



All Saints Catholic School

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

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

December 11, 2024

Principal's Message:

Last Thursday, families gathered in the church for the Evening with St. Nicholas Prayer Service, a beloved annual tradition for our school community. It was a joyful occasion during which the children learned more about the life of St. Nicholas and the call to live lives of generosity, sharing our gifts and treasure with those in need.

During the prayer service, the students placed eighty-eight pairs of new shoes on the steps of the sanctuary. All of the shoes collected at the event have been donated to House of Mercy, a local non-profit dedicated to "making God's love visible to those in need." We are proud to have partnered with House of Mercy through this event for more than ten years and look forward to continuing to support their ministry in the future. Thank you to all those who attended the prayer service and who, through their generosity, helped to brighten the lives of those less fortunate in our community.

An Evening with St. Nicholas would not have been possible without the efforts of Mrs. Christy Breckley, event coordinator. I wish to thank her as well as members of the PTO for all that they did to once again organize this beautiful event for our community and to host such a wonderful reception following the prayer service. I also want to thank the members of the Schola who led the music under the direction of Mrs. Scott and the members of our Student Council Association who served as greeters and lectors.

Tomorrow we will celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe beginning with a Mass at 10:00 a.m. in the church. Immediately following the liturgy, the students will gather around the Statue of Mary in the courtyard where they will enjoy a musical presentation by the parish Guadalupe Choir followed by the distribution of traditional Mexican bread in the Parish Activities Center.

We look forward to this joyful celebration of Our Lady and hope that many of you will be able to join us for this occasion.

And speaking of joyful celebrations, this week we congratulate Ms. Polansky, 4th grade teacher, on the occasion of her wedding that will be taking place on Saturday. Let us pray that she and her soon-to-be husband may be abundantly blessed on their special day and in the years to come!

Wishing you and your family blessings during this Advent Season!

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



A Prayer for the Second Week of Advent

God of power and mercy, open our hearts in welcome. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy, so that we may share his wisdom and become one with him when he comes in glory, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Amen.

Open House (2025-2026 School Year)

All Saints Catholic School will host an Open House for prospective parents on Thursday, January 9 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.

Message from the National Junior Honor Society

Dear All Saints Community and Parents,

We are grateful for your generous contributions to the National Junior Honor Society's food drive. Thanks to your kindness, we were able to donate 2,258 pounds of food to the Bethany Food Pantry, benefiting over 100 families and helping to make their Thanksgiving meals special.

Your continued support means so much to us, and the NJHS looks forward to further serving our school and parish community.

Blessings this Advent season,
National Junior Honor Society Students and Faculty

Lunch Menu

Cafeteria Menu- January

Important Reminders

- **All Saints Christmas Pageant**

Students in grades **K, 1, 4, 5, and 6** will be participating in the annual Christmas Pageant, *The Living Crèche*. The Pageant is one of All Saints School's great traditions that brings together the music program as well as our theatre arts program. It is a beautiful opportunity to share the message of the Incarnation through story, song, and celebration.

- Date: **Thursday, December 19th, 2024**
- Time: **7pm** (**6th graders** report to *the PAC atrium* at **6:25pm**; **all other grades** report to the *narthex of the Church* at **6:45pm.**)
 - Parents/ family members who are unable to attend the evening performance are more than welcome to attend the afternoon performance at 1:45pm in the Church.
- Place: **All Saints Catholic Church**
- Attire: Festive, "**Sunday best**" attire (except for costumed 6th graders). See the dress code below.

Dress code:

Girls: dresses, skirts, or nice dress pants (no bare shoulders or sleeveless dresses; the length may not be shorter than two inches above the knee), blouses or sweaters that are not form-fitting, with a neckline that is an appropriate length (i.e. just below the collar bone); Jeans, jeggings, leggings, or tights used as pants are not permitted. Sweaters should not have words or characters pictured on the front.

Boys: shirts and/ or sweaters (no sleeveless; sweaters should not have words or characters pictured on the front) and dress pants that are appropriate for church (i.e. navy blue, black, gray colored) and appropriate socks (dress socks).

