



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 18, 2024

Principal's Message:

Last Friday, our students participated in our first-ever full day Advent Retreat. With opportunities for prayer, reflection, and engaging activities throughout the day, it was a wonderful "pause" for our students amidst a very busy time. The retreat also served as a poignant reminder and witness of our core mission, i.e. the faith formation of our students.

There were many wonderful moments throughout the day, but one that stands out in my mind and that I will long remember was hearing some of our middle school students exiting the building to begin the "Walking Rosary." As I sat working at my desk, I heard the voices of students reciting the Apostles' Creed as they walked past the office and began to gather in the courtyard. It was literally a passing moment that symbolized the very essence of our Catholic school and one that made me incredibly proud of our teachers, staff, and students. In the words of one of our teachers, "The walking rosary was next level for our 8th graders. Next level! The kids were engaged and reverent and really got to see that they can make a connection with God through prayer. It was so beautiful!"

I wish to thank Ms. Mallon and the teachers who served on the retreat planning committee. Through their efforts and thoughtful attention to the details, our students deepened their faith while growing in community with one another.

This week, I also want to provide a staffing update. Mrs. Maile Schunk has resigned from her position in Extended Day, effective January 17, in order to pursue another opportunity. We thank her for her time in the program and wish her every continued success and blessings.

With the Christmas holiday nearly upon us, know of my great gratitude for the fact that you and your children are part of our school community. On behalf of our pastor, Msgr. Lee Roos, the clergy, faculty, and staff of All Saints Catholic School, I wish all of you a blessed Christmas Season. May the holiday be filled with joy and wonder as you celebrate the birth of our Savior!

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abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.*



A Prayer for the Third Week of Advent

Lord God, may we, your people, who look forward to the birthday of Christ, experience the joy of salvation and celebrate that feast with love and thanksgiving. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Employment Opportunity – Extended Day Assistant (Part-Time)

All Saints is seeking applicants for a part-time position in Extended Day beginning mid-January. The hours are approximately 2:00-4:30 p.m. each day with an earlier start time on half days. In addition to working in a vibrant, faith-filled environment, employees with children enrolled in the school are eligible for a tuition discount. For more information, please contact the principal at dconroy@allsaintsva.org.

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

- **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.

- **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.

- **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 now available. For details about the program, please see the flyer found at the link below.

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

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

- **New Spiritwear Vendor**

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.

All Saints Spiritwear - Order Now!

- **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- January](#)

Upcoming Events

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.)

Monday, January 20

Holiday (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)

Thursday, January 23

Picture Day – Teams, Clubs, & Candida

Friday, January 24

School Mass (8:30 a.m.)

Noon Dismissal (Professional Development Day)

Saturday, January 25

PTO Bingo Night (PAC/5:00-9:00 p.m.)