

March 14, 2024



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

Focus, Focus, Focus

We have launched into Trimester 3! It is hard to believe that we are in the final stretch in terms of marking periods! It is important for students to stay focused and now might be a great time to be sure they still have all of the supplies that they need for their academic classes.

As the weather turns warmer it is easy to pine for Summer, but we have much to do between now and then!

We will switch over to the Spring uniform when we return from the Easter break, Monday, April 8th. Until then, despite this week's warmer temperatures, please remember that students should be in the Winter uniform. I would ask that you look at your child/children's uniforms with a critical eye - many of them have grown taller and gotten bigger and we are seeing skirts, pants, and shirts that are short and tight, as well as uniforms with stains imbedded in them that do not seem to coming out in the wash.

The next PTO Spirit Gear Day is scheduled for March 21st. This will NOT apply to the 7th and 8th grade students who will participate in the annual Science Fair that day.

In addition to wearing Spirit Gear that day - we will also celebrate National Down Syndrome Awareness Day on March 21st by wearing our craziest socks! (The 7th & 8th graders may wear crazy socks to help us celebrate.)

Please remember that there are guidelines for dress down days listed in the

Parent/Student Handbook. Thank you for helping us out!

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.

The 8th Grade will be gifting to the school community the prayer of Living Stations of the Cross on Thursday, March 28th at 9:00 am. All are welcome.

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 ask for help when you needed it? Maybe it was asking for prayers for something going on in your life. Or maybe it was looking for assistance with the family schedule. Maybe it was feeling a bit too stretched at work and asking a colleague to pitch in on a project. All of these require us to humble ourselves and to realize that we do have limits...and that's okay. I hope as you continue through this season of Lent, that you ask God for help each and every day.

Consider visiting Him in the most blessed Eucharist! Although sometimes we feel like we just can't fit in one more thing, I would encourage you to visit Our Lord for just ten minutes one day this week. Ask Him for help! He is here for us, always! He wants to pour out His grace on us! And who knows, the peace that comes to your heart may just allow you to create a Holy Moment or two for those around you.



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 children are welcome to meet us there. If Dads are unable to attend, children are welcome to invite uncles, big brothers, or another special guest. If students will not have a guest that day, we will be glad to receive the children at the regular 8:00 school time. Receptions will follow mass in your children's classrooms.

9th Annual

5K RUN & WALK

SATURDAY
MAY 18, 2024

EARLY REGISTRATION
\$25
PER PERSON UNTIL
APRIL 24TH



ONLINE REGISTRATION IS
REQUIRED.

To Support the Holy Spirit Resource Program

FOR MORE
INFORMATION
PLEASE EMAIL:
sgibbons@holyspiritflames.org



[Click Here to Register!](#)

[Race Sponsorship Information](#)




Spring

After School Sports

Holy Spirit Catholic School

Mondays
Soccer: March 18th - May 13th
1st - 4th Grade Students / \$160

Tuesdays
Soccer: March 19th - May 14th
Pre K & Kindergarten / \$160

Wednesdays
Tennis: March 20th - May 15th
1st - 5th Grade (*in the gym*) / \$180

Fridays
Basketball: March 22nd - May 24th
K - 2nd Grade Students / \$160

8 sessions after school starting at 3:15 PM & all equipment is provided!

REGISTER NOW

www.ThePSASports.com



Please contact us with any questions:
Admin@thePSASports.com

NEW! March's Partners in Faith Newsletter!

Partners in FAITH™

Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith. March 2024

Holy Spirit School

Thoughtful Moments

Pope St. Zachary

St. Zachary was a deacon before he became pope in 741. As pope, St. Zachary skillfully negotiated peace for Italy against the usually violent Lombard clan and befriended the Frankish king Pepin, the Short, the father of King Charlemagne. He was a patron of restoring churches and saving priceless treasures from Byzantium from being destroyed. Also known for his charity, St. Zachary ransomed slaves being sold in Venice and supported St. Boniface's mission in Germany.



