



# SS. Peter and Paul School Panther Press



## *Weekly Calendar*

**Sunday, October 2nd:** Please go to church this weekend. Your faith community needs you.

**Monday, October 3rd**

Hall Prayer  
Homework Club 2:30-3:15pm  
MAPS Standardized Testing throughout this week

**Tuesday, October 4th**

Mrs. Baty Walking Club for grades 3-8  
2:40-3:40pm

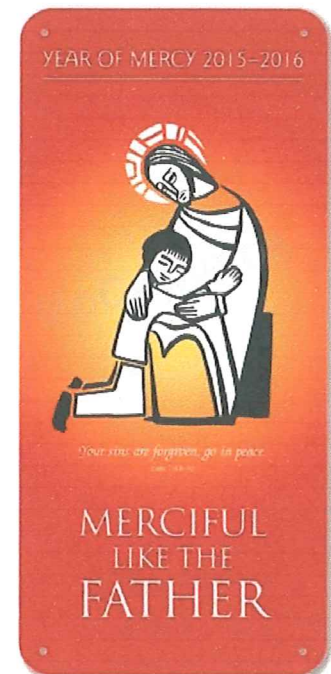
**Wednesday, October 5th**

Mrs. Baty Walking Club for grades 3-8  
2:40-3:40pm

**Thursday, October 6th**

School Liturgy 8am—Please join us  
Remember to send in a food donation for the Zion Food Pantry  
Joe Buys—Special visit to SSPP  
Homework Club 2:30-3:15pm

**Friday, October 7th**



## *Principally Speaking*

**Pop Can/Bottle Slip Drive:** Our students in grades 7 and 8 will be traveling to Chicago to attend the Holy Fire Catholic Youth Conference on October 14th. They will hear inspiring speakers and well-known Christian bands, and will be with middle school students from throughout the Midwest. Parents are paying half of the cost, but we need to fundraise the other half which is approximately \$1,700! See the attached flyer—the grade with the most bottles/cans (or return slips) per person will win a free recess! For our bottle/can drives, we really, really appreciate it if you actually return the cans/bottles yourselves and donate the money or the deposit slip to us so we can cash it in. If this won't work for you and you need to send in bottles or cans, please be sure the cans are rinsed and the bottles are capped or rinsed. Thank you so much for helping our students be able to experience this very special trip!

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**NWEA MAPS Testing:** This year we have added Kindergarten and 1st grade (good practice, no stress) to the testing schedule, and all students began testing this week. We will finish up next week. We tend to see a bit of score sliding on our fall tests, as students struggle to remember what they had learned last year after the summer break. Scores will be sent home with parents with the first quarter report card envelopes. We test again in the Spring where we usually post strong scores!

**The Bishop is Coming!**

We are very excited to announce that Bishop Walkowiak will be coming to celebrate the feast of All Saints with the SS. Peter and Paul School Community! Our Mass that day will be at 9am. Please join us! Bishop Walkowiak will be coming over to the school after Mass and will visit with students in each grade.

**SCRIP**

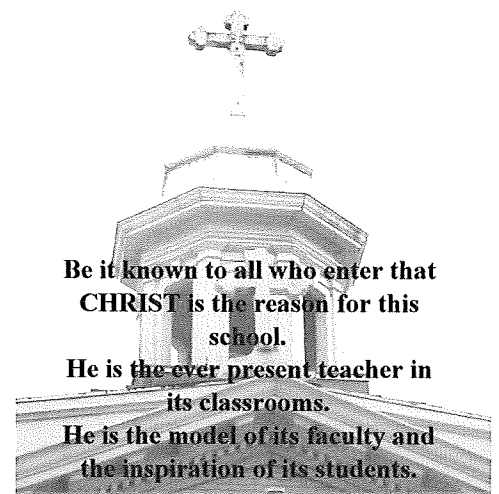
SCRIP is still available by order. Place your order by Friday (or on Sunday morning with Mr. Weller), and your SCRIP will be available by the following Wednesday.

**Community Awareness Week Purple Week Breakfast**

Many thanks to Family School Council and the Knights of Columbus for the very delicious breakfast held on Sunday, September 25th. We were able to make a \$320 donation to the Purple Cancer Fund! All of this money stays in Ionia to help our cancer Survivors and Fighters of all ages!

**Upcoming Dates:**

- October 6: FSC Meeting at Olivera's 6pm-7pm  
IPS Half Day—No Bus Home
- October 10: Picture Retake Day for all classes 8:30-10:30am  
Flag Ceremony with Ionia VFW 10am K-8
- October 11: School Board Meeting
- October 12: DARE begins for 5th grade
- October 14: K-6 John Ball Park Zoo Trip  
7th and 8th Grade Holy Fire Event in Chicago!
- October 18: Auction mtg 6:30 pm Library
- October 26: Pink Panther Pumpkin Palooza
- October 31: Halloween K-8 Costumes and Trunk or Treat in the afternoon
- November 1: All Saints Day with Bishop Walkowiak 9am Liturgy

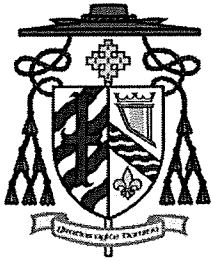




# October 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2	3	4	5	6 Peterson/Leik NO IPS BUS HOME FSC Oliver's 6-7	7	8
9	10 VFW Flag Ceremony 10am Picture Retakes 10-noon	11	12 DARE 11- 11:45am	13 McGuire	14 K-6 Zoo 7/8 Grade-Chicago Holy Fire	15
16	17	18 Auction Mtg 6:30pm Library	19 DARE 11- 11:45am Vision Testing Gr. 1, 3, 5, 7, PS	20 Baty	21 	22
23	24	25	26 DARE 11- 11:45am 	27 Witter 	28 	29
30	31 					



# DIOCESE OF GRAND RAPIDS

*Office of the Bishop*

October 2, 2016

My dear friends in Christ,

The theme of this year's Respect Life Month, "Moved by Mercy," takes its inspiration from Pope Francis' proclamation of the Year of Mercy. Our challenge during this Jubilee Year has been to become agents of God's mercy which He first offered to us. Our joy and gratitude for this great gift enables us to bring comfort to every person we encounter at every stage of life from conception to natural death.

The life and recent canonization of Saint Teresa of Calcutta serve as further reminders that every person hungers "for love, for being cared for, for being wanted, for having someone to call their own." Saint Teresa showed us how to serve Christ by caring for the members of our human family who are most in need. Through her example, we see that every human life is deserving of attention and care because each of us is made in the image and likeness of our Creator.

Today's cultural quest for productivity, pleasure, and independence pushes aside attitudes and ideas that respect the sanctity and dignity of human life. In what Pope Francis has called a "throwaway culture," our role is to preserve and protect human life at every phase: to be a source of hope for soon-to-be parents who receive news that their unborn child has a life-threatening diagnosis; to offer a sanctuary of healing for women and men who have experienced abortion, or to help a terminally ill loved one live fully until their very last natural breath. All of these situations and every one in between are opportunities for us to be love in action. Our God is a God of mercy who brings us strength and healing in our daily lives. Let us pray that we may follow God's holy example of mercy and put mercy into practice.

I thank those parishes, schools, and institutions throughout our diocese who participate in the Respect Life program during this month and who make our respect life efforts a priority throughout the year. I invite everyone in our diocese to continue to pray and witness to our commitment as Catholics to being "people of life."

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*+ David J. Walkowiak*

Most Reverend David J. Walkowiak  
Bishop of Grand Rapids