You're receiving this email because of your relationship with Holy Spirit School. Please <u>confirm</u> your continued interest in receiving email from us. To ensure that you continue to receive emails from us, add <u>mashby@holyspiritflames.org</u> to your address book today. You may <u>unsubscribe</u> if you no longer wish to receive our emails.

From the Principal's Desk



December 6, 2018

Quick Links

School Site

School Calendar





Holy Spirit School
Inspiring Minds / Igniting Hearts
2018 / 2019

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



A Wonderful 1st Week of Advent

We've had a wonderful 1st week of Advent here at school. We started our week with a school-wide prayer service led by the 5th graders. They did a terrific job of leading us in prayer and setting the tone for the next several weeks.

Yesterday afternoon and last night, our community was treated to an amazing joint concert with both our band and choir students. I cannot express enough how proud I am of all of the time and effort that the students put into these

performances. Thank you, as well, to Dr. Little and Mr. Toussaint for their fine leadership with these groups.

As the first in our season of Christmas performances, the bar was set very high!

And today we celebrated St. Nicholas Day. Candy canes were discovered in the students' shoes much to everyone's delight - and it didn't seem to matter the type of shoe either!













Our annual toy drive to benefit Santa's Ride ends tomorrow morning with the Giving Mass. We've not yet hit our goal of 500 toys and are really counting on the entire school community to participate. What a wonderful lesson in giving to provide to our children that there are many right here in our own communities who are in need.

Report cards for grades 1-8 will go home tomorrow. Please look as well for a reminder from the PTO regarding volunteer hours.

Information regarding the PTO sponsored Santa's Boutique went home earlier in the week. This is a fun opportunity for students to shop for family members and have a special treat for loved ones just from them.

The NJHS Christmas dress down day is Thursday, December 13th. The members of the Society have chosen a "Grinch" theme for the day. All are encouraged to participate. The \$1 donation will benefit Catholic Charities as a part of We Care Week.

The K-4 Christmas Concert is Tuesday, December 18th. Please be certain to see the information below regarding costumes. Keep in mind that the gym is kept closed and the doors do not open until 6:30 pm for seating.

The 5th grade Nativity Pageant is Thursday, December 20th at 2:00 pm. All are invited.

Friday, December 21st is an early dismissal day and there is NO Extended Day. The Christmas break begins that afternoon and students return to school on Thursday, January 3, 2019.

Have you purchased your family's Christmas tree or wreath yet? Be sure to support the PTO's Christmas tree sale! Sale hours are each evening and throughout the day on weekends.

Although these weeks are often filled with parties and pageants, I do hope that your family will first take time for prayer and preparations specifically centered on the coming birth of our Lord. As you scroll through, please take time to look at the Advent message from Bishop Burbidge and the resource provided by the Diocese.

-Maureen Ashby

Principal

Tomorrow is it and we've not reached our goal of 500 toys yet!

If you haven't already, please consider donating.

Holy Spirit School is thrilled to partner again this year with the Fairfax County Motor Squad, Police Department and Sheriff's Office for our Annual Toy Drive to benefit

SANTA'S RIDE 2018

Monday, December 3rd - Friday, December 7th

Our Annual Giving Mass is scheduled for Friday, December 7th at 9:00 am



Donate NEW unwrapped toys, games, books, and gifts to be distributed to children at Fairfax Hospital and the Georgetown Lombardi Cancer Center.

Our Holy Spirit School community has always been amazingly generous as we help those in need.



In celebration of the joyful season of Advent, the Office of
Communications for the Diocese of Arlington has created a
resource of daily spiritual reflections offered by Bishop Michael
F. Burbidge. These reflections can be prayed privately or with the
entire family throughout Advent. Below you will find a link to the

reflections with a PDF that can be printed out on standard printer paper and folded into a pamphlet.

Click here to access



An Advent Message from Bishop Burbidge

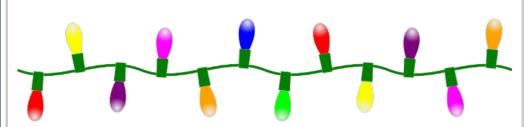
Attention Holy Spirit Students and Teachers



The NJHS is sponsoring a school wide dress down day on **December 13, 2018**. Please bring in a **one dollar (\$1.00) donation** to participate. All funds are going to benefit **Catholic Charities We Care Week**.