See with your heart

Scripture says that God wants to be intimate with us but it can be challenging to feel close to someone we can't see in human form. Remember that God said, "Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things which you have not known" (Jeremiah 33:3).

"Do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself. Sufficient for a day is its own evil" (Matthew 6:34).



Invoke Don Bosco's special charisma

As an educator and father figure, St. John "Don" Bosco had a special charisma. He could touch the hearts and minds of rebellious youths and inspire them to follow Christ. Follow his advice for forming young hearts and minds for Christ:

"See that the laws of discipline ... are made known." Children of all ages benefit from understanding clear expectations and the consequences for deviation. He knew that children thrive on routine and well-defined boundaries. And, Don Bosco believed that placing youths in safe surroundings with good influences removes the likelihood of their committing sin. That encourages responsible independence.



"Always gentle and prudent." It was his experience that "gentle but firm" or "quiet but stern" were more effective in discipline than anger or violence. The educator must strive to make himself loved by his pupils, if he wishes to obtain their respect and obedience.

"Never ... correct in public." To Don Bosco, punishments were a last resort and done in private when it is more likely to have the child's full attention. Never humiliate a youngster. "A humble prayer to God is much more useful..." Don Bosco encouraged drawing on God's grace. The Holy Spirit speaks to our children's hearts in ways we can't. Inviting God into our challenges might turn what could have been a fall-out into a breakthrough.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

During Sunday Mass, we recite the Nicene Creed, and bow when we proclaim the miracle and mystery of the Incarnation. It is such a central tenet of our faith that we genuflect when proclaiming it on Christmas and the Feast of the

Why do Catholics bow during the Creed?



Annunciation (April 8). Whether we bow or genuflect during the Creed, the extra gesture helps us to recall with gratitude and reverence that God became man "for us ... and our salvation," when we proclaim our Catholic beliefs.

Family Lent Calendar 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Lent is the liturgical season of forty days which begins with Ash Wednesday and ends with the resurrection of the Risen Christ on Easter Sunday. Lent is the primary penitential season of the Church's liturgical year, reflecting the forty days Jesus spent in the desert fasting and praying. (Catechism of the Catholic Church)						
18 "Give the Alms due." Write the word "alms" on a piece of paper. Put it in a bag and bury it in the ground until Easter.	19 Resist to only eat one meal a day.	20 Fast a portion of a meal in the noon and evening for three or more days.	21 St. Agnes' Feast. Pray for the young people in your parish.	22 St. Peter's Chair. Offer words of prayer for the members of the Holy Family.	23 St. Joseph's Feast. Pray for the Holy Family.	24 St. Joseph's Feast. Pray for the Holy Family.
25 After Mass, pray 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 Service and see if you can help assist one of their projects at https://www.crs.org .	28 Practice patience - a much needed form of almsgiving.	29 Enjoy prayer - a traditional Lenten meal because the very words originally signed into Christ's blood were "amen."	1 March Observe Stations of the Cross service or pray through the Stations together at home. Find them here: www.usccb.org .	2 Pray a family Rosary together at home or pray in a public place in the Blessed Sacrament.
3 After Mass, do your family with children. Discuss gratitude ways to "share the love" 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 Lent, just for God.	6 Tonight, have everyone drink of someone they don't get along with and reach for the goal of prayer about them.	7 Play the Chapter of Divine Mercy together for week in school. See details below week below.	8 Attend a parish fish fry together.	9 Show Jesus you're trustworthy and work on a project you've been putting off.
10 Lentary Sunday Go out for a meal treat to celebrate the beginning of Lent.	11 Encourage everyone to reflect on any Lenten commitments.	12 Look for signs of God's love and presence today. Show everyone where you see them at dinner.	13 Prepare souls for Easter! Do an examination of conscience using the Ten Commandments of Eight Beatitudes as a guide.	14 Encourage everyone to do an extra prayer and offer for the souls in Purgatory.	15 Family Night Take the photos of the book and turn of the TV. Play board games and spend time together.	16 Sit in Confession as a family and experience God's mercy.
17 Offer special prayers for children and anyone else who touches the Faith.	18 Go for a walk together and look for signs of Spring.	19 St. Joseph's Day Today is a solemnity! See if your parish has a St. Joseph's Day or enjoy pastries at home in celebration.	20 Holy Week and Easter are here! Pray for the Holy Family. Offer prayers for the priests and parish staff in celebration.	21 Bring your donations back to the parish.	22 Have a screen fact from the Stations of the Cross. Pray the Stations of the Cross together.	23 The King is coming! Turn up the heat to prepare for the blessed week of the year.
24 Palm Sunday Dress your children - sign of victory - around the neighborhood and pray for the Holy Spirit.	25 At dinner, offer extra prayers for someone who has passed away recently.	26 Go on a walk together today. Drink water and pray for those who will be celebrating the Holy Spirit at Easter.	27 Get up 15 minutes early to pray in a family.	28 Holy Thursday Attend a Holy Thursday service at 7:00pm. Pray for the Holy Family.	29 Good Friday Pray the Stations of the Cross together. Pray for the Holy Family.	30 Holy Saturday Light a candle and serve your children together as a family.

