



All Saints Catholic School

Behold I make all things new.

Mission Statement

United and nourished by the Word of God and the Eucharist, our culturally diverse Catholic school inspires learning within a nurturing and dynamic environment of academic excellence and Gospel values.

The Sentinel Newsletter

November 29, 2023

Principal's Message

It was wonderful to witness the generosity of our students last week as they placed their gifts of food on the steps of the church sanctuary during our annual Thanksgiving Prayer Service. I am pleased to share that our students contributed 1,686.5 pounds of food during the event, all of which was donated to the Bethany Food Pantry to benefit families in need in our local community. I want to thank all of our school families for their support of this annual project and the students of the National Junior Honor Society who transported all of the food to the Parish Activities Center and then sorted it with the Food Pantry staff. In addition, the students wrote 120 cards to be shared with those families who would later be visiting the Food Pantry to receive a Thanksgiving dinner.

Thanks to the very generous response of families in our community who participated in the Thanksgiving Luncheon, we received \$1,339.00 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 will assemble in the Parish Activities Center 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. A Penance Service for grades 3-5 occurred today with one to follow for grades 6-8 on Monday, December 4.

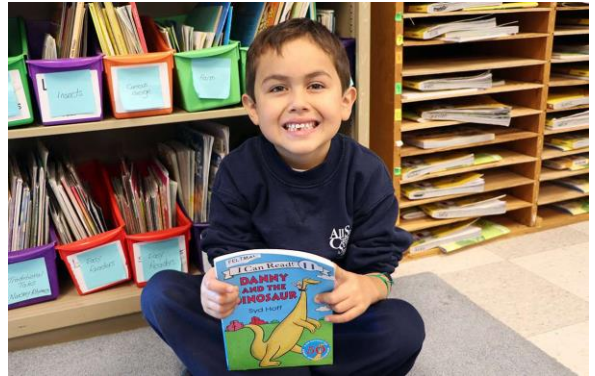
Christmas Joy Toy Drive

Families may choose to donate new unwrapped toys and to bring Christmas Joy to a child this Advent season. The NJHS sponsored toy drive will benefit the children of the Saint Gabriel Mission. Donations will take place between December 4 – December 15. Toys may be dropped off in the breezeway entrance or the front office and will then be delivered to the Saint Gabriel Mission. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

We look forward to celebrating the Season of Advent, a time of hope and expectant joy as we anticipate the Feast of Christmas.

Wishing you and your family continued blessings!

Behold I make all things new.



- **Virtues in Practice**

Virtue for the Month of December: Patience

Definition: Waiting or enduring without complaint

Saints of the Month: St. Monica (PreK-2), St. St Isaac Jogues (3-5), St. Rita of Cascia (6-8)

- **Gift of Human Sexuality Program – Middle School Parent Meeting (December 11 @ 7:00 p.m.)**

Central to the mission of Catholic education is a commitment to the formation of the whole person within the light of the teachings of the Gospel. At All Saints our effort to educate all dimensions of the child ~ spiritual, intellectual, social, and emotional ~ has been an essential and consistent element of our mission.

As a Catholic school, All Saints affirms the role of parents as the primary educators of their children and we are privileged to have the opportunity to work with you as partners in this regard. In recent years we have grown increasingly concerned about the many confusing

messages that society as a whole, and the media in particular, place before the young people of today, particularly in regard to the topic of human sexuality. It is increasingly important that we insure that the children learn the beautiful teachings of the Church on this topic and that they fully realize and understand the gift of human sexuality within this framework. Not to share this information with the children leaves them unprepared for the world they face and the many choices that await them in the years ahead.

For more than ten years, All Saints Catholic School has implemented a middle school curriculum entitled *The Gift of Human Sexuality Program* that supports our goal of educating the whole child. The program is coordinated by the Diocesan Director of Youth Ministry, Mr. Kevin Bohli, and is tailored to the specific needs of each school community. The program consists of a parent presentation during which Mr. Bohli provides an outline of the curriculum as well as resources for parents. Following this presentation, he and an associate, Ms. Carmen Briceno, will meet with the students for three one hour lessons designed to provide them with an understanding of the Church's teachings on the topic of human sexuality.

One of the advantages of this program is the involvement of outside professionals. In addition to bringing a high level of expertise as presenters, Mr. Bohli and Ms. Briceno are unfamiliar to the students, which may put the students at greater ease in asking questions and discussing this topic. A second advantage of this program is that it is designed to take place in a single-sex setting; Mr. Bohli will address the boys and Ms. Briceno will speak with the girls. Finally, in accordance with diocesan policy, this program is designed as an *opt-in* opportunity for parents and students. Accommodations will be made for those children whose parents prefer that they not participate in the program.

All middle school parents are invited to a presentation to be held via Zoom on Monday, December 11 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

As this is such a very important topic related to the development of your child, at least one parent from each family new to the middle school is asked to attend the online meeting.

- **Employment Opportunity – Extended Day Assistant**

All Saints Catholic School is seeking applicants for the position of Extended Day Assistant with employment beginning mid-January and extending through mid-March. The hours are approximately 2:30 – 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information or to apply, please contact the principal at dconroy@allsaintsva.org.

