



September 4, 2018

Dear Holy Spirit School Family,

Greetings! Our 2018-2019 school year is off and running! Our hallways are buzzing with excitement and learning as we settle into our new routines. There is a positive energy that is refreshing to feel this time each year. We are happy to announce we have 190 students enrolled at Holy Spirit Catholic School Preschool through Grade 8 this year!

Our teachers have joyfully been preparing engaging activities that are sure to have the children excited about learning this this year. I am excited to see all the accomplishments that are coming!

The Home & School Officers have done an amazing job welcoming our new families, providing volunteer opportunities, and offering other exciting events and programs for the school year. All of their hard work and dedication is much appreciated!

Our bible verse this year is: *Prayers go up Blessings come down.* Adapted from Psalms 67:3 & 7. Verses 3 and 7 read, "Let the nations praise you, God, let all the nations praise you. May God continue to bless us, and be revered by the whole wide world." We have so many great things happening here at Holy Spirit Catholic School and in each one of our lives. It is important to take a step back and reflect on all of the wonderful things God is doing in our lives. Take time to acknowledge those wonderful things and give praise daily to our Lord and Savior.

In our theme logo this year is a hot air balloon. The hot air balloon symbolizes a unique type of freedom, an up lifting spirit, a sense of achievement, and overall happiness. My hope is that the sight of a hot air balloon will serve as a reminder to the children to keep sending those prayers up because blessings are all around us.

Please take some time read over the information in this month's News & Notes. Have a blessed week! I hope to see you at the carnival this weekend!

Blessings,

Mrs. Kelly Hewitt
Principal

PARENT INFORMATION

Fast Direct School Information System

Did you know with Fast Direct you:

- Can monitor your child(ren)'s progress/grades (Grade 1 thru 8)
- Receive notes from the Teachers
- Send notes to the Teachers
- Read the monthly News & Notes
- Check the School Calendar
- Go to Links for Special Information such as applying for tuition assistance
- AND SO MUCH MORE!!!

UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION ASAP!

Please log into your Fast Direct and go to the EDIT/PARENT DATA TAB and complete the Emergency contacts at the bottom of your PARENT DATA. Please make updates to the form if you have changed anything that is already listed on the form.

PLEASE CHECK FAST DIRECT OFTEN!
This is our main way of communicating school information to all of you!

PROGRAMS OFFERED TO STUDENTS

Walking Club

Students are invited to participate Tuesday mornings before school to the Gym to walk laps that will add up to a mile. Each day, the students will be encouraged to walk miles with Mrs. Cirillo and Mrs. Gould.

C.R.A.S.H. (Christ Reaching All Students Here)

Students are welcome to join Mrs. Cirillo from 7:30 AM to 7:50 AM on Wednesdays this to sing and pray.

Mile Club

The sign-up sheet for the Mile Club was sent home on Wednesday, August 29th with students in Grades 3 thru 8. This Club is for ALL 3rd through 8th Grade boys and girls who like to run, or are interested in learning, how to run distance races. Mr. Beckmann is the sponsor for the Mile Club. The Club will meet on Mondays from 3:15 PM-4:00 PM. If you would like to sign-up please contact Mr. Beckmann via FastDirect. The first Mile Club Meeting will be on Monday, September 10th for all students that have a signed Mile Club form.

Continued next page

Other Programs Offered this year: Kids on Fire, Kiwanis Club, Keys to Success, Reading, Running, and Doing the Right Thing Program (RRR), Accelerated Reading, Chess Club, Speech Club, and X-tra Math.

PARENT REMINDERS

Thursday, September 6th – NOON DISMISSAL!

Students wear their school uniforms.

Iowa Assessment: The Archdiocesan Testing will be the week of September 17th through Friday, September 21st for Grades 1 through 8. We will be using the Iowa Assessment this year. Please be sure your child has a good breakfast and plenty of rest that week.

Progress Reports will not be sent home. Parents, please monitor your child's academic progress in Grades 1 through 8 using the FastDirect School Information System.

End of Quarter dates for Report Cards are as follows:

<u>First Quarter</u>	<u>October 18, 2018</u>
Second Quarter	December 21, 2018
Third Quarter	March 8, 2019
Fourth Quarter	May 24, 2019

Kindergarten Report Cards will be sent home for the first time in the Second Quarter on Friday, January 11, 2018. If you have any questions, please call the School Office at 314-739-1934.

STUDENT NEWS!

