

September 21, 2023



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

## Pinwheels for Peace



Today was our first whole school assembly of the year and we recognized the International Day of Peace by praying together and creating our own pinwheels that represent what peace looks like to us. Hopefully you took a peak at them this afternoon out on the front lawn!

Today was our first prayer service with Father Willard! We are pleased that he is a part of our community and look forward to him sharing his gifts and interests with us as we get to know him and he gets to know all of us.

This week we had our first opportunity to provide the Sacrament of Confession for the middle school students (next week will be grade 3-5). I encourage parents to make going to Confession a regular part of your family life in order to assist your children to grow in grace.

On October 3rd we will have our first (are you seeing the pattern here...) Nothing But Faith Day for this year. For those new to our community, we have two of these days on our school calendar. For these days we set aside our academic learning and spend the day focusing on a particular aspect of our Faith. For this upcoming day we will be highlighting the different forms of prayer in which we participate. We have a series of activities and presentations planned for the day.

Upcoming is our first dress down day of the year! The Holy Spirit School Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society is recognizing Childhood Cancer Awareness. Students are invited to participate by bringing in a \$1 dollar donation in order to be able to dress down for the day. Proceeds will be donated to charity. (Be sure to check the handbook for those apparel items and shoes that are and are not allowed for a dress down day.)

A reminder that we are almost through the first half of the 1st Trimester and as such interims will go home to those students in grades 3-8 who may be in need of those on Friday, October 6th.

Friday, October 6th is also a half day (afternoon Extended Day is OPEN) and Monday, October 9th is a school holiday in recognition of Columbus Day.

On Sunday, October 8th the school along with the parish will host the Porto Charities Annual Mass for Disability Awareness at 10:30 am. All are invited. Bishop Burbidge is scheduled to be the primary Celebrant and there will be a small reception following.



Did you create your own Holy Moment this week? Maybe you thought when you first looked at this week's challenge that it was really directed at the children. Who wouldn't want their kiddos to offer to do something more at home? But the challenge is relevant for all of us. How often do we go through our days going through our routines and maybe our "established" roles within our family? Hopefully you looked at this week's challenge as a moment to take a different look and do something unexpected to relieve the "load" for a loved one.

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.



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Consistent with a rise in Covid cases in the community since the start of the school year, we have seen a recent uptick in cases of Covid at school. In response to this increase and in preparation for the upcoming flu season, we ask that you monitor your student for symptoms of illness to include fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, headache, nasal symptoms, vomiting and diarrhea and keep them home if they are ill. We continue to have preventative measures in place at school which include the cleaning of desks and classrooms, reinforcing good handwashing and ensuring good ventilation throughout the school.

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WEDNESDAY  
10.4.2023

**IN  
RECOGNITION OF  
CHILDHOOD CANCER**

*HOSTED BY NJHS*

**BRING IN \$1 AND  
DRESS DOWN IN GOLD!**



**Proceeds will be donated to charity!**

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## Board Game Club is coming to Holy Spirit!

Attention 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students,  
Come play fun board games with friends and  
Miss Cahill, Mrs. Coney and Mrs. Marino!

When: October 11, October 18, October 25, November 1, November 8 & November 15

Time: 3:15 to 4:00 p.m.

Where: Room 14

The club will meet every Wednesdays from October 11 to November 15. Students may bring a favorite board game or use the available club board games. Parents, please send in a healthy snack for your child to eat.

Please note: Room 14 is a Nut Free zone.

We will only be able to accept 20 students into this club. To sign up please go to:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C48A5AC2DA0F58-board1>

If you have any questions please contact us by email ([ccahill@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:ccahill@holyspiritflames.org)  
[econey@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:econey@holyspiritflames.org) or [orgjmarino@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:orgjmarino@holyspiritflames.org))



**Art Club Holy Spirit!**

Attention 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> grade students,  
Come and take your Art skills to the next level with your  
classmates and Mrs. Liss!

When: October 10th, October 17th, November 7th, November 28th,  
December 12th, December 19th, January 9th, January 23rd, February 13th,  
February 27th, March 12<sup>th</sup>, March 26<sup>th</sup>, April 16<sup>th</sup>, April 30<sup>th</sup>, May 21st, May  
28<sup>th</sup>.

