

November 2, 2023



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

Turned on a dime!

Oh, how the weather has turned! The mornings are quite chilly at this point and these couple of days it has not completely warmed up by lunch recess...where do you think I am going with this? Yes, you know...please be sure that your children have outerwear that is appropriate for the weather. We stand outside in the mornings and we go outside for recess as many days as possible and I do feel for those kiddos who do not have a jacket with them. A reminder too that we are in the Winter uniform at this point - I should not be seeing shorts or skorts and everyone should be in PE sweats on the days that your children have that class.

A big thank you to Mrs. Frith and Mrs. Dagne for all of the prep work that went into Trunk or Treat last Friday evening. Thank you also to all who decorated a "trunk"! The turnout of families was wonderful and it was a beautiful night.

On Thursday, November 9th, we invite all the retired and active duty military in our school community, as well as 1st Responders to join us for our flag raising ceremony in honor of Veteran's Day.

If you would like to join us, please drop off your student(s) and then park in the upper parking lot and come down to join us at the flagpole.

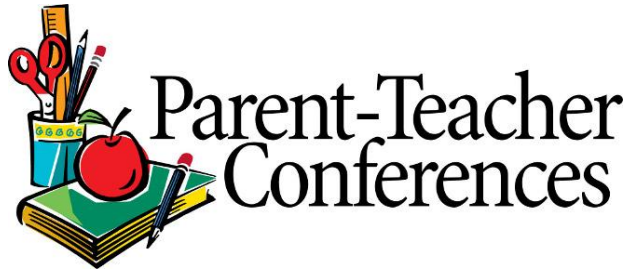
For all parents - we will stop in the incoming car line at 8:00 am while the ceremony takes place.

Information is below for the NJHS Wall of Heroes. Please take a look at that as we would love to recognize as many people as we can for their service to our Country.

On Wednesday, November 15th we will have an Open House for prospective families at 6:00 pm. If you know of folks considering a Catholic education for their children, please invite them to come!

The 1st Trimester comes to a close on Tuesday, November 21st. Report cards for students in Kindergarten through Grade 8 will go home on December 1st.

The Thanksgiving holiday break begins on Tuesday, November 21 when we have a scheduled early released. Extended Day is NOT open that afternoon. The school is closed the remainder of the week.



Annual Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held Thursday, November 9 and Friday, November 10th.

November 9th is an early dismissal day and conferences begin at 1:00 pm (Extended Day is open).

November 10th is a no school day for students and conferences will take place across the normal school day hours.

All parents are asked to sign up for a conference with your child's HOMEROOM teacher. You may indicate in your sign-up if you would prefer a meeting via Zoom as opposed to in-person. Conferences are 15 minutes and it is asked that you please be respectful of the time knowing that there are folks before and after.

Please use the link below to access the sign-up.

The access code is: HS23Conferences

[Parent/Teacher Conference Sign-up](#)

Formation in Christian Chastity

Each year, we are required by the Office of Catholic Schools and the Office of Child Protection and Safety for the Diocese to present to students in Grades 1-8 the Formation in Christian Chastity program. This year, this will take place during the week of November 6th.

I encourage all parents to review the materials that will be used for the lessons by accessing them at the link below.

This is an OPT-OUT program meaning that all students will receive the information unless a parent specifically opts their child out via the below form.

Again, I encourage you to take time to review the materials before making that decision. Please note that for Grades 1-4 the information is repetitive from year to year.



holy moments

Did you create your own Holy Moment this week? Did you offer up the diligence and focus that it takes to complete your work as a prayer for the good of another? There are many in our lives who need our continuous prayers whether they be those we see daily or those who have gone before us as we pray for souls who are waiting in Purgatory.

As mentioned, each Thursday this note will contain the Matthew Kelly, Holy Moments videos that he recorded during Lent of 2023. These relate to the Holy Moments book.



The NJHS honors the active, retired and deceased members of our Armed Forces in advance of Veterans Day.

See the complete document and instructions via the "button below" to see how your family can help with our Wall of Heroes.

MY HERO IS:

WHO served the United States of America
in: -----

Place a picture here. Please not an original but a copy.

CALLING ALL HEROES:

1. People who have served our country as a member of the Armed Forces. This includes active, retired or deceased members of the Armed Forces.
2. People who have served our country as first responders. This includes active, retired or deceased.
3. We will accept pictures now and all the way through **November 3**.

