



Pylypivka 2023

at Immaculate Heart of Mary School

Ukrainian Catholics refer to the pre-Christmas fasting period as Pylypivka, or St. Philip's Fast. It always begins on the feast of St. Philip the Apostle, November 15. In the Latin Rite, this time of preparation is called Advent.

Pylypivka, which lasts for 40 days, is a time of preparation before Christmas. The Church offers this time to remind us, and to help us, focus on receiving Christ into the world. This fast prepares us for the feast. We should be aware that we are in a time of preparation, preparing room in our hearts for the Lord as He comes.

On Wednesday, November 22 at 9:00AM, the students and staff participated in a Pylypivka Prayer Service to learn more about the season of Pylypivka, and all of the school-wide activities taking place during this time before Christmas.

On Wednesday, December 6 at 2:00PM, St. Nicholas will visit with all of the children. A Ukrainian program will be performed for St. Nicholas.

Students and families are encouraged to share their musical talents by performing Christmas carols in the front foyer of the school during arrival and dismissal times. One carol or ten, sing, or play an instrument, simple or complex, ... all are welcome to fill the time slots!

'Our Road to the Nativity' ... school-wide project

During this pylypivka (advent) season, as we journey towards the celebration of Christ's birth, IHMS students will spend time focusing on the true meaning of Christmas. They will clear away the clutter that life can bring and instead do good things for other people and rid their hearts of all worries and selfishness.

During the remaining 4 weeks of Pylypivka the students and staff will be 'on the road to the nativity' by preparing our hearts and focusing on the following activities:

- Week of November 27 'Service'
- Week of December 4 'Peace'
- Week of December 11 'Joy'
- Week of December 18 'Love'

Students will be doing activities in the classroom focusing on these themes. The teachers will focus on each specific virtue, during a specific week before Christmas.



Pylypivka Prayer

prayed with the students each morning at school
 Lord Jesus, we ask You visit our homes and our school.
 Bring Your peace, joy, and friendship into our hearts.
 Grant us the desire to do good things for other people
 and to rid our hearts of all worries and selfishness.
 God, help us make progress in loving You and each other,
 so that we can truly welcome Your son, the light of the world, into our hearts.
 Amen



Christian Service at IHMS

The 2023-2024 S.M.A.C (Students Making a Change Team) is up and running! SMAC is a social justice club and is excited to focus their efforts toward helping local and global organizations through fundraising initiatives, collections, and volunteering opportunities.

This year, the team is made up of Grade 7 & 8 students under the direction of two of our staff members, Ms. Shewchuk and Ms. Rowe. During the Pylypivka season, items are being collected every Tuesday known as "Giving Tuesday". The items will be donated to charities that will assist the less fortunate and in need of these items. The following are items will be collected on each Tuesday:

November 28 - Socks

December 5 - Mittens

December 12 - Toothbrush / Toothpaste

December 19 - Water bottles, Granola / Protein bars



'Mary's Angel Ornament'



During Pylypivka, the school will be offering 'Mary's Angels' for sale. The Angels are a keepsake of remembrance for deceased loved ones, or someone that is very ill. When an individual purchases an Angel, a prayer card is filled out at the school with the loved ones name. The cards are attached to an Angel ornament and placed on the 'Mary's Angels Tree' located in the front foyer of the school. A Divine Liturgy will be celebrated by the students and staff on Friday, December 22, for the intentions of the loved ones. Prior to the Christmas break, the angels will be sent home with each of the families that purchased an angel.

← A sample of the Mary's Angel ornaments is pictured to the left.

The proceeds from this project go towards
Marion Hour Centre, Radio Rosary on CKJS.

Each Mary's Angel can be purchased individually for \$5.00.

See the below order form to share with your family and friends.

All orders are to be submitted by Friday, December 15.



PLEASE PRINT

Purchaser's Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Seller's Name: _____ Seller's Grade: _____

Number of Angels Purchased: _____ Amount paid: _____

Name of deceased, or ill, loved ones (please print name): _____

PLEASE PRINT

Purchaser's Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Seller's Name: _____ Seller's Grade: _____

Number of Angels Purchased: _____ Amount paid: _____

Name of deceased, or ill, loved ones (please print name): _____