From the Principal's Desk



February 22, 2024



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

Traveling Through Lent As A Family

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
February "Lent is the literajical season of forty days which begins with Ash Worknesday and ands with the collectricin of the Peschall Mystary (Esisher Triduum), Lent is the primary peritherial season in the Cheach's literajical year, reflecting the forty days Jesus sport in the desert fissing and praying' (Catechism of the Catholic Church).			14 Ash Wednesday Altend Wass and wear the ashes all day as a sign of persona.	15 Help children choose Lenten offerings that are meaningful and do-able.	Have meatless meals today. Pray for those who can't have meat as a regular part of their diets.	17 Pick a patron saint for Lent to pray for your family until Easter
18 "Bury the Allekulah." Write the word, "allekulah," on a piece of paper. Put it in a bag and bury it in the ground until Easter.	Resolve to only use kind words today.	20 Pick a person or situation in the news and pray for them at dinner.	21 Put out an empty "Donations" box. Fill it with unused clothes or toys in good condition throughout Lent.	22 St. Peter's Chair Offer extra prayers for the intentions of the Holy Father.	Attend a Stations of the Cross service or pray through the Stations together at home. Find them here: www.uscob.org.	24 Set out a "Lenten good deed jar and add a jefy bean every time someone does a good deed. Enjoy at Easter.
25 After Wass, stay and light a candle for someone who passed away recently.	26 At dinner, have everyone name one thing for which they're grateful.	27 Check out Catholic Relief Services and see if you can help support any of their projects at: https://www.crs.org.	28 Practice patience a much- needed form of almsgiving.	29 Enjoy pretzels – a traditional Lenten snack because they were originally shaped into crossed prayer arms.	March Attend daily Mass together or make time later today to visit Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.	2 Proy a family Rosary together in honor of Mary's Immaculate Heart.
After Mass, go over the horsily with children. Discuss practical ways to "clean the temple" of your hearts.	4 Stop by the parish office and ask. If there are any upcoming events you can volunteer to help with.	5 Encourage children to give up a favorite toy or game – just for today, just for God.	6 Tonight, have everyone think of someone they don't get along with and share three good things about them.	Pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy together for souls in need. See details here, www. thedwinemercy.org.	Attend a parish fish fly together.	9 Show Jesus you're trustworthy and work on a project you've been putting aff.
10 Lacture Sunday Go out for a small treat to celebrate the midpoint of Lent.	11 Encourage everyone to refresh any Lenten committents.	12 Look for signs of God's love and presence today. Have everyone share two of them at dinner.	13 Prepare souls for Easter! Do an examination of conscience, using the Ten Commendments or Eight Beettudes as a guide.	14 Encourage everyone to do an extra chore and offer it for the souls in Purgatory.	15 Family Night Take the phone off the hook and turn off the TV. Play board games and spend time together.	16 Go to Confession as a family and experience God's mercy.
17 Offer special prayers for catechists and anyone else who teaches the Faith.	18 Go for a welk together and look for signs of Spring.	19 St. Jaseph's Day Today is a solemnity! See if your parish has a "St. Joseph's Table" or enjoy pastries at home to colebrate.	2O Holy Week and Easter are busy times for parishes. Offer prayers for the priests and perish staft.		Have a screen fast (from necressional use) from noon to 3, honoring the time Jesus hung on the Cross.	The King is coming! Tidy up the house to prepare for the holiest week of the year.
24 Palm Sunday Display palm branches – signs of victory – around the images of Jesus in your home to mark the start of Holy Week.	25 At dinner, offer extra prayers for everyone coming into the Church at Easter.	26 Go on a water fast today, Drink only water and pray for those for whom accessible drinking water is difficult.	27 Get up 15 minutes early to pray as a family.	28 Holy Thursday Attend a Holy Thursday itargy or need John 13:1-11. What would you say if Jesus offered to wash your feet?	29 Good Friday Pray the Stations of the Cross together, recalling Jesus' greatest act of love for us.	30 Holy Saturday Ught a cardle and renew your baptismal your together as a family.

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I decided this week to pull this resource to the front of the newsletter as sometimes we get to the point where we just scroll past items.

If you are looking for ways to experience Lent together as a family, the calendar put together by Partners in Faith might provide some ideas. The calendar can be printed via the Family Folder at the end of the newsletter.

**Bishop Burbidge is encouraging all of us to participate in the Dicosean Day of Unplugging, March 1st. Click the link for more information

https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/unplug/

The parent portal will close on March 1 in advance of the end of Trimester 2. The trimester officially closes on March 7, there is no school for students on March 8 for a teacher workday, and report cards for K-8 will go home on March 15.