PLEASE SEND A PICTURE OF YOUR HERO SO THAT OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY CAN PAY TRIBUTE TO THEIR SERVICE AND SACRIFICE.

Please write a short biography of your hero.

Name: ----- Grade: -----

Wall of Heroes information

NEW! November Newsletter!



Thoughtful Moments

St. Margaret of Scotland
St. Margaret was beautiful, kind, and generous. Her family was shipwrecked on Scotland while fleeing from William the Conqueror. The king of Scotland welcomed them, fell in love with St. Margaret and made her his queen. St. Margaret practiced the corporal works of mercy, including feeding the poor before eating her own meals. Her private life was simple, prayerful, and penitential, and she inspired her family to imitate her. Finally, she worked to bring ecclesiastical and moral reform to the kingdom.

Take time for gratitude
Are you stressed or anxious? Take a moment and thank God for the blessings in your life — big and small. Making a list of these blessings is a powerful way to remind ourselves of God's love. Whatever your face, you won't do it alone.

"Peace is not just the absence of war. Like a cathedral, peace must be constructed patiently and with unshakable faith."
Pope St. John Paul II

Giving thanks leads to generous hearts

"What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me?" (Psalm 116:12) We can never repay God for His gifts to us, but we can show

gratitude by sharing them with others in ways that glorify Him. During the Thanksgiving season, try these suggestions to make your holiday more meaningful:

Offer prayers of gratitude. Jesus was deeply moved when one of the ten lepers He healed came back to thank Him (Luke 17:15-19). Give thanks as a family every day this season by each offering gratitude for specific blessings received throughout the year.

Go to Mass. The word "eucharist" is from the Greek for "thanksgiving" or "gratitude." "The Eucharist" refers to the

Mass and the Blessed Sacrament, the ultimate form of Thanksgiving. When we actively take part in the Mass — praying with others,

offering our own prayers, reverently receiving the Blessed Sacrament, joining in the singing — we offer heartfelt Thanksgiving to God.

Send it out. Another tradition of Thanksgiving involves sending notes of appreciation and thanks to friends and loved ones, especially for kindness received throughout the year. Kind words are always a powerful and a much-needed gift.

Share the blessings. If you know of people without holiday plans, offer them a place at your table. Adding to your family circle sets a powerful example of generosity.

Why Do Catholics Do That? Why do Catholics follow a liturgical calendar?

Just as families remember important milestones, the Church's liturgical calendar recalls the history of our Catholic family. The feasts and seasons that draw us deeper into salvation history are reflected in the Mass vestments, readings, and music of our

liturgical celebrations. "Thus recalling the mysteries of the redemption, she opens up to the faithful the riches of her Lord's powers and merits, so that these are in some way made present in every age" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, #1163).

-Maureen Ashby

Principal

Holy Spirit School PTO



Upcoming PTO Events

Tuesday, November 14th

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

Meeting ID: 895 9844 5225 Passcode: 268985

See Volunteer Opportunities below for more information.

Wednesday, November 15th

Ledo Pizza Fundraiser 5:00 – 9:00pm 8324 Old Keene Mill Rd, West Springfield, VA 22152

See flier below for more details.

Sunday, November 26th

Christmas Tree Sales begin

See Volunteer Opportunities below for more information

Volunteer Opportunities

November PTO Meeting (1 PSSC point/family for attending)

Join us via [Zoom](#) on November 14th 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 new, as well as current families, to share your thoughts, stay up to date and connect with other parents and the PTO board. Be sure to sign up in [Connect1](#) for meeting details and to earn PSSC points for attending.

Questions? Contact Kristyn Poreba PTOSecretary@holyspiritflames.org

Christmas Tree Sales (1 point/30 mins volunteered)

Christmas trees will be delivered Friday, November 24th and sales begin on Sunday, November 26th. We need your help for setup, tree delivery on 11/26, sales and breakdown. We need two families per weekday sales shift and three families per weekend sales shift. This is a family event! Bring your spouse, kids, aunts, uncles, grandparents. Parents will earn PSSC service hours and teens can earn their service hours as well!

Questions? Contact Jounh Borja PTOChristmasTrees@holyspiritflames.org

Christmas Boutique Volunteer (1 point/30 mins volunteered)

Help is needed with set up/decorating as well as 'running the show' on December 7th & 8th. Feel free to dress in fun holiday attire!

