

December 3, 2020



**Holy Spirit School**  
***Inspiring Minds/Igniting Hearts***  
**2020/2021**  
**"Protect the Creation; Praise the Creator"**

## There is always a silver lining

If the year of 2020 has taught us anything, it is that we should always seek the silver lining with the situations and events that are presented to us.

That is the case with this year's Christmas programs. Will there be program performances? Yes! Will there be parents in the audience? Unfortunately, no. With the mandates from the Governor's office with regard to social gatherings and the expectation from the Diocese that those mandates will be followed, we will not be able to have parents attend the live performances.

So, where exactly is the silver lining, you may ask?

We are blessed to have a talented and generous parent in our community who has offered to videotape each of the shows for us and we will provide families with access to the links.

The students will still have a live audience to perform to in the form of the students here at school.

Please be sure that you have looked at the costume information below for students in grades K-4, as it is important that each student has the necessary pieces.

I know that this is disappointing, but as we done many times over since March, we will continue to show our children that we are resilient and that we work to what at the time is the best and most appropriate solution.

The weather has certainly taken a turn to the chilly side this week. Please be sure that you are

sending your children into school with appropriate outerwear as we go out for lunch recess unless it is raining or unreasonably cold. Additionally, students are still going outside at various times for academic instruction.

Thank you for all you do day after day to support Holy Spirit School!

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A few reminders:

Our annual toy drive in support of **Santa's Ride** ends tomorrow, Friday, December 4th. Please see the information below.

We will celebrate **St. Nicholas Day on Friday, December 4th**. Students should bring an additional shoe that day so it can be put in the hallway as we await a visit from some of St. Nicholas's helpers who usually have a special treat with them.

On Tuesday, December 8th we will celebrate the **Feast of the Immaculate Conception** with students attending Mass.

The annual **NJHS Christmas Dress Down Day** to benefit Catholic Charities' We Care Week is **Wednesday, December 9th**. See the flyer below for more information.

**Friday, December 18th will be an early dismissal day with NO Extended Day.**

Our **Christmas break** begins the afternoon of December 18 and goes through Sunday, January 3rd. We will return to school on Monday, January 4th.

The non-refundable **re-registration fee for the 2021/2022 academic year** will be drawn with the January tuition draws via your FACTS accounts. If you do not intend for your child to return to Holy Spirit next year, please complete and return the Intent Not To Return Form by December 18th. The form and the original letter explaining the re-registration process may be found at the bottom of this communication.

Winter **Scantron Testing** will begin January 11th for grades 3-7.

Monday, January 18th is a **NO school day**.

*-Maureen Ashby*

**Principal**

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**Our toy drive ends tomorrow, Friday, December 4th!**

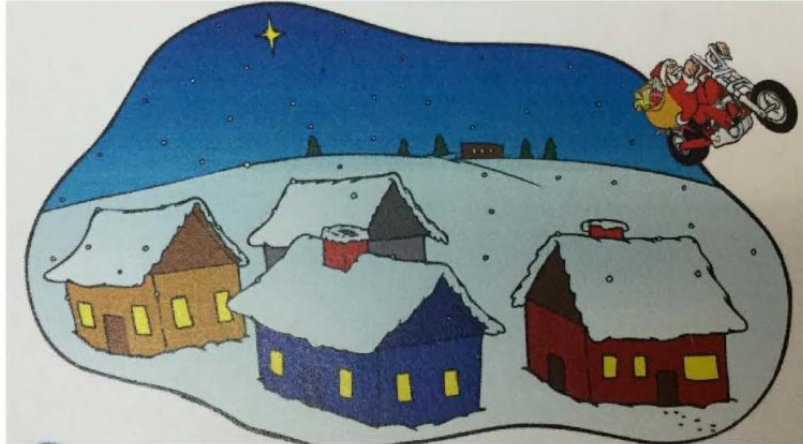
**Getting closer to our goal of 500 toys!**

**Thank you to all who have donated!**

# Annual Holy Spirit School Toy Drive

## SANTA'S RIDE

*Help Bring Holiday Cheer to Sick Children*



Monday, November 30th - Friday, December 4th



Make a difference in the lives of the many sick children who are unable to return home for the holidays.

