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From the Principal's Desk

December 7, 2017



Quick Links

[School Site](#)

[School Calendar](#)



Holy Spirit School
Inspiring Minds / Igniting Hearts
2017 / 2018
"Respect and Responsibility in Action"

Happy Advent

I trust that each of our school families has begun their celebrations of the beautiful season of Advent. Here at school we are busy learning about the season and participating in the wonderful traditions that we have from Jesse Tree readings and the making of ornaments for our school trees to our Advent prayer service to the many special concerts and pageants over the next couple of weeks that highlight the beautiful talents of our students.

This year we've introduced our students to the Stations of the Nativity and will present them over the course of the next couple of weeks prior to our break.

Thank you so very much to all of the families who donated to the Santa's Ride toy drive. Our community collected just over 650 toys for this worthy organization.

Congratulations to the members of the Beginner and Advanced Bands, as well as those in the Choir on a wonderful concert last night. Thank you to Dr. Little and Mr. Toussaint for all of the work they have done and continue to do to develop the fine arts talents of our students.

The K-4 Christmas Concert - *Miracle on Bethlehem Street* - is next Tuesday, December 12th at 7:00 pm. Be sure to review the information below from Mr. Toussaint regarding both the dress rehearsal and the evening performance.

The 5th grade Nativity Pageant is Thursday, December 14th at 2:00 pm.

All are invited to each of the performances!

If you have not yet had the opportunity, be sure to make a trip into the school to see the wonderful Christmas STREAM projects from the children - so creative!

Interims for the 2nd quarter will go home, as needed, on Friday, December 8th.

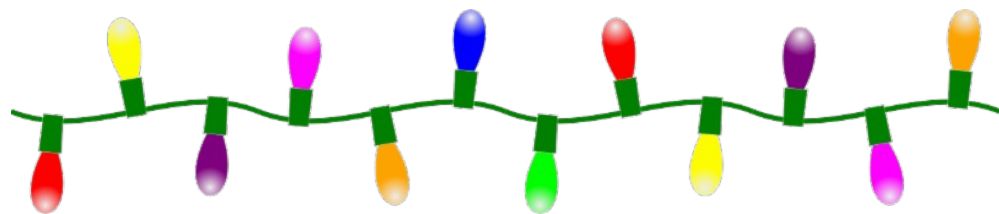
The PTO's "Christmas Trees Guys" and all of their terrific volunteers are busy each night selling Christmas trees and wreaths to benefit the school. Please consider making your purchase here.

I hear that the cold weather is ready to settle in for the season. Please be certain that your child has appropriate cold weather gear including most importantly an actual coat but also mittens, hats, etc. when arriving at school. We stand outside during arrival and dismissal and I am a huge fan of outdoor recess when at all possible. It is not a good time when students are cold because they have come to school with only a sweatshirt or thin fleece.

Thank you for all you do for the school and for allowing us the opportunity to be with your children each day.

-Maureen Ashby

Principal



The K-4 Christmas Musical
Miracle on Bethlehem Street

December 12th, 2017
Holy Spirit School

The students are to wear their base costume clothes

to school on Tuesday December 12th for their dress rehearsal!

Students Arrive at 6:30 pm for the evening show.
Please bring your child to his/her respective classroom.

Please note that the doors to the gym will not open for seating until 6:30 pm.

Please email your homeroom teacher if you would like to help dress the students with their costume accessories.

Program Starts at 7:00 pm

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

Christmas Dress Down Day

Sponsored by the NJHS

December 18, 2017

Celebrate the season and come dressed as...

Pre-K through 2nd grade: Santa's Elves

3rd-5th grade : North Pole animals: such as polar bears, reindeer, even penguins

6th grade : Christmas Presents

7th grade: **Gingerbread Boys and Girls**

8th grade: **Santa Claus and Snowmen**

**HOW MUCH? THERE IS NO COST!
ENJOY THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT!**

A flyer with information and a "money envelope" was sent home earlier this week.



**SANTA'S SECRET
S.H.O.P**

... is coming to our school

DATE: Thursday and Friday, December 14 & 15
TIME: 8:15 am to 3:00 pm
PLACE: In the multipurpose room basement

Get that Special Gift for Everyone on your List

**Unsure what to do with your used cell phones,
laser & inkjet cartridges, laptops, MP3s, iPODs
and tablets, eReaders and notebooks?**

Donate them to us!

**We're partnering with CFK to recycle used
electronics and raise money for our school.**

**Please bring your items to
Mr. Pietuszka.
Thank you for your support!**





Holy Spirit

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

&

little sparks

PRE-KINDERGARTEN

Inspiring Minds | *Igniting Hearts*

Learning Today....Leading Tomorrow

The Promethean ActivBoards that are currently a part of our classrooms range in age from 8 to 12 years old. At the time of purchase these boards were considered "cutting edge" and provided a wide range of interactive capabilities to teachers as they presented curriculum lessons to students. As you can well image, in the span of a decade the technology of interactive boards has changed drastically and the current boards have lived out their life span. As we triage the current devices and replace bulbs and projectors we are sinking hundreds of dollars into each purchase in the hopes of getting just a little more use. Depending on the type of board put into the classroom, some projectors can be replaced, some cannot. I recently learned that the "pens" needed for writing on the boards will no longer be manufactured.

Needless to say it is time...

Time for what though, you may be asking...

Time for the Promethean ActivPanel - the world's first upgradeable Android-based interactive display!

Think interactive tablet on the wall!

This award winning device is powered by an external Android-based mini PC which can be upgraded over time in order to keep pace with advances in technology.

Upgrading the boards across the entire school in one fell swoop entails outfitting twenty-eight teaching spaces with ActivPanels.

Yes, that is a HUGE goal and at a cost of approximately \$5000.00/board (when buying in quantity) that gives us a fundraising goal of \$140,000.00 - by far the largest technology campaign we've ever launched.

For our 21st Century Learners interactive technology is as "normal" a part of their learning as the overhead projector was to most of ours. When used well,


interactive technology increases teacher-student engagement and has been shown to boost overall performance. Although Holy Spirit School prides itself on maintaining a healthy balance between traditional learning methods and technology-based learning, as an institution that inspires life-long learners and ignites servant-leaders through a program of academic excellence grounded in the traditions and values of the Holy Catholic Church we know that we must keep pace with the changing world of education technology.

The students before us today and those who will join us in the future are set to be not only our future fathers, mothers, clergy and religious but also captains of industry, leading entrepreneurs, humanitarians, and scholars.

In order to meet this lofty but necessary goal, we need the assistance of each of our families.

Thank you to those who just last week began donating to our campaign via our online site.

[Click here to donate to the Learning Today...Leading Tomorrow Campaign](#)



Pancake Breakfast with Santa

Date: December 10th
Where: School Cafeteria
After 7:30am, 9:00am, &
10:30am Masses

Adults: \$5.00, Children: \$3.00,
not to exceed \$15.00 per Family.

In the spirit of St. Nicholas, pictures with
Santa will be available after the 9:00
and 10:30am Masses only.

Sponsored by the Holy
Spirit Knights of Columbus



2018

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARISH CELEBRATION

SATURDAY
DECEMBER 31, 2017



NEW YEAR OF OUR LORD
&
SOLEMNITY OF
MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

EVENING EVENTS

5:30 - 6:30 PM *NO 6PM MASS
SUNDAY MASS

6:30 - 11:00 PM
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

6:30 - 8:00 PM IN THE SCHOOL
CATERED FAMILY DINNER
RESERVATION ONLY

8:00 - 10:30 PM IN THE GYM
FAMILY FUN

- MUSIC FOR ALL AGES WITH A FAMILY DANCE AND LINE DANCING
- CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES
- PHOTO BOOTH FOR YOUR LAST 2016 PICTURES

11:00 - 11:30 PM
BENEDICTION

11:30 - 12:30 AM
MIDNIGHT MASS:
SOLEMNITY OF
MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

REGISTER TODAY

ON-LINE RESERVATIONS
PREFERRED
HOLYSPIRITCHURCH.US





CELEBRATE WITH US!

Catered Family Buffet Menu

Adult Menu

Youth Menu

Salad

MIXED GREEN LETTUCE SALAD
WITH CHAMPAGNE VINAIGRETTE DRESSING
AND GRILLED PEARS, SAGE BLEU CHEESE & PECANS

Entree

CHICKEN TENDERS
SERVED WITH HONEY MUSTARD OR
BBQ DIPPING SAUCE

Entree

BONELESS BEEF SHORT RIB TIP CUTS
WITH PORCINI PORT WINE GLAZE
SLOW COOKED AND FORK TENDER BLACK ANGUS WITH NATURAL
JUICES AND FRIZZLED ONION THREADS

BAKED CREAMY MACARONI & FOUR CHEESES
WITH BREAD CRUMB TOPPING

ALL MENUS

ALL ENTREES SERVED WITH COUNTRY BREAD
BASKET WITH CREAMERY BUTTER

CEDAR PLANK SHORT SMOKED SALMON
WITH FRESH HERB, LEMON AND OLIVE OIL SAUCE

Dessert

DESSERT SERVED BY
THE
WOMEN'S COUNCIL

Sides

TORTELLINI CASSEROLE
WITH ROASTED MUSHROOMS & WALNUTS, MAPLE
BROWN BUTTER SAUCE, FRIED SAGE

Beverages

AN ASSORTMENT OF SOFT DRINKS &
WATER, TEA AND COFFEE

RICE PILAF

VELVETY MASHED POTATOES

WITH ROASTED GARLIC AND WHITE TRUFFLE
SAUTED VEGETABLES

BEER & WINE AVAILABLE AT AN
ADDITIONAL COST

2018

RESERVATION FORM FOR CATERED DINNER

Seating is limited. Reservations Required, deadlines:

Online: December 23, 2017

Check/ Paper: December 15, 2017

Reservations and payment for the Catered Family Dinner to be held on December 31, 2016 should be made online at www.HolySpiritChurch.us. Click on the Red "NYE Event" button to make your dinner reservation and payment.

Catered Dinner Admission Fees (family maximum charge: \$75.00)

• Age 4 and under: Free • Ages 5-11: \$10.00 • Ages 12 and over: \$20.00

Online dinner reservations are preferred. However, paper reservation forms are available in the rectory office. Payment is required when filling out the paper Reservation Form.

Have you made your reservations for the parish New Year's Eve dinner and dance yet? If not, [Click Here](#) to join us in celebration!



 WREATHS *across* AMERICA



REMEMBER the Fallen. . . HONOR those who Serve. . . TEACH our children the value of Freedom.



Please Join the Holy Spirit 4-H groups
Spirited Cloverbuds & Spirit Flames

To honor those who served by joining us and others to lay wreaths
at the grave of every soldier at Arlington National Cemetery.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16th

We will be meeting at 8:30 a.m. at the Fashion Center at Pentagon
City food court. There is plenty of parking and it's Metro
accessible. From there, we will walk to the Cemetery together.

Want to attend? Please email Mr. Pietuszka
(MPietuszka@holyspiritflames.org) within your email, please
include the names (first and last) of each person in your party and
a good cell phone number to reach you that morning.



[Click here for the December 2017 and January
2018 school lunch menus.](#)

Send in a separate menu for each child in your family along with a check for payment. The cost of lunches is \$5.00/day/lunch.
Reminder that you must purchase milk/water separately in order for your child to receive it - beverages are not included in the lunch price.



Family Folder Flyers

The following flyers can be found on the website in the folder labelled "December 7, 2017 "(or [CLICK HERE](#)). For your convenience, some flyers are repeated.

School Flyers:

1. December lunch menu
2. January lunch menu
3. K-3 Christmas Concert Call Sheet
5. Box Tops Flyer
6. Box Tops Collection Sheet
7. Wreaths Across America

Parish Flyers:

1. HS Parish - Pancake Breakfast with Santa
2. HS Parish - New Year's Eve event

Community Flyers:

1. "Hack BI" flyer
 2. PVI On the Move information
 3. ANSLI Registration Flyer 2018
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