



*Immaculate  
Heart of Mary  
Parish Family*

**2020 GUIDE BOOK & DIRECTORY**



## IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

1935 PLYMOUTH AVE. SE  
GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49506

### *Vision Statement*

Seeking to live as disciples of Jesus Christ, we reach out in Christian service to our families, our parish, our community and our world. We value our Catholic beliefs and nurture our continual growth and faith renewal. We strive to be a welcoming, vibrant Christ-centered community of believers that acknowledges and embraces the diversity of our parish family. Our parish life is centered in the celebration of the Eucharist and sacraments. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, we are committed to steward our time, talent and treasure for the sake of building up the Reign of God.

Dear Parishioners of Immaculate Heart of Mary,

*“According to the grace of God given to me, like a wise master builder I laid a foundation, and another is building upon it. But each one must be careful how he builds upon it, for no one can lay a foundation other than the one that is there, namely, Jesus Christ.”-1 Cor. 3:10*

Those words of St. Paul to the Corinthian community could have just as easily been spoken by Fr. Charles Killgoar in 1949 to the Immaculate Heart of Mary community. While he was the first Pastor, Fr. Killgoar knew all-too-well that he would not be the last!

This beautiful place that we call our spiritual home today remains a vibrant parish because many wonderful people before us put St. Paul’s words into practice.

It is from a sense of gratitude that we, the current members of Immaculate Heart of Mary, pick up where the previous generation left off. This booklet is meant to aid you in this process.

Through the example and intercession of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, consider your gifts and talents — how God *has* blessed you — and return the blessing to those who shall follow!

In Christ,

*Fr. Troy Nevins*

Fr. Troy Nevins  
Pastor

## Parish Mission Statement

**...Striving to be a Catholic Community alive in our faith, our worship and our service to others.**

## Parish Office

The entrance to the parish office is located in the courtyard behind the main church building. The hours are 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday (summer months the office closes at noon on Fridays).

Parish office: 241-4477

PARISH PHONE .....	(616) 241-4477
PARISH FAX .....	(616) 241-2832
SCHOOL PHONE.....	(616) 241-4633
SCHOOL FAX .....	(616) 241-4418
E-MAIL.....	secretary@ihmparish.com
WEBSITE .....	www.ihmparish.com

## Liturgy Schedule

Saturday .....	5:15 p.m.
Sunday.....	8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
Tuesday.....	6:30 p.m. (evening Mass)
Wednesday.....	8:30 a.m.
Thursday and Friday.....	7:45 a.m.
Confessions .....	Saturdays, 4:00-4:45 p.m.

## Staff

Pastor.....	Rev. Troy Nevins
Pastoral Associate.....	Prisilla Baldwin
School Principal.....	Holly Lake
Business Administrator .....	Barb Heinbeck
Secretary.....	Janet Potoczny
Minister of Music .....	Jane VanHouten
Religious Education Coordinator.....	Prisilla Baldwin
Youth Director.....	Stefanie Iwan
Stewardship and Communications Coordinator.....	Jane Eggleston
Parish Home Visitor.....	Sr. Zennie To Phuong Lon, SPC
Maintenance Supervisor.....	Doug Nowak
Maintenance .....	John Potoczny

## *Finance Council*

The Finance Council is an advisory board to the pastor concerning all financial matters pertaining to the parish. Some of its responsibilities are the preparation of annual parish budgets, periodic review of the financial status of the parish and assisting the business manager. Terms run three years.

## *Pastoral Council*

This is the visioning and planning body for the pastoral and spiritual concerns of the parish. Membership is by Pastoral appointment and by a parish-wide drawing by lots of interested parishioners.

## *Stewardship Coordinator*

Helping Parishioners identify their individual gifts of time, talent and treasure and matching them with a ministry that benefits both parishioner and church. For more information on how you can assist IHM and grow spiritually please contact Jane Eggleston, 241-4477 ext. 107 or [stewardship@ihmparish.com](mailto:stewardship@ihmparish.com).

