From the Principal's Desk



March 14, 2019

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School Site

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Holy Spirit School
Inspiring Minds / Igniting Hearts
2018 / 2019

"Let us love one another because love is from God"

Is Spring Finally Here?

I hope everyone is enjoying today's wonderful weather and taking advantage of the opportunity to be outside. With the ups and downs of temperatures, please keep in mind that the mornings can still be quite chilly and students do needs coats while waiting outside.

To celebrate the arrival of Spring, the Student Council is sponsoring a Mini-Spirit Week; see the information below for the events happening March 20th - March 22nd.

We will transition to the Spring uniform on Monday, April 1st; until that time regardless of temperature, students are expected to be in the Winter uniform.

A couple of reminders with regard to the morning carline. Please be sure to avoid the temptation to cut straight across the parking lot and instead follow the directional signs and go up and around to get into the drop-off line. I respectfully, but firmly, ask that drivers not be on their cell phones when their cars are moving. Lastly, I know at times the line leaving from the campus can back up - it does not happen often, but it does happen. Please be mindful that the prekindergarten families use the back driveway for drop-off and that those cars have the right of way when entering and exiting the campus.

Report cards go home tomorrow, Friday, March 15th. With the start of the final trimester of the academic year, this is the perfect time to have an encouraging conversation with your student regarding staying organized and diligent through the end of the year. With Easter being as late as it is, the year will come to a quick close once we return from break so staying on top of academic studies now is

super important.

For families applying for tuition assistance for the 2019/2020 academic year, the deadline for FACTS applications is tomorrow Friday, March 15th. Final awards are not generally made until the end of April/beginning of May after we have received all pertinent information from FACTS.

I encourage all parents to attend the upcoming PTO sponsored parent education events. Next Tuesday evening will be with Mr. Kevin Bohli as he discusses ways to protect your children from the dangers of pornography on the internet. This is an event that is meant solely for parents. Quickly following that will be the April 1st presentation from Kirk Martin entitled "Celebrate Calm".

Our annual Fathers Day celebration is next Friday, March 22nd. Please see the information below.

Tuesday, March 26th will be Spring Picture Day. All students are invited to wear their BEST DRESS for these pictures (no jeans or shorts on this day).

If you have not taken a moment to register for the school's 5K race scheduled for Saturday, May 18th, please do so. The proceeds from the race help to support the school's Resource Department. It is important to keep in mind that our Special Educators and Reading Specialist help students across all grades regardless of whether students have a diagnosed learning disability. Their presence in the classrooms allows for assistance to all students. If you are able, we are still seeking corporate and personal sponsorships. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Mrs. Sue Gibbons (sgibbons@holyspiritflames.org).

I am certainly prayerful that this Lenten season is one of true preparation for you and your family. Modeling a devotion to Lenten sacrifices is important for all parents as you raise the next leaders of our Church. I recently read a quick "article" from the website bustedhalo.com entitled "Why Do We Give up Something for Lent?" and found it succinct and to the point.

"Giving up something for Lent sometimes evokes head-scratching in non-Catholics, but what might seem like just another Catholic eccentricity can actually be a practice with deep spiritual significance.

Lent, the period of 40 days that precedes the celebration of Easter, has its origin in the early days of the Church. Converts seeking to become Christian, who at that time were mostly adults, spent several years in study and preparation. Under the threat of Roman persecution, becoming a Christian was serious business, so their process of preparation was intensive! Then they went through a final period of "purification and enlightenment" for the 40 days before their baptism at Easter. The rest of the Church began to observe the season of Lent in solidarity with these newest Christians. It became an opportunity for all Christians to recall and renew the commitment of their baptism.

Today we know Lent as a season of conversion: We acknowledge the ways we have turned away from God in our lives, and we focus on turning our hearts and minds back toward God. Hence the three pillars of Lent are prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. These observances help us turn away from whatever has distracted or derailed us and to turn back to God."

Thank you for your continued support of Holy Spirit School!

-Maureen Ashby

Principal

"MINI"



Are you ready for the Student Council MINI Spring SPIRIT WEEK?!?!?!?

We will welcome spring with some special activities beginning with **JERSEY DAY** on Wednesday, March 20th. Represent your favorite team as you celebrate this special dress-down day for you.

