



# All Saints Catholic School

*Shining our light, building a community of saints.*

## 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

September 3, 2025

### Principal's Message:

The new school year is off to a wonderful start, with students quickly learning procedures and striving to do their best each day. I am very proud of them for the way that they have quickly settled into the routine and for so closely following the guidance and direction of their teachers. Just by way of example, their participation in the first emergency drills of this year was simply outstanding.

I want to thank the teachers and staff for all that they are doing to create caring relationships in their classrooms and for modeling a commitment to excellence for their students. Although we haven't yet reached "cruising altitude" for this year, the take-off has been wonderful and I look forward to the great things that our students and teachers will accomplish in the months ahead.

An aspect of the start of the school year is the opportunity to clarify and give particular emphasis to policies and procedures that help us maintain a safe, predictable, and orderly environment for our students. Here are a couple of reminders as we continue to establish routines for the year.

#### *1.) Uniform Clarification*

In accordance with the *Parent-Student Handbook*, girls with pierced ears may wear one pair of stud earrings in their earlobe only. No dangling earrings or hoops, even small, are permitted. Necklaces, bracelets, and rings of any kind are not permitted as these can present a safety concern during recess and PE.

Effective this academic year, we wish to clarify that students may wear religious medals, necklaces, and scapulars, provided they are worn under the uniform. This will ensure student safety during P.E. and recess and also help us to maintain a uniform appearance among our students. We recognize that allowing students to wear religious medals is important for many of our families and we are pleased to offer this clarification which will be reflected in the 2026-2027 edition of our handbook.

## *2.) Dismissal Reminder – Signing out a Student at the Office*

In accordance with the handbook, parents who need to sign-out their child prior to the close of the school day are asked to do so by 2:45 p.m., the time at which office personnel begin to prepare for the dismissal of school.

Parents are discouraged from signing-out their children after 2:45 p.m. except in the event of an emergency. While we understand that occasional appointments and/or emergencies may arise, regular signing out of a child, especially close to dismissal, creates disruptions to our school environment. If you have a special circumstance that requires consideration, please contact the administration in advance so that we can work together to find an appropriate solution.

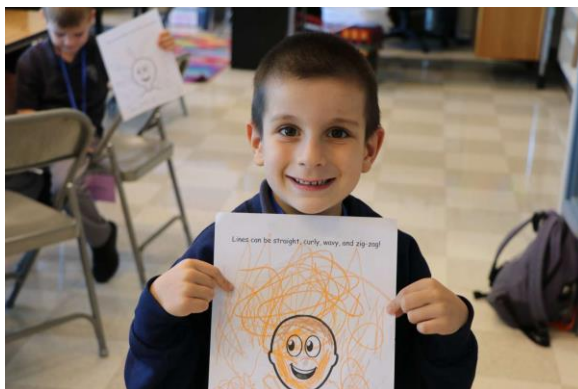
## *NWEA MAP Testing Reminder*

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 26. As an adaptive online assessment, the MAP test pinpoints each student's instructional 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.

We look forward to completing this first round of testing with our students and setting instructional goals for the year ahead. Should you have any questions about MAP testing, please do not hesitate to let us know.

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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 Mrs. Rodriguez ([mrodriguez@allsaintsva.org](mailto:mrodriguez@allsaintsva.org)) so that we may assist you.

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### **Middle School Back to School Night (September 11 @ 7:00 p.m.)**

Back to School Night for parents of students in grades 6-8 will take place on Thursday, September 11 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!

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### **Lunch Menu**

[Cafeteria Menu - September](#)

## Important Reminders

- **Parent- Student Handbook (2025-2026 Edition)**

The 2025-2026 Parent-Student Handbook can be accessed electronically via our website and may be found at the following link:

[Handbook 2025-2026](#)

[Acknowledgment Form](#)

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.

- **Virtues in Practice – Year I**

Each month of the school year, our students learn about a particular virtue and are encouraged to incorporate it in their lives. Using the example of saints who serve as exemplars of each virtue, the teachers integrate the monthly theme in the life of their classrooms.

Again this year, All Saints will use the *Virtues in Practice* program developed by the Nashville Dominicans. To learn more about the program and to access the Parent Guide, please follow the link below.

