

The Sentinel

November 29, 2017

Principal's Message

Last week our students contributed approximately 1,600 pounds of food during our annual Thanksgiving Prayer Service. It was a beautiful sight to behold as the children placed all of their donations at the foot of the altar.

Following the prayer service, representatives from the National Junior Honor Society transported all of the food to the Parish Activities Center where they divided it into 75 pre-packaged meals that were later distributed to families in need through the Bethany Food Pantry. Additionally, our school collected several dozen turkeys that were provided directly to the poor in our community. Thank you for your wonderful generosity and for helping your children to experience Thanksgiving as a time of giving.

Next week we will begin our annual journey of Advent, a time of preparation for the celebration of Christ's birth. Through the years at All Saints we have established several traditions that help to create a tone of anticipation and waiting as we prepare our hearts to celebrate the coming of our Savior.

Advent Wreath Prayer Services ~ On Monday morning the students will assemble in the Parish Activities Center for a school-wide prayer service highlighting the meaning of the Advent Wreath. During the second and third weeks of Advent, each Monday students will gather around three separate wreaths in each of the wings of the school where they will participate in grade level prayer services.

Sacrament of Reconciliation ~ Each of the students in grades three through eight have already had an opportunity to encounter Christ in this beautiful Sacrament of healing and forgiveness during two Penance Services that occurred earlier this week.

Bethany Food Pantry Collection ~ Our theme for the December collection is "*Desserts*". On December 20th, students are invited to bring in dessert items (cake mix, icing mix, cookie mix, brownie mix, pie filling, pie shells, etc.). Items should be able to maintain shelf life and not require refrigeration. Collection of these items will occur in the breezeway during morning arrival after which students from the National Junior

Honor Society will then deliver items to the food pantry.

Saint Gabriel Mission Outreach ~ The National Junior Honor Society will be preparing goodie bags containing candy and a coloring book to be distributed to 200 children after Mass on Christmas Day at St. Gabriel Mission.

Mitten Collection ~ The Peace & Justice Players are sponsoring a collection of mittens for the poor in our community. Students are invited to “lend a hand” by donating a pair or two by January 12th. Please see flyer linked below.

A Prayer for Advent ~ Week I

All-powerful God,
increase our strength of will for doing good
that Christ may find an eager welcome at His coming
and call us to His side in the kingdom of heaven,
where He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Virtues in Practice

Virtue for the Month of December: Patience

Definition: Waiting or enduring without complaint.

Saints of the Month: St. Monica (PreK-2), St. Isaac Jogues (3-5), St. Rita of Cascia (6-8)

All Saints Parish Advent Holy Hour

Please come to the All Saints parish Advent holy hour on Monday, December 4 at 8pm in the church. Fr. Noah will give a brief Advent-themed reflection. We will also pray the rosary together, and have time for silent prayer and benediction. All are invited to participate in this time of prayer, as we prepare for the coming of Christ at Christmas.

Fr. Noah will lead a children's holy hour on Thursday, December 14 at 4pm. Students (and parents) of all ages are welcome! Meet outside the parish library (at the church entrance nearest to the main entrance of the school).

MANY THANKS FROM THE LIBRARY

A big THANK YOU goes out to all parents, students, faculty and staff that supported last week's **All Saints Camp Read A Lot Book Fair!** What a great way to have celebrated reading with campy trivia games, a challenging book hunt clue and a full fledged Reading Ranger station. This fun-filled event could not be accomplished without our devoted All Saints families that graciously volunteered to make the Book Fair a huge success. It is a blessing to have so many parents extend their volunteer hours to handle sales transactions, sort inventory, write wish lists and pack up the enormous selection of books. A special thanks to Kate Cooney for coordinating all of the volunteers. Also Lisa

Jo McDermott and Denise Santiago for rolling up their sleeves to set up the event along with Gina Olivera for heading up the cashier station everyday. It truly is a team effort and a wonderful example of our community sharing their gifts.

Important Reminders

Bethany Food Pantry Collection – Tomorrow

The November “Breakfast Time Collection” will occur tomorrow between 7:40 am and 8:00 am. Students are invited to bring in breakfast items (cold cereal, hot cereal, pancake mix, syrup, shelf milk, juice, canned fruit, etc.). Collection of these items will occur in the breezeway during morning arrival and students from the National Junior Honor Society will then deliver items to the food pantry.