Thursday, March 21st is **Down Syndrome AWARENESS Day**. We will honor this day with our craziest socks to wear with our regular uniform.

Finally, Friday, March 22nd will be our **Diaper Tree for Jesus**. Yes, that's right...we are partnering with Catholic Charities to donate diapers for small children and babies in need.

The Student Council is excited to kick off spring with you! Thanks for your support.



Please join the Holy Spirit School Community for a

Mass in Celebration of Fathers Holy Spirit School

March 22, 2019 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.

In response to the parent survey at the beginning of the school year....

Sponsored by Holy Spirit's PTO

"Pornography?? Not my child!"

They have probably already clicked on it... What can you do to protect your child?



March 19th 7:00 PM Meeting Rooms 1 and 2

Every parent needs to attend for the sake of their child.



1 volunteer hour per parent in attendance.



CelebrateCalm[®]com

Stop Defiance, Disrespect & Yelling

with America's Calm Coach Kirk Martin & his son, Casey

Perfect for parents with kids ages 2-22.

FREE Workshop!



Kirk will demonstrate 10 ways to:

- · Get your kids to listen the first time.
- · Stop defiance, disrespect and yelling.
- · Stop whining, tantrums and sibling fights.
- · Get kids off video games/screens without a fight.
- Create stress-free mornings, homework time and bedtime.

Monday, April 1st 6:30pm – 8:30pm School Gym

"Practical, relevant and laugh-out-loud funny"

For information, contact PTOpresident@holyspiritflames.org or visit holyspiritflames.org Holy Spirit
CATHOLIC SCHOOL
Inspiring Minds | Igniting Hearts



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 Trimester!

Your first day of recorder will be: 3rd Grade- Friday, March 22 4th Grade (Virusky) - Monday, March 18 4th Grade (Lencz) - Thursday, March 21

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)

Twinbrooke Music- in the Twinbrooke Shopping Center (twinbrookemusic.com)

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

Amazon.com- search "Yamaha soprano recorder."

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me! atoussaint@holyspiritflames.org



The Players Sports Academy strives to build confidence, cultivate friendships, and create enjoyment through sports. We aim to set ourselves apart by instilling the importance of social and character development within all our participants.







Where: Holy Spirit School - Back Field

Date: Tuesdays- April 2, 9, 16, 30 May 7, 14, 21, 28 (8 sessions)

Time: 3:30 pm-4:30 pm Directly After School

Grade: Kindergarten - 4th Grade (Co-ed)

Cost: \$120

Register: www.ThePSASports.com

PlayersSoccerAcademy@gmail.com

703-598-5039

ThePSASports.com

Click here to register

Time to sign-up for Spring Coding Club!

Holy Spirit Coding Club



In Silver Knights Coding classes, children create stories, games, and animations using a visual programming language called Scratch. It's as easy to use as snapping together building blocks! Projects like mazes and platform games make learning logic, coding, and animation fun and creative! Our curriculum teaches new coders the basics while challenging more experienced coders to create increasingly complex programs. We do different projects every session, so material doesn't repeat. Each child takes home a USB with all their programs on the last day!



REGISTRATION

To register or for more information, go to:

www.skenrichment.com

To request financial aid, please visit our website

Coding Club Details:

- Grades 2 & up -- only 18 spots available!
- Club meets every Wednesday that school is in session starting on 4/3 and ending on 5/29.
- Time: 3:20—4:20 PM
- Tuition: \$180 for 8 weeks.

- · All computers and equipment provided.
- Club will not meet on 4/24
- A make-up day, if necessary, will be on







TO REGISTER, VISIT: www.skenrichment.com

To request scholarships or financial aid, please visit our website.

Questions? Email: Info@skenrichment.com or call: 703.574.2070

Click here to register



HAVE FUN while earning volunteer hours & help make Field Day a success!

Friday, May 17th 8 am – 1 pm

Sign up here: http://signup.com/go/CauQvOu

Lots of volunteer opportunities to bring food and supplies!

IMPORTANT NOTE: Parents who volunteer to be coaches <u>must be fully Child</u>

<u>Protection Compliant</u> in order to participate in Field Day

Questions? Contact Jessica Driscoll at jessica.a.driscoll@gmail.com

Click here to sign up!