-Maureen Ashby

Principal

Holy Spirit School PTO



Upcoming PTO Events

Friday, March 15th

PSSC Reports to be sent home with report cards

Tuesday, March 19th

PTO Meeting 6:30 – 7:30pm in person and via [Zoom](#)

Meeting ID: 895 9844 5225 Passcode: 268985

See Volunteer Opportunities below for more information.

Thursday, March 21st

Middle School Science Fair 12:00pm – 3:00pm in the Gym

Judges are needed! See Volunteer Opportunities and flier below for more information.

Saturday, March 23rd

Weeding the Outdoor Classroom Garden 10:00am – 12:00pm

See Volunteer Opportunities below for more information

Volunteer Opportunities (1 point/30 mins volunteered)

Talent Show - Show Trainee and Dinner Trainee (40 PSSC points each) Virtus Certification is NOT required

The Spring Talent Show will be held on **Saturday, April 13th** in the gym and we need 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 at the school or via [Zoom](#) 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

Weeding the Outdoor Classroom Garden

Sign up to help make our outdoor classroom look beautiful for Spring! Volunteers are needed from 10:00am-12:00pm on Saturday, March 23rd at the Outdoor Classroom Garden to help weed and clean up the area. Bring your own gloves (and any other weeding supplies you desire, including weed poppers or a cushion to kneel on).

Questions? Contact Megan Westmeyer 843-323-7831.

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 [Connect1](#) 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 [Connect1](#) to sign up.

Questions? Contact Laura Laclede sciencefair@holyspiritschool.org

Field Day

It's time to start planning for one of the most fun days of the school year: **Field Day!** It will be Friday, May 17. If you need volunteer hours, this is an awesome way to fill them! There are so many volunteer opportunities for Field Day, found in three separate signs ups in Connect One. You can search "Field Day 2024" to find these:

[Field Day 2024](#) (a myriad of opportunities!)

[Field Day 2024: Team Coach](#) (very fun! Must be fully child protection compliant)

[Field Day 2024: Coolers with Waters and Ice](#) (one needed to each classroom)

Questions? Email Jessica Driscoll jessica.a.driscoll@gmail.com.

Reminders

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

Parents or legal guardians of each student(s) registered at Holy Spirit School are required to earn a minimum of 20 hours (40 PSSC points) per family or 10 hours (20 PSSC points) for single parent families

(single parent families also include families with a deployed spouse) of combined volunteer service during the current school year. For more information, reference the [PSSC Handbook](#).

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 [Laura Laclede](#) 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 fulfilled with the preparations of the show and the final performance.

Dinner Chairman: 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@infinitech.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!

