

The Sentinel ~ September 30, 2020

Principal's Message

This week I am pleased to share with you an important update that Dr. Vorbach, Superintendent of Schools, recently communicated to diocesan principals. Recognizing the tremendous efforts of the teachers and the complexity that surrounds this school year, he has decided to implement a "strategic pause" in regards to all *Design for Excellence* (DFE) activity for 2020-2021. He has extended to schools in their self-study year the option of a full year extension from the original date.

I consulted with Fr. Lee regarding this option and we believe that the best course of action for our faculty and staff is to delay the self-study process for one year. As such, our self-study process is now on hold until next fall and we will host a visiting team in the spring of 2022 rather than this coming April as originally scheduled.

I remain grateful to Mrs. Horgan and the members of the Steering Committee who had already begun the process of leading the faculty and staff through the self-study project. While I am confident that they would have been successful in accomplishing this task, I am delighted that we can all defer our efforts until next year so that we can continue to focus on our new instructional plan.

All Things Work for Good for Those Who Love God!

Important Update – School Mass

We are now finalizing a plan for in-person students to regularly attend school Mass. In order to ensure sufficient space for social distancing, we are anticipating that there will be a separate Mass that will take place specifically for our students. This Mass will not be advertised to the general public and attendance will be limited to students, faculty and staff. Students will attend Mass in their "pods" with proper social distancing in place. As it will not be feasible for the entire student body to gather at one time, students will attend Mass approximately every other week. Please note that this will be subject to change due to the scheduling of other liturgical events in our parish such as funerals.

Should you have any health related concerns regarding your child attending school Mass and wish to request that he/she be exempt, please contact Mrs. Diana Neri at vneri@allsaintsva.org so that we might plan accordingly.

In the event that you have any questions or wish to discuss, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Virtues in Practice – October

Virtue of the Month: Studiousness

Definition: Seeking knowledge to grow closer to Truth

Saints: St. Albert the Great (PK-2), St. Thomas Aquinas (3-5), St. Edith Stein (6-8)

All Saints Virtual Open House – November 5

All Saints Catholic School will host a **Fall Virtual Open House** for prospective parents on Thursday, November 5 at 7:00 PM via Zoom. All Saints' Pre-Kindergarten – 8th grade nationally recognized school is currently offering in-person and virtual learning options. Plan now to attend the Fall Virtual Open House to discover how your child can benefit from All Saints' nurturing faith environment and innovative approach to learning. Reserve your spot by visiting the school website at allsaintsvaschool.org. For more information, please contact Mrs. Nancy Weaver at (703) 393-1490 or admissions@allsaintsva.org.

Art Supplies for October

The October supply request form is attached below. Please complete by October 5 if you are in need of the materials listed in the form. The pickup for all materials will be between October 5th and October 9th at the front desk. Please remember, if you have already borrowed reusable materials, they will need to be returned at this time as well. [Art Survey](#)

Please reach out to Miss Galanides lgalanides@allsaintsva.org if you have any questions.

Helping Hands

Education during a pandemic is extremely challenging for students, parents, staff, and especially on teachers - many of whom have school children as well. As a parent at this school for over 14 years, I can tell you that one of the many blessings of All Saints School is the tremendous community of families, teachers, staff, and our priests. Together we do amazing things! This is especially evident when family members volunteer for the school. Although current health concerns prevent volunteers from helping inside the school, there is still an opportunity to provide much needed support to our hardworking teachers by being a Helping Hand volunteer. Helping Hands will be doing small projects for teachers in the comfort of your own home, donating healthy snacks and extra classroom materials, and sending thoughtful notes of encouragement among other things. I recognize that everyone is busy, but if you have a little time to spare and want to be a Helping Hand, please join our amazing team of helpers by filling out this [survey](#) below before Wednesday, October 7th. Thank you so much!

Holly Crocker
Helping Hands Coordinator

Upcoming Events

Thursday, October 1

- St. Paul VI Virtual Visit with 8th Grade Class (12:45 p.m.)

Friday, October 2

- eLearning Day

Tuesday, October 6

- PTO Executive Committee Meeting (Zoom/7:00 p.m.)

Friday, October 9

- eLearning Day
- 1st Trimester Interims

Saturday, October 10

- Spirit Event: Chipotle (Liberia Avenue/4:00-8:00 p.m.)

Monday, October 12

- Holiday – Columbus Day

Wednesday, October 14

- Coffee with the Principal (Zoom/9:00 a.m.)

Thursday, October 15

- Earthquake Drill
- Enrollment Management Team Meeting (Zoom/7:00 p.m.)

Tuesday, October 20

- PTO Speaker Series – Presentation I (Zoom/7:00 p.m.)

Wednesday, October 21

- Picture Day

Thursday, October 22

- Picture Day

Friday, October 23

- Uniform Pick-Up Day

Friday, October 30

- Holiday (Diocesan Professional Development Day)