

August 4, 2022



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

It's August!!!!

Wow! Where have the weeks of Summer gone?

It is hard to believe in just a few short weeks we will launch our 2022/2023 school year. I pray you are enjoying the time away from school and that you and your children are ready to embrace the new school year and all of the excitement that it holds. We welcome back our returning Holy Spirit families and all those who are new to our community – we look forward to getting to know everyone.

The faculty has chosen the theme of "Joy" as we highlight throughout this Fruit of the Holy Spirit throughout the year. We look forward to continuing to provide opportunities for the students both in and out of classrooms to live the Catholic Faith and to grow in their service to others.

We have a couple of new teaching assignments for the year. Mrs. Molly Guthrie will move to the Resource Department to take over responsibilities as a Reading Resource teacher. Mrs. Shelia Moran moves into a Resource Teacher role as she pursues her licensure in Special Education. Mrs. Patti Zamiska will move into the lead teacher role in one of the prekindergarten classrooms. Mrs. Ann Marie Brown is sliding out from Extended Day into the role of prekindergarten aide.

We also have new faculty and staff members with us this year. In the primary grades the following folks are joining us: Ms. Noelle Hickey in Kindergarten; Mrs. Susan Epperly in

2nd grade; Mrs. Maria Monterroso as a prekindergarten aide; and Mrs. Kirsten Kovak as a 1st grade aide. In the intermediate grades, Ms. Caroline Cahill joins us in 3^d grade and Mrs. Karen Bush in 5th grade. In the middle school, Mr. John Ferguson will have responsibilities as a 6th grade homeroom teacher and will take on the Social Studies classes; Mrs. Christina Slifko will also be a 6th grade homeroom teacher and will teach 6th grade Religion and 8th grade Language Arts; and Mr. Guizen Del Canto will be a 7th grade homeroom teacher and will have responsibility for 8th grade Religion and 7th grade Language Arts. In the “Specials” arena, Ms. Cathleen Sanborn will be the music instructor for school; Mrs. Ellen Coney will make a home for herself in the library; and Ms. Elizabeth Stevenson will take over the technology instructor role. In the Resource Department, Mrs. Melanie Bennett joins us a para-educator.

We are still seeking a 1st grade teacher and an additional para-educator.

If, by chance, your student has not completed his/her summer work, now would be great time to be sure students are on track to have everything finished as most everything is due either the first day or first week of school.

If you have a rising kindergartener or are a new family to the school, all required medical forms must be returned as soon as possible. School law prohibits school attendance without the required documentation. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Forrer.

On August 17th at 6:00 pm the NEW family social sponsored by the PTO will be held on the lawn out in front of the school. We invite all new families (parents and children) to join us.

That night, the PTO is also sponsoring the Roaming Coyote food truck; see the PTO section of the newsletter for details.

On August 23rd there will be an opportunity to meet the teachers, find out homeroom assignments and take a peek at the classrooms. Arrival times are split up to give students a bit more time to really see their teacher. Families with last names from A-M are invited to come by the school between 11:00 am – 12:00 pm. Families with last names from N-Z are invited between 1:00-2:00 pm. We look forward to seeing all of you then and ask that you please not come to school for an extra early sneak peek as the teachers and administrators will be very busy with meetings and classroom set-up.

If you are interested in either Morning Care or Extended Day, the registration document is available on the website, you may send that in now and you will be billed the registration fee via FACTS.

Paperwork needed for the start of the school year will be available for pickup during the August 23rd Meet Your Teacher event. Please return all forms on Wednesday, August 24th.

For **Grades 1-8** Wednesday, August 24th is an 11:30 am dismissal; the rest of the week are full days. No School lunches will be provided the first week of school.

