 1:00pm: Boys 6th - Fabian @ St. Hugo #1
- 1:20pm: Boys 5th - Dimambro @ St. Patrick WL
- 2:00pm: Girls 5th - Isho @ St. Hugo #3
- 3:30pm: Boys 7th - Olijnyk @ St. Patrick WL
- 4:15pm: Boys 6th - Looney @ St. Regis #3
- 5:00pm: Boys 8th @ St. Mary MC #1

As we are approaching Christmas, come and purchase Holy Family Spirit Wear as gifts for your family & friends!

South Campus near the gym: Monday, 12/11 from 8:00-9:00am

North Campus in the hallway: Tuesday, 12/12 from 8:00-9:00am

Hoodies \$30 and/crewneck t-shirts \$15

You can also shop our sideline store year round, and it ships directly to your home:

[HERE](#)

NOTE: USE OF NAME AND LOGO Holy Family Regional School's logo/insignia is protected by registration under the law of the State of Michigan. Written approval of use will only be granted through the Principal. Any questions regarding this policy should be directed to Jeanette Izzi at izzi.jeanette@holyfam.org. Per the parent handbook, page 18.



...Additional Information from our Family of Parishes!

St. Mary of the Hills

St. Mary of the Hills 2675 John R. Road, Rochester Hills, MI 48307

Misa de Celebración a Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe
Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration Mass

December 12
Flower Procession - 6:45 PM
Mass - 7:00 PM

Join us for Mass and then a celebration after Mass in the gym! Mass will be bilingual/La Misa será bilingüe ¡Todos son bienvenidos! Everyone is welcome!

Please RSVP




Reserva tu lugar, por favor



Children's Choir

Does your 6 to 11 year old enjoy singing? Would they love to sing praise to the Lord in a fun and friendly group? Sign them up for the Sing Praise Children's Choir! Mrs. Sheldrick will lead singing games, warm-ups, and songs for worship. Rehearsals will be Thursdays, January 11-May 30, from 4:15-5:00 PM in the East Overflow Room. We will sing during Mass 3 or 4 times. Register by calling or texting Mrs. Barb Sheldrick at 248-310-8672 or by emailing her at barbsheld@ameritech.net. You may also talk with Dan Greig.

St. Andrew



Advent

ADVENT NIGHTS
ADORATION WITH RECONCILIATION

December 5 & December 12
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm
at St Andrew

Sponsored by
Rochester Area Catholic
Family of Parishes

December 19
7:00 pm
Communal Reconciliation

St. Ireneaus



COCOA, CAROLS, *and* BLESSING BABY JESUS

Friday, December 15 at 7 pm

Join us for a prayer service in Church,
—planned especially with children in mind!—
and bring the Baby Jesus from your home nativity with you
for a special blessing!

Afterwards, join us outside by the nativity
for Christmas Carols, hot cocoa, and cookies!

Bring the kids, invite a friend, and spread some joy this advent season!