[Virtues in Practice](#)

During the 2025-2026 school year, All Saints will complete the Year of Faith (Theme: Service).

Virtue for the Month of September: Faith

Definition: Believing in God and all He has revealed

Saints of the Month: St. Martha (PK-2), St. Jerome (Grades 3-5), St. Augustine (Grades 6-8)

- **New Parent Coffee (September 9)**

All new parents, including those who joined our school last year, are invited to attend “Coffee with the Principal” on Tuesday, September 9 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!

[Registration Link](#)

- **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 three weeks 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 Ms. 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. Diana Neri, our parish and school 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. Neri for more information at [virtus@allsaintsva.org](mailto:virtus@allsaintsva.org).

- **Running with the Saints 5K- Saturday October 25th**

Come join us as All Saints Catholic School hosts its annual Running with the Saints 5K on Saturday, October 25. The Running with the Saints 5K features a family-friendly atmosphere, Blue Ridge timing for running enthusiasts, musical entertainment, and great prizes! Our race takes place in the neighborhoods adjacent to the All Saints campus. All levels of walkers and runners are welcome and encouraged to take part.

If you are ready to break out your walking shoes or practice for your next marathon, come join us on October 25th. Proceeds from this event benefit All Saints Catholic School.

<https://runsignup.com/Race/VA/Manassas/RunningWithTheSaints5k>



- **St. Paul VI Catholic School - Golf Open**

You are cordially invited to St. Paul VI Catholic High School's 2nd Annual PVI Open on Monday, September 29, 2025.

**2nd Annual PVI Open – Sponsorships & Golfer Spots Still Available!**

Join us for a day of golf, fellowship, and Panther pride in support of St. Paul VI Catholic High School.

**Event Highlights:**

Golf Tournament – Gather your foursome and hit the greens!

Sponsorship Opportunities – Showcase your business, organization, or family while helping our students and programs thrive.

50/50 Raffle – No need to be present to win!

Awards Dinner & Prizes – Celebrate with us after the tournament.

Date: Monday, September 29, 2025, at 8 a.m.

Location: Dominion Valley Country Club / Register or Sponsor: PVI Open Registration & Sponsorships at <http://bit.ly/3Jw4Ofv>



## **Upcoming Events**

### **Wednesday, September 3**

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

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

### **Thursday, September 4**

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

### **Friday, September 5**

School Mass (8:30 a.m.)

Middle School House Shirts Day

### **Monday, September 8**

Standardized Testing (NWEA MAP) Begins for Grades 3-7

Confessions – Grade 8 (9:15 a.m.)

### **Tuesday, September 9**

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

Band Demonstration Day – Grades 4-5

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

### **Wednesday, September 10**

Spirit Wear Day

Confessions – Grade 7 (9:15 a.m.)

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

### **Thursday, September 11**

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

**Friday, September 12**

School Mass – Most Holy Name of Mary (8:30 a.m.)  
Lockdown Drill

**Monday, September 15**

Confessions – Grade 6 (9:15 a.m.)

**Tuesday, September 16**

Band Lessons Begin

**Wednesday, September 17**

Confessions – Grade 5 (9:15 a.m.)  
Room Liaisons Meeting (PAC Atrium/7:00 p.m.)

**Thursday, September 18**

PTO Helping Hands (PAC/9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.)  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Meeting (PAC/7:00 p.m.)

**Friday, September 19**

School Mass – St. Januarius, Bishop and Martyr (8:30 a.m.)

**Monday, September 22**

Confessions – Grades 3 & 4 (9:15 a.m.)

**Friday, September 26**

6<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip – The EDGE (8:15 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.)  
School Mass – Saints Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs (8:30 a.m.)

**Monday, September 29**

Holiday – Diocesan Professional Development Day

**Wednesday, October 1**

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

**Thursday, October 2**

School Mass – Memorial of The Holy Guardian Angels (8:30 a.m.)  
Faculty Meeting (3:30-5:00 p.m.)

**Friday, October 3**

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

**Saturday, October 4**

St. Francis – Parish Blessing of the Animals (Courtyard/9:30 a.m.)