## *Communications*

The following platforms are the best way to stay connected and be informed about all the great things happening here at IHM. Each of these tools has the most up-to-date information from the Parish and School to help provide any information you may need. Please take a bulletin after church and link up your phones and home computers to our sites to stay engaged and informed! Please contact Jane Eggleston [www.stewardship@ihmparish.com](http://www.stewardship@ihmparish.com) for any assistance or questions in using these great tools for connecting.

- **Bulletins:** Weekly Bulletins are offered at weekend Masses and also can be found on our website and App. Bulletins are the best way to communicate all the news and events, schedules, and parishioner information that occurs weekly at our Parish. Please contact Janet Potoczny at 214-4477 or [secretary@ihmparish.com](mailto:secretary@ihmparish.com) to submit any articles or information by the Tuesday before the weekend. Stay in touch, stay engaged!
- **Website:** The IHM website is a great communication tool for the Parish and School. Updated news and events can be found on the home page along with quick link buttons to bulletins, homily podcast, ministry scheduler, online giving and more. The website is a portal to all information regarding the Parish and School and helps to connect people with information they seek. Familiarize yourself with the platform at [www.ihmparish.com](http://www.ihmparish.com).

- **Parish App:** MyParish App is a great way to have all our IHM parish information in your hand. For use on Smartphones and tablets, this App allows quick links to parish information, communication and notification of any cancellations of Masses or events. Links and reminders for Prayers, Podcasts, Homilies and many more Faith Formation building tools. Download the MyParish App through your Application store.
- **Facebook:** We use this social media site to share photos, share parishioner obituaries and news that make IHM such a wonderful place to worship and grow together as a community in Christ. Like us at Immaculate Heart of Mary – Grand Rapids to spread the AWESOMENESS of IHM!
- **The Heartbeat Newsletter:** Look for our seasonal newsletter, The Heartbeat in the bulletins and on the website that offers highlights of the people and events that are making news and a difference in our IHM community. Please contact Editor Deb Moore at 490-2652 with story ideas and/or to write feature articles for the publication. Story ideas need to be received by December 1, April 1 and August 1.
- **Ministry Scheduler:** Is our online software we use to schedule certain ministries with large groups of volunteers. Volunteers must have an active email and be able to use the computer. All scheduling and communications are through the ministry scheduler. First time set-up requires a password. We run schedules on a 3 month rotation.

## *Faith Formation*

***For all Faith Formation Ministries please contact Prisilla Baldwin, 241-4477 ext. 105 or pa@ihmparish.com***

**Religious Education** for children not attending our Immaculate Heart of Mary School: Our religious education classes use the Family of Faith program which is catechesis for the whole family.

**RCIA:** The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults meets weekly to instruct adults interested in learning more about the Catholic faith. Baptized Christians as well as non-Christians are welcome to attend and inquire about becoming Catholic. Those baptized adult Catholics who have not yet received the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist may attend this program preparing them to receive those sacraments. Anyone who would like to share the gift of faith with others can be a catechist or sponsor in this program.



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*Parishioner*

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**Sacramental Preparation:** In general, two years of faith formation are required for each of the sacraments.

- **First Reconciliation:** Preparation for this sacrament takes place in the parish school and religious education classes for children in the second grade.
- **First Holy Communion:** Preparation for the sacrament of Holy Communion takes place in the parish school and religious education classes for children in the second grade or older. Celebration of the First Eucharist is in the spring.
- **Confirmation:** Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation takes place in the parish school and religious education classes for children in the seventh and eighth grades or older. Program requirements include: School and/or Religious Education attendance, a choice of 3 different retreat options, and Candidate/Sponsor Summer projects. **Please Contact: Stefanie Iwan, 241-4477 ext. 115.**
- **Marriage Preparation:** All couples who are newly engaged and would like to get married at IHM need to contact the parish at least 6 months in advance of the wedding. Marriage preparation includes: Pre Cana, NFP classes and meeting with Fr. Troy Nevins. **Please contact Michelle David, 974-9924 or michelledavid96@gmail.com for more information.**

