



What's Happening at I.H.M. April 17-25 2008

The Week at a Glance:

Fri April 18 2nd Best Sale
Sat April 19 2nd Best Sale
Sun April 20 **PARISH MISSION 6:45pm**
Mon April 21 **PARISH MISSION 6:45pm**
Tues April 22 **PARISH MISSION 6:45pm**
Hot Lunch~Chicken Mega Bites
Wed April 23 **PARISH MISSION 6:45pm**
Thurs April 24 Hot Lunch~BBQ Pork Sandwich
Mass 9am
Fri April 25 **Mass 9am**

Happy Birthday to You!

19 Andrew Venum, Sarah Gerrity
20 Shane Roberts
21 Luke Passinault
22 Garrett DeCamp

From the Principal:

I hope everyone had a wonderful Spring break! There are only eight more weeks of school, so please encourage your child(ren) to continue their diligence in their school work. Report cards will be sent home tomorrow and the last report card will be mailed home.

Thank you to those who attended the math and science meeting on Tuesday. It was a very positive and informative meeting. I would like to thank Steve Passinault for attending and supporting our teachers and curriculum. Teachers in grades 7 and 8 will be using the new on-line grading system. Passwords were passed out at the meeting on Tuesday and if you were not at the meeting, your password will be mailed home. The teachers will post the first grades beginning April 28 and the grades will be updated every two weeks. This is a trial period for us to work out the bugs so please be patient with the teachers and the new program. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Friederichs.

Due to budget constraints, IHM will need to utilize shared time teachers. These teachers are provided by the Grand Rapids Public Schools. These subject areas are Spanish, PE, and Music. Sadly, Sister Ann, Loreal Madison, and Eric Rozema will not be returning next school year. We are very thankful for their service to our school and they will be dearly missed. Also, Mr. Griffin will not be returning next year. He wants to teach at the high school level and will be pursuing teaching opportunities at that level. Please feel free to write a note of appreciation to the four teachers who will not be returning next school year.

A new pre-school director/teacher has been hired and her name is Meredith Kirchhoff. She currently teaches at Corpus Christi and has been teaching for six years and will be receiving her Masters in Early Childhood Education.

Change is uncomfortable and hard to accept, but without change, we cannot grow and prosper. As we all walk down this unknown path called life, we need to pray and remain faithful to Jesus and to know that through this faithfulness, he will bless us.

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

*God's blessings,
Kathleen Vafadari*

HOT LUNCH VOLUNTEERS: April 22 - Rose Erickson, Pam MacDonald, Betsy Pangle, Meg Richard, Eileen McCaffrey - Supervisor; April 24 - Sara Dubinsky, Amal Farha, Shannon Richard - Supervisor. **NEED 3 MORE PEOPLE FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 24. PLEASE CALL PATTY ROHEN @ 245-8262 TO HELP.**

THE TRAVELING VOCATIONS NOVENA TO ST JOHN MARY VIANNEY is moving from **Mrs. Stockholms 1st grade classroom** to the **Siebert Family** next week! Our Lord listens ever so closely to the pure prayers of children. Now after a week of hearing the petitions of 18 little first graders for an increase of priestly vocations, we best spruce up the extra bedrooms in the rectory! Be advised, Father Troy—help coming soon!

WE MISS YOU! A number of our registered "Parish Families" have been "missing in action" at Sunday Mass. We Miss you! Our Lord sets a place for you every week—don't leave Him hanging! Please don't let your family down...either one of them!

SAINTS BE PRAISED—we've got new babies! Colin William Lott paved the way for sister **Olivia** to remain princess of the Lott family and **Ethan** and **Christian** have another brother for the team; **Charisa Escondo** has been newly ordained "**Big Sister**" to **Caitlin**! All is well with both families---baptisms soon to follow!

HOW 'BOUT OUR GERMAN SHEPPARD? Did you catch Pope Benedict's arrival? The Mass today? EWTN is carrying continuous coverage of the Holy Father's visit to America. Encourage your family to watch. Encourage your kids to write the Holy Father---expressing thanks for his visit to America, tell him how great his English is, how darling he looks on American Television etc.

Pope Benedict XVI , Vatican City State, 00120.

