### From the Principal's Desk



September 7, 2023



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

# The Pace of School Life Quickens!

I hope you all enjoyed the extended weekend and are navigating the heat well!

Over the next couple of weeks the number of events and afterschool activities will be picking up - be sure to check the school calendar often as it is ever changing.

It was mentioned at Back to School Night for the older students, but worth repeating here with a little bit more added. We continue to make a concerted effort to not only teach, but to expect the students to engage in common courtesies throughout the day here at school. Those include things like responding appropriately to adults and peers who greet them; holding doors for those coming behind them; graciously helping to pick up items when someone drops them; joyfully assisting with keeping the cafeteria clean. The "small things" are the building blocks for our children to grow into kind, respectful, and faithful young people. You have wonderful children who continue to grow as individuals - please help them to know that when they are corrected by an adult it is done with love and kindness and not because they are "in trouble". Setting the bar high is a great thing - they are capable of so very much!

Remember that the Fall Yearbook pictures, both individual and class, will be taken on Tuesday, September 12th. Ordering information is below and will be coming home via backpack mail, as well. All students should be in their dress uniform (not PE uniform) regardless of whether they have PE that day.

I hope you will take time to attend the Parish Picnic, this Sunday, September 10th. It is a wonderful afternoon of fun, food, and fellowship - and it is all free! See the flyer below.

Our school is just one of the many ministries of this parish. In comparison to some of our counterparts in the Diocese, there are really no restrictions or obligations placed on families who claim that they are parishioners of Holy Spirit in order to receive in-parish tuition. Father O'Donohue's hope has always been and continues to be that all families registered as parishioners will participate fully in the life of the parish. This can be done in many, many ways above and beyond making financial contributions. To name just a few: have your family attend one of the many events planned and scheduled by parishioners; volunteer to be a lector for weekly Mass; volunteer to become a Lay Eucharistic Minister; join the Men's Club/Knights of Columbus/Women's Council; have your children join the parish children's choir.

There are so many avenues to bringing your family fully into the life of the parish. What a wonderful thing it would be to have this community truly be at the center of your family life.

This week's newsletter is lengthy - be sure to scroll all the way through!



Did you create your own Holy Moment this week? I know it was short turn-around, but have you challenged yourself to be honest? That can be done in so many ways - being honest in our interactions with others; being honest about our responsibilities and obligations; being honest with ourselves about using the gifts we have been given and being the person we are meant to be despite the earthly pressures of day to day life.

We hope you are embracing the challenge and experiencing the peace that comes from seeking and living honestly.

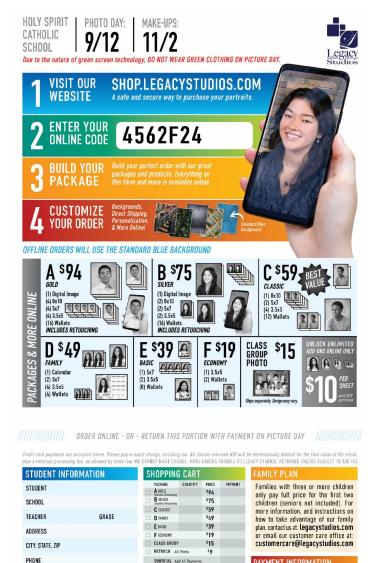
As mentioned, each Thursday this note will contain the Matthew Kelly, Holy Moments videos that he recorded during Lent of 2023. These relate to the Holy Moments book.



# Yearbook Individual and Class Pictures September 12th

All students should wear their regular uniform to school (NO P.E. uniforms).

Order form may be accessed below and will also be sent home via homerooms.