**Catechesis of the Good Shepherd:** Helping children to “fall in love with God” is the basis of this hands on Montessori style approach to guiding children in their relationship with God. In a room called the Atrium, children are able to work with materials that help internalize and ponder the great mysteries of our faith. CGS is based on the sound teachings of the Church’s tradition. Sacred Scripture, the Liturgy, and the Magisterium are all used to reveal the Good News to children. This program is open to all children 3 yrs. (potty trained) through 9 yrs. old; Level I is for PK3-Kindergarten aged; Level II is for 1st-3rd grades. The program runs October-April and is offered on two days: Wednesdays and Thursdays from 4:00-5:30 p.m. For more information please contact Megan Tietema, 443-6089.

**Adoration:** *The Chapel of the Holy Eucharist*, located on the west side of the parish office building, is open from midnight Mondays through midnight on Fridays throughout the year. Everyone is invited to stop in for a visit with Our Lord. Pope John Paul II reminds us that “the only prayer more powerful than Eucharistic Adoration is the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.” If you have any questions or would like to commit to an hour of adoration per week please call. Tom Kartesa, 616-325-9305.

## Youth Ministry

Empowering the community of Catholic youth, IHM youth ministry encourages growth in relationship with God both personally and in the community through building Christ-centered relationships, catechizing, and fostering necessary life skills in the context of the Catholic faith leading teens closer to Christ.

**Immaculate Heart of Mary Youth Ministry** program offers several opportunities to grow closer to the Lord, in the Catholic Church; ranging from social outings, large group gatherings, retreats and small group ministry. Continue to read the bulletin each week to keep track of our ongoing schedule of opportunities for our youth.

**LIFE NIGHT:** Geared toward high school youth, nights include prayer, talks, discussion, social time, praise and worship, and a variety of other activities. Youth meet at 7:30-9:00 p.m. Sundays during the school year.

**FREEDOM TEAM:** Want to serve your younger peers? 10th-12th graders and young adults who want to serve middle school youth as peer ministers by planning and leading weekly Edge Nights and Junior High retreats can join the Freedom Team. The team shares testimonies, leads small groups, performs skits and dramas, and builds relationships with 6th-8th grade youth. As leaders, Freedom Team members must have an active faith, consistent prayer life, attend Mass every Sunday, frequent Reconciliation, and live a Catholic life committed to moral choices guided by faith. Those interested in being a member of the team, should contact the Youth Ministry Director, Stefanie Iwan, 241-4477 ext. 115 or youth@ihmparish.com.

**EDGE:** Edge is for youth in grades 6th-8th, designed to meet their educational, spiritual, emotional, and social needs. The program partners with St. Paul the Apostle and meets 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays at St. Paul the Apostle. Within the context of faith, junior high youth are moving from a child-like spirituality to an independent ownership of their Catholic faith and identity. Edge provides an unparalleled moment in their life for guidance and reassurance in Jesus' love for them. Through this ministry, we give our middle school youth "the Edge" they need in life: Jesus, The Word, The Sacraments, The Teachings of the Catholic Church and a Catholic Community where they can experience true peace, hope, joy, and the love of God!

**YEA (Youth Eucharistic Adoration):** Each through Lent, 7th/8th grade youth commit to one half hour each in the Adoration chapel during exposition of the Eucharist, 5:00-9:00 p.m. on Sundays. Youth are prepped with an understanding of Adoration and how to simply be in the Lord's presence through this celebrated devotion. The program ends in early May with a celebration, including Benediction and a social for the entire parish.

**Contact: Stefanie Iwan, Youth Ministry Director,  
241-4477 ext. 115**

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## *Bible Studies*

**Women's Wednesday Bible Study:** All women are welcome to join this group of moms on Wednesday mornings September through May. This group meets in the All-Purpose Room from 9:30-11:00 a.m., free childcare provided in the adjacent nursery. Contact: Kim Willison, 241-9899.

**Senior Women's Tuesday:** This group meets every Tuesday in the Parish conference room, September through May from 10:00-11:30 a.m. It is primarily a Women's Senior Bible Study, but is open to all interested parishioners. Contact: Blanche Krenselewski, 243-5175 or Geri VanHerp, 243-5117.

