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From the Principal's Desk

March 2, 2017



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Holy Spirit School

*Celebrating 50 Years of Inspiring Minds and Igniting Hearts
1966 - 2016*

Lent 2017

Another Lenten season has begun and I pray that your family has discerned ways in which to make this special time period beneficial. As we take time to focus on simple living, prayer and fasting with the hopes of moving closer to God I would encourage your family to take part in the many offerings that our parish has during these 40 days. I would also encourage you to plan now to attend the Easter Triduum liturgical offerings with your children so that they may grow their baptismal commitment and move towards a true conversion of heart and mind as followers of Christ.

On Tuesday, the middle school students had the beautiful opportunity to participate in a day-long Lenten Retreat. A special "Thank you" to Mrs. Evans, Sister Anna Rose, Mrs. Renner, Mr. Rihl, Ms. Menapace, and Ms. Steger for organizing talks, activities, and food for the students.



The PTO sponsored Read-A-Thon has begun and we had a fun-filled tie in today while celebrating Dr. Seuss Day! The students looked terrific as the Seuss characters and enjoyed having time to read with one another. A special thank you to the middle school students for decorating the cafeteria!

A lofty goal of \$25,000.00 was set by the PTO for the Read-A-Thon. As of today, the total sits just under \$10,000.00 (with Mrs. Crone's class alone raising \$2,000.00!). If you've not registered your child and donated, I would ask that you please consider.

As Catholics and supporters of Catholic education, so much of what we do is laying a foundation for the future. Whether that be in educating our youth both spiritually and academically for future careers and endeavors or in raising money for programs and items that may or may not actually benefit our particular child, Catholic education has remained successful because we give and prepare for those children coming in the future.

We have several upcoming events that are detailed below. On March 14 and March 17 the Student Council will sponsor a mini Spirit Week. Additionally, Friday, March 17th is our annual Fathers Day celebration.

The PTO's Spring Social is just around the corner on April 29th. For students who would like to perform, it is time to break out the costumes and ready the music!

Interims for the 3rd quarter will go home tomorrow. Parents, please be sure to regularly check the Parent Portal and your student's Late Assignment Sheet to be sure that assignments are being completed.

For those families who will be applying for tuition assistance for the 2017/2018 academic year, please remember that the deadline date for applying is March 17, 2017. By this date, the online application must be completed and all tax documents must be uploaded.

-Maureen Ashby

Principal

Holy Spirit 2016/2017 - Building the Future through Faith and Family



The Holy Spirit Student Council is proud to announce...

Spring Spirit Week!

When? March 13-17

What's Happening?

Tuesday: **PI DAY** 

*buy your raffle tickets beginning Monday for a chance to "PIE" a Holy Spirit Staff Member in the face!

\$1= 1 ticket \$5= 6 tickets \$10= 12 tickets

Friday: **Happy St. Patrick's Day** 

(and Father O'Donohue's BIRTHDAY!) Wear all your green accessories! Regular uniform required, no face paint or hair dye as we will be going to mass.

Dear Holy Spirit Families~

It is hard to imagine that spring is around the corner when we have barely had a winter, but it will be here before we know it! In preparation, the Student Council is sponsoring a Spring Spirit Week. As always, the Student Council works hard to create an environment where all students, regardless of their grade level, feel like they are part of a whole.

One of the week's activities this year will be the first ever "Pi Day"- not a typo, but rather a play on the mathematical term meaning 3.14159265359. We are going ALL out for this special day and thanks to the willingness of some famous Holy Spirit faces, the students have the opportunity to possibly throw a pie in the face of a staff member!

All the students have to do is purchase as many raffle tickets as they want and choose the staff member they would like to "pie". Their raffle tickets will be entered into a random drawing and if your student's name is selected, they will get to throw a pie into the face of their selected person.

The Student Council Officers will be coming around the week of March 6th- March 10th to sell raffle tickets to the homerooms. Tickets can be purchased for \$1.00 each, 6 tickets for \$5.00 OR 12 tickets for \$10.00. All proceeds from the event will be donated to the Gabriel Project as part of our community outreach.

