

From the Principal's Desk

August 23, 2018



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Holy Spirit School *Inspiring Minds / Igniting Hearts* 2018 / 2019

"Let us love one another because love is from God"

See you soon!

We are so very excited to see everyone at the Open House tomorrow afternoon from 1-2:30 pm. When you first arrive, please be sure to pick up your family packet that includes the forms that need to be filled out and returned on the first day of school. Information regarding Child Protection requirements will also be available.

As a reminder, the PTO will sponsor a used uniform sale on Friday if you need to pick up a few extra pieces. I am aware that Flynn O'Hara is out of a few things and will be in touch with our representative to see what can be done.

A second reminder, this one regarding **VANPOOL**. As noted in the letter that went out at the beginning of August, during the first week of school the vanpool slots for last year will be used with the **EXCEPTION** of kindergarteners who are now first graders. These students will be dismissed with the regular carpool unless they are in a group vanpool. Applications for vanpool slots will be sent home in the beginning of the year packet.

Families with prekindergarten students, the arrival and pickup area in the back of the school will be in use beginning on Monday, August 27th if you would like to get your older students into the routine of where they will go and be throughout the year.

Below please see the letter from Father O'Donohue, our Pastor, regarding the current issues facing the Catholic Church at this time. Know that as a school we place paramount value on the safety, security, and protection of your children. A printable copy of the letter is available in the Family Folder Flyers block at the

bottom and a hard copy will be in the family packets.

On a personal note, I will not be in attendance for tomorrow's Open House. After a challenging and emotional Summer surrounding the health of my mother, she passed away this past Sunday, August 19th; God is merciful! I will be involved with family tomorrow as the viewing and funeral will be Friday and Saturday. I am most sorry to not see you tomorrow but I look forward to seeing all of the smiling faces of both the children and parents bright and early Monday morning!

-Maureen Ashby
Principal



Dear Parents,

As we prepare to begin another school year, the current circumstances in which we find ourselves as a Church make it more urgent than ever that we renew for you our commitment to ensure that in our schools and religious education programs we are doing everything we can to create a safe environment for your children. Once again, I reiterate that:

- a. Our diocese immediately reports all allegations of any kind of abuse or neglect of children to appropriate legal authorities.
- b. No priest or deacon against whom a substantiated claim of abuse has been made is currently serving in active ministry in our diocese.
- c. Since 2002, every allegation of sexual abuse on the part of clergy has been investigated by our Diocesan Review Board, which from its very beginning has always been comprised of a majority of laymen and laywomen.

Further, a revamped landing page on our diocesan website (www.ArlingtonDiocese.org/Child-Protection) provides information and links to:

- a. Diocesan policies that have been in place since 2002 to insure the protection of children and that provide a process for handling allegations of sexual abuse on the part of clergy.
- b. Bishop Burbidge's public statements and podcasts in which he has addressed these sensitive issues.

On behalf of all of the priests serving here at Holy Spirit Church, I assure you of the personal commitment of each one of us to strive daily to be faithful to the commitments we have made never to harm and only to protect and care for the safety and security of the children and young people of our Church.

Let us together continue to pray for the safety and security of our children, for the healing of victims of abuse, and that we might do all that we can to insure that the wrongdoing and the evil of the past are never repeated in the future.

Sincerely in Christ.

Rev. John M. O'Donohue
Pastor

Schedule for Grades 1-8

Monday, August 27th:

- 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 28th - Thursday, August 30th:

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

Friday, August 31st:

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

Schedule for Kindergarten

Monday, August 27th:

- 8:30 am Parent only meeting

Tuesday, August 28th:

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

Wednesday, August 29th and Thursday, August 30th:

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

Friday, August 31st:

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

Schedule for PreKindergarten

Monday, August 27th:

- 9:30 am Parent only meeting

Tuesday, August 28th:

- 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 29th:

- 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 30th:

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

Friday, August 31st:

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


EXCITING NEWS!!!


Not only will Silver Knights be providing high quality chess instruction at Holy Spirit in the coming year but now the company will also offer a

CODING CLUB

See the information below.

Holy Spirit Catholic School Chess and Coding Clubs






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 10/1 and ending on 1/14.
- Time: 3:20-4:20 PM
- Club meets in Meeting Room 3
- All equipment provided.
- Club will not meet on 10/8, 11/12, 12/24, 12/31, and 1/21.
- A make-up day, if necessary, will be on 1/28 or 2/4.
- Tuition: \$180 for 12 weeks.



