

From the Principal's Desk

February 20, 2020

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Holy Spirit School
Inspiring Minds / Igniting Hearts
2019 / 2020

"What you do for the least among you, you do for Jesus"

March is right around the corner and brings lots of "Seuss" fun!

The month of March is right around the corner and for us that brings all things "Seuss"!

On Monday, March 2nd we will celebrate Dr. Seuss Day. Students should wear their usual uniform but may deck it out with "Seuss" accessories (see the flyer below). A couple of activities are planned for the day including some previews of the upcoming Middle School musical, "Seussical". Please see the flyer below for performance information. I hope everyone will make the trip out that night as the students and teachers are pulling together a fabulous show.

The PTO has scheduled three terrific parent/family education events for the coming months. All three events touch on an important topic of conversation that adults and students alike should be having on the role of technology in our lives. The first of these events is on March 7th with a talk by Mr. Peter Ryan on personal technology addiction. Please note that the PTO is looking for folks to preregister for this event.

The second and third events are the films, "Screenagers" and "Next Chapter". We originally showed Screenagers in October of 2017. At the time I recommended to parents that if you have made the decision to provide your

child with a device that connects to the internet then you should come as a family to see this film; I stand by that statement today. Children are bombarded with messages and interactions day after day and are not always equipped developmentally to handle the responsibility of having a device or handle what can sometimes be the "fall-out" of social media, video games, group texts/chats, etc. I have put with the flyer below what I had written in 2017 which describes the film in a little bit more depth, as well as the official trailer.

"Next Chapter" is the newest film in this line. Having previewed the film, this one focuses more on anxiety and depression in teenagers and the role that technology plays in the increase in occurrence of diagnosis. I think this film is highly appropriate for the middle school students and of course, for parents of children of any age. Again, the official trailer is attached.

I hope that you will mark your calendars now in order to be able attend both of these very worthwhile films.

Please remember that Wednesday, February 26th is Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the Lenten season. We will be going to Mass that morning as opposed to our usual Friday Mass.

The end of the second trimester is March 13th. This is a great time to be certain that all missing assignments are addressed. The parent portal will close on March 10th.

Our annual celebration of Fathers is schedule for March 20th. The Feast of St. Joseph is the day prior and our own celebration is way to recognize the importance of the strong male figures in the lives of our children. Please see the flyer below for information.

For those applying for tuition assistance for the 2020/2021 academic year, the deadline is March 18th. Information regarding tuition assistance may be found at the end of the newsletter in the Family Folder section, as well as, on the school website.

If you notice a beleaguered look on the faces of the faculty these days, it is, in part, due to the fact that we are continuing to diligently complete the DFE self-study requirements. The faculty members spend a tremendous number of hours outside of school to pull together needed "evidence" and attend meetings so that we put our very best foot forward. Please continue to keep all of us in your prayers as we work to prepare for the Visiting Team at the end of March.

This is a rather long newsletter this week, please be sure to scroll all the way through to the end.

Academic Year 2020/2021

Just in case you missed it last week...

The Office of Catholic Schools has solidified the start date for the upcoming

year. The first school day for ALL students will be Wednesday, August 26th; this will be an 11:30 am dismissal for all students and Extended Day will be open.

I am hopeful to turn my full attention to next year's calendar as soon as we have completed our DFE preparations and will push important dates out to everyone at that point.

-Maureen Ashby

Principal

One more to go!

**The last hot cocoa day of the year will be next Tuesday,
February 25th.**

Thank you to all who have supported this "sweet" event.

All proceeds will go to Catholic Charities.



Calling All Hot Cocoa Lovers...

By Popular request, the Student Council will be hosting their first ever Hot Chocolate sale! Bring \$.50 to your lunch time on Tuesday, February 11, Tuesday, February 18, and Tuesday, February 25 and you will be part of the fun! The proceeds will go to the Winter Fundraiser. *all made without milk

YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS IT!

Thursday, March 12, 2020

HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL

Presents



Show Time 7:00 pm

Doors Open: 6:30 pm

Free Admission

The musical is in need of the following props:

Gavel

17 Stuffed Animals - Circus

Lounge beach chair

Basket for egg

Mops for Mr. Mayer and Mrs. Mayer

Plastic colored saxophone

Water gun

Black Halloween gown/costume

Bright colored scarf

Fake snow

If you are able to donate anything, please contact Mr. Toussaint.

