



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

December 3, 2025

Principal's Message

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 reflection, our students will once again have an opportunity to enter more fully into this season of hope.

Advent Wreath Prayer Services

Yesterday the students assembled in the Parish Activities Center (PAC) 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

Students in grades three through eight will have an opportunity to encounter Christ in this Sacrament of healing and forgiveness during two Penance Services. A Penance Service for Grades 3-5 will take place on Friday, December 5 with one to follow for Grades 6-8 on Wednesday, December 17.

Outreach to Ghana – Change Clothes for Hope 2025

With the encouragement of Bishop Burbidge, we will participate in an outreach to benefit the children of Ghana. On Thursday, December 11, all students are invited to dress down in Christmas colors and to offer a donation to benefit this cause. Mindful of the costs that many families are facing at this time, we invite students to donate what they are able to support the work of Catholic Relief Services in Ghana. For more information about this project, please see the link below.

[CRS Ghana Change Cloth for Hope 2025](#)

Wishing you and your family blessings during this Advent Season!

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A Prayer for the First Week of Advent

Father in heaven, our hearts desire the warmth of your love, and our minds are searching for the light of your Word. Increase our longing for Christ our Savior and give us the strength to grow in love, that the dawn of his coming may find us rejoicing in his presence and welcoming the light of his truth. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

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 following is a list of important details for this event.

Date: Thursday, December 18

Time: 7:00 p.m. (6th graders report to their *homerooms* 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 daytime performance, which is 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).

Thanksgiving Outreach

Thanks to the very generous response of families in our community who participated in the Thanksgiving Luncheon, we received \$1,390.00 to benefit *Catholic Charities “We Care Week”*. Thank you for your continued kindness and support of Catholic Charities through this annual tradition.

The National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the entire All Saints community for your incredible generosity. Thanks to you, we collected 1,590 pounds of food — about the weight of a fully grown horse, a baby hippo, or a filled-to-the-brim hot bathtub!

Your support has already made a meaningful impact, helping to fill the bellies of many families in our All Saints parish. We are truly grateful for your kindness, compassion, and willingness to give. Thank you for making a difference!

Virtues in Practice

Virtue for the Month of December: Generosity

Definition: Giving without counting the cost

Saints of the Month: St. Nicholas (PreK-2), St. Mary Magdalene (3-5), St. Maximilian Kolbe (6-8)