In **Coding Club**, learn to code your own games and animations using Scratch. MIT developed Scratch 10 years ago to give kids a fun way to learn programming skills and computational thinking. Each multi-week session includes all new projects that all kids will enjoy, from beginners to advanced coders. What will you create?

Coding Club Details:

- Grades 2-8 --- only 18 spots available!
- Dates: Club meets every Wednesday that school is in session starting on 10/3 and ending on 11/28.
- Time: 3:20-4:20 PM
- Club meets in Meeting Room 3
- All computers and equipment provided.
- Club does not meet 11/21.
- A make-up day, if necessary, will be on 12/5.
- Tuition: \$180 for 8 weeks.

TO REGISTER, VISIT: www.skenrichment.com

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

Questions? Email: Info@skenrichment.com or call: 703.574.2070

[Click here to register for Chess Club](#)

[Click here to register for Coding](#)

Holy Spirit NVJCYO

Information and registration:
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



**Teams Forming
Register Today!**



Coaches Needed!

Interested in coaching?
Contact CYO@holyspiritchurch.us



MILITIA IMMACULATA

What is it?

Militia Immaculata is a prayer group using the power of the youth to pray for an end to evil in the world. We meet every Monday to call upon the Holy Spirit through the intercession of Our Lady for the conversion of the whole world!

The Militia of the Immaculata is a spiritual movement that was started by St. Maximilian Kolbe—the aim is to convert souls and to pray for peace in the world.

What do you do?

We pray the rosary, led by Father O'Donohue, intercede for our friends and family, pray some special prayers by St. Maximilian Kolbe, and then we end with some snacks and social time!

Who can join?

This group is open to youth of all ages! All you need is a signed permission form and you're in!

Is this really as great as it sounds?!?

Yup! Just come to one of our meetings and you will see the power of prayer! You will get it and want to tell others about it. Really!

Mondays 3:15-4:15 in the Youth Room.

Starts Sept. 10

Snacks and social time included.

Want to become Catholic?

Classes are forming now!



Wednesday Evenings (begins Sept. 5th)

7- 8:15 pm

Parish Center

For more information:

E-mail Deacon Nick LaDuca at denladuca@holyspiritchurch.us

**HOLY
SPIRIT**
Catholic Church



Saturday, September 8th
6:45 - 11:45 AM

INOVA Blood Donor Services
Holy Spirit School

Make your lifesaving appointment today!

Contact:

- **Dick Cecka (703) 978-8435** or **racecka@aol.com**
- **Chris Cecka (703) 250-2122** or **cmcecka@yahoo.com**

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



Rain or
shine!

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!

**HOLY
SPIRIT**
Catholic Church

Parish Picnic & Open House

Side Dish Potluck

Sunday, September 9

1-4pm

Front Lawn

Many volunteers needed, youth and adult.
Click on the gold "Volunteer" button on the home page
of the website: www.holyspiritchurch.us

Don't
forget
your
lawn
chairs

Short and Sweet



The Office of Youth Ministry invites all parents with youth
in grades 6-12 to join us for:



Coffee and Desserts
Wednesday, September 12th
Youth Room
7:30-8:30p.m.

Please RSVP to: youthministry@holyspiritchurch.us by Tuesday, Sept 11

girl scouts
nation's capital

Join today!

Holy Spirit Girl Scout
Troop 55018

For all Girls Kindergarten thru 12th
Grade

A place for young girls to gain

Confidence through learning new skills;

Courage to be a leader;

Character to live out their values

Parent Information and Girl Try-It night

Tuesday, September 18th from 7-8pm in
the School Cafeteria

Contact Mary Yelnicker if you are interested
in joining!

Email: mad_boo@hotmail.com
Phone: 406-750-0612



go-getter • innovator • risk-taker • leader

Come Join the Fun!

Adult Volunteers are needed

Please contact Mary Yelnicker for information



Family Folder Flyers

The following flyers can be found on the website in the folder labeled "August 23, 2018 "(or [CLICK HERE](#)). For your convenience, some flyers are repeated.

School Flyers:

1. Letter from Father O'Donohue
2. Beginning of the year letter - 2018
3. Silver Knights - chess club and coding club information

Parish Flyers:

1. Parish Open House and Picnic
2. CYO Sports Sign-ups
3. RCIA classes flyer
4. Parish Blood Drive flyer

Community Flyers:

1. Girl Scouts information flyer
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