

February 28, 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians,

*Even now, says the LORD,
return to me with your whole heart,
with fasting, and weeping, and mourning;
Rend your hearts, not your garments,
and return to the LORD, your God.
For gracious and merciful is he,
slow to anger, rich in kindness,
and relenting in punishment.
Joel 2: 12-13*

Next Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. The above scripture passage comes from the first reading on Ash Wednesday, and it reminds us to strive to bring our whole heart, our entire self, to God. During the forty days of Lent, as we prepare for Easter, we engage in some traditional practices: increased prayer, fasting, and giving.

At Immaculate Heart of Mary School, we'll be speaking with the students about how we will walk with Jesus during Lent. How will we grow closer to Jesus? We'll be using footprint images as concrete reminders of this journey. We'll also be reminding the students that if we are really growing closer to Jesus, this will affect how we treat other people. We can't grow closer to God without be kinder and more merciful to the people in our lives.

There are practices that you can also do as a family. I've attached an article that offers some ideas. The daily and Sunday Mass readings are especially rich during Lent. You can find the readings [here](#). You might want to incorporate some of the readings into your family prayers.

Let's make it a great Lent. Peace.

Sincerely,
Francis Corrigan
Principal

We Walk by Faith...in KNOWLEDGE

Pope Francis defines the gift of Knowledge as “a special gift which leads us to grasp, through creation, the greatness and love of God and his profound relationship with every creature.” This kind of knowledge goes beyond human knowledge and imparts to us knowledge that can only be received through divine gift. In noticing the beauty and the mystery of creation all around us, we receive knowledge of the Creator and Author of all that has been, all that is, and all that will be.

Since the first page of the Book of Genesis, God has sought to reveal knowledge of God through creation as told in Scripture. Each person, circumstance, and event of the Old Testament gives greater insight into who God is and God’s love and mercy for us. This knowledge culminates in the New Testament when God’s own Son lived among us, the greatest revelation of God.

God’s love and mercy continue to be revealed today in the same ways that they were manifested in the Old and New Testaments. Every individual and happening in our lives gives us a greater glimpse of God and the presence of Jesus through the sacramental life of the Church remains God’s greatest gift to us. The Holy Spirit’s gift of knowledge allows us the blessing of “seeing” God in all things.

Look around yourself today. Do you see the greatness and love of God in creation?

Monday, March 3, 2025

Please remember that students will have no school on Monday as teachers will be having professional development conferences at Saint Mark’s High School.

CHADD

CHADD is offering a talk on "Girls and ADHD." A flyer is attached. The sign up link is below:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfP43W-mJiUMr3dW5X_EK5UHjBzvHlCAht9mdqTUuWPbgzMVQ/viewform

Dyslexia

There is a FREE event open to the general public (parents of children with dyslexia, educators, advocates, etc.), located at The Pilot School on Tuesday, March 11th @ 5:30-7:30 p.m. A flyer is attached. The sign up link is below:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSetbs7_UmYYmrHR--TO-ygwHmNcvP9NOs7nVowSG3QMxJs_5g/viewform

Thank You from the Eighth Grade

Last night the 8th Grade hosted a No Cook Night at Mazzella's and we are happy to report that over \$330 was raised for the 8th Grade Fund. Thank you to everyone who participated! Every dollar raised goes towards events that are for or hosted by the 8th Grade. These events benefit the IHM community as a whole and your support is not only vital, it is very much appreciated. Supporting our local community plays a big part in deciding who to partner with for these events, so continue to patronize these vendors!

Keep an eye out for the return of Spartan Bars and fundraisers that will include local merchants like Old Country Gardens, Nothing Bundt Cakes and more!

Seventh Grade Parents

Please read the attached brochure regarding some Archmere Admissions events.

Summer Camps

Archmere Academy is hosting a variety of camps and programs this summer for kids of all skill levels and ages. The art program is available to rising 7th-12th graders. Sports camps are available for kids entering 3rd-8th grade. The website for more information and to register is: <http://www.archmereacademy.com/camps>.

Donut Sale!!!

The Bronze Team of Troop 124 has extended their donut sale to March 2nd (while supplies last). Please consider buying a dozen donuts to support them in their goal of renovating the outdoor classroom to make it more useful and enjoyable for all!

School Budget and Tuition Contract

Below are the terms of the tuitions contract that families will be asked to agree to for the 2025-2026 school year.

FACTS

Tuition for its tuition processing and collection. All parents must register and maintain an account in FACTS. There are no exceptions. All tuition payments can only be made by three methods.

Pay in full – Full payment for the school will be made by July 31 of the new school year. A four percent discount is offered for this payment form.