Time: 3:30 to 4:30

Where: Art Room

Fee: \$85

Please make check out to Mrs. Liss. I will be purchasing the Art Materials for  
Art Club.

Students are encouraged to bring a healthy snack to eat after school.  
Please note: Art Room is a Nut Free room.

We will only be able to accept 15 students into this club. Please bring this form to Mrs. Liss  
signed by you and your parent/guardian.

Student \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian email address \_\_\_\_\_

If you have any questions please contact us by email ([lliss@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:lliss@holyspiritflames.org))

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**The Art Room needs paper towel and toilet paper tubes!  
They can be dropped off in the Art Room.**

Thank you!  
Mrs. Liss



**Thoughtful Moments**

**St. Padre Pio**  
Born to fathers in 1877 in Italy, Francesco Forgione joined the Catholic faith in 1914. He "did" instead of "said".

Wounded by the pain of his brother's death, Padre Pio (right) is known for his preaching, holiness, and charity. He made a reputation for himself as a confessor and spiritual guide to his fellow Catholics. "Don't hope, and don't worry," he would say, "because and doesn't matter." He died in 1968, but his holiness continues to inspire.

**Four healthy habits for a new school year**

As people of faith, we know that our lasting happiness is found in a relationship with God. Holy children develop these four habits that help us live in a way that brings lasting joy and lasting fulfillment to our lives.

**Prudence** is a virtue that helps us make wise choices from a practical and Catholic perspective. Prudence is a habit that helps us choose the right path in our lives, and it is a habit that helps us make wise choices in our lives.

**Justice** is a habit that helps us stand up for what is right, even when it is difficult. Justice is a habit that helps us stand up for what is right, even when it is difficult.

**Kindness** is a habit that helps us treat others with respect and compassion. Kindness is a habit that helps us treat others with respect and compassion.

**Gratitude** is a habit that helps us appreciate the good things in our lives. Gratitude is a habit that helps us appreciate the good things in our lives.

**Raising good stewards**

Stewardship means being responsible for what we have been entrusted with. It is about being good stewards of the gifts God has given us. It is about being good stewards of the gifts God has given us.

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**Why Do Catholics Do That?**

**Why do Catholics bless themselves with holy water?**

Blessing ourselves with holy water before entering a Catholic church recalls the washing of feet of Jesus Christ. It is a habit that helps us stand up for what is right, even when it is difficult.

Blessing ourselves with holy water before entering a Catholic church recalls the washing of feet of Jesus Christ. It is a habit that helps us stand up for what is right, even when it is difficult.

Letter from Milestone Masters



**ABOUT US**

Our purpose is to guide, inform, and educate in a nurturing environment to support each child's unique abilities throughout their developmental milestone journey while empowering caregivers to further cultivate growth and development of skills.





**NO WAITLIST!**

All services are available 1:1 at our location in Annandale, VA or via telehealth.



**MILESTONE MASTERS**

PEDIATRIC SPEECH THERAPY



Check us out online:



**Our Services**

- SPEECH THERAPY**  
Receptive language, expressive language, pragmatic/social language, articulation, fluency, and oral motor planning.
- FEEDING THERAPY**  
Oral motor, feeding, limited diet, bottle feeding, and feeding transitions.
- PARENT COACHING**  
Ongoing parent education for a designated period to cultivate and nurture speech, language, and/or feeding development within the home.

**Why Choose Us?**

At Milestone Masters, our commitment and passion lead the way in providing the highest quality of therapeutic intervention.





Concerns about your child's speech or feeding skills? Contact us today for a free phone consultation!

703-509-6109

Office@milestonemasterspediatrictherapy.com

Substitute Teachers Needed

Are you interested in being on the Subsitute Teacher list?  
Contact Mrs. Evans for information and paperwork

[nevans@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:nevans@holyspiritflames.org)

Thank you!

-Maureen Ashby

Principal

# Holy Spirit School PTO



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## Upcoming PTO Events

### Monday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>

Boosterthon registration for students opens  
Stay tuned for more info.

### Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>

Volunteer Fair 6:30pm – 7:30pm in the school gym (2 PSSC points for attending)  
See Volunteer Opportunities below for more information.

### Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>

Used Uniform Sale 6:30pm – 7:30pm in the school gym  
For more information, see Volunteer Opportunities below to help out and flier below to shop.

### Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup> – Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup>

Boosterthon Week

### Tuesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>

PTO Meeting 6:30pm – 8:30pm (2-4 PSSC points for attending)  
See Volunteer Opportunities below for more information.

## Volunteer Opportunities

### Volunteer Fair (2 PSSC points for attending)

The Volunteer Fair will be held on October 4<sup>th</sup> and will showcase PSSC volunteer and donation opportunities available during the school year. Our PTO Committee chairs will be available to answer questions and match your interests with an event or activity. You can sign up to volunteer at the event or via Connect 1 and plan out your family's PSSC hours commitment. Please sign up in [Connect1](#) if you plan to attend and refer to the [PSSC Handbook](#) for a list of committees. We hope to see you there!

Questions? Contact Lauren Schmidt [PTOVPMembership@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:PTOVPMembership@holyspiritflames.org)

### Used Uniform Sale (2-4 PSSC points based on time served)

Help set up, sell and/or clean up at the used uniform sale on October 4<sup>th</sup>. For more information on available opportunities and shift times, check out the details on [Connect1](#). Questions? Contact Melanie Bennett [melanieannebennett@gmail.com](mailto:melanieannebennett@gmail.com)

### Roller Skating (PSSC points awarded based on time served)

Holy Spirit students in grades K-8th will be roller skating during Physical Education classes September 18–29. During the roller-skating unit students learn and practice basic skating skills such as starting, stopping, forward skating, backward skating, cornering, and safety tips for being a smart skater. Each class needs 3-4 parent volunteers to distribute/collect equipment, help students with their skates /safety gear, act as skate patrols to ensure safety and to sanitize equipment.

Questions? Contact Coach G [jgregas@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:jgregas@holyspiritflames.org)

### October PTO Meeting (2-4 PSSC points for attending)

Join us in person in the school on October 17th and hear from your PTO president, Mrs.



Ploschke, you 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 events? This is a great opportunity for new, as well as returning families, to share your thoughts, stay up to date and connect with other parents and the PTO board. Can't make it in person? Join us via [Zoom](#) so you don't miss anything! Be sure to sign up in [Connect1](#) for meeting details and to earn PSSC points for attending. Questions? Contact Kristyn Poreba [PTOSecretary@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:PTOSecretary@holyspiritflames.org)

### **Reminders**

#### **Connect1**

If you haven't set up your account, please register [here](#) and follow the instructions in the flier below.

Questions? Contact Tom Fields [ptopssc@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:ptopssc@holyspiritflames.org)

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.

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# Used Uniform Sale – October 4!!!



Sale Date- **Wednesday, October 4 from 6:30-7:30**

Where: Holy Spirit School - Volunteer Fair in the Gymnasium

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](mailto: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 gymnasium
- Plan ahead - bring a list of items and sizes needed

**Support this PTO Fundraiser While Getting a Great Deal!**

## Registering for Connect 1 at Holy Spirit School

How to sign up for an account on Connect1:

1. On your computer, go to <https://app.connect1.io>
2. Click the green bar that says "Sign up (School Code)".



3. Enter your email address. Enter our school code, which is L41VP6 (Are you both a teacher and a parent at the school? You'll need to set up two accounts. One using your "holyspiritflames.org" email account for your role as a teacher, and your personal one for your role as a parent!)
4. This will open a new page where you enter your name, role and password. For Role, select "Parent/Community Member". (Clicks you are a teacher creating your account with your "holyspiritflames.org" account. In that case, please select "Faculty/School Employee".) Click Submit when you are done.
5. A new page opens. A Confirmation Code will be sent to your email. Copy that confirmation code and paste it into this page. Click Confirm.
6. This brings you back to the Sign In page. Enter your email address and newly created password to open the app.

