

# From the Principal's Desk

November 9, 2017



## Quick Links

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[School Calendar](#)



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

## Many Heartfelt Thanks

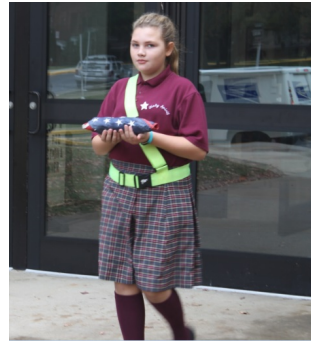
Without hesitation, the word I would use to sum up the PTO's Fire & Ice Auction is "success"!

I cannot thank enough the members of the auction committee: Janine Taylor, Stephanie Aaronson Gallucci, Laura Durback, Laura Fleck, and Kirsten Walker for all of the time and effort that they put into the planning and execution of the auction.

The evening was a fun time all the way around with great conversation, good food and fabulous auction prizes. Thank you to all who attended and all who supported the event. Once again the generosity of the Holy Spirit School community was in full display. Please see below some wrap-up information as well as particulars to the *Learning Today....Leading Tomorrow* campaign that was launched.

A special thank you today to the members of the Knights of Columbus who performed the flag retirement ceremony for our students. It was a wonderful event that exposed our students to yet another facet of what it means to honor our country and our

flag.





Please remember that there is no school tomorrow, Friday, November 10th for the students.

Additionally, we are quickly reaching the Thanksgiving holiday - we have no school beginning Wednesday, November 22nd and return to school on Monday, November 27th.

It is difficult to believe but just around the corner we will begin the registration process for our current families for the 2018/2019 school year. As we begin the administrative tasks associated with this time period it is important for us to get an idea of how many siblings will be joining us next year in the prekindergarten program. If those families who will have a PreK student joining us next year could please email Mrs. Laclede by December 1st that would be great. The prekindergarten program always fills quickly and we would like to be sure we reserve enough slots for siblings.

Thank you for your assistance with this important piece of information.

I would remiss at this point with the weather turning colder if I did not remind you that in the event of inclement weather Holy Spirit School follows the Fairfax County Public School System for delays and/or closures. Be sure to check your local television station for information or sign-up for alerts from FCPS.

Enjoy the weekend.

*-Maureen Ashby*

Principal

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## Holy Spirit School Fire & Ice Auction Wrap-Up

Congratulations to our Raffle Winners:

2 Months Tuition - Lori Gudmundson (Maxim 5S)  
20 Volunteer Hours - Mark & Kendall Holbrook (Brason 3P)  
2 Recess Duty - Court & Michelle Thelen (Lillian 4L &  
Madeline 5B)

Thank you to the 129 people that attended the auction.

Thank you to the families that donated items, donated their time to volunteer, participated in the raffle, donated to help cover the 28 teachers that attended and to the 129 that attended the event.

The Event Raised over \$64,000 and after expenses made over \$45,000 for Holy Spirit; \$23,400 was to the Learning Today...Leading Tomorrow Campaign.

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Holy Spirit School  
*Learning Today....Leading Tomorrow*

# Campaign

For those unable to attend the auction event, we launched our fundraising campaign to update the interactive boards in the classrooms.

Below is the campaign information included in the auction program:

The Promethean ActivBoards that are currently a part of our classrooms range in age from 8 to 12 years old. At the time of purchase these boards were considered "cutting edge" and provided a wide range of interactive capabilities to teachers as they presented curriculum lessons to students. As you can well image, in the span of a decade the technology of interactive boards has changed drastically and the current boards have lived out their life span. As we triage the current devices and replace bulbs and projectors we are sinking hundreds of dollars into each purchase in the hopes of getting just a little more use. Depending on the type of board put into the classroom, some projectors can be replaced, some cannot. I recently learned that the "pens" needed for writing on the boards will no longer be manufactured.

Needless to say it is time...

Time for what though, you may be asking...

