



All Saints Catholic School

Filled with God's joy and peace, abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Sentinel Newsletter

September 4, 2024

Principal's Message

The opening weeks of the school year have gone very well with students quickly learning and implementing classroom procedures. I am very proud of them for the way that they have adapted to the new year and for how closely they continue to follow the directions and guidance provided by the teachers. From the quiet, orderly lines in the hallway to the success of our first emergency drills, the students are doing an outstanding job during these early days of the year. I wish to thank the teachers for all that they continue to do to build caring relationships in their classrooms and for challenging and encouraging their students to be their best each day.

Thank you, again, to all parents for their support and participation in our arrival and dismissal process. The revision that we implemented related to the parking plan for parents in the PAC side of the front parking lot continues to be successful and we will now make this a permanent feature of our plan. In the days ahead, look for a special email with additional reminders for all parents that will help us to maintain an arrival and dismissal process that is safe, courteous, and efficient for our school community.

Next week students in grades 3-7 will begin their first round of standardized testing through NWEA-MAP, an assessment that our school will complete by Friday, September 27. As an adaptive online assessment, the MAP test pinpoints each student's learning level in reading, language arts, and math. As students prepare for the second and third rounds of testing over the course of the year, the teachers will be able to closely track their progress and plan instruction based upon the needs of each classroom of learners.

The teachers will post the dates and times of their classroom testing sessions. In support of your child/ren's success on assigned days of MAP testing, please ensure that they report to school on time. Additionally, they will be better able to perform to the best of their ability if they are well rested and have enjoyed a healthy and nutritious breakfast.

Tomorrow we will celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the Diocese of Arlington. I have the great privilege of attending the Mass that will take place at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More and will pray for our school community in a particular way at the event. The liturgy, as well as a documentary history of our diocese and tour of the newly renovated cathedral, will be livestreamed beginning at 12:30 p.m. For more details regarding each of the events as well as the viewing schedule, please see the link below.

Diocese of Arlington - Golden Jubilee Events

As this will be a historic moment for our diocese, our teachers and students will be pausing from their regular routine to view the online events. We hope that many of you will be able to do so as well and join us in prayer as we thank God for the many blessings in the Diocese of Arlington over the course of the past fifty years.

Wishing you continued blessings in this new school year!

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SchoolMessenger 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 assist you.

Middle School Back to School Night (September 12 @ 7:00 p.m.)

Back to School Night for parents of students in grades 6-8 will take place on Thursday, September 12 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Activities Center. Don't miss what will be an exciting overview of our middle school experience!

Spirit Wear Day (Red, White, & Blue) – September 11

As a sign of our patriotism and in recognition of the many families in our country who experienced loss on September 11, 2001, all students are encouraged to dress in red, white, and blue next Wednesday.

There will be a special opening prayer at the start of the day during which we will pray for those families impacted on that historic day and for peace in our world.

2024-2025 BOYS & GIRLS BASKETBALL

CYO registration is open for 2024-2025 Boys and Girls Basketball! Registration will be open from September 15 through October 15.

- Boys and Girls from both the Parish and the School in 3rd-8th Grade are eligible to participate.
- Practices are one weeknight a week in the All Saints Gym and start November 4.
- Games are on Saturdays and Sundays throughout the Diocese.
- There will be 2-3 preseason games in December.
- Regular season games take place in January and February 2025.
- Cost is \$75 per player.
- There will be a preseason skills clinic for boys on Sunday, October 20, afternoon times to be announced.
- There will be a preseason skills clinic for girls on Sunday, October 27, afternoon times to be announced.
- We are still seeking head and assistant coaches for some grades, especially for 3rd grade. Please email Laurie Short, Assistant Basketball Commissioner, at glshort1@comcast.net, if you are

interested in coaching. You must be certified for Diocesan child protection (including VIRTUS™) before working with participants. If you are not, we can help you get the process started.

The mission of the Arlington Diocesan Junior Catholic Youth Organization (JCYO) is to organize sports programs through its member parishes for youth to reinforce Catholic values taught in parish schools and religious education programs. In addition to encouraging healthy physical activity, JCYO sports are designed to foster cooperation, respect, sportsmanship, responsibility, leadership, competitiveness, fairness, and courtesy.

If you have a general question, you can email jcyosports@allsaintsva.org or to connect directly with Chi Young, CYO Sports Director and Basketball Commissioner, you can email sportsdirector.cyo@allsaintsva.org. No child will be denied participation due to financial need. Please email sportsdirector.cyo@allsaintsva.org if you would like to discuss options for financial aid.

CYO Sports Registration Link: <https://reg.sportspilot.com/106526/leagues>

Registration will be open from September 15 through October 15.

Important Reminders

- **Parent- Student Handbook (2024-2025 Edition)**

The 2024-2025 Parent-Student Handbook can be accessed electronically via our website and may be found at the following link:

[Elementary School Parent/Student Handbook](#)
[Pre-K Parent Handbook](#)

Please take some time to review the policies and procedures of our school and discuss them with your children. Each family is asked to sign and return the acknowledgment form as soon as possible.

- **New Parent Coffee (September 24)**

All new parents, including those who joined our school last year, are invited to attend “Coffee with the Principal” on Tuesday, September 24 beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Activities Center (PAC). Following a presentation, there will be time for questions and discussion about our school and its many programs. Plan to attend and meet other new families who have recently joined our community!