**Ordering is SIMPLE!**

- 1 Go to [campaigns.mabelslabels.com](https://campaigns.mabelslabels.com) and search for our organization! Holy Spirit Catholic School, Pennsylvania.
- 2 Shop your personalized labels! (so many cute designs to choose from!)
- 3 Your labels will ship directly to you. **FOR FREE!** We receive 20% in funds from your order.

**mabel's labels.**

Questions? [info@mabelslabels.com](mailto:info@mabelslabels.com)  
 1-866-395-2235

**We're FUNDRAISING with Mabel's Labels**

Custom name labels for the stuff kids love

**YOU get labels  
WE get funds**

LEISURE SAFE   
 DORM ROOM SAFE   
 EASY TO APPLY

# recess!

**RECESS DUTY SIGN UP in Connect 1 is ready**

**Once families have completed their REQUIRED DAY, they are eligible to received 4.0 PSSC points for additional RECESS DUTY days served.**

**Access your Connect 1 account to sign up!**

[Recess Duty in Connect 1](#)

## PTO Board 2023 - 2024

President - Christine Ploschke - [PTOPresident@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:PTOPresident@holyspiritflames.org)

Vice President - Robert Wu - [PTOVVP@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:PTOVVP@holyspiritflames.org)

Treasurer - Karin Floyd - [PTOTreasurer@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:PTOTreasurer@holyspiritflames.org)

Secretary - Kristyn Poreba - [PTOSecretary@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:PTOSecretary@holyspiritflames.org)

Volunteer Coordinator - Lauren Schmidt - [PTOVPMembership@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:PTOVPMembership@holyspiritflames.org)

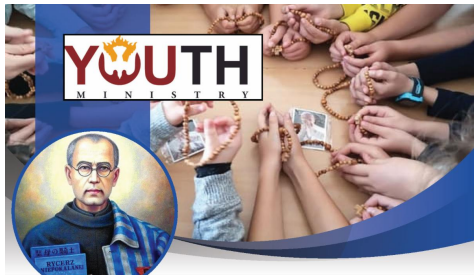
Fundraising Coordinator - Toni O'Neill - [PTOVDevelopment@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:PTOVDevelopment@holyspiritflames.org)

Homeroom Parent Coordinator - Valerie Overstreet - [PTOHomeroomCoordinator@holyspiritflames.org](mailto: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!



## MILITIA IMMACULATA

Grades 1 to 8

**Mondays**  
3:15-4:15pm  
in the  
Youth Ministry Room

**Starts**  
September 25  
Snacks and social  
time included

Register online  
[www.holyspiritchurch.us/youth](http://www.holyspiritchurch.us/youth)

## YOUTH MINISTRY

**"Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity." - 1 Timothy 4:12**

**HIGH SCHOOL**  
Youth ministry for high school helps teens solidify their faith, rooted in Jesus Christ, as they journey toward adulthood. Our Sunday Evening Gatherings are large group meetings held twice monthly where teens can join us for a meal, a fun activity, and faith formation. Beginning September 24.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
Youth ministry for middle school helps youth in grades 6-8 identify their active role in the Catholic Church as baptized children of God. Our Friday Evening Gatherings are large group meetings held twice monthly where they gather for bite-sized tidbits of faith formation, a fun and active game, and conclude with a shared meal and prayer. Beginning October 13.

**MILITIA IMMACULATA**  
Begun by St. Maximilian Kolbe, youth from grades 1-8 gather weekly to pray the Holy Rosary, asking intercessions from the Blessed Virgin Mary for themselves, their families, and any special intentions held in their hearts. One of our most popular ministries with the children. Beginning September 25.

**FIAT / Band of Brothers**  
"FIAT" for girls and "Band of Brothers" for guys are our small group formation for high school students. At these meetings held twice monthly, teenagers delve deeper into topics relevant to the Catholic faith in the modern world. Beginning October 19.

**Cor Unum**  
Cor Unum (Latin for "One Heart") is our small group formation for middle school students held twice monthly. The purpose is to ignite the fire of God's love within their hearts through small group activities and discussion. Beginning October 20.