5K Race to benefit the Holy Spirit
Resource Department
May 18, 2019
Lake Accotink Park



February 7, 2019

Dear Holy Spirit Community,

As I create the video of our 2018 5K Spirit Run, I can't help but smile and become filled with emotion as I look over all the wonderful photos of the students, parents, teachers, faculty, parishioners and our own Father O'Donohue coming out to Lake Accotink as a Holy Spirit Community. Although we had to post-pone the race due to weather, we all came together that June morning and 157 runners and walkers crossed that finish line as they were being cheered on by their family and friends. It was a blessing to be part of that Spirit Run morning.

We hold this 5K every year so we can continue to financially support and grow in our ability to serve all families who choose a Catholic Education for their child. We could not do that without the financial support of the Holy Spirit Community. We raised over \$14,000, which went directly to our resource budget. The money we raised went into increasing the hours of our reading specialist and bringing in another part-time paraprofessional who helps in the classroom as well as works in small reading groups to assist students who need reading support. The resource program at Holy Spirit School also continues to support over 30 students in our school who need resource assistance in the areas of ADHD, Autism, Dyslexia, Intellectual Disabilities, Learning Disabilities, and other special needs.

Last year Bishop Burbidge and the Diocese of Arlington produced a video called "Porto Charities: Integrating Students with Intellectual Disabilities into Arlington Catholic Schools," which recognizes the value of inclusion in our Catholic Schools and acknowledges Porto Charities for their generous grants which help support inclusion in Catholic Schools, including Holy Spirit School. I urge you to take 5 minutes to watch the video at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d GKAqi Ol4. It is truly a blessing for Holy Spirit that because of grants, donations, and the money from the Spirit Run we can be truly inclusive in our Catholic education.

This year's date for our 5K Spirit Run is May 18, 2019 at Lake Accotink Park in Springfield. As always, our goal is not only financial, but it is also to continue to raise awareness of our special education program at Holy Spirit School. There are many ways you can help. Register for the race or buy a t-shirt at: https://runsignup.com/Race/VA/Springfield/flamesspiritrun, become a sponsor or make a donation, pass our donation letter to a friend or business, or encourage your child to enter the t-shirt design contest. I will give house points to every middle student who enters a design!

This year's theme is "Love one another because love is from God." Please watch the 2018 Race Video on the Holy Spirt School website and on our Facebook page and I hope it makes you smile. It truly shows the love we have for one another and that love truly does come from God.

Hope to see you on May 18th at Lake Accotink! Go Flames!

Blessings.

Sue Gibbons, Race Coordinator sgibbons@holyspiritflames.org

See below for sponsorship information

Ready to register to run? Click here!

Yearbook Sales!
Ordering deadline is March 22nd



Democratic Republic of Congo Clothing and Shoe Drive



What Help the children of the Democratic Republic of Congo (D.R.C.)

What: We will accept flip flops and sandals, along with any summer/spring sneakers (new and gently used.)

When: March 6, 2019 to April 30, 2019 (Lenten Drive)

Where Please submit your clothing donations in the box marked *Clothing Donation for the D.R.C.* which will be placed in your classroom.

Important: Please do not donate any undergarments, or fall/winter shoes.

Donations can be any size (this includes infant through adult sizes).

A Prize Will Be Given to the Grade That Donates the Most Clothing and Shoes.



SERVICE PROJECT; D.R.C.

Anna Bohli, Sarah Terpenning, and Marisha Smith, all 8th grade students and with the support of the Student Council have started a fundraiser to help the people of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The Service Project began March 6, 2019 and will end on May 1, 2019. During the six weeks of Lent, flip flops, sandals, and summer/spring sneakers will be collected and placed in boxes located in classrooms at Holy Spirit School. Spring and Summer, lightweight clothes will also be collected. All donations can be gently used items. Any gently used uniforms from the previous years will be collected, too.

Finally, any monetary donations will be greatly appreciated to help with shipment costs to the D.R.C. Again, all the donations can be placed in a bin marked "DRC" that has been distributed to each classroom.

Undergarments and winter/fall clothing will NOT be accepted. A prize will be given to the grade that donates the most goods.

Thank you for all your support and generosity during this service project at Holy Spirit School.