DR. SEUSS DAY
At
Holy Spirit School

Monday, March 2, 2020

Regular school clothes should be worn, but, you may also wear

FUN, Dr. Seuss ACCESSORIES!!!!

Fun socks

Fun hats

Wockets in pockets

etc.

We will have some Seuss Reading Time with our classroom buddies. And, we will get to watch some "trailers" previewing our wonderful Middle School Play ---

Seussical the Musical, Jr.

(Thursday, March 12)





Please join the Holy Spirit School
Community for a Mass in Celebration
of Fathers

|
March 20, 2020
9:00am

Our school day will begin at 9:00am in the church. Dads and children are welcome to meet us there. If Dads are unable to attend, children are welcome to invite uncles, big brothers, or adopt one of their friend's Dads with a prior note from their parents. If not coming at 9:00am we will be glad to receive the children at the regular 8:00 school time. Receptions will follow mass in your children's classrooms.

Sponsored by the PTO

PERSONAL TECHNOLOGY ADDICTION SEMINAR

presented by Peter Ryan



Saturday, March 7
6:30-8pm

Peter Ryan is a Catholic husband and father of four who is in the process of founding LookUp4Life, a non-profit organization focused on spreading awareness regarding the negative impact of excess personal technology use (video games, social media, pornography), particularly on the youngest generations.

[CLICK HERE TO SIGNUP.](#)



The Holy Spirit PTO is proud to show
SCREEN AGERS: Growing up in the Digital Age

April 23rd at 6:30 PM
Holy Spirit Catholic School

An award-winning film that probes into the vulnerable corners of family life and depicts messy struggles over social media, video games and academics. The film offers solutions on how we can help our kids navigate the digital world.

No cost to attend we just ask you sign up here so we can get a rough headcount:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050B4BADAB2DA1F94-screen>



For more information check them out at:
<https://www.screenagersmovie.com/>
<https://www.facebook.com/ScreenagersMovie/>

From 2017...

I've had several inquiries from parents regarding the screening of the film Screenagers so I thought I would address many of the questions here. First, let me say that I do believe this is a worthwhile film for all parents to view regardless of how old your children are currently. The film does not just look at cell phone usage (although that is a big part of the film content) but also delves into video game usage. There is a small but powerful segment on cyber bullying and on the impact of children making poor choices in sending private information and pictures via their phones and what can happen when that content does not stay private. There is quite a bit of "science" in the film in terms of the results of studies of the brain, etc.

With regard to student viewing, I will always defer to parents in knowing the maturity level of their student but more importantly, you as parents know what conversations you have already begun with your children. I do believe that all middle school students would benefit from seeing the film. For those

parents who have already begun conversations about online behavior with their 5th graders - especially those who already possess cell phones - I would suggest the film for them. This is a film that I would have had my own children see in 5th grade if I had the opportunity because as a family we had already begun some of those conversations despite the fact that my children were not provided a cell phone until the middle of 8th grade.

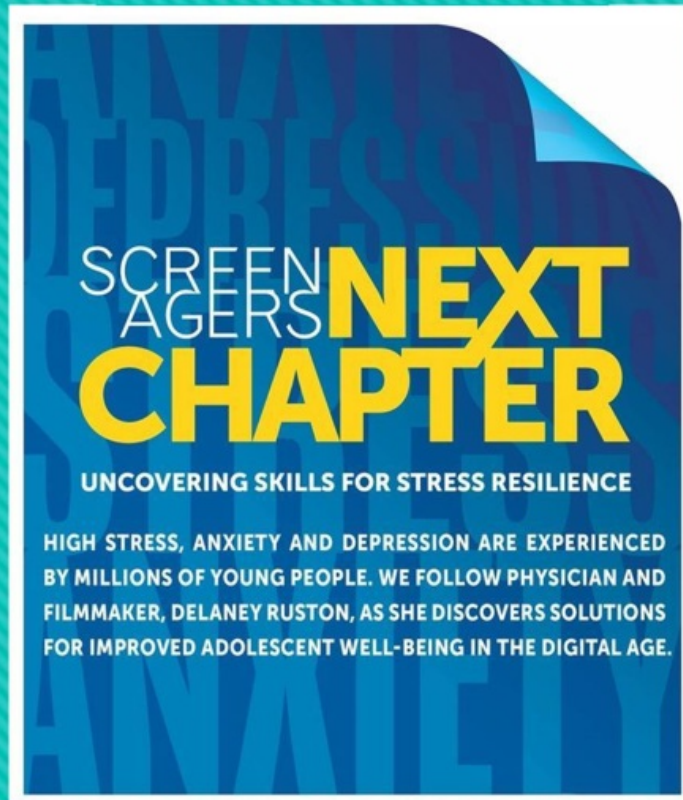
Probably the most difficult discussion in the film is with regard to a young woman sending a private photo of herself to a boy and what resulted when he decided to make that picture public. There is nothing graphic shown but the young woman does discuss how she felt when she went to school and the cruel reactions she received from many. It is a small part of the film - maybe five minutes.



