



# All Saints Catholic School

*My spirit rejoices in God my Savior.*

## The Sentinel Newsletter

November 30, 2022

### Principal's Message

I hope that you and your family enjoyed the Thanksgiving holiday. I am pleased to share with you that our students contributed 2,506 pounds of food through our annual Thanksgiving food drive. I want to thank all of our students for their great generosity and Mrs. Bill and the students of the National Junior Honor Society for leading the effort and organizing all of the food items following the prayer service last Tuesday.

Thanks to the very generous response of families in our community who participated in the Thanksgiving Luncheon, we received \$2,360 to benefit the St. Lucy Project as part of *Catholic Charities "We Care Week."* Thank you for your continued kindness and support of this important ministry that benefits the poor in the Manassas region.

Through the years at All Saints we have established several Advent traditions that help to create a tone of anticipation and waiting as we prepare our hearts to celebrate the coming of our Savior at Christmas. Through prayer and outreach to the local community, our students will once again have an opportunity to enter more fully into this season of hope.

### Advent Wreath Prayer Services

On Monday morning the students assembled in the Parish Activities Center at 8:30 a.m. for a school-wide prayer service highlighting the meaning of the Advent Wreath. During the remaining weeks of Advent, each Monday morning students will gather around three separate wreaths in each of the hallways of the school where they will participate in grade level prayer services.

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Each of the students in grades three through eight will have an opportunity to encounter Christ in this beautiful Sacrament of healing and forgiveness during two Penance Services. The Advent Penance Service for grades 3-5 occurred today with one to follow for grades 6-8 on Monday, December 5.

### **“Christmas Joy” Toy Drive**

Families may choose to donate new unwrapped toys and to bring “Christmas Joy” to a child this Advent season. The NJHS will sponsor a toy drive to benefit the children of the Saint Gabriel Mission between December 5 – December 16. Toys may be dropped off in the breezeway entrance during morning arrival. Members of the NJHS will arrange for delivery to the Saint Gabriel Mission.

### **Christmas Treat Goodie Bags for St. Gabriel Mission**

To coincide with the "Christmas Joy" Toy Drive, middle school students will participate in a service project in their respective Houses to prepare goodie bags filled with special treats to distribute to the children of Saint Gabriel. Additional details regarding this service activity will be sent to middle school parents via a separate email.

This week I am also pleased to announce that Dr. Christopher Gross will be joining our faculty to teach 6 grade religion beginning tomorrow. Dr. Gross earned a Bachelor of Arts in Religion from Hampden-Sydney College, a Master of Theological Studies from Harvard Divinity School, and a Ph.D. in Religious Studies from The Catholic University of America. He currently serves as an Assistant Professor at Divine Mercy University and an Adjunct Professor of Theology at Catholic University. Having previously taught in a Catholic high school and having worked as the Youth and Young Adult Minister at St. Gregory the Great Catholic Church in the Richmond Diocese, Dr. Gross brings experience working with adolescents in faith formation and an exceptionally strong background in the content area. We look forward to Dr. Gross joining our faculty as the newest member of our middle school team.

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### ***A Prayer for Advent – Week 1***

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 for ever and ever.

### ***Virtues in Practice***

Virtue for the Month of December: Generosity

Definition: Giving without counting the cost.

Saints of the Month: St. Nicholas (PreK-2), St. Mary Magdalene (3-5), St. Maximilian Kolbe (6-8)

### ***Open House for 2023-2024 School Year***

All Saints Catholic School will host an Open House for prospective parents on Thursday, January 12 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Activities Center. All parishioners and members of the community interested in learning more about our parish school are cordially invited to attend. For more information, please contact Mrs. Mary Rodriguez, administrative assistant, at (571) 516-3170.

## **Important Reminders**

### **Bishop's Holiday (December 21)**

All Saints Catholic School will be closed for the "Bishop's Holiday" on Wednesday, December 21. There will be no classes or Extended Day services available that day.

### **Employment Opportunities**

*Spanish Teacher for Grades 1 & 2 – Immediate Opening.*

The schedule for the week is as follows: Monday (11:52 a.m. – 12:36 p.m.), Tuesday (2:12 – 2:52 p.m.), and Thursday (1:25 – 2:52 p.m.). This position is a wonderful opportunity for individuals who may be considering a career in education.

*Long-Term Substitute Nurse (Full Time/Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., although the hours are negotiable) – Beginning mid-December*

For more information about these positions or to apply, please contact the principal at [dconroy@allsaintsva.org](mailto:dconroy@allsaintsva.org).

### **Evening with St. Nicholas Prayer Service – Tomorrow (7:00 p.m.)**

Mark your calendars for Thursday, December 1 and plan to join us for an *Evening with Saint Nicholas*. The event will begin with an Advent Prayer Service in the church at 7:00 p.m. The "Procession of Shoes" will be led by Saint Nicholas himself. Then join us in the Parish Activities Center for cookies and cocoa where Saint Nicholas and Mother Seton will be available for photos. (Please bring your own camera).

We ask that you bring a donation of a pair of new shoes in honor of Saint Nicholas. All donations will go to House of Mercy. (Donation guidelines: **NEW plain colors of tennis shoes- white, blue, black, tan, or brown. No character tennis shoes.**)

Should you have any questions about this event, please contact Mrs. Sarah Roccograndi at [sarah.roccograndi@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.roccograndi@gmail.com).

