

# From the Principal's Desk

August 22, 2019

## Quick Links

[School Site](#)

[School Calendar](#)



## Holy Spirit School *Inspiring Minds / Igniting Hearts* 2019 / 2020

**"What you do for the least among you, you do for Jesus"**

### Can't wait for tomorrow!

Everyone on the faculty and staff is super excited to see everyone tomorrow, Friday, August 23rd for the Open House from 1:00 - 2:30 pm. We hope you are excited too!

During the Open House families should be sure to stop at the tables in the front lobby to pick up your family packet. IT IS STUFFED FULL! The most important pieces in the packet are the forms that should be returned on Monday like the Emergency Care form, handbook signature pages, family demographics, etc. Included also in the packet though are a plethora of hard copies of various flyers announcing both school and parish events. Please be sure to take a look at everything.

If you cannot attend the Open House - NO WORRIES! Your family packet will be sent home with your youngest or only child on their first day of school.

Please keep in mind that the car lines both in the morning and afternoon can be a bit longer while everyone gets back in the swing of things. I would ask that you be patient as there are many new families with us learning the ins and outs of the school's routine. To mix things up just a bit - we will also be handling a 10:00 am funeral that morning and a reception for said funeral directly following in the school. It will be super important that everyone is really following the direction of the staff who will be in the parking lots to manage the traffic the very best that we can. There will be a second funeral reception at the school on Tuesday that may impact the afternoon car lines as well.

I would like to draw your attention to a few calendar items that will sneak right up

on us.

First, **Back to School Nights** are scheduled for **Tuesday, September 3rd (grades 1-5) and Wednesday, September 4th (grades 6-8)**. Please make note of the start time of each of these evenings - it is **6:30 pm**. Parents of children in prekindergarten and kindergarten are encouraged to attend the opening part of the evening to hear all of the general information regarding the coming year and the presentation from the PTO officers.

Second, on **Monday, September 9th** we will celebrate the **Virgin Mary's birthday with a prayer service at 8:30 am**. We are asking that each child bring in one to two **flowers** that morning to contribute to a class flower arrangement for the procession.

Third, please note on your calendars that **Monday, September 23rd will be an early release day with an odd time - we will release at 12:00 noon** that day (information regarding exact bell times will be forthcoming; Extended Day will be open). As some of you may recall our school visit from Bishop Burbidge was cancelled last year due to inclement weather and it has been rescheduled for September 23rd.

Fourth, Holy Spirit Parish and School have the honor to host the **Diocesan Mass for Disabilities on Sunday, September 29th at the 10:30 am Mass**. I would encourage all of our families to attend this Mass which is said by Bishop Burbidge to celebrate the unique gifts of all. Many of our own students will be participating directly in the Mass from readers, to gift bearers, to choir members. There will be a reception following the Mass in the school.

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## Child Protection Compliance

With regard to Child Protection Compliance, I cannot stress enough the importance of parents and guardians being compliant. Without having participated in both the background check process and the Virtus seminar you cannot volunteer for school functions where the children are present.

**NOTE: THIS ALSO INCLUDES RECESS DUTY AS WE NO LONGER HAVE ANY TYPE OF WAIVER FOR THIS.**

**If you have not completed the requirements to be Child Protection Compliant, I highly encourage you to begin now. Check the school website under the *Current Families Resources* tab for the pertinent information as the Diocese rolled out a new procedure for volunteers this Summer.**

**A Virtus seminar will be presented here at Holy Spirit on Wednesday, October 2nd from 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm. Go to [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org) to register.**

**In your family packets there will be notices to those families who have parents/guardians who are not fully compliant.**

*-Maureen Ashby*

Principal

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## Schedule for Grades 1-8

Monday, August 26th:

- First Day of School
- 11:30 am dismissal
- Morning Care Opens (please enter via Exit 11)
- Extended Day Opens (please pick up in the cafeteria)

Tuesday, August 27th - Thursday, August 29th:

- Regular 3:15 pm dismissal
- NO hot lunches served; all students must have a bag lunch

Friday, August 30th:

- 9:00 am Mass
  - 11:30 am dismissal
  - NO afternoon Extended Day
- 

## Schedule for Kindergarten

Monday, August 26th:

- 8:30 am Parent only meeting

Tuesday, August 27th:

- First day for kindergarten students
- Morning Care available (drop off via Exit 11)
- 11:30 am dismissal
- NO afternoon Extended Day

Wednesday, August 28th and Thursday, August 29th:

- Full days - regular 3:15pm dismissal
- Morning Care available (drop off via Exit 11)
- NO hot lunches served - all students must have a bag lunch
- Extended Day available (pick up via Exit 11)