**Thursday Morning Ladies Bible Study:** Join us on Thursdays in the Hearts and Hands room, 9:30-11:00 a.m., September through May. Ladies are invited to enhance their faith journey through video presentations and discussions with fellow sojourners. Study books available for purchase. No prior Bible Study experience necessary. Childcare is not available. Contact Karen Weber, 616-291-6428.

**Tuesday Evening:** Both men and women gather in the Upper Room after 6:30 p.m. Tuesday evening Mass to study the Bible. Please contact Linda Eadie, 634-3603.

## *Prayer Groups*

**The Divine Mercy Cenacle I:** This group meets at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday mornings in the Hands Room. This group's purpose is prayer, scripture and keeping abreast of the Catholic Church today. Contact: Sue Jakubowski, 459-2468.

**The Divine Mercy Cenacle II:** This group meets Tuesday evenings from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Hearts Room. Contact Ann Buck for more details, 243-8579.

**Our Lady of Hope:** This prayer group meets every Tuesday in the Hearts Gathering Space from 8:00-10:00 a.m. This group is dedicated to saying the Novena of Our Lady of Hope. The mission is Praise, Prayer, Thanksgiving and Petition. Contact: Bernadette Mack, 245-7382 or Ruth Tierney, 281-7641.

**Lord, Teach Me to Pray:** A three part prayer series approved by the USCCB. It is rooted in Ignatian spirituality. Part 1, *Praying Christian Virtues* is a 12 week series that introduces women to Ignatian prayer and spirituality in the way that St. Ignatius himself introduced people, by structuring their initial prayer experience around the Christian Virtues. Participants meet once per week for 1-2 hours in a small group and commit to pray at least 15 minutes each day with assigned Scripture passages. Please contact Maureen Pereiro, pereimau@att.net, Kristin Ferro kmferro@sbcglobal.net or Lynn Rhien, dlrhein@yahoo.com for more information.

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## *Men's Ministry*

**Men's Ministry:** Men of the parish meeting to discuss, pray and support one another in our roles as father, brother and friend. We meet Friday mornings 6:30-7:30 a.m. in the deMazenod room for video presentation and small group discussion. Contact TJ Ackert, 247-0736. Regular attendance is worthwhile but not required.

**Men's Friday:** This Men's Bible Study will be studying the Old and New Testament. All men are invited to attend. No preparation work needed! We meet in the Hearts Room every Friday at 6:45-7:30 a.m. Contact: Gary Smith, 942-1718 or Bill McDonagh, 942-1534.

## *Liturgical Ministries*

**Altar Servers:** The Altar Servers assist the priest during the Mass and other liturgical celebrations. The Altar Server occupies a privileged place in the liturgical celebration. Jesus is present and active in every liturgy. Therefore they are servants of Jesus, the eternal High Priest. Servers should be mature enough to understand their responsibilities and to carry them out well and with appropriate reverence. Training is required before you are eligible to serve. Initial trainings are offered to boys and girls at the end of 4th grade and are available to students through high school. Refresher trainings are required in the Spring and Summer of each year. Those who have mastered the responsibilities for at least two years will be trained to be lead servers. Once a student reaches high school he or she is welcomed and encouraged to continue serving at the altar. This Ministry is on the Ministry Scheduler for scheduling and sub requests. Please contact Michelle David: 974-9924.

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:** What a privilege it is, that being the Body of Christ we are enabled to distribute the Body of Christ to other members of the Body of Christ. This is a revolving monthly commitment at a Mass of your choosing. Also anyone interested in bringing the Eucharist to the homebound or nursing homes are very welcomed. Training is required. This Ministry is on the Ministry Scheduler for scheduling and sub requests. Please contact: Joan Bellamy, 616-822-5733.

**Lectors:** Lectors use the gift of speech that God has given us to proclaim God's word. An ideal lector is one who has a strong speaking voice, who has a love of scripture. and is eager to grow in the understanding of the Word of God. Two Lectors are assigned to each Mass, one for each of the readings. Training is available. This Ministry is on the Ministry Scheduler for scheduling and sub requests. Contact: Katie Hudson, 915-4470.