**CYO SPORTS**  
Making all things new in Christ, the ministry of the Church extends to the most popular arena of youth life today - sports! Registration for fall sports begins this week.

**www.holyspiritchurch.us/youth**  
(703) 425-8778  
YMStaff@holyspiritchurch.us

**Director of Youth Ministry**  
youthministry@holyspiritchurch.us

**Assistant Director of Youth Ministry**  
jsmith@holyspiritchurch.us

## Altar Server Training

All boys in grades 3-12

**Saturday, September 23rd**

**New server training: 10:30-11:30 AM**

**Current server refresher training: 11-11:30 AM**

**Lunch and Laser Tag to follow, ending at 2 PM**

**For more information, contact Alicia Steger at**  
[altarservers@holyspiritchurch.us](mailto:altarservers@holyspiritchurch.us)

**SR. CONSTANCE & THE LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR ARE**

## COOKING UP SOME FUN FOR FIAT!

For high school girls interested in growing spiritually and exploring their vocation.

**October 14, 2023, 10am-3pm**  
**St. Jeanne Jugan Residence**  
**4200 Harewood Road NE, Washington, DC**

Includes Mass, adoration, baking and lunch.  
Cost: \$15

For more info and to register, visit  
[ArlingtonDiocese.org/FIAT](http://ArlingtonDiocese.org/FIAT).

**Space is limited! Register by October 6.**

Sponsored by the Diocese of Arlington Office of Vocations

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PARENTS MEETING

**October 3, 2023 7 PM - 8 PM**  
**Holy Spirit School - Meeting Room 1**

Meeting of all 2nd grade parents presenting their children to receive First Holy Communion in May 2024.

(703) 978 - 8925  
REStaff@holyspiritchurch.us

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### Confirmation Parents Meeting

Meeting of all 7th grade parents presenting their children to receive Confirmation in 2024.

**October 5, 2023**  
**7 PM - 8 PM**

Holy Spirit School Meeting Room 1

(703) 978 - 8925  
REStaff@holyspiritchurch.us

This year, voters will elect members to all 140 seats in the Virginia General Assembly – 40 in the Senate and 100 in the House of Delegates – as well as other offices in some localities. Early voting begins September 22. Election Day is November 7.

Much is at stake, and it is the sacred duty of each voter to form his or her conscience and participate in these critical decisions. To prepare:

First, register to vote if you are not registered already. A Virginia Catholic Conference bulletin insert explains how to register, eligibility and key dates. Registration ends October 16.

Second, locate your new districts. New General Assembly district maps are in effect for this year's elections. A VCC bulletin insert explains how to find your new state Senate and House of Delegates districts and who the candidates are.

Third, prayerfully form your conscience. The VCC's *Four Principles of Catholic Social Teaching* bulletin insert provides a helpful overview for reflection, in an easy-to-read format.

Visit [www.vacatholic.org](http://www.vacatholic.org) to view these materials.

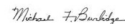
As we have stated in previous pre-election letters, three foundational principles are essential to forming consciences and evaluating candidates:


- Many issues are important.
- Not all issues have equal moral weight.
- Protecting life is paramount.

Addressing the tragedy of abortion is the "preeminent priority because it directly attacks life itself, because it takes place within the sanctuary of the family, and because of the number of lives destroyed" (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, Introductory Letter).

As a Catholic and a voter in Virginia, please respond to the call of faithful citizenship. Prepare and engage in these vitally important elections. Protect life to the fullest extent possible.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

  
 Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge  
 Bishop of Arlington

  
 Most Reverend Barry C. Kneisout  
 Bishop of Richmond

# REGISTER TO VOTE!



This fall, voters will elect Virginia General Assembly candidates – and in some areas – “down-ballot” offices. The deadline to register is **Monday, Oct. 16**.

**Who is eligible to register?**

- Must be a U.S. citizen.
- Must be a resident of Virginia.
- Must be 18 on or before the next election (e.g., 17-year-olds born on or before Nov. 7, 2005 can register today).
- Not be registered and plan to vote in another state.

**How to register:**

- You can register online, by mail, or at your local registrar's office, among other locations. Visit [vote.elections.virginia.gov](http://vote.elections.virginia.gov) or scan the QR code to:
- Register to vote online.
  - Check registration status.
  - Find your polling place.
  - Apply to vote absentee by mail.