Yearbook Picture Order Form

B% PROCESSING Subtotal x 0.08

TOTAL Subtotal + Processing

EMAIL

PAYMENT INFORMATION

☐ CASH ☐ CHECK ☐ MONEY ORDER



### Attention 1st - 3rd Grade Students

Come read great stories with friends along with Mrs. Payne, Ms. Garcia, and Mrs. Long

WHEN: 1st session 9/21, 10/19, 11/16, 12/7

2nd session- 1/18, 2/15, 3/21, 4/18

TIME: 3:30 - 4:15 WHERE: Library

Students will need to bring a healthy snack. Please be sure that it

is **NUT FREE** 

Pick up will be in front of the school @ 4:15 (if you are not there by 4:20 your child will be sent to extended day)

We will only be able to accept 16 students per session. You may only sign up for one session- as this will give more students an opportunity to participate.

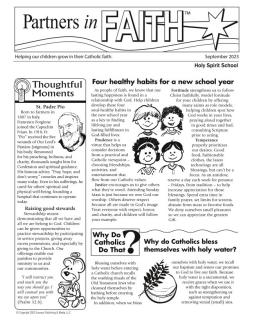
Go to: Connect1 to sign up

If you have any questions please contact:

Mrs. Payne:mpayne@holyspiritflames.org







### **Substitute Teachers Needed**

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

nevans@holyspiritflames.org

Thank you!

## -Maureen Ashby

**Principal** 



### **Upcoming PTO Events**

Thursday, September 7th

Connect1 Training 7:00pm - 7:30pm via Zoom (1-2 PSSC points for attending)

Meeting ID: 844 0184 3962; Passcode: 801912

### September 8<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup>

Spirit Gear Sale - <u>Place your order here!</u> See flier below for more information

### Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>

Parish Picnic 2:00pm - 5:00pm Holy Spirit Front Lawn

### Wednesday, September 19<sup>th</sup>

Chipotle Fundraiser 4:00pm – 8:00pm 9506 Main Street, Fairfax See flier below for more information

### Tuesday, September 19<sup>th</sup>

PTO Meeting 6:30pm – 8:30pm via Zoom (2-4 PSSC points for attending)

Meeting ID: 895 9844 5225; Passcode: 268985

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

Volunteer Fair 6:30pm – 7:30pm in the school gym (2 PSSC point 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

### **Volunteer Opportunities**

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

The Volunteer Fair showcases 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 <a href="Connect1">Connect1</a> if you plan to attend and refer to the <a href="PSSC Handbook">PSSC Handbook</a> for a list of committees. We hope to see you there!

Questions? Contact Lauren Schmidt PTOVPMembership@holyspiritflames.org

#### **Homeroom Parents** (40 PSSC points)

If you would like to be a Homeroom Parent for your child's classroom this year, the signup has been posted to Connect1. There are two spots for each teacher, but they are filling up fast. Thank you so much for volunteering to make this a wonderful school year.

Questions? Contact Val Overstreet <a href="ptohomeroomcoordinator@holyspiritflames.org">ptohomeroomcoordinator@holyspiritflames.org</a>

### **Directory Committee Chair** (40 PSSC points)

The PTO is seeking to fill this vacancy immediately, to get the Directory published by early October.

The Directory Chair creates the school directory (booklet), which provides the entire school community with the names and contact info for every family in each class, as well as school personnel. It's a great resource for planning class parties, birthday parties, play dates, and more! This person will work with the school registrar to populate the directory in a specific format to prepare it for printing. All tasks are done from home - it does not require coming into the school and does not require Virtus training. This is a perfect role for someone who is looking to gain all of their family's PSSC points early in the year, as the work is completed within about 2-4 weeks at whatever days and times work best for you. Home access to and proficiency with Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, and Adobe Acrobat are required.

Questions? Contact Lauren Schmidt PTOVPMembership@holyspiritflames.org

### Reminders

#### Connect1

We appreciate your efforts to get signed up in Connect1. Connect1 is easy to use on a computer and smartphone.

The application does three main things for our community:

- 1. A prayer board
- 2. Volunteer Sign-ups Connect One (connect1.io)
- 3. Community Directory

You will notice an addition to your last name in Connect1. We are adding your family numbers to Connect1. You will see "-##" i.e. Lastname-85. If you want to update your information in Connect1 that would be helpful. Please don't remove the numbers. This will help track events and PSSC hours.