Important Reminders

- Substitute Teacher Opportunities**

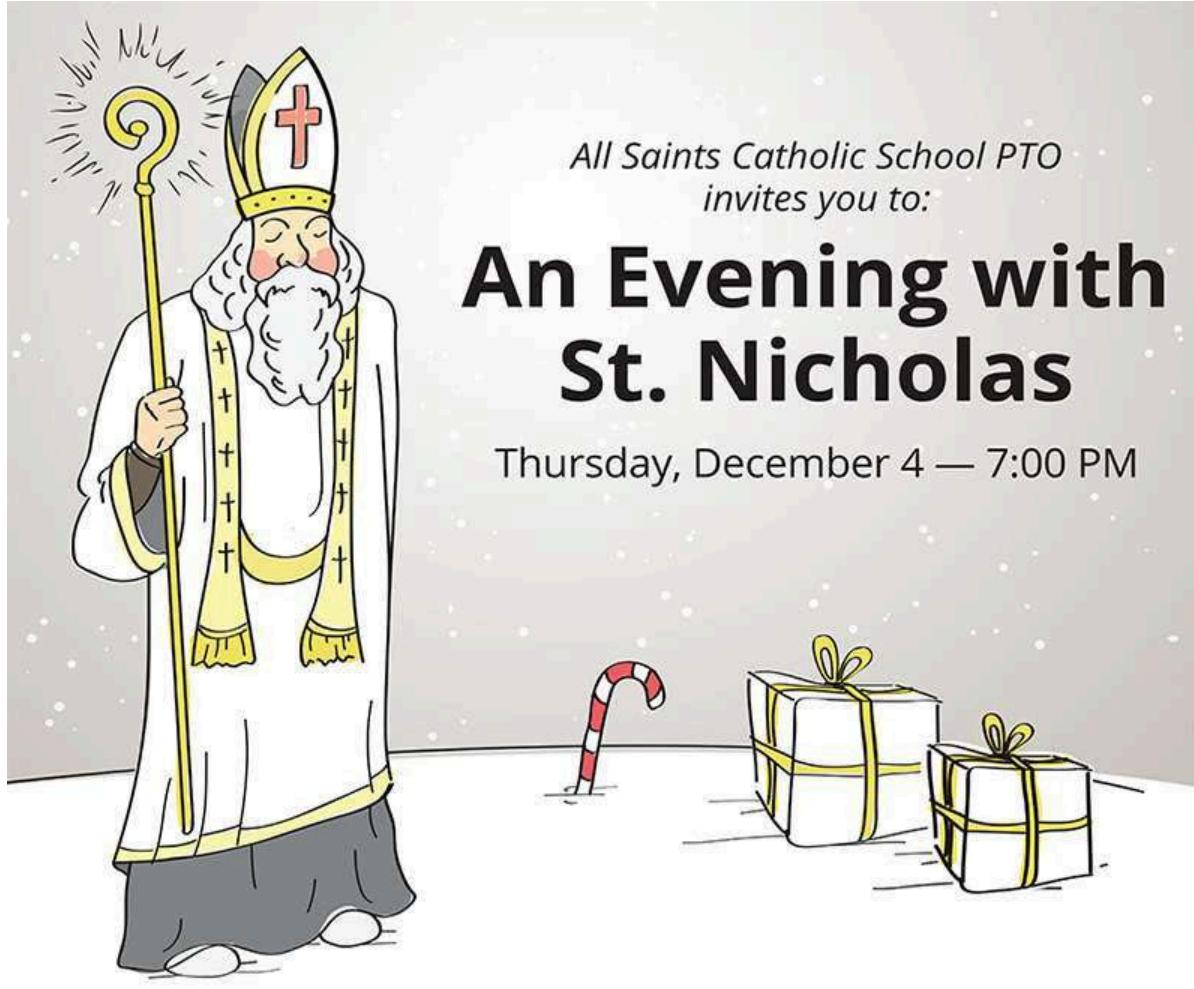
All Saints is seeking additional substitute teachers for grades PK-8. For more information about this employment opportunity or to request an application, please contact the school office at 703-368-4400 or schooloffice@allsaintsva.org.

- ***An Evening with St. Nicholas Prayer Service (Tomorrow)***

Plan to join us for *An Evening with Saint Nicholas* on Thursday, December 4 at 7:00 PM. The event will begin with an Advent Prayer Service in the church, with music provided by the Schola. The “Procession of Shoes” will once again be led by Saint Nicholas and Mother Seton. At the conclusion of the prayer service, a reception will be held in the Parish Activities Center featuring cookies and cocoa, and a photo opportunity with Saint Nicholas and Mother Seton. (*Please bring your own camera*). The National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the entire All Saints community for your incredible generosity. Thanks to you, we collected 1,590 pounds of food — about the weight of a fully grown horse, a baby hippo, or a filled-to-the-brim hot bathtub!

Your support has already made a meaningful impact, helping to fill the bellies of many families in our All Saints parish. We are truly grateful for your kindness, compassion, and willingness to give. Thank you for making a difference!

In honor of St. Nicholas, we ask that you bring a donation of a pair of NEW shoes for distribution through House of Mercy. (Donation guidelines: NEW plain colors of tennis shoes – white, blue, black, tan, or brown. No character tennis shoes.) Questions? Please contact Mrs. Christine Breckley at christine.harkins@gmail.com.



*All Saints Catholic School PTO
invites you to:*

An Evening with St. Nicholas

Thursday, December 4 — 7:00 PM

- **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. Entry forms and posters may be forwarded to the school office and are due by December 10. For more information, please see the links below.

[Poster Entry Form](#)

Zoom Authorization Form

Last week we sent a digital copy of the Online Technology Consent Form (Zoom Authorization) to parents of all students. Parents are reminded to complete this online form as soon as possible. With this form on file, we will be ready to provide instruction via Zoom should this become necessary during the school year.