Time for the Promethean ActivPanel - the world's first upgradeable Android-based interactive display!

Think interactive tablet on the wall!

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

Upgrading the boards across the entire school in one fell swoop entails outfitting twenty-eight teaching spaces with ActivPanels.

Yes, that is a HUGE goal and at a cost of approximately \$5000.00/board (when buying in quantity) that gives us a fundraising goal of \$140,000.00 - by far the largest technology campaign we've ever launched.

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.

I ask each of you here today to help build the pathways for our children's tomorrow.

Learning Today...Leading Tomorrow.

Those who attended the auction got us off to a tremendous start by donating over \$23,000.00 toward the cost of the boards. We need every family to be a part of our campaign; by clicking on the link below, you too can do your part.

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

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Holy Spirit School  
Spirit Wear  
Veterans Day Celebration

Save 15% on spirit wear and earn 12% back  
to the school when you order by  
November 13, 2017

[Click here to order](#)

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**THE HOLY SPIRIT CHAPTER OF THE  
NJHS**

**IS PLEASED TO SPONSOR OUR SECOND  
ANNUAL WALL OF HEROES**

**IN RECOGNITION OF VETERANS DAY**

**THE WALL OF HEROES IS DEDICATED  
TO MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES;  
AS WELL AS FIRST RESPONDERS,  
ACTIVE, RETIRED AND DECEASED,  
WHO HAVE SERVED AND SACRIFICED  
FOR THE CITIZENS OF THE**

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

Templates were sent home in hard copy with your students. A copy is also available in the Family Folder section below.

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From the Desk of...  
The Holy Spirit Tooth Fairy



Please donate any extra, unopened Halloween  
candy to Holy Spirit School



by Friday, Nov 10, 2017

Candy will be donated to Martha's Table for the  
homeless.

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 WREATHS *across* AMERICA



REMEMBER the Fallen. . . HONOR those who Serve. . . TEACH our children the value of Freedom.



Please Join the Holy Spirit 4-H groups  
*Spirited Cloverbuds & Spirit Flames*

To honor those who served by joining us and others to lay wreaths  
at the grave of every soldier at Arlington National Cemetery.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16<sup>th</sup>

We will be meeting at 8:30 a.m. at the Fashion Center at Pentagon  
City food court. There is plenty of parking and it's Metro  
accessible. From there, we will walk to the Cemetery together.

Want to attend? Please email Mr. Pietuszka  
([MPietuszka@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:MPietuszka@holyspiritflames.org)) within your email, please  
include the names (first and last) of each person in your party and  
a good cell phone number to reach you that morning.

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Do you love to *sing*?  
Are you looking for a way to *serve* the *church*?

Join the  
**Saint Cecilia Youth Choir**



Directed by **Mrs. Lisa Gullickson**

All Singers in **grades 3-12** are welcome!

We sing the Sunday **9:00 Mass** at **Holy Spirit Church**  
We rehearse every **Thursday** in the church choir loft from **5:00-6:30 pm**.

If you are interested, email Mrs. Gullickson  
[lgullickson@holyspirtchurch.us](mailto:lgullickson@holyspirtchurch.us)  
Or call the Director of Liturgical Music, Alberto Gonzalez at  
703.978.8074

# 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!



[Click here for the December 2017 and January 2018 school lunch menus.](#)

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.

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## Family Folder Flyers

The following flyers can be found on the website in the folder labeled "November 9, 2017 "(or [CLICK HERE](#)). For your convenience, some flyers are repeated.

### School Flyers:

1. December lunch menu
2. January lunch menu
3. 7th & 8th Grade HS Dance Flyer
4. 7th & 8th Grade Dance Emergency Contact form
5. Veteran's Day - Wall of Heroes flyer & template
6. Wreaths Across America

### Parish Flyers:

1. HS Parish - Spaghetti Dinner
2. St. Cecilia Parish Choir

### Community Flyers:

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