Two of our parents, also with outstanding English skills and "uber-good-looks," Mrs. Mary Beth Barkeley and Mrs. Mary Kay Schumar, were able to attend the Mass this morning in Washington DC. They will be back tomorrow and we promise to get the skinny on all the fun details of their trip---stay tuned.

SHE'S ON A MISSION: Our Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, that is! Starting Sunday evening, **April 20th and ending Wednesday evening, April 23rd, 2008 our church community has made a commitment to renew!** Roman Catholic Lay Evangelist John Schweisthal of Good News Ministries will be leading the charge. Our theme: "**Living in the Kingdom.**" Take this time to deepen your relationship with Christ and each other. Nursery will be available! A rosary will precede Sunday's meeting at 6:45pm.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE BUCKETFILLERS FROM THE MONTH OF MARCH!

Sophie Trudgeon~Lewis Gerrity~Bryn Cavanaugh~Eliza Brown~Kiara Carpenter~Ethan O'Farrell~Abigail Tepper~Lilly Soloman~ Bonnie McCall~Nick Warren~Cara Whalen~Jack Vicari~Christian Lott~Andrew Chau~Steve Talaga~Brooke Naumcheff~Hannah Cluley~Andrew Fitzpatrick~Katie Vanderpoel~Tori Stam~Lauren Marosi~Sean Mullett~Emily Braun~and Alex Polakovich!

CSA ASAP: Translation? The Annual **Catholic Services Appeal** has been made. All registered IHM parishioners are asked to respond by the end of the month. The amount you pledge or don't pledge is between you and God. **The turning in of the pledge card, however, is between you and your priest.** All cards in = Father promises to go another year without talking about money. Cards missing = Father promises to speak about money, in addition to his homilies and continued blessings. Have a nice day.

OLE'OLE'OLE, OLE, OLE, OLE!!! Calling all Seniorita's for a Cinco de Mayo Celebration. To be held Monday, May 5 at 6:30 in the DeMazenod Room. This gathering is for adult women only. ("adult" meaning actual ages in years...maturity not mandatory.) Mark your calendars for a fun filled evening! More details to follow.

THE FEW, THE PROUD, THE SQUIDS! At the Regional competition for S.O. (Science Olympiad), in which 59 teams competed, Steve Jakubowski and Tom Haley placed 6th for Meteorology, Steve Jakubowski and Mark Zakrajsek placed 8th for Road Scholar, and Liz Smyka and Clint Downer placed 6th in Bottle Rockets. We did well in all 23 events, but these 3 in particular placed in the top 8! Way to go Squids! We'd also like to thank teachers, parents, and coaches for their time and contributions to Science Olympiad. Look for information about an upcoming field trip for the Squids.

WAY BACK WHEN: Before we all left for Spring Break, Steve Jakubowski placed IHM on the Map of World Class Geo Bee Competitors! He answered 7 of 8 questions correct in the preliminary round. He needed 8 of 8 to advance. (shoot!) We are very proud of how he did.

SUPPORT OUR SISTER SCHOOL -- Tickets are still available to attend a fundraiser auction dinner for **Holy Name of Jesus School**. The event will be **this Friday, April 18 at Egypt Valley Country Club** beginning at 6:00pm with a cash bar. Tickets are \$50/person or consider sponsoring a table and invite all your friends! We've collected some wonderful silent and live auction items, and the emcee for the evening is Judge Sara Smolenski, so you know the evening will be entertaining!! Join us for a FUN time to support this worthy cause. Contact Susan English for more information, 245-7380 or susan.english@aquinas.edu

Please pray daily, the following intentions: Miles Morrissey's Uncle Carl Schelling who ended his fight with cancer, releasing himself into the arms that held him all his life—Our Lord Jesus'. Carl's Mass of Christian Burial was yesterday at St Alphonsus. For **Nate and Alex Putkovich's Grandma, Arsilia**, who opened the doors to her eternal home yesterday and found her Lord waiting...smiling. Her funeral Mass is this Saturday in Ohio; for **Mrs. Loretta Kirby** as she continues towards remission; For an **increase in priestly vocations** and for the **success of our Parish Mission**.

"May the Angels lead you into paradise

May the Martyrs come to welcome you and lead you to the Holy City

The new and eternal Jerusalem!"