

From the Principal's Desk

November 29, 2018



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Holy Spirit School *Inspiring Minds / Igniting Hearts* 2018 / 2019

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

A Busy Upcoming Week!

First, a reminder that tomorrow, Friday, November 30th is an early dismissal day for the end of the trimester; Extended Day is open.

Please be sure to look at all of the information below as the coming weeks are filled with many, many special events!

On Monday, December 3rd we will have an Advent prayer service at 8:30 am in the gymnasium; all are welcome.

Additionally on Monday our annual toy drive to benefit Santa's Ride begins. Holy Spirit has always come through in dramatic fashion with the number of gifts/toys that are donated. There is a hard cut-off for donations of Friday morning, December 7th as we will have our annual Giving Mass and members of the Fairfax County Motorcycle Unit will be in attendance to receive all of the donations. Please join us for this special Mass - it is a sight to see all of the students process up from the school carrying the gifts and toys meant for those in need.

During the week we have two special events. On Wednesday, December 5th at 7:00 pm will be the joint choir and band Winter concert. All are invited to come and hear the offerings from these talented groups.

Thursday, December 6th is St. Nicholas Day! Please send your student in with an extra shoe as celebratory treats have been known to suddenly appear.

The 1st Trimester comes to a close tomorrow, November 30th and report cards will go home on Friday, December 7th.

Looking for something fun for the weekend? Two of our Middle School choir students will be joining the Paul VI choir to sing at Wolf Trap on Saturday. Please see the information below!

For those with students in grades K-4, please be sure to look at the updated costume information provided below for the upcoming Christmas concert on December 18th.

When you are ready to purchase your family's Christmas tree or wreath, please be sure to support the PTO's Christmas tree sale! Sale hours are each evening and throughout the day on weekends.

Although the hustle, bustle and excitement of the next several weeks can easily overtake our lives, I certainly pray that you will take the time to celebrate the season of Advent with your children. There is so much to learn and gain from enjoying the anticipation of the coming birth of our Lord.

-Maureen Ashby

Principal

WE NEED YOUR VOTE!

A recording of our 4th grade classes singing "Heavenly Hallelujahs" has been submitted to the mix107.3 Holiday Choir Competition!

The winning choir is invited to the Jack Diamond Morning Show to perform live! The winner is determined by votes from the public.

Please see the information below to see how to vote. Thank you for your support!

Want to hear our submissions? It is

located on the Family Information page in PowerLearning.

Thank you for entering your Elementary or Middle School in the mix107.3 Holiday Choir Competition! Voting is now open through December 2nd at 11:59pm. The Jack Diamond Morning Show will announce the choir with the most votes on December 7th. I will be in touch closer to that date with more information. Then, the winning choir will be invited to the Jack Diamond Morning Show studios to be on the air live with the show, will perform at our Holiday Choir Competition event on December 15th at The Shops at Wisconsin Place in Chevy Chase (weather date is December 16th) and will receive \$2500 toward your school's music program.

To vote, go to www.mix1073.com/choir and click on the button that says "CLICK HERE TO VOTE K-8 CHOIR COMPETITION." Then click View All Submissions. You must sign in and make an account in order to vote and you can vote once per day.

If you or your family/friends have any trouble logging in, please give them my contact info and I can help. Regarding troubleshooting, if you are having trouble logging in my first suggestion would be to change to another browser (Google Chrome, Firefox, etc) and try logging in and voting there.

Thanks for listening to mix107.3 and good luck!

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PAUL VI
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

with the

PVI Choir @ Wolf Trap

12/1/2018

4:00-
5:30pm

Gates open at 3:00 pm

December 1st, 2018

Free Christmas Concert!

What: Two of Holy Spirit's very own Middle School students will be signing with the PVI choir as they perform Christmas Carols with the U.S. Marine Corps Band!

Where: Wolf Trap

When: Saturday December 1

Gates open at 3:00 pm. Concert begins at 4:00 pm.

Please come and enjoy this festive event, free of charge and fun for the whole family! Come and support your Catholic community high school and middle school singers!



Next Week! Next Week!

Holy Spirit School is thrilled to partner again this year with the Fairfax County Motor Squad, Police Department and Sheriff's Office for our Annual Toy Drive to benefit

SANTA'S RIDE 2018

Monday, December 3rd - Friday, December 7th

Our Annual Giving Mass is scheduled for Friday, December 7th at 9:00 am



Donate NEW unwrapped toys, games, books, and gifts to be distributed to children at Fairfax Hospital and the Georgetown Lombardi Cancer Center.

Our Holy Spirit School community has always been amazingly generous as we help those in need.



**Celebrate The Feast of
Saint Nicholas**

Thursday, December 6th

All students should bring in ONE extra SHOE

Throughout the day, students will be surprised that St. Nick has left a little gift for them in their shoe!

Sponsored by the Student Council

Attention Holy Spirit Students and Teachers



The NJHS is sponsoring a school wide dress down day on December 13, 2018. Please bring in a one dollar (\$1.00) donation to participate. All funds are going to benefit Catholic Charities We Care Week.

