



Friday December 6, 2024

Issue 2 vol. 16

## HFRS Weekly Wrap

Dear Parents,

Happy St. Nicholas Feast Day! Students were visited today by St. Nick who graciously left candy canes in the shoe of each student. He is the patron saint of students, along with sailors, merchants, and toymakers.

Advent and Christmas preparations are in full swing at both campuses. Thank you to the PTG, many volunteers and donations, for the beautiful decorations at both campuses. This year's theme definitely brings a feeling of a magical classic Christmas, and has Baby Jesus as our central focus. This helps us remember the reason for Advent, the time and anticipation of the birth of our Savior.

This week students in grades 3-8 were able to experience the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Thank you to Mrs. Myers and the Campus Ministry team for arranging to have so many Priests available, and provide this opportunity to us. Our students are grateful to have this as part of their day, and help them prepare their hearts for the coming of Jesus.

Students at our North campus have been able to visit the Santa Shop this week. Thank you again, PTG and volunteers for providing this. Next week, South campus will have the opportunity to shop. There are many wonderful options, and it helps us teach financial literacy during the school day.

If you are asking someone else to cover your volunteer shift, please make sure to notify the front office at the respective campus prior to the substitute arriving. This allows us to be prepared, and confirm that the new volunteer has completed a background check and Protecting God's Children (PGC). Volunteers are not allowed to volunteer without completing both. If the person coming to cover your shift, has not completed both, then you will be charged the \$75.00 for not showing. If we work together, collaborate, and communicate, we can make this a smooth process for all.

Sunday is the annual Rochester Community Christmas Parade. Thank you to the Knights of Columbus, St. Andrew parish, and our Holy Family community for the construction of the beautiful float. We look forward to seeing many of you along the parade route.

Next week, Mr. Myers and I will begin providing details about our Parent Code of Conduct. We are grateful to the Board of Directors, members of our Strategic Planning Committee, and parent volunteers who helped in the creation of the policy. As we walk in the footsteps of Jesus each day, this policy helps remind each of us to be good role models for our children and each other.

If you haven't had the opportunity to begin the Advent Prayer challenge on Hallow, I would highly recommend it! Each day has a theme, Bible verse, and specific type of prayer. The Litany of Let Love has quickly become a new favorite for helping quiet my mind each night.

Your disciple in Christ,

*Bridget Hondzinski*

### ***Looking Ahead:***

#### **Sunday, December 8th**

Rochester Christmas Parade

#### **Monday, December 9th**

Christmas Gift Shop Opens—until Dec. 13th (South Campus)

#### **Wednesday, December 11th**

No Buses, No Shuttles

#### **Thursday, December 12th**

9:00am School Mass (Grades 5–8)—St. Mary of the Hills

#### **Friday, December 13th**

9:00am School Mass (Grades Y5-3)—St. Andrew

#### **Tuesday, December 17th**

6:00pm—Band Concert (South Campus)

#### **Friday, December 20th**

10:00am Christmas Program (All School)—St. Andrew

### ***Announcements:***

We hope to see you along Main Street for the Rochester Area Hometown Christmas Parade on Sunday, December 8th at 2:00pm! Holy Family, St. Andrew Church and the Knights of Columbus will be #49 in the parade line up with the Nativity Scene Float. Be on the lookout for Fr. Brian, Mr. Myers, Mrs. Hondzinski, Mrs. Vandercruyssen, Mr. Durkin and many of our students representing our school community! It's a wonderful way to kick off the holidays and enjoy the spirit of Rochester with family and friends. Don't miss this beloved annual tradition!

Parents, we are grateful for the work of the PTG volunteers who decorated the north campus hallways with Christmas cheer. However, to be ADA compliant, a recent State of Michigan fire inspection required items blocking exit signs and strobe lights to be removed. Our modifications of decorations now support the safety and needs of all who enter the building. God bless our parent volunteers!

## Annual Fund Update

**Thank you to all the families who participated in Giving Tuesday!**

**We were able to achieve our goal of \$10,000 which gave a big boost to our overall goal.**

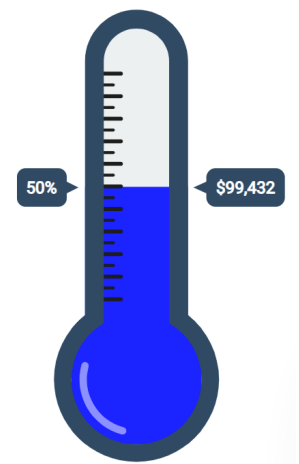
We are half way towards our goal with 14% of our own HFRS families participating.

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	79	\$39,200
Other Donors	217	\$60,232
TOTAL	296	\$99,432

\*Donations received as of 12.5.24

GOAL: \$200,000





# CAMPUS MINISTRY

## DECEMBER

ISSUE 14 | 12/06/2024

### *A NOTE FROM MRS. MYERS:*



#### **Preparing the Way for the Lord**

This Sunday we will hear the Holy Gospel according to Luke 3:1-6. 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 share with your family Advent Prayers from Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS).

Peace in our Lord Jesus Christ be with you,

*Kim Myers,*

Director of Campus Ministry



## UPCOMING:

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

December 12, 6:00 PM  
Celebration afterwards in the gym!  
Mass will be bilingual/La Misa será bilingüe  
¡Todos son bienvenidos! Everyone is welcome!  
RSVP for the Celebration after Mass by scanning the QR Code.  
Favor de reservar para la Celebración después de la Misa usando el código QR.



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

## DID YOU KNOW?

Advent is celebrated in the Roman Catholic, Anglican, Episcopalian, Lutheran, and many Protestant churches. People around the world have their own traditions when it comes to the season. For example, in Ireland a family will place a lit candle in their window. In China, people hang colorful lanterns and give apples as a gift. In Mexico they celebrate Las Posadas, or "The Inns," in which a child dressed as an angel leads a procession around the town to commemorate the journey of Mary and Joseph.

*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.*



## FAMILY OF PARISHES UPCOMING EVENTS

### ST. MARY OF THE HILLS:

#### Fair Trade Sales

The final Fair Trade sale for 2024 will be Sunday, December 15, after both Masses.

Stop by the gym to purchase Fair Trade Organic items from Equal Exchange. Coffee, tea, cashews, chocolate, and olive oil will be available. Cash only please. These would make great stocking stuffers!

For More Information  
[Click HERE](#)

### ST. ANDREW:

**KIDS' & TEENS' CHRISTMAS ART SHOW**  
Get out your crayons, pencils, markers or paints...



Due Date: December 7  
Exposition & Voting: December 14-22  
After Saturday 5:00 p.m. Mass, with wine & hors d'oeuvres  
After all family masses with coffee & donuts

Prizes For:  
Kindergarten & Under (coloring contest)  
Grades: 1-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12  
Any Medium: paintings, drawings, sculpture, video

2024 Theme: Season of Hope

For more information Contact Margaret Kozak at [margaret@standrewchurch.org](mailto:margaret@standrewchurch.org)

You're invited to a delightful art show Saturday, December 14th following the 5:00 p.m. Mass! Enjoy an evening of art, wine, and hors d'oeuvres.



For More Information  
[Click HERE](#)

### ST. IRENAEUS:

Join us after mass on December 7 or 8 for **Social Saturday and Sunday!**

- All parishioners and visitors welcome!
- Hosted by St. Irenaeus Senior Fellowship
- Youth Group Bake Sale
- Blood Pressure Check

All parishioners and visitors are invited to the parish hall on December 7th and 8th after all Masses for refreshments and fellowship, hosted by the St. Irenaeus Senior Fellowship. Our Parish Health Ministry team will be available to check your blood pressure and our Youth Group will be selling baked Christmas goods!

For More Information  
[Click HERE](#)

#### UPCOMING MASS LEADERSHIP:

12/12:

Mrs. Pipas  
4th Hour

St. Mary of the Hills  
9a

12/13:

Miss Torey

St. Andrew 9a

12/12:

All School  
Christmas Prayer  
Service  
(2nd Grade)

St. Andrew 10:30a

# HFRS Advent Outreach 2024



## **Beaumont/Corewell Health's Christmas Toy Drive & Design My Room Program**

Dear Holy Family family,  
We are dedicated, again, in helping provide Christmas gifts to children in the hospital at Christmas. We were grateful and astounded by your amazing generosity last Advent. *Many* children were greeted with your gifts of love. Thank you so much for the wonderful donations that we were able to send to Beaumont/Corewell Health Hospital.

### **This is what we need this year!**

We'll be using the **Beaumont/Corewell Health Child Life Wish List** again this year. The items requested support the *Child Life*, *Art Therapy*, *Music Therapy*, and the *Hospital School* programs

at Beaumont/Corewell Health Children at the Royal Oak location. Your donations will bring smiles and support to children who are suffering. A link to the Wish List will be available soon, so keep an eye out!