School for **Grades 1-8** begins on August 24th at 8:00 am. Please make every effort to begin the good habit of arriving on time. Drop off begins at 7:40 am; I will see you in the parking lot! Teachers will meet the students outside and escort them to their classrooms. Parents are asked to say their goodbyes as they drop their children off in the carline. (If you want to park and watch from the upper lot after you drop off your children you are welcome to.) Please refer to the handbook that will be posted on the school website for complete directions on arrival and pickup procedures. During the first week of school the vanpool slots for last year will be used with the EXCEPTION of kindergarteners who are

now first graders. These students will be dismissed with the regular carpool unless they are in a group vanpool that used a non-kindergarten slot. Applications for vanpool slots will be sent home in the beginning of the year packet.

A **kindergarten parent meeting** (no students) is scheduled for Wednesday, August 24th at 8:30 am. Kindergartners' first day will be Thursday, August 25th, from 8:00 – 11:30 am (with no afternoon Extended Day for them this first day). The remainder of the week is full days.

The **prekindergarten parent meeting** (no students) is at 9:30 am on Wednesday, August 24th. The prekindergarten orientation for the students and parents is on Thursday, August 25th. Students with last names beginning A through L are asked to come from 9:00 – 9:45 am and students with last names beginning with M through Z are asked to come from 10:00 – 10:45 am. Classes begin for prekindergarten on Friday, August 26th; this is a half day for all PreK students with dismissal at 11:30am (there is no afternoon Extended Day for PreK this first day).

Morning Care will be open at 7:00 am on the first day of school. Morning care is located in the cafeteria. Families should park in the rear of the building and access the cafeteria via the back doors. Grade levels may begin using Morning Care on the following dates:

Grades 1-8 – may begin using Morning Care on Wednesday, August 24th
Kindergarten – may begin using Morning Care on Thursday, August 25th
PreKindergarten – may begin using Morning Care on Friday, August 26th

Afternoon Extended Care for all grades will begin in the cafeteria. Grade levels may begin using Afternoon Extended Care on the following dates:

Grades 1-8 – may begin using Extended Day on Wednesday, August 24th
Kindergarten – may begin using Extended Day on Friday, August 26th
PreKindergarten – may begin using Extended Day on Monday, August 29th
Afternoon Extended Day is closed completely on Friday, September 2nd due to the early dismissal prior to the Labor Day weekend.

Information regarding the calendar, supplies and reading lists can all be found on the webpage www.holyspiritflames.org.

I am looking forward to the start of the new school year. Thank you for allowing us to be a partner in the education of your children.

Welcome Letter 2022

Please find below a letter from Dr. Joseph Vorbach, Superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Arlington with regard to the current guidance on COVID-19.

Superintendent Letter



As the school year closed in June, the owner of Surefire Catering let me know that he would not be returning to our building nor would he be continuing the association we had with him regarding school lunches.

On the advice of the general counsel for the Diocese of Arlington, it was decided that we would not rent out the kitchen space to a new in-house caterer. Therefore research was done of food service companies and our options.

Ultimately, the decision to partner with School Eatery was made.

As we finish the onboarding process with the company, information on establishing family accounts will be provided. Families will order directly from the company via a portal with all costs and fees being collected by the company (i.e. there will no longer be Boonli accounts for school families).

Lunches will be boxed and labeled by the company and delivered to the school in order to be distributed at each lunch period.

Again, as logistics are finalized, information will be provided as to account set-up and the start date for hot lunches.

This arrangement does not impact milk or water purchases. Information on costs for those items will be in the family packet and the one time purchase cost will be collected via FACTS.



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Music to our ears!

Both the Band and Strings programs will return for the 22/23 academic year.

Dr. Hwan-Ah Lee will continue as the instructor for the Strings program. Students in 3rd grade

and above are eligible for this program.

We welcome back the Garwood Whaley Music Program this year. The Band program, which is open to students in grades 4 and above will be led by Dr. Joseph Howell.

Dr. Howell is a Doctor of Musical Arts and Veteran of US Navy Fleet Bands. After his schooling, Dr. Howell worked as a music teacher and musician, first in San Diego and then in the Washington DC area. A few years later, he served a four-year enlistment in the US Navy, performing and deploying all over Asia with the Seventh Fleet Band. While abroad, he also performed as a solo artist and clinician in Japan, India, Singapore, and Hong Kong, and wrote audio review articles for the International Clarinet Association.

As a teacher, Dr. Howell has taught music for over twenty years. In addition to having taught beginning band classes at both public and private schools, he has taught classes, masterclasses, ensembles, and private lessons at all levels, including college. Dr. Howell focuses on strengthening musical fundamentals, and uses humor and kindness to keep lessons as fun as possible!

We look forward to getting to know Dr. Howell and re-establishing our always strong band program.

Instrument demonstrations for both programs will take place on August 31st during school hours and information for interested students will be provided.



Headphone/Earbuds

All Holy Spirit students will need a personal set of headphones/earbuds throughout the year for use in the computer lab and with the Chromebooks and iPads.

For health purposes we are requesting that all students provide their own headphones/earbuds.

Parents may choose the device based on comfort for your child.

Please though do not purchase overly expensive equipment. Earphones/earbuds should be brought the first day of school in a clear plastic Ziploc bag with the student's name clearly written on the bag.

*Note that the better choice for the younger students is headphones as the earbuds do not tend to fit correctly and fall out.



Does your child currently have one of these fun Summer hair cuts?

A reminder that students are expected to come to school on the first day with their natural hair color intact and with a school appropriate hair style/cut.

Thank you for your help with this!

"Closing in" on Christmas



Our hand-me-down Nativity sets have been retired and we are replacing both with beautiful Fontanini sets. One will be a larger 27" set which will be in the front lobby of the school as we make our way through the Advent and Christmas seasons and the other is smaller and meant for the school chapel.

If you would like to donate to assist us in covering the costs of these sets (which have a total price of just over \$5700.00) please let me know.

Additionally we are replacing the images of Mary and Joseph and the Stations of the Cross in the school chapel to match the style of the icons which hang outside of each classroom. If you would like to donate to assist in covering those costs, please let me know.

For those seeking to make use of Morning Care and/or Extended Day, you may access the information regarding rates and the registration sheet below.

Extended Day Rates for
22/23



The Summer Reading List may be accessed via the link below. It is also available on the school website under the *Happening Now* section.

[Summer Reading List 2022](#)

Summer IXL Math work came home with report cards.



**August 1 - August 12
M-F 9:00 am - 2:00 pm**

Office Closed Monday, August 15, 2022 for faculty/staff meetings

Beginning August 14, 2022 8:00 am - 3:00 pm



School Nurse: Mrs. Sheilia Forrer

Contact: sforrer@holyspiritflames.org

*A reminder that all medical forms and immunizations updates are due by August 1, 2022

-Maureen Ashby

Principal

Holy Spirit School PTO



Events:

August 16, 6:30pm – PTO Meeting

<https://holyspiritflames.zoom.us/j/87077053723?pwd=SkJiMEdsWHcvKzdVZC9qN09GdlgrZz09>

Meeting ID: 870 7705 3723 Passcode: 483688

August 17 – New Family Social, Used Uniform Sale, and Food Truck (see flyer below).

August 24 – Back to School!

September 7, 6:30pm – PTO Volunteer Fair.

Volunteer Coordinator Contact: If you see an event that you are interested in, please email Mary Sonnen -PTOvpmembership@holyspiritflames.org

Volunteer Fair Planning: If you are interested in helping to plan the Holy Spirit PTO Volunteer Fair scheduled for Wednesday, September 7th at 6:30PM in the school gym, there will be two planning meetings this summer. The first is Monday evening, July 18th and the second is Monday, August 8th, both from 6-8PM. These hours count towards your annual 20 hour family volunteer requirement for Holy Spirit School. Please contact Mary Sonnen, PTO

Volunteer Coordinator, for more information at 571-243-6423 (evenings/weekends) or through PTOvpmembership@holyspiritflames.org. Sign up for these planning meetings is available in the Connect1 App with your family account, use a desktop computer to begin and go to this website: <https://app.connect1.io>. See attached handout for easy Connect1 instructions or contact Tom Fields with questions at ptopssc@holyspiritflames.org. Each 1/2 hour of volunteering is worth 1 point in Connect1.

Ongoing Fundraisers:

Mabels Labels: https://mabelslabels.com/en_US/fundraising/support/

BoxTops: Download App, scan your receipt; Referral code: **A7RD91XB**



New Family Social
Wednesday, August 17
6:00 pm
Front Lawn of Holy Spirit School

Please come to meet other new members of the Holy Spirit community and to hear from the administration.

Bring a picnic blanket/chairs for your family. The Roaming Coyote food truck will be available for picnic or take out orders, or feel free to pack dinner from home.

Post dinner popsicles will be provided!

Any questions can be directed to PTONewFamilyCoordinator@holyspiritflames.org
(Anne Marie Chartrand and Katie Corwin)

PTO FUNDRAISER - FOOD TRUCK NIGHT!



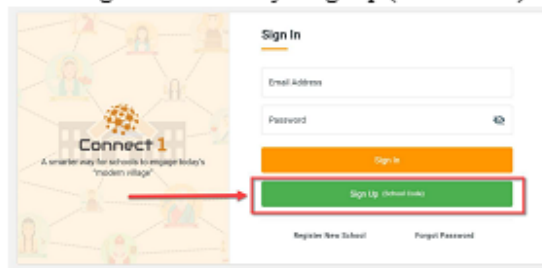
The Roaming Coyote Food Truck will be at Holy Spirit on August 17 from 5:30pm - 7:00pm. Pre-orders available or order on site. A portion of the total sales will be donated to the school.

**All are welcome!
Stop by to grab your dinner after visiting the used uniform sale!**

Registering for Connect 1 at Holy Spirit School

How to sign up for an account on Connect1:

1. On your computer, go to <https://app.connect1.io>
2. Click the green bar that says "Sign up (School Code)".



3. Enter your email address. Enter our school code, which is L41VP6.
(Are you both a teacher and a parent at the school? You'll need to set up two accounts. One using your "holyspiritflames.org" email account for your role as a teacher, and your personal one for your role as a parent!)
4. This will open a new page where you enter your name, role and password. For Role, select "Parent/Community Member". *(Unless you are a teacher creating your account with your "holyspiritflames.org" account. In that case, please select "Faculty/School Employee".)* Click Submit when you are done.
5. A new page opens. A Confirmation Code will be sent to your email. Copy that confirmation code and paste it into this page. Click Confirm.
6. This brings you back to the Sign In page. Enter your email address and newly created password to open the app.

Click here for a printable copy of the instructions



SUPPORT OUR FUNDRAISER!

Mabel's labels are waterproof, durable labels for the stuff kids lose.

Holy Spirit Catholic School

There are so many things to label!

- SCHOOL SUPPLIES
- DANCE SHOES & COSTUMES
- SPORTING EQUIPMENT & UNIFORMS
- LUNCH CONTAINERS & WATER BOTTLES

mabel's labels FUNDRAISING

Visit campaigns.mabelslabels.com to support our organization.

PTO Board 2022 - 2023

President - Christine Ploschke - PTOPresident@holyspiritflames.org
Vice President - **Vacant** - PTOVPMembership@holyspiritflames.org
Treasurer - Danielle Hetzler - PTOTreasurer@holyspiritflames.org
Secretary - Lee Conroy - PTOSecretary@holyspiritflames.org

Volunteer Coordinator - Mary Sonnen - PTOVPMembership@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!



MILITIA IMMACULATA

WHAT IS IT?
Militia Immaculata is a prayer group that uses the power of the youth to pray for an end to evil in the world. We meet every Tuesday to call upon the Holy Spirit through the intercession of Our Lady for the conversion of the whole world!

WHAT DO YOU DO?
We pray the rosary, led by Father O'Donohue, intercede for our friends and family, pray some special prayers by St. Maximilian Kolbe, and then we end with some delicious snacks!

WHO CAN JOIN?
This group is open to Holy Spirit School students in all grades.
*Annual Registration required.
In addition, weekly Signup Genius required as space is limited*

IS THIS REALLY AS GREAT AS IT SOUNDS?
Yep! Just come to one of our meetings and you will see the power of prayer! You will get it and want to tell others about it. Really!

TUESDAYS Starting September 13
3:15-4:15pm in the Youth Office

For more information and to sign up, go to:
holyspiritchurch.us/mi2022/



HOLY Spirit CATHOLIC CHURCH

St. Lucy, pray for us!

Donate virtually

Enter "Holy Spirit" in the QR Message box provided.

St. Lucy Summer Food Collection

COVID has caused the number of individuals needing food to increase from 198,430 to 297,290. The St. Lucy Food Pantry network must respond.

Blue Bag Pickup: August 6 - 7
Fill with non-perishable food items to benefit the St. Lucy Food Project

Blue Bag Food Drop Off: August 13 - 14
All Masses, Holy Spirit Church

The St. Lucy Project is in need of the following items:

- 1 Peanut Butter and 2 Jellies
- Canned Chicken and Tuna
- Canned Ravioli
- Breakfast Cereal (can be used for all meals)
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Granola Bars
- Canned Corn
- Cooking Oil
- Canned Mixed Vegetables
- Shelf Stable Milk
- Canned Fruit

It costs 75 cents a lb. to transport food to the poor in over 88 locations. Check donations are gratefully appreciated. Please bring your checks to the truck, made payable to "CCDA" with "St. Lucy Food Project" in the memo of the check. Thank you!

SIGNUP TODAY!
www.holyspiritchurch.us

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Donut Sunday!

Hosted by the Office of Youth Ministry
August 14th

Enjoy donuts,
coffee &
community, and
meet your new
Youth Minister,
Ronan!



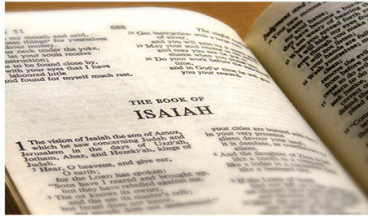
Join us in the front of the school
After the 9 and 10:30 AM Masses



Wednesday Night

Bible Study

With Father O'Donohue



This Year's Topic:
Isaiah

September 14, 2022 - May 10, 2023
Parish Center Large Meeting Room
8:30-9:30 PM



BIBLE BOOT CAMP

August 8 - 11th
8:30am - 2:30pm

The Bible and the Mass
by Fr. O'Donohue



All rising 7-12 graders
are invited!

Join us to study the scriptural
roots of the Mass and to grow
in faith and friendship.

Mon-Wed: on Holy Spirit Grounds

Thurs: Day trip to swim in river in
Fredericksburg

Each day includes Mass,
please dress appropriately

You don't want to miss it!

Cost: \$70 for the week
Information and sign up:
holyspiritchurch.us/category/youth



Spots are limited, so sign up soon!

Huge PARISH YARD SALE

FRIDAY, AUG 5
5:30 PM - 8 PM **PRESALE \$5/person**

SATURDAY, AUG 6
8 AM - 2 PM **FREE ADMISSION**

In the School

HOLY SPIRIT Catholic Church

DONATION DROP-OFF
Items Accepted at the School Starting:

Sunday, July 31
9AM - 5PM
Monday, Aug 1 - Thursday, Aug 4
9AM - 8PM

www.holyspiritchurch.us/yardsale

For more info, contact Irwin Oliver at
hsmc@holyspiritchurch.us

The following items cannot be accepted:
mattresses, tires (including flat screens),
computer equipment, pillows, exercise machines,
entertainment centers, and undergarments.

Donations must be clean, complete,
and in operable condition.

Furniture accepted, but no pickup.

Proceeds benefit Holy Spirit Community

BAKE SALE

*At the Parish Yard Sale
in the School*

Friday, August 5
5:30 PM - 8 PM
Saturday, August 6
8 AM - 2 PM
or until all items are sold

Baked Goods Donation Drop-off

Friday, August 5 1 - 5 PM
Saturday, August 6 7:30 - 9 AM

For more information, contact Candice Poumade at
cpoumade@prodigy.net or (703) 323-0322

Adult Confirmation Class

Dates: July 13, 20, 27 & August 10
Time: 7pm to 8:15pm
Parish Center Large Meeting Room



If you are a baptized Catholic adult, have received First Communion,
but have not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation,
the Church welcomes you to take part in this grace-filled Sacrament.

Feast of the Assumption, August 15:
Confirmation at a special 7pm Mass.

Questions? Please contact the Religious Education Office at:
(703) 978-8925 or Religious.Ed@holyspiritchurch.us

Seasons of Hope

Grief Support Group



If you have recently lost a loved one, and
would like the support of a small group and
Scripture-based program, please join us.



Summer Session begins Saturday, August 13
Parish Center Large Meeting Room
10 - 11:15 AM

You're invited to Men's Club Man Cave Thursdays!

Starting August 18th

Come and have fun while
building fraternity with
other men in the Parish

Enjoy drinks wings, subs,
and other snacks

\$5 donation to defray costs



**Hang out and watch
the classic movie Jaws
from 1975
while playing
cards, cornhole, and
other games!**



**All men in the
Parish are invited!**

6:30-10pm | Quinn Room
Questions? Call/Text Sean Roberts,
Men's Club President at 703-640-4157





St. Lucy, pray for us!

Donate virtually



Enter "Holy Spirit" in the Gift Message box provided.

St. Lucy Summer Food Collection

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SIGNUP TODAY!
www.holyspiritchurch.us



Community Happenings!



Are you interested in joining Cub Scouts this fall? Learn leadership skills, what it means to be a good citizen, how to care for and explore God's creation in nature, and so much more.

Chartered by the Holy Spirit Catholic Church Men's Club, Cub Scout Pack 50 serves boys from kindergarten through 5th grade. Scouts have the opportunity to learn and grow in important character-building ideals while participating in fun activities such as day hikes, fall and spring family camping/campfires, Pinewood Derby, Blue & Gold Banquet, Scouting for Food service project, summer camps and more! The Pack is broken up into "dens" grouped by age/grade and led by parent "den leaders" with all parents pitching in to help guide various activities.

Join us for a **'Join Scouting Night'** informational parent meeting on Thursday, September 8, 2022 on the front lawn of Holy Spirit Catholic Church (5121 Woodland Way in Annandale) at 6:30pm. Bring the kids, too, as we will entertain them with an informal game of kickball during the parent information meeting.

For more information, please email Pack 50 Cubmaster, Paul Eubanks, at pjeubanks@hotmail.com.



FAMILY FOLDER

The following flyers may be found in the folder labeled "August 4, 2022" on the website. For your convenience, some flyers are repeated.



Family
Folder

School Flyers:

1. Welcome Back Letter 2022
2. Summer Reading List 2022
3. School Supply lists for 2022 2023
4. Extended Day Rates for 2022 2023
5. Extended Day Registration for 2022 2023
6. Connect 1 Sign-up Instructions
7. Mabel's Labels PTO Fundraiser

Parish Flyers:

1. Militia Immaculata flyer
2. Bible Boot Camp flyer
3. Donut Sunday flyer
4. Bible Study flyer
5. Parish Yard Sale flyer
6. Parish Bake Sale flyer
7. Adult Confirmation Classes flyer
8. Men's Club Social flyer
9. Seasons of Grief Support Group flyer

10. St. Lucy Food Collection flyer

Community Flyers:

1. Cub Scouts flyer
2. Porto Charities Golf Tournament flyer