



St. Pius X Regional School News Notes September 23rd, 2021



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Thursday, September 23

- *TAG Day - students may come out of uniform, please refer to dress code in Handbook
- *High School Admissions Meeting for 7th/8th Grade Parents - Nelson Hall - 7:00pm

Friday, September 24

- *SGA Convention
- *Chorus Rehearsal - Church - 3:00pm - 5:00pm

Monday, September 27

- *Pallotti High School Visit - 8th grade students only - 11:00am

Tuesday, September 28

- *St. Anselm's HS Visit - 8th Grade Only - 11:20am

Wednesday, September 29

- *Whole School Mass - 10:30am - Church - details to follow

Thursday, September 30

- *1st Quarter Progress Reports Distributed to 1st-8th Grades

Friday, October 1

- *Chorus Rehearsal - Church - 3:00pm - 5:00pm

Tuesday, October 5

- *Good Counsel HS Visit - 8th Grade Only - 12:40pm

Wednesday, October 6

- *Early Dismissal - 11:30am for PreK; 12:00pm for K-8

Grades K-4 will be marked late starting at 8:10am.
Grades 5-8 will be marked late starting at 8:00am.

HIGH SCHOOL PARENT MEETING - GRADES 7-8 ONLY

Parents of all 7th and 8th grade students are invited to come to St. Pius X Regional School on Thursday, September 23rd, for an informational meeting concerning the application process to Catholic High Schools. Parents and/or Guardians ONLY need to attend. It is mandatory that at least 1 person from each 8th grade family attends.

This meeting will take place in Nelson Hall at 7:00pm.

PURSE RAFFLE WINNERS!

Congratulations to Willa Dean Thurston and Christina Barnor who won the Michael Kors designer purses in the SPX back-to-school online raffle. We had approximately 50 supporters and raised more than \$1,000 for this event. We greatly appreciate everyone's generosity. More online raffles will be announced throughout the school year.

We have this hope as an anchor for our lives. It is safe and sure, and goes through the curtain of the heavenly temple into the inner sanctuary. (Heb 6:19 GNT)

Flu, Covid-19, colds, illness prevention tips



If you are feeling sick you should stay home and get a lot of rest. Email your teacher and the nurse. (mbenson@stpiusbowie.org)



It is estimated that people touch their faces about 23 times per hour! Touching our face is something we do without knowing, try your best not to touch your face to try to keep germs from entering your mucus membranes.

Go see a doctor.



Regular check ups can detect potential for sickness later on, also when you're sick you may need medication to feel better. The quicker you see the Doctor the faster you will be back on your feet.



Prevention is key to staying healthy and one thing we can all do is wash our hands and wash them often. 20 seconds or longer with soap and water.

FLU SHOT



It's FLU SHOT TIME! Make sure you schedule an appointment to get your flu shot or walk in at a pharmacy close to you. Read more from the CDC about the flu shot: [Flu shot for children](#)



Let's watch this video for the importance of why we are all wearing masks right now to keep each other safe. [Kids and why we wear masks](#)

DON'T FORGET

NO LUNCHES OR FORGOTTEN ITEMS MAY BE DROPPED OFF DURING THE SCHOOL DAY. NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE.

ABSOLUTELY NO ONE IS PERMITTED TO GO DIRECTLY TO A CLASSROOM. ALL PERSONS ENTERING THE SCHOOL BUILDING MUST SIGN IN AND OUT AT THE RECEPTION DESK.

SAFETY FIRST

Traffic during arrival and dismissal is very heavy during the first few weeks of school. We ask that parents try and carpool, if at all possible. We have a team of teachers and staff who direct and manage traffic to keep our students safe and it is imperative for the parents to follow their directions. Please familiarize yourselves with our procedures and traffic diagrams, which can be found on pages 27-30 in our Parent Student Handbook. We thank you in advance for your patience and cooperation to help our arrival and dismissal system run smoothly.

Drop In Aftercare

At this time, Drop in aftercare will no longer be available on half days. Drop in will still be available for full days starting September 13, 2021. The sign up genius link to register for drop in aftercare is <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0944a4a82aa1fe3-aftercar>

UNIFORMS

Carousel Uniforms will make deliveries once a week to school so you won't have to make the drive to Waldorf. You may contact Carousel directly with any questions regarding your student's uniform 301-843- 8884. Uniform requirements may be found on pages 18-20 in the Parent Student Handbook (found on our website).



We have 2 wonderful volunteers who have re-organized our Uniform Exchange inventory and they are open for business. Andrea Bramwell and Damali Martin are our Uniform Exchange co-coordinators. Mrs. Bramwell can be reached at 202-276-2436. Dr. Martin can be reached at 240-353-2816



EARLY DISMISSAL POLICY

The release of a child for an early dismissal needs to occur before 2:30pm except in the case of an emergency. After 2:30pm it is disruptive and complicates our regular dismissal. Only a parent may pick up his or her child unless express written permission has been given to the school. If someone other than a parent is picking up a child we **MUST** have a note signed by the parent stating the name of the person picking up his or her child (even if the person is listed as a contact in the case of an emergency) and the date and time of the early dismissal. We will also ask for proper identification. No child will be released unless the School is certain that it is in accordance with the wishes of the parent.

It is very helpful to the teacher if a note is sent indicating that an early dismissal is necessary. This will cause less disruption and will allow for your child to be dismissed more quickly. Excuse pads will be given to each family for this purpose.

No early dismissals before holidays or last day of school. Also, no siblings will be released

early when field trips return

FOOTBALL MANIA IS BACK!

As we welcome students back to St. Pius, we welcome back one of our most popular and fun fundraiser, Football Mania! If you are new to our school, FM runs the last 10 weeks of the NFL regular season and with each ticket bought, the ticket holder has the opportunity to win cash prizes each week.



Unlike previous years, FM has gone completely paperless and ALL ticket sales are now online only. No more tickets, no more stubs to fill out and keep track off, and no more messing around with checks or cash.

To get in on the action, use the link below. You can purchase up to 10 tickets at one time. Each ticket cost \$20, with \$14 from each ticket coming back to our school. Tickets can be purchased now through November 6th, 2021. The final 10 weeks begins that weekend. Use the link below to buy tickets. Share the link with coworkers, family and friends. Copy to your social media accounts.

Make sure the buyer fills in your name as the seller so you can receive proper FSO credit!

<http://www.charitymania.com/give/GB04D>

Please email Chris Bogley with any questions you may have, at up5728@hotmail.c

NEWS FROM THE FINANCE OFFICE

- Tuition and ESP payments must be paid on or before the due date each month. Failure to do so will result in withholding a student's progress report, report card, academic record, yearbook, etc.
- If your tuition and/or ESP account becomes overdue by 30 days, your child(ren) may not attend school until it is paid in cash or certified funds in the school office. If payment is made directly online to TADS, it must be paid 7 days prior to this 30-day deadline, so that the funds have time to clear the bank.
- There is no need to call us to confirm the status of your account; we see the same information as you on TADS. If your TADS account shows the payment was made and nothing is past due, then you are in good standing.
- Thank you to the many families who do pay their tuition on time each month! We truly appreciate it! As a token of our appreciation, a prize will be awarded to one family at the end of the year from all who have kept their tuition current every month all year! It is

very time consuming to track down families to make their payments. We ask for your cooperation and understanding with this.

ALL ABOUT VOLUNTEER SERVICE HOURS

At the time of enrollment and re-enrollment through TADS, each family agreed to the terms of our Volunteer Service Program (VSP). This requires families to either work the required number of volunteer hours (20 hours for a 2-parent household, or 10 hours for a single parent household), or make a monetary payment for the required hours. If you choose to work the required hours, you must submit volunteer hours electronically on our volunteer website called Track it Forward. All new families will need to create one account per family. Returning families can still use their current account. We would like to streamline the accounts to just one per family, so feel free to edit your first name to include both volunteering family members (ex. Mary and Joseph +last name) and delete your second account. Please remember to log your hours as soon as you complete them. Create an account here:

<https://www.trackitforward.com/site/st-pius-x-regional-school?type=register>.

Details about family VSP requirements can be found on pages 24—26 of the 2021-2022 Parent-Student Handbook.

If you wish to volunteer at St. Pius X School (field trips and other classroom activities), you must be compliant with the Archdiocese of Washington's Child Protection

Policies, called VIRTUS. To begin the process, complete the Volunteer Application (available at the Front desk with Mrs. Bechtel), and register for an account on VIRTUS at www.virtus.org. Return the completed Application to Mrs. Bechtel (in the main office) and then call Mrs. Bechtel to schedule a time when you can come in to do an electronic background check. It should only take about ten minutes to complete and you will need to bring in two forms of identification. The final step is to register for a Child Protection Workshop class.

A PROGRAM AND SERVICE OF
THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC RISK RETENTION GROUP, INC.

VIRTUS[®] *Online*



Christmas Bazaar

We are so excited to bring back the Christmas Bazaar, an SPX tradition! For a week in December the Hall is transformed into Santa's Workshop and our students have a chance to shop for gifts for their loved ones as well as participate in a raffle, get a picture with Santa and enjoy some tasty treats. It's a fantastic week for the kids, and takes many parent volunteers to pull it off!

At this time we're looking for table chairs for the following: Mother / Daughter, Religious, Christmas, Raffle and Kitchen. Parents who have previously led those tables are ready and available to guide you through the process. We're also looking for a parent (or ideally 2!) to 'shadow' our Father / Son Table Chairs this year as this will be their last year. It's a great opportunity to learn hands on how the process works.

If you're able to serve in any of these capacities, please email Katie Skerpon at spx.christmas.bazaar@gmail.com as soon as possible - preparation are underway!

YOU SHOP AND WE GET PAID - HELP US EARN \$\$

Your shopping can help St. Pius X earn money! These fundraisers bring in thousands of dollars to our school each year and don't cost you a cent. Thank you to those families who participate in these fundraisers now. Your efforts are much appreciated! Thank you in advance to those families who will follow the simple steps below to begin participation.

AMAZON SMILE REWARDS PROGRAM: You probably already shop online at Amazon, and now you can help support SPX simply by using the special link here. [Shop on Amazon.com](#). Our unique School Rewards link will take you directly to Amazon, where you can browse and shop just as you normally would. Each month, Amazon will pay us 5% or more of all purchases made by shoppers who reached Amazon through our link. Please support us by bookmarking this [link](#) in your internet browser - then making it the first link you click each time you shop at Amazon. And be sure to pass it on to your friends, family, neighbors, acquaintances, and anyone else who might like to help us raise funds by shopping at Amazon.



BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION: This program allows our school to collect box tops/labels of food and household products and redeem them for cash. Simply check the items you buy at the grocery store/ Target/Wal-Mart for Box Tops for Education labels. You will find the labels on dozens of different types of products like: food/drink, paper products, office supplies, cleaning supplies, food storage, tableware and many more. Once purchased, please cut the labels off and return them to school. Don't forget to check the expiration date, we cannot get credit for expired labels. We will earn 10¢ for every label. St. Pius X can also earn cash



from Bonus Certificates, which can be found primarily in stores on specially marked packages and at checkout printed on a receipt. These vary on value based on the promotion. Bonus codes begin with the letter A. Also look for eBox Tops Codes, which are a 16 digit eBoxTops code that is printed on the product. You would be surprised at how many products you buy every day carry a Box Tops for Education label.

HARRIS TEETER 'S TOGETHER IN EDUCATION PROGRAM: This programs translates your spending at Harris Teeter to rewards for SPX. We need YOU to register and it's easy and it's FREE. Simply give the cashier our code, 4154, and your VIC card when you check out and your card will be linked for the entire school year. That's it! You only have to link your VIC card once each school year. Once your card is linked, St. Pius X Regional School will receive a percentage of your Harris Teeter brand (Harris Teeter, H.T. Traders, Harris Teeter Organics, HT Farmers Market and purchases in the HT Pharmacy) purchases credited back to our account. This program does not interfere with your VIC savings or cost you any money! Don't forget to link your VIC card to our account code next time you are shopping at Harris Teeter.



Your purchases at Amazon Smile, Box Tops and Harris Teeter this holiday season (and all year long) will directly support our school! Thanks in advance for your help.



Patriot's Pen Essay Contest

The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) is dedicated to promoting patriotism and investing in our future generation. If you are a patriotic middle school student interested in winning \$5,000, this scholarship may be for

you.

Each year more than 165,400 students in grades 6-8 enter the VFW's Patriot's Pen youth essay contest for a chance to win their share of more than \$1.4 million in state and national awards. Each first-place state winner receives a minimum of \$500 at the national level, and the national first place winner wins \$5,000!

The essay contest encourages young minds to examine America's history, along with their own experiences in modern American society, by drafting a 300- to 400-word essay, expressing their views based on a patriotic theme chosen by the VFW Commander-in-Chief.

The 2021-22 theme is: How Can I Be a Good American?

Deadline: midnight, Oct. 31, 2021

If you would like to apply, please contact Commander Megan Bogley, Bowie Memorial Post #8065 Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. Her email is vfw8065commander@gmail.com or (301) 974-2676. She will provide the rules and eligibility requirements and the nomination form. Note, you can also view this information at the VFW website: <https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/youth-scholarships>

Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award Program

Each year, the VFW presents an elementary, middle and high school teacher with its Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award to recognize them for their outstanding commitment to teach and promote America's history, traditions and citizenship.

VFW Posts nominate their top local candidate in each category to their (state) Department, which then selects a candidate from each category to submit to VFW National Headquarters. The national Department winners in each grade category will receive a VFW National citation for both themselves, and their school.

All current certified/licensed teachers in grades K-12 who promote civic responsibility, flag etiquette and patriotism are prime candidates for this award. From planning field trips to city hall and organizing community volunteer projects, to inviting veterans into the classroom to

discuss their military experiences and teachers who foster the development of democratic values and beliefs through unique projects, if you know of such a teacher nominate them today.

Nomination deadline: midnight, Oct. 31, 2021

If you would like to nominate a teacher, please contact Commander Megan Bogley, Bowie Memorial Post #8065 Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. Her email is vfw8065commander@gmail.com or (301) 974-2676. She will provide the rules and eligibility requirements and the nomination form. Note, you can also view this information at the VFW website: <https://vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/teacher-of-the-year>



SPX CYO Announcements

CYO Board Positions – Attention parents!! St. Pius X CYO has several board positions available. Please reach out to Megan Bogley if you are interested in joining this volunteer parent-run organization. We are currently recruiting several Commissioner positions – soccer, basketball, baseball, cross country, and track/field, as well as a treasurer. These positions are critical to the organization and are an excellent way to become more involved with your children’s school and athletic experiences, as well as earn your VSP hours. Reach out to Megan at m_bogley@hotmail.com today to learn more!

SPX CYO Masks are still available for purchase!! We have child and adult sizes at \$10 each. Please contact Megan Bogley at m_bogley@hotmail.com if you would like to make a purchase. These masks can be worn during the school day.

Basketball Season is coming soon! In advance of opening registration, we are looking to recruit coaches (head coaches and assistant coaches) for the age brackets below. Ensuring that each team has Virtus certificated coaches is extremely important before opening registration for players. The season is scheduled to begin in Nov/Dec so please act fast! Contact Megan Bogley if you are interested in coaching or to learn more.

Basketball eligibility:

14U: 12/1/2006 - 11/30/2008

12U: 12/1/2008 - 11/30/2010

10U: 12/1/2010 - 11/30/2012

8U: 12/1/2012 - 11/30/2014

Coaching Requirements as determined by the Archdiocese of Washington CYO:

- 1) Virtus background check (fingerprinting) and training
- 2) Play Like A Champion (PLAC) training

- 3) CDC Concussion training
- 4) National Federation of HS - Heat Illness training


MAIN & MARKET LUNCH PROGRAM

St. Pius X Regional School is working with Main & Market to provide a healthy portion controlled lunch for our school. Main & Market is looking forward to supplying our school with great food and service. Main and Market partners with BOONLI (former name Order Lunches) to provide a secure, fast and easy to use online ordering program.

Main & Market/BOONLI allow parents and faculty to view our lunch menu, order, prepay and manage their lunches online. Student and Faculty Accounts, User Names and User Passwords will remain the same as last year. Each lunch costs \$7.00 and you have the option of ordering an extra entrée for just an additional \$3.00. The monthly menu provides a wide variety to choose from so that students are able to experience different foods, with an emphasis on fresh, seasonal, and local foods.

If you are interested in having Main & Market deliver a healthy lunch to your child at school, you will need to register online at <https://mainandmarket.boonli.com/login>.

More details are available on our website. If you have questions, you should call Main & Market at 1-800-381-6511 ext. 1 or email them at support@boonli.com.

 Milk order forms will be sent home at the informal Open house on Thursday, August 26th or the first day of school. The first day of milk service begins September 1st for students in grades 1-8. Pre-K - K students will have milk service starts September 2nd.

ACRONYM GLOSSARY

Are you new to St. Pius X and unfamiliar with our acronyms? Here is a quick list of our most used abbreviations:

ADW - *Archdiocese of Washington*

CYO - *Catholic Youth Organization*

ESP - *Extended School Program (before and aftercare) Obligation*

HSPT - *High School Placement Test*

SSC - *Student Support Center*

VSP - *Volunteer Service Program*

CFA - *Chick-fil-A*

HSA - *Home and School Association*

FSO - *Fundraising Support*

SAB - *School Advisory Board*

TADS - *Tuition Management Company*

Our Regional Parishes:

St. Pius X Catholic Church
14720 Annapolis Road Bowie, MD 20715 301-262-2141
<http://www.spxbowie.org/>

Sacred Heart Parish
16501 Annapolis Road Bowie, MD 20715 301-262-0704
<http://www.sacredheartbowie.org>