Questions? Contact Lauren Schmidt PTOVPMembership@holyspiritflames.org
or Toni O'Neill PTOVDevelopment@holyspiritflames.org

Spring Fundraiser Chair and Co-Chair (40 PSSC points each) Virtus Certification is NOT required

Do you love Spring and organizing fun events? Would you like to plan and execute our Spring fundraising activities during this year's Talent Show? This Chair/Co Chair role includes coordinating with classroom parents to develop class baskets and identification of fun "perks", and raffle ideas. It requires at least 3 months of support to ensure a smooth but exciting series of activities to raise money for the school and new ideas are always welcome!

Questions? Contact Lauren Schmidt PTOVPMembership@holyspiritflames.org
or Toni O'Neill PTOVDevelopment@holyspiritflames.org

Reminders

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

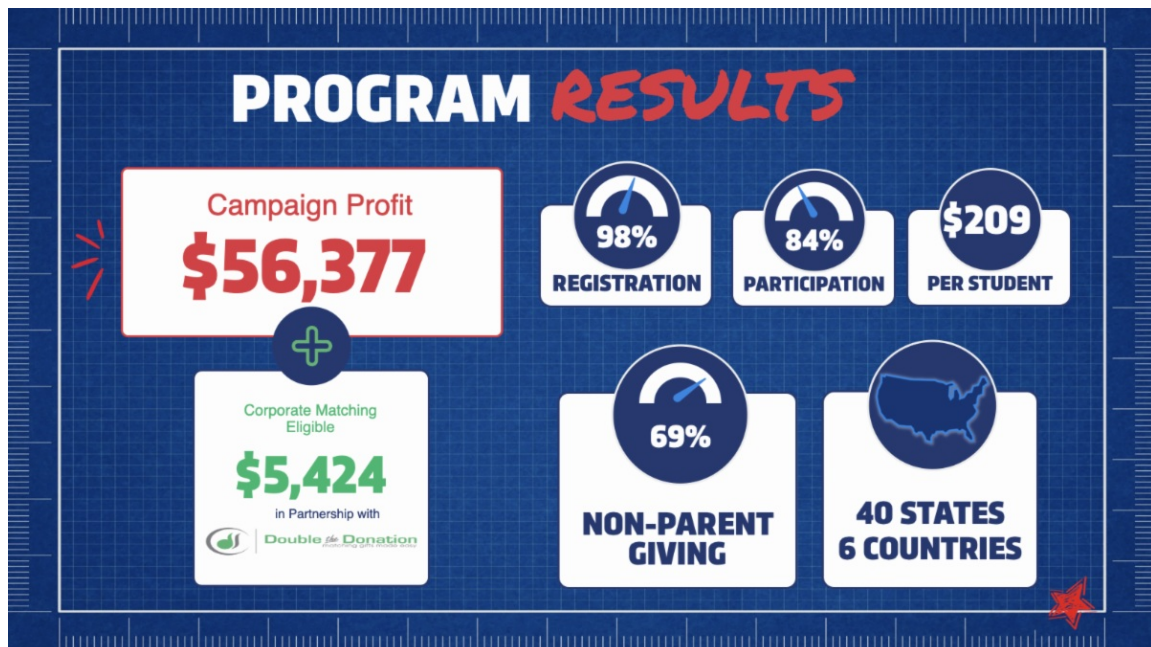
[Recess Duty](#) volunteers are still needed for the remainder of the school year. Families who have completed their required commitment of one day are eligible for 4 PSSC points for each additional day served.

Thank you from the PTO Executive Board to all of our Holy Spirit School families and community supporters! The Boosterthon was hugely succesful!

If you have eligible corporate matching benefits, we would encourage you to push those through as 100% of those donations go to the school.

Over the course of our four-year partnership with Booster, we have raise over \$185,000.00!

Remember: Monday, February 12th is a NO school day for reaching our fundraising goal!





Enjoy a great family dinner while raising money for
Holy Spirit School

November 15th 5pm – 9pm

West Springfield Ledo Pizza

8324 Old Keene Mill Road
West Springfield, Virginia 22152

The organizer receives **10%** of dine-in sales for each flyer presented!

Your group also receives **10%** of takeout and online orders when mentioning the fundraiser! For online orders please use the code "Fundraiser" to receive proper credit.
Call ahead for takeout! **703-451-5336**

If any staff or parents order catering the entire week of the fundraiser, our organization will get 10% of the check total!

Bring a friend and tell your neighbors too!

