

WEEKLY UPDATE

Thursday, 2/16/12

Regular School Day

Friday 2/17/12

No School - Teacher In-Service

Saturday 2/18/12

Father Mathew's 25th Jubilee

5:00 pm Mass

6:00 pm Dinner in Gym with ticket

only.

Sunday 2/19/12

Monday 2/20/12

No School - President's Day

Tuesday 2/21/12

8:00 am \$1,000 Cash

Calendar Drawing

1:00 pm Burning of the Palms

School Board Meeting 7:00 pm

Wednesday 2/22/12

ASH WEDNESDAY

8:40 am School Start Time

11:00 am Mass (Formal

Uniform Only)

3:00 pm Dismissal

Letters of Intent Due Today



**REMINDER: 5 MPH HOUR SPEED LIMIT IN
SCHOOL PARKING AT ALL TIMES!!**

DEAR HOLY SPIRIT FAMILIES AND STAFF,

Words can barely express our gratitude for the generosity you have shown on behalf of Delaney. Thanks to you, we will be attending the Microcephaly Convention in Phoenix in June where we will learn all we can about the best ways to help our little girl with her special needs. You have all truly shown the love of Jesus Christ at work in the world.

Thank you all, our Holy Spirit family!

Dave, Maureen, Grace, Madison & Delaney

ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE - This is a reminder to make a note of the start time for school and the end time for school next week on Ash Wednesday. We will be delaying the start of school until 8:40 am and we will dismiss at 3:00 pm. This is due to the high volume of traffic after the early morning Masses on Ash Wednesday.

CASH CALENDAR 2011/12 - This week's \$100.00 winner is Ms. Rosalinda Haft, ticket sold by Daphne Torres, Gr. 2. Congratulations!! Our next \$100.00 drawing will be on Tuesday, February 21st. We will also have another \$1,000.00 drawing that morning as well, so make sure all of your tickets are turned in.

LETTERS OF INTENT - Each family was sent a **Letter of Intent** that needs to be signed and returned by all school families. These letters will help us to know how many families will be returning to Holy Spirit School next fall. **Please return the letters as soon as possible, but, no later than, Wednesday, February 22nd. Thank you.**

NEW BROCHURE THANK YOU - Holy Spirit School has a newly updated brochure thanks to the many countless hours donated by the Brochure Team! Check it out on the



CSW Talent Show!

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HSS website under the "About Us" tab. The volunteer Parent Team members were: Richard Quitevis (Grade 2), Myrna Baker (Grade 4), Ceceil Nues (Grade 6), and Magdalena Garcia (Grades 4,6). We couldn't have done it without the support of Holy Spirit School Administration. A HUGE Thank You to all who helped create this information-filled document.

CASH FOR CLASS - Currently, Holy Spirit School is in third place in the Cash for Class contest. Please continue to save all receipts from the Fremont Hub and turn them in at the school office or in the Cash for Class container located on top of the information center in the school lobby. Thanks for all your support!

FACE APPLICATIONS - FACE applications are now available in the school office. If you would like to apply for financial aide for the coming school year you may pick up an application in the office, or you can go online and download an application. If you want to be considered for any type of financial aide next year, you must apply for FACE first. Also, if you have applied before, you must re-apply each year. Please call the school office if you have any questions regarding financial aide.

BASIC FUND APPLICATIONS - Applications for financial aide through the BASIC fund are now available in the school office and online at basicfund.org. The BASIC Fund scholarships are for families with children entering Catholic school for the first time. So if you have a new Kindergartener or sibling applying for the fall, you may qualify. If you are already receiving scholarship funds through BASIC, renewal forms will be sent to you in March, you do not need to fill out a new application unless you have a new student applying for the fall. Please call the school office if you have any questions regarding the BASIC Fund.

LILLIAN BLACK CHILDREN'S ART FESTIVAL - Holy Spirit Students will again participate in the Lillian Black Childrens' Arts Festival February 26 from 1 to 4 p.m. at Bishop O'Dowd High School. All are welcome to come to this wonderful event that showcases art and live performances of students throughout the diocese.

FATHER MATHEW'S 25TH JUBILEE - Please join us as we gather with gratitude to God in celebration of our Pastor's Priestly Silver Jubilee! All parishioners are cordially invited to the 25th Anniversary celebration on Saturday, February 18, 2012. Please plan to attend the 5:00 pm Mass followed by dinner (seating for the first 500) and an evening of celebration in the Parish Center.