Friday, August 30th:

- 9:00 am Mass
  - 11:30 am dismissal
  - NO afternoon Extended Day
- 

## Schedule for PreKindergarten

Monday, August 26th:

- 9:30 am Parent only meeting

Tuesday, August 27th:

- Parent and student orientation
- 9:00 - 9:45 am Students with last name A-L
- 10:00 - 10:45 am Students with last name M-Z

Wednesday, August 28th:

- First day for Prekindergarten
- Morning Care available (drop off via Exit 11)
- 11:30 am dismissal for ALL students
- No afternoon Extended Day available

Thursday, August 29th:

- Full day with regular 3:15 pm dismissal
- Morning Care available
- NO hot lunches served - all students must have a bag lunch
- Afternoon Extended Day available (pickup via Exit 11)

Friday, August 30th:

- 9:00 am Mass
  - 11:30 am dismissal
  - NO afternoon Extended Day
-

# Used Uniform Sale

*\*open to ALL Holy Spirit Families*

FRIDAY, AUGUST 23  
1:00- 3:00 PM  
(DURING  
OPEN HOUSE)

All items \$5. Cash and check accepted.

## SPIRIT DAYS ARE HERE.

All new this year...SPIRIT DAYS! Be sure to show off your school spirit with all new **HOLY SPIRIT SPIRIT GEAR**.

\*Spirit Days will be held the 3rd Wednesday of each month starting in October

\*Select samples (for sizing purposes) on display at Back to School Nights on September 3rd and 4th

\*Order online **ONLY** from August 23rd - September 6th (link coming soon)

\*Orders will be delivered to classrooms prior to our first Spirit Wear Day, October 16th



SHOP **EXCLUSIVELY ONLINE** FROM: **8.23.19 - 9.6.19**

**QUESTIONS?** EMAIL [PTOSPIRITGEAR@HOLYSPIRITFLAMES.ORG](mailto:PTOSPIRITGEAR@HOLYSPIRITFLAMES.ORG)

(If you've been at Holy Spirit for even a year, at this point you must certainly be asking "What came over Mrs. Ashby?!")



## Headphone/Earbuds

All Holy Spirit students will need a personal set of headphones/earbuds throughout the year for use in the computer lab and with the Chromebooks and iPads.

For health purposes we are requesting that all students provide their own headphones/earbuds.

Parents may choose the device based on comfort for your child.

Please though do not purchase overly expensive equipment. Earphones/earbuds should be brought the first day of school in a clear plastic Ziploc bag with the student's name clearly written on the bag.

\*Note that the better choice for the younger students is headphones as the earbuds do not tend to fit correctly and fall out.

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The Back to the 80s Dinner, Dance & Auction will take place on *Saturday, November 2, 2019* starting at 6:00 PM at the Waterford in Springfield, VA.

We are striving for 100% parent participation and would love to have our **ALL FAMILIES** at this fun event!

If you would like to sponsor, donate or buy tickets, please visit:

<https://hscpto.ejoinme.org/holyspirit80s>

If you have any ideas on making this an amazing auction or would like to volunteer, please email [holyspiritauktion2019@gmail.com](mailto:holyspiritauktion2019@gmail.com)

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Dear Families,

Big changes are coming to the Box Tops for Education Program, and you're the first to know!

Over the summer, you'll begin to see some participating brands change their packaging from the traditional Box Tops clip to the new Box Tops label.



SEE THIS...  
**CLIP IT**



SEE THIS...  
**SCAN YOUR RECEIPT**

Going forward, instead of clipping from packages and checking expiration dates, all Box Tops will be earned digitally by scanning your receipt. The Box Tops for Education team is hard at work building a NEW-and-improved, user-friendly Box Tops mobile app that will be ready this summer.

The new app will feature state-of-the-art technology that allows you to scan your store receipt, find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to our school's earnings online.

**WHEN THE NEW APP LAUNCHES, BE SURE TO  
DOWNLOAD IT OR UPDATE YOUR EXISTING APP:**



As we mentioned above, some brands have already started to update their packaging in advance. Until the new app launches, if you see the new Box Tops label on packages, you can use the current Box Tops Bonus App to earn Box Tops for that product. Simply download the app, select the bonus offer for the product you've purchased and scan your receipt to earn.

If you still have traditional Box Tops clips at home, be sure to send them to school. We will still earn cash for all clipped Box Tops until they expire. Better yet, once the new app launches, you can "double dip" during the packaging transition by clipping the traditional Box Tops AND scanning your store receipt containing participating products.

Thanks for helping our school get what it needs!