Pay twice – First payment by July 15. Second payment by November 15. A two percent discount is offered for this payment form.

Monthly – Monthly payments will be made over eleven months beginning in July of the new school year via a FACTS transaction. Families may choose what day of the month to have their bank account debited.

Upon the acceptance of a family at the School, this tuition agreement will be sent to the family outlining the amount of tuition and any financial aid if applicable. This agreement must be signed and returned to finalize and reserve the child's position in the grade.

If a severe financial hardship arises, please contact the Tuition Administrator in the main Parish office. Your situation will be reviewed and you will be contacted with a decision regarding your tuition payments.

WITHDRAWS

If you choose to withdraw your child/ren from Immaculate Heart of Mary School, please contact the school office for an exit interview.

REFUNDS

In fairness to parents and the parish community, parents are expected to keep tuition payments up to date. All parents and guardians are responsible for tuition and other fees charged by the school. The business manager will review the tuition records regularly. Student report cards will not be released if the tuition account has an outstanding balance.

In addition, the school reserves the right to take further action, up to and including dismissal, if tuition payments are not made in a timely fashion. If a family leaves after the tuition payments for the new school year have begun, the payments made up to that point in time are non-refundable. Once school begins, families pay for the full trimester of enrollment no matter what date a transfer occurs.

DELINQUENT BALANCES

By January 2 of the current school year, 50% of the annual tuition balance must be paid in full to register for the following school year.

By June 30 of the current school year, the remaining balance must be paid in full for a re-registered student to enter the following school year.

Before eighth grade graduation, all delinquent balances need to be paid in full in order for a student to participate in graduation ceremonies and other end-of-year events.

When tuition is delinquent for two months in a row and there has been no contact from the family with the Parish Office and/or School Admissions, enrollment will be terminated.

Boys Volleyball Coordinator and Softball Volunteers Needed.

The athletics department is in need of a Boys Volleyball Coordinator for the upcoming spring season. In addition, Girls Softball is also in need of volunteers to assist with the upcoming season. If interested, please email athletics@ihm.org.

I.H.M. Parish: Spring Sports Registration is now open!

Click [Here](#) to access registration site.

Finding Nemo Jr.

Our students will be performing in *Finding Nemo Jr.* on March 14, 15, and 16. A flyer is attached to guide you in purchasing tickets. Please order your tickets as soon as possible.

Girl Scout Cookies

Our Girl Scouts are selling cookies. A flyer with links is attached to the newsletter.

A Girl Scout Project

The Bronze Team from IHM's 5th Grade Junior Girl Scout Troop is renovating the outdoor classroom for their Bronze Award Project, and they could use your help! Please see the attached flyer or visit bit.ly/IHMOutdoorClassroom to learn how you can help them make the classroom more functional for the entire IHM community.

DONUTS: The Girl Scouts will be selling donuts on March 4, 2025 to raise money for the outdoor classroom. Check out the attached flyer.

Mardi Gras Celebration

The Parish is having a Mardi Gras celebration. Please check out the attached flyer.

You can always access the full school calendar on the website.

MARCH

March 1	11:00 a.m. Confirmation Liturgy
March 3	School Closed Diocesan Professional Development
March 5	Ash Wednesday Mass 10:30 a.m. T2 Grades Due
March 6	Team Spirit Day (K & 5th Charity) Daily Mass Begins

March 7	Stations of the Cross 5th and 6th 2:00 p.m. Gym Set-up for musical
March 8	Gym Set-up for musical
March 10	Weekly School Mass
March 11	T2 Report Cards visible later this week 6:45 p.m. First Holy Communion Family Gathering in Church
March 14	Stations of the Cross 7th and 8th 2:00 p.m.
March 14	Finding Nemo, Jr. 7:00 p.m. Performance in the gym
March 15	Finding Nemo, Jr. 7:00 p.m. Performance in the gym
March 16	Finding Nemo, Jr. 1:00 p.m. Performance in the gym
March 17	Weekly School Mass
March 19	Confessions for Grades 2-7
March 20	Stations of the Cross 3rd and 4th
March 21	No school for students Faculty retreat
March 24	Weekly School Mass
March 28	Stations of the Cross 1st and 2nd Tag Day- Police Unity Tour

March 31 Weekly School Mass

APRIL

April 3 Team Spirit Day (1st and 8th charity)

April 4 Stations of the Cross 5th and 6th

April 7 Weekly School Mass

April 11 Stations of the Cross 3rd and 4th

April 12 Daughter Event in Gym

[Attachment](#)

[Attachment](#)

[Attachment](#)

[Attachment](#)

[Attachment](#)

[Attachment](#)

[Attachment](#)

[Attachment](#)

[Attachment](#)