Manassas Christmas Parade – December 2nd

Once again All Saints Catholic School will participate in the Annual Manassas Christmas Parade! For more details about the event, including a permission slip for participation, please see the link that follows below. Parents are asked to forward permission slips to the office by Thursday, November 30th.

[Christmas Parade Permission Slip 2017](#)

Evening with St. Nicholas - December 5th (7:00 p.m.)

The 9th Annual ***Evening with St. Nicholas*** will take place on Tuesday, December 5th. Please join us for what has become a beautiful tradition at All Saints. The evening will begin with an Advent Prayer Service at 7:00 p.m. in the church. The “Procession of the Shoes” will again be led by St. Nicholas himself! St. Nicholas and Mother Seton will be available for photos (bring your own camera) afterwards in the Parish Activities Center.

Once again, we will be collecting donations of new shoes, with the proceeds benefitting **House of Mercy**. Donation guidelines are: **NEW plain colors of tennis shoes- white, blue, black, tan, or brown.** *No character tennis shoes, please.*

Have a question about volunteering or donations? Contact event co-chair Mrs. Sarah Roccograndi at Sarah.Roccograndi@gmail.com.

Many Thanks from the Library!

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sleeves to set up the event and to Mrs. Gina Olivera for heading up the cashier station every day. It truly was a team effort and a wonderful example of our community sharing their gifts.

Thank you, Mrs. Coyle and Mrs. Keenan, for your enthusiastic leadership and creativity in organizing the many details that made the event such a success for our school!

Academic Year 2018-2019 – Important Reminders

Applications for New Students (2018-2019)

All current families who wish to enroll a *new student* in grades Pre-Kindergarten through eight are invited to request an application via email at the following address: office@allsaintsva.org. As requests are received, applications will be sent home to families with the youngest child currently enrolled in our school.

Completed applications returned to the office on or before Friday, February 23rd will receive first consideration for any openings for the 2018-2019 academic year. As in the past, re-registration of *currently enrolled students* will take place in February. Should you have any questions about the application process, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Joyce D'Eugenio, Administrative Assistant, at [703-393-1490](tel:703-393-1490).

Pre-Kindergarten Program – Two Full Day Classes (2018-2019)

Beginning in the fall of 2018, All Saints will offer two full day Pre-Kindergarten classes that will meet five days per week. As we refine the program to meet the needs of as many families as possible, we welcome your feedback regarding interest in a half day class as well as the availability of Extended Day services for the Pre-Kindergarten Program. If sufficient demand exists for these programs, we will further explore the feasibility of offering these additional options.

If you have a Pre-Kindergarten student for the 2018-2019 school year, please click the link below to request an application and provide additional input. In advance, we thank you for your prompt feedback as we strive to respond to the changing needs of our community.

LINK TO PRE-K FORM: [2018-2019 Pre-K Application Request & Pre-K Program Input](#)

Tuition Assistance Applications for 2018-2019

For information about the diocesan tuition assistance program and the application process, please click on the link below.

[Diocesan Tuition Assistance Program 2018-2019](#)

Please note that the deadline for applications for elementary schools is March 16, 2018. The deadline for families with a student enrolled in Catholic high school is January 22, 2018.

Upcoming Events

Thursday, November 30th

- “Breakfast Time” Food Pantry Donation Day
- 8th Grade High School Placement Test
- Faculty Meeting (3:30 p.m.)

Friday, December 1st

- School Mass (8:30 a.m.)

Saturday, December 2nd

- Manassas Christmas Parade

Monday, December 4th

- Advent Prayer Service (Parish Activities Center/8:15 a.m.)

Tuesday, December 5th

- Evening with St. Nicholas Prayer Service & Reception (Church/7:00 p.m.)

Friday, December 8th

- School Mass – Feast of the Immaculate Conception (8:30 a.m.)
- 2nd Quarter Interims

Newsletter Links

- [Peace & Justice Mitten Collection Flyer](#)
- [Christmas Parade Permission Slip 2017](#)
- [DIOCESAN TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM 2018-2019](#) - Program Information
- [FACTS Financial Aid Application Link](#)
- [Helpcounter Volunteer Log-In](#) (Sign-Up for Upcoming Stewardship Opportunities)
- [PILGRIM VIRGIN STATUE - Sign-Up](#)