FOR MORE ELECTION RESOURCES FROM THE VIRGINIA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE VISIT: [vacatholic.org/Election2023](http://vacatholic.org/Election2023)

EARLY VOTING BEGINS SEPT. 22. REGISTRATION ENDS OCT. 16. ELECTION DAY IS NOV. 7.



## Four Principles of Catholic Social Teaching\*

The central and enduring themes of Catholic social teaching are organized under four principles that provide a moral framework for decisions in public life.


**The Dignity of the Human Person**  
Human life is sacred. The dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. Direct attacks on innocent persons are never morally acceptable. In our society, the gravest example is abortion. Euthanasia, assisted suicide, human cloning, in vitro fertilization and the destruction of embryos for research are others. Protecting the dignity of life also includes overcoming poverty, ending use of the death penalty, and opposing racism, torture, unjust war, human trafficking and all activities that contribute to the “throwaway culture” identified by Pope Francis.

**The Common Good**  
The common good is achieved when social conditions allow people to reach their fulfillment more fully and easily. It upholds the fundamental right to life, which makes all other rights possible. It asserts the right to food, shelter, education, employment, health care, housing, freedom of religion and conscience, and family life. It requires an economy that serves people, not the other way around. It calls on employers to uphold the dignity and rights of workers by offering productive work, decent and just wages, adequate security in their old age, the choice of whether to organize and join unions and the opportunity for legal status for immigrant workers. Workers should contribute a fair day's work for a fair day's pay; treat employers and co-workers with respect and contribute to the common good. This principle requires we protect and care for all of God's creation, especially the most vulnerable among us, and the earth, our common home.

**Subsidiarity**  
The human person is social. The family is the fundamental building block of society, based on marriage between a man and a woman, a sanctuary for creation and nurturing of children. Policies and programs should defend, strengthen and respect this foundational unit and uphold parents' rights and responsibility to care for and educate their children. Further, every person and association has a right and duty to actively shape society and promote the well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable. Subsidiarity means that society's larger institutions should not overwhelm or interfere with smaller or local ones. These larger institutions are obliged, however, to protect human dignity and meet human needs when smaller institutions cannot adequately do so.

**Solidarity**  
We are one human family, despite our national, racial, ethnic, economic and ideological differences, called to love our neighbor as ourselves. We must work to eradicate poverty, disease and racism, and welcome immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers who are seeking employment, safety, education and a better life for their families. Solidarity requires preferential concern for the poor. A basic moral test of any society is how it treats those who are most vulnerable. This preferential option for the poor and vulnerable includes all who are marginalized – unborn children, persons with disabilities, the elderly and terminally ill, victims of injustice and oppression and immigrants.

\*Adapted from *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, Nos. 44-56, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2015.



## SOCCER CHALLENGE

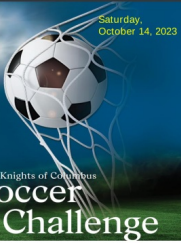
Combined Council & District #14 Competition

**When:** Saturday, October 14, 2023  
Anytime between 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**Where:** Field behind Holy Spirit School

**Who:** Individual Boys & Girls 9-14 years old

**How:** Individuals kick soccer penalty kicks (12 yards) with scores for shot location in goal. 3 warm-up kicks, 25 kicks for record.



Saturday, October 14, 2023

Knights of Columbus

### Soccer Challenge

Contact Mike Proumide 703-425-8769 or email [mikeproumide@prodigy.net](mailto:mikeproumide@prodigy.net)

More rule info at: <https://www.kcfc.org/en/resources/fall-in-action-programs/community/soccer-challenge/6519-soccer-challenge-playbook.pdf>



In today's society, so many seem to have lost a sense of "sin," of "right" vs "wrong"

Sin is an offense against reason, truth, and right conscience; it is a failure in genuine love for God and neighbor caused by a perverse attachment to certain goods... It has been defined (by St. Augustine) as "an utterance, a deed, or a desire contrary to the eternal law." Catechism of the Catholic Church

So why do we have Confession, especially if God knows everything and knows we are sorry?