**Sacristans:** Sacristans set up the credence table before Mass. They are asked to arrive 15 minutes before Mass to prepare the credence table and to set out the bread and wine for the Presentation of Gifts. Sacristans serve monthly by Mass preference. The rotation depends on the number of volunteers. Training is provided. This Ministry is on the Ministry Scheduler for scheduling and sub requests. Contact: Janet Potoczny, 241-4477 ext. 100.

**Ushers:** Ushers extend the hospitality of the Lord's house to all who come to worship. More than just taking the collection, ushers are there to make sure everyone is welcomed, has a place to sit and to respond to any emergencies that might come up. Any parishioner, male or female, may serve as an usher. Six ushers are needed per Mass. Arrive to Mass 15 minutes prior to welcome parishioners. Serve on a monthly rotation. This Ministry is on the Ministry Scheduler for scheduling and sub requests. Contact: Jane Eggleston, 241-4477 ext. 107.

## *Music Ministry*

**Chamber Choir:** Both men and women participate in our Choir (singers and instrumentalists). Practices begin in late August on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. and continue through June. This group sings every weekend at either 8:30 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. Masses as well as Holy Days.

**Children's Choir:** St. Gregory Choir consists of children in grades 3-5 and St. Cecilia Choir children grade 6-8. Practices are every week during the school season. This group is scheduled on varied weekends at either 8:30 or 11:00 a.m. Mass, as well as the 4:00 p.m. Christmas Mass, Holy Thursday and First Communion Mass. Joyful Noise Choir consists of children K-2.

**Resurrection Choir:** This group is composed of seniors and other adults that provide the music ministry for all funerals. Practices are twice a month.

**Bell Choir:** This is a 2-3 octave handbell choir that plays periodically through the Liturgical season. Practices are every week on Wednesday evenings.

**Cantors:** All cantors are auditioned and encouraged to train prior to leading in music liturgy.

**School Choirs/Cantors:** These groups are students who lead the music ministry at the school Masses on Wednesday mornings at 8:30 a.m.

**Contact: Jane VanHouten, Music Director; 241-4477 ext. 116  
for all questions concerning the music programs.**

## Stewardship Christian Service

**Refugee Ministry:** IHM sponsors families who are making a new life for themselves in America. Donating furniture, clothes, services or just a helping hand can make all the difference. In addition, we need parishioners to build relationships with these refugee communities so that navigating the unexpected events of their new life can go smoothly.

**Sick and Homebound Ministry:**

- **Meals for Homebound:** For short term need, our parish offers a meal service to parishioners. Please call if you can prepare a meal or give assistance to a Parishioner who is recovering from surgery or in need of a meal. We have an easy online meal sign-up service for communication.
- **Eucharistic Visitors:** These members of Immaculate Heart of Mary carry the Eucharist weekly to those members of Christ's Body who are unable to come to church. As our community ages, we are always in need of volunteers for this very important ministry.

**Benevolence:** Anyone wishing to donate to our benevolence fund will be assured that money, goods or services are given in strictest confidence to assist those parishioners who find themselves struggling unexpectedly. Your donations are greatly appreciated

***For all Support Ministries please contact Prisilla Baldwin,  
#241-4477 ext. 105***

**Funeral Buffet:** These volunteers prepare and/or serve a buffet lunch for families after the funeral of a loved one. Volunteers are called upon on a rotation as needed to donate a salad or side and/or serve as their schedule allows.

**God's Kitchen:** Gather a group of at least 8 volunteers aged 16 and older, to serve the second Sunday of the month down at God's Kitchen. Serve a hot meal to our Grand Rapids community neighbors. Shift begins at 1:00 p.m. and ends after 4:00 p.m. You must sign up your group with a date that suits you, on the Catholic Charities volunteer website. For more information contact Holly Salas at 616-224-1294 or hsalas@ccwestmi.org.

