



March 28, 2024



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

Solar Eclipse Information

On Monday, April 8th (the day we return from the Easter break), a total solar eclipse will be making its way across North America. Here in Annandale we will experience a partial eclipse with a projected maximum coverage of the sun at 87.3%. The partial eclipse is expected to begin at 2:03pm and last until 4:33pm.

The partial eclipse will still be "active" during our normal dismissal time and it is noted that certified eye protection is needed in order to view the partial eclipse.

In order to have your children safely in your care and under your supervision for any viewing, it has been decided that we will release students EARLY on April 8th. We will begin dismissal at 1:30pm.

For those who use vanpool, please be in your spots by 1:20pm so that the chains may be closed.

We will keep afternoon Extended Day open and will keep the children inside until after 4:33pm.

Thank you for noting the change to the schedule. If you would like to pick your child up earlier, please send an email to the homeroom teacher, as well as the front office.

Living Stations of the Cross

The 8th grade presentation of the Living Stations of the Cross this morning was wonderful. This is such a solemn and prayerful time together and so very fitting for the end of our Lenten journey together.

Thank you to Coach Gregas for working with the students on this.

On behalf of the administration, faculty and staff, we pray that each of our school families enjoys the blessings of Easter!





Congratulations to all of the 7th & 8th grade students who participated in the annual Science Fair last week! We are proud of your follow through and your diligence in completing this long-term independent study project. Thank you to Mr. Thieman for leading the charge and to Mrs. Laura Laclede for heading the PTO committee that assists with the day.

A HUGE "Thank you" to all of the Science Fair judges! We appreciate very much the time and effort that you put into providing the students with feedback.

Congratulations to the following students for their Top 10 showing:

Andrea C. - Botany - "Grow Towards the Light"
Amy G. - Botany - "How to Please the Peas"
Andrew L. - Math - "Changing the Rules"
Ryleigh O. - Botany - "Let the Music Play"
Leah E. - Biochemistry - "No Baking Powder, No Problems"
Luke P. - Chemistry - "Melting Ice Cups with Various Substances"
Hadley C. - Botany - "Pea Plant Sprout Test"
Parker L. - Biochemistry - "Moldy Bread"
Leandra S. - Microbiology - "The Gummy Game"
Monica B. - Medicine and Health - "We Got the Beat"

When we return from the break, students will move into the Spring uniform.

Spring pictures will be taken on April 18th. All students will have their picture taken. This is a BEST DRESS picture. There should not be any students in shorts, jeans, t-shirts, leggings, or very short skirts/dresses. Although sandals look really cute with Spring dresses, for safety reasons students must be in footwear that is close-toed and that has a back to it.



Did you create your own Holy Moment this week? Did you send a note to someone who believes in you? What a wonderful Easter sentiment!



9th Annual

**5K
RUN
& WALK**

To Support the Holy Spirit Resource Program

SATURDAY
MAY 18, 2024
EARLY REGISTRATION
\$25
PER PERSON UNTIL
APRIL 24TH



ONLINE REGISTRATION IS
REQUIRED.

FOR MORE
INFORMATION
PLEASE EMAIL:
sgibbons@holyspiritflames.org



HOLY SPIRIT
School
5K SPIRIT RUN
2024

[Click Here to Register!](#)

[Race Sponsorship Information](#)

BE SURE TO NOTE THE DEADLINE FOR ORDERING A YEARBOOK!

HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL

PURCHASE THE

2024

YEARBOOK



BUYTHEYEARBOOK.COM

SCHOOL ID: 7236153-2401

\$20

DEADLINE IS
APRIL 15TH!!



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.



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-Maureen Ashby

Principal

Holy Spirit School PTO



Upcoming PTO Events

Saturday, April 13th

Spring Talent Show, Auction and Dance 5:30pm – 9:30pm (Doors open at 5:00pm)
See Volunteer Opportunities below for more information.

Tuesday, April 16th

PTO Meeting 6:30 – 7:30pm via [Zoom](#)
Meeting ID: 895 9844 5225 Passcode: 268985
See Volunteer Opportunities for more information and flier for reservation form.

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

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

[April PTO Meeting](#)

Join us via [Zoom](#) on **Tuesday, April 16th 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. For meeting details and to earn PSSC points for attending, please be sure to sign up in [Connect1](#).

Questions? Contact Kristyn Poreba PTOSecretary@holyspiritflames.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](#).

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

Seared Chicken w/ Gazpacho Salsa - Italian Sausage w/ Pepper - Orzo w/ Roasted Vegetables
Italian Salad - Assorted Rolls & Butter - Cake - Beverages - Coffee

STUDENT MENU (6 & 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@infnitetech.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 - PTOVPDevelopment@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

Parish Happenings!

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

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 ESCAPE
- 2024 FORD BRONCO SPORT
- 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

Community Happenings!

DON'T MISS OUT!

SUMMER CAMPS

AT BISHOP O'CONNELL HIGH SCHOOL

GRADES 5-8


BISHOP O'CONNELL HIGH SCHOOL

ANNIE JR.

KNIGHTS OF ADVENTURE

**Sports Management • Theatre • Poetry
Game Design • Fashion • Gardening • Spanish
Brain Games • Blogging • Forensics • Entrepreneurs
Graphic Design • Photography • Intro to A.I. • Band
App Inventors • Junior Veterinary
...and more!**

bishopoconnell.org/summercamps




FAMILY FOLDER

The following flyers may be found in the folder labeled "March 28, 2024" on the website. For your convenience, some flyers are repeated.

Family Folder

School Flyers:

1. Yearbook Sale Deadline flyer
2. Partners in Faith (March) newsletter

5K Spirit Run

1. Race Registration information
2. Sponsorship Information

PTO Flyers:

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

Parish Flyers:

1. Parish Lenten Brochure
2. Vacation Bible School
3. Eucharistic Adoration Lenten Challenge
4. 2024 Car Raffle

1. Bishop O'Connell Summer Camps flyer

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

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