Confession might be one of the most difficult parts of our faith for some of us. There is a big difference between God "knowing" what you did and His act of forgiveness.

For example, if you sinned against a friend and then felt sorry and guilty for that, it's possible that your friend would realize, just by knowing you, that you were truly sorry. But that doesn't mean that you can just presume your friend's goodness and forgiveness. The best thing to do is to actually tell your friend you are sorry and to have your friend tell you that you are forgiven.

God is all merciful and wants to forgive us all our sins. But for true reconciliation to take place, God wants you to actually say those words and then to hear the words, spoken by the priest, that you are forgiven.

So why do you need to confess sins to a priest? In St. John's Gospel, Jesus appeared to His Apostles after His Resurrection and said to them:

*"Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."*

Christ is saying that He is acting through the Apostles and since the Church is founded on Peter and the Apostles, the powers given to them are communicated to their successors, the priests.

And, Church law prohibits a priest from betraying a penitent in any way, for any reason. What you tell him in the confessional remains private forever no matter how serious it may be.

## New Monthly Healing Service at Holy Spirit

After the 12:00 Noon Mass on the first Sunday of each month - begins Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> -

One of our priests will lead a short prayer service for all with serious needs who seek from the Lord healing of mind or body.

For those with specific needs, the Sacrament of The Anointing of the Sick will be offered.

(This does not include Confession, which can be celebrated at another time.)

*Is anyone among you sick? He should summon the priests of the church, and they should pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord.*

**James 5:14**



**YOU'RE INVITED!**

**LUKE**  
The Gospel of Mercy  
Discover God's Mercy through His Own Words...



**Bible Study with Fr John O'Donohue**  
**Returns on a new Day and Time**

**Tuesday Evenings, September 12 – May 18**

*With no classes on select dates*

**7 pm to 8 pm**

**Parish Center** (livestream option available)

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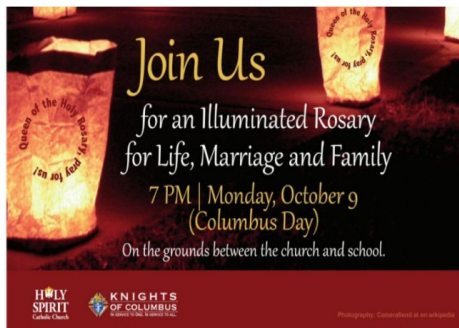
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3. Enter your name and email

Visit [FORMED.org](http://FORMED.org) or search for "Formed" on your favorite app store

**Join Us**  
for an **Illuminated Rosary**  
for Life, Marriage and Family  
7 PM | Monday, October 9  
(Columbus Day)  
On the grounds between the church and school.



**HOLY SPIRIT** Catholic Church  
**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** Mount St. Elizabeth Seminary

**2023 DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO EMMITSBURG, MD**



Join Bishop Michael F. Burbidge on a pilgrimage to the National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton and the National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes  
**Saturday, October 7, 2023**

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:**

**NATIONAL SHRINE OF SAINT ELIZABETH ANN SETON**

- 9 a.m. Presentation on Mother Seton and veneration of her relics
- 9:45 a.m. Mass with Bishop Michael F. Burbidge
- 10:30 a.m. Visit Mother Seton museum and gift shop

- 12 p.m. Outdoor picnic lunch at the Seton Shrine or Mount Saint Mary's Seminary (Limited restaurant options available, visitors encouraged to pack bag lunch. Note: transportation between locations not provided.)