SCREENAGERS (Official Trailer)

The Holy Spirit PTO is proud to show
SCREEN AGERS: The Next Chapter

April 30th at 6:30 PM
Holy Spirit Catholic School



No cost to attend we just ask you sign up here so we can get a rough headcount:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050b4badab2da1f94-screenagers2>

For more information check them out at:

<https://www.screenagersmovie.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/ScreenagersMovie/>



Screenagers NEXT CHAPTER (official trailer)



Be a part of Field Day...

- HAVE FUN!
- earn volunteer hours
- help make Field Day a success

Friday, May 15th

8 am – 1 pm

Lots of volunteer opportunities!

Sign up here: <https://signup.com/go/ntVjvLx>

PLEASE NOTE: Parents who volunteer to be coaches must be fully Child Protection Compliant in order to participate in Field Day

Questions? Email Jessica at jessica.a.driscoll@gmail.com

[Click here to sign-up to volunteer!](#)

5K Spirit Run!!!!

May 16, 2020

Lake Accotink Park

What you do for the LEAST

5K Spirit Run 2020

Holy Spirit School

among you, You do for JESUS.

Have you registered yet?

Registration for the race is up and running, as well as information regarding sponsorship.

All of the money raised goes into the Resource Department to help support the great work that is being done. Did you know that 10% of the total Holy Spirit School student body is assisted in some way or another by our Resource team?

Won't you help?

Message from the Race Coordinator.

[Click here to register!](#)

Sponsorship information



**PARISH
CHILI
DINNER**

Hosted by the
Holy Spirit Men's Club

Saturday, February 22nd
5:30 - 7:30 PM
School Cafeteria

Join us for a delicious chili dinner after
the 5:30 pm Mass. All are welcome!

Ages 11 & Up: \$7 | Ages 6 - 10: \$4 |
Ages 5 & Under: Free | \$20 max per

Mild & Spicy Meat Chili
Vegetarian Chili
Salad with Italian Dressing
Beer, Sodas & More
Baked Potatoes
Desserts

SAINT ANGELO

**Celebrating 30 Yrs Service
at the Christ House!**



Bring your family! Enjoy homemade soup every Friday in Lent!

Fridays February 28 - April 3

School Cafeteria

5:30 -7:00 PM Soup Suppers

Free - donations accepted

7:00 PM Stations of the Cross

**Soup Makers
Needed!**

Contact Carol Eldridge
(703) 978-7141 or
cle74@hotmail.com

OR

www.holyspiritchurch.us

Volunteer!

Family Bingo!

Saturday, March 14

In Holy Spirit School
Doors Open 6 PM
Games Begin 7 PM

Celebrate with us!
**St. Patrick's Feast Day &
Fr. John O'Donohue's
Birthday!**

Admission (includes book of 3 cards)

- Players 12 Years and Older: \$5
- Players Under 12 Years: \$3
 - Extra Cards \$1
- Free for children under 5 years and not playing.

Prizes

- Cash Bingo Prizes - Grand Prize \$100
- Other Games At Least \$30

Snacks Sold

- Pizza • Hot Dogs • Nachos • Soft

*If you are
Fr. John
snacks are
on us!*

*Saint Patrick,
pray for us.*



KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS

**HOLY
SPIRIT**
Catholic Church

† Lenten Food Drive

To Benefit The St. Lucy Food Project

Hunger continues to burden many in our diocese. More than 205,000 people in our diocese do not know where their next meal will come from. Our neighbors continue to need our help!

