

Holy Spirit Catholic School
Weekly Newsletter
Dec. 15, 2011



Dear Parents:

As 2011 winds down, our thoughts turn quickly to school year 2012-2013. Last year we centered our energies on creating the final major component of our middle school program with the addition of 8th grade. This year has been an amazing learning adventure for all of us...students, parents, and staff. Our goal is to make our middle school the best it can be to prepare the children for a successful future. To accomplish this we reconfigured our teaching staff, added Spanish, band, new-to-us classrooms, new texts and materials, special PE activities, leadership service projects, and other extras. We are confident we provide a solid, well-rounded, progressive educational experience for the kids in a safe, nurturing environment.

It is not a perfect scenario, of course. The staff and I hope our current younger students and families will want to stay at Holy Spirit through 8th grade. A primary concern is how do we retain the students we have, and more importantly how do we promote our school to increase student enrollment? We have a solid educational structure, but more students would broaden social interaction and boost diversity, also an important part of growing up.

As a result, Holy Spirit Catholic School will host a **Middle School Open House** on the evening of **Thursday, January 19**, here on campus. I invite you to visit with the teachers, current students and families, check out our curriculum and electives, ask questions, and voice concerns in an informal setting. Bring your friends and their friends to see what we have to offer...our "product" is outstanding! The exact time, place, and agenda to be announced later, but mark that date on your new 2012 calendar.

May God bless you with health and happiness during this holy Christmas season.

Mrs. Corgiat

GOING LIVE

Sorry, there was a slight delay to our website going live but they say today is the DAY. The website address is www.holyspiritcs.com. Check it out! A great big thank you to Marie Smith for working so hard on getting this done in such a short amount of time!

STILL CHRISTMAS SHOPPING?

Here's some "Christmas Gift Ideas" courtesy of Holy Spirit Catholic School:

Gift Idea #1 – Tickets to the HSCS Dinner Auction – they are a great way to give those special someones a yummy dinner, great entertainment, fun socializing and the opportunity to buy something for themselves that they really want just in case Santa gets it wrong! Tickets are \$25.00 per person.

Gift Idea #2 - Cookie Dough –lots of flavors left, super easy to make and yummy too! Just purchase a cute Christmas plate and your loved one will have the perfect gift to share with Santa on Christmas Eve – warm cookies on a cute plate! \$12.00 per package

Gift Idea #3 – Mystic Monk Coffee – a perfect coffee to help wake your loved ones up after that "early Christmas morning." \$13.00 per bag.

Gift Idea #4 – Make a donation to the school in name of your loved one who really doesn't need one more thing and would prefer the money go to a worthy cause; they will receive a Christmas note from the school telling them of this gift. Plus you get it as a write off on your taxes – (kind of a Merry Christmas to yourself but one that helps so many!) Check out the previous newsletters to see how this donation can help with your income taxes!



Gift Idea #5 – “Keep Christ in Christmas” car magnet. Perfect for those Christmas stockings! \$5.00 each.

All items can be purchased in the school office...HO! HO! HO!

AND IF YOU STILL NEED MORE IDEAS DON'T FORGET. . .



Shop and contribute through OneCause

Holiday stress causing you to sprout grey hairs? Snag last minute deals in which you'll not only save big bucks, but also contribute to Holy Spirit Catholic School. Many merchants have FREE SHIPPING and coupons to save you money. Thousands of stores to choose from. Some of our favorites – Amazon, Apple, Best Buy, Disney, The Gap, Land's End, LL Bean, Macy's, JCrew Target and Wal-Mart. You can even shop eBay and QVC through OneCause. Check out to see if your favorite merchants are available through www.onecause.com.

CHANGE IN HOT LUNCH IOU'S

Beginning in January, we will only be e-mailing hot lunch IOU's out the first week of each new month. Nothing else has changed with the lunch program other than this. WE STRONGLY ENCOURAGE YOU TO PAY FOR YOUR HOT LUNCHES IN ADVANCE. Remember that hot lunch with one milk is \$2.50; milk only or additional milks are .35 each. Payments can be made in the school office.

SNOW DAYS AND SCHOOL CLOSURES

Now that the weather is becoming colder and the snow is sure to fall, remember that we close school and childcare for the entire day if School District 25 closes. It is highly recommended on those snowy days to listen to a local radio station or television station to see what School District 25 is doing. Follow the directive for S.D. #25, since usually, the local stations will not mention Holy Spirit. But be aware that if we close, we close ALL day, no late starts!

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Dec. 21 – Early Release – Students dismissed at 1:00 p.m. for Christmas break
Dec. 22 – Jan. 2 – Christmas Break – Merry, merry Christmas!
Jan. 3 – Back to School – Happy New Year!

No newsletter next week!



*Bless the Child
In the manger,
And this Christmas,
God Bless you!*

Merry Christmas from the faculty and staff of HSCS!