The following Holy Spirit Staff member faces will be the ones getting "PIED"

Mrs. Ashby	Father O'Donohue	Mrs. Evans	Mrs. Crone
Miss Dailey	Coach Gregas	Mrs. Miller	Mrs. Schwartz
Mrs. Marino	Mr. Pietuska	Mr. Gordon	

We are so excited for this week and we are so appreciative to have so many good sports on staff here at Holy Spirit. We always want to find ways to give back to the community and we love to have fun while doing it. Thanks for your support!

Sincerely,

Taylor Dailey and Kathryn Virusky



Please join the Holy
Spirit School
Community for a

Mass in Celebration of Fathers

Holy Spirit School

March 17, 2017

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.



He didn't tell me how to live; he lived, and let me watch him do it.

~Clarence Budington Kelland~

5K Spirit Run

May 20, 2017 | 8:00 am | Burke Lake Park



Register now for a chance to win!

The first fifty students to register for the 5K Spirit Run will be entered into a drawing for a chance to win an afternoon of fun with Father O'Donohue for his or her class! Contact sgibbons@holyspiritflames.org or shicks@holyspiritflames.org for more details.

<https://runsignup.com/Race/VA/FairfaxStation/SpiritRun5K2017>

[Click here to register!](#)

[Click here for Race Letter](#)

[Click here for Sponsorship Information](#)

Time to Order a Yearbook!

Order your yearbook today.

Encarga hoy tu anuario.



Personalized Yearbook Cover

Make your student's yearbook unique by adding their name in foil on the cover.
\$5.00

Your student's name imprinted in foil



Autograph Insert

Autograph inserts allow students space to share messages with friends.
\$1.00



Yearbook Stickys

Removable stickers let students have fun personalizing the pages of the yearbook. Over 65 stickers.
\$2.00

Order online at
ybpay.lifetouch.com

VISA MasterCard DISCOVER

Encarga por internet en ybpay.lifetouch.com

#11439517

Announcing... The Holy Spirit School 2016-2017 YEARBOOK

Early Bird Sale! Online orders only

Our yearbook is planned to include:

- All-color pages that vibrantly capture school memories
- Sturdy soft cover

Add on any of the following yearbook extras:

- Student's name imprinted in foil on the cover
- Autograph insert and signing pen to share messages with friends
- Yearbook Stickys are repositionable and are a fun way to personalize pages

Schools may adjust yearbook features and the final yearbook features may vary.

Early Bird Sale!

