

## From the Principal's Desk

January 11, 2018



### Quick Links

[School Site](#)

[School Calendar](#)



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

### ***Is it too much to hope we are finished with winter weather?***

Wouldn't it be lovely if we are finished with super cold winter weather and moving in a full sprint to Spring? Yes, it would be lovely, but I am certain that is not the case. Please be certain that you are keeping up with closures and delayed openings via the Fairfax County Public School social media. My understanding is that the county posts to their Twitter feed first.

Thank you to those families who have already sent back your re-registration paperwork. A reminder that the due date for returning the paperwork is January 17th.

A few folks have asked about the updates to the school uniform and they are coming. I ask your indulgence in being able to share the final package with the faculty first (that will happen on Tuesday of next week) and then pictures and details will be released to the families.

A reminder that the students are off from school on both January 15th and January 16th. The January 16th date is a professional development day for teachers.

If you plan to attend the March for Life as a family on Friday, January 19th please be certain to inform your child's teacher and Mrs. Wild for attendance purposes. This is considered an excused absence from school.

The end of the 2nd quarter is right around the corner - January 26th. Now would be a great time for students to turn in missing work to their teachers. Friday the 26th is an early dismissal day and Extended Day is open.

**Club pictures (things like chess club, Student Council, Math Olympiad, etc. )will be taken for the yearbook on Tuesday, January 23rd. Students who anticipate having their picture taken should come to school in their regular dress uniform. Students who are a part of a sport team (tennis, basketball, cheerleading, etc.) should BRING their team uniform to school with them.**

The national Catholic Schools Week celebration will begin on Sunday, January 28th. Please see the schedule of events below as well as a letter from Mrs. Evans and information regarding our service project with the Little Sisters of the Poor.

There is much going on here at school and in the parish - be sure to read all the way through all of the announcements.

Have a great weekend!

*-Maureen Ashby*

Principal

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***Catholic Schools Week 2018***

**Dear Parents,**

**For the service project during Catholic Schools**

Week, I need 200 brown paper bags for collecting the donations. If you are able to contribute, please drop off the bags in the front office. I will collect bags from January 11-18.

Thank you,  
Natalie Evans

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***Catholic Schools Week 2018***



## Schedule of Events

### Sunday, January 28

- 9:00 Parish Mass
  - Please join us in celebrating Mass with the Holy Spirit parish community. Students are encouraged to show their school pride by wearing their uniform.
- Open House for prospective families from 1:00 – 2:30pm in the school.

### Monday, January 29

- **"Parent Appreciation Day"**
- Look for your parent "thank you" in the morning carpool line.
- Prayer Service – 8:30am

### Tuesday, January 30

- **Faculty and Staff Appreciation" Day**
- This is a great opportunity for your student(s) to write a note of appreciation to their teacher(s).

### Wednesday, January 31

- **"Service Day"**
- **Special guest speaker: Sr. Catherine from the Little Sisters of the Poor @ 10 am in the gym**
  - Please come join us and our guest speaker
- PTO luncheon for the faculty/staff

### Thursday, February 1

- **"Student Appreciation" Day**
- Dress-down day (follow school policy for dress-down days)
- All school movie/popcorn in the afternoon

### Friday, February 3

- "Clergy Appreciation Day"
- 9:00am School Mass
- Students will honor not only the work that Father O'Donohue, Father Peter, Father Carroll, Deacon LaDuca and Deacon Grodek do within the school and parish community, but also the efforts of those involved with the parish Religious Education office and youth ministry.



**Holy Spirit**  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

*Inspiring Minds*  
**Igniting Hearts**

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a blessed Christmas break (plus the extra snow days) and enjoyed some much needed rest and time with family. 2018 promises to be as exciting, fun and full of learning as 2017! We are just a few weeks away from celebrating Catholic Schools Week (January 28-February 2). This year's theme is *Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.* Our school-wide service project this year will again benefit the *Little Sisters of the Poor*. The *Little Sisters of the Poor* are a religious order whose mission is to serve the elderly poor. We are asking that each student in prek-8<sup>th</sup> grade fill a brown grocery bag (which will be sent home) with their grade-level assigned canned items (see attached). Of course, filling more than one bag is always welcome! The items will be donated to the St. Joseph Home in Henrico, VA. The school is very fortunate that Sr. Catherine from the *Little Sisters of the Poor* will be on campus Wednesday, January 31 at 10 am to collect the donations, and speak with the students regarding religious life and the work and mission of her order. Parents are invited to attend! Thank you for your support!

