

December 28, 2023



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

Joyful New Year



A reminder that Family Financial Contracts for the 2024/2025 academic year are due back by January 5, 2023.



This week we did not have a specific Holy Moments challenge due to the short week. I hope that all of the moments you have created thus far this year for others has brought you joy as you reflect on the good you can do for others in the smallest of ways

Partners in FAITH™

Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith. January 2024
Holy Spirit School

Thoughtful Moments

St. Marguerite Bourgeoys
Born at Troyes, France in 1620, St. Marguerite desired early on to become a missionary. A friend introduced her to the mayor of Ville Marie (now Montreal, Canada) and, at his invitation, St. Marguerite traveled to Canada to teach the children of the colony. She was later joined by several women – all consecrated to God and devoted to teaching and Works of Mercy. In 1676, she gained approval for her order, the Congregation of Notre-Dame de Montreal.



Fishers of Men
Some of the first apostles were fishermen working in the Sea of Galilee. The fish there were known for their quality and commanded a high price. Next time you eat fresh fish, remember Peter and Simon, James and John, the hard-working fishermen who left their boats to follow Jesus.

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, behold, the new has come!" (2 Corinthians 5:17).



Shape children's hearts with virtues

A key element of Catholic parenting is to shape the hearts of our children, not just manage their behavior. One way to shape a child's heart is to offer opportunities to grow in virtue:

- Modesty:** "Modesty protects the intimate center of a person. It means refusing to unveil what should remain hidden" (Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC), #2521). Modesty awakens in youngsters a respect for the human person. Teach them to dress, speak, and take in entertainment that is wholesome, uplifting, and respectful of themselves and others.
- Faithfulness:** When children see that their parents are faithful to one another, for example, they intuit that faithfulness or fidelity means to act in a way that honors a commitment. Children may not always hear what we say, but they are influenced by what they see us do.
- Meekness:** Meekness is not timidity. It fuels self-control. St. Thomas Aquinas cautioned against expressing physical anger because it makes anger out-sized. Guide and model how to use meekness to manage anger. Meekness will help prevent evil from ruling actions.
- Charity:** "If I... have not love, I gain nothing" (1 Corinthians 13:3). Charity is giving love without an expectation of receiving in return. Teach children to put others' needs first. They will find that as they grow in charity, they will be happier and more joy-filled.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

As a Sacrament, Baptism conveys grace and the "washing away" of sin and the "rebirth" of the baptized as a child of God. It starts us on the surest path to salvation: "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved; whoever does not believe will

Why do Catholics have infants baptized?

be condemned" (Mark 16:16). Catholic parents, desiring the best for their children, baptize them as infants, believing it will give them the best chance of true joy in this life and eternal life in the next.





K - 8TH GRADE

FRIDAYS

3:20PM - 4:20PM

2/2 - 5/31

SKIPS: 2/16, 3/8, 3/29, 4/5, 4/26, 5/24

No club meeting on school closure or early dismissal days

TUITION: \$243 FOR 12 WEEKS



HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC SCHOOL CHESS CLUB

Fun is the name of the game...

...but Magnus Chess Academy also sneaks in a bit of critical thinking, sportsmanship, and patience into chess club!

Each week students of all levels do a fun but challenging lesson with one of our great coaches from our world class curriculum followed by practice games against other students in the class.

Join the 100,000 (and counting!) kids who've learned chess with the official academy of world champion Magnus Carlsen. This in-person club includes online extras like practice tournaments and a bonus lesson with Magnus or Judit Polgar, the best female chess player ever!



To register, scan the QR Code or visit www.chessacademy.com

Questions? Email: info@chessacademy.com or call: 703.574.2070

After School Classes

Why choose us?

- Fun
- Educational
- Hands-On

Theme:
Flour Power (ES)

Our pastry chefs-in-training will learn about the power of flour in our new Baking and Sweets course. We will explore ingredients familiar and new to bake breads and sweet dishes. Students will make today Pumpkin Breadcrumbs, Blueberry Muffins, Dessert Fruit Salads, and so much more! Foundational cooking skills will be taught, including proper techniques for measuring, mixing, slicing, dicing, and of course, kitchen safety! We hope to see you in the kitchen soon.

icookafterschool

Cooking Classes for Kids

- Kids will learn how to make healthy and delicious recipes
- Master cooking safety, measuring, mixing, dicing, chopping, zesting and more
- Learn about nutrition and healthy eating habits
- Explore international cuisine
- Further develop social-emotional learning and executive functions skills

What We Teach

- Culinary Skills
- Nutrition
- Culture of Food

Register or Learn More at
icookafterschool.com

Call or email with any questions | (773) 697-3115 | info@icookafterschool.com

After School Classes

Why choose us?

- Fun
- Educational
- Hands-On

Theme:
Secret Agent Academy

"Secret Agent Academy" is a STEAM-focused after school class with a spy-themed curriculum. The class will include a range of hands-on activities and challenges that will encourage students to use critical thinking and problem-solving skills. They will learn about the science of encryption and code-breaking, as well as the physics of motion and energy. Students will also explore the world of forensic science, analyzing fingerprints, DNA samples, and other evidence to solve mysteries. Led by experienced instructors, students will work collaboratively and have the opportunity to demonstrate their skills in a final mission. The class aims to excite and inspire students about STEAM and encourage further

isteamafterschool

Science Classes for Kids

- Kids will explore the connections between science, technology, and the arts
- Learn through hands-on experimentation and real-world applications of scientific concepts
- Prepare for the future by developing critical thinking and problem-solving skills

What We Teach

- Scientific Reasoning
- Teamwork
- Planning & Visualization

Register or Learn More at
isteamafterschool.com

Call or email with any questions | (773) 697-3115 | info@isteamafterschool.com

-Maureen Ashby

Principal

Holy Spirit School PTO



Upcoming PTO Events

Tuesday, January 16th

PTO Meeting 6:30pm – 7:30pm

Volunteer Opportunities (1 point/30 mins volunteered)

January PTO Meeting – Virtual and In-Person

Join us in person in the school on January 16th 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 events? This is a great opportunity for new, as well as returning families, to share your thoughts, stay up to date and connect with other parents and the PTO board. Can't make it in person? Join us via [Zoom](#) so you don't miss anything! Be sure to sign up in [Connect1](#) for meeting details and to earn PSSC points for attending.

Questions? Contact Kristyn Poreba PTOSecretary@holyspiritflames.org

Reminders

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

[Recess Duty](#) volunteers are still needed for the remainder of the school year. Families who have completed their required commitment of one day are eligible for 4 PSSC points for each additional day served.

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

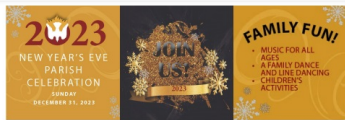
Fundraising Coordinator - Toni O'Neill - PTOVDevelopment@holyspiritflames.org

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

Volunteering

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

Parish Happenings!



Mass at 6pm and Midnight
Catered Buffet from 6 to 8:30 PM
Music and Dancing until 10:30 PM

Name (First and Last): _____ Today's Date: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Number of Children Under 4 (Cost per ticket \$0) _____ Number of Children 5-11 (Cost per ticket \$10) _____

Number of Persons 12+ (Cost per ticket \$20) _____ Family Maximum \$75

Seating Request (If possible, I would like to be seated with/near the following family/families): _____

Special Reservation Needs

High Chair _____ Seating for Wheelchair _____

Payment by check: _____ Parish Giving _____

Please put registration in collection basket with check or drop it off at the Parish Office.

Prepayment Required. Reservations deadline December 30 at NOON
Any Questions? Call Patty Tang at 202-320-8711

NATIONAL Eucharistic Congress

A CATHOLIC EXPERIENCE UNLIKE ANY OTHER

We know what happens when two or more are gathered in the Lord's name, so what happens with 80,000? Join your Catholic brothers and sisters at the 10th National Eucharistic Congress. This historic 5-day gathering of missionary disciples will be a new Pentecost, a powerful anointing and personal commission to invite others to know Christ. Your life - and our Church - will never be the same.

Tour Inclusions

- NEC Congress Pass (5 Days)
- Four (4) nights' accommodations in Indianapolis
- Continental breakfast daily
- Farewell Lunch

Tour Does Not Include

- Airfare or motorcoach transportation
- Optional transportation offers will be extended at a later date
- Meals and beverages not specifically identified
- Items not specifically mentioned above

3 Step Registration Process

1. Scan the QR Code on the cover of the flyer or click [HERE](#) to access our online registration site.
2. Follow the prompts to enter your personal information, select your rooming configuration, enter payment information, and acknowledge our terms and conditions.
3. Upon completion, you will receive a confirmation email with your diocesan code and a video tutorial providing instructions for finalizing your registration on the official National Eucharistic Congress' website.

Adult Pricing

\$949
Triple/Quad

\$1,149
Double

\$1,649
Single

Family Pricing

-\$200
off prices above for children ages 3-18

FREE
for lap children (0-2) when rooming with two paying adults in double occupancy

Payment Schedule:
\$250 per person deposit due upon registration
\$500 per person due December 31, 2023
Remaining balance due April 17, 2024
All payments are non-refundable. By registering for this tour, you understand and agree to CTS Terms and Conditions and accept our CTS Liability Release. All cancellations must be received in writing.
Travel Insurance: Cancel for any reason (CFAR) level protection is highly recommended. See travel insured link: www.travelinsurance.com/agency?agency=41907&g=C1321

CORPORATE TRAVEL 866.468.1420 | NEC@CTSCENTRAL.NET

Seeking a place for peace and quiet during the hustle and bustle of Advent?

Come, Let Us Adore Him

Monday
7am-7pm
Wednesday
7am-7pm
Fri 7am-Sat 9am

Parish Holy Hour
M, W, F
7pm-8pm
led by Priest or Deacon with Confessions till lines end!

Choose your ONE HOUR each week of Advent to make this Christmas different!

*Just sit in His presence to sort out priorities

*Advent spiritual reading

*Ask Him for help with anything

*Bring your family members intentions to Him

*Rosary and/or Divine Mercy Chaplet

*Bring Him your worries and desires

Sign up at: adorationpro.org/hsannandale
or email: lisa.ciola@holyspiritchurch.us

Quo Vadis Father-Son Seminary Visit

Quo Vadis events are for young men in high school interested in growing in their spiritual life and exploring their vocation.

What's college seminary like? See for yourself!

Meet the seminarians and their formators
See where they live, pray, eat and study
Tour their campus at Catholic University

Saturday
January 27
8:45am-2:15pm

Fathers are welcome but not required.
Cost is \$15 per person.

For more information and to register, visit ArlingtonDiocese.org/QuoVadis
Deadline to register is January 18.
Sponsored by the Office of Vocations 703.841.2514 / vocations@arlingtondiocese.org

JOIN US AT OUR NEW PARISH MINISTRY:

Coffee with Rebecca

Enjoy a fresh cup of coffee and treats in the company of your fellow parishioners!

IN JANUARY: THURSDAYS AFTER
9AM MASS, MCGIVNEY HALL

Come meet our host Rebecca. She is a PVI graduate who loves Special Olympics Bowling, music and dancing. Rebecca is eager to meet you and to serve her parish community!

HOLY Spirit CATHOLIC CHURCH

March for Life

Friday, January 19th

Breakfast from 7:00 - 10:00 AM

School Cafeteria

Special Mass at 10 AM

Prices

Kids under 6 years: FREE

6-12 years: \$3

13-99 years: \$6

Maximum cost per family: \$20

Sign Up for the Bus via the Sign Up Genius

Bus departure at 11:15 am.

Holy Spirit Catholic Church Blood Drive

Saturday, January 13, 2024

6:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

8800 Braddock Rd.

Annandale, VA

Inova Blood Donor Services will be in the school gym.



Account Coordinator

Dick Cecka

(703) 978-8435 | Racecka@aol.com

In honor of National Blood Donor Month, all donors will receive a sweatshirt*.

Photo ID Required. Masking is optional for all donors and team members. Allow one hour for your donation.

*While supplies last. Must complete screening process to receive giveaway.

Book your appointment today!

InovaBlood.org

01/09/2024

Community Happenings!

FAMILY FOLDER

The following flyers may be found in the folder labeled "December 28, 2023" on the website. For your convenience, some flyers are repeated.



Family Folder

School Flyers:

1. Diocesan Tuition Assistance Programs Overview
2. Partners in Faith (January) newsletter
3. Chess Club Winter Session flyer
4. iCook - After School Cooking Class flyer
5. iSteam - After School Science Class flyer

PTO Flyers:

Parish Flyers:

1. Parish New Years Eve Family Dinner Dance
2. Eucharistic Conference 2024
3. Parish Adoration
4. Seminary Visit
5. Coffee with Rebecca

6. March for Life 2024
7. Blood Drive flyer

Community Flyers:

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

[Unsubscribe pto@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:pto@holyspiritflames.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

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