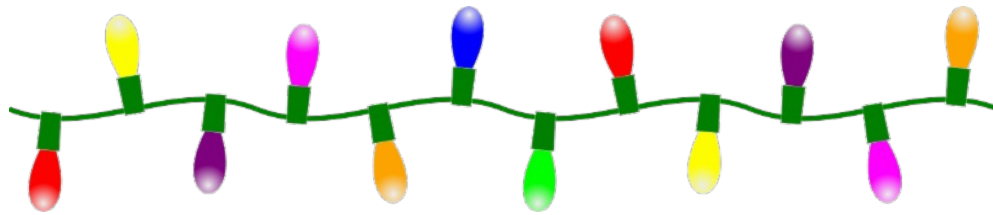
Please dress up as the category that applies to you:

Kindergarten - 2nd are Whos

3rd - 5th are dogs

Middle schoolers are Grinches

Teachers are presents



Costume Sheet for the Christmas Musical: **Miracle at Midnight**

The Christmas Concert is December 18th! It is time to start acquiring the costume essentials! The call time for students in grades K-3 is 6:30 pm. Fourth grade students should arrive no later than 6:15 pm.

The show begins promptly at 7:00 pm!

Please refer to Power Learning for all practice materials. Please have your child practice at home! All songs, choreography videos and song lyric sheets can be accessed on the Power Learning music class page.

Kindergarten- "Angels"

The Kindergarteners will wear all white, or a white shirt with their grey uniform pants, or other grey bottoms. They will be provided with tinsel halos to complete their heavenly look.

1st Grade- "Sheep"

The 1st graders will wear their school sweats inside out. They will be provided with floppy sheep ears and a smart bow.

2nd Grade- "Camels"

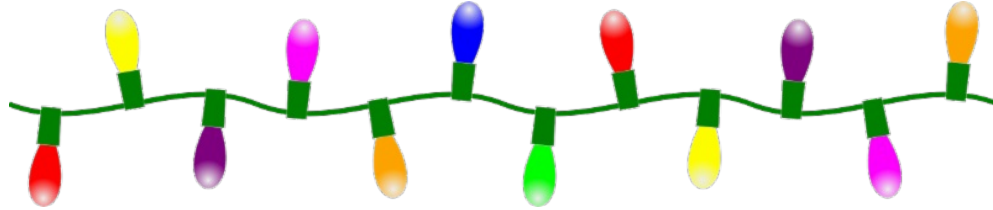
The 2nd graders will wear brown shirts and black pants.

3rd Grade- "Townpeople"

The 3rd graders will wear blue shirts and black pants. They will be provided with head scarves to keep them looking Biblical.

4th Grade- Main Cast

Please see your child's Fourth Grade Music Power Learning Page regarding costume essentials for the individual cast member. All lines must be memorised by Monday December 3rd!



If you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact Mr. Toussaint @ atoussaint@holyspiritflames.org. Thank you so much for your cooperation in making this year's Christmas Musical a great memory for you and your child!

Blessings, Mr. Toussaint

Registration for the Winter Sessions of both Chess Club and Coding Club

Holy Spirit Chess and Coding Clubs



Chess Club is taught by experienced Silver Knights instructors using a curriculum developed by National Masters. Each weekly session is a mix of learning and play. Playing chess is a great way to develop a child's critical thinking skills, sportsmanship, and patience — all while having fun!

Chess Club Details:

- ♦ All grades and skill levels welcome.
- ♦ Dates: Club meets every Monday that school is in session starting on 2/11 and ending on 5/20.
- ♦ Time: 3:20—4:20 PM
- ♦ All equipment provided.
- ♦ Club will not meet on 2/18, 3/11, 4/22 and 5/27
- ♦ A make-up day, if necessary, will be on 6/3
- ♦ Tuition: \$180 for 12 weeks.



In **Coding Club**, learn to code your own games and animations using Scratch. MIT developed Scratch 10 years ago to give kids a fun way to learn programming skills and computational thinking. Each multi-week session includes all new projects that all kids will enjoy, from beginners to advanced coders. What will you create?

Coding Club Details:

- ♦ Grades 2 & up — only 18 spots available!
- ♦ Dates: Club meets every Wednesday that school is in session starting on 1/16 and ending on 3/6.
- ♦ Time: 3:20—4:20 PM
- ♦ All computers and equipment provided.
- ♦ A make-up day, if necessary, will be on 3/13
- ♦ Tuition: \$180 for 8 weeks.

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 for Chess Club](#)

[Click here to register for Coding Club](#)

More information to follow...