**Munch and Mingle:** Volunteers help set-up, serve, host and clean-up on our Donut Sundays. We serve every other Sunday from September through early May. We have a sign-up genius on the website to easily sign up for a date with your spouse and or family. There are two shifts per Sunday. This is a great opportunity to serve the parish and meet your fellow parishioners in a relaxed setting. And the donuts are pretty good too!



A photograph of the Prince Conference Center at Calvin University, a large brick building with a prominent glass entrance canopy, surrounded by lush green trees under a clear blue sky. In the top left corner, there is a red shield-shaped logo with a white and yellow stylized 'M' inside.

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**Adoration Cleaning Angels:** These volunteers help keep our beautiful Adoration chapel immaculate! Once a week (during the weekends) the chapel is given a spruce up. The bathroom is cleaned and restocked, carpet vacuumed, and a light dusting on bookshelves and window sills. Each crew cleans on a monthly rotation and depending on volunteers would be assigned just two months out of the year.

**Heavenly Dusters:** These volunteers dust the narthex, sacristy and sanctuary once weekly. A more thorough cleaning is done periodically. Individuals are assigned on a weekly rotation about 2-3 times a year. The day and time are arranged by the volunteer.

**Altar Linens:**

- Purificators: Wash and iron the purificators, corporals and towels used at Mass weekly, on a monthly rotation.
- Albs and Altar Cloths: Wash and iron the altar boys' Albs, when needed on a monthly rotation.

**Baptismal Garments:** If you enjoy sewing, this ministry is for you. Help make the little white garments newly Baptized babies receive on the altar during Baptism. Sew at home and deliver as needed.

**Greeting Cards:** Birthday, Christmas and Easter cards are sent to our Senior Parishioners over the age of 80. This is a great work-from-home ministry if you enjoy writing and sending special notes of cheer! You can choose your holiday or birthday months that fit into your schedule. (Cards are provided by Parish.)

**Altar Arrangements, Art and Environment:** Volunteers assist in decorating and preparing for the seasonal decor in our church. Christmas and Easter are the highlights of the year. Look to the bulletin for when assistance is needed to help decorate the weekend before Christmas and during Holy Week.

**IHM Gardeners:** IHM is blessed with a beautiful campus. It certainly takes a lot of effort to maintain and enhance the environment. We are looking for parishioners with a gift for tending gardens, green thumbs or landscaping design experience. Adopt a zone or volunteer for special project days! Work on your own schedule with guidance from the planning committee.

**For all Service Ministries, please contact Jane Eggleston,  
241-4477 ext. 107**

## *Parish Life* *Annual Events*

**Fall Gathering:** This annual Fall fundraiser not only gives us a chance to socialize in a beautiful setting at Cascade Country Club but also gives a much needed boost to our Capital Improvements Fund. Look for your RSVP's in the mail or website in September for the October date.

**Blood Drive:** Immaculate Heart of Mary sponsors a blood drive twice a year, once in the Fall and once in the Spring.

**Parish Picnic:** This annual fun event takes place the Sunday following Labor Day. It is the combined efforts of every major group in the parish. A parish wide picture is taken after 11:00 a.m. Mass then a potluck meal in the gym followed by adult and kid friendly games. Even if you aren't part of one of the organizing groups, volunteers and ideas are always welcome! Please contact the parish office for more information. Mark your calendars, this is a great community building event!

**Winter Social:** Sponsored by the Killgoar Foundation, this informal social event celebrates Catholic education at IHM School and usually occurs during Catholic Schools Week (late January/early February). All parishioners and school families are invited to enjoy drinks, good food and the company of our great parish community. During the event, the foundation presents its Dutch VanderVeen Service award that recognizes outstanding service to the Killgoar Foundation/IHM School. Cost is minimal. A good time is guaranteed.

**Advent Candle Sale and Giving Tree:** Look for our annual Advent Candle sale in the back of church before Advent and our wonderful Giving Tree during December that benefits the children of St. John's Home as well as families in need here in our parish.

