

# From the Principal's Desk

November 21, 2019

## Quick Links

[School Site](#)

[School Calendar](#)



## Holy Spirit School *Inspiring Minds / Igniting Hearts* 2019 / 2020

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

## Take a deep breath....

There are a few periods of time over the course of the year when the sheer amount of hustle and bustle take over and we all need to take an extra deep breath - we are just about there!

When we return from the Thanksgiving break (November 27 - November 29) we will have entered a season of anticipation and preparation - Advent!

In a simple way the word "Advent" comes from the Latin, *adventus* and although the word has several definitions - "develop", "set in ", "arise" - we commonly think of the word as meaning "coming" - and we turn our attention to preparing to celebrate the coming of Jesus into the world; we prepare to allow Jesus to come more fully into our lives; and we wait with anticipation for Jesus to come again as King and Judge.

It is with this sense of preparation that we couch all that we will do over the three weeks that we are in school in December prior to the Christmas break. Each Monday (December 2, 9, 16) we will have a prayer service to light the candles on the Advent wreath to help keep our hearts and minds on the importance of the season. Additionally, we will be decorating our Jesse Trees with class ornaments and learning each morning about each of the different symbols.

We will also extend our giving hearts by holding our annual toy drive to benefit Santa's Ride (see details below) which culminates in our Giving Mass on December 6th and by participating in the NJHS sponsored Christmas dress-down day with all

contributions (see below) benefiting Catholic Charities' We Care Week.

Mixed in to all of that of course are the K-4 Christmas Program, the 5th grade Nativity Pageant, Confessions, Adoration, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, and more. Please keep an eye on this newsletter and the school calendar for all of the goings-on.

On Monday, November 25th we will have the "finals" of our charity Turkey Shoot Out at 1:30 pm - all are welcome. Thank you to all of the parents who have come into school to assist with the preliminary rounds. We hope that each student will donate \$1 to the cause as all proceeds will go to the Holy Spirit Parish Chapter of The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul which does great and loving charitable works for and with those in need.

Last night (11/20) we had a super Open House with many interested families in attendance - thank you to all who helped us get out the word and thank you to the Middle School students who gave their time last night to act as fabulous tour guides. With that in mind - if you have a child who you plan to have join us as a new student next year (in particular in prekindergarten or kindergarten), please contact Mrs. Laclede, School Registrar, to start the application process. We have begun accepting applications for new students for the 2020/2021 academic year.

A reminder that the 1st Trimester will officially end on November 26th (the Parent Portal is now closed) and report cards will be distributed on December 6th due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

## The Gaga Pit Has Arrived!



One of the auction donations this year was a "Gaga Pit" for the school's recess area. If you don't know what "Gaga Ball" is - you are probably not alone! We all learned quickly and had a great time today with the inaugural games. Thank you to the Warner family for supporting the school via this auction purchase - we look forward to seeing the name Luke chooses for the space.





If I do not see you prior to the break, I pray that you enjoy a wonderful holiday and are able to give thanks for all of the people and blessings in your lives.

Happy  
Thanksgiving

-Maureen Ashby

Principal

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**SPIRIT WEAR IS BACK!**

# The store closes on Sunday!

**STUFF YOUR STOCKINGS  
WITH SPIRIT WEAR.**

**SHOP NOW ►**

**ORDER DEADLINE IS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24th**

**ORDER TODAY! QUESTIONS? [PTOSPIRITGEAR@HOLYSPIRITFLAMES.ORG](mailto:PTOSPIRITGEAR@HOLYSPIRITFLAMES.ORG)**

**Back by popular demand and just in time for  
Christmas, spirit wear is BACK!  
The online store will be open from  
Thursday, November 14th - Sunday, November 24th**

This will be the LAST time that spirit wear will be available to  
purchase this school year!

[Order yours today](#) and everything will be delivered to classrooms  
just before Christmas Break.

Planning to put something as a surprise under the tree? Be sure to  
email us at [ptospiritgear@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:ptospiritgear@holyspiritflames.org) and  
we'll make arrangements to get your spirit wear to you without your  
child(ren) knowing.

**\*NOTE:** We had lots of feedback from preschool and  
kindergarten families. Turns out you've been good little boys and  
girls. Your request has been granted and youth XS short

sleeve AND long sleeve t-shirts have been added to the store.

Just as a reminder, here is a list of Spirit Days for the remainder of the year:

Wednesday, December 18th

Wednesday, January 15th

Wednesday, February 19th

Wednesday, March 18th

Wednesday, May 20th

**[Click here to order!](#)**

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Support Holy Spirit Catholic School!

**ORDER DOMINO'S ON**

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

11:00 am- 10:00 pm

Order from your local Domino's and use code DN3 online, on our app, over the phone, or in the store. Holy Spirit Catholic School will receive 20% of sales.

**Use Code DN3 at Check Out!**

**KINGS PARK**  
**8962 BURKE LAKE RD**  
**703-764-2807**

**ANNANDALE**  
**7129 COLUMBIA PIKE**  
**703-941-7900**

**BACKLICK RD**  
**6715 BACKLICK RD**  
**703-866-1200**



**Domino's®**

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Annual Holy Spirit School Toy  
Drive

**SANTA'S RIDE**



# Help Bring Holiday Cheer to Sick Children



Monday, December 2nd - Friday,  
December 6th with our annual Giving Mass

Make a difference in the lives of the many  
sick children who are unable to return home  
for the holidays.

