

April 4, 2024



Holy Spirit School
Inspiring Minds/Igniting Hearts
2023/2024
"Faithfulness"

Reminder for Monday, April 8th

On Monday, April 8th (the day we return from the Easter break), a total solar eclipse will be making its way across North America. Here in Annandale we will experience a partial eclipse with a projected maximum coverage of the sun at 87.3%. The partial eclipse is expected to begin at 2:03pm and last until 4:33pm.

The partial eclipse will still be "active" during our normal dismissal time and it is noted that certified eye protection is needed in order to view the partial eclipse.

In order to have your children safely in your care and under your supervision for any viewing, it has been decided that we will release students EARLY on April 8th. We will begin dismissal at 1:30pm.

For those who use vanpool, please be in your spots by 1:20pm so that the chains may be closed.

We will keep afternoon Extended Day open and will keep the children inside until after 4:33pm.

Thank you for noting the change to the schedule. If you would like to pick your child up earlier, please send an email to the homeroom teacher, as well as the front office.

When we return from the break, students will move into the Spring uniform.

Spring pictures will be taken on April 18th. All students will have their picture taken. This is a BEST DRESS picture. There should not be any students in shorts, jeans, t-shirts, leggings, or very short skirts/dresses. Although sandals look really cute with Spring dresses, for safety reasons students must be in footwear that is close-toed and that has a back to it.



Did you create your own Holy Moment this week? Did you use the celebration of Jesus' resurrection to put into action all that you have learned and practiced with regard to holy moments? We hope you did!

9th Annual

**5K
RUN
& WALK**

To Support the Holy Spirit Resource Program

**SATURDAY
MAY 18, 2024**

EARLY REGISTRATION
\$25
PER PERSON UNTIL
APRIL 24TH



ONLINE REGISTRATION IS
REQUIRED.

FOR MORE
INFORMATION
PLEASE EMAIL:
sgibbons@holyspiritflames.org



[Click Here to Register!](#)

**BE SURE TO NOTE THE DEADLINE FOR ORDERING A
YEARBOOK!**

HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL

PURCHASE THE
2024
YEARBOOK



BUYTHEYEARBOOK.COM
SCHOOL ID: 7236153-2401

\$20

**DEADLINE IS
APRIL 15TH!!**



NEW! April's Partners in Faith Newsletter!

Thoughtful Moments

St. Gemma Galgani
 Born in Tuscany in 1878 to a devout Catholic family, St. Gemma's life was marked by consolation and suffering. Early on, she loved to pray, mystically conversing with Jesus, Mary, and her Guardian Angel. She suffered the loss of half her family to tuberculosis and was prevented from entering the Passionist Order due to her own poor health. She died of tuberculosis at the age of 25.

Religion, front and center
 Treat children's religious education classes as the most important education they receive. Make attendance and homework as much a priority as "regular" school. Mastering the content they learn may not get them into college, but it will guarantee their entrance into someplace even more important.

"Truly, the Lord is awaiting to be gracious to you, truly, he shall rise to show you mercy. For the Lord is a God of justice; happy are all who wait for him!" (Isaiah 30:18)



Family habits that can help keep youngsters Catholic

Recent studies have revealed that many Catholic children leave the Faith when they leave high school. Those who remain faithful to Jesus come from families who follow four "best practices."

Cultivate communion: Researchers found that families who shared a meal regularly are more likely to raise faithful Catholic adults. It's a powerful way to strengthen communion, teach values, and share a love for Jesus. Resolve to have family meals three or four times weekly (without screens).

Be open to questions: Most young people leave the Church because they had many faith-based questions but no answers. Encourage children to ask and seek the answers together. Teach them how to use reliable sources, starting with the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* or turn to your local pastor.

Form a prayer tradition: Keep it simple. Gather around a Crucifix to pray for intentions and exchange a sign of peace. Let a different child lead the "nightly decade," or sing a hymn together and offer a blessing before bedtime. Make prayer whatever works for you.

Encourage service: Faithful adults tend to grow up in families that prioritized service to the poor. Look for a way to donate time, talent or treasure to those in need. Your parish may need your support of one of its ministries. Let God's priorities shape your own.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics celebrate Communion?

The Mass is the most important and powerful gift we have as Catholics. Holy Communion brings us into union - heart to heart - with Jesus, really and truly present. When He enters a soul, He brings with Him countless graces: peace, healing, remission for

venial sins, strength, spiritual nourishment, and a "love...strong as death" (Song of Songs 8:6). When Jesus enters the sanctuary of our hearts in Holy Communion, and especially at one's First Communion, it's a cause for joyful celebration.



-Maureen Ashby

Principal

Holy Spirit School PTO



Upcoming PTO Events

Saturday, April 13th

Spring Talent Show, Auction and Dance 5:30pm – 9:30pm (Doors open at 5:00pm)
 Bidding begins at 8pm Friday night and closes 8pm Saturday night for those that cannot attend in person
 See Volunteer Opportunities and flier below for more information.

Tuesday, April 16th

PTO Meeting 6:30 – 7:30pm via [Zoom](#)
 Meeting ID: 895 9844 5225 Passcode: 268985
 See Volunteer Opportunities for more information and flier for reservation form.

Volunteer Opportunities (1 point/30 mins volunteered)

Talent Show - Show Trainee and Dinner Trainee (40 PSSC points each) Virtus Certification is NOT required

The Spring Talent Show will be held on Saturday, April 13th in the gym and we need volunteers to support the **planning process** to make it a success! The 2024 Show Trainee and Dinner Trainee will support the planning and preparation for the big event and will ideally be the Show Chairman and Dinner Chairman in 2025. These positions will have a superstar showing you the ropes with 16 years of experience running the show on his own! Our very own Joe Terpenning will be retiring, and this will be his final year with us. Take advantage of this opportunity to learn the ropes before his departure. See the flier below for additional details.

Questions? Contact Joe Terpenning Jterpenning@infinitetech.org

Talent Show & Dance Event Night Volunteers

There are many job opportunities for anyone who would like to contribute supplies or help out on the day of the show. Check out [Connect1](#) for all opportunities available.

Questions? Contact Joe Terpenning jterpenning@infinitetech.org

April PTO Meeting

Join us via [Zoom](#) on **Tuesday, April 16th at 6:30pm** and hear from your PTO president, Mrs. Ploschke, your principal, Mrs. Ashby, and various committees about what is going on at Holy Spirit School this year. Have an idea to share? Want to provide feedback on something? This is a great opportunity for all families to share your thoughts, stay up to date and connect with other parents and the PTO board. For meeting details and to earn PSSC points for attending, please be sure to sign up in [Connect1](#).

Questions? Contact Kristyn Poreba PTOSecretary@holyspiritflames.org

Field Day

It's time to start planning for one of the most fun days of the school year: **Field Day!** It will be Friday, May 17. If you need volunteer hours, this is an awesome way to fill them! There are so many volunteer opportunities for Field Day, found in three separate signs ups in Connect One. You can search "Field Day 2024" to find these:

[Field Day 2024](#) (a myriad of opportunities!)

[Field Day 2024: Team Coach](#) (very fun! Must be fully child protection compliant)

[Field Day 2024: Coolers with Waters and Ice](#) (one needed to each classroom)

Questions? Email Jessica Driscoll jessica.a.driscoll@gmail.com.

Reminders

In order to volunteer with any youth in the Arlington Diocese, you must be [Child Protection Compliant](#).

Parents or legal guardians of each student(s) registered at Holy Spirit School are required to earn a minimum of 20 hours (40 PSSC points) per family or 10 hours (20 PSSC points) for single parent families (single parent families also include families with a deployed spouse) of combined volunteer service during the current school year. For more information, reference the [PSSC Handbook](#).

Calling All Bidders!!!

The Spring Auction is Back!

For the third year in a row you have the opportunity to bid on fantastic baskets donated by fellow Holy Spirit families at the Talent Show on April 13th. The basket themes are awesome this year:

Holy Spirits (100% proof cool)
Fun in the Sun
Spa Day
H2Ohhhh (All things water – check it out)
The Italian Basket
And many many more!

The following School Perks will also be available for bidding online (website link coming next week):

First Spot at Carpool/Pick up Line
First Spot at Vanpool
Front Row Reserved at the Christmas Show
Front Pew Reserved at Holy Communion
Front Pew Reserved at Confirmation
Lunch for 3 students with Mrs. Ashby
Lunch for 3 students with Mrs. Evans
Lunch for 3 students with Mrs. Stich

No attendance required, don't miss out, bidding starts Friday the 12th at 8pm and closes at exactly 8pm on Saturday the 13th:

HOLY SPIRIT TALENT SHOW & DANCE



WE NEED LEADERS!!

This year the Talent Show will be transitioning to a new leadership format. In preparation for next year's show, we would like to recruit and train a few key roles this year.

Show Chairman: This leader would coordinate and run the show. This includes hosting the Sign Up Day to recruit acts, prepare the lineup the night of the show, and coordinate the DJ and the stage crew volunteers. This position does not have to be an Emcee, but can. The position is fulfilled with the preparations of the show and the final performance.

Dinner Chairman: This leader would coordinate the caterers and oversee Dinner/Dessert setup, work with Holy Spirit facilities on room setup, oversee decorating, and oversee check in when the doors open.

Both of these leadership roles are exciting and fun. More importantly, they are essential elements to make this annual tradition and school favorite successful. If interested, please contact Joe Terpenning (jterpenning@infinitech.org) with questions and training.

HOLY SPIRIT TALENT SHOW & DANCE



WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

SIGNUP AND HELP MAKE THIS EVENT AWESOME!!

WE NEED HELP WITH THE SIGNUP EVENT ON FEBRUARY 13TH AFTER SCHOOL AND WE NEED HELP THE NIGHT OF THE SHOW ON APRIL 13TH. WE NEED SERVERS, CHECK-IN HELP, DECORATORS, CAKES, DRINKS, STAGE HELP & AUDITION HELP!

Holy Spirit School's Talent Showcase

Dinner & Dance

Saturday, April 13th 5:30-9:30 PM (DOORS OPEN AT 5:00)

RESERVATION FORM

TALENT * DANCING * DINING * FUN

AWESOME ACTS, ART, RAFFLES AND MORE

Registration includes catered dinner and DJ, with dancing after the show. Pre-registration is required.

ADULT MENU

Seared Chicken w/ Gazpacho Salsa - Italian Sausage w/ Pepper - Orzo w/ Roasted Vegetables
Italian Salad - Assorted Rolls & Butter - Cake - Beverages - Coffee

STUDENT MENU (6 & under 4)

Chicken Nuggets - Penne Pasta

Name: _____

adult meals (\$22.50 ea) _____ # student meals (\$12.50 ea) _____

Under 4 (free) _____ Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

return form and payment (check made out to Holy spirit PTO) by April 10th

Physical Tickets will not be provided. Reserved Attendees will be on a check-in list that evening

Make checks payable to Holy Spirit School. Submit form and check via backpack mail: Attn: Joe Terpenning Spring Talent Show Committee c/o Angelica Terpenning grade 8 Rathod

Questions: Email Joe Terpenning at (jterpenning@infinitetech.org)

Holy Spirit School's Annual Talent ShowCase & Dance

Saturday, April 13th, 2024

ART SHOW SIGNUP

The Lobby Art show is looking for works of sculpture, photography, writing, painting, drawing or other displayable media. If you have a talent for creating, the lobby show is looking for you!!

Requirements for Submission: Please include a title, description, and your name and grade on a card with the work submitted.

Deadline for submission: April 9th. Please submit all works to Mrs. Liss by April 9th.

NAME _____

grade/teacher _____

Type of work: _____



PTO Board 2023 - 2024

President - Christine Ploschke - PTOPresident@holyspiritflames.org

Vice President - Rob Wu - PTOVP@holyspiritflames.org

Treasurer - Karin Floyd - PTOTreasurer@holyspiritflames.org

Secretary - Kristyn Poreba - PTOSecretary@holyspiritflames.org

Volunteer Coordinator - Lauren Schmidt - PTOVPMembership@holyspiritflames.org

Fundraising Coordinator - Toni O'Neill - PTOVPDevelopment@holyspiritflames.org

Homeroom Parent Coordinator - Valerie Overstreet - PTOHomeroomCoordinator@holyspiritflames.org

Volunteering

Please remember that you must be fully compliant with the Child Protection policies of the

Parish Happenings!

Vacation Bible School



June 17-21

Vacation Bible School is Holy Spirit's weeklong event where children engage in lots of fun activities, games, and crafts, all while learning about Jesus Christ and the Catholic faith. All rising Kindergarteners through rising 5th graders are invited to participate. Older children (under 18) are welcome as youth assistant volunteers.

For more information, or to register visit www.hotyspiritchurch.us/vbs

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

www.hotyspiritchurch.us/re
(703) 978 - 8925
REStaff@hotyspiritchurch.us

2024 ALL SAINTS CAR RAFFLE

Each **\$5.00 Ticket** gives you a chance to win all 25 prizes, including:



2024 FORD ESCAPE



2024 FORD BRONCO SPORT



2024 FORD MUSTANG



2024 FORD RANGER TRUCK

plus **21 CASH Drawings** totaling **\$40,000**

These pictures are representative of the vehicles; they are not pictures of the actual vehicle, as they have not arrived yet.

Holy Spirit Car Raffle proceeds will help to pay down the unexpected cost of the church sprinkler system installation.

Tickets have been mailed to parishioners.

FOR QUESTIONS OR MORE TICKETS, CONTACT: **Tom Kennedy at tfkinva@aol.com**

Community Happenings!

DON'T MISS OUT!

SUMMER CAMPS

AT BISHOP O'CONNELL HIGH SCHOOL

GRADES 5-8

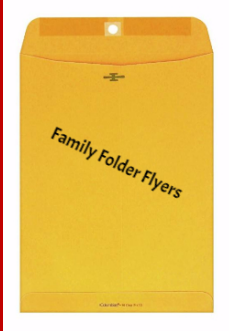


KNIGHTS OF ADVENTURE

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Game Design • Fashion • Gardening • Spanish
Brain Games • Blogging • Forensics • Entrepreneurs
Graphic Design • Photography • Intro to A.I. • Band
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...and more!

bishopoconnell.org/summercamps





The following flyers may be found in the folder labeled "April 4, 2024" on the website. For your convenience, some flyers are repeated.

Family Folder

School Flyers:

1. Yearbook Sale Deadline flyer
2. Partners in Faith (March) newsletter

5K Spirit Run

1. Race Registration information
2. Sponsorship Information

PTO Flyers:

1. PTO Auction 2024
2. PTO Talentshow Sign Up
3. PTO Talentshow Volunteer flyer
4. PTO Talent Showcase Reservation form
5. PTO Talent Showcase Art Show Participation form

Parish Flyers:

1. Vacation Bible School
2. 2024 Car Raffle

Community Flyers:

1. Bishop O'Connell Summer Camps flyer

Holy Spirit School | 8802 Braddock Rd., Annandale, VA 22003

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