The Fairfax County Police Department motorcycle squad is collaborating with the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office and others to collect and distribute toys to children at Fairfax Hospital and Georgetown Lombardi Cancer Center.

**Please donate a new, unwrapped toy, game, or book.**

Thank you for your generosity.



**We are celebrating St. Nicholas Day tomorrow  
Friday, December 4th!**

Remember to bring an extra shoe that will be left in the hallway during the school day while we excitedly wait for a treat from some of St. Nicholas's helpers!



# A Virtual Santa's Secret Shop Is Coming To Our School!



Dear Parents,

Our school is hosting a Virtual Santa's Secret Shop for our students and school families. This program makes it possible for your child to experience both the thrill of choosing gifts "secretly" and the "joy of giving" to their family members. All of this is done right in the comfort of your home.

We believe this program will help children learn about budgeting and decision-making. A large variety of gifts in several price ranges will be available for all shoppers. Imagine the fun they will have surprising a loved one with a gift they picked out and wrapped (gift bags included) "all by themselves"!

With your help, your child can log on to our school specific website, where they will be able to select their special gifts. They will need some assistance, mostly at check out.

You can approve the purchase and make payment by credit/debit card. Once approved, the order will be packed and shipped.



## Our Shopping Dates:

Today until December 8, 2020

## Follow These Steps To Shop:

1. Visit: [BOAK.schoolholidayshops.com](http://BOAK.schoolholidayshops.com)
2. Shop Type (login): **Santa**
3. Click the "Enter Here" Button on Door
4. Enter Password: **HSS2020**
5. Start Shopping!

