

MARCH IS READING MONTH!!!

**IMMACULATE HEART OF
MARY-ST. CASIMIR SCHOOL**

One God, One Faith, One School

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Mission Statement

IHM-St. Casimir 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.

March is Reading Month is under way! Please encourage your student to read at home. Reading during the school day does not count. I've heard students say they are reading on their way to practice or games. What a wonderful use of their time! READ! READ! READ!

Fourth Sunday in Lent: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only son, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life." John 3:15

SOUL FOOD

Seven Sorrows of Mary Week Four

In each one of these seven sorrows of Mary, we are invited to enter into the mind, soul, and Heart of Mary to experience, at least to a limited degree, some of the sorrow of Mary and then to console her. As you will see, the consolation becomes your spiritual response.

Fourth Sorrow: Jesus Meets Mary on the Way of the Cross

As Jesus climbs Calvary on His way to crucifixion, He meets Mary. A concrete manner in which we can console Mary is to imitate Jesus in carrying our own crosses; however, with this important stipulation: share your crosses with Mary. The mere presence of Mary contemplating Jesus with the cross on His shoulders consoled Jesus.

Dig deep into your own heart so as to identify your biggest cross as well as your smaller ones. Then bring these crosses to the Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary. Imitate a little child in the arms of his mother, talk to Mary about these crosses. She is very interested in helping you to carry your cross with faith, confidence, trust, and love. Often our crosses are overwhelming; they are just too heavy, thorny, and splintery to carry because we are trying to carry them by ourselves, without inviting Mary to help us! *We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.*

Fr. John

A WORD FROM MRS. JOHNSTON

LOST AND FOUND WILL BE DONATED AT SPRING BREAK: Please check and see if any of your lost items are here on the table BEFORE we give them away!!!

I hope you had a chance to watch the 3 ½ minute video clip on the Mass. This week, take a look at the same web address www.elementsofthecatholicmass.com and watch episode 2. Let's grow together, remembering the importance of all the parts of the Mass.

Parents: The teachers have been telling me how much they love the **Go Math** program but parents are struggling as it teaches concept differently than how parents learned them. I know that I let you know that we are seeing wonderful improvement in student growth due to the hard work of the students, teachers and you parents. I have been working with the book company to see if I can get things that might help parents to understand the Go Math when you are trying to help your children. It turns out that there is a video available for each lesson that is available by scanning a QR code! Teachers in Kindergarten, First, Second, Third and Fourth grade will be sending you a QR code that is on the children's lessons and it will take you directly to the video of the lesson that the students watched that day. You will simply need to get the app on your phones or other devices to make this work. I went to the app store and searched QR scanner and I found a free app version. I then was able to place my phone over the QR code on the page and it immediately took me to the very same video that the students watched to help you understand the steps necessary to accomplish the problems on their homework. This should help trying to do math homework at home!

As many of you know, after teaching at IHM-St. Casimir School for 41 years, our long endeared friend Ms. Green is retiring at the end of the school year. Knowing this we are evaluating who will teach what grades for the upcoming school year, I am excited to say that we are going to have Mrs. Evans teach 4th grade beginning in the fall. Mrs. Evans has very strong qualifications for this position and is dynamic at creating math and language arts centers. The students love learning centers and the movement from one learning activity to the next. What does this mean for our 6th grade position? We will post the position on our Diocesan website as well as in our church bulletins with the hope to find a candidate who is full of energy and in love with Language Arts and Math. Please put this in your prayers that God will send us a strong candidate who loves students and loves teaching. I know God will provide.

May God bless all of you with a wonderful weekend.
Angela

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

2Peter 1:5-7: This month we focus on Christian affection. To your godliness add Christian affection. Our eighth graders continue to reflect on this quote. This week. Victoria writes: "Christian affection at its most basic form is Christians helping one another and helping others and not expecting a reward. But you don't have to be a Christian to show affection. Some examples of this can be helping out at a soup kitchen, donating food/toiletries/other needed items to charity, or visiting someone in the hospital. Really it can be anything that helps out your community or others that you are not being rewarded for. Christian affection, like all the other virtues, is tied to the main umbrella virtue of them all, love. Christian affection is key to being a good person and a good Christian, and we should see and demonstrate it in our lives all of the time."