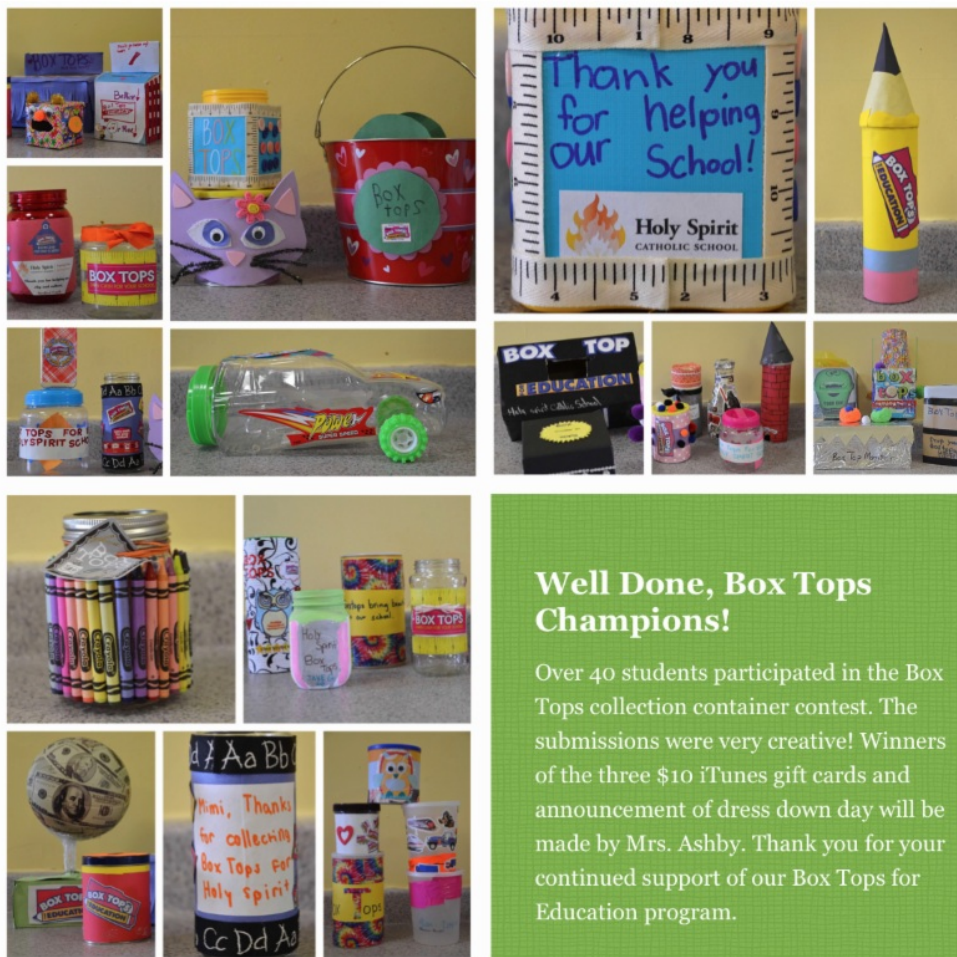
Yearbook Pricing:
 \$18.00

Online Orders Only
YBPay.lifetouch.com

Sale Deadline Date:
 March 3, 2017

Early Bird Sale!
 Order early to save.

Order Online at YBPay.lifetouch.com with Yearbook ID Code: 11439517



Well Done, Box Tops Champions!

Over 40 students participated in the Box Tops collection container contest. The submissions were very creative! Winners of the three \$10 iTunes gift cards and announcement of dress down day will be made by Mrs. Ashby. Thank you for your continued support of our Box Tops for Education program.

Box Tops for Education Collection Container Winners

Thank you to all of the students who participated in this fun event. Students who participated have received a dress down day certificate good for Wednesday, March 8th.

Congratulations to the three top entries as determined by an independent panel of judges! These students also won an iTunes gift card.

Victoria R. - 1M

Lexy K.- 8C

Anna G. - 8K



A note from Father Tom Ferguson, Vicar General for the Diocese of Arlington:

As a general rule, the obligation of abstinence from meat on Fridays of Lent is an important element of the Church's observance of the penitential nature of this holy season.

This year, however, Friday of the second week of Lent corresponds with Saint Patrick's Day (March 17), which has traditionally been an occasion for joy-filled celebrations in this diocese. Having taken into consideration both past practice and present circumstances, and having judged that it would serve the spiritual good of the faithful, Bishop Burbidge has granted to the faithful of the Diocese of Arlington, as well as to any visitors or travelers who may be physically present within the territory of this diocese, a dispensation from the obligation of abstinence from meat on March 17, 2017.

Those taking advantage of the dispensation, however, are exhorted to undertake a work of charity, an exercise of piety, or an act of comparable penance on some other occasion during the Second Week of Lent.

Join Holy Spirit School's Track Team!!

Holy Spirit's Track team is a great way for students to stay healthy and active! During the Spring season, we participate in CYO Track and Field. Open to students in grades 3-8, the team focuses on challenging students to excel in running at their age-appropriate level, building camaraderie among the team, and of course having fun in the process!

Practice is held every Tuesday from 3:30-4:30 at Holy Spirit School. The season will begin on March 7th and run through May 9th. We will also have a 2-day meet the weekend of May 6th and 7th.

Registration and payment can be found online. The participant agreement form and medical form should be handed in to Coach Menapace on or before the first practice attended.