- **Knights of Columbus – Poster Contest**

Students in Grades K-8 are invited to participate in the *Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest* sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. Entries may be forwarded to the school office. For more information, please see the links below.

[Poster Contest Details](#)

- **Substitute Teacher Opportunities**

All Saints is seeking additional substitute teachers for grades PK-8. For more information about this employment opportunity or to request an application, please contact the school office at 703-368-4400 or schooloffice@allsaintsva.org.

- **Pre-Kindergarten Program – Required Lead Testing**

In accordance with new requirements established by the State of Virginia and the policies and procedures for the Diocese of Arlington, All Saints recently tested the potable water sources in the Pre-Kindergarten Program. The lead analysis report provided by the testing lab indicates that lead was not detected.

Should you have any questions regarding this requirement or the results of the testing, please do not hesitate to contact the principal.

- **Online Technology Consent Form (Zoom Authorization)**

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 *Online Technology Consent Form (Zoom Authorization)* 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.

- **New Student Applications & Continuous Enrollment (2025-2026)**

Applications for new students for academic year 2025-2026 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.

2025-2026 Application Link for New Students

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 at 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 will automatically be billed through FACTS accounts on March 3, 2025. The completion of the contract, for first year families, and payment of the fee will confirm enrollment for your child/ren for the upcoming school year.

- **Tuition Assistance Program (2025-2026)**

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

[2025-2026 Diocesan Tuition Assistance Program Information](#)

Information 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 2025-2026 are as follows:

October 31, 2024	FACTS financial aid application closes for 2024-2025
November 1, 2024	FACTS financial aid application opens for 2025-2026
January 10, 2025	Financial aid application due date for diocesan high school students
March 12, 2025	Financial aid application due date for diocesan K-8 school students

- **Science Fair – Seeking Judges**

On behalf of Mrs. Starrs, our Middle School Science teacher, we invite you to volunteer as a judge for the 2025 Science Fair. This is a wonderful way to support our students in their scientific exploration.

Event Details:

- Date: Tuesday, January 28, 2025
- Time: 8:00 AM – 1:30 PM
- Location: All Saints Parish Activity Center (PAC)
- Judge Arrival: 8:00 AM (for breakfast and orientation)
- Judging Begins: 9:00 AM
- Lunch Break: Midday

- Final Judging Ends: 1:30 PM
- Awards Ceremony: 2:00 PM (optional, but you are welcome to attend)

Students will present their projects on laptop computers (no backboards) and judging will take place on iPads (or via paper forms). To maintain fairness, we ask that judges not have a middle school student participating in the fair.

We greatly appreciate your time and talent in helping us ensure a thorough and fair evaluation of the students' projects. By volunteering for the entire day, you'll be able to provide all projects with the attention they deserve. Every effort will be made to assign you to evaluate projects aligned with your field(s) of expertise.

To sign up as a judge, please complete this [volunteer form](#).

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Mrs. Jessica Kreitzer at kreitzers@me.com. Thank you so much for your support of our students and the All Saints Science Fair!

- **Lunch Menu**

[Cafeteria Menu - December](#)

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, December 11

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

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

Thursday, December 12

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

Friday, December 13

Advent Retreat for Students

Picture Make-Ups

Sunday, December 15

Third Sunday of Advent

Tuesday, December 17

Virtual Solo Band Concert (4:30-7:00 p.m.)

Thursday, December 19

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

Final Day of Pre-Kindergarten prior to Christmas

Christmas Pageant (1:45 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.)

Friday, December 20

SCA Sponsored Santa Hat Day

School Mass (8:30 a.m.)

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

Sunday, December 22

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Monday, December 23

Christmas Holiday Begins

Monday, January 6

School Resumes

NWEA Map Testing (Through January 24)

Tuesday, January 7

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

Thursday, January 9

Faculty Meeting (3:30 p.m.)

Open House (PAC Atrium/7:00 p.m.)

Friday, January 10

School Mass (8:30 a.m.)

FACTS Tuition Aid Deadline (2025-2026) – High Schools

Tuesday, January 14

Seniors' Luncheon (Hosted by 4th Grade)

Thursday, January 16

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

Friday, January 17

School Mass (8:30 a.m.)