Lenten Almsgiving: Please continue to send in non-perishable foods and paper products for the food pantries at both Immaculate Heart of Mary (St. Vincent dePaul) and St. Casimir. Both parishes state that there is a huge need for paper products as well as food, as this is not covered with food stamps. Toilet paper, tissues and paper towels are the most immediate need. Thank you for sharing with others. It is so much appreciated!

March is Reading Month: The Student Council as well as our teachers and librarian are urging our students to read more this month. The goal is 125 minutes each week. Records are available with your student's homeroom teacher. Let's work to make our goal so Mrs. Johnston has to spend a whole day participating in PE classes!

Blessings, Mary Margaret

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The girls' basketball season is quickly coming to a close and we have again been given the opportunity to host the Girls Finals at Lansing Catholic on Sunday, March 18. We hosted the volleyball finals, boys' finals and now the girls' finals. We've seen a profit toward our athletic program of \$2,400 for volleyball and boys' finals and now we can add to it by hosting the girls' finals. We need your help to make this day successful. There are three games that day: 1:00pm, 2:30pm and 4:00pm. We need volunteers to work on Admissions, Concessions and Clean Up. Please choose a shift at: Sign Up Genius: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f094faaae2ba6fd0-5th8th1>

Thanks again for **ALL** your support this year.

God bless, Bill Devine, Athletic Director

TUITION CONSULTANT COMMENTS

The next step in the registration process is making sure that you are in good standing (active and participating) with your parish! IHM requires that each family fill out a stewardship card each year – make sure that you are up-to-date! Check with your parish what the requirements are before your approval is denied.

Chris Wilcox, Tuition Consultant

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

March 18: Hosting Girls' Basketball Finals, LCHS

March 24: Easter Egg Hunt, 10:00, Parking lot

WEEKLY LITURGY: Wednesday, Mass 8:00. Lenten Prayer Service, Thursday, 2:15. Reconciliation: Gr. 4-5 12:45 Tuesday; Gr. 6-8 12:45 Wednesday.

SCHEDULE: March 9: MS Activity Night, 6:30-8:00. March 12: Visit from Fr. Robert from Uganda, 10:00. March 12-16: BIG HISTORY LESSON FOR GRADE 3; HISTORICAL MUSEUM ALL WEEK! March 13: Gr. 2 Library walking field trip 12:45-2:15. March 15: Gr. 6 to LCHS for the play, 9:30. March 16: Last day of for the third quarter. Gr. 7 & 8 Dance, IHM PFC, 7:00.

EVENTS: March 10: 9:00 IHM Parish First Communion Retreat. MS Diocesan Youth Rally. March 14: PTO, 5:30; School Committee 6:00. March 18: Hosting Girls' Basketball Finals, LCHS.

IHM-ST. CASIMIR LUNCH HELP NEEDED ASAP: Would you be interested in a permanent lunch server position here at IHM-St. Casimir or be willing to train and finish the last quarter of the year in this position? For info or details, please call Bridget at LCHS (267-2119 – leave a message she will call back) or our school office. Thank you for your consideration!!!

HOW TO OFFSET THE TUITION INCREASE FOR 2018-19: Did you know that if you ordered ONE \$100 Meijer card and ONE \$100 Speedway card a month from TRIP you would offset the tuition increase for next year!!!! Just think of what positive impact you could have on your tuition balance if you used TRIP for most of your shopping, gift giving, and entertainment!!! Check out all the options for merchants (AMAZON!!!) and availability (ScripNow!; Reloads, etc.). Decrease your tuition with new habits! For more information check out the information on the school website (Tuition and Funding) or call and get contact info for our volunteers: Liz, Heather, Amy and Kim!!!

GRADE 7 WASHINGTON, D.C. GRAND TRAVERSE PIE SALE: The 7th grade has begun fundraising for their trip in the spring of 2019!!! Way to plan ahead! They are selling certificates for a fruit pie at Grand Traverse Pie Company. The certificates cost purchasers \$17 and students earn \$5/per cert. A win-win!!! The sale runs now through March 20 and you will get the certificate in time to use for Easter if you choose (payment with order). Find a 7th grader or call the office and we will find you one!