Holy Spirit School's Talent Showcase

Dinner & Dance

Saturday, April 13th 5:30-9:30 PM (DOORS OPEN AT 5:00)

RESERVATION FORM

TALENT * DANCING * DINING * FUN

AWESOME ACTS. ART. RAFFLES AND MORE

Registration includes catered dinner and DJ, with dancing after the show.
Pre-registration is required.

ADULT MENU

Searced Chicken w/ Gazpacho Salsa - Italian Sausage w/ Pepper – Orzo w/ Roasted Vegetables

Italian Salad - Assorted Rolls & Butter – Cake – Beverages – Coffee

STUDENT MENU (& under 4)

Chicken Nuggets – Penne Pasta

Name: _____

adult meals (\$22.50 ea) _____ # student meals (\$12.50 ea) _____

Under 4 (free) _____ Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

return form and payment (check made out to Holy spirit PTO) by April 10th

*****Physical Tickets will not be provided.
Reserved Attendees will be on a check-in list that evening*****

Make checks payable to *Holy Spirit School*. Submit form and check via backpack mail:
Attn: Joe Terpenning
Spring Talent Show Committee
c/o Angelica Terpenning grade 8 Rathod

Questions: Email Joe Terpenning at (jterpenning@infinitech.org)





Holy Spirit School's Annual Talent ShowCase
& Dance



Saturday, April 13th, 2024



ART SHOW SIGNUP

The Lobby Art show is looking for works of sculpture, photography, writing, painting, drawing or other displayable media. If you have a talent for creating, the lobby show is looking for you!!

Requirements for Submission:

Please include a title, description, and your name and grade on a card with the work submitted.

Deadline for submission: April 9th. Please submit all works to Mrs. Liss by April 9th.

NAME _____

grade/teacher _____

Type of work: _____





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 - PTOVPPDevelopment@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!

YOUTH MINISTRY

HOLY SPIRIT

CYOTRACK FIELD

AND

Open to boys and girls in grades 3-8
in Holy Spirit School
Religious Education & Homeschool

WWW.HOLYSPIRITCHURCH.US/YOUTH

Lenten PASTA & SOUP Suppers

WHERE: School Cafeteria **DATES:** Fridays in Lent: Feb. 16 & 23; March 1, 6, 15, & 22

WHAT: Meatless pasta and soup dishes, bread, salad, dessert, beverages **TIME:** 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm Stations of the Cross in the Church at 7:00 pm

Sign up to bring a meatless soup or pasta dish at holyspiritchurch.us

All money donated for your meal will benefit Work Camp 2024 in serving needy communities by making their homes warmer, safer, and drier and instilling in our youth the value of service.

Vacation Bible School

Hometown Nazareth

Where Jesus was a Kid

June 17-21

Vacation Bible School is Holy Spirit's weeklong event where children engage in lots of fun activities, games, and crafts, all while learning about Jesus Christ and the Catholic faith. All rising Kindergarteners through rising 5th graders are invited to participate. Older children (under 18) are welcome as youth assistant volunteers.

For more information, or to register visit www.holyspiritchurch.us/vbs

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

www.holyspiritchurch.us/re
(703) 978 - 8925
REStaff@holyspiritchurch.us

BEDDING FOR BABIES COLLECTION

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14 - FRIDAY, MARCH 22

GOAL: 100 crib sheets 50 boy baby blankets 10 girl baby blankets

Please do not donate receiving blankets.

HOW TO DONATE:
Order on Amazon: <https://a.co/7mk1vnt>
Or drop off at the parish office

Questions? Email respectlife@holyspiritchurch.us

Eucharistic Adoration Lenten Challenge!

Pick YOUR Hour to meet Him once a week for Lent

adorationpro.org/hsannandale or email lisa.ciola@holyspiritchurch.us

Eucharistic adoration is when we visit Jesus in the Eucharist. This presence is truly His Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. Sitting quietly before our Lord in church gives us time for prayer, reflection, but most of all just being with the Him. Lent offers an invitation for growth. Spending time with Him is a time of growth, grace and of devotion.