Holy Spirit Catholic School's 2018-2019 Student Council

Student Council Officers

President Emily Sarmiento
Secretary Joe Rothkopf

Vice-President
Event Coordinator

Timmy Kester
Britini Benedict

Student Council Class Representatives

GRADE 3

Ceci Capotorto
Chase Kaufmann

GRADE 4

Conner Kaufmann
Caitlyn Shelley

GRADE 5

Claudia Catlow
Max Zenner

GRADE 6

Emma Kester
William Peroutka

GRADE 7

Krysta Azurdia
Lucas Bolter

Holy Spirit Catholic School NEW 6th Grade Ambassadors

Emma Kester

Tracy Pham

Kendyl Poole



Continued next page

September 2018

Calendar for **School Event Calendar** () 14917 views
(Viewed by Admin: Staff: Mrs. Kate Ayres)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 No School Labor Day	4	5 8:00 AM Student Photo Day News & Notes published on FastDirect under the Links icon 3:00 PM-4:00 PM Grades 6 thru 8 Bellarmine Speech Try- Outs will take place in Grade 6 classroom	6 Noon Dismissal Faculty Meeting 8:00 AM Grades K thru 4 Mass prepared by Grade 3	7 No School Parish Carnival	8 Parish Carnival
9	10	11	12 3:00 PM-4:00 PM STUCO Meeting will take place in the Grade 8 classroom	13 3:00 PM-4:30 PM Palmer Music students that have signed a contact with Palmer Music will begin lessons today.	14 Noon Dismissal Faculty PLT Meeting @ Sacred Heart Florissant 8:00 AM All School Triumph of the Cross Mass prepared by Grade 7	15
16 9:00 AM Catechetical Sunday	17 ITBS Testing begins today thru Friday, 9/21	18	19	20 8:00 AM Grades K thru 4 Mass prepared by Grade 2	21 8:00 AM Grades 5 thru 8 St. Matthew, Apostle Mass prepared by Grade 8 12:00 PM- 12:45 PM Grade 5 D.A.R.E. with Officer Bob	22
23	24	25	26	27 12:45 PM-2:45 PM Keystore	28 8:00 AM All School Mass prepared by Grade 6 7:45 AM-4:30 PM Region 2 Grade 7 Confirmation Rally	29
30						

9/4/2018

Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

September 2018

Holy Spirit Catholic School & PSR

Kelly Hewitt, Principal & Sharon Kaufman, Coordinator of Religious Education



Thoughtful Moments

St. John Chrysostom

Born in Antioch around 349 A.D., St. John was raised by his widowed mother, Anthusa, who had him educated by the best teachers of the day. He was ordained and eventually elevated to be Bishop of Constantinople – the most powerful city in the world at the time. He curbed the spending of his own courts to provide for the poor, and criticized the opulence of the royal courts. As a result of this, he died in exile.



Always a second chance

Don't give up if you feel you have failed in parenting – or in life. Remember St. Peter. Although he deserted Jesus when he was most needed, Jesus gave him another chance (John 20:19). He will do the same for all of us.

"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness" (Lamentations 3:22-23).



Parenting advice from the Holy Family

A new school year presents an opportunity for a fresh approach. The Bible doesn't say much about how Mary and Joseph prepared Jesus for his unique vocation but we can get an idea by what we know of the adult Jesus. This year, model the Holy Family to raise a holy family, too.

Nurture virtue. During his public ministry, Jesus demonstrated the virtues of patience, persistence, hard work, honesty, devotion, and compassion. Helping children to develop these virtues will prepare them for their own unique vocations.

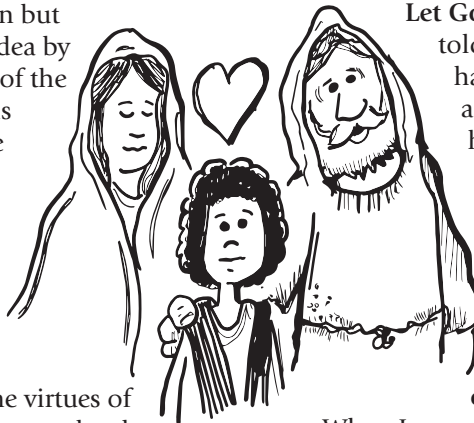
Give a timely, gentle push. At the wedding feast in Cana, Jesus was

reluctant to perform that first public miracle but his mother knew he was ready. At a gentle push from her, he made something wonderful happen.

Let God steer. When the angel told Mary of the plan God had for her life, she allowed God the use of her entire being to accomplish his goals. Teach children, through prayer and sacrifice, to let God control the direction their lives will take.

Strengthen your own faith and practice.

When Jesus was young, the way Joseph lived, how he practiced his faith, and how he answered the boy's questions helped to form Jesus' understanding of God. Be sure you are strong in your own faith so you can properly influence that of your children.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

As Catholics we know that God created us out of love and he continually reaches out to us to encourage us to love him back. Prayer is our response to God's love.

Catholics pray because we believe in God's

Why do Catholics pray?



presence in our lives. We pray because we have hope that our salvation is coming. And we pray because during prayer, the Holy Spirit brings us hope, joy, and peace. Prayer is what connects us to God directly, intimately, and lovingly.

Lead children in the journey to Christ

God has called each of us to follow him but parents are not only called to follow, we are called to lead.

Nurturing a child's spiritual growth is an awesome responsibility but we can teach the importance of our faith in simple ways.

Go to Mass. Bringing our families to Sunday Mass is a powerful way to spend time together and show commitment to the faith.

Celebrate. On the anniversary of your child's baptism each year, give a birthday card to celebrate her "birth" into the life of Christ.



Mark each sacrament. Give attention and support during these Catholic milestones. These are steps on our journey toward Christ.

Prayer cards. Expose children to the wealth of prayers the Church offers by creating and gifting prayer cards pertinent to his life situation.

Pack the toolbox. To stay faithful, children need concrete spiritual tools. Start filling your child's toolbox when she is young with prayer, devotions, Sacraments, Scripture, and more, so that it is full when she is an adult.

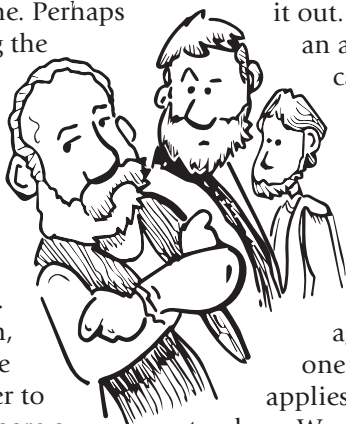
Scripture LESSON

Mark 9:38-48, Work together for God

In this reading, the disciples were upset because a man they didn't know was healing in Jesus' name. Perhaps they were afraid of losing the spotlight, or they may have been concerned because he was different from them.

In fact, faithful followers of Jesus don't all look alike or talk alike, but we do act alike. Christianity is a kingdom, not a competition. All are welcome to work together to build it up. Those who share a common faith in Christ cooperate, not compete.

Some of Jesus' words sound strange



but he is very clear; we treat sin like a cancerous tumor and cut it out. Giving up a friendship, an activity, or a habit that causes us to do wrong may seem as painful as cutting off a hand. But the consequences of our choices last forever. **What can a parent do?** The caution against harming little ones in faith is serious, and applies to us as parents and teachers. We must do right by our children. When our thoughts and actions model Christ, we parent with love.

Parent TALK

I promise myself each new school year that this is the year I will be a model parent. Lunches will be made the night before. Clothes set out.



Homework completed before other activities and dinners will be hot and healthy. By the end of the year, however, I'm just pleased that

the children get to school fully clothed and fed.

This year, my husband and I decided to prioritize what is really important. We cut back to just one sport and one club per child and put Mass, family time, religious education, and homework at the top of the list. Friends and family are important, too, and we made room for them in the schedule.

Housekeeping may slip, we may occasionally have omelets for dinner, and Christmas cards may go out at Easter. But our focus is on faith, education, and loved ones, and the rest will fall into place.

Feasts & Celebrations

Sept. 8 – Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (1st century): Mary's birth brought her parents joy. We rejoice too – because of Mary's "Yes," she became the mother of Jesus.

Sept. 14 - The Exaltation of the Holy Cross (c.326): St. Helena (mother of Emperor Constantine), discovered three crosses while on pilgrimage in Jerusalem. One of them was thought to be the Cross on which Jesus died. On the site, Constantine built the Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher.

Sept. 21 – St. Matthew the Evangelist

(1st century): Also known as Levi, he was a notorious tax collector. St. Matthew left everything when Jesus called him to spread the Gospel. He wrote the Gospel According to Matthew.

Sept. 22 – St. Thomas of Villanova (1555): Born in Spain, St. Thomas studied theology at the University of Alcalá, before being ordained a priest and holding several leadership positions. He was appointed Bishop of Valencia by Emperor Charles V. He fostered Catholic spirituality in his diocese and provided for the poor.



Our Mission

To help parents raise faithful Catholic children
Success Publishing & Media, LLC
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(540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax
<http://www.partnersinfaith.com>
(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible.)

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www.Buildersclub.org

www.Kkids.org

September-2018

Dear Parents:

Your child (children) is (are) invited to join **K-Kids** (Grades 2 to 4) and **Builders Club** (Grades 5 to 8), a student-led service organization for students at Holy Spirit School.

Holy Spirit School and the Kiwanis Club of Bridgeton sponsor the K-Kids and Builders Club for students who want to take on leadership roles in the school and help make a difference with the service they perform for the school and the community. Holy Spirit Faculty Mrs. Jamie Whetstone together with Mrs. Lisa Nolan and Mrs. Marisol Sarmiento, will be the Kiwanis Advisers.

Any student of Holy Spirit interested in service and want to develop leadership skills is eligible to join this organization. We have had K-Kids and Builders Club at Holy Spirit for several years now and we look forward to having one again in the 2017-2018 school year. The club meets every 3rd. Thursday of the month from 3:00pm to 4:00 pm in the school grounds.

The K-Kids and Builders Club of Holy Spirit Catholic School is a charter member of Kiwanis International, a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time. This year we will have the same meeting dates for the K-Kids and Builders Clubs. Kiwanis sponsors a Circle K club for college students and a Key Club for high school students, in addition to the K-Kids and Builders clubs for the elementary schools.

With the help of the Faculty Advisors, Builders Club officers plan the agenda for their meetings and projects they would like to accomplish. Attached is a letter addressed to your child (children) which needs your signature to let us know you are aware of their interest in joining the Club and your approval to do so.

We hope your child (children) will consider joining this worthwhile organization.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Mrs. Kelly Hewitt'.

Mrs. Kelly Hewitt
Principal

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Msarmiento'.

Mrs. Marisol Sarmiento
Kiwanis Club of Bridgeton



www.Buildersclub.org

www.Kkids.org

September-2018

Dear Holy Spirit Student:

Welcome to a new Kiwanis year. We are in the process of forming a **K-Kids** (Grades 2 to 4) and **Builders Club** (Grades 5 to 8) and would like to invite you to join us. If you were a member of K-Kids or Builders Club last year, we welcome you back. If not, we ask you to consider joining and help us make the 2018-2019 school year one of giving service to the school, parish and community, and developing your leadership skills.

Name: _____

Grade: _____

Student's Signature

Parent's Signature

Please send \$10 with this form, check payable to Holy Spirit K-Kids/Builders Club; \$1.30 of your membership dues will go to the ELIMINATE Project to save the lives of two newborn babies in a third world country – a Kiwanis International and UNICEF world-wide project to help eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus.

Welcome to the Kiwanis Family! Thank you for wanting to join the
K-Kids/Builders Club of Holy Spirit Catholic School!

**For more information or questions, please contact Marisol Sarmiento thru Fast Direct or
call 314-749-7834*

Please return this form with payment by Thursday, September 6, 2018

Kids on Fire

Do you want to have fun with friends? Do you want to learn more about your Catholic faith? Do you love God and want to share that love with others?

Then come and join our club, Kids on Fire!

We will meet about once a month and discuss a variety of topics including Divine Mercy, serving the homeless, and prayer.

Who: 3rd-5th Grade

When: 3:00-4:00 p.m. on the 3rd Wednesday of each month*

Our 1st meeting will be September 19.

Where: Library

If you are interested in joining please submit the following form with a fee of \$10. This fee will cover materials needed for all the fun things we are going to do.

If you have any questions please contact Miss B.

"Dear young people, let yourselves be taken over by the light of Christ, and spread that light wherever you are."

-St. John Paul II-

***Some dates may vary slightly.**

Kids on Fire



Student's Name _____

Grade _____

T-Shirt Size

Youth – XS S M L XL

Adult – XS S M L XL

Allergies/Heath Concerns

Can Your Child Be Photographed?

To post on school grounds Yes No

To post on social media Yes No

Parent's Signature _____

Phone _____

Please return this form with \$10 by Tuesday September 18, 2018

Only 20 spots available so 1st come 1st serve.



KEYSTORE



IS BACK!!

WHAT IS KEYSTORE? The keystore is a reward program based on the 8 keys to success. The students earn paper keys from their teachers and other school personnel for demonstrating these 8 skills in various activities within their classroom and throughout the school. They attend the keystore to redeem their keys for a variety of prizes. The 8 keys to success are: love, attitude, effort, motivation, preparation, cooperation, discipline, and performance.

The keystore runs primarily on donations. We are in need of the following donations and new/gently used items:

-CASH (or check made payable to Holy Spirit School, memo "keystore") Monetary donations allow us to replenish supplies, especially snacks/treats, gift cards, raffle items, etc...

-GIFT CARDS in **\$5/\$10/or other amounts** from local fast food restaurants, stores etc...

-RELIGIOUS ITEMS -crosses, medals, coins, jewelry, etc.

-NEW OR GENTLY USED ITEMS –toys, stuffed animals, games, crafts, models, sports related items, Legos, Play-doh, bouncy balls etc...

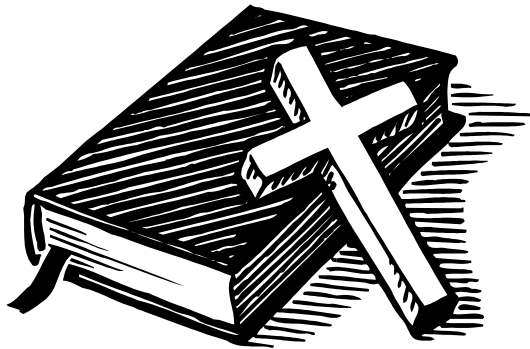
-SCHOOL SUPPLIES/BOOKS sharpies, crayons, markers, colored pencils, folders, chalk, paper, notebooks, erasers, rulers, backpacks, water bottles, etc...

SNACKS- Gatorade, candy, individually wrapped pkgs of chips/cookies etc...



**Thank you in advance
for your donations that
make the keystore a
success each month!!**

Liturgy of the Word for Children



Sundays - September 9, 2018 – June 9, 2019

9:00 am & 11:00 am Masses

for children ages 3 – Grade 3

*Liturgy of the Word with Children provides an opportunity for the children of our parish to hear and experience the **Sunday scripture readings** in an age appropriate environment. After the Opening Prayer the children are invited to leave the church with the leaders. If the parents wish to accompany a young child, they are welcome. At the 9 a.m. Mass there is one group at each mass. In this smaller gathering, the children are able to sit quietly, listen attentively and participate with joy and enthusiasm.*

What happens at Liturgy of the Word with Children?

There is a procession, opening prayer, 1st reading, responsorial psalm, gospel reading, discussion/reflection, Apostle's Creed, intercessions, then the return procession to church to join the larger community for the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

No need to register your child.

**Occasionally, these sessions are cancelled due to other parish events, please watch the bulletin for updates.*

For more information, contact Sharon Kaufman, Coordinator of Religious Education at 314-739-0230 or skaufman@holyspiritstl.org



GIRL SCOUT TROOP #4184 IS PARTNERING WITH HOLY SPIRIT TO COLLECT PLASTIC BOTTLE TOPS TO CREATE 2 NEW BENCHES - 1 FOR THE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION AND 1 FOR OUR FULL-TIME SCHOOL RECESS AREA! PLEASE HELP US IN OUR RECYCLING EFFORT AND ENJOY SEEING THE BENCH KNOWING THAT YOU HELPED MAKE THIS POSSIBLE!

WHAT IS AN ACCEPTABLE CAP/LID?

Drink bottle lids
Condiment lids
Detergent lids
Medicine bottle caps
Milk jug caps
Coffee Can lids
Shampoo Bottle lids



WHERE DO I DROP-OFF MY CAPS?

Drop off with any one of our 5th Grade Girl Scout Families!

QUESTIONS?

Contact Sandy Flack at 314-435-7786

BLOOD DRIVE

Holy Spirit Parish

Sunday, September 16 8:00 am - 12:30 pm

The Rigali 3111 Parkwood Lane

To schedule an appointment call The Blood Center at 866.448.3253
or online at www.bloodcenterimpact.org

Use Group Sponsor Code 10414 to schedule online

*Please eat & hydrate well before donating and **MUST** bring photo ID to donate*

Last Date to Donate Elsewhere: 7/22/2018

Appointments preferred...and given priority!

Life\$avings grant to help school with Education Support.



MISSISSIPPI VALLEY
REGIONAL BLOOD CENTER

www.bloodcenter.org

PREPARING FOR YOUR DONATION

Eat foods with higher iron content:

- Berries: raspberries and strawberries
- Spinach and/or dark leafy greens
- Watermelon
- Oatmeal
- Peas
- Beans
- Orange juice
- Dark chocolate
- Poultry
- Lean Pork or Beef
- Dried fruit such as raisins and apricots
- Whole grain, iron-fortified breads and cereals
- Seafood including: sardines, tuna, oysters, clams, shrimp, scallops

Your physician can help you determine if an iron supplement is right for you.

Drink fluids including water and juice!
Get a good night's rest and eat a good meal before donating!

If you have any questions or concerns, contact Donor Support at (800) 747-5401 or see www.bloodcenter.org.



MISSISSIPPI VALLEY
REGIONAL BLOOD CENTER
How life flows through our community.®