PARENT PRESENTATION: LCHS is hosting an important presentation for parents on Tuesday, March 13, 7-8:15 on "The Brain and Addictive Behaviors", by Professor Jim Owens. The LCHS administration heard his presentation and knew it was important for their student body and parents. They are inviting middle school parents particularly as the addictive behavior of electronics can be established very young. Consider this information as a priority.

APRIL LUNCH MENUS: April lunch menus are coming home in the family envelopes. Please make your April selections on the menu, copy it for your records and return the menu and payment by **March 16**. Thank you for working within this time frame --- makes it much easier for the administrator entering all of the orders.

WINTER CONCERT DVD'S: The Winter Concert DVD's have arrived and will be in the family envelopes of those who ordered them. Thank you so much, Mr. Szarowicz, for making the arrangements and Steve for doing such a wonderful job of recording this event for us!

PRESCHOOL AND CHILD CARE REGISTRATION: We are in the process of taking registrations for the 2018/19 school year. We have 3 and 4 year old preschool and all day child care. Our child care program is open from 7:00am-5:30 pm. Preschool is in session Monday through Friday from 8:00am-11:00am. Your child must be 3 or 4 on or before September 1 and potty-trained. Please call Mary Maher, Program Director at (517)882-6631 ext. 223 or email at maherm@ihmlansing.org.

MARY GOEDDEKE BASKETBALL GAME AND RAFFLE: An envelope is coming home to each family this weekend about the annual Mary Goeddeke Basketball Game and raffle. The game will be on Friday, April 20 at LCHS and the graduating seniors are getting very excited to play against the staff and coaches and Goeddeke family members. The raffle prizes are fabulous with the ticket price being ONLY \$1!:

1st prize: 43" Insignia LED Flat Screen TV

2nd prize: Apple iPad

3rd prize: 4 Tickets Detroit Pistons Basketball

4th prize: \$50 Gift Certificates Champion's Sport Bar & Grill

Please review the paperwork carefully and respond! If selling or purchasing the tickets is not an option for you, please return them to school so that others can sell them. If you want more tickets, send in the request for more and we will be happy to oblige.

SUMMER BASEBALL/SOFTBALL: Paperwork went home previously. Please register this week if you have not done so yet!

LACROSSE OPPORTUNITY: We are looking for girls and boy, grades 3-8, to play lacrosse this spring. Our program consists of players from Waverly, Lansing Christian and local Catholic schools. Why play lacrosse? It's exciting and fast paced. Your size doesn't matter! It helps with basic skills needed for all sports. IT IS SO MUCH FUN! The season begins on March 12. Visit www.warriorlax.org for more information.

JR. COUGARS MIDDLE SCHOOL TRACK & FIELD:

- First practice is on Monday, March 19, 2017 at 4:45 pm at LCHS.
- Cost - \$75.00 if you have a uniform, \$100 if you need one.
- For all 6th, 7th and 8th grade boys and girls attending a Lansing area parochial school.
- Practices will be held Monday—Thursday from 4:45-6:00 at LCHS.
- All participants will need a sports' physical dated after April 15, 2017.
- Registration form can be found at www.lansingcyac.org or through your local school.
- Contact Head MS Coach Cristin Reid at cristinreid@hotmail.com or LCHS Track Coach Tim Simpson at LCCXC@aol.com with any questions or for more information.

GIRLS' JR. COUGAR SOCCER: Time to sign up for U11 Girls CASL (Capital Area Soccer League) Jr Cougar Spring Soccer Season. It is an 8-game schedule from mid-April to mid-June. The U11 league consists of 3rd, 4th and 5th graders. We practice two nights a week from 5:45 pm to 7:00 pm @ LCHS. Reasonable conflicts with other spring sports will happily be accommodated. Ameer O'Leary can be contacted for registration questions @ [517-719-5676](tel:517-719-5676), Gary Adamo can be contacted for team questions @ [517-243-3269](tel:517-243-3269).