If you haven't set up your account, please register <a href="here">here</a> and follow the instructions in the flier below. If you need help there are some <a href="training opportunities">training opportunities</a> in Connect1.

Questions? Contact Tom Fields <a href="ptopssc@holyspiritflames.org">ptopssc@holyspiritflames.org</a>

In order to volunteer with any youth in the Arlington Diocese, you must be **Child Protection Compliant**.



### Begins Today &

### Ends Sunday, September 17th

Click on the link below to place your order.

https://holyspiritfall23spiritwear.itemorder.com/shop/home/"

"PTO Spirit Gear Ordering Deadline - September 17th!

Why should you think about ordering Spirit Gear?

First, it supports the PTO and <u>all of</u> the great programming that is planned for the year and thus YOUR STUDENTS! Second, having Spirit Gear allows your student to participate in monthly dress down days. Typically held on the third Thursday of each month (beginning in October), students may dress down IF they are dressed in PTO Spirit Gear purchased either this year or in past years. Be sure to check the school calendar for dates."



# CHIPOTLE FUNDRAISER FOR HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL PTO

33% OF EVENT SALES GET DONATED TO THE CAUSE

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH | 4-8PM 9506 MAIN ST NO 22B, FAIRFAX, VA, 22031

ORDER ONLINE FOR PICKUP USING CODE RZKTAFB OR SHOW THIS FLYER IN RESTAURANT



For online orders to count towards the fundraiser, they must be placed for pickup only from the restaurant location of, and during the hours of, the fundraiser. Delivery orders and gift cards do not qualify. \$150 minimum event sales required to receive any donation.



RECESS DUTY SIGN UP in Connect 1 is ready

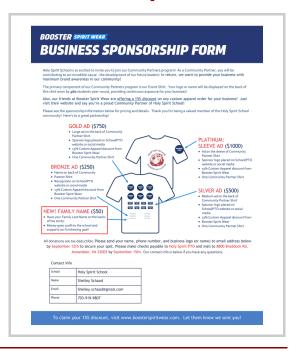
Access your Connect 1 account to sign up!

Recess Duty in Connect 1



### Consider being a Boosterthon Sponsor!!









#### PTO Board 2023 - 2024

President - Christine Ploschke - <u>PTOPresident@holyspiritflames.org</u>
Vice President - Robert Wu - <u>PTOVP@holyspiritflames.org</u>
Treasurer - Karin Floyd - <u>PTOTreasurer@holyspiritflames.org</u>
Secretary - Kristyn Poreba - <u>PTOSecretary@holyspiritflames.org</u>

Volunteer Coordinator - Lauren Schmidt -<u>PTOVPMembership@holyspiritflames.org</u>
Fundraising Coordinator - Toni O'Neill -<u>PTOVPDevelopment@holyspiritflames.org</u>
Homeroom Parent Coordinator - Valerie Overstreet -<u>PTOHomeroomCoordinator@holyspiritflames.org</u>

### 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!**







# **Great Expectations Care Packages**

Donate \$15 to buy gift cards for foster care college students

Several parish groups are working together to create care packages for students in Northern Virginia Community College's Great Expectations program. This program is for students who have aged out of foster care. Most of these students live in group homes, and some are young moms.

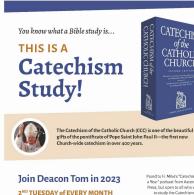
Your \$15 donation will help us purchase a gift card to Barnes and Noble bookstores, which are located at each of NVCC's campuses, and we are creating 60 care packages.

You can make your donation using our ParishGiving program. You can also drop off a check at the parish office, but the check must indicate GREAT EXPECTATIONS on the memo line.

For more information, see the parish website or email gss@holyspiritchurch.us

This is a project of our parish Good Samaritan Society.