### **Hearts Afire – Collection for Medical Missionaries**

Hearts Afire, a special needs social group, will be collecting items to make hygiene packs for Medical Missionaries, a non-profit, volunteer group of doctors, nurses, dentists, and others who work to improve the health of the poorest of the poor in the U.S. and throughout the world by providing medical care, supplies, clothing, and food to the areas they serve.

The collection will take place November 28 – December 2. Students are invited to drop off items in the donation boxes that will be located in the New Breezeway Entrance.

### HEARTS AFIRE FLYER

Hearts Afire invites students in grades 7 & 8 to attend their meeting on Wednesday, December 7 from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. in the gym to help with kit packing.

For more information, please email: [heartsafiresocialgroup@gmail.com](mailto:heartsafiresocialgroup@gmail.com)

### **New Student Applications & Continuous Enrollment for 2023-2024**

Applications for new students for academic year 2023-2024 are now available online.

**All current families who wish to enroll a *new student* in grades Pre-Kindergarten through eight for the upcoming year may access the application at the link below.**

### 2023-2024 APPLICATION

In January we will provide a copy of the Continuous Enrollment Contract to parents of students completing their first year of enrollment at All Saints. Through completion of this form, parents may continuously enroll their child/ren through 8<sup>th</sup> grade from All Saints or, if necessary, until such time that they complete the withdrawal process. With submission of this contract, there is no need for future completion of an annual re-registration form.

The Continuous Enrollment Fee, formerly known as the Re-Registration Fee, will automatically be billed through FACTS accounts on February 1, 2023. The completion of the contract and payment of the fee will confirm enrollment for your child/ren for the upcoming school year.

## **FACTS Tuition Assistance Applications 2023-2024**

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.

### TUITION ASSISTANCE OVERVIEW

#### **Due Dates:**

**Elementary/Middle School Students**

**March 15, 2023**

*Year of Tax Forms Required*

**2022**

#### **High School Students**

\* Bishop Ireton High School

**January 6, 2023**

\* Bishop Denis J. O'Connell High School

**January 7, 2023**

\* St. Paul VI Catholic High School

**January 6, 2023**

\* Saint John Paul the Great Catholic High School

**January 18, 2023**

*Year of Tax Forms Required if submitted by due date*

**2021**

*Year of Tax Forms Required if submitted AFTER due*

**2022**

*date*

\*Families applying for financial aid for both high school **AND** elementary/middle school students will need to submit BOTH 2021 **AND** 2022 tax forms.

Should you have any questions about the application process or tuition assistance program, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Diana Neri, Office Bookkeeper, at 703-368-4400 or [vneri@allsaintsva.org](mailto:vneri@allsaintsva.org).

### **John Paul the Great-Shadow a Wolf for a Day!**

November 2022 - May 2023

Shadow Days at John Paul have begun for this year! Do you have an 8th-10th grader who is interested in seeing what it is like to be a JP student? Sign them up for a Shadow Day visit! For registration and more details, please visit: [https://jpthegreat.schooladminonline.com/portal/new\\_inquiry](https://jpthegreat.schooladminonline.com/portal/new_inquiry)

### **John Paul the Great Fall Play**

Friday-Sunday, December 2-4, 2022

JP Drama will debut its fall play, The Importance of Being Earnest by Oscar Wilde, on Friday, December

2nd with shows running through Sunday, December 4th! Tickets can be purchased in advance online using this link: <https://jpthegreat.booktix.com/dept/drama>

## **Upcoming Events**

### **Wednesday, November 30**

Advent Penance Service – Grades 3-5 (10:00 a.m.)  
Enrollment Management Team Meeting (PLC/7:00 p.m.)

### **Thursday, December 1**

8<sup>th</sup> Grade High School Placement Test  
Faculty Meeting (3:30 p.m.)  
Evening with St. Nicholas Prayer Service (7:00 p.m.)

### **Friday, December 2**

School Mass (8:30 a.m.)

### **Sunday, December 4**

Second Week of Advent  
Catholic Charities We Care Week

### **Monday, December 5**

Advent Penance Service – Grades 6-8 (10:00 a.m.)

### **Tuesday, December 6**

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

### **Wednesday, December 7**

Trimester I Report Cards sent Home  
PowerSchool Parent Portal Reopens  
Hearts Afire – 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Volunteers (Gym/7:00 p.m.)

### **Thursday, December 8**

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

### **Monday, December 12**

School Mass – Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe (10:00 a.m.)

**Tuesday, December 13**

Seniors' Luncheon (6<sup>th</sup> Grade Servers)

**Wednesday, December 14**

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

**Monday, December 19**

Pre-Kindergarten Christmas Pageant (Church/10:00 a.m.)

Final Day of School for Pre-K prior to Christmas

Christmas Pageant – Grades K-8 (Dress Rehearsal/1:45 p.m. & Performance for Parents/7:00 p.m.)

**Tuesday, December 20**

School Mass (8:30 a.m.)

Classroom Christmas Parties (1:30 p.m.)

**Wednesday, December 21**

Christmas Holiday Begins

**Tuesday, January 3**

School Resumes

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

**Thursday, January 5**

Faculty Meeting (3:30 p.m.)

**Friday, January 6**

School Mass – Memorial of St. André Bessette (8:30 a.m.)