### **New Partnership Alert:**

We're also excited to team up with *Wish Upon A Teen* for their "Design My Room" program. This program helps teens who have an extended stay in the hospital. The team will decorate their rooms to make teens feel cozy and more at home! Imagine new bedding, fun lights, cool posters, games, and even items like sports and movie memorabilia – all customized to the teens' interests!

### ***How You Can Help:***

**Wish List Donations:** Watch for the gift wish list link.

**Gift Cards:** For the *Design My Room* project, Amazon and Target gift cards are needed. They will be used to purchase items that the teens desire for their hospital rooms. Our goal is to help design at least 4 rooms this Christmas season!

**Donation Info:** Please drop off donations at both North and South Campuses, along with gift cards, starting November 18<sup>th</sup> through December 13<sup>th</sup>.

We'll share more details as we go, but let's come together and make this Advent and Christmas season truly special for these children who are suffering and away from home!

# PTG Connection

Connecting Parents, Teachers and Students



## Jingle All the Way!

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

### Staff Appreciation

Thank you to our wonderful Staff Appreciation Committee for the beautiful decorations to kick off the Advent Season. Nora Daut, Melissa Demski, Lauren Kochenderfer, & Jackie Mattina captured the magic of Christmas and Jesus's Birthday. Your ongoing efforts for the students and staff are so appreciated.

### 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!



#### Quick Links

[About Us](#)

[Volunteer](#)

[Events](#)

[Contact Us](#)

#### Next PTG Membership Meeting

12/10/24 - 9 am - North Campus

1

STAFF APPRECIATION

2

FAMILY DINNER NIGHT

3

CHRISTMAS GIFT SHOP

4

FAMILY SKATE NIGHT

5

RAISE RIGHT

6

TALENT SHOW

## Christmas Gift Shop

South Campus December 10th-12th



Thank you to everyone who made the North Campus Santa Shop a sparkling success! Special thanks to Christine Hurst, Missy Akash, Jessica Cossette, and April Doyle, the amazing chairs who coordinated this event. There are still a few spots available to volunteer for South Campus Christmas Shop.

[HFRS Parents: South Campus Christmas Gift Shop 2024](#)

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

## Family Skate Night Friday, December 6th 5-7pm

Join us **tonight from 5-7 pm** for some family fun at the New Rink. Skating, inflatables, and more! See the flyer for details. We hope to see you there!!!

## Raise Right

Do you buy gift cards? Would you like to earn tuition credit? Raise Right is a wonderful, convenient way to raise money for our school. Attached is a flyer that explains in more detail or check out this video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BZNu-ftcPKo>  
Check out the video to get started <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1jBU1SSEZvE&t=26s>

## PTG Executive Board

### **Presidents:**

Kristen Baradihi  
Trina Santa Ana

### **Vice Presidents:**

Tricia Dennis  
Chelsea George

### **Secretary:**

Nicole Koval

### **Treasurer:**

Dena Premo

## Talent Show - Save the Date!

Thursday March 6th

*Lights...Camera...Action!* Our annual talent show is BACK. Auditions will be held **Feb 12th and 13th** so get your act together. All talents welcome. More info to come...

*"Teamwork makes the DREAM work."*



# Holy Family Christmas Gift Shop

PTG is hosting the annual Christmas Gift Shop.

Volunteers are needed! Use the links below to sign-up:

[North Campus Sign-up Link](#)

[South Campus Sign-up Link](#)

Envelopes will be sent home the week of the sale.

Please use the envelope to create a budget and list who your child is shopping for (*suggested max of 8 recipients*).

Blank checks are appreciated, payable to "Holy Family PTG." Our volunteers will return the envelope indicating the total amount spent.

**Holy Family Christmas Gift Shop**  
**North Campus – December 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>**  
**South Campus – December 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>**



Holy Family PRESENTS...

# Family Skate Night

**Friday**

**December 6th**

**5:00pm - 7:00pm**

**\$10 Admission**

\$5 Bounce Only (Kids 3 and under)

**\$2.00 Skate/Inline Rental**

All kids ages 1-17 to be paid



Skating, Arcade, Bounce and Food Concessions



Roller Sports Complex

50625 Van Dyke \* Shelby Twp., MI  
48317



**DON'T COOK!!!**

**School Party Special**  
**1 Whole Pizza & 4 16oz.**  
**Drinks**  
**Only \$20**

*We Still Accept Cash*





EARN  
\$1,000+  
per year

# Experience the right way to fundraise

Gift card fundraising is the best way to raise money. Buy gift cards from your favorite brands to earn on your daily purchases. It's never been easier to create opportunities for what matters most to you. No extra money spent. No extra time wasted.