Blessings,

Natalie Evans  
Assistant Principal



LITTLE SISTERS *of the* POOR

Each student to bring in any one of the listed items for their grade in any quantity.

**PreK, Kindergarten & 1<sup>st</sup> Grades:**

- Paper Goods
  - Paper Plates (small & large sizes)
  - Plastic Ware Utensils
  - Paper Cups (hot or cold)

**2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grades:**

- Dove Bar Soap (individually wrapped)
- Toothpaste
- Mouthwash
- Ladies Deodorant

**5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grades:**

- Lotions (unscented)
- Hand Sanitizer
- Paper Towels
- Paper Napkins



# It's Recorder Time!!

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

Your first day of recorder will be:

3rd Grade- Friday, February 2

4th Grade- Thursday, February 1

Your 3rd/4th Grader will need to bring their recorder and  
folder to every music class in the third quarter. Recorder  
attendance and class preparedness will be reflected 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. [musicarts.com](http://musicarts.com)

Twinbrooke Music- in the Twinbrooke Shopping Center.  
[twinbrookemusic.com](http://twinbrookemusic.com)

Toys R Us- Locations in Baily's Crossroads, Alexandria,  
Fairfax and more.  
[toysrus.com](http://toysrus.com)

[Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com)- search "Yamaha soprano recorder."

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me!  
[atoussaint@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:atoussaint@holyspiritflames.org)

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# **Holy Spirit's Logo Design Contest**

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**We Need a Logo for our Upcoming Reading Fundraiser!**

## **BUCKS FOR BOOKS**

### **Details:**

- All students at Holy Spirit School are eligible (one entry per student)
- Logos will be judged by a panel of teachers & administrators
- The winner will be announced during Catholic School Week at the end of January
- The winner will receive a Dr. Seuss reading t-shirt and will earn a dress-down day for their class!
- The chosen logo will be used in all advertisements for the fundraiser

### **Entry Instructions:**

- Submit entry on a sheet of white paper
- Must include the name of our fundraiser, "Bucks for Books"
- Use color and be creative
- Include your name, grade, teacher at the bottom of your entry

## **BUCKS FOR BOOKS**

**Kicks off Friday, March 2**

Questions? Email Mrs. Schnitzius at: [tschnitzius@cox.net](mailto:tschnitzius@cox.net)

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# Holy Spirit School's Spring Talent Showcase & Dance



**SAVE THE DATE!!!**



Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 pm



The talent showcase is open to all students in all grades. You can sing, dance, play an instrument, perform a scene, recite a poem, or even perform a skill like hula hoop or martial arts! We've also had jugglers, magic acts, and comedy



The Lobby art show will again be held for those who wish to submit artwork.

*Talent registrations (auditions) will be in March*



Important Forms will be coming soon!!



**Holy Spirit**

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

&

little sparks

PRE-KINDERGARTEN

*Inspiring Minds* | **Igniting Hearts**

***We are moving ahead!***

## ***Learning Today...Leading Tomorrow***

I am pleased that we continue to move forward with the technology initiative of purchasing and installing the twenty-eight new Promethean ActivPanels. At a cost of just over \$140,000.00 (plus an additional \$10,000.00 for new wiring) this is a huge endeavor and we are counting on each of our Holy Spirit families to support the campaign.

The network cabling for the panels has been completed and we are moving on to the next phase in being certain that the classrooms are ready for the new devices.

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

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.

To those who have already donated, please accept, again, my thanks on behalf of all of the faculty and students.

For those who are ready to donate, please either follow the link below or you may also send a check made payable to Holy Spirit School. Please designate on the memo line "ActivPanel".

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

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Altar server training  
for boys in grades 3-12  
Monday, January 15th at 9:30am in the  
church

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45th Annual

# March for Life

Friday, January 19th



Join us for Breakfast at 8:30am in the School Cafeteria,  
followed by a special Mass at 10:15 AM,  
then travel with us to the March.

Busses will leave Holy Spirit at 11:00 AM and return around 4:30 PM.

Our Lady  
of Guadalupe,  
pray for us!



**HOLY  
SPIRIT**  
Catholic Church

To reserve a bus seat, click the blue "March for Life" button on the parish web site ([www.holyspirtchurch.us](http://www.holyspirtchurch.us)). Sign up is first come, first serve. Breakfast is \$5/person.