Please dress up as the category that applies to you:

PreKindergarten - 2nd are Whos 3rd - 5th are dogs Middle schoolers are Grinches Teachers are presents



Costume Sheet for the Christmas Musical: Miracle at Midnight

The Christmas Concert is December 18th! It is time to start acquiring the costume essentials!

The call time for students in grades K-3 is 6:30 pm. Fourth grade students should arrive no later

than 6:15 pm.

The show begins promptly at 7:00 pm!

Please refer to Power Learning for all practice materials. Please have your child practice at home! All songs, choreography videos and song lyric sheets can be accessed on the Power Learning music class page.

Kindergarten- "Angels"

The Kindergarteners will wear all white, or a white shirt with their grey uniform pants, or other grey bottoms. They will be provided with tinsel halos to complete their heavenly look.

1st Grade- "Sheep"

The 1st graders will wear their school sweats inside out. They will be provided with floppy sheep ears and a smart bow.

2nd Grade- "Camels"

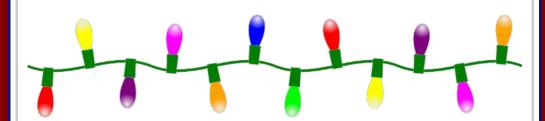
The 2nd graders will wear brown shirts and black pants.

3rd Grade- "Townspeople"

The 3rd graders will wear blue shirts and black pants. They will be provided with head scarves to keep them looking Biblical.

4th Grade- Main Cast

Please see your child's Fourth Grade Music Power Learning Page regarding costume essentials for the individual cast member. All lines must be memorised by Monday December 3rd!



If you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact Mr. Toussaint @ atoussaint@holyspiritflames.org.

Thank you so much for your cooperation in making this year's

Christmas Musical a great memory for you and your child!

Blessings, Mr. Toussaint

Registration for the Winter Sessions of both Chess Club and **Coding Club**

Holy Spirit 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 2/11 and ending on 5/20.
- Time: 3:20—4:20 PM

- All equipment provided.
- Club will not meet on 2/18, 3/11, 4/22 and 5/27
- · A make-up day, if necessary, will be on 6/3
- · 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 & up —- only 18 spots available!
- Dates: Club meets every Wednesday that school is

 A make-up day, if necessary, will be on 3/13 in session starting on 1/16 and ending on 3/6.
- Time: 3:20−4:20 PM

- All computers and equipment provided.
- Tuition: \$180 for 8 weeks.

TO REGISTER, VISIT: www.skenrichment.com

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

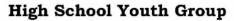
Questions? Email: Info@skenrichment.com or call: 703.574.2070

Click here to register for Chess Club

Click here to register for Coding Club

Information was sent home in hard copy with your student.





Christmas Coat Drive

December 8th and 9th

Drop items off in bins in Church vestibule or outside the Youth Room



The High Schoolers are collecting the following items:

winter jackets hooded sweatshirts

wool hats

loves scarves

For more information, contact youthministry@holyspiritchurch.us







Sunday

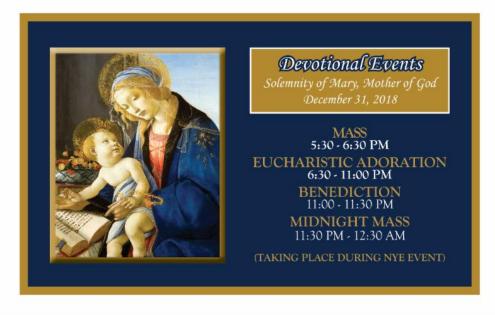
December 9th

In the school cafeteria after the 7:30, 9:00 & 10:30 am Masses

Breakfast will include pancakes, sausage, fruit, orange juice, coffee, and more! Adults \$5 & Children \$3 (family total cost not to exceed \$15)

> HWLY SPIRIT







Family Folder Flyers

The following flyers can be found on the website in the folder labeled "December 6, 2018" (or <u>CLICK HERE</u>). For your convenience, some flyers are repeated.

School Flyers:

- 1. Santa's Ride flyer
- 2. Miracle at Midnight Costume Call updated flyer
- 3. NJHS Christmas Dress Down Day flyer
- 2. Chess Club and Coding Club Winter Session flyer

Parish Flyers:

- 1. High School Youth Group Christmas Coat Drive
- 2. Pancake Breakfast flyer
- 3. Parish NYE Event flyer
- 4. Marian Devotions flyer

Community Flyers:

1. Dyslexic Edge conference - flyer