What to bring to practice:

- Gym clothes
- Running shoes
- Water bottle with your name on it
- Medical Participant Combined Form
- Participation Agreement Form

PARENTS

Looking to fill your volunteering hours? We are still in need of parent volunteers for practice! No need to commit to the entire season. Feel free to only sign up for a few practices.

For more information, contact:

Lizzie Menapace
emenapace@holyspiritflames.org
703-978-7117 ext. 1145



FunBotLab

Robotics & Media Camp

www.funbotlab.com



Back again this summer!

Fun Bot Lab, a LEGO® Robotics & Media Camp, will be offering 4, 1- week sessions of summer camp from June 26th to July 7th at our campus at Holy Spirit. The Fun Bot Lab program provides a solid foundation of engineering, programming, and movie-making for rising Kindergarten through 8th Graders.

Use code FUNBOT25 for \$25 off each week of camp. There are also discounts for siblings and attending multiple sessions.

Go to funbotlab.com to register today, spots are filling up!
Email courtney@funbotlab.com if you have any questions or call us at 703-831-7747.

Lenten Soup Suppers

Fridays March 3 - April 7 | Supper 5:30 - 7 PM

Bring your family and enjoy homemade soup every Friday in Lent. Free will donations accepted.

Soup Makers Needed!

Can you donate your favorite meatless soup to the Friday Lenten Soup Suppers?

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

Volunteer!

click the yellow button



† Lenten Food Drive

To Benefit The St. Lucy Project

Hunger continues to burden many in our diocese. More than 219,000 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 4th and fill it with non-perishable food items.

Blue Bag Food Collection March 11 & 12 | All Masses Holy Spirit Church

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

- Peanut Butter and Jelly
- Canned Meat/Fish
- Canned Fruits and Vegetables
- Pasta & Pasta Sauce
- Breakfast Cereal (hot & cold)
- Dried & Canned Beans
- Children's Snacks
- Rice
- Soups
- Shelf-Stable Milk

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 cards.



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



PANCAKE BREAKFAST

*Hosted
by the*



**Sunday
March 12**

In the school cafeteria after the
7:30, 9, & 10:30 am Masses

Breakfast will include pancakes, sausage,
fruit, orange juice, coffee, and more!

Adults \$5 & Children \$3 (family total cost not to exceed \$15)

**HOLY
SPIRIT**
Catholic Church



Holy Spirit is now on Facebook!

Please help us spread the word about our great school by

"liking" our page and "sharing" our news.

And don't forget...

Holy Spirit School is also Twitter!



@HSS_Flames



2017 - 2018 Financial Aid Applications

Applications are now being accepted for the 2017 - 2018 school year.

For the upcoming school year, the Diocese of Arlington has decided to once again use FACTS Grant and Aid for the assessment of tuition financial aid. To be considered for the first round of awards, applications and supporting documents must be received by the FACTS Grant and Tuition Aid offices no later than March 17, 2017. Families who currently have financial assistance must reapply to be considered for an award in the upcoming school year.

Apply on-line at <https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/3QVGQ>.

[Click here for additional parent resources.](#)



Lunch Menu

Please remember that beverages are **not** included in the cost of the hot lunch meals. If your child is having milk or bottled water with lunch that must be paid separately (the link is available under the *Current Families* tab).

[Click here for the March lunch menu](#)



Family Folder Flyers

The following flyers can be found on the website in the folder labeled "March 2, 2017" (or follow the links here) For your convenience, some flyers are repeated:

School Flyers:

1. [Mini Spirit Week flyer](#)
2. [Pi Day letter](#)
3. [Fathers Day Celebration flyer](#)
4. [Track Flyer](#)
5. [March Lunch Menu](#)
6. [Yearbook Flyer](#)
7. [Flynn & O'Hara uniform flyer](#)

5K Spirit Run:

1. [Run Raffle flyer](#)

2. [5K Spirit Run Parent Letter](#)

3. [5K Spirit Run Sponsorship Letter](#)

Parish Flyers:

1. [Troop 50 Boy Scouts flyer](#)

Community Flyers:

1. [Diocese of Arlington Teacher Job Fair](#)