We will celebrate Dr. Seuss Day on March 5th with various activities. Students are invited to wear their "Seuss" accessories with their regular uniform that day.

On March 7th, the Middle School production of Mary Poppins, Jr. will take place. The students will be treated to the show in the morning and there will be an evening performance for families. All are welcome!

The Student Council will sponsor a mini Spirit Week in March - be on the lookout for those details.

The annual 7th & 8th grade Science Fair is March 21st. The PTO helps to arrange for judges - please see the information below if you are interested.

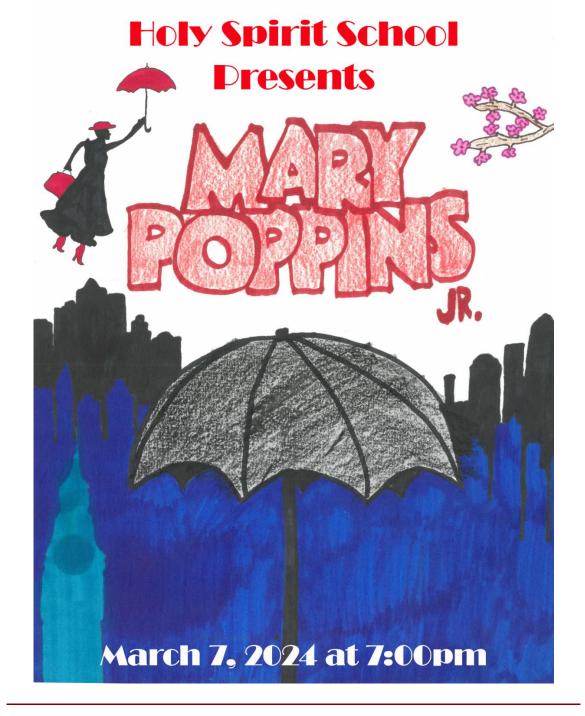
Our annual Father's Day Mass will be held on March 22nd; see details below. This is a wonderful day for us to honor the important men in the lives of our children and we choose this timing in order to coincide with the Feast of St. Joseph.

Holy Thursday is March 28th and is an early dismissal day with no afternoon Extended Day. The school is closed for Good Friday and we will have our Easter break the week of April 1st.



Did you create your own Holy Moment this week? Did you tidy up a space this week? When I thought of this for myself this week, of course my first reaction was that I tidy up physical spaces all of the time, so I decided I needed to think differently. My thoughts turned then to tidying up some relationship spaces instead and to concentrate on where I have been neglecting or taking for granted those in my personal life. For me it certainly took a somewhat mundane challenge and turned it into a productive and rewarding one.





HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL

PURCHASE THE

2024

YEARBOOK



BUYTHEYEARBOOK.COM SCHOOL ID: 7236153-2401

\$18 EARLY BIRD SPECIAL (UNTIL 3/15)

\$20 AFTER 3/15





Please join the Holy Spirit School Community for a

Mass in Celebration of Fathers
March 22, 2024
9:00am

our school day will begin at 9:00 am in the church. Dads and hildren are welcome to meet us there. If Dads are unable to ttend, children are welcome to invite uncles, big brothers, or nother special guest. If students will not have a guest that ay, we will be glad to receive the children at the regular 8:00 chool time. Receptions will follow mass in your children's lassrooms.



It is time to get up off that couch and get ready for the 5K Spirit Run benefitting our Resource Department!!

2024 5K Spirit Run

Can you help us?

For many years, Holy Spirit Catholic School has been supporting all types of learners through our Resource Program and Expanded Services at Holy Spirit School. We currently support over 50 students who have mild to moderate disabilities and who need resource assistance in the areas of ADHD, Autism, Dyslexia, Intellectual Disabilities, Learning Disabilities, and other special needs. We continually adapt to help meet the individual needs of our students so they can achieve social and academic success in inclusive classrooms. Our Resource Team includes four resource teachers, a full-time reading specialist, a full and part-time paraprofessional, and a full-time counselor!

To make inclusive Catholic education accessible, the additional costs required for licensed special education professionals, continuous professional development for our staff, and classroom materials are covered primarily by grants and fundraisers. We host a 5K Spirit Run each year to raise funds, build community, and raise awareness.

The 2024 5K Spirit Run will be held in the Holy Spirit Parish neighborhood on May 18, 2024. We are writing to ask for your support and sponsorship for our 5K. Monetary donations will help cover the cost of the race, allowing the profits from race registration to directly support Holy Spirit's Resource Program, enabling children with special needs to receive a Catholic education. Please see the reverse of this letter for sponsorship levels and other ways you can help us make inclusive education possible.

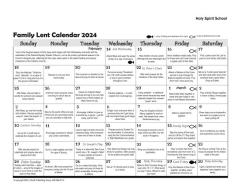
Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sue Gibbons, Race Director sqibbons@holyspiritflames.org

Race Sponsorship Information

NEW! February Partners in Faith newsletter and Family Lent Calendar





-Maureen Ashby

Principal



Upcoming PTO Events

Tuesday – Wednesday, March 5th-6th

Spartan's Family Restaurant Fundraiser – 9542 Burke Road, Burke 10% of sales will be donated to Holy Spirit. 15% of sales will be donated if we reach \$1500 in sales! See flier below for more information.

Tuesday, March 12th

Used Uniform Sale – more details to come!

Thursday, March 21st

Middle School Science Fair 12:00pm – 3:00pm in the Gym Judges are need! See Volunteer Opportunities and flier below for more information.

Volunteer Opportunities (1 point/30 mins volunteered)

<u>Spring Fundraiser - Show Trainee and Dinner Trainee</u> (20 PSSC points each) Virtus Certification is NOT required

The Spring Fundraiser will be held on **Saturday, April 13th** in the gym and we are in need of 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

March PTO Meeting - Zoom and In-person option

Join us via <u>Zoom</u> on **March 19th 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. Connect1 sign up will be posted soon. For meeting details and to earn PSSC points for attending, please be sure to sign up. Questions? Contact Kristyn Poreba PTOSecretary@holyspiritflames.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 <u>Connect1</u> for all opportunities available.

Questions? Contact Joe Terpenning jterpenning@infinitetech.org

Science Fair Judges

Still looking to complete your service hours? Then please consider judging the middle school science fair. The event will take place on Thursday March 21st from 12:00 to 3:00 pm in the school gym (with an 11:00 am optional project preview). No special math or science experience is required. You will earn 4 hours toward your school service commitment. Lunch will also be provided. You do not need to be child protection compliant to participate. If interested, please SIGN UP NO LATER THAN TUESDAY, MARCH 19th as judges will be assigned to projects on this day. See <u>Connect1</u> to sign up.

Questions? Contact Laura Laclede sciencefair@holyspiritschool.org

Reminders

In order to volunteer with any youth in the Arlington Diocese, you must be Child Protection Compliant.



HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL

Tuesday, March 5, 2024 Wednesday, March 6, 2024

ALL DAY, DINE IN OR CARRYOUT
BRING IN THIS FLYER, SHOW US ON
YOUR SMART PHONE, OR TELL US YOUR SUPPORTING
THE CAUSE TO MAKE SURE THAT PROCEEDS WILL BE
DONATED TO HOLY SPIRIT PTO

FOR ONLINE ORDERING OR GIFT CARDS ORDERED ONLINE ENTER FUNDRAISER CODE: **HOLY SPIRIT**



SPARTANS FAMILY RESTAURANT 9542 BURKE RDBURKE VA 22015 703-503-5800

WWW.ILOVESPARTANS.COM #SPARTITUDE

Come and support the PTO as you score some gently used Holy Spirit uniform pieces for the remainder of the 2024 school year and beyond!

We will hold the Spring Used Uniform Sale on March 13 from 2:30 to 5:00. Our intention is to invite you to shop while parked in vanpool and carline before the end of the day. If you cannot make it that early, then we will be set up until 5:00 for your shopping needs. Come at your convenience.

Where: Holy Spirit School – Quinn Room (please use the side door entrance)

Cost: \$5 per item (\$1 for socks/tights)

How to Pay: Cash or Check (made out to the Holy Spirit PTO)

****WE NEED VOLUNTEERS for March 13 if you'd like to earn early shopping privileges and/or to obtain extra volunteer hours. Please see Connect 1 to sign up for setup/customer service/cleanup etc.

ADDITIONALLY, PLEASE HELP STOCK the SALES ON AN ON-GOING BASIS!!! DONATE ANY USED UNIFORMS, SCHOOL SHOES, OR SPIRIT WEAR THAT ARE NO LONGER NEEDED TO THE OFFICE. THANK YOU!

Used Uniform Sale – March 13!!!



Spring Sale Date- Wednesday, March 13 from 2:30 to 5:00

Where: Holy Spirit School – Quinn Room
Cost: \$5 per item (\$1 for socks/tights)

How to Pay: Cash or Check (made out to the Holy Spirit PTO)

ADDITIONALLY, PLEASE HELP STOCK the SALE!!!

DONATE ANY USED UNIFORMS, SCHOOL SHOES, OR SPIRIT WEAR THAT ARE NO LONGER NEEDED, TO THE OFFICE OR EMAIL - MelanieAnneBennett@gmail.com
TO ARRANGE FOR CONVENIENT PICKUP/DROP OFF OF DONATIONS

Important Details-

- Coming Soon: please see Connect 1 to volunteer
- Enter and exit through the side door (directly into the Quinn Room)
- Plan ahead bring a list of items and sizes needed

Support this PTO Fundraiser While Getting a Great Deal!

We Need Science Fair Judges!

No STEM experience necessary!

Judging will take place on Thursday, March 21st from 12:00 to 3:00 pm in the gym. Lunch will be served. VIRTUS training is not required.

Please sign up through Connect1.

Questions?

Please contact <u>Laura Laclede</u> at sciencefair@holyspiritflames.org



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 funfilled with the preparations of the show and the final performance.

<u>Dinner Chairman:</u> 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@infinitetech.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!

PTO Board 2023 - 2024

President - Christine Ploschke - <u>PTOPresident@holyspiritflames.org</u>
Vice President - Rob Wu - <u>PTOVP@holyspiritflames.org</u>
Treasurer - Karin Floyd - <u>PTOTreasurer@holyspiritflames.org</u>
Secretary - Kristyn Poreba - <u>PTOSecretary@holyspiritflames.org</u>

Volunteer Coordinator - Lauren Schmidt -<u>PTOVPMembership@holyspiritflames.org</u>
Fundraising Coordinator - Toni O'Neill -<u>PTOVPDevelopment@holyspiritflames.org</u>
Homeroom Parent Coordinator - Valerie Overstreet -<u>PTOHomeroomCoordinator@holyspiritflames.org</u>

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!





Catholic Diocese of Arlington

Men's Conference 2024

RENEWED NCHRIST REFLECTING HIS LIGHT TO THE WORLD







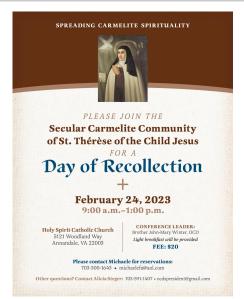


MARCH 2ND 8. 30 Jan - 2.15 pm St. Joseph Catholic Church 750 Peachtree St. Herndor, VA Register at: arlingtondiocese.org/men





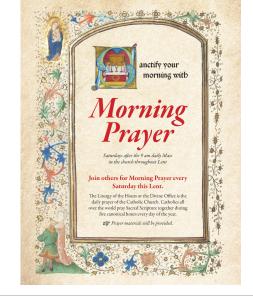


















Community Happenings!



Discover the Diocese of Arlington. Meet with school representatives to explore teaching in one of the **37** elementary schools, **4** high schools and **4** stand-alone preschools serving over **18,000** students in the **13** cities and counties in this growing diocese. Our schools are seeking highly-qualified, faith-filled and dynamic professionals.





FAMILY FOLDER

The following flyers may be found in the folder labeled "February 22, 2024" on the website. For your convenience, some flyers are repeated.

Family Folder

School Flyers:

- 1. Diocesan Tuition Assistance Programs Overview
- 2. Yearbook Sale flyer
- 3. Fathers Day Mass flyer
- 4. Partners in Faith (February) newsletter
- 5. Family Lent Calendar

5K Spirit Run

1. Sponsorship Information

PTO Flyers:

- 1. PTO Fundraiser at Spartans
- 2. Science Fair Judges
- 3. PTO Talentshow Sign Up
- 4. PTO Talentshow Volunteer flyer
- 5. Used Uniform Sale flyer

Parish Flyers:

- 1. Parish Lenten Brochure
- 2. Lenton Soup Suppers
- 3. HS WorkCamp 2024
- 4. 2024 Women's Conference
- 5. Vacation Bible School
- 6. 2024 Men's Conference

- 7. Day of Recollection
- 8. Bedding for Babies Collection
- 9. Morning Pray during Lent flyer
- 10. After Divorce seminar flyer
- 11. Eucharistc Adoration Lenten Challenge
- 12. 2024 Car Raffle
- 13. Lenten Food Drive
- 14. Learn to Knit or Crochet

Community Flyers:

- 1. Diocesan Job Fair flyer
- 2. Bishop O'Connell High Schoo Cheerleading Clinic

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

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