

February 18, 2021



**Holy Spirit School**  
***Inspiring Minds/Igniting Hearts***  
**2020/2021**  
**"Protect the Creation; Praise the Creator"**

## Refocusing in order to stay in school

As we quickly race towards the last four months of school (where has the time gone?!), I thought it a good idea to take a bit of "space" this week to refocus on our efforts to keep the school open.

As you all know when we put out our reopening plan way back in July, it included a number of mitigation strategies which we hoped would help us stay open - and we have been wildly successful to date. Have there been cases of COVID among the population at the school, yes; but what we have been able to successfully do thus far is avoid on a large scale what is referred to as "community spread".

My concern though, and hence writing this out, is that as we move in on one year since our world so suddenly and drastically changed, we are all beyond weary of having our lifestyles hampered. And that weariness is prompting us to go more places, engage in more activities, and interact with more and more people either directly or indirectly. Do I begrudge people that? No.

Am I also fully cognizant that folks can feel like they are doing everything "right" and still have family members who test positive? Yes.

The concept of community spread in our school manifests itself most dramatically in the number of homeroom classrooms that can be impacted when a student tests positive. The likelihood of a multi-classroom event is great here due, in part, to the considerable number of families that have multiple children in the school and when a positive case spreads amongst siblings.

When a student tests positive, it isn't just the student who tested positive who has to stay

home, but it is the students who sit directly around him/her or, depending on age, larger groups up to whole classrooms. These students, as you know, are out anywhere from 10 days (for the positive student) to 14 days for those considered "exposed" or longer depending on circumstances. Fourteen days is a long time to not be in school - even with the best efforts of teachers to connect with students, there is no substitute for in-person instruction.

All of this is being said, not because I am looking to take anyone to task, but instead, because of the very fact that we HAVE come so far in this academic year. I have asked the teachers to double down on cleaning and hand washing, as well as on reminders for wearing masks properly and reminding students to distance as much as possible while also realizing that they are children who naturally gravitate to one another. We can only do so much though and we continue to count on you.

Whether for a single case or multiple cases, I am mandated to interact with the Fairfax County Health Department and to implement their recommendations. Although the contract tracer who works with us is very friendly and, I truly believe cheering for our success, I would very much like to diminish my conversations with him.

As I have been doing all year long, I watch our cases and numbers carefully and continue to make the best and most prudent decisions for the school that I am able. The big-time goal is to make it to June! I am thankful for the counsel of our two assistant principals, as well as our pastor as we continue to navigate not just this year, but the coming years.

I appreciate you reading this and continuing to support us with both your words and actions. And as we move towards the next logical travel time - Easter break - I would ask that you continue to consider the impact that not just travel, but family and friend gatherings can unintentionally have on our school community.

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A few reminders:

Monday, February 22 - **Saint Assembly** on St. Peter Claver

Tuesday, March 2nd - **Dr. Seuss Day** - watch for details

Thursday, March 4th - **PTO Talent Showcase Auditions** (see flyer below)

Tuesday, March 9th - **Parent Portal Closes**

Thursday, March 11th - **Middle School presents** - High School Musical

Friday, March 12th - **End of Trimester 2**

Wednesday, March 17 - Deadline for apply for **tuition assistance** through FACTS

Thursday, March 18 - **PTO Spirit Day**

Thursday, March 18 - **T2 Report Cards go home** for K-8

Friday, March 19 - **NO school for students**; teacher professional development day

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*-Maureen Ashby*

**Principal**

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## Holy Spirit School's Lenten Project

Through charitable works and sacrifices, help us to raise \$1500.00 this Lenten season to purchase seeds for 6000 trees to populate a tree nursery near a newly built village in Balan, Haiti.

Operation Starfish was established in 1998 by Nativity Parish in Burke. Since its inception, 11 "Nativity Villages" have been completed and the 12th is nearing completion. Operation Starfish works in close connection with Food for the Poor to accomplish their ambitious goals.