To Benefit The St. Lucy Food Project

Hunger continues to burden many in our diocese. More than 196,000 people in our diocese do not know where their next meal will come from. Our neighbors continue to need our help! Pick up your blue St. Lucy food bag in the church narthex beginning March 9th and fill it with non-perishable food items.

Blue Bag Food Collection March 16 & 17 | All Masses **Holy Spirit Church**

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
- · Breakfast Cereal (hot & cold)
- Dried & Canned Beans
- No Sugar Added Fruit Juice**
- Shelf Stable Milk
- **Marked items especially in high demand

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 and send in the envelope attached to the blue bag flyer. 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 cards.



For more information about the drive, please contact

Vince Cannava, Holy Spirit Food Ministry, 571-442-4673 (cell)

OF COLUMBUS For more information about the drive, please contact





soup every Friday in Lent.

Fridays March 8 - April 12 School Cafeteria

5:30 -7:00 PM Soup Suppers Free will donations accepted.

7:00 PM Stations of the Cross

OR

Soup Makers Contact Carol Eldridge Needed!

(703) 978-7141 or cle74@hotmail.com www.holyspiritchurch.us



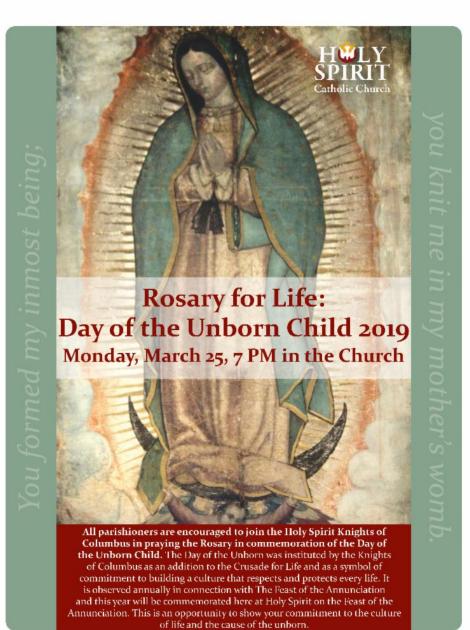
40DAYS FORLIFE.

Join us as we pray outside of a Falls Church abortion clinic.

SIGN UP TODAY

HolySpiritChurch.us/RespectLife





Sponsored by Holy Spirit's Good Samaritan Society



Talk led by Fr. John O'Donohue

An introduction to Dom Jean-Baptiste Chautard's classic work on Catholic spirituality.

Saturday, March 30th 10-11:30 a.m. Quinn Room



The Soul of the Apostolate is available online and in local Catholic bookstores.



VIRGINIA MARCH FOR LIFE

Join us to stop pro-abortion extremism in Virginia!

APRIL 3, 2019

11:00 a.m. Rally at the State Capital 12:00 p.m. March for Life



TAKE THE BUS TO RICHMOND!

7:30 am Mass at Holy Spirit, 8:00 am Meet for bus departure

Reserve your seat at HolySpiritChurch.us/RespectLife



2019 All Saints

Five Car Raffle

5-2019 Vehicles & 20 Cash Prize Drawings

This year's raffle will contribute to:

- Improved lighting, painting and upgrades for the newly designated Quinn Room (previously Meeting Room #3) for Parish and School activities
 - · New wall pads for the school gym
- Supporting the Holy Spirit Middle School Youth Ministry Boot Camp

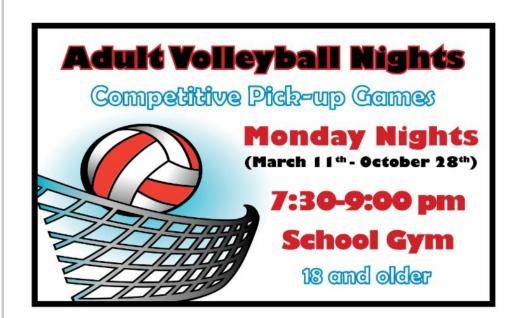
Raffle ticket purchases: all checks must be made out to "All Saints Church".

