



All Saints Catholic School

Behold I make all things new.

The Sentinel Newsletter

January 31, 2024

Principal's Message

Earlier this week the Parish Finance Council met to review and discuss the school budget for the 2024-2025 academic year. With the unanimous recommendation of the Council, Father Lee has approved a budget that reflects a continued commitment to increasing the level of compensation for our teachers and staff.

For the upcoming school year, tuition for both the Pre-Kindergarten and K-8 programs will increase 3%. This increase will allow us to not only sustain and grow our programs, but also support a salary increase for our faculty and staff who demonstrate great dedication to the mission of our school.

We are thankful for the continued support of our parish which contributes a significant annual investment to help finance the operations of the school, allowing for tuition rates that are lower than the actual cost of educating a child in our program. Additionally, our ability to provide more than \$330,000 in tuition assistance continues to ensure that families in our community are able to give their children the gift of a Catholic education regardless of financial considerations. We are grateful to our parish and diocese as well as the many donors who support this effort through their contributions to the Scholarship Foundation Fund and other programs.

As we celebrate Catholic Schools Week, it is a time during which we recognize the gift of Catholic education, one from which our students benefit so greatly. As they live and share the message of the Gospel over the course of weeks, months, and years, it becomes ever more a part of the fabric of their lives, providing a foundation for all of their future years.

One of the cornerstones of Catholic education is a commitment to excellence in all things. And one of the ways that we strive to maintain such an environment is by regularly seeking your feedback regarding your level of satisfaction with your experience of our school. With this in mind, tomorrow we will forward to parents the annual parent satisfaction survey. The instrument that we use for this process is

the *Net Promoter Survey*, a two question methodology that allows us to measure performance over time while also providing parents an opportunity to offer a detailed narrative response. In advance, we thank you for your participation in this process which helps us ensure that our goals are aligned to the needs of our students and the perceptions of parents in our school community.

On this occasion of Catholic Schools Week, I wish to acknowledge and thank the faculty and staff for all that they do each day to support our mission and to meet the needs of the children entrusted to our care. Just two days ago, Dr. Leslie Lipovski (Assistant Superintendent) visited our school and had the opportunity to interact with teachers and students in our classrooms. She commented that she could not help but notice how welcoming and happy the children were in their learning environment. I thank the faculty and staff for creating such an intentional space, one in which faith, joy, and a high level of care are a lived and shared experience for our students each day.

I also wish to thank our parent community, particularly the PTO, for partnering so closely with us and for supporting our efforts to create such a wonderful environment for our students and families. The success of the Bingo Night on Saturday evening, the largest ever turnout for this event, was yet another example of the great sense of community that surrounds our school. Many thanks to Mrs. Kelly Ballard and her team of volunteers for planning such a terrific event.

Finally, I want to congratulate the students in our 2nd grade class who received their First Reconciliation on Saturday. We are so very proud of them and assure them of our prayers as they continue to prepare for their First Communion in May.

On behalf of our pastor, Father Lee Roos, the clergy, faculty, and staff, thank you for choosing All Saints Catholic School for your family. Happy Catholic Schools Week!

Wishing you and your family continued blessings!

Behold I make all things new.



Virtues in Practice

Virtue for the Month of February: Cheerfulness

Definition: Looking on the bright side

Saints: St. John Bosco (PK-2), St. Philip Neri (Gr. 3-5), Blessed Miguel Pro (Gr. 6-8)

PTO General Assembly Meeting – February 22 (7:00 PM)

Plan to join us for what will be an informative presentation for all parents on the evening of February 22. Representatives from the Manassas City Police Department will be speaking on the topic of *Substance Awareness and Prevention*. They will highlight three specific concerns affecting young people in our region: Fentanyl, vapes, and THC/marijuana. We hope that you will be able to attend and hear this important message that will increase our awareness of these dangers in our society and what we can do to continue to safeguard our children.

Running with the Saints 5K – Important Update

After discussion among the 5K Committee and the PTO Executive Committee, a decision has been made to move the Running with the Saints 5K from the spring to the fall. We are hopeful that this new timeframe will allow for even greater participation since the event won't be occurring during the spring when there are a number of other special activities occurring. We are also optimistic that the timing will allow the PTO to grow the volunteer base as we aim to increase the size of this event in the coming years. We look forward to sharing more details in the near future!

Spelling Bee Results

Congratulations to the following students who participated in the school-wide Spelling Bee last Friday. It was a remarkable competition of 34 rounds that lasted one hour and forty-five minutes. The students are commended for their high level of preparation and very strong memorization skills.

- 1st Place – Annie G.
- 2nd Place – Ghersey A.
- 3rd Place – Simeon B.

The following is the list of additional students who represented their classes in this event.

- Briana F. (4B)
- Aaron Opore (5B)
- Isabella Summers (8B)
- Noah P. (6A)
- Gabe S. (6B)
- Arthur Y. (7A)
- John D. (7B)

Guest Speaker

Yesterday we celebrated our Community as part of our Catholic Schools Week activities. We wish to extend a special thanks to Lt. Toth from Prince William County Fire & Rescue (and also a school parent) for a most informative and engaging presentation to our first and second grade students on fire safety. Our students learned so much through Lt. Toth's interactive presentation. We are so thankful for our community helpers and the support and dedication of our first responders!

Important Reminders

- **From Inclusion to Belonging Conference**

Porto Charities is sponsoring an upcoming conference entitled *From Inclusion to Belonging* on February 17 at St. John Paul the Great High School. During the keynote presentation and breakout sessions, families and individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities will learn practical ways to identify and utilize support systems within the local community to help them overcome mental health struggles. For more information and details regarding registration, please see the link below.

