



January 5, 2023



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

Nothing But Faith Day

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Welcome Back!

I hope that everyone enjoyed the time away from school and that everyone is refreshed and ready to tackle the "second" part of the school year.

One of the goals that the faculty set for itself is to increase the retreat experiences for our students. What we settled on and are building are what are being called "Nothing But Faith Day"; the first of these will be tomorrow, Friday, January 6th.

We will be learning about and exploring the Epiphany over the course of our day.

The day will begin with Deacon Grodek reading to the children a book entitled "The Wise Men Who Found Christmas" by Raymond Arroyo. The book will help us set the stage with the children and we will use the three themes of "follow the light", "go to the King", and "discover the truth" throughout the day.

We will attend Friday Mass as usual, have snack with buddies, and then break into groups (PreK and K; Grades 1-2; Grades 3-5; Grades 6-8) to work through activities and challenges that we hope will enhance the students knowledge of the Epiphany and allow them the opportunity to realize the personal gifts that they can bring to the Christ Child each day.

After lunch (all students will eat at the same time in their homeroom classrooms; hot lunches, etc will be delivered to the classrooms) we will gather again in the gym and hear about the connection of closing the Christmas season and opening the season of Mardi Gras. Students will be provided King Cake from Haydel's Bakery.

The last portion of the day will find us "going to the King" as we head back to the church as a whole school. During our time there, students will present at the creche the gifts they put together in the morning; we will pray the Rosary in honor of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI; we will hear the Epiphany readings and Father O'Donohue will join us to speak to the children about the themes and importance of the Epiphany in the history and life of the Church.

We do truly hope this is a special day for everyone.

(*For students who have food allergies, information was sent out by homeroom teachers. The snack in the morning will be Cheez Its and water. The King Cakes do contain sugar, salt, shortening, eggs, yeast, milk, flour, and lemon, orange, vanilla, or butter flavoring.)

Registration for 2023/2024 academic year

Information regarding registration for the 2023/2024 academic year went home prior to the Christmas break.

Families who intend for their children to return to Holy Spirit next year should return the provided financial contract by tomorrow, Friday, January 6th.

We had also asked that families update their demographic information in PowerSchool. We are aware that the site is not working. This is an issue on the Office of Catholic Schools side of things and we are awaiting word that it is open and working properly.

In the meantime, we will consider students re-registered with the returning of the financial contract.

The re-registration fee of \$100.00/student will be charged via each family's FACTS account.

Acceptances for new students in prekindergarten and kindergarten have already begun. Acceptances for new students in grades 1-8 will begin on January 9, 2023.

March for Life Friday, January 20, 2023

The annual March for Life rally and walk will take place in Washington D.C. on Friday, January 20, 2023. Despite the Supreme Court decision earlier in the year in the Dobbs v Jackson Women's Health Organization, there is still much work to be done to protect the rights of the unborn.

If your family has never participated in the March for Life, I would encourage you to prayerfully consider attending. Information is below regarding the offerings from the Holy Spirit Parish for this day.

As had been traditional prior to COVID, the parish will be hosting a number of out of state groups overnight in the school building.

As a result, Father has cancelled school for Friday, January 20th. Please be sure you note this on your calendar.

As a school community, we will have our own March for Life on Thursday, January 19th as we will have an outdoor Rosary over the course of the afternoon led by the 8th grade students. Parents are certainly welcome to attend; watch for a schedule of when particular classes will make their way outside to participate.



Our next Open House is Wednesday, January 11, 2023. If you know of families considering a Catholic education for their children, please let them know!

Other general reminders:

The Winter testing session of the NWEA Map Growth assessment for Grades 3-7 begins Monday, January 9th.

Monday, January 16 is a no school day for Martin Luther King Day.

Thursday, January 19th is a PTO Spirit Gear day.

Interims for grades 3-8 for the 2nd Trimester go home on Thursday, January 19th as do the Prekindergarten Progress Reports.

(Friday, January 20th is a NO school day - see the information above.)

Catholic Schools Week will be celebrated from Sunday, January 29th through Friday, February 3rd. Please see the information below regarding our service project and the schedule of events.

We will celebrate Grandparents Day on Friday, February 10th. Watch for a flyer and RSVP information next week.

One Big Baby Shower



Who: Mothers and their babies living in the slums of Haiti

What: Buddy classes will partner together to assemble newborn kits.