## How it works



### You buy a gift card

You get the full value.



### The brand gives back

No extra money comes out of your pocket.



### Your organization earns

Impacting what matters most to you.

## Shop 750+ popular brands

Getting your morning coffee. Doing DIY projects around the house. Ordering takeout. Conveniently raise money by doing everyday things.



"It's super convenient. All I need to go shopping is my phone—I don't even need credit cards or my purse. I'm going to pay for these things anyway, I love being able to use gift cards so we get something in return."

*Jen H., earns for hockey*

Get started by downloading the [RaiseRight™ app](#) on your phone or go to [RaiseRight.com](#) on your computer.

For step-by-step instructions, visit [RaiseRight.com/m/StartEarning](#).

*RaiseRight is a wonderful opportunity to raise money for our school. Please either download the RaiseRight app or go to their website to purchase gift cards, which can be either eDelivered to your account or delivered in the mail to your home. There is a large variety of gift card options. The enrollment code is EBE96D29481.*



You can use this link to get started. <https://www.raiseright.com/enroll?enrollCode=EBE96D29481>



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# ***IT'S GAME TIME***



**WILDCATS VS. EVERYONE**

**ATHLETIC EVENTS FOR THE WEEK**

## **BASKETBALL GAMES**

### **Saturday, December 7th AWAY:**

9:00am: Boys 5/6 - Abdo @ Shrine  
10:00am: Boys 7/8 - Berlingieri @ Shrine  
10:00am: Boys 5/6 - DiMambro @ St. Clare  
11:00am: Boys 5/6 - Knight @ Holy Name  
12:00pm: Girls 7/8 - Carrillo @ St. Clare  
12:00pm: Girls 5/6 - Isho @ Holy Name  
12:00pm: Girls 5/6 - Allington @ Shrine  
12:50pm: Boys 7/8 - Ballor @ OL Refuge  
1:00pm: Boys 5/6 - Helms @ Holy Name  
1:00 pm: Boys 5/6 - Martino @ Shrine  
1:30pm: Boys 7/8 - Felhaber @ Shrine  
2:00pm: Girls 7/8 - McMahon @ Holy Name  
3:45pm: Girls 5/6 - Salach @ Shrine  
6:20pm: Boys 7/8 - Pope @ OL Sorrows

### **Wednesday, December 11th AWAY:**

7:30pm: Boys 7/8 - Pope vs. St. Regis



## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

**\*\*ATTENTION\*\***

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

We are in need of several volunteers at our games in order to have a successful running of all things involved. Please take a look at the sign up and consider volunteering your time TO FULFILL YOUR MANDATORY VOLUNTEER HOURS FOR Winter Athletics.

We truly appreciate all of your help, many hands make light work!

[2024\\_2025 Winter Volunteers](#)

## **SPIRIT WEAR**

**SHOP OUR SIDELINE STORE**

**YEAR ROUND: SHOP [HERE](#)**





# BFC<sup>+</sup> COOKIE WALK and craft show

*An annual  
Foley Family  
festive  
Celebration!*

**DECEMBER 7, 2024 | 9:30 AM - 3 PM**

**BISHOP FOLEY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL, MADISON HEIGHTS, MI**

Join us at Bishop Foley this December to shop a selection of **holiday gifts**, homemade **cookies** & fresh decorative **greenery**!

**\$2 show admission**

**COMPLIMENTARY WITH  
ANY COOKIE PURCHASE**

**BISHOP FOLEY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL  
32000 CAMPBELL RD, MADISON HEIGHTS, MI, 48071**

**WWW.BISHOPFOLEY.ORG  
248.585.1210**





*Please join us in celebrating the birth  
of our savior Jesus Christ at our children's*

## *Christmas Recital*

***Saturday, December 7, 2024  
4pm***

*St. George of Troy  
Antiochian Orthodox Church  
2160 East Maple Road  
Troy, MI 48083*

*Admission: \$15 for adults (kids are free)*

*A portion of the proceeds will support children in need.  
At the recital we will be collecting additional donations for children in need,  
and your generosity is greatly appreciated.*

*For more information, please contact: [TheSoundOfJoyChoir@gmail.com](mailto:TheSoundOfJoyChoir@gmail.com)*

***Come hear our beautiful children's voices sing  
Christmas favorites in English and Arabic***