<https://www.portocharities.org/conference>

- **Uniform Reminders**

As we head into the second half of the year, this is a good opportunity to review the uniform guidelines. Please ensure that students are looking their best by having the young men wear belts (K-8) and button their shirts all the way to the top when wearing a tie. We also ask that

their hair be above their ears, collar, and eyebrows. For the young ladies, please make sure that headbands and hair ties match the uniform and, as reminder, bracelets, necklaces, make up, nail polish (other than clear) and fake nails are never permitted.

As a reminder, all students should be in solid, black athletic shoes without any other colors. Lastly, as we look to strengthening our adherence to the policy, please note that P.E. sweatshirts are no longer allowed to be worn with the regular uniform. Rather, all students must be in their sweater for the winter uniform, per the dress code, and are allowed to wear the sweater at other times, if needed, for an additional layer. The All Saints sweatshirt is only to be worn for P.E. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation. If you have any questions or concerns, please refer to the Handbook or your child's homeroom teacher. As always, we thank you for your partnership!

- **Parking Reminder – After School Activities**

Parents picking their children up following after school activities are reminded to park in front of the church and to walk to the courtyard where the students gather for dismissal. As the driveway adjacent to the courtyard and the front of the school is a designated fire lane, parents are asked not to park their vehicles or form a car line in this area.

- **New Student Applications & Continuous Enrollment for 2024-2025**

Applications for new students for academic year 2024-2025 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.

[Application 2024-2025 Link](#)

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 8th 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 March 1, 2024. The completion of the contract and payment of the fee will confirm enrollment for your child/ren for the upcoming school year.

- **Tuition Assistance Program (2024-2025)**

Important information regarding Diocesan Tuition Assistance for the upcoming academic year is now available. For details about the program, please see the flyer found at the link below.

[2024-2025 Tuition Assistance Program](#)

Details about the program can also be found on the diocesan website.

<https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/catholic-schools/tuition-assistance/>

The key financial aid dates for 2024-2025 are as follows:

October 31, 2023	FACTS financial aid application closes for 2023-2024
November 1, 2023	FACTS financial aid application opens for 2024-2025
January 5, 2024	Financial aid application due date for diocesan high schools
March 13, 2024	Financial aid application due date for diocesan K-8 schools

- **Yearbook Art Cover Contest - Deadline: Friday, February 2nd**

The Yearbook Committee is hosting its annual Yearbook Cover Contest. The committee is looking for a front and back cover that represents the spirit of All Saints Catholic School and incorporates our theme – ***Behold I make all things new.***

To submit an entry, please note the following:

- Make sure your entry is on two pieces of plain white paper. The finished size of each page of your design must be no larger than 8 ½ x 11.
- Lightly write your name and your teacher’s name on the BACK of each page.
- Please DO NOT sign your name on the front of these pages.
- **Contest Flyer**

- **Order Your Yearbook**

One of the best ways to commemorate the school year is by purchasing an All Saints Yearbook. Our 2023-2024 school yearbook is now available to order. Personalization is also available for an additional fee of \$5.00.

- Please visit the Lifetouch website to order online: ybpay.com.

- The All Saints school code is 13273524.

- For yearbook questions, please contact Mrs. Janis DeVore (jdevore@allsaintsva.org)

▪ **All Saints Spirit Wear**

Are you still looking for All Saints Spirit Wear? Well look no further. Visit the link below to find the perfect item for you and the entire family from our assorted selections.

Order Your Squadlocker Spirit Wear

Upcoming Events

Thursday, February 1

Catholic Schools Week – Focus on our Students

Cards for Buddies

Special treat for Students, courtesy of the PTO

Extra Recess

No Homework Day

Author Visit (St. Cuthbert)

Gift of Human Sexuality Presentation #3 (Middle School Students)

Faculty Meeting (3:30 p.m.)

Friday, February 2

Catholic Schools Week – Focus on our Faculty & Staff

Classroom Breaks for Teachers, courtesy of the School Administration

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

Noon Dismissal

Catholic Schools Week Faculty & Staff Lunch, courtesy of the PTO

Tuesday, February 6

After School Band Begins

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

Wednesday, February 7

100th Day of School – Special Dress Down Day for K-2

Thursday, February 8

Science Fair

Friday, February 9

School Mass (8:30 a.m.)

Monday, February 12

Valentine's Dress Down Day, sponsored by SCA

Tuesday, February 13

Seniors' Luncheon (Hosted by 8th Grade)

Valentine's Day Parties – Grades K-5 (1:30 – 2:15 p.m.)

Farewell to the Alleluia Prayer Service (2:30 p.m.)

Wednesday, February 14

Ash Wednesday School Mass (10:00 a.m.)

Thursday, February 15

PTO Helping Hands (PAC/8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.)

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

Friday, February 16

Professional Development Day (No School or Extended Day)

Monday, February 19

Holiday – Presidents' Day

Thursday, February 22

Stations of the Cross – Grades K-2 (2:15 p.m.)

PTO General Assembly Meeting & Manassas City Police Presentation (PAC/7:00 p.m.)

Friday, February 23

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

Tuesday, February 27

Band Concert – Tentative (2:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.)

Thursday, February 29

Dress Down Day to Benefit the Band Trip (\$2.00)

Stations of the Cross – Grades 3-5 (2:15 p.m.)