Parish Gift to Father Mat - We are preparing a parish gift for Fr. Mathew to honor his special anniversary. Anyone wishing to contribute toward the gift please send your donation to the office "Attn. Fr. Mat's 25th Anniv." noted on the envelope. Thank you!

CAN YOU SPARE AN HOUR TO HELP THE NEEDY AFTER MASS? The Pastoral Council Social Justice Committee will be supporting a food drive on March 17th/18th at all Masses on behalf of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. We are looking for volunteers after every Mass (Saturday 5pm, Sunday 7:30am, 9am, 11am, 12:30pm, 5pm) to stay and help transport the canned food collected from the church to the St. Vincent de Paul storage area in the Governo House. Bring a truck if you have one. If you can spare 30 minutes to an hour after Mass, please contact Amy Wilhelm at amywilhelm1035@comcast.net to let us know when you can assist. We thank you for your involvement!

MERRY MART WINTER SALE - Merry Mart Uniform Store is having a 10% off sale beginning this Friday, Feb. 17th. Please see the flyer attached to this Update for more information. Merry Mart Scrip is sold in the school office!

SEE'S CANDY - The seventh graders at HSS will be selling See's Candies beginning today, Feb. 15th, as a fundraiser for their Yosemite trip and graduation fees. Easter is just around the corner so look for them, or call the office. There is no sales tax or trip to the busy mall to make it easy for you. Thank you for your support!

CHILI'S GIVES BACK ON LEAP DAY - Chili's Restaurant in the Fremont Hub is hosting a fundraiser for Holy Spirit School on **Wednesday, February 29th from 3-11pm**. Chili's will **donate 15%** of all sales to HSS for everyone who presents the promotional flyers or mentions this promotion during those times. Wait, there's more! Pay for your meal with a **Chili's Scrip card!** The school earns **11%** back when you use your Chili's scrip card available in the school office. But wait, I'm not done yet! Save your Chili's receipt and turn it in for **Cash for Class**. Yes, this one event has 3 ways to support our school. Please spread the word. Give



More HSS Talent!

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extra flyers to family and friends. You'll find flyers in the attachment section and on our school website. So leap on over and let Chili's do the cooking. We hope to see you there.

CRAB FEED RESERVATIONS - Please see the flyer regarding ticket sales for our Crab Feed & Auction on Saturday, March 10, 2012. This year's theme is "God Bless America". Tickets are available in the school office for \$40.00 per person. Use the flyer to start planning your group of 8 or more to get reserved seating.

CRAB FEED VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - Parent help is need to make our 11th Annual Crab Feed/Auction successful. Please see the flyer after this update for more information.

CAFE ESPIRITU/PARENT HOURS - We're OPEN! Why not come visit the cafe for BREAKFAST as early as 7:30 am? We serve bagels, cereal, oatmeal and breakfast items along with your morning beverages. We'd also love some parent volunteers. Donations are greatly appreciated. One parent hour may be earned each \$25 donation/supplies (unlimited) or 1/2 hour per dozen baked treats (maximum 2 dozen/week please). Treats must arrive before 7:30 am in Small Hall EVERY Friday school is in session. All proceeds from the cafe (minus costs) go back to our classrooms. Contact Team Chair, Joy Pastor, @510-378-4521 or email jpastor@workforclogic.com for more details on how you can earn parent hours or if you're interested in bringing treats! See you on Fridays and thanks for your support!

TAKE YOUR MARK, GET SET, GO...REGISTER TODAY. The 7th Annual Catch the Spirit 2 mile Family Fun Walk/Run will take place on Saturday, **March 31st** at Quarry Lakes in Fremont at 9:30 AM. It offers the perfect opportunity to experience all the same attributes of the larger formally organized races: a real start/finish line, bib numbers, an awards ceremony, an official race T-Shirt, plus great post-race refreshments waiting for you at the finish line! All of this while maintaining a family, fun, and exercising theme.

Last year's Catch the Spirit Family Fun Walk/Run was an overwhelming success. We had **over 300 registered** participants and profited over \$8,000 for our school. This year, if you refer at least 10 participants to register, you will receive a **FREE parking pass**. So encourage your family, friends, and neighbors to join. Make sure you have them include your name on the registration form!!

REMINDER: The Holy Spirit Class with the MOST registered participants will WIN a PIZZA or ICE CREAM party!! HELP your class win by registering TODAY!!

FAMILY FUN WALK/RUN EVENT SPONSOR NEEDED!!! As we gear up for the **March 31st Family Fun Walk/Run** we are looking for 2012 event sponsors to help make this an even more successful school event than last year. Please consider sponsoring at any level, **Spirit Sponsors - \$150; Bronze - \$300; Silver - \$500; Gold - \$1,000 and above.** We will highlight your business in Fun/Run publicity, T-Shirts and at the event. This is a great opportunity to promote your services to over 200 students and their families. This event cannot succeed without event sponsors!! If you are interested, PLEASE let Rosey L. (510-790-8354) or Lucia P. (791-2655) know by Friday, March 2nd.

REMINDER: If you, or your family, encourage an event sponsor, you will receive a **FREE \$10 gift card** to Starbucks!!

GALILEO SUMMER PROGRAM - Information flyers about the 2012 Galileo Summer Camps are now available in our information center in the school hallway. Programs are for Grades pre-K through 8th grade.

CYO SUMMER CAMP - Registrations are now being accepted for CYO Summer Camp. Register on-line at www.cyocamp.org, or see a copy of the flyer in the school lobby.

MOREAU CATHOLIC STUDENT OF THE MONTH - Allison Miranda, a 2011 graduate of Holy Spirit School, has been selected as a Student of the Month at Moreau Catholic High School. She was nominated by the AP, Mike Aquino. "Allison demonstrates what we want from a Moreau Catholic student- one who is aware of what is going on around her, takes actions when she notices something negatively impacting others, and speaking with others respectfully about these issues." Congratulations, Allison, we are all very proud of you.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO PARENTS - A new, potentially dangerous "teen fad" has made it's way to Holy Spirit School and we wanted to make all parents aware of this activity. It is called the Cinnamon Challenge. It involves students trying to swallow a spoonful of cinnamon. Because cinnamon is very absorbent, it can cause the student to cough, gasp for air and possibly vomit. It is especially dangerous for students with asthma. Although there have been videos shown on You Tube that are meant to be funny, this is very serious and schools have been held liable for not trying to stop this activity on their campuses. Cinnamon has been confiscated at Holy Spirit School and some students have talked about trying it. Please be aware of this new fad and speak with

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your children and warn them of the potential dangers of this activity. If you have any further concerns or information you would like to share, please contact Susan Buchanan.

NOTES FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

Dear Parents and Students of Holy Spirit School,

Please keep in mind that on Ash Wednesday, February 21st, Holy Spirit School will have a late start. School will begin at 8:40 AM and dismiss at 3:00 PM. Any students arriving before 8:25 AM will need to go to Extended Care in the Small Hall. Extended Care will begin as usual at 6:30 AM and will be open after school until 6:00 PM. We do this to prevent the high volume of traffic on that morning because of the 7:00 and 8:00 Masses. The students will attend the 11:00 AM Mass.

Ash Wednesday is the beginning of the Lenten season and is a day of fast and abstinence.

Keep in mind this is not so much a time of giving things up, as it is a time for change in our lives. Please discuss with your child/children what would be the best change he/she could make during this Lenten season. Your child may come up with ideas we may not have even thought of for him/her.

There is always so much going on and so much to keep up with for work, home and children. Here is a prayer by Joyce Rupp:

“How easy to believe that I am an instrument of your love when my life is going well, O God. How difficult to believe this when my life seems to be going nowhere, or is filled with many concerns and activities that wear me out. Yet, you greatly desire to proclaim your goodness through every part of my life, no matter what the situation is.... I am your messenger, ready to tell of your enormous kindness and mercy. I will trust in you. I believe that those with whom I live and work will see your love shining through all I am and all I do. It is your radiance within me that will transform the bits and pieces of my life into a tapestry of ardent devotion. Thank you for being present in my life and for calling to me with your gracious voice of unconditional love. Amen.”

God's blessings today and always,

Susan C. Buchanan

Harmony~Belief~Achiever~Responsibility~Developer~