**ALL PROCEEDS GO TO
Holy Spirit School**



Annual Holy Spirit School Christmas Ornament
2023-2024



Payment is via check in the amount of **\$15** and made out to the **Holy Spirit School PTO**. **NO CASH**. Please return the lower half of the form with your check by *Friday, November 17, 2023*. Checks and forms may be redirected to % Jennifer Sylvester (Homerooms 2E Epperly and PKG Garcia).

Questions: Contact jennifermichellesylvester@gmail.com or toniquinnoneill@gmail.com.

Please return the lower half of the form with a check in the amount of **\$15**, made out to the **Holy Spirit School PTO** by *Friday, November 17, 2023*. **NO CASH**. Checks and forms may be redirected to % Jennifer Sylvester (Homerooms 2E Epperly and PKG Garcia).

Family Name: _____

Quantity: _____

Total (\$): _____

Homeroom teacher: _____

Santa's Secret Shop IS COMING SOON!
Get that special gift for everyone on your list!

Dates: December 7th and 8th

**Please consider volunteering your time at the
Boutique!**

Look for the volunteer sign-up on Connect1



We know it isn't even Thanksgiving yet, but....



**The Christmas Tree Crew is calling! Check out Connect 1
for volunteer opportunities. This is a GREAT family activity**

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 - 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 for activities where students are present.

Parish Happenings!



HOLY SPIRIT
Catholic Church

Spaghetti Dinner

Hosted by the Men's Club

Menu		Prices
Spaghetti with Meatballs	Garlic Bread	Adults \$7
Salad with Italian Dressing	Dessert Items	Children Under 12 \$5
*Wine, Softs, Juice, and Water		\$25.00 Family Maximum

Saturday, November 18
5:30-7:30 pm
In the School Cafeteria
(joined with Meeting Rooms 1 & 2)



FAMILY BINGO

Fall Harvest Fun

Supporting Diocesan Seminarians and 50/50 for KOVAR

November 4, 2023
Holy Spirit School Gym
Doors Open 6 PM | Games Begin 7 PM

Snack Sold	Admission	Prizes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pizza Hot Dogs Nachos Soft Drinks Juice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (Includes Book of Cards w/ 3 games/card) The profits will support Holy Spirit and Diocesan Seminarians and religious Players 12 Years and Older: \$6 Players under 12 Years: \$3 Extra Books of Cards: \$3 Free for children under 5 years who are not playing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Larger Cash Prizes Grand Prize \$150 Other Games \$40 Specials - based on number of tickets sold

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS | **HOLY Spirit CATHOLIC CHURCH**



"God wishes to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart"
Mary, Mother of God

What is required for the Devotion?

Each part of the devotion should be made with the intention of making reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, on the first Saturday of five (5) consecutive months.

Go to confession – this can be up to either (8) days before or after the First Saturday itself.

Receive Holy Communion on the day itself, in a state of grace, with the intention of making reparation as above.

Recite five (5) decades of the Rosary.

Meditate on the mysteries of the Rosary for 15 minutes: this is not difficult, e.g. slowly read the Gospel account of the mysteries, or use a booklet on the Rosary.


[More information may be found on the tables by the exit](#)

Got an hour a week to help families in need?



An hour of your time is all that it takes to deliver a week's worth of groceries. Volunteers simply fill out a weekly survey to choose their preferred day and time.

ACCA needs volunteers to deliver groceries to families in need. Once you sign up, you'll receive a weekly survey to choose a preferred date and time to volunteer. An hour of your time is all that it takes. Go to accacares.org/foodpantry to find out more or email volunteers@accacares.org

 Our parish is one of 27 area churches supporting ACCA (Annandale Christian Community for Action). See also accacares.org



Special Religious Development (SPRED) is a program designed to support and serve children and adults with developmental disabilities and will be offered again at Holy Spirit Parish for the

1. We have need for catechists to work one-on- one with our "friends with disabilities." In addition to meeting for the 12 Saturday integrated sessions a year, the catechists also meet the prior Monday or Tuesday evening for about one hour. No experience is required to be a catechist.

2. We have one age group, adults 22 and over, and have been at Holy spirit for 30 plus years. Persons with Down Syndrome, Autism, and Learning Disabilities are welcome to join this group! The ability to read is not a requirement as all projects and activities are designed to meet the needs of our "friends" at various levels of achievement. The program meets for 12 sessions on Saturday mornings throughout the

If you are interested working with our "friends" as a catechist or would like to enroll a friend or relative in our adult SPRED group please contact Dick Cecka at (rcecka@aol.com) or 703-978-8435. Thank you

Community Happenings!