Our own Ms. Garcia (PreK teacher) has participated in this mission work and has had the privilege of traveling to Haiti.

As we continue to explore and expand on this year's theme of caring for God's creation, this is a wonderful example for the children how the good works of ourselves and others can have a positive and lasting impact on the lives of others.

The current village is being built in Balan and the project goal is to plant 6000 trees—primarily fruit and moringa trees which are high in fibre, zinc, and help regulate blood sugar. This project will help with reforestation, soil erosion, and provide shade. The trees will also absorb pollutants, and provide oxygen through photosynthesis. In addition, they will be a food source.

So, how is this a Lenten project?

Teachers will be explaining the project to the children and showing them a part of a video so they can see the village under construction and "meet" some of the families who are beneficiaries. We are hoping that through small sacrifices (for instance, if your family decides to forgo eating out during Lent, that a small portion of what is saved might be donated to the cause. Or, if your child decides to "add" to their Lenten journey by doing something extra at home to help out, that some small change might be provided that they can then donate.

Collection containers will be available in the classrooms and we will track, as a school, our progress.

Truly this is not meant to be just a donation, but instead a great way to converse with your child about the season of Lent and the ultimate sacrifice that Our Lord made for us.





## **Dental Supplies Drive**



***February is National  
Children's Dental Health Month!***

Please help us collect toothbrushes, toothpaste,  
and floss in support of the  
Spanish Catholic Center in Washington, DC.

Donations will be accepted:

- February 16-19<sup>th</sup>, during school hours
- February 20<sup>th</sup> from 4-7pm, at the  
Roaming Coyote Food Truck Fundraiser  
in the Holy Spirit School parking lot.

*(Roaming Coyote Preorders available beginning 2/14/21 at  
<https://the-roaming-coyote.square.site/>)*

**Thank you for your participation!**



**HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL, JR.!!!!**  
a collective effort by the 7th & 8th grade  
homerooms

**TWO SHOWS - TWO CASTS!**

**March 11, 2021**

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# Holy Spirit School's Annual Talent Showcase



## SIGNUP / AUDITION FORM



**When: March 4, 2021**

Where: Holy Spirit Gym

Time: 3:15 – 5:30pm

Auditions/registrations are open to all students who want to perform in the show on May 1, 2021.

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR:  
SINGERS, ACTORS, JUGGLERS, MAGICIANS, MUSICIANS, COMEDIANS, MARTIAL ARTISTS,  
DANCERS, CLOWNS**

**\*\*\* ANY TYPE OF PERFORMANCE YOU WOULD LIKE TO DO \*\*\***

**Performer Participation Form (for students):** complete this if you wish to perform in the show. This slip is due **ONE WEEK** prior to the day of the auditions/registration. Everyone who signs up to perform will perform. More information will go out prior to the signups related to how the event will run to maintain the high safety standards of Holy Spirit.

### PERFORMER PARTICIPATION FORM



Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Performing with (if in a group) \_\_\_\_\_

Talent/Act: \_\_\_\_\_

Everyone who signs up to perform will perform. Please keep the act to 4 minutes. If you cannot make it on March 2 but want to perform, email Joe Terpenning ([jterpenning@infinetech.org](mailto:jterpenning@infinetech.org)) to discuss. At this time the signups will be held live in the gym. This may change. Students will be asked to sit socially distant with masks on until they are called to review their act. Forms will not be available to fill out on the day of signups, and pens will not be provided. Pizza and drinks will not be provided this year for precautions so please send your student in with a snack to have during the signup event.