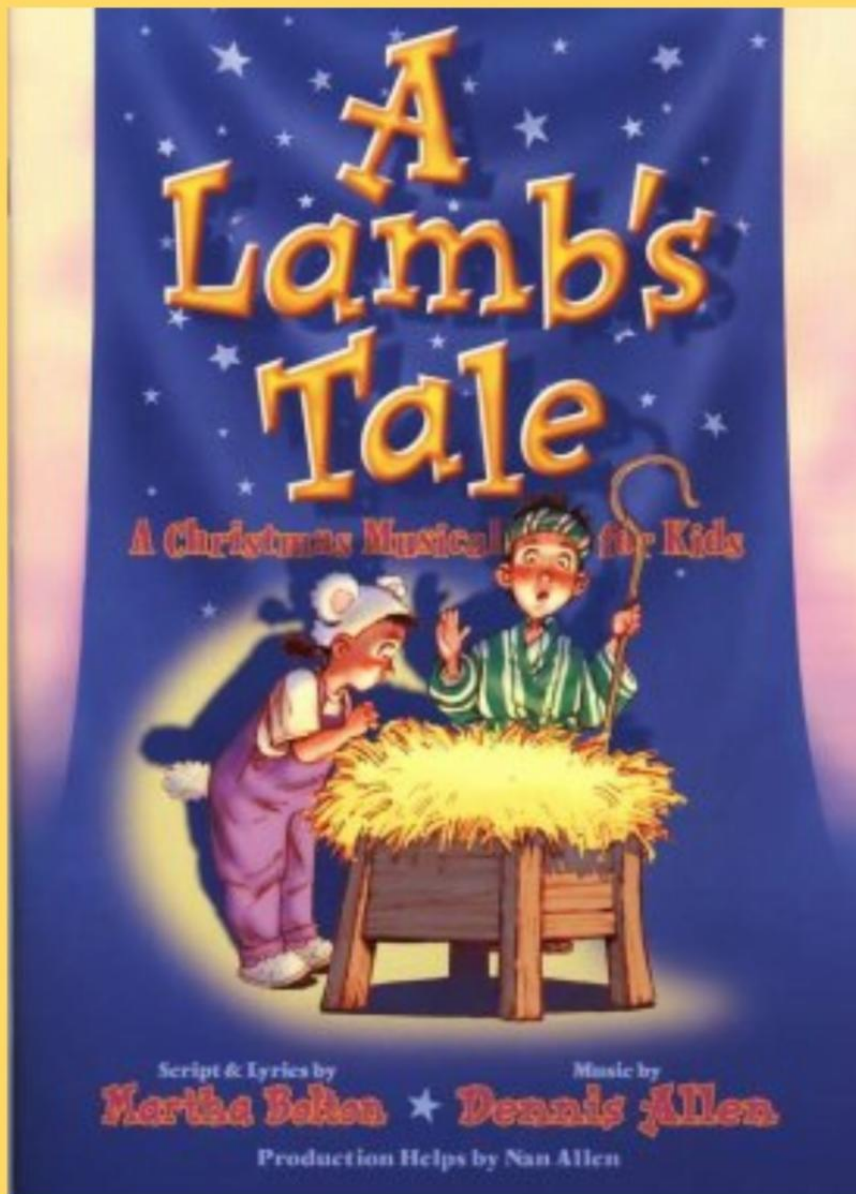


# Christmas Dress Down Day

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The NJHS is sponsoring a school wide dress down day on December 9th. Please bring in a one dollar (\$1.00) donation to participate. All funds are going to benefit Catholic Charities We Care Week.

'Tis' the season for all of our favorite Christmas movies! Come to school dressed up as one of your favorite Holiday characters. All costumes must be school appropriate.



"The show must go on!"

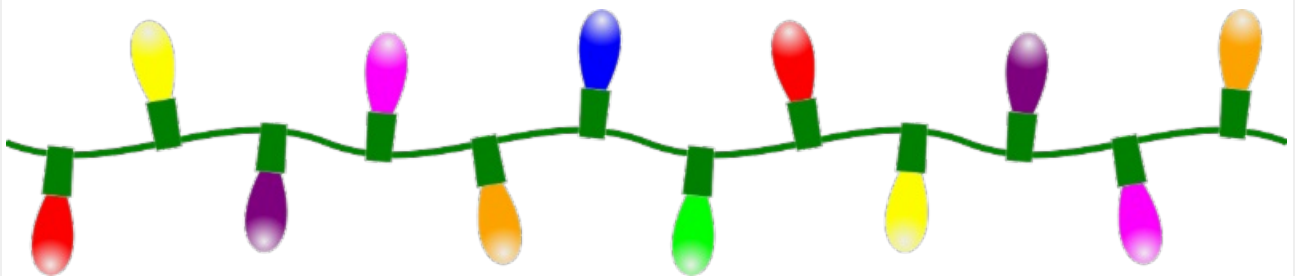
Stay tuned for more details!

## **Two casts! Two shows!**

**December 15, 2020**

We are learning our lines, singing our songs, and practicing our moves!

We continue to plan and adapt to however we will present.



Costume Sheet for the Christmas Musical:

# A Lamb's Tale

The Christmas Performances are currently scheduled for  
**December 14th & 15th.**

**If the current “gathering limits” are lifted, we are planning for two performances each day in order to space out the parent-only audience.**

**If limits are not lifted, we are working on ways to either record or livestream each show.**

## **Kindergarten - “Angels”**

The Kindergarteners will wear their PE uniform sweatpants inside out, long-sleeve white T-Shirts, white socks and black uniform shoes. They will be provided with halos and wings.

## **1<sup>st</sup> Grade - “Sheep”**

The 1<sup>st</sup> Graders will wear their PE uniform sweatshirts and sweatpants inside out, white socks and black uniform shoes. They will be provided with floppy sheep ears and a Christmas bow tie.

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Grade - “Shepherds”**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders will wear dark brown long sleeve shirts, dark brown pants, dark brown socks, dark brown shoes. They will be provided with head scarves to keep them looking like shepherds!

## **3<sup>rd</sup> Grade - “Town-Kids”**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders will wear light blue short-sleeve shirts and dark blue pants (NO Jeans), black socks and black uniform shoes. They will be provided with head scarves to keep them looking Biblical!

## **4<sup>th</sup> Grade - Main Cast**

Please see your child's Fourth Grade Music Schoology Page regarding costume essentials for the individual cast member.

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**“Night of Nights”**  
**December 17, 2020**



Two 5th Grade Classes means two  
beautiful productions!

Keep your eyes and ears open for more details.

# Holy Spirit School Online Bookstore

In Collaboration with Bookworm Central

*Reading gives us  
someplace to go  
when we have to  
stay where  
we are.*

*-Mason Cooley*

Date:

All year!

Location:

[Click Here!](#)



Holy Spirit Online  
Bookstore

Registration for the 2021/2022 academic year

We will consider your children to be automatically re-enrolled for the 2021/2022 academic year and the \$100.00 non-refundable re-registration fee per child will be

assessed as of January 1, 2021 via FACTS. If you know for certain that your child will not be returning please complete and return the Intent Not to Return prior to leaving for the Christmas break (December 18, 2020).

Letter to current families regarding registration

Intent NOT to Return Form

## Required Symptom Screening Questionnaire

We continue to work on an App for the daily health screening. Students must continue to arrive at school each day with a paper copy of the completed form. We are asking for the paper copy for now as trying to manage emails from families at the start of each day is not workable or practical for the staff.

[Required Symptom Screening Questionnaire - 8.27.2020](#)

## Parish Happenings!

The Knights of Columbus invite you to:

**Men's Morning of Recollection**

Join other men from Holy Spirit Parish for a morning of spiritual recollection.

**Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup>**  
**10:00am-12:00pm**  
Quinn Room  
(School Building)

Deepen your faith and prayer life this Advent

- That Man is You at 7:30am
- Mass at 9:00am
- Confessions available at 9:30pm

For details, contact [knights@holyspiritchurch.us](mailto:knights@holyspiritchurch.us)

 **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  **HOLY Spirit CATHOLIC CHURCH**

 **HOLY Spirit CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**YOUTH**  
HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH

**2020**  
**DO NOT BE AFRAID**  
- Pope St. John Paul II

**Middle School**  
*2 Fridays a month*

Be sure to register for the 20-21 youth ministry year!  
[www.holyspiritchurch.us/category/youth/](http://www.holyspiritchurch.us/category/youth/)

HOLY Spirit CATHOLIC CHURCH

# YOUTH

HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH

2020

## DO NOT BE AFRAID

- Pope St. John Paul II

High School  
2 Sundays a month

Be sure to register for the 20-21 youth ministry year!  
[www.holyspiritchurch.us/category/youth/](http://www.holyspiritchurch.us/category/youth/)

Young Adult Fire

### Christ, Cookies, Community, Advent Reflection & Holy Hour

Saturday, December 5 1:00 - 3:00pm Parish Center and Church

Cookie Social  
Advent Reflection with Fr. O'Donohue in Parish Center  
Holy Hour with Praise & Worship

For details,  
[www.holyspiritchurch.us/youngadults](http://www.holyspiritchurch.us/youngadults)

HOLY Spirit CATHOLIC CHURCH

### Youth Poster Contest!

Submissions Oct. 31 - Dec. 13

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

## KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS THEME

For Details,  
[www.holyspiritchurch.us](http://www.holyspiritchurch.us)

HOLY Spirit CATHOLIC CHURCH

Young Adult Fire

### First Friday Holy Hour and Hangout

Holy Spirit Church 7:00 - 10:00pm Every First Friday

Holy Hour from 7-8pm  
Meet outside Holy Spirit at 8pm  
Hangout at the Auld Shebeen Pub (or other)

For details,  
[www.holyspiritchurch.us/youngadults](http://www.holyspiritchurch.us/youngadults)

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

### Catholic Citizenship Youth Essay Contest

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

SUBMISSIONS OCT. 31 - DEC. 13

cash prize! \$25

For details,  
[www.holyspiritchurch.us](http://www.holyspiritchurch.us)

## Community Happenings!



### FAMILY FOLDER

The following flyers may be found in the folder labeled "December 3, 2020" on the website. For your convenience, some flyers are repeated.

Family Folder

School Flyers:

1. Santa's Ride Toy Collection flyer
2. Santa's Santa Shop flyer
3. NJHS Christmas Dress Down Day flyer
4. A Lamb's Tale Costume Sheet
5. Holy Spirit's Online Bookstore flyer
6. Registration Letter for Current Families
7. Intent Not to Return Form

Parish Flyers:

1. Christmas Card 2020 flyer
2. Men's Morning of Reflection flyer
3. K of C Essay Contest
4. Youth Poster Contest flyer

Community Flyers: