



April 27, 2023



**Holy Spirit School**  
***Inspiring Minds/Igniting Hearts***  
**2022/2023**  
**"Joy"**

## Are You Ready to Bid?

### **Holy Spirit Talent Showcase and Dance** **April 29<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Silent Auction, 50/50 Raffle, and Door Prizes!**

The Talent Showcase is proud to offer a Silent Auction, 50/50 Raffle, and Door Prizes during the show. All proceeds go to support Holy Spirit School PTO!

#### **Online Silent Auction "Holy Spirit Perks"**

Show your interest in these "perks" by participating in our online silent auction. Bidding opens Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm and concludes at 7:30 pm Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>.

Available "perks" include:

§ **Reserved First Spot for Carpool Line** – A guaranteed first place spot in the carpool line each day for the 2023/2024 school term. Arrive when you want, always leave first!

§ **Reserved First Spot for Vanpool** – A guaranteed first spot in the vanpool lot. No minimum number of kids required to be the first car out of school for the entire 2023/24 school term!

§ **Reserved Front Row Pew for First Holy Communion on May 6 (next weekend)** – A guaranteed premier photo spot. Reserve the front pew for the 2023 First Holy Communion for your family. The view doesn't get any better!

§ **Reserved Front Row Pew for Confirmation (fall 2023)** – A guaranteed premier

photo spot. Reserve the front pew for the 2023 Confirmation for your family. The view doesn't get any better!

§ **Reserved Front Row Seating for the Christmas Show (K-4 grades)**– Be the envy of the school with front row seats for your family to the 2023 Christmas show! The best seats in the house!

§ **NEW! Lunch date with Mrs. Ashby**– Reserve a special lunch date for 3 students with Mrs. Ashby before the end of the 2022/23 school term. This “perk” includes lunch provided by Mrs. Ashby, a special dining location (on the school grounds), and a treat!

§ **NEW! Lunch date with Mrs. Stich**– Reserve a special lunch date for 3 students with Mrs. Stich before the end of the 2022/23 school term. This “perk” includes lunch provided by Mrs. Stich, a special dining location (on the school grounds), and a treat!

§ **NEW! Lunch date with Mrs. Evans**– Reserve a special lunch date for 3 students with Mrs. Evans before the end of the 2022/23 school term. This “perk” includes lunch provided by Mrs. Evans, a special dining location (on the school grounds), and a treat!

## **50/50 Raffle**

Join in to win the 50/50 Raffle! Tickets are \$5 per ticket or 5 for \$20. Don't forget to bring cash to participate! We will call one winner at the end of the night, and you must be present to win!

## **Door Prizes**

Your ticket in the door will give you access to drawings all evening long! You must be present to win!

## In-Person Silent Auction

Show your love! Check out the beautiful baskets of donations received from our school community:

Fun in the Sun Tote



Family Game Night

Life's a Beach Trip Set



Ultimate Gamer Basket

S'more to Love Basket



In It to Win It Basket

Parents' Night Out



Road Trip Ready!



Bishop O'Connell HS  
Spirit Gear



Bishop Ireton HS  
Spirit Gear



Pizza Madness Basket



Holy "Spirits" Collection



Let's All Go to the Movies



**GOLDEN TICKET**

A limited number of Dress-Down-Day coupons for next year will be available for a specified price at the event. If there is enough interest, we will draw winners from those interested.

**Watch for a "Special From the Principals Desk" blast on Friday afternoon just prior to the opening of the online site**

**Good luck! And may the best bidders win!!  
See you at the show!**

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## **Thank you Porto Charities!**

Porto Charities (<https://www.portocharities.org/>) has been a long-time financial supporter of Holy Spirit School's Resource Department, and more specifically, the Expanded Services portion of the department. Over the eight year partnership we have had with them, Porto has provided not just financial support, but has sponsored professional development for teachers and has led us to the wonderful employment of Ms. Veronica Brown, an accomplished young woman who herself has an intellectual disability, but who has a daily impact on the entire community as a classroom and office assistant.

Earlier this week, representatives from Porto Charities, Mr. Leo Alonso and Mr. Larry Rzepka presented a grant check to Father O'Donohue and members of the Resource Department team to assist us in the school's endeavors in the area of Special Education.