# FAMILY BREAKFAST

*Hosted by the  
Men's Club*



**Sunday**  
January 14<sup>th</sup>

Join us in the school cafeteria after the  
7:30, 9 & 10:30 am Masses

Breakfast will include scrambled eggs, sausage, oatmeal, fruit, biscuits,  
hash brown potatoes, orange juice, hot chocolate and coffee.  
Adults \$5 & Children \$3 (family total cost not to exceed \$15).

**HOLY  
SPIRIT**  
Catholic Church

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

# Council Free Throw Competition



**Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup>**  
**7:30 pm**  
**School Gym**

A free competition for boys and girls, ages 9-14. Each contestant competes by shooting free throws. Winners in each category receive a plaque and are advanced to District competition. All contestants receive a certificate. For more information, contact Mike Poumade at [poumade@prodigy.net](mailto:poumade@prodigy.net) or 703-425-8769.

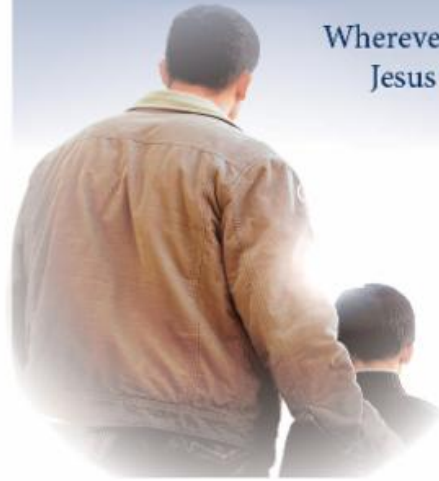
**HOLY  
SPIRIT**  
Catholic Church

# THAT MAN IS YOU!

BECOME A MAN AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART

**Saturday Mornings**  
**Spring Session: January 13<sup>th</sup>-April 14<sup>th</sup>**  
**7:00 - 8:30 AM**  
*In Meeting Room 3, School Building*

For more information, contact  
Deacon Nick LaDuca at [denladuca@holyspiritchurch.us](mailto:denladuca@holyspiritchurch.us)  
[www.holyspiritchurch.us](http://www.holyspiritchurch.us)



Wherever you are in your spiritual life,  
Jesus Christ wants to encounter  
you right there...

*and take you further.*



**HOLY**  
**SPIRIT**  
Catholic Church



[Click here for the February 2018 school lunch menu.](#)

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.

## NEW "LUNCH SEMESTER"

January 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It's time to welcome in the second semester of the school year.

If you would like to purchase lunches for the semester, the cost is \$390.00 and **must be paid online** – under the *Current Families* tab click on the button "Semester Lunch Form". Payments for a full semester of lunches are via credit card through the school's Stripe account.

Monthly menus should be accessed and printed through the school's website – under *Current Families* tab click on "Lunch Menu" button and scroll to the bottom of the page.

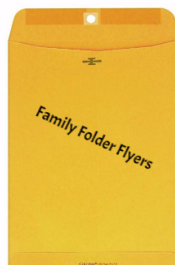
The cost for purchasing lunches will be \$5.00 per day. The ordering for daily and/or monthly meals will remain the same procedure as last year – per child, a lunch menu should be returned to the school with choices circled and a check for full payment must be included.

If your child forgets his/her lunch at home or in the classroom the cafeteria staff will provide a lunch for them. You will receive a \$5.00 fee for each occurrence.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me [schomko@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:schomko@holyspiritflames.org)

Sharon Chomko  
Cafeteria Manager

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Family Folder Flyers



The following flyers can be found on the website in the folder labelled "January 11, 2018 "(or [CLICK HERE](#) ). For your convenience, some flyers are repeated.

School Flyers:

1. February Lunch menu
2. Semester lunch letter
3. Catholic Schools Week Schedule of Events
4. CSW letter from Mrs. Evans
5. Little Sisters of the Poor collection flyer
6. PTO Bucks for Books logo contest
7. PTO Talent Showcase "Save the date" flyer
8. Winter Chess Club flyer

Parish Flyers:

1. March for Life flyer
2. Parish Pancake Breakfast flyer
3. This Man is You flyer
4. Knights of Columbus Free Throw Competition flyer

Community Flyers:

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