



All Saints Catholic School

My spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

The Sentinel Newsletter

September 7, 2022

Principal's Message

During the 2021-2022 academic year, All Saints participated in the ***Design for Excellence (DFE)*** re-accreditation process. After our faculty completed a comprehensive self-study project beginning last fall, a team of educators visited our school during the final week of April. Following their three days of classroom visitations and interviews of faculty, staff, and parents, the team offered their recommendation for continued full accreditation for All Saints. As part of this process, the team also affirmed the strengths of our program and provided recommendations for continued future improvement.

As we begin the new school year, we have already started the process of creating a five-year plan that will incorporate the goals that we identified as part of the self-study project as well as specific reaccreditation benchmarks that we wish to strengthen prior to the next DFE visit in 2028.

We are on track to finalize the five-year plan by November 1, the time at which a copy of the document must be submitted to the Office of Catholic Schools of the Diocese of Arlington. As we complete this project, I look forward to sharing with you not only our goals for the next five years, but also our top priorities as part of this continuous improvement process.

In the meantime, a copy of the DFE Visiting Team Report is available for review on our school website. After reading the document, should you have any questions or wish to discuss, please do not hesitate to let me know.

[DFE REPORT](#)

This week I would also like to take an opportunity to provide a few reminders regarding our arrival and dismissal procedures.

Morning Arrival – During morning arrival, parents are asked to refrain from dropping off their children prior to 7:40 a.m., the time at which the staff begin their supervision of students as they enter the school. Any students dropped off prior to 7:40 a.m., with the exception of Safety Patrols on morning duty, must be signed-in at Extended Day in Father Kelley Hall. Additionally, all parents/guardians are asked to participate in the arrival system, remaining in their vehicles unless entering the school to drop-off items.

Afternoon Dismissal – The access gate to the rear parking lot will be opened at 2:35 p.m. each afternoon. Parents arriving prior to this time are asked to form a single line in the driveway adjacent to the Knights of Columbus and along the right side of Stonewall Road approaching the school property. Having only a single line in the driveway will allow for first responders to access the site in the event of an emergency.

During dismissal all parents are asked to display their carpool number in the windshield of their vehicles until they have picked up their children. Having the number clearly visible is helpful to the faculty and staff in identifying carpools as parents approach the loading area.

During both morning arrival and afternoon dismissal, we ask that parents refrain from turning left when entering and exiting the property during times of heavy traffic. This is very important so as not to cause delays on Stonewall Road and at the intersection with Route 28. This will also help to foster positive public relations with our neighbors and community partners.

In advance, thank you for your support of our efforts to ensure a safe and courteous arrival and dismissal process for our students, staff, and parents.

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School Messenger Emergency Notification ~ Results of Test

Last week's test of the *SchoolMessenger* notification system was a success. In the event that you did not receive messages via phone, text, or email, please contact the school office so that we may update your contact information accordingly.

Back to School Night (Grades 1-5) & PTO Meeting (Tomorrow @ 7:00 p.m.)

Back to School Night for parents of students in grades 1-5 will take place beginning at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 8 in the Parish Activities Center. Following an opening presentation that will include highlights of PTO activities for the year, teachers in grades one through five will provide an overview of their programs in their classrooms.

Middle School Back to School Night (September 15 @ 7:00 p.m.)

Back to School Night for parents of students in grades 6-8 will take place on Thursday, September 15 beginning at 7:00 p.m. Parents are asked to report directly to their son or daughter's homeroom classroom for the opening session. Don't miss what will be an exciting overview of our middle school experience!

Eucharistic Symposium

The Eucharistic Symposium will take place on Saturday, October 22, 2022. Click on the link below for further information.

[Eucharistic Symposium](#)

Important Reminders

Parent- Student Handbook (2022-2023 Edition)

The 2022-2023 Parent-Student Handbook can be accessed electronically via our website and may be found at the following link:

[ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK](#)
[PRESCHOOL PARENT HANDBOOK](#)

Please take some time to review the policies and procedures of our school and discuss them with your children. Those families who have not yet signed and returned the acknowledgment form are asked to do so as soon as possible.

New Parent Coffee

All new parents, including those who joined our school during the past two years of the pandemic, are invited to enjoy "Coffee with the Principal" on Tuesday, September 13 beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Activities Center. Following a presentation, there will be time for questions and discussion about our school community and its many programs. Plan to attend and meet other new families who have recently joined our community!

To assist with planning for the New Parent Coffee please make a reservation by clicking the link below. Childcare will be available in the St. John Vianney Room in the PAC during the event.

[New Parent Coffee - Registration Form](#)

Student In-Service ~ Sexual Harassment, Our Policy & Response (Grades 6-8)

In accordance with diocesan policy, students in grades six through eight will participate in a brief classroom presentation within the next three weeks on the topic of the prevention of sexual harassment. Again this year, in consideration of the sensitivity of the topic, the training will be offered in a single-sex environment with Mr. Conroy addressing the boys while Miss Mallon will present to the girls. Each of the grade-level lessons will be approximately fifteen minutes in length and include an overview of the diocesan policy as well as an explanation as to how students should respond if they encounter any behaviors of this nature. Should you have any questions about this policy or presentation, please do not hesitate to contact the principal.

Background Checks – Policies for School Parent Volunteers

As part of the diocesan initiative to maintain a safe environment for all of our children, all volunteers in the school are required to complete a background check prior to working in the school and to complete VIRTUS training within 45 days of submitting the background check application.

In accordance with diocesan policy, full compliance for an adult parent volunteer is not required for *open* events. (An open event is one that is open to the public, infrequent and publicized, such as Field Day, concerts and special events/assemblies.) However, full compliance is required for adult parent volunteers who wish to participate in closed events. (A closed event is one that is not entirely open to the general public such as classroom activities, parties, field trips, etc.) For this reason, all parents who wish to attend field trips or volunteer in support of classroom activities are required to complete the background check process and attend VIRTUS training.

The online application for the diocesan background check can be found at the following link:

[BACKGROUND CHECK INSTRUCTIONS](#)

To register for VIRTUS training which is hosted at parishes and schools throughout our diocese, please follow the link below.

[VIRTUS REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS](#)

St. John Paul the Great Catholic High School

Visit the link below to learn about the some important dates at St. John Paul The Great.

[ST. JOHN PAUL THE GREAT](#)

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, September 7

Faculty Meeting (3:30-5:00 p.m.)

Thursday, September 8

School Mass – Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (8:30 a.m.)

Back-to-School Night for Grades 1-5 & PTO General Membership Meeting (PAC/7:00 p.m.)

Monday, September 12

Standardized Testing (NWEA-MAP) Begins

Confessions – Grade 8 (9:15 a.m.)

SCA Installation Ceremony - Postponed

Tuesday, September 13

New Parent Coffee (PAC Atrium/9:00 a.m.)

First Day of Band Lessons

Wednesday, September 14

Spirit Wear Day

Confessions – Grade 7 (9:15 a.m.)

Enrollment Management Team Meeting (PLC/7:00 p.m.)

Thursday, September 15

Middle School Night (7:00 p.m.)

8th Grade Parent Meeting (8:30 p.m.)

Friday, September 16

School Mass – Memorial of Saints Cornelius & Cyprian (8:30 a.m.)

Monday, September 19

Confessions – Grade 6 (9:15 a.m.)

Title I Classes Begin

Tuesday, September 20

Room Liaisons Meeting (Meeting Room 2/7:00 p.m.)

Wednesday, September 21

School Mass – Feast of St. Matthew (8:30 a.m.)

Confessions – Grade 5 (9:15 a.m.)

Thursday, September 22

PTO Helping Hands (PAC/9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.)

Friday, September 23

Faculty & Staff Retreat Day (No Classes or Extended Day)

Saturday, September 24

Alumni Reunion (10:30 a.m.)

Monday, September 26

Confessions – Grade 4 (9:15 a.m.)

Wednesday, September 28

Confessions – Grade 3 (9:15 a.m.)

Faculty Meeting (3:30 p.m.)

Thursday, September 29

School Mass – Feast of the Archangels (8:30 a.m.)

Gift of Human Sexuality Program – Middle School Parent Meeting (Zoom/7:00 p.m.)

Friday, September 30

Diocesan Professional Development Day (No Classes or Extended Day)

Tuesday, October 4

Band Ice Cream Social (3:00 – 3:30 p.m.)

Parish Blessing of Animals (Courtyard/4:00 p.m.)

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

Thursday, October 6

6th Grade Field Trip – The Edge

Friday, October 7

School Mass – Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary (8:30 a.m.)

Priests' Barbecue (11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.)

Midpoint of Trimester I

Uniform Exchange Sale (9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.)