- **“Christmas Joy” Toy Drive**

Families may choose to donate new unwrapped toys and to bring Christmas joy to a child this Advent season. This NJHS sponsored toy drive will benefit the children of the Saint Gabriel Mission. Donations will take place December 4 – December 15. Toys may be dropped off in the breezeway entrance or the front office and will then be delivered to the Saint Gabriel Mission. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

- **Boys Wrestling Clinics for Elementary and Middle School Students at Saint John Paul the Great!**

JP's Boys Wrestling Head Coach Jacob Kingett invites your students to participate in and spread the word about our Boys Wrestling Clinics now through February 1st! For more information about clinic dates and registration, please see the clinic flyer below for more details!

[Wrestling Flyer](#)

[Click here to register today!](#)

For any questions, please email Coach Kingett at jacob.kingett@jpthegreat.org.

Important Reminders

- **Zoom Authorization Form**

Over the course of the past several years, our school community has successfully demonstrated the capacity to pivot when necessary in order to provide instruction in new and innovative ways for our students, specifically through online learning. It is important that we maintain a process as well as procedures that will allow us to transition to online learning if necessary, such as in the event of multi-day closures due to inclement weather.

Recently we sent a digital copy of the *Zoom Authorization Form* to parents of all students. With this form on file, we will be ready to provide instruction via Zoom should this ever become necessary during the school year. If you have not yet returned your signed form, please do so as soon as possible.

- **VIRTUS Training Session - December 16**

The diocese will host an in-person VIRTUS training session in English at All Saints on Saturday, December 16. The session will begin at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Activities Center. For more information about the program and to register to attend, please see the link below.

https://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/reg_list2.cfm?theOrgID=18408

- **Evening with St. Nicholas Prayer Service - December 5 (7:00 p.m.)**

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, December 5 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.

- **Open House (Tomorrow @ 9:00 a.m.)**

All Saints will host an Open House for prospective parents on Thursday, November 30 beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Activities Center. All parishioners and members of the community interested in learning more about our school are cordially invited to attend. Please share our story with friends, neighbors, and colleagues and encourage them to join us for this in-person event. For more information, please contact Mrs. Mary Rodriguez, Administrative Assistant, at (703) 368-4400.

- **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

- **All Saints Spirit Wear**

All Saints Spirit Wear is now available! Through November 15th, you can take advantage of a special discount on all purchases. There is no better day than today, All Saints Day, to begin your purchase. You can grab your new spirit wear apparel from All Saints' SquadLocker using the discount code: ALLSAINTSSPIRIT15.

Order Your Squadlocker Spirit Wear

- **Harris Teeter Together in Education Program**

Did you know All Saints participates in Harris Teeter's Together in Education program? Simply register your Harris Teeter store loyalty card (VIC card) online, and our school will receive a donation from Harris Teeter based on a percentage of your purchases of Harris Teeter brand items. There is no extra cost to you.

Click [here](#) to link your VIC card (or use the Harris Teeter app). Our school code is 6623. If you have any questions or need assistance linking your card, please contact our program coordinator, Laura Burroughs, at Laura.Burroughs@gmail.com.

- **Science Fair**

We are excited to announce that the All Saints Catholic School Science Fair will be held on Thursday, February 8th, 2024 for the 7th grade students! We are looking for judges and would like to invite anyone who is interested in being involved. On behalf of Mrs. Starrs, we greatly appreciate any and all help! If you are interested, please fill out the form at this [link](#). For any questions, please feel free to reach out to Ms. Tran (mtran@allsaintsva.org).

Upcoming Events

Thursday, November 30

8th Grade High School Placement Test
Open House for Prospective Parents (9:00 a.m.)
Enrollment Management Team Meeting (7:00 p.m.)

Friday, December 1

School Mass (8:30 a.m.)
Picture Day Make-Ups

Monday, December 4

Advent Prayer Service – Grades PK-8 (8:30 a.m.)
Advent Penance Service – Grades 6-8 (10:00 a.m.)

Tuesday, December 5

Seniors Luncheon (Hosted by Grade 5)
Trimester I Report Cards sent Home
PowerSchool Parent Portal Reopens
Evening with St. Nicholas Prayer Service (7:00 p.m.)

Wednesday, December 6

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

Thursday, December 7

Faculty Meeting (3:30 – 5:00 p.m.)

Friday, December 8

School Mass – Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (8:30 a.m.)

Monday, December 11

Advent Wreath Prayer Services (8:15 a.m.)

Gift of Human Sexuality Presentation for Middle School Parents (Zoom/7:00 p.m.)

Tuesday, December 12

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

Wednesday, December 13

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

Saturday, December 16

VIRTUS Training Session (PAC/9:00 a.m.)

Monday, December 18

Pre-Kindergarten Christmas Pageant & Reception (10:00 a.m.)

Final Day of Pre-Kindergarten Prior to Christmas

Christmas Pageant (7:00 p.m.)

Thursday, December 21

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

Santa Hat Day, Sponsored by the SCA

Classroom Christmas Parties (10:30 a.m.)

Noon Dismissal

Friday, December 22

Christmas Holiday Begins

Wednesday, January 3

Classes Resume

Thursday, January 4

Faculty Meeting (3:30 p.m.)

Friday, January 5

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

FACTS Tuition Assistance Application Deadline for High Schools

High School Application Deadline