Porto Charities, with the blessing of Bishop Burbidge, has put forth an ambitious program to expand their community reach and impact and as a part of that expansion, the organization is holding its 1st Annual Advocacy Awards on June 24, 2023.

Porto Charities is a worthy organization if you are looking to support a true community partner. I encourage you look at their website to see all that they do and consider supporting the group's 1st Annual Advocacy Awards Dinner.



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## What time does school start?

Seems like an odd question to ask at this time of the year, but just a little reminder that the bell to begin the school day does ring at 8:00 am.

As I stand outside each morning I have watched the number of cars arriving after 8:00 grow and grow. So, this week I did some counting and there were, on any given day, between 60 and 80 families who are arriving after the 8:00 bell rings. Considering that there are only 300 families in the school and 40 of them are prekindergarten families who drop off in the back of the school, it can be said there are a significant number of students who are not benefiting from having time in their homeroom classroom to get settled and begin the day without rushing.

Believe me, I understand what it is like to get children up, moving, and out of the house, but I encourage families to plan for sleepy and tired children and traffic in order to arrive before that bell rings.

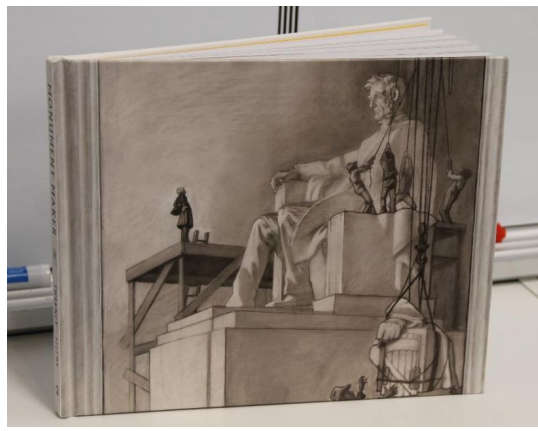
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A reminder that interims for T3 go home this Friday, April 28th.

Friday, May 5th is an early dismissal day (Extended Day is open) for teacher professional development in the afternoon.

There are several upcoming annual events on our May calendar including Mothers Day Mass and receptions, Field Day, and Lunch on the Lawn. Please be sure to look at the information below for details.

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**Sometimes the right book is all it takes to nurture a child's love of reading**

The library is looking to expand its collection and offerings to students. Parents, if you have picture, chapter, and/or fiction books that your child(ren) no longer reads please consider donating them to the library. I am working to expand our collection and offerings to the students.

Thank you!

Mrs. Coney

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NJHS Presents

# MAY THE FOURTH BE WITH YOU

A Star Wars themed dress down day  
on May 4th

Bring \$1 to participate

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*PLEASE JOIN US!*



Holy Spirit School  
Mother's Day Mass

May 12, 2023  
9:00am

Light refreshments will be served after mass in your children's classrooms.

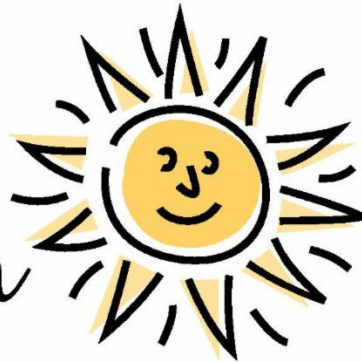
Students should arrive at school with their guest in time for the 9:00 am Mass in the church. If students will not have a guest that day they are welcome to arrive at school at regular time.

If Moms are unable to come then Grandmas, aunts, or friends are welcome to stand in for you.

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*It's right around the corner!*

# Lunch on the Lawn



**May 24, 2023**

6, 7, 8<sup>th</sup> Grades 11:15-12:00

3, 4, 5<sup>th</sup> Grades 11:50-12:35

K, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grades 12:25-1:10

Prek - watch for information from your teacher as to the time

Students should bring a bag lunch and a towel/blanket on which to sit. We will eat on the parish lawn and enjoy the great outdoors!

Parents are highly encouraged to join us!

**Please do not forget there is NO hot lunch served this day.**



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**5K Spirit Run 2023!!**  
**Early Bird Registration Ends April 30th!**





Register [HERE](#) for the 5K Spirit Run!

Sponsorship Information Found [HERE!](#)

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**Thoughtful Moments**

**Why does Easter matter?**

Jesus died so that we might live. In fact, He died so that we might live forever. If we truly believe in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, that belief must cause us to live differently. Easter gives us confidence that the darkness in our past can be forgiven, our present has meaning, and we can have hope for the future. The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is the most important event in human history.

**Come together in silence.**

Saint Teresa of Calcutta said, "We need to find God, and he cannot be found in noise and restlessness. God is the friend of silence." Once a week, turn off the television, computers, video games and telephones for fifteen minutes. Sit in silence together and listen for God's voice.

*"Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but (H)im who sent me" (Mark 9:37).*



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**Live with Easter joy throughout the year**

The Church gives us a whole season to celebrate the Resurrection of Christ on Easter, ending on Pentecost (May 28). Here are five ways to spread Easter joy beyond the season:

**Praise God daily together.** Christ's Resurrection is a source of hope. Without it, getting to Heaven would be impossible for us. Offer prayers of praise and thanksgiving together every day.

**Celebrate our new life.** Plant an indoor Easter garden that you can tend all year. Point out new leaves, blossoms, or shoots when they appear, and remember that Easter brings us all new life.

**"Tell me a story."** Jesus told marvelous stories to help us understand God's love for us. Add

Jesus' stories to your regular bedtime story selection and help children fall asleep with sweet dreams of God's love.

**Fast before the feast.** The pain of Good Friday makes the joy at Easter more intense. Observe every Friday as a day of penance. For example, in addition to abstaining from meat, consider making Friday night a no-dessert or a no-computer game night. Then, on Sunday, treat yourselves to whatever you gave up.

**Celebrate Easter every week.** At every Mass, we receive the Resurrected Christ. He is as present to us as He was to Mary Magdalene outside the tomb. Don't miss a chance to celebrate "Little Easter" every Sunday.



**Why Do Catholics Do That?**

**Why are roses associated with Mary?**

For centuries, Our Lady has been associated with roses, traditionally considered the "queen" of flowers in Europe and the Middle East for their beauty, nobility, delicacy, and fragrance. They have also been linked to royalty. In apparitions,



Mary has appeared with roses at Lourdes, Guadalupe, and La Salette. One of her titles is "Mystical Rose." This connection was so strong, people compared praying sets of Hail Marys to a "wreath of roses" called a "rosarium"—now known as the Rosary.

-Maureen Ashby

Principal

Holy Spirit School PTO



**Upcoming Events:**

May 19<sup>th</sup> – Field Day is coming – 8:00 am – 1:00 pm. Please volunteer and join us in one of the most fun events of the year! Check out [Connect 1](#) for three separate sign-ups -- one for Team Coach (64 Virtus compliant parents needed); one for coolers with waters (one needed for each classroom); and one for an array of other ways to help (there are so many options!) More information will be shared closer to the event. Questions? Email the Field Day Committee at [Jessica.A.Driscoll@gmail.com](mailto:Jessica.A.Driscoll@gmail.com)

**Next PTO Meeting: May 16<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm.** This meeting can be found at the following link (more information to follow):

[https://holyspiritflames.zoom.us/j/87077053723?](https://holyspiritflames.zoom.us/j/87077053723?pwd=SkJiMEdsWHcvKzdVZC9qN09GdlgrZz09)

[pwd=SkJiMEdsWHcvKzdVZC9qN09GdlgrZz09](https://holyspiritflames.zoom.us/j/87077053723?pwd=SkJiMEdsWHcvKzdVZC9qN09GdlgrZz09)

Meeting ID: 821 0184 5095      Passcode: 896019

**Connect1:**

If you need more assistance with Connect 1 you can either contact Tom Fields at [PTOPSSC@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:PTOPSSC@holyspiritflames.org) or visit <https://app.connect1.io/volunteers/gmgujg6pp>

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**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual  
Holy Spirit School Fundraiser**

Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023 9:00am-6:00pm

*Out of the Bubble*

**Out of the Bubble Bakery  
6230-A Rolling Rd., Springfield, VA**

Offering coffee, tea, allergy-friendly and gluten-free baked goods in many delicious flavors

10% of the day's in-store sales go to Holy Spirit School.

***Stop by after the 5K and look for the special cupcake  
in Holy Spirit colors!***



View flavors and other information at:

<https://obubblebakery.com>

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**Field Day** is coming -- mark your calendars for **Friday, May 19, 8 am - 1 pm**. Please volunteer and join us in one of the most fun events of the year! Check out [Connect 1](#) for three separate sign-ups -- one for Team Coach (64 Virtus compliant parents needed); one for coolers with waters (one needed for each classroom); and one for an array of other ways to help (there are so many options!) More information will be shared closer to the event. Questions? Email the Field Day Committee at [jessica.a.driscoll@gmail.com](mailto:jessica.a.driscoll@gmail.com)

## **PTO Executive Board Nominations**

**Have you thought about serving our school community in a new way? Do you know someone who would make a great Executive Board member?**

**The nomination form for the 23/24 academic year is now open!**

**Deadline for nominations is May 1st.**

[Click here to access Nomination Form](#)

Need a bit more information? Take a look at the PSSC Handbook or contact a current Executive Board member.

## PTO Board 2022 - 2023

President - Christine Ploschke - [PTOPresident@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:PTOPresident@holyspiritflames.org)

Vice President - Trevor Lowing - [PTOVP@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:PTOVP@holyspiritflames.org)

Treasurer - Danielle Hetzler - [PTOTreasurer@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:PTOTreasurer@holyspiritflames.org)

Secretary - Lee Conroy - [PTOSecretary@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:PTOSecretary@holyspiritflames.org)

Volunteer Coordinator - Mary Sonnen - [PTOVPMembership@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:PTOVPMembership@holyspiritflames.org)

Fundraising Coordinator - Toni O'Neill - [PTOVDevelopment@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:PTOVDevelopment@holyspiritflames.org)

Homeroom Parent Coordinator - Valerie Overstreet - [PTOHomeroomCoordinator@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:PTOHomeroomCoordinator@holyspiritflames.org)

## Volunteering

Please remember that you must be fully compliant with the Child Protection policies of the Diocese in order to perform recess duty and to volunteer in activities where students are present.

# Parish Happenings!

Marian Homes, Inc.

## Document Shredding Event

A Knights of Columbus Charity  
Maintaining group homes for intellectually disabled individuals



**May 6th**  
**10 AM - 12 Noon**  
**Upper Parking Lot**


Bring your old documents, cancelled checks, paper, manila envelopes, etc.  
NO newspapers, magazines, card board, 3-ring binders, hard drives, discs, etc.

*(Donations accepted)*

For more information, contact:  
[Knights@holyspiritchurch.us](mailto:Knights@holyspiritchurch.us)



*Holy Spirit Church Presents*  
*Vacation Bible School 2023*



**Who Is My Neighbor?**  
**LEARNING TO LOVE LIKE JESUS**

*June 19 - 23*  
*9 am - 12 pm*  
*Lunch is included.*


*Adult and Youth Volunteers are needed.*  
*Children of adult volunteers attend for free.*

*Registration opening soon.*


Associates of SAINT JOHN BOSCO

# COLLEGE NIGHTS


Bridging the Gap of Faith



Student testimonials



Peer connections



Small groups sessions

June 28: St. Mark's  
July 3: St. Michael's  
July 12: Holy Trinity (NEW location!)  
July 19: Basilica of St. Mary  
July 26: Holy Cross Academy

All rising college freshmen and transfer students may register for FREE at [ASJB.org](http://ASJB.org).  
All events begin at 7PM.

Vivat



Jesus!

Knights of Columbus  
Holy Spirit Council 11922  
Wishes Holy Spirit's Priests, Deacons, and Parishioners  
Happy Easter And a Joyful Easter Season!