**NATIONAL SHRINE GROTTTO OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES**

- 1:30 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration and recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 3:30 p.m. Depart

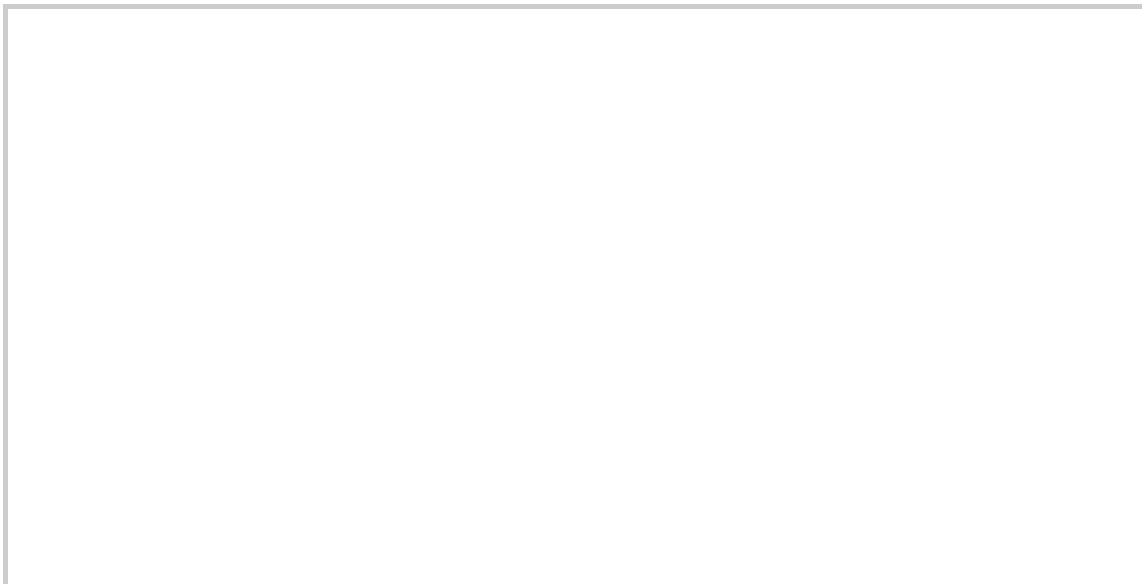


For more information, please visit:  
<https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/pilgrimageemmitsburg/>  
or scan the QR code

The two shrines within this pilgrimage are at separate locations and require a 6-minute drive. Transportation to Emmitsburg is not provided, but some parishes are coordinating buses. Please contact your parish for possible travel arrangements.



# Community Happenings!



# CHADD of NoVA/DC Resource Fair



## FREE to the public!

Meet exhibitors face-to-face  
Get informed about valuable  
resources to meet your individual  
and family needs!  
Build a System of Support:  
Connect, Learn and Thrive



Saturday, October 7th  
9:30 AM - 12:30 PM  
Vienna Community Center  
120 Cherry Street, Vienna, VA 22180

**Walk 4 Life**  
& Family Fun Day  
2023

November 4th, 2023  
Lake Accotink Park  
9am-12pm

**Come Support Sanctity of Life Ministries and Help us  
continue to Save Lives!  
With each step, you help save a life!**

Ways you can get involved:  
• Be your church team captain! Sign up via QR code attached  
• Sponsor a Walker  
• Become a Corporate Sponsor  
• Volunteer or Donate

**Register here!**

[slmgetinvolved.org](http://slmgetinvolved.org)



## FAMILY FOLDER

The following flyers may be found in the folder labeled "September 21, 2023" on the website. For your convenience, some flyers are repeated.

Family Folder

### School Flyers:

1. Board Game Club flyer
2. MS Art Club flyer
3. Milestone Masters flyer and letter
4. Partners in Faith (September) newsletter

### PTO Flyers:

1. Mabel's Labels flyer
2. Used Uniform flyer

### 3. Connect 1 Registration Instructions

#### Parish Flyers:

1. Militia Immaculata flyer
2. Youth Ministry Program announcement
3. Diocesan Pilgrimage to Emmitsburg
4. Parent Meeting for 1st Communicants
5. Parent Meeting for 7th grade parents regarding Confirmation
6. FIAT Baking flyer
7. Altar Server training
8. Voting materials - letter from Bishop Burbidge
9. Register to Vote
10. Principles of Catholic Social Teaching
11. K of C Youth Soccer Challenge
12. Healing Services
13. Bible Study - Gospel of Luke
14. FORMED
15. Illuminated Rosary

#### Community Flyers:

1. Walk 4 Life flyer
2. CHADD ADHD Resource Fair

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

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