**SANTA'S SECRET
SHOP**

... is coming to our school

DATE: Thursday & Friday,
December 13 & 14
TIME: 8:10 am to 2:30 pm
PLACE: Meeting Room 3

Get that special gift for everyone on your list

Sponsored by the Squire Roses

Children's Advent Event

**Join us for arts and
crafts, storytime, games
and food. Learn more
about St. Nicholas and
other Advent traditions!**



**Sunday,
December 2nd
After 9am Mass
School Cafeteria**

**(For families with children 5th grade
and younger.)**

**For more information,
contact mvalugin@gmail.com.**



**HOLY
SPIRIT**
Catholic Church

High School Youth Group

Christmas Coat Drive

**December
8th and 9th**

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



The High Schoolers are collecting the following items:

winter jackets hooded sweatshirts wool hats
sweaters gloves scarves

For more information, contact youthministry@holyspiritchurch.us



PANCAKE BREAKFAST

*Hosted
by the*



Sunday
December 9th

In the school cafeteria after the
7:30, 9:00 & 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



2019
NEW YEAR'S EVE
PARISH
CELEBRATION
MONDAY
DECEMBER 31, 2018

JOIN
US!
2019

FAMILY FUN!

- MUSIC FOR ALL AGES
- A FAMILY DANCE AND LINE DANCING
- CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES
- PHOTO BOOTH FOR YOUR LAST 2018 PICTURES

NEW YEAR'S EVE
EVENTS

6:30 - 8:00 PM IN THE SCHOOL
CATERED FAMILY DINNER
RESERVATION ONLY

8:00 - 10:30 PM IN THE GYM
DANCE AND FAMILY FUN
NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED

REGISTER TODAY

ON-LINE RESERVATIONS
PREFERRED
HOLYSPIRITCHURCH.US

PAPER RESERVATIONS
AVAILABLE IN
THE RECTORY

SOLEMNITY OF MARY,
DEVOTIONAL EVENTS

5:30 - 6:30 PM MASS
6:30 - 11:00 PM
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
11:00 - 11:30 PM
BENEDICTION
11:30 PM - 12:30 AM
MIDNIGHT MASS



Devotional Events

*Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
December 31, 2018*

MASS

5:30 - 6:30 PM

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

6:30 - 11:00 PM

BENEDICTION

11:00 - 11:30 PM

MIDNIGHT MASS

11:30 PM - 12:30 AM

(TAKING PLACE DURING NYE EVENT)

Conference and Festival - Saturday, March 23, 2019

"The dyslexic brain has exactly the skills we need for the workforce of tomorrow," – Sir Richard Branson

The Dyslexic Edge: Pathways to STEM Excellence is driven by this idea so wonderfully encapsulated by Richard Branson. With the potential to have a heightened ability to think holistically and creatively, see the bigger picture, and develop enhanced spatial knowledge, people with dyslexia can be uniquely suited to solve the problems of tomorrow. Our initiative is designed to highlight these strengths, to lead a movement to create future STEM leaders and entrepreneurs by building confidence in students with dyslexia and equipping educators on helping them to learn.

The Dyslexic Edge: Pathways to STEM Excellence Conference is where we begin to change the conversation about dyslexia education. This conference, brought to you through a collaborative effort of the following organizations: George Mason University College of Sciences, Sliding Doors STEM & Dyslexia Learning Center, and Decoding Dyslexia Virginia, is intended for:

- Educators
- Industry professionals
- Parents
- Students from kindergarten to the university level

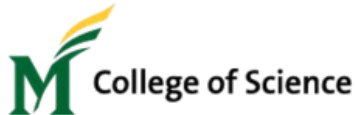
We will present a myriad of speakers, workshops, and panels all designed on how to best educate children with dyslexia so they ALL reach their full potential. Topics include:

- The science of dyslexia
- The STEM Dyslexia connection
- Best teaching practices in reading and in STEM fields
- Identifying dyslexia
- Assistive technology
- Evaluating for dyslexia
- Inspiring speakers with dyslexia
- And more!

The vision for 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. Our goal for this event is bring new people from industry and education into the conversation so that ALL of us can help these children become our future STEM leaders. This conference is the first step in an initiative that will spawn into summer camps, a teaching academy, and more.

To make this event a success, we are looking to build a network of partners who will support it in a variety of ways. We are currently looking for:

- Corporate and Private Sponsors – Facilities sponsor, t-shirt sponsor, VIP Luncheon, speaker fees
- Speakers/ Panelists
- Booths for STEM-A-Palooza
- Social Media Partners



Family Folder Flyers

The following flyers can be found on the website in the folder labeled "November 29, 2018 "(or [CLICK HERE](#)). For your convenience, some flyers are repeated.

School Flyers:

1. Santa's Ride - flyer
2. Miracle at Midnight Costume Call - updated flyer
3. NJHS Christmas Dress Down Day - flyer
2. Chess Club and Coding Club Winter Session - flyer

Parish Flyers:

1. Children's Advent Program
2. High School Youth Group - Christmas Coat Drive
3. Pancake Breakfast - flyer
4. Parish NYE Event - flyer
5. Marian Devotions - flyer

Community Flyers:

1. PVI Middle School Bball Night - flyer
 2. Dyslexic Edge conference - flyer
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