The Fairfax County Police Department  
motorcycle squad is collaborating with the  
Fairfax County Sheriff's Office and others to  
collect and distribute toys to children at  
Fairfax Hospital and Georgetown Lombardi  
Cancer Center.

Please donate a new, unwrapped toy, game,  
or book.

Thank you for your generosity.

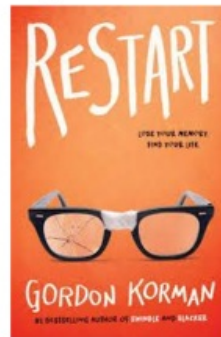
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## Calling all 7th and 8th Graders!

7th and 8th grade students are invited to join a book club that will meet in the library during recess and lunch in order to discuss books and introduce students to different genres of literature. We will discuss a different book each month. Students will be responsible for accessing the book themselves through the school library, public library, or purchasing it. The first book is available on Learning Ally and students are encouraged to either read or listen to the audio book.

The first book we will read is ...

### Restart by Gordan Korman



Chase does not remember falling off the roof, in fact he does not remember anything about himself, and when he gets back to middle school he begins to learn who he was through the reactions of the other kids -- trouble is he is not sure he likes the Chase that is being revealed, but can he take the opportunity amnesia has provided and restart his life?

Our meeting to discuss this book will be on December 10, 2019. Please read or listen to the book before the meeting.

Please see Ms. Rowley or email her ([arowley@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:arowley@holyspiritflames.org)) if you have any questions.

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## Attention Holy Spirit Students





k43079481 www.fotosearch.com

The NJHS is sponsoring a school wide dress down day on December 12, 2019.

Please bring in a one dollar (\$1.00) donation to participate. All funds are going to benefit Catholic Charities We Care Week.

Please dress up as the category that applies to you:

Pre-K - 2nd are Reindeer

3rd - 5th are Elves

Middle School are Mr. or Mrs. Claus

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# SANTA'S SECRET SHOP

... Is coming to our school soon

**DATE:** Thursday & Friday,  
December 12 & 13

**TIME:** 8:30 am to 2:30 pm

**PLACE:** In the multipurpose room basement

Get that special gift for everyone on your list

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# Spaghetti Dinner

Hosted by the  
Men's Club

## Menu

**Spaghetti** with Variety of  
Meat and Meatless Sauces

Garlic **Bread**

**Salad** with Italian Dressing

**Dessert** Items

Wine, Sodas, Juice, and Water

## Prices

Age 10 and over: \$7

Age 6 to 9: \$4

Free for Age 5 and Under!

CLAAMMM  
SAUCE!





KNIGHTS  
OF COLUMBUS

Profits help support vocations & other charitable causes



**High School Youth Group**

# **Christmas Coat Drive!**

**December 7-8th**

**Drop off items in bins  
in Church vestibule or  
outside the Youth**



- Items Needed:**
- Gloves
  - Winter Jackets
  - Sweaters
  - Wool Hats
  - Hooded
  - Sweatshirts
  - Scarves

**Questions? [youthministry@holyspiritchurch.us](mailto:youthministry@holyspiritchurch.us)**

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# PANCAKE BREAKFAST

All proceeds go to the school

*Hosted  
by the*



**Sunday  
December 8**

**with Santa!**

School Cafeteria  
After the 7:30, 9:00 &  
10:30 AM Masses



Pancakes, Sausage,  
Fruit, Orange Juice,  
Coffee, & More!  
Adults \$5 Children \$3  
(Max family cost: \$15)

**HOLY  
SPIRIT**  
Catholic Church



The Knights of Columbus invite you to:

# Men's Day of Recollection

Join other men from Holy Spirit Parish for a day of spiritual recollection.

**Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>**  
**10:00am-1:00pm**  
**Quinn Room**  
**(School Building)**

Extend this faith experience!

- That Man is You at 7:30am
- Mass at 9:00am
- Confession at 3:30pm

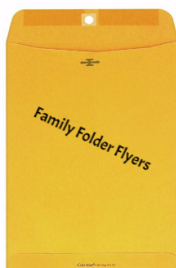
Morning refreshments and lunch provided.

Contact [knights@holyspiritchurch.us](mailto:knights@holyspiritchurch.us)



KNIGHTS  
OF COLUMBUS

HOLY  
SPIRIT  
Catholic Church



## Family Folder Flyers

The following flyers can be found on the website in the folder labeled "November 21, 2019 "(or [CLICK HERE](#)). For your convenience, some flyers are repeated.

School Flyers:

1. Yearbook Ordering flyer
2. Turkey Shoot Out flyer
3. Santa's Ride Toy Drive flyer
4. NJHS Christmas Dress Down Day flyer
4. Santa's Boutique flyer
5. 7th & 8th grade Book Club flyer

Parish Flyers:

1. Parish Spaghetti Dinner flyer
2. Christmas Card sale flyer
3. Christmas Coat Drive flyer
4. Parish Pancake Breakfast flyer
5. Men's Day of Recollection flyer

Community Flyers:

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