Business/Social Meeting 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the Month 8PM  
Planning Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the Month 8PM  
Rosary before meetings start time 7:40PM  
Holy Spirit School Quinn Room



Mark your Calendars | Save the Date

## Spring Appreciation Dinner Dance

May 20, 2023 | 6:30 PM Start | Holy Spirit Cafeteria and Gym

K of C Holy Spirit Council Thanks Holy Spirit Parish for over 25 years of Support, especially Charter GK Chuck Bennett and charter members.

Everyone is welcome to join this celebration with Dinner and Dancing. Brother Knight & DJ Deacon Malcom will be leading the dance in the gym.

RSVP (required by May 10): \$25/person 12 and up, \$12 kids 5-12, Kids 0-4 free Family Max \$100, Price includes Dinner, Drinks, Dessert, and Dancing.

To RSVP email GK Tom at [Knights@HolySpiritChurch.us](mailto:Knights@HolySpiritChurch.us)

Make checks payable to K of C Holy Spirit Council #11922 and mail check to: K of C Holy Spirit Council, P.O. Box 225, Burke, VA 22009

# Community Happenings!



2023 D.C. UNITED

# FAITH & FAMILY NIGHT

SATURDAY, MAY 13 | 7:30 PM

D.C. UNITED vs INNOVATION

JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP! EACH TICKET INCLUDES ACCESS TO A FAITH TESTIMONIAL WITH A D.C. UNITED PLAYER AND TEAM CHAPLAIN.

TO PURCHASE TICKETS, VISIT  
[HTTPS://FEVO.ME/DCUFAITH23](https://FEVO.ME/DCUFAITH23)  
FOR GROUPS OF TEN OR MORE, SCAN THE BARCODE OR EMAIL  
[SMCGRATH@DCUNITED.COM](mailto:SMCGRATH@DCUNITED.COM)



# Bishop Iretton High School SUMMER CAMPS

All camp descriptions and more information can be found online at: [bishopiretton.org/summercamps](http://bishopiretton.org/summercamps)

Morning sessions run from 9 am - 12 pm  
Afternoon sessions run from 12:30-3:30 pm

Sign up by April 1, 2023 for an early bird discount! Prices go up \$25 per camp session after April 1.

Questions? Contact Camp Director, Kieran Mitchell at: [summercamps@bishopiretton.org](mailto:summercamps@bishopiretton.org)

Early drop off and lunch are available for purchase upon registering for camp.

Registration cancellations will incur a \$25 administrative fee.

Please note that all registrations are non-refundable thirty days from the date camp begins.



ART CAMP	
■ June 20-23 Morning and Afternoon Session	\$220
■ July 5-7 Morning and Afternoon Session	\$165
■ July 26-28 Morning and Afternoon Session	\$275
ATHLETIC CONDITIONING	
■ June 20-23 Afternoon Session	\$220
■ June 26-30 Afternoon Session	\$275
■ July 5-7 Morning and Afternoon Session	\$165
■ July 10-14 Afternoon Session	\$275
■ July 27-28 Afternoon Session	\$275
BABYSITTER TRAINING	
■ June 20-23 Morning and Afternoon Session	\$220
BAND CAMP	
■ July 10-14 Morning Session	\$275
BASEBALL CAMP - BOYS	
■ June 26-30 Morning Session	\$275
BASKETBALL CAMP	
■ June 26-30 Morning and Afternoon Session - Boys Camp	\$275
■ July 5-7 Afternoon Session - Boys Camp	\$165
■ July 27-28 Morning and Afternoon Session - Boys Camp	\$275
■ June 20-23 Afternoon Session - Girls Camp	\$220
■ July 5-7 Morning Session - Girls Camp	\$165
■ July 10-14 Morning and Afternoon Session - Girls Camp	\$275
CHORAL CAMP	
■ July 10-14 Morning Session	\$275
COMPUTER CAMP - PROGRAMMING WORKSHOPS	
■ June 26-30 Morning and Afternoon Session	\$275

Camps are co-ed unless otherwise indicated.



## BISHOP O'CONNELL CHEERLEADING CLINIC

**SATURDAY, APRIL 29  
11AM-1:45 PM**

**\$30 Registration**  
6th grade and up are welcome!



Scan QR Code

**Come learn skills from current team members, meet the new coaching staff, and get ready for the upcoming season!**

Pizza lunch to follow in Cafeteria

Questions? Email [ckennedy@bishopoconnell.org](mailto:ckennedy@bishopoconnell.org)

**DON'T MISS OUT!**

# SUMMER CAMPS

AT BISHOP O'CONNELL HIGH SCHOOL




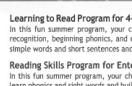
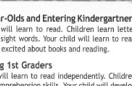


Digital Game Development • Sports Management  
Creative Writing • Field Hockey  
Entrepreneurs • Basketball • Young Debaters  
Baseball • Cybersecurity • Band  
Volleyball • Web Development  
Video Production • Lacrosse • Theatre  
Junior Veterinarians ...and more!

[bishopoconnell.org/summercamps](http://bishopoconnell.org/summercamps)



## Summer Reading Skills PROGRAMS

**Learning to Read Program for 4-Year-Olds and Entering Kindergarten**  
In this fun summer program, your child will learn to read. Children learn letter recognition, beginning phonics, and easy sight words. Your child will learn to read simple words and short sentences and get excited about books and reading.

**Reading Skills Program for Entering 1st Graders**  
In this fun summer program, your child will learn to read independently. Children learn phonics and sight words and build comprehension skills. Your child will develop a love of books and reading and get off to a great start in first grade.

**Reading Skills Program for Entering 2nd Graders**  
In this fun summer program, your child will become a confident fluent reader. Children build solid phonics and word attack skills, develop reading fluency, and improve comprehension. Your child will develop a love of books and reading and get off to a great start in second grade.

**Reading Skills Program for Entering 3rd Graders**  
In this fun summer program, your child will become a strong, enthusiastic reader. Children improve reading fluency and develop excellent comprehension. They build long-word decoding skills and expand their vocabulary. Your child will gain confidence, develop a lifelong love of books and reading, and get off to a great start in third grade.

**Reading and Writing Skills Programs for Entering 4th and 5th Graders**  
In these fun summer programs, your child will become a skilled, confident reader with strong comprehension skills in fiction, nonfiction, and textbooks. Students expand their vocabulary and learn the best way to take notes. They become stronger writers who can effectively communicate their ideas. As a result, your child will complete homework more quickly and easily, get better grades, and enjoy reading more.

**Reading and Writing Skills Programs for Entering 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th Graders**  
In these single-grade programs, your son or daughter will make substantial gains in comprehension in fiction and nonfiction and learn to read twice as fast. Students expand their vocabulary and learn the best way to take notes. They become stronger writers who can effectively communicate their ideas. As a result, your child will complete homework more quickly and easily, get better grades, and build confidence as a reader.

**College Prep Program for Entering 11th, 12th, and College Freshmen**  
In this program, students learn the skills they need to succeed in high school and college. Your son or daughter will double reading speed and improve comprehension, recall, and focus. Students become stronger writers and learn effective time management and study strategies that help them complete work efficiently, get better grades, and score higher on exams.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER**  
**Call 1-800-715-2808**  
Mon-Fri, 8am-9pm, Sat, 8am-7pm and Sun, 11am-6pm



## FAMILY FOLDER

The following flyers may be found in the folder labeled "April 27, 2023" on the website. For your convenience, some flyers are repeated.



School Flyers:

1. NJHS Star Wars dress down day flyer
2. Mothers' Day Mass and Reception flyer
3. Lunch on the Lawn flyer
4. PTO Bakery Fundraiser flyer
5. Partners in Faith (May) newsletter

## 5K Spirit Run

1. Sponsorship information

### Parish Flyers:

1. Vacation Bible School flyer
2. Document Shredding Event flyer
3. Knights of Columbus Spring Appreciation Dinner Dance
4. College Nights

### Community Flyers:

1. Porto Charities 1st Annual Advocacy Awards
2. Faith and Family Night at DC United
3. BI Summer Camps flyers
4. Summer Reading Skills program flyer
5. Bishop O'Connell Summer Camps flyer
6. Bishop O'Connell Cheerleading Clinic flyer