MSU SPRING SCIENCE FESTIVAL: MSU has pulled together a schedule of Science activities over 16 days and many cities to excite those with all different interests! Check it out: <http://www.sciencefestival.msu.edu/about>

LCHS SPRING PLAY: Lansing Catholic High School Proudly Presents, "*Fade Out - Fade In*"

Set in the 1930's, this musical is a hilarious story about a young usherette accidentally becoming a movie star. This show has great music and dancing and lots of fun! **And lots of IHM-St. Casimir Alumni: Andrew C., Jeremiah K., Wyatt W., Trace M., Caitlin J., Evlyn L., Camille T., Cindy W., Shelby W., Cody E., Nick H., Christina G., Isabel L., and Stevie M.** Shows are March 9-10, 16-17 at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$10. They are on sale now and can be purchased on our ticket web page: www.ticketor.com/lchs-drama. Please contact lchs-dramatickets@gmail.com with any questions.

LENT OPPORTUNITIES: Looking for some plan for Lenten reflection? Check your parish bulletin and the Diocesan-wide opportunities listed in the Faith Catholic magazine. Here are two at IHM: Mass Matters, Wednesdays, 6-8:30 in the PFC (includes soup supper) and Lectio Divina, Tuesdays, 7-8, IHM Parish Office.

IHM PARISH NEEDS VOLUNTEERS: IHM Parish needs volunteers to cook dinners for the upcoming Alpha sessions on Tuesday nights. Even if you cannot commit to every Tuesday, they would love help on any given Tuesday. Please call Jen Brown for more information or to sign up, 393-3030 ext. 216.

LANSING CATHOLIC EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: Bridget is searching for help in the food service department for a part-time employee. This position would be Monday - Friday, from approx. 10:00 am until 1:00 pm. If you know of someone that may be interested, please see Bridget in the Food Service department. Completed [applications](#) should be mailed to the attention of Bridgett Norris, Food Service Manager, [501 Marshall Street, Lansing, MI 48912](#).

CLASSROOM HAPPENINGS:

Grade 5: We completed a chapter on graphs and started a new chapter on geometry! We also did an electricity chapter and circuits Webquest to learn more about those topics.

Grade 7 English: We have begun literature groups.

Grade 8 English: We have begun literature groups. Each 8th grader group is reading a different story about the Holocaust.

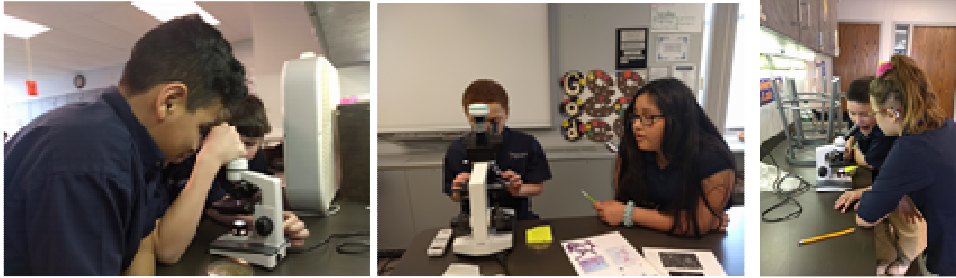
Kindergarten: The Kindergarten Polar Bears have had several visiting readers this week. Thank you to Ms. Green, Mrs. Fink and Mrs. Raiche, for sharing your love of reading with us.

Religion 6: Students are reading the story of Samuel. It took a lot of persistence on God's part to keep on calling him, and eventually Samuel was able to listen. How do we listen for God's call?

Grade 2: In religion we are learning the *parts of the mass*. Did you know that there are many parts of the mass? Can you name them in order?

Grade 4: In religion, the 4th graders have been discussing how we, as the "sheep", respond to Jesus, who is our Shepherd.

Grade 6 Science: 6th Grade investigated bacteria samples from around the school and playground. Special thanks to Dr. Madden for all of his help and expertise on this subject!



CURRENT MORNING PRAYER

**St. Michael the Archangel,
defend us in battle.**

Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil.

**May God rebuke him, we humbly pray,
and do though,**

O Prince of the heavenly hosts,

**by the power of God,
thrust into hell Satan,**

**and all the evil spirits,
who prowl about the world**

seeking the ruin of souls. Amen