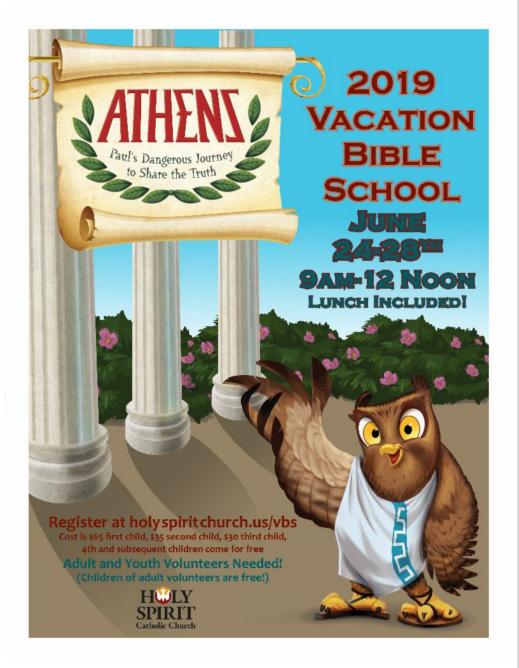
Mail-in returns: must be mailed to All Saints Catholic Church. The yellow card included with tickets makes this return easy.

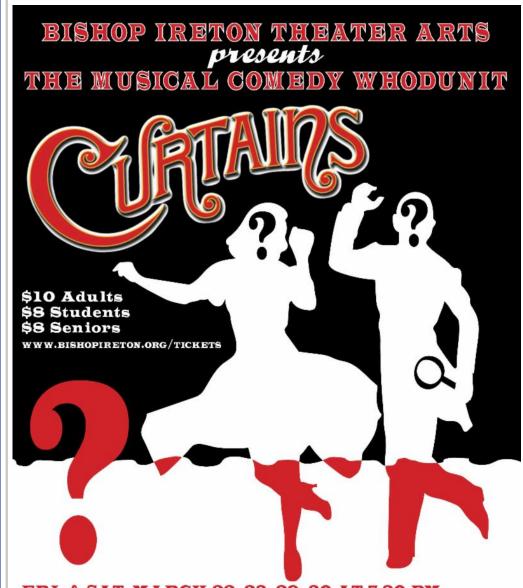
Collection Basket Returns: tickets may be returned (sealed in the return envelopes provided with the yellow card) within the collection bas-ket at Holy Spirit.

***All tickets must be returned within the collection basket no later than April 28th or postmarked for mailing to All Saints no later than April 30th.

Additional tickets may be obtained at vehicle displays in front of the Church or by contacting Tom Kennedy at (703) 323-8878 or tfkinva@aol.com.







FRI. & SAT. MARCH 22, 23, 29, 30 AT 7:30 PM SUN. MARCH 24 AT 2:00 PM GARWOOD WHALEY AUDITORIUM BISHOP IRETON HIGH SCHOOL ALEXANDRIA VA BUSINESS MUSIC BY MUSIC BY LYRICS LYRICS

BOOK BY RUPERT HOLMES
ORIGINAL BOOK AND CONCEPT
BY PETER STONE
MUSIC BY JOHN KANDER
LYRICS BY FRED EBB
ADDITIONAL LYRICS BY JOHN KANDER
AND RUPERT HOLMES



Family Folder Flyers

The following flyers can be found on the website in the folder labeled "March 14, 2019 "(or <u>CLICK HERE</u>). For your convenience, some flyers are repeated.

School Flyers:

- 1. PTO Talent Showcase Reservation form
- 2. PTO Talent Showcase Art Show Sign-up flyer
- 3. PTO Volunteers flyer
- 4. PTO Parent Presentation internet safety presentation flyer
- 5. PTO Parent Presentation Celebrate Calm flyer
- 6. Yearbook flyer
- 7. Spring Coding Club flyer
- 8. Spring Soccer flyer
- 9. DRC collection drive flyer

5K Race Information:

- 1. Why We Race Letter
- 2. Sponsorship Information

Parish Flyers:

- 1. All Saints Car Raffle flyer
- 2. Lenten Parish Food Drive flyer
- 3. Adult Volleyball flyer
- 4. Lenten Soup Suppers flyer
- 5. CYO Signups flyer
- 6. The Soul of the Apostolate flyer
- 7. BINGO flyer
- 8. Rosary for Life flyer
- 9. Virginia March for Life flyer
- 10. VBS flyer

Community Flyers: