From the Principal's Desk



February 25, 2021



Holy Spirit School Inspiring Minds/Igniting Hearts 2020/2021

"Protect the Creation; Praise the Creator"

Hesitant to even say it....

...but be prepared for a jolt to your morning and afternoon routines as a little change is coming our way.

So, what change exactly am I speaking of now? (Like we haven't had enough changes this school year already!) Today, I am talking about the likely upcoming changes to our traffic patterns out in front of the school.

As many of you know, the church building is currently under renovation and the plans include a new exterior building. This has been a couple of years in the pipeline for Fairfax County and the permits have finally been approved for construction to begin.

I had a conversation this morning with the construction foreman and we bantered around some ideas based on his observations of the normal traffic patterns and his needs for construction equipment. The changes will be solidified over the next week or so and, based on what I was told this morning, we can look for changes to be instituted in the month of March.

Please keep your eyes open for information as it is finalized.

Dr. Seuss day is next week - Tuesday, March 2nd. Please see the flyer below regarding the opportunity for students to dress as their favorite Seuss character. A committee of teachers have been hard at work putting together some fun activities for the day.

Our annual Fathers Day Mass will not be able to take place this year. Traditionally we celebrate the important male figures in the lives our students in connection with the Feast of St. Joseph in March. We will still mark this important occasion with the students and the teachers will have

them prepare something that will come home by Thursday, March 18th.

The PTO has been busy providing multiple opportunities for family engagement this year. Thank you to all who have worked on organizing those events and to those who have participated in the various meal fundraisers and other events. The PTO sponsored collecting of dental supplies for the Spanish Catholic Center in Washington, D.C. was quite successful, with 900 items having been donated.

And the PTO's offerings continue tonight! I hope you will take the opportunity tonight to participate in the PTO sponsored talk by Steve Weidenkopf. The flyer is below for more information.

The end of the second trimester is right around the corner! A reminder that the parent portal will close on March 9th, the trimester ends on March 12th, and report cards for K-8 will go home on March 18th.

I hope you enjoy your weekend - I, for one, am ready for Spring weather!

Just in case yours has not arrived in your mailbox yet, attached is the letter and attachment that were mailed out last week to all current families. Please be sure to sign and return the Financial Contract.



A few reminders:

Tuesday, March 2nd - Dr. Seuss Day - (see flyer below)

Thursday, March 4th - **PTO Talent Showcase Auditions** (see flyer below)

Tuesday, March 9th - Parent Portal Closes

Thursday, March 11th - Middle School presents - High School Musical

Friday, March 12th - End of Trimester 2

Tuesday, March 16 - PTO meeting

Wednesday, March 17 - Deadline for apply for tuition assistance through FACTS

Thursday, March 18 - PTO Spirit Day

Thursday, March 18 - T2 Report Cards go home for K-8

Friday, March 19 - NO school for students; teacher professional development day

Monday, March 22 - Crazy Sock Day in recognition of Down Syndrome Awareness

Monday, March 22 - Stations of the Cross - grades 6-88

Tuesday, March 23 - Vocations Awareness Day - 8th Grade Wednesday, March 24 - Confessions - grades 5-8 Thursday, March 25 - St. Isidore of Seville prayer service Friday, March 26 - Spring Pictures - watch for more information

-Maureen Ashby

Principal



Through charitable works and sacrifices, help us to raise \$1500.00 this Lenten season to purchase seeds for 6000 trees to populate a tree nursery near a newly built village in Balan, Haiti.

Operation Starfish was established in 1998 by Nativity Parish in Burke. Since its inception, 11 "Nativity Villages" have been completed and the 12th is nearing completion. Operation Starfish works in close connection with Food for the Poor to accomplish their ambitious goals.

Our own Ms. Garcia (PreK teacher) has participated in this mission work and has had the privilege of traveling to Haiti.

As we continue to explore and expand on this year's theme of caring for God's creation, this is a wonderful example for the children how the good works of ourselves and others can have a

positive and lasting impact on the lives of others.

The current village is being built in Balan and the project goal is to plant 6000 trees—primarily fruit and moringa trees which are high in fibre, zinc, and help regulate blood sugar. This project will help with reforestation, soil erosion, and provide shade. The trees will also absorb pollutants, and provide oxygen through photosynthesis. In addition, they will be a food source.

So, how is this a Lenten project?

Teachers will be explaining the project to the children and showing them a part of a video so they can see the village under construction and "meet" some of the families who are beneficiaries. We are hoping that through small sacrifices (for instance, if your family decides to forgo eating out during Lent, that a small portion of what is saved might be donated to the cause. Or, if your child decides to "add" to their Lenten journey by doing something extra at home to help out, that some small change might be provided that they can then donate.

Collection containers will be available in the classrooms and we will track, as a school, our progress.

Truly this is not meant to be just a donation, but instead a great way to converse with your child about the season of Lent and the ultimate sacrifice that Our Lord made for us.





<u>DR. SEUSS</u> DRESS UP DAY

Tuesday, March 2

Spend the day dressed as your favorite Dr. Seuss character.



Put a wocket in your pocket. Be a Lorax. Wear a cat's hat.



Be a fox in socks. Thing 1? Thing 2?



(Note: This is not a regular dress down day. You must be in costume to participate.)





It's Recorder Time!!

It is recorder time for those in 3rd & 4th Grade! All students will need to bring a soprano recorder, a two pocket folder and a pencil to school for music class starting in Trimester 3!

Your first day of recorder will be: 3rd Grade: 3J- Thursday, March 18 3M- Monday, March 15

4th Grade: 4L- Friday, March 26 4R- Monday, March 15

Recorder attendance and class preparedness will be reflected in their music grade.

Where to Get a Recorder:

The recommended brand is Yamaha, which you can find at the following locations:

Music and Arts Center- Locations in Springfield, Falls Church, Oakton, Burke, Mclean and more. Please visit musicarts.com for inquiries.

Twinbrooke Music- in the Twinbrooke Shopping Center. Please visit Themusicstores.com for inquiries.

Amazon.com- search "Yamaha soprano recorder."

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Toussaint. atoussaint@holyspiritflames.org

Order yourselow yourselow

Order online at ybpay.lifetouch.com

\$20 until APRIL 16, 2021

School Code: 11439521

Lifetouch



HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL, JR.!!!

a collective effort by the 7th & 8th grade homerooms

TWO SHOWS - TWO CASTS!

March 11, 2021

Holy Spirit School's Annual Talent Showcase



SIGNUP / AUDITION FORM



When: March 4, 2021

Where: Holy Spirit Gym Time: 3:15 – 5:30pm

Auditions/registrations are open to all students who want to perform in the show on May 1, 2021.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR: SINGERS, ACTORS, JUGGLERS, MAGICIANS, MUSICIANS, COMEDIANS, MARTIAL ARTISTS, DANCERS, CLOWNS

*** ANY TYPE OF PERFORMANCE YOU WOULD LIKE TO DO ***

<u>Performer Participation Form (for students)</u>: complete this if you wish to perform in the show. This slip is due ONE WEEK prior to the day of the auditions/registration. Everyone who signs up to perform will perform. More information will go out prior to the signups related to how the event will run to maintain the high safety standards of Holy Spirit.

PERFORMER PARTICIPATION FORM

Student's Name:

Performing with (if in a group)

Talent/Act: _____

Everyone who signs up to perform will perform. <u>Please keep the act to 4 minutes.</u> If you cannot make it on March 2 but want to perform, email Joe Terpenning (jterpenning@infinitetech.org) to discuss. At this time the signups will be held live in the gym. This may change. Students will be asked to sit socially distant with masks on until they are called to review their act. Forms will not be available to fill out on the day of signups, and pens will not be provided. Pizza and drinks will not be provided this year for precautions so please send your student in with a snack to have during the signup event.

NOTES FOR AUDITION MONITORS

TIME LENGTH:_____

SONG NAME:

STAGE NEEDS:

For Singers: Using a karaoke version of song or regular version:



LOOKING FOR PTO SERVICE HOURS?

Sponsored by the Squire Roses

Soup Makers Needed!

Lenten Soup Supper Drive Thru



SIGNUP, www.holyspiritchurch.us

QUESTIONS? Soupsupper@holyspiritchurch.us



WE<3HS

TONIGHT!!

SPONSORED BY THE PTO COME AND LEARN WITH US

THE BLACK DEATH Presentation from Steve Weidenkopf

For Holy Spirit Catholic School Community

A great pestilence killed nearly half of Europe's population in the 14th century. Later known as the Black Death, this disease radically impacted Christendom. In this presentation, Prof. Weidenkopf will provide an overview of the disease, its origins, its impact on people and the Church, and the ways it transformed Christian society.



February 25, 2021 at 7 p.m. on Zoom

Click to join the talk at this <u>link</u>. Talk is sponsored by Holy Spirit PTO.

NEW from Steve Weidenkopf

Interested in learning more about the Black Death and The Church and the Middle Ages?



The Church and the Middle Ages (1000–1378) Cathedrals, Crusades, and the Papacy in Exile

Few periods of history are more maligned and misunderstood than the Middle Ages—three-hundred years of division, shifting centers of power, and tensions both within the Church and also between the Church and the secular rulers of the time. In an engaging and easy-to-understand style, Steve Weidenkopf highlights some of our greatest saints and dispels nine commonly accepted misconceptions about the era, which was an exciting period of enduring faith, reform, cultural achievement, as well as defeat and division.

192 pages, \$17.95

20% OFF when you use code MIDDLEAGES at avemariapress.com.

Join Zoom Meeting

https://zoom.us/j/5750896393?pwd=Z1gvTHU5bHpkaktnNzd3cDhUTHF6Zz09

Meeting ID: 575 089 6393 Passcode: Blessed! One tap mobile +16468769923,,5750896393#,,,,*76930022# US (New York) +13017158592,,5750896393#,,,,*76930022# US (Washington DC) Dial by your location +1 646 876 9923 US (New York) +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC) +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose) +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma) +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston) +1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose) Meeting ID: 575 089 6393 Passcode: 76930022 Find your local number: <u>https://zoom.us/u/a5K4yVoXk</u>

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!









• To imitate his virtues and his zeal • @POPE FRANCIS Patris Corde

- Saint Joseph during the Year Samt Joseph Annya Ky Ear Dec 27, 2020. Feast of the Holy Family of Jears, May, and Jengh Barriage Sunday March 2021. Solini (sorph) is cutomarily honored during the month of March March, 2021. Solini (sorph) is cutomarily honored during the month of March March, 2021. Solini (sorph) for Solini (sorph) Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary May, 1, 2021. Memorial of Saini (sorph the Worker

- June 20, 2021 Father's Day
- August 21, 2021 Our Lady of Knock November 1, 2021 Solemnity of All Saints
- In addition to the dates listed above, Saint seph is traditionally honored on Wednesday



- Selected Spiritual Readings Matthew 1-2 Matthew.ine
 Matthew.ine
 Mike i.e.
 St. Bernardine of Siena - Sermo 2, de S. Joseph
 Hours, Office of Baadrags, Selemoty of Sain
 Joseph, vol. 2, pp. 3721-3723
 Joseph, vol. 2, pp. 3721-3723
- Ioseph, vol. 2, pp. 1/22-2723
 Leo XIII Encyclical Letter <u>Quanquan Pluries</u>
 Saint Paul VI Address 'Nazareth', 5 Jan 1964 Saint Paul VI - Statistics (National Statistics) - Saint John Soft Family, vol. 1, pp. 429-428
 Saint John Paul II - Apoctolic Exhortation Redemptoria Custos
 Pope Francis - Homity Forther Mass for the Beginning of the Petrine Ministry, 19 Mar 2013
- + Pope Francis Apostolic Letter Patris Corde

Invest Father and Son, Corbert Gauthie D Corbert Gauthier, Courtesy of MHS Licensing



Plenary Indulgences Litany of Saint Joseph

lenary indulgence (the remission of temp ishment due to sin) is granted to the fait o, with a spirit detached from any sin, full usual conditions of sacramental confessi instant Communican, and prayer for the stic Communion, and prayer for the ntentions and who, during the Year of

- int Joseph... Meditate for at least 30 minutes on the Lord's Prayer, or take part in a Spiritual Retreat of at least one day that includes meditation on St. Joseph.
- Following St. Joseph's example, perform a spiritual work of mercy or corporal work of
- nersy. Recite the Holy Rosary as a family or as an ingaged couple
- engaged couple. Entrust your daily activity to the protection of St. Joseph and invoke the intercession of St. Joseph so that those seeking work can find dignifying work.
- Recite the Litany to St. Joseph for the persecuted Church ad intra and ad extra a for the relief of all Christians suffering all forms of persecution.
- Recite any legitimately approved prayer or act of piety in honor of St. Joseph on the Feast of the Holy Family, on March 19th, on May 1st, on the 19th of each month and every Wednesday.
- For the Sick, Hoopitalized, and Homebound Amid the origoing Covid-19 health crisis, the gft of the plenary indugence is also extended to the sick, the defety, the dying and all those who for legitimate reasons are unable to leave their homes. They to can on brain the plenary indugences if they are detached from any sin and how the intenation of 6 difficient as non-as

Lord, have mercy RJ. Lord, have mercy Ohrist, have mercy RJ. Ohrist, have mercy Lord, have mercy RJ. Lord, have mercy God our Father in heaven God the Son, Redeemer of the R/. Have mercy on us e world God the San, Redeemer of the world R/, Have mercy on us God the San, Redeemer of the world R/, Have mercy on us God the Holy Spirit Holy Trinity, one God R/, Have mercy on us Get ... Hely Yinsty, on e... Hely Yinsty, on e... Hely Yaray Sant Joseph Noble soon of the House of David Light of partiarcho House and of the House of God Foust Father of the Son of God Foust Father of the Son of God Fashtral garandes of Christ Head of the Noly family Joseph, chaise and Just - - - enderet and Just Lamb of God, you take av R(5) Lamb of God, you take away the sins Lamb of God, you take away the Let us pray. God, in you

For more ways to observe the Year of Saint jos



Holy Spirit Youth Ministry ge Group Meetings - High School & Middle School

Sunday Night Holy Hours Youth & Jesus

Come Encounter Him

7:00-3:30pm February 14 & 28 March 14 & 28 April 11

Join us for reflection on Lenten topics, confession, prayer time, and beautiful meditative music www.holyspiritchurch.us/youthministry

Community Happenings!





FAMILY FOLDER

The following flyers may be found in the folder labeled "February 25, 2021" on the website. For your convenience, some flyers are repeated.



School Flyers:

- 1. Dr. Seuss Day flyer
- 2. Recorder instrument information for Grades 3 and 4
- 3. Yearbook order information
- 4. PTO Annual Talent Showcase Signup/Audition flyer
- 5. Lenten Service Project Information
- 6. PTO Sponsored presentation by Steve Weidenkopf

Parish Flyers:

- 1. Men's Lenten Day of Reflection flyer
- 2. Women's Lenten Day of Reflection flyer
- 3. Year of St. Joseph flyer Part I
- 4. Year of St. Joseph flyer Part II
- 5. Car raffle flyer
- 6. Lenten Soup Supper flyer
- 7. Sunday Night Holy Hours Middle School Youth Group

Community Flyers:

1. Boy Scout Mulch Sale