**LEARN MORE ABOUT THESE CHANGES AT  
[BTFE.COM/SNEAKPEEK](https://www.btfec.com/sneakpeek)**

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# ROBOTICS CLUB

Holy Spirit School will start a Robotics Club for the 2019-2020 school year. The club will meet in the Computer Lab after school once a week for one hour. During each of the trimesters, students will be able to sign up for eight sessions. Students will learn to build and program a working robot.

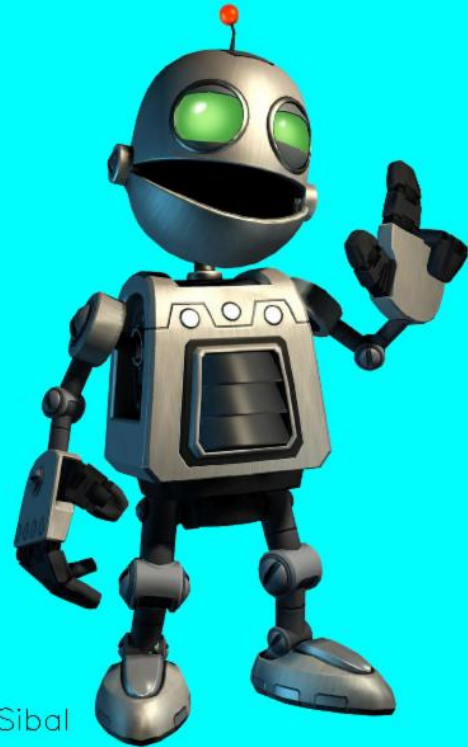
Spaces are limited to 20 students.  
Cost is \$250 for 8 sessions.

Grades 3&4  
Wednesday  
(3:20PM-4:20PM)

Please see the school calendar for actual dates.

Grades 5-8  
Tuesday  
(3:20PM-4:20PM)

To sign up email Benny Sibal  
[bsibal@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:bsibal@holyspiritflames.org)



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## Holy Spirit Chess and Coding Clubs



Sponsored by the Holy Spirit PTO



**Chess Club** is taught by experienced Silver Knights instructors using a curriculum developed by National Masters. Each weekly session is a mix of learning and play. Playing chess is a great way to develop a child's critical thinking skills, sportsmanship, and patience — all while having fun!

### Chess Club Details:

- ◆ All grades and skill levels welcome.
- ◆ Dates: Club meets every Monday that school is in session starting on 10/21 and ending on 12/16.
- ◆ Time: 3:20-4:20 PM
- ◆ Club located at Holy Spirit
- ◆ All equipment provided.
- ◆ Club will not meet on 11/11.
- ◆ A make-up day, if necessary, will be on 1/6.
- ◆ Tuition: \$120 for 8 weeks.



In **Coding Club**, design your own video games in the Game Design: Mazes and Monsters unit. Using Scratch 3 digital tools, create your own maze games, platformers, and side scrollers. Use the Silver Knights Curriculum to learn how to code and then add more excitement to your games with amazing graphics, sounds, game add-ons like leveling up, gravity variables, and scores! Level up!

### Coding Club Details:

- ◆ Grades 2 & up — only 12 spots available!
- ◆ Dates: Club meets every Thursday that school is in session starting on 10/17 and ending on 12/12.
- ◆ Time: 3:20-4:20 PM
- ◆ Club located at Holy Spirit
- ◆ All computers and equipment provided.
- ◆ Club does not meet 11/28.
- ◆ A make-up day, if necessary, will be on 12/19.
- ◆ Tuition: \$180 for 8 weeks.

**TO REGISTER, VISIT: [www.skenrichment.com](http://www.skenrichment.com)**


To request scholarships or financial aid, please visit our website.

Questions? Email: [Info@skenrichment.com](mailto:Info@skenrichment.com) or call: 703.574.2070

# AFTER SCHOOL SPORTS ACADEMY



## Holy Spirit School

 **Sept. 11th - Oct. 30th**  
**Soccer Academy**

8 week sessions

**3:15 pm - 4:15 pm Directly After School**

**Kindergarten - 4th Grade**

**\$120**

**Register Online at [ThePSASports.com](http://ThePSASports.com)**

Watch The  
PSA Video



SCAN ME

[Admin@thepsasports.com](mailto:Admin@thepsasports.com)

[www.ThePSASports.com](http://www.ThePSASports.com)

Follow us on  
Facebook and  
Instagram  
[@PSASPORTS](https://www.instagram.com/PSASPORTS)



# Holy Spirit NVJCYO

Information and registration:  
[HolySpiritChurch.us/Youth](http://HolySpiritChurch.us/Youth)

Fall Sports

Cross Country

Tennis

Grades 3-8

"Sports contribute to the love of life, teaches sacrifice, respect and responsibility, leading to the full development of every human person."

-St. John Paul II



## Assistant Coaches Needed!

Interested in coaching?  
Contact [CYO@holyspirtchurch.us](mailto:CYO@holyspirtchurch.us)



**Saturday, September 7**  
**6:45 AM - 11:45 AM**

**INOVA Blood Donor Services**  
**Holy Spirit School**

**Make your lifesaving appointment today!**

**Contact:**

• Dick Cecka (703) 978-8435  
or [giveblood@holyspirtchurch.us](mailto:giveblood@holyspirtchurch.us)

• Chris Cecka (703) 250-2122  
or [cmcecka@yahoo.com](mailto:cmcecka@yahoo.com)

Photo ID required. Allow one hour for donor visit.  
Double up! Donate on ALYX.



Rain or  
shine!

# Parish Picnic & Open House

Free!  
All Are  
Welcome

Rain or shine!

Please bring a  
dish to share:

A-R: Salads/Sides  
S-Z: Desserts

Picnic Food &  
Activities Include:  
Burgers & Hot Dogs,  
Soda, Cotton Candy,  
Snow Cones,  
Moonbounce,  
Inflatable Obstacle  
Course, Face Painting,  
Scouts Obstacle  
Courses  
and more!

## Side Dish Potluck



Sunday, September 8

1-4pm

Front Lawn

Don't  
forget  
your  
lawn  
chairs

**HOLY  
SPIRIT**  
Catholic Church

Many volunteers needed, youth and adult.  
Click on the gold "Volunteer" button on the home page  
of the website: [www.holyspintchurch.us](http://www.holyspintchurch.us)







# Short and Sweet

The Offices of Youth Ministry and Religious Education would like to invite all parents of youth in grades 6-12 to come and learn more about our vibrant and growing programs. This is an opportunity for you to meet the Directors of Youth Ministry and Religious Education, other parents and to learn more about what Holy Spirit has to offer your children. This evening is for all parents. Want to know what your kids are so excited about? Come see for yourself! Please, come and join us!

## Coffee and Desserts

Wednesday, September 11 in the School Building  
7:30-9:00p.m.

Please RSVP to:  
[youthministry@holyspiritchurch.us](mailto:youthministry@holyspiritchurch.us)  
by Tuesday, Sept 10



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**Celebrate!**

**PRIESTHOOD SUNDAY**

Sign up for a day to intentionally pray for  
our parish priests!

Let's fill their year with our prayers!

Your name will appear in a calendar  
that will be given to our priests on Sept. 29th,  
Priesthood Sunday. Sign up at:

[HolySpiritChurch.us](http://HolySpiritChurch.us)

*(select the gold "volunteer" button)*

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Religious Education and Youth Ministry are joining forces to



*We are looking for people to be part of the mission*  
**Do you like working with teens?**



Sign up at [www.holyspiritchurch.us/conquerteensforchrist](http://www.holyspiritchurch.us/conquerteensforchrist)



# Catholic Women's Bible Study

Do you desire to grow in your Catholic faith? Do you seek connection with other women in our parish community? We invite you to consider joining us this summer!

*Tuesday Mornings (8:30-10 a.m. and 9:45-11:15 a.m.) and Thursday Evenings (7-8:30 p.m.)*


**SEPTEMBER 3- FEBRUARY 18**

Register at [holyspiritchurch.us/wwp](https://holyspiritchurch.us/wwp)

Contact Dawn Beutner ([thebeutners@cox.net](mailto:thebeutners@cox.net)),



**Adult Volleyball Nights**  
Competitive Pick-up Games  
**Monday Nights**  
(March 11<sup>th</sup> - October 28<sup>th</sup>)  
**7:30-9:00 pm**  
**School Gym**  
18 and older



## Family Folder Flyers

The following flyers can be found on the website in the folder labeled "August 22, 2019 "(or [CLICK HERE](#)). For your convenience, some flyers are repeated.

### School Flyers:

1. Welcome Back Letter 2019
2. 2019/2020 School Supply List
3. Robotics Club
4. Silverknights Chess and Coding Clubs
5. Players Soccer Academy
6. Spirit Wear order information flyer
7. Auction information flyer

### Parish Flyers:

1. Parish Picnic & Open House
2. Priesthood Sunday
3. Adult Volleyball Nights
4. Blood Drive
5. CYO Sports Sign-ups
6. Short and Sweet flyer
7. Conquer flyer
8. Walking with Purpose flyer

Community Flyers:

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