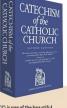




2<sup>ND</sup> TUESDAY of EVERY MONTH

WHEN: 7:00-8:15 p.m.
WHERE: McGivney Hall, Narthex

Zoom links provided to remote attendees as needed







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 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 GROTTO OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

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





### Holy Spirit Friends of the Poor Walk Saturday, October 21 from 10:15 am to 12:15 pm

Help the Society of St. Vincent de Paul raise funds for those in need and enjoy fun and fellowship

Route: start and finish at Holy Spirit Church lot, walk along a short route on the Long Branch Valley Stream Trail



All are welcome to come and support the Poor. Freewill offering requested from participants – t-shirts provided. Sign up at fopwalk.org

- choose "Virginia" and "Holy Spirit Friends of the Poor Walk"

### Knights of Columbus

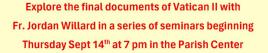
#### Taking a Stand

By Supreme Knight Patrick E. Kelly / July 2023

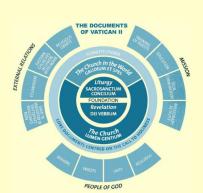
The Knights of The Knights of
Columbus cannot
take up every fight...
But 2 million Catholic
men can make an
enormous difference where it matters most — always through prayer and often through action.

Who are the Knights?





From 1961 through 1965, the Vatican II Council was held. For Catholics and others, it had profound implications and changes.







#### Join the Squire Roses Today!

We meet the second Sunday of each month from 1:15pm-2:30pm in the Annunciation Room in

A youth organization sponsored by the Holy Spirit Knights of Columbus for girls ages 10-18.

What do Squire Roses Do?

With appropriate guidance, the girls will develop their own ideas on how to participate in parish and live out their Catholic faith through charitable contributions. The adults involved will be available to provide guidance and assist the girls in learning the skills needed to bring about the successful completion of their projects. Some past projects and extribuse include: Helping to decorate the church for Christmas and Easter, hosting an Advent event for children, helping to sort and stock food for the poor at the St. Lucy Project vanehouse, the Cowning of Many Ceremony in May, movie nights and a Father/Daughter funcheon.

For information contact: Kristin Gorak at Kristin@gorak.us

# **Community Happenings!**



Try New Things

**Serve Others** 

Boost
Self-Confidence
Make Ethical
Choices
Explore the
Outdoors



### **Holy Spirit Boy Scout Troop 50**

Summer Camp at Goshen Boy Scout Reserve

Sept 11 First Troop meeting of the year







### **FAMILY FOLDER**

The following flyers may be found in the folder labeled "September 7, 2023" on the website. For your convenience, some flyers are repeated.

Family Folder

### School Flyers:

- 1. Yearbook Picture Order Form
- 2. Primary Grade Book Club
- 3. Magnus Chess Academy flyer
- 4. Partners in Faith (September) Newsletter
- 5. PSA Sports flyer

### PTO Flyers:

- 1. PTO Chipotle Fundraiser
- 2. Boosterthon Sponsorship Information
- 3. Boosterthon Sponsorship Form
- 4. Mabel's Labels flyer
- 5. Connect 1 Registration Instructions

### Parish Flyers:

- 1. Parish Picnic flyer
  - 2. Pancake Breakfast
  - 3. That Man Is You flyer
  - 4. Great Expectations Care Packages flyer
  - 5. Catechism in a Year flyer
  - 6. Knights of Columbus information

- 7. Diocesan Pilgrimage to Emmitsburg
- 8. Vatican II Document Study with Father Willard flyer
- 9. Holy Spirit Friends of the Poor Walk flyer
- 10. KAIROS Cookie Ministry flyer
- 11. Squire Roses flyers

### Community Flyers:

- 1. Scouting Family Fun Night flyer
- 2. Boy Scout Troop 50 flyer
- 3. Walk 4 Life flyer

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

Unsubscribe pto@holyspiritflames.org

 $\frac{ \mbox{ Update Profile } | \mbox{Constant Contact Data}}{\mbox{Notice}}$ 

Sent bypto@holyspiritflames.orgpowered by



Try email marketing for free today!