Blue Bag Food Collection March 14 & 15 | All Masses Holy Spirit Church

Pick up your blue St. Lucy food bag in the church narthex beginning March 10th and fill it with non-perishable food items.

The St. Lucy Food Project is in need of the following items:
(no glass items please)

- Cooking Oil
- Peanut Butter and Jelly
- Canned Pasta
- Canned Meat/Fish
- Canned Fruits and Vegetables
- Pasta & Pasta Sauce

Check Donation or Gift Card:

Please consider donating critical (tax deductible) funds on collection day for continued food delivery throughout the year. Write your check to "CCDA" with "Holy Spirit St. Lucy" written in the Memo. Or you can mail check to: "Program Director, St. Lucy Project, 8426-28 Kao Circle, Manassas, VA 20110" if you miss the collection. We also gratefully accept Walmart and Giant gift



For more information, please contact Vince Cannava,
Holy Spirit Food Ministry, 571-442-4673 (cell)



2020 All Saints Car Raffle

you could win!



**Five 2020 Vehicles plus
20 cash prize drawings!**



Not actual car

*When you buy a ticket, the parish
gets a cut either way!*



Not actual car

How does my purchase help?

This year's raffle will contribute to providing improvements to the main Sacristy and the large Rectory meeting room.



Only \$5/ticket!

Last Entry Date: Sunday, April 19

For raffle ticket purchases, visit

www.holyspiritchurch.us/carraffle2020

Or contact Tom Kennedy at tfkinva@aol.com

Holy Spirit NVJCYO

Information and registration:
HolySpiritChurch.us/Youth

**Girl's
Volleyball**

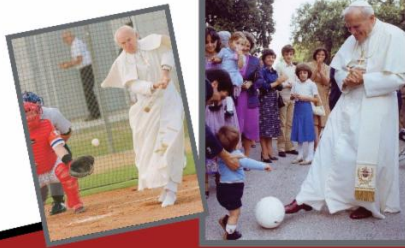
**Track
& Field**

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!**



Assistant Coaches Needed!

Interested in coaching?
Contact CYO@holyspiritchurch.us



Present

Saturday, March 21, 2020
George Mason University Exploratory Hall



DYSLEXIC EDGE

PATHWAYS TO STEM EXCELLENCE

About

A one-day event to help parents, teachers and industry create future STEM leaders and entrepreneurs by building confidence in students with dyslexia.

The day includes a morning conference of sessions and speakers paired with an afternoon of STEM celebrations. During our STEM Celebrations, children of all ages will get to participate in a variety of STEM activities, engineering challenges, and live demos.



Topics

- The science of dyslexia
- The STEM dyslexia connection
- Best teaching practices in reading and in STEM fields
- Identifying dyslexia
- Assistive technology
- Evaluating for dyslexia

Come Join Us

To register, exhibit, sponsor or speak,

visit www.thedyslexicedge.org

SAURDAY & SUNDAY MASSES
TROOP 55018



Girl Scout Cookie Sale!

FEB/22-MAR/8
\$5 & \$6
BOXES



PRE-ORDER!
EMAIL
JANELL CLINE

AJANELLCLINE@GMAIL.COM



Family Folder Flyers

The following flyers can be found on the website in the folder labeled "February 20, 2020 "(or [CLICK HERE](#)). For your convenience, some flyers are repeated.

School Flyers:

1. Student Council Hot Cocoa Sale flyer
2. Yearbook Ordering flyer
3. Diocesan Tuition Assistance Overview
4. Players Soccer Academy Spring session flyer
5. Screenagers flyer
6. Next Chapter flyer
7. Father's Day Mass flyer

8. Dr. Seuss Day Flyer

Parish Flyers:

1. Car Raffle flyer
2. Chili Dinner flyer
3. CYO Spring Sports Signups flyer
4. Lenten Soup Suppers flyer
5. St. Patrick's Day BINGO flyer
6. Lenten Food Drive flyer

Community Flyers:

1. Dyslexic Edge Conference flyer
 2. Boy Scout Mulch Sale Order Form
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