NOTES FOR AUDITION MONITORS:

TIME LENGTH: \_\_\_\_\_

SONG NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

STAGE NEEDS: \_\_\_\_\_

For Singers: Using a karaoke version of song or regular version: \_\_\_\_\_



**LOOKING FOR PTO SERVICE HOURS?**

Sponsored by the Squire Roses

# Soup Makers Needed!

Lenten Soup Supper Drive Thru



## Sign Up Today!

(see website for details)

**SIGNUP,**  
[www.holyspirtchurch.us](http://www.holyspirtchurch.us)

**QUESTIONS?**  
[Soupsupper@holyspirtchurch.us](mailto:Soupsupper@holyspirtchurch.us)



**SPONSORED BY THE PTO  
COME AND LEARN WITH US**



# THE BLACK DEATH

Presentation from Steve Weidenkopf  
For Holy Spirit Catholic School Community

A great pestilence killed nearly half of Europe's population in the 14th century. Later known as the Black Death, this disease radically impacted Christendom. In this presentation, Prof. Weidenkopf will provide an overview of the disease, its origins, its impact on people and the Church, and the ways it transformed Christian society.

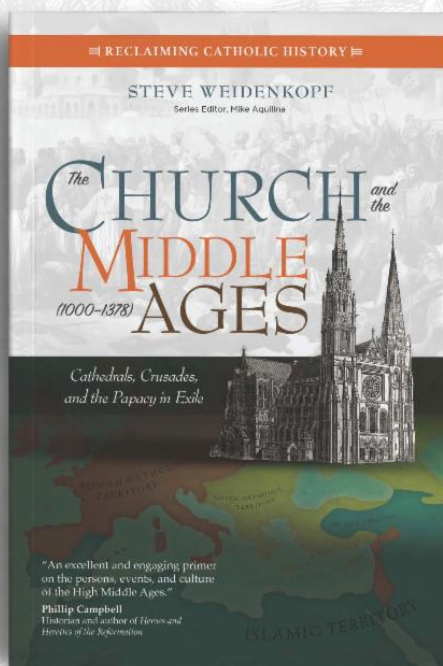


**February 25, 2021 at 7 p.m. on Zoom**

Click to join the talk at this [link](#).

Talk is sponsored by Holy Spirit PTO.

**NEW** from Steve Weidenkopf  
Interested in learning more about the Black Death  
and The Church and the Middle Ages?



### **The Church and the Middle Ages (1000-1378)** Cathedrals, Crusades, and the Papacy in Exile

Few periods of history are more maligned and misunderstood than the Middle Ages—three-hundred years of division, shifting centers of power, and tensions both within the Church and also between the Church and the secular rulers of the time. In an engaging and easy-to-understand style, Steve Weidenkopf highlights some of our greatest saints and dispels nine commonly accepted misconceptions about the era, which was an exciting period of enduring faith, reform, cultural achievement, as well as defeat and division.

192 pages, \$17.95

**20% OFF**  
when you use code **MIDDLEAGES**  
at [avemariapress.com](http://avemariapress.com).

Offer expires 12.31.21.

## Required Symptom Screening Questionnaire

We continue to work on an App for the daily health screening. Students must continue to arrive at school each day with a paper copy of the completed form. We are asking for the paper copy for now as trying to manage emails from families at the start of each day

## Required Symptom Screening Questionnaire - 8.27.2020

# Parish Happenings!

**Thy KINGDOM COME**  
RESTORING ALL THINGS IN CHRIST THE KING

THE 2021 CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON  
**Mass and Lenten Reflection**  
FOR MEN

SATURDAY, MARCH 6  
8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

VICTORY CHRISTIAN RESOURCES INTL.  
1010 BROADVIEW BLVD  
WOODBRIDGE, VA 22191

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER, VISIT:  
[ARLINGTONDIOCESE.ORG/MEN](http://ARLINGTONDIOCESE.ORG/MEN)

THE 2021 CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON  
MASS AND LENTEN REFLECTION FOR WOMEN

**Chosen**  
From All Eternity  
FOR THIS MOMENT IN TIME

SATURDAY, MARCH 11  
8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

VICTORY CHRISTIAN RESOURCES INTL.  
1010 BROADVIEW BLVD  
WOODBRIDGE, VA 22191

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER, VISIT:  
[ARLINGTONDIOCESE.ORG/WOMEN](http://ARLINGTONDIOCESE.ORG/WOMEN)

**Year of Saint Joseph**  
12 · 08 · 2020 - 12 · 08 · 2021

- To increase our love for this great saint -
- To encourage us to imitate his intercession -
- To imitate his virtues and his zeal -

of POPE FRANCIS *Paterfamilias*

**Saint Joseph during the Year**

- 1 Dec 27, 2020 - Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
- 1 February 14, 2021 - World Marriage Sunday
- 1 March 2021 - Saint Joseph is customarily honored during the month of March
- 1 Mar 19, 2021 - Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 1 May 1, 2021 - Memorial of Saint Joseph the Worker
- 1 June 20, 2021 - Father's Day
- 1 August 21, 2021 - Our Lady of Knock
- 1 November 1, 2021 - Solemnity of All Saints

In addition to the dates listed above, Saint Joseph is traditionally honored on Wednesdays. He is also festively honored on the 19<sup>th</sup> of each month during the Year of Saint Joseph.

**Selected Spiritual Readings**

- 1 Matthew 1:24
- 1 Luke 1:27
- 1 St Bernadine of Siena - Sermo 2, de S. Joseph - *Hours, Office of Readings, Solemnity of Saint Joseph, vol. 2, pp. 1721-1723*
- 1 Leo XIII - Encyclical Letter *Quamquam Plurima*
- 1 Saint Paul VI - Address "Nazareth," 5 Jan 1964 - *Hours, Office of Readings, Feast of the Holy Family, vol. 1, pp. 426-428*
- 1 Saint John Paul II - Apostolic Exhortation *Redemptio Humanarum Genitricum*
- 1 Pope Francis - *Homily for the Mass for the Beginning of the Pastoral Ministry*, 19 Mar 2013
- 1 Pope Francis - Apostolic Letter *Paterfamilias*

www.ArizonaCatholic.com  
www.ArizonaCatholic.com

**2020 - Year of Saint Joseph - 2021**

**Plenary Indulgences**

A plenary indulgence (the remission of temporal punishment due to sin) is granted to the faithful who, with a spirit detached from any sin, fulfill the usual conditions of sacramental confession, Eucharistic Communion, and prayer for the Pope's intentions and who, during the Year of Saint Joseph...

- 1 Meditate for at least 30 minutes on the Lord's Prayer, or take part in a Spiritual Retreat of at least one day that includes a meditation on St. Joseph
- 1 Following St. Joseph's example, perform a spiritual work of mercy or corporal work of mercy.
- 1 Recite the Holy Rosary as a family or as an engaged couple.
- 1 Entrust your daily activity to the protection of St. Joseph and invoke the intercession of St. Joseph so that those seeking work can find dignifying work.
- 1 Recite the Litany to St. Joseph for the persecuted Church *ad intra* and *ad extra* and for the relief of all Christians suffering all forms of persecution.
- 1 Recite any legitimately approved prayer or act of piety in honor of St. Joseph on the May 1st, on the 19th of each month and every Wednesday.

For the Sick, Hospitalized, and Homebound  
Amid the ongoing Covid-19 health crisis, the gift of the plenary indulgence is also extended to the sick, the elderly, the dying and all those who for legitimate reasons are unable to leave their homes. They too can obtain the plenary indulgence if they are detached from any sin and have the intention of fulfilling, as soon as possible, the three usual conditions and recite an act of piety in honor of St. Joseph, offering to God the pains and hardships of their lives.

For more ways to observe the Year of Saint Joseph, including prayers, devotions, and additional resources, visit [www.arlingtondiocese.org/YearofStJoseph](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/YearofStJoseph).

**Litany of Saint Joseph**

Lord, have mercy  
Christ, have mercy  
Land, have mercy  
God our Father in heaven  
God the Son, Redeemer of the world  
God the Holy Spirit  
Holy Trinity, one God  
Holy Mary  
Saint Joseph  
Noble son of the House of David  
Light of patriarchs  
Husband of the Mother of God  
Guardian of the Virgin  
Foster father of the Son of God  
Faithful guardian of Christ  
Head of the holy family  
Joseph, chaste and just  
Joseph, prudent and brave  
Joseph, obedient and loyal  
Pattern of patience  
Lover of poverty  
Model of workers  
Example to parents  
Guardian of origins  
Pillar of family life  
Comfort of the troubled  
Hope of the sick  
Patron of the dying  
Terror of evil spirits  
Protector of the Church  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world  
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Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world  
Let us pray: God, in your infinite wisdom and love you chose Joseph to be the husband of Mary, the mother of your Son. May we have the help of his prayers in heaven and enjoy his protection on earth. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Covid can't stop the Love! The Squire Roses are sponsoring the

**Soup Supper Drive Thru!**

6 Fridays of Lent  
February 19 - March 26

**Come Join Us!**  
Drive Thru Upper Parking Lot 5:30-7pm

**Soup Makers Needed!**  
**Sign Up Today!**  
(see website for details)

**SIGNUP,**  
[www.holyspiritchurch.us](http://www.holyspiritchurch.us)

**QUESTIONS?**  
[Soupsupper@holyspiritchurch.us](mailto:Soupsupper@holyspiritchurch.us)

HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH

**2021 All Saints Car Raffle**

**You could win!**

**Five 2021 Vehicles plus 20 cash prize drawings!**

*When you buy a ticket, the parish gets a cut either way!*

**How does my purchase help?**

This year's raffle will be used for special furnishings and needs: our new narthex to be built this year, a welcome desk, kitchen service items, artwork and more.

**Only \$5/ticket!**

For raffle ticket purchases, visit [www.holyspiritchurch.us/carraffle2021](http://www.holyspiritchurch.us/carraffle2021)  
Or contact Tom Kennedy at [tkinna@aol.com](mailto:tkinna@aol.com)

Many Holy Spirit winners over the years cars and cash!

**Young Adult Fire**

**Holy Hour and Hangout**

Jan. 15  
Feb. 12  
Mar 12  
April 9  
May 21  
June 11

Holy Hour from 7-8pm  
Holy Spirit Church  
7:00 - 10:00pm

Meet outside Holy Spirit at 8pm  
Hangout at the Auld Shebeen Pub afterwards (or other)

Holy Spirit Youth Ministry  
Large Group Meetings - High School & Middle School

**Sunday Night  
Holy Hours**

Youth & Jesus

Come Encounter Him

7:00-8:30pm  
February 14 & 28  
March 14 & 28  
April 11

Join us for reflection on Lenten topics, confession, prayer time, and beautiful meditative music  
[www.holyspirtchurch.us/youthministry](http://www.holyspirtchurch.us/youthministry)

## Community Happenings!

**Boy Scout  
MULCH**

**ORDER NOW!**

Delivery Date, Saturday, March 27

[www.annandale50.mytroop.us](http://www.annandale50.mytroop.us)

HOLY Spirit  
CATHOLIC CHURCH



## FAMILY FOLDER

The following flyers may be found in the folder labeled "February 18, 2021" on the website. For your convenience, some flyers are repeated.

Family  
Folder

School Flyers:

1. PTO Annual Talent Showcase Signup/Audition flyer
2. Dental Supplies Collection flyer
3. Lenten Service Project Information
4. PTO Sponsored presentation by Steve Weidenkopf

Parish Flyers:

1. Men's Lenten Day of Reflection flyer
2. Women's Lenten Day of Reflection flyer
3. Year of St. Joseph flyer Part I
4. Year of St. Joseph flyer Part II
5. Car raffle flyer
6. Lenten Soup Supper flyer
7. Young adult Holy Hour
8. Sunday Night Holy Hours - Middle School Youth Group

Community Flyers:

1. Boy Scout Mulch Sale