**Second Best Sale:** Every April the IHM School and Parish collects second hand treasures in the gym and holds a GIANT sale. Donations, Volunteers and Pick-up drivers are gladly welcomed! Proceeds benefit the school and church. This is a wonderful outreach to our community and one of the most fun to volunteer for!

## Community Groups and Organizations

**The Women's Guild:** The Women's Guild provides opportunities to all women of the parish for spiritual and community growth. We have socials during the year and we raise funds to help with various parish needs. All women of the parish are considered members. Please see our calendar of events online at IHM website for more details. We hope *you* will join us this year. Contact: Sandy Lowery for more details, 942-6756.

**Boomers and Beyond:** We provide many opportunities for our Senior adults to gather socially. Watch the weekly bulletins for upcoming events. Contact: Prisilla Baldwin, 241-4477 ext. 105.

**Knights of Columbus:** IHM Council #13499 is an active part of the global Catholic fraternal society. Dedicated to the principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism, we act in service to our parish, our priests, our community and our world. Please contact Augustine Iacopelli, GK13499@mikofc.org or 915-2669.

**St. Vincent DePaul Society:** Assist in the collection of household goods and food for the needy. There is a collection shed on our campus located by service garage. It is open from 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday. There is a food collection box located inside the front entrance doors to church. We also serve an annual Pancake Breakfast and Pasta Dinner! Look to bulletin, website and App for upcoming dates! Please Contact: Joe Tierney, 281-7641 or for pick-up at your home, 452-1408.

**The Respect Life Committee:** Respect Life assists in the education of the parish community with activities designed to increase knowledge and awareness on all life issues. Some of our projects include Life Chain, 40 Days for Life and praying a weekly rosary for the end to abortion, euthanasia and embryonic stem cell research. Meeting announcements are posted in the bulletin every other month. Contact Sandy Lowery, 942-6756 or [life@ihmparish.com](mailto:life@ihmparish.com).

**Natural Family Planning:** NFP classes provide instruction, information, referrals and ongoing support for couples seeking to achieve or postpone pregnancy. It is completely natural, enhances communication, increases respect, is morally acceptable in line with the Catholic Church teaching, is a marriage builder and is 99% effective. NFP classes are based on the Billings Method and appointments are made upon request. For Pre-Cana needs, it is best to schedule 6 months or more prior to wedding date. Please contact Paul and Christy Brown (certified Billings Ovulation Method Instructor) for more information. 616-828-3681 or [christinabrown77@gmail.com](mailto:christinabrown77@gmail.com).

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459-7171 • Parishioner

**Parish Historian:** The parish historian collects and archives parish records, photographs, and memorabilia of all types in an effort to save and document the history of IHM. Go to the “History” link on our website to read the entire *History of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, 1949-1999*. If you have items to donate, please contact Deb Moore, 490-2652.

**The Men’s Golf League:** The league plays Thursday afternoons at Saskatoon Golf Course from mid April to mid September. Members are parishioners and non-parishioners. There are three flights arranged by tee times to accommodate individual schedules. Contact: Vince Williams, 243-9353.

**The Women’s Golf League:** The league plays Thursday mornings at Indian Trails Golf Club May through August. The League consists of golfers of various abilities from Immaculate Heart of Mary, St. Paul the Apostle and other communities. Join the Fun! Contact: Deb Moore, 490-2652. League play begins mid-May at Indian Trails!

## *Immaculate Heart of Mary School*

The school is located on the northwest corner of  
Plymouth Avenue and Burton Street.  
1951 Plymouth Ave, SE Grand Rapids, MI 49506  
Grades Pre-School-8

Child Care Center hours: 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
Office Hours: 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Monday-Friday  
7:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. on scheduled half days

If you are visiting the school,  
Please check in at the school office when entering.