****Rosary, journal, Scripture, quiet reflection, spiritual reading****

**Monday 7a-7p
Wednesday 7a-7p
Fri-Sat 7a-9a**

Or, come to our parish Holy Hour 7-8p every M, W, F with Confessions till the line ends.

"Let our adoration never cease." - Saint Pope John Paul the Great

2024 ALL SAINTS CAR RAFFLE

Each \$5.00 Ticket gives you a chance to win all 25 prizes, including:



2024 FORD BRONCO SPORT



2024 FORD ESCAPE



2024 FORD MUSTANG



2024 FORD RANGER TRUCK

plus **21 CASH Drawings** totaling **\$40,000**

These pictures are representative of the vehicles; they are not pictures of the actual vehicle, as they have not arrived yet.

Holy Spirit Car Raffle proceeds will help to pay down the unexpected cost of the church sprinkler system installation.

Tickets have been mailed to parishioners.

FOR QUESTIONS OR MORE TICKETS, CONTACT:
Tom Kennedy at tfkinva@aol.com

✚ Lenten Food Drive

To Benefit The St. Lucy Food Project

Hunger continues to burden many in our diocese. Due to the higher cost of food and the end of pandemic benefits, our neighbors continue to need our help! Pick up your blue St. Lucy food bag at the church entrance beginning March 16th-17th and fill it with non-perishable food items.

Blue Bag Food Collection
March 23 & 24 | All Masses
Holy Spirit Church

The St. Lucy Food Project is in need of the following items:
No-glass items please!

- Jelly
- Canned Pasta
- Bannett Rice
- Canned Fruits and Vegetables
- Cereal
- Dried Black & Pinto Beans
- Gravy/Box
- Tomato Products
- Macaroni/Spaghetti

Check Donations or QR Code:
Please consider donating critical tax deductible funds on collection day for continued food delivery throughout the year. Write your check to "CCDA" with "Holy Spirit St. Lucy" written in the Memo and send to: Program Director, St. Lucy Project, 8426 28 Ave Circle, Manassas, VA 20108. If you miss the collection, we also gratefully accept Target and Giant gift cards.



For more information about the drive, please contact
Vince Cannava, Holy Spirit Food Ministry, 571-442-4673 (cell)



Community Happenings!

BISHOP IRETON THEATER ARTS PRESENTS

INTO THE WOODS

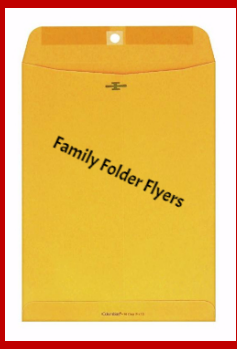
MUSIC AND LYRICS BY STEPHEN SONDHEIM BOOK BY JAMES LAPINE

Originally Directed on Broadway by James Lapine



Orchestrations by Jonathan Tunick

BUY TICKETS VIA THE QR CODE OR ONLINE AT BISHOPIRETON.ORG/TICKETS



FAMILY FOLDER

The following flyers may be found in the folder labeled "March 14, 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 (March) newsletter

5. Family Lent Calendar

5K Spirit Run

1. Race Registration information
2. Sponsorship Information

PTO Flyers:

1. Science Fair Judges
2. PTO Talentshow Sign Up
3. PTO Talentshow Volunteer flyer
4. PTO Talent Showcase Reservation form
5. PTO Talent Showcase Art Show Participation form

Parish Flyers:

1. CYO Track and Field flyer
2. Parish Lenten Brochure
3. Lenten Soup Suppers
4. Vacation Bible School
5. Bedding for Babies Collection
6. Eucharistic Adoration Lenten Challenge
7. 2024 Car Raffle
8. Lenten Food Drive

Community Flyers:

1. BI's production of Into the Woods flyer

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

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

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

Sent bypto@holyspiritflames.orgpowered by



Try email marketing for free today!