[Online Technology Consent Form](#)

- New Student Applications & Continuous Enrollment (2026-2027)**

Applications for new students for academic year 2026-2027 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.

[2026-2027 Application 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 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 2, 2026. 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 (2026-2027)**

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.

[2026-2027 Tuition Assistance Flyer](#)

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 [2026-2027](#) are as follows:

October 31, 2025	FACTS financial aid application closes for 2025-2026
November 1, 2025	FACTS financial aid application opens for 2026-2027
January 12, 2026	Financial aid application due date for diocesan high school students
March 14, 2026	Financial aid application due date for diocesan K-8 sch students

- [Lunch Menu - December](#)



December 2025



DAILY PRICES: LUNCH ONLY - \$5.00 Low Fat MILK - \$.60 100% JUICE - \$.50

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1. NO SCHOOL Diocesan Teachers work Day	2. Cheeseburger OR Hamburger Baked beans Corn on the Cob	3. Chicken Patty Sandwich OR Ham and Cheese Sandwich. Tator Tots Chilled pineapple *Chocolate ice cream for sale	4. Cheese Pizza OR Turkey and Cheese Sandwich. Tossed Salad Fresh Oranges	5. Chili dog OR Hot dog Potato chips Fresh Apples
8. Breakfast Sandwich (English Muffin, Turkey sau- sage, Egg Patty, Yellow Cheese) Tator Tots Fresh Oranges	9. Chicken Nuggets OR Ham and Cheese Sandwich. Dinner Rolls Green Beans	10. Soft Beef Tacos OR Chicken Quesadilla. White rice Black Beans Fresh Grapes * Sugar cookies for sale	11. Pepperoni Pizza OR Chicken Salad Sandwich Caesar Salad Fresh Apples	12. Beef Chili Pasta OR Plain Buttered Pasta. Garlic Bread Steamed Broccoli
15. Italian Sub OR American Sub. Pickles Potato Chips Chilled pineapple	16. Pancakes w/Syrup Turkey Sausage Scrambled Eggs Fresh Oranges	17. Salisbury Steak w/Gravy. OR Turkey and Cheese Sand- wich.. Mashed Potato Green Beans. *Vanilla ice cream for sale	18. Vocelli's Cheese Pizza OR Tuna Salad Sandwich Tossed Salad Fresh Oranges	19. Hot Ham and cheese OR Hot Turkey & Cheese Sand- wich. (Both served on Croissant) Tator Tots Chilled Tropical Fruit
22.	23.	24.	25.	26.
29.	30.	31.		

Christmas Holiday

*GRADES 3-8 ONLY—Extra entrée may be ordered for \$3.00 cash OR students may charge to lunch account.
Salad may be ordered in place of main entree OR side items may be replaced with side salad.
Side items (Potato Chips, Fruit, etc.) may be purchased separately for \$.75 and charged to your account.

Upcoming Events

Thursday, December 4

8th Grade High School Placement Test

Faculty Meeting (3:30 p.m.)

Evening with St. Nicholas Prayer Service (7:00 p.m.)

Friday, December 5

Advent Penance Service – Grades 3-5 (10:00 a.m.)

Report Cards sent Home

Monday, December 8

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

Tuesday, December 9

Virtual Solo Band Concert

Wednesday, December 10

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

Thursday, December 11

Dress Down Day – Change Clothes for Hope 2025 (Christmas colors)

Friday, December 12

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

Monday, December 15

Picture Make-Ups

Wednesday, December 17

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

Thursday, December 18

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

Final Day of Pre-Kindergarten Prior to Christmas

Christmas Pageant (1:45 p.m. Dress Rehearsal/7:00 p.m. Performance for Parents)

Friday, December 19

School Mass (8:30 a.m.)

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

Monday, December 22
Christmas Holiday Begins

Monday, January 5
School Resumes
NWEA Map Testing (through January 23)

Wednesday, January 7
PTO Executive Committee Meeting (7:00 p.m.)

Thursday, January 8
Faculty Meeting (3:30 p.m.)
Open House (7:00 p.m.)

Friday, January 9
School Mass (8:30 a.m.)