A "kit" consists of a onesie, receiving blanket, two cloth diapers with pins, a wash cloth and a piece of vinyl table cloth used for a changing pad.



When: Items to be collected **Tuesday, Jan. 10- Tues. Jan. 24**

Why: A gift of a newborn kit provides struggling mothers with clothes, diapers and other items to keep their new babies safe and healthy. These basic items provide mothers with the tools and supplies they would otherwise not have access to.

We need your help!

We are asking all students to donate **\$2.00** to help purchase *cloth diapers* for the kits **in addition to the following:**

- PreKindergarten -- large rectangle vinyl tablecloth w/flannel back **QTY: 2** (any color/design)
- Kindergarten -- baby wash cloths **QTY: Package of 6-12** (any color/design)
- 1st grade -- onesies **QTY: Package of 4-6** (short sleeve; newborn-3 mos; any color)
- 2nd grade -- diaper pins **QTY: 2-3 packages** (any color)
- 3rd grade -- onesies **QTY: Package of 4-6** (short sleeve; newborn-3 mos; any color)
- 4th grade -- receiving blankets **QTY: 4-6** (any color)
- 5th grade -- baby wash cloths **QTY: Package of 6-12** (any color/design)
- 6th grade -- onesies **QTY: Package of 4-6** (short sleeve; newborn-3 mos; any color)
- 7th grade -- onesies **QTY: Package of 4-6** (short sleeve; newborn-3 mos; any color)
- 8th grade -- receiving blankets **QTY: 4-6** (any color)

Stella Marina, an Operation Starfish project, was founded in 2014 to help **provide clean birthing kits to the midwives in northern Haiti**. With the support of **Food For The Poor**, they are able to ship the kits and other supplies to Cap Haitian, Haiti. The shipping container with our kits will be going to Haiti in the spring.

We will need parent volunteers to help the students during the service project. Look for a sign up!



Schedule of Events 2023

Monday, January 30

- **"Parent Appreciation Day"**
- Look for your parent "thank you" in the morning carpool line.
- Prayer Service – 8:30am

Tuesday, January 31

- **"Student Appreciation" Day**
- Dress-down day (follow school policy for dress-down days)
- Students will have movie/popcorn in the afternoon in the gym

Wednesday, February 1

- **"Faculty and Staff Appreciation" Day**
- PTO "surprise" for the faculty; look for information from the PTO
- This is a great opportunity for your student(s) to write a note of appreciation to their teacher(s)

Thursday, February 2

- **"Service Day"**
- Students will put together newborn care kits to donate to *Stella Marina*
- Our goal is to donate 500 care kits
- See the flyer listing what items each grade is donating plus \$2 from every student
- Parent volunteers needed look for the signup in Connect1

Friday, February 3

- **"Clergy Appreciation Day"**
 - 9:00am School Mass
 - Students will honor not only the work that Father O'Donohue, Father Carroll, Father Wooten, Deacon Grodek and Deacon D'Souza do within the school and parish community, but also the efforts of those involved with the parish Religious Education office and youth ministry
-

Thoughtful Moments

The Church is family

The Catholic Church is more than just a building or an organization. The Church is a family we join at Baptism and to which we belong forever. Wherever our children go in their lives, they can always come home. Keep them close to the Church as they grow. Remind them often that every Catholic church is their home, and the parish is their family.

Kindness

In today's busy world, showing kindness to others can make a big impact. Remember how good it felt the last time someone showed you an unexpected kindness? Look for ways to show kindness, even when it's unexpected. You can make a difference with a simple act, like holding the door for the person behind you, taking a moment to talk to a lovely stranger, or offering up prayers for people who need them.

"Do not neglect hospitality, for through it some have unknowingly entertained angels" (Hebrews 13:2).



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Build a Christ-centered home

A Christ-centered home is one in which, "Christ is the Head of this house, the unseen guest at every meal, the silent listener to every conversation." His presence is always felt. Knowing Jesus and following Him are key to living joyful, fulfilling lives in this world and being happy with Him in the next. As a family, make your top New Year's resolution to center your home on Christ.

Joy – Different than happiness, joy comes from understanding that our welfare lies in Jesus' hands alone. Teach children to give all their concerns to Him. No circumstance can rob us of our joy if we truly believe we belong to Christ.