- **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 week 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 after their application has been approved.

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:
<https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/child-protection/background-checks/>

VIRTUS trainings are held throughout the year at parishes and schools throughout the diocese and are free of charge to all participants. An email is generated to register for the training once an individual has completed the online criminal background check application and it has been approved by Mrs. Cristina Jimenez, our parish and school's liaison. Individuals are required by Diocesan policy to complete this adult safe environment training within 45 days after their application has been approved.

Should you have any questions about the process, please contact Mrs. Jimenez for more information at virtus@allsaintsva.org.

- **Volunteer as a Room Liaison**

Classroom liaisons assist their child's classroom teacher by helping organize and communicate special classroom events and coordinating volunteers. If you are interested in potentially serving in this capacity, please complete the Room Liaison Interest Form by September 6, 2024.

[Room Liaison Interest Form](#)

- **Lunch Menu**

[Cafeteria Menu - September](#)

- **Trail Life USA / American Heritage Girls**

Looking for a Christ Centered, Family Oriented Scouting Troop for your son and/or daughter? All Saints has a Trail Life USA and American Heritage Girls Troop for boys and girls ages 5-18 years old. Both scouting organizations not only focus on outdoor adventures, but also character development, building courageous young men and women to honor God, leadership with integrity, and service to others.

If interested, please join us at our **Open House Event** on **Wednesday, September 25** from **6:30-8:00 PM** at the Knights of Columbus Hall behind All Saints Catholic School. For more information, please contact our Trail Life Troop 1188 at TL@allsaintsva.org and American Heritage Girls Troop 1188 at AHG@allsaintsva.org.

- **All Saints Band Program, 2024**

Message from Mr. Barry Ward, Band Director

Hello, my name is Barry Ward, and I am the band director at your school. Band at All Saints starts in 4th grade and goes through the 8th grade. The beginner band is mostly made up of first year students with no experience, whereas the award-winning advanced band takes students mostly from 5th - 8th grade that have played at least 1 year.

Playing an instrument certainly can add a lot to a student's day, and certainly an interesting elective throughout a school career. The All Saints Band Program has a long rich history of teaching students to play and perform. All lessons are at school and during school hours and where students are placed in like-instrument group lesson each Tuesday. A band for beginners and advanced is formed by the end of the year for performances at school or other venues. A band [registration meeting](#) for everyone from 4th - 8th grade will take place on **Tuesday, September 10th, at 6:45 P.M. in the music room.**

Thank you for reading this important information and thank you for considering the All Saints Band, and I hope to see and meet you and your student this coming year.

Sincerely,

Barry Ward, Band Director

All Saints Band Dates and Concerts, 2024 - 2025

Start of Band

Tuesday, September 3rd - **Demonstrations** for 4th and 5th Grades

Tuesday, September 10th - **Band Parent Registration Meeting** at 6:45 P.M.

Tuesday, September 17th - **First Day** of Band Lessons

Concerts and other

Tuesday, December 17th - **Virtual Solo Concert**, - 4:30 P.M. - 7:00 P.M. (home)(possible)

Tuesday, February 25th - Band Concert at 2:00 P.M. and 7:00 P.M.

Friday, May 9th - Band Trip / Performance (Hershey, Busch or Kings D.

Tuesday, May 13th - Final Band Concert at 2:00 and 7:00 P.M.

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, September 4

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

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

Thursday, September 5

Diocesan Golden Jubilee Events (Livestreamed beginning at 12:30 p.m.)

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

Friday, September 6

School Mass (8:30 a.m.)

Monday, September 9

Standardized Testing (NWEA MAP) Begins

Confessions – Grade 8 (9:15 a.m.)

Tuesday, September 10

Band Parent Meeting & Registration (Music Room/6:45 p.m.)

Wednesday, September 11

Spirit Wear Day (Red, White, & Blue)

Confessions – Grade 7 (9:15 a.m.)

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

Thursday, September 12

Lockdown Drill

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

Friday, September 13

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

Monday, September 16

Confessions – Grade 6 (9:15 a.m.)

Tuesday, September 17

Band Lessons Begin

Wednesday, September 18

Confessions – Grade 5 (9:15 a.m.)

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

Thursday, September 19

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

8th Grade Parent Meeting (PAC/7:00 p.m.)

Friday, September 20

School Mass – Memorial of Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gon and Paul Chong Ha-sang and Companions (8:30 a.m.)

Monday, September 23

Confessions – Grade 4 (9:15 a.m.)

Tuesday, September 24

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

Wednesday, September 25

Confessions – Grade 3 (9:15 a.m.)

Thursday, September 26

SCA Installation Ceremony for Newly Elected Officers and Representatives (1:30 p.m.)

Friday, September 27

School Mass – Memorial of St. Vincent de Paul (8:30 a.m.)

6th Grade Field Trip – The Edge (Team-Building Exercise)

Monday, September 30

Diocesan Professional Development Day (No School or Extended Day Program)

Wednesday, October 2

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

Thursday, October 3

St. Paul VI Catholic High School – 8th Grade Visit & Presentation (12:30 p.m.)

Faculty Meeting (3:30 p.m.)

Friday, October 4

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

Uniform Exchange Sale (PAC Atrium/8:00 – 10:00 a.m.)

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

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