SCHOOL PHONE..... 241-4633  
SCHOOL FAX ..... 241-4418  
E-MAIL.....[principal@ihmschoolgr.com](mailto:principal@ihmschoolgr.com)  
WEBSITE ..... [www.ihmparish.com/school](http://www.ihmparish.com/school)

*Immaculate Heart of Mary School, immersed in the teachings of the Catholic Church, is dedicated to providing excellent spiritual and academic formation in the development of well-rounded individuals centered in Christ. As an integral dimension of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, a Catholic community centered on Jesus Christ, all members have the opportunity to experience the joy of His gospel message in the daily learning, living and sharing of faith throughout all aspects of school life. Immaculate Heart of Mary School seeks to provide a solid foundation and nurturing environment within a Catholic, Christian framework. A dedicated staff is committed to providing an enriched and well-rounded curriculum, which encourages and prepares children to be caring contributing members of the Catholic community and the community-at-large. The school includes Preschool, Young Fives, Kindergarten, grades one through eight, and a child care center. Along with our strong curriculum, we offer Spanish, art, physical education, music, band, computers, and some special education services. Extra-curricular activities include: sports for grades 5-8, Science Olympiad, Student Council, Ski Club, Divine Mercy Kids Club, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd and the Musical. Contact: Holly Lake, Principal, 241-4633.*

### *Immaculate Heart of Mary School Board*

The Board is a Board of limited jurisdiction that assists the Principal and Pastor in guiding the educational programs at Immaculate Heart of Mary School. The Board meets the second Wednesday every other month from September through June. The term for each member is three years with an option to renew. Any interested candidates will be asked to fill out a candidate resume. Prospective Board members should have a genuine interest in Catholic schools, have a willingness to support the school and diocesan philosophy and mission, be willing to maintain high levels of integrity and confidentiality, and have the ability to make the time commitment for meetings, board activities and periodic in-service programs.



## *Home and School Association*

The Immaculate Heart of Mary Home and School Association (H&SA) is the parent organization within our school community. The membership is composed of the parents of all children attending Immaculate Heart of Mary School. Officers are elected for a two-year commitment. There are also various committee co-chairs who volunteer for different positions. The purpose of H&SA is to provide framework, coordination and accountability for the many and varied volunteer activities sponsored to enhance our children's school experiences. Direct support to teachers and departments, as well as special programs and school enhancements are planned and budgeted annually. Fundraising activities sponsored by H&SA occur throughout the year to guarantee that these supports are continued and are not dependent upon tuition subsidy.

## *Killgoar Foundation*

The Killgoar Foundation is an endowment fund established in 1987. The Killgoar Foundation exclusively supports Immaculate Heart of Mary School, providing assistance for families who cannot afford to pay full tuition as well as funding for professional staff development, programming and capital needs. Contributions of any size are welcome and will make a difference in the lives of both current and future students! Donations can be made through the monthly collection, online at [ihmparish.com](http://ihmparish.com) or mail (1935 Plymouth SE, Grand Rapids MI 49506). Special giving opportunities include donations in someone's memory/honor, through a will or joining the Legacy, Seton or Saints Societies. For more information, contact Ann Williams, Development Director, at 616-862-7911 or [killgoarfoundation@ihmschoolgr.com](mailto:killgoarfoundation@ihmschoolgr.com).

## *Athletic Association*

The purpose of the Athletic Association is to provide financial support to Immaculate Heart of Mary athletic activities, promote the highest degree of sportsmanship between athletic participants and spectators, promote athletic activities and recognize the achievements of all athletic participants. Parents of students participating in athletics are automatically members of the Athletic Association and receive a handbook. It is the responsibility of the Athletic Association Membership to maintain a safe and comfortable environment for athletes and spectators during games and sporting events.

*VIRTUS*  
*Protecting God's Children*

The Diocese of Grand Rapids and Immaculate Heart of Mary is committed to protecting children and adults from harm. Our safe environment program aims to prevent sexual abuse within our community and to help heal the wounds of past victims. All our programs are in compliance with the USCCB's Charter for the Protection of Children & Young People. If you need to report an instance of abuse, please call the Michigan Attorney General's hotline, 844-324-3374

All members of our clergy, volunteers, staff members, and teachers must complete the following requirements to be around children:

- attend the VIRTUS - Protecting God's Children Program
- agree to compliance with the Standards for Ministerial Behavior
- undergo criminal history background checks
- certain staff members must also be fingerprinted