Grace – Our homes must be safe places filled with love. Family members

need to know that love, not perfection, is the point of the family and that mistakes aren't fatal. Children will encounter hostility, judgment, antagonism, and criticism out in the world. A Christian home should be a place of comfort, rest, and healing.

Service – Jesus will give us everything we need. Sometimes, he uses other people to deliver His gifts. Christ-centered families place all that they have at His disposal and God's will top priority. Nothing comes before Mass and Sacraments.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

"Christ" is not Jesus' last name. In fact, it is a title from the Greek *Christos*, meaning, "anointed one." It refers to an ancient Jewish tradition of anointing a new king with oil. For Jesus, calling him, "Christ," affirms that His

Why do Catholics call Jesus "Christ"?



Lordship includes all of creation and points to His mission as the Savior and the promised Messiah of the Jews, by recognizing Him as "Christ." Christians affirm they're under His kingship and that they owe their final loyalty to Him.




WINTER ENRICHMENT AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL

WINTER HEALTH & EXERCISE CLASS

WEDNESDAYS 3:15 - 4:15 PM
JANUARY 11TH - FEBRUARY 22ND
7 SESSIONS / \$140
PRE K - 2ND GRADE STUDENTS

STAY ACTIVE AND HAVE FUN WITH FRIENDS OVER THE WINTER MONTHS!



SESSIONS WILL BE HELD DIRECTLY AFTER SCHOOL FROM 3:15 - 4:15 PM IN A DESIGNATED CLASSROOM AND ALL EQUIPMENT WILL BE PROVIDED

REGISTRATION: WWW.THEPSASPORTS.COM
CONTACT US AT: ADMIN@THEPSASPORTS.COM **DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE**




Holy Spirit 2022-2023 YEARBOOK On Sale Now!

**Early Bird Special
\$18.00**

Get Yours Today!
**EARLY BIRD DEADLINE:
01/31/2023**
\$20 after 01/31/2023


Order Online:
BUYTHEYEARBOOK.COM
ID: 712674






BOOK FAIR

Coming Soon!



Sunday, Feb. 5th - Friday, Feb. 10th, 2023
IN THE SCHOOL LIBRARY
More information coming soon!



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-Maureen Ashby

Principal

Holy Spirit School PTO



Upcoming Events:

February 1 – Book Fair

PTO Meeting: The January PTO meeting will be on January 17, 2022, at 6:30 pm. This is a great opportunity to learn about upcoming events, meet fellow parents, and to get involved. Additionally, the meeting attendance counts towards the PSSC hours. This will be a hybrid meeting with more information to come on classroom location. However, the online portion will be at the following link:

[https://holyspiritflames.zoom.us/j/87077053723?](https://holyspiritflames.zoom.us/j/87077053723?pwd=SkJiMEdsWHcvKzdVZC9qN09GdlgrZz09)

[pwd=SkJiMEdsWHcvKzdVZC9qN09GdlgrZz09](https://holyspiritflames.zoom.us/j/87077053723?pwd=SkJiMEdsWHcvKzdVZC9qN09GdlgrZz09)

Meeting ID: 870 7705 3723

Passcode: 483688

Recess Duty: We still have many empty slots that need to be filled for recess duty. We are asking all families to sign up for a spot no later than January 31, 2023. You can sign up for recess duty through: <https://app.connect1.io/volunteers/ta43kmlw3>.

Connect1:

If you need more assistance with Connect 1 you can either contact Tom Fields at PTOPSSC@holyspiritflames.org or visit <https://app.connect1.io/volunteers/gmgujg6pp>

Holy Spirit School's Annual Talent Showcase



SIGNUP FORM



When: February 7, 2023

Where: Holy Spirit Meeting Rooms 1&2

Time: 3:15 – 5:30pm

Auditions/registrations are open to all students who want to perform in the show on April 29, 2023.

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 February 7 but want to perform, email Joe Terpenning (jterpenning@infinetech.org) to discuss.

NOTES FOR AUDITION MONITORS:

TIME LENGTH: _____

SONG NAME: _____

STAGE NEEDS: _____

For Singers: Using a karaoke version of song or regular version: _____



Hard copy form in the Family Folder section below.

PTO Board 2022 - 2023

President - Christine Ploschke - PTOPresident@holyspiritflames.org

Vice President - Trevor Lowing - PTOVP@holyspiritflames.org

Treasurer - Danielle Hetzler - PTOTreasurer@holyspiritflames.org

Secretary - Lee Conroy - PTOSecretary@holyspiritflames.org

Volunteer Coordinator - Mary Sonnen - PTOVPMembership@holyspiritflames.org

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

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

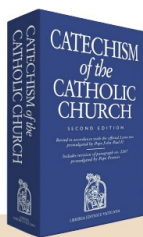
Volunteering

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 in activities where students are present.

Parish Happenings!

You know what a Bible study is...

THIS WILL BE A Catechism Study!



The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) is one of the beautiful gifts of the pontificate of Pope Saint John Paul II—the first new Church-wide catechism in over 400 years.

Join Deacon Tom in 2023

WHEN: 7:00–8:15 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of every month

WHERE: Rectory, Large Meeting Room

FIRST MEETING on JANUARY 10

Livestream also available—details to be announced

To sign up or for more information:
CatechismStudy@holyspiritchurch.us

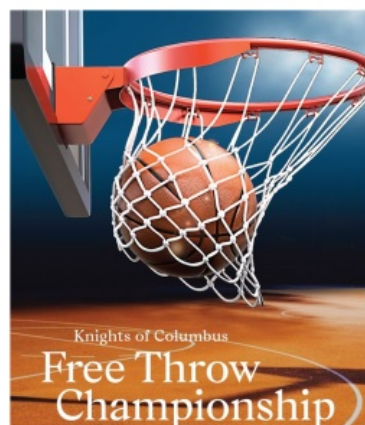
Paced to Fr. Mike's "Catechism in a Year" podcast from Ascension Press, but open to all who want to study the Catechism.



2023 Annual Holy Spirit Free Throw Contest

- **Who:** Boys and Girls aged 9 and Under, 10-14 yrs. (12 age/gender categories)
- **Where:** Holy Spirit School Gym
- **When:** Sunday afternoon, January 15th, 2023
 - Registration begins at 4:30 pm
 - Contest begins at 5 pm
- **What:**
 - Contestants shoot 15 free throws for record
 - Winners get an engraved plaque and advance to District contest in February
 - Basketballs provided (*please do not bring any*)
 - Registration forms available on site

Questions? Contact knights@holyspiritchurch.us



Wednesday Night Bible Study With Father O'Donohue



Join this Wednesday,
January 11th.

Parish Center
8:30-9:30 PM

Livestream option available for
those unable to attend.



January 20, 2023

**Join Holy Spirit Parish in praying
and defending life!**

Breakfast at 7:30 AM to 10 AM

Mass at 10:30 AM

Buses Depart at 11:15 AM

You **MUST** register for a spot on the Bus and Students
MUST fill out the permission Form!
All can be found below by scanning the QR Code!



OR: Click the Link!

<https://holyspiritchurch.us/marchforlife2023/>

Prices:

Kids Under 6 years: FREE
6-12 years: \$3
13-99 years: \$6
Maximum Cost Per Family: \$20

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Married Couples Morning of Reflection

Join other married couples from the parish for a morning of reflection, prayer and fellowship, led by Deacon Tom Grodek.
Contact knights@holyspiritchurch.us for more information.

February 11th

*10:00 am-12:00 noon
Meeting Rooms 1 & 2*



Happy New Year !
*In **2023**, give your beloved
the gift of a Catholic Marriage*

*Was yours a civil marriage, outside of the Catholic Church?
The Church loves you, and has a remedy, called Convalidation*



God wants Joy, true Joy, for you!

Please see any of our parish priests or deacons
to help get you started.

See this tri-fold for more information: [link](#)

Community Happenings!



FAMILY FOLDER

The following flyers may be found in the folder labeled "January 5, 2023" on the website. For your convenience, some flyers are repeated.

Family
Folder

School Flyers:

1. Catholic Schools Week Schedule of events flyer
2. Catholic Schools Week Service Project flyer
3. PTO Talent Showcase Signup Form
4. Yearbook Order information flyer
5. PSA Winter Exercise Session flyer
6. Partners in Faith (January) newsletter
7. Diocese of Arlington Tuition Assistance Overview

Parish Flyers:

1. Catechism Study flyer
2. March for Life flyer
3. Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest flyer
4. Bible Study flyer
5. Married Couples Morning of Reflection flyer
6. Catholic Marriage flyer

Community Flyers: