

The Sentinel - February 17, 2021

Principal's Message

Today, Ash Wednesday, we begin our Lenten journey. Again this year, our school community will participate in Catholic Relief Services' (CRS) Rice Bowl initiative, a faith-in-action program that invites us to encounter anew ourselves, our neighbors and our God.

Each of the students has received a cardboard rice bowl into which they can place their donations during Lent. (Parents of Virtual Learners may request a rice bowl at the front office when visiting the school.) All of the funds will benefit CRS Rice Bowl which is sponsored by Catholic Relief Services, the official international humanitarian agency of the Catholic community in the United States. Catholic Relief Services is motivated by the example of Jesus Christ to assist poor and suffering people in more than 100 countries on the basis of need, without regard to race, religion or nationality.

While the act of sacrificial giving is an important part of our Lenten tradition, the experience takes on even greater meaning when our students understand the plight of those less fortunate and recognize the difference that they can make to alleviate suffering. So that the children may develop this appreciation of the needs of those around the world, the teachers will lead discussions and lessons using the materials made available by Catholic Relief Services. It is our hope that these conversations will inspire sacrificial giving among our students as they place their contributions into their Rice Bowls. At the end of Lent, families will be asked to convert the contributions from their children into a check to be submitted to All Saints after which our school will forward all of the funds to CRS.

Here are some strategies that you may wish to consider in shaping your own family's Lenten plan:

- Use your CRS Rice Bowl and Lenten Calendar each day to guide your Lenten prayer, fasting and almsgiving.
- As a family, read the online *Stories of Hope* and daily reflections to inspire your Lenten journey—and guide your Lenten almsgiving.
- Prepare simple meatless meals on Fridays throughout Lent, in solidarity with our brothers and sisters around the world. Recipes for simple meals can be found on the CRS website.

For more information, including spiritual reflections, short video presentations on the topic of Lent, and even virtual Stations of the Cross, please see the link below.

[Catholic Relief Services](#)

Additionally, again this year we will introduce our students to the *Chaplet of Divine Mercy*, another devotion of our Church. With this in mind, we will pray the modified prayer found below at the close of the day in place of the *Hail Mary* during Lent.

Helpful resources and the history of the Divine Mercy Chaplet website.

[The Divine Mercy Chaplet](#)

All Things Work for Good for Those Who Love God!

Divine Mercy Prayer

Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

For the sake of His Sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world. Jesus, I trust in you.

Open House – March 11 @ 9:00 a.m.

All Saints Catholic School will host an *Open House* for prospective parents on Thursday, March 11 via Zoom beginning at 9:00 a.m. All parishioners and members of the community interested in learning more about our school are cordially invited to attend. For more information, please contact Mrs. Nancy Weaver, Administrative Assistant, at (703) 393-1490 or nweaver@allsaintsva.org.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Faculty/Staff Vaccination Update & Schedule Changes

Tuesday, March 2 (Early Dismissal) - School will dismiss at **2:00 p.m.** in order that members of our faculty and staff can attend their appointments that afternoon. Extended Day will be open beginning at 2:00 p.m. However, due to the existing restrictions, we will only be able to accommodate those students who are already regular attendants.

Wednesday, March 3 (eLearning/K-8) – Anticipating that some of our team may experience symptoms that might preclude their ability to work, **all K-8 students will participate in asynchronous online learning at home**. The teachers will post assignments in Schoology that the students will be asked to complete independently. Please note that there will be no live Zoom sessions that day.

On Thursday, March 4, we plan to revert to our regular schedule, including in-person learning. We will have a number of substitute teachers on stand-by in the event that any needs arise that day.

Thank you for your continued understanding as we modify our schedule in support of the health and wellness of our faculty & staff.

In-Person & Virtual Learning Transitions – Policy Reminder

In the event that you wish to transfer your child from in-person to online learning or vice versa, please notify Mrs. Horgan via email so that she can update our enrollment roster accordingly and notify the corresponding faculty members. Please note that such transfers do require advance administrative approval and do not exist as informal options that students or parents may select on particular days.

PTO General Assembly Meeting – February 23 (Zoom/7:00 p.m.)

The next PTO General Membership Meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 23 beginning at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. We are pleased to announce that Mrs. Horgan will serve as our speaker, presenting on the topic of our curriculum.

After providing an overview of the curriculum design process used by the diocese, Mrs. Horgan will highlight the way in which the curriculum standards drive the teaching and learning that take place in the classroom. Her presentation will also offer insights into how the teachers plan instruction and collaborate with one another in order to more effectively meet the needs of their students.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83917880913?pwd=WlpRK0ExTndBZU5JZHlhYW85VCszZz09>

Meeting ID: 839 1788 0913

Passcode: 282605

Coffee with the Principal – February 24 (Zoom/9:00 a.m.)

Join us for the next *Coffee with the Principal*, beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 24. We are excited that the PTO Board will be in attendance and have an opportunity to introduce themselves and speak about their roles. We are hopeful that this event will serve as a chance for parents to become more familiar with our PTO leadership and foster a sense of community among our school families.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81110507970?pwd=QnVWbUsrVDFnZkVTbVVKakRFMklYdz09>

Meeting ID: 811 1050 7970

Passcode: 560514

Spirit Wear Store – Now Open!

Our thanks to the PTO and Miss Morga for organizing a new All Saints Spirit Wear Store through SquadLocker. The store will remain open throughout the year for your convenience. Get the latest All Saints styles including short and long sleeve tees, sweatshirts, hoodies, masks, and

more!

[All Saints Spirit Wear Store](#)

FACTS Tuition Assistance Applications 2021-2022

The online application for tuition assistance through FACTS Grant & Aid for the upcoming school year is now available. For more information about the diocesan tuition assistance program and the application process, please see the links below.

[Diocesan Tuition Assistance Program - English](#)

[Diocesan Tuition Assistance Program - Spanish](#)

Deadline for Elementary Schools is **March 17, 2021**. Your 2020 W-2s and tax returns are required for verification.

Should you have any questions about the application process or tuition assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Nancy Weaver, Administrative Assistant, at 703-393-1490 or nweaver@allsaintsva.org.

Upcoming Events

Friday, February 19

- Used Uniform Pick-Up (Postponed Until Monday, February 22)

Tuesday, February 23

- PTO General Assembly Meeting (Zoom/7:00 p.m.) – Guest Speaker: Mrs. Horgan (Curriculum)

Wednesday, February 24

- Coffee with the Principal – An Introduction to the PTO Leadership (Zoom/9:00 a.m.)

Thursday, February 25

- School Mass – White Cohort/K2/1B (9:30 a.m.)
- Spelling Bee – Grades 4-8 (Zoom/1:30 p.m.)

Monday, March 1

- Lenten Confessions – Blue Cohort/Grades 3-8 (9:30 a.m.)

Tuesday, March 2

- **Early Dismissal (2:00 p.m.)**
- PTO Executive Committee Meeting (Zoom/7:00 p.m.)

Wednesday, March 3

- **No In-Person Instruction – Asynchronous Online Learning for All Students K-8**

Thursday, March 4

- Lenten Confessions – White Cohort/Grades 3-8 (9:30 a.m.)

Thursday, March 11

- Open House (Zoom/9:00 a.m.)
- Enrollment Management Team Meeting (Zoom/7:00 p.m.)

Friday, March 12

- End of Second Trimester

Saturday, March 13

- Diocesan Teacher Job Fair (Zoom/9:00 a.m. – Noon)

Tuesday, March 16

- Spirit Wear Day

Wednesday, March 17

- Deadline: FACTS Tuition Assistance Applications for Elementary Schools

Friday, March 19

- Diocesan Professional Development Day for Teachers
- Used Uniform Pick-Up

Tuesday, March 23

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

Wednesday, March 24

- Lions' Club Screening

Thursday, March 25

- Lions' Club Screening