SAINT JOHN PAUL THE GREAT
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



OPEN HOUSE

SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 5, 2023
1:00-4:00 PM

Register Here!



17700 Dominican Drive, Potomac Shores, VA 22026
jpthegreat.org · 703.445.0246



ANNANDALE BOYS' & GIRLS' CLUB REGISTRATION
4216 Annandale Rd., Annandale, VA 22003 703-941-ABGC (2242) FAX: 703-941-4412
Basketball Coordinators: Taylor Wright [twright@gmail.com](mailto:twright@right@gmail.com) (girls) Juan Colon jcolon@right.com (boys)
Commissioner: Juan Colon jcolon@right.com
Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 3 - 7 PM, Saturday 9 - 12 Noon
EMail: right@right.com
***REGISTER ONLINE AND SAVE \$5 @ WWW.ABGC.ORG**

Basketball \$150	Wrestling \$160	Boxing
First Time \$75	Ages 5 - 14	Ages 7 - Adult
K - 12th Grade		\$71-436-5983

The basketball fee includes clinics for 4th thru 8th grade. The registration fee of \$75 is only for "First Time" basketball players with the Annandale Boys' & Girls' Club. Basketball season is from Dec. 2023 thru March 2024. The wrestling program will begin in November and run through February. Registration will close Dec. 1, 2023. Teams are formed with a neighborhood concept by grade level. These materials are neither sponsored nor endorsed by the Fairfax County School Board, the Superintendent, or this school.

REQUESTED COACH _____

SPECIAL REQUESTS _____

MAIL OR DELIVER FORM AND FEE TO: ABGC, 4216 Annandale Rd., ANNANDALE, VA 22003

Player's First Name (Type or Print) _____ Last Name _____
 Day _____ City _____ State of Birth _____ School _____
 Address _____ City _____ Zip _____
 Grade in Now _____ Email _____
 Telephone (H) _____ (C) _____

WE RELY ON VOLUNTEERS. PLEASE PARTICIPATE IN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

NO FEES:	\$18.00 Refund	No Refund
Coach	Assistant Coach	Will be a volunteer

I hereby give permission for my child to play _____ (sport). I have insurance to cover all risks of injury or doctor's bills that might be incurred and accept all responsibility for my child's safety in practice and at games.

I also understand that there are no refunds. In the event I cannot get the team of my choice, I will accept an assignment made by ABGC.

IF YOU ARE NOT A FAIRFAX COUNTY RESIDENT, THERE IS A \$35 FEE Amt. Paid _____

IF YOU ARE A SCHOLARSHIP PLAYER, THERE IS A \$55 NON-REFUNDABLE FEE Amt. Paid _____

Parent's Signature _____ Amt. Paid \$ _____
 Check _____ Cash _____ Cr. Card _____

Print Parents' First & Last Names _____ Date _____

BISHOP IRETON THEATER ARTS PRESENTS

Clue

Based on the screenplay by Jonathan Lynn **HIGH SCHOOL**
 Written by Sandy Rustin
 Additional material by Hunter Foster and Eric Price
 Based on the Paramount Pictures Motion Picture based on the Hasbro board game **CLUE**

NOVEMBER 10, 11, 17 & 18 at 7pm
NOVEMBER 12 at 2pm
 GARWOOD WHALEY AUDITORIUM
 Purchase your \$15 tickets online at bishopireton.org/tickets or at the door!



FAMILY FOLDER

The following flyers may be found in the folder labeled "November 2, 2023" on the website. For your convenience, some flyers are repeated.

Family Folder

School Flyers:

1. Formation in Christian Chastity Opt-Out form
2. Wall of Heroes information
3. Partners in Faith (November) newsletter

PTO Flyers:

1. Trunk or Treat flyer
2. Ledo Pizza fundraiser flyer
3. Holy Spirit Ornament Order Form

4. Santa Boutique flyer

Parish Flyers:

1. Parish Spaghetti Dinner flyer
2. BINGO flyer
3. First Saturday Devotions
4. ACCA flyer
5. SPRED flyer

Community Flyers:

1. St. John Paul the Great HS Open House
2. Annandale Boys and Girls Club Winter Registration
3. Bishop Ireton's Production of CLUE

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!