



### Weekly Newsletter

**October 4, 2019**

#### Catholic Identity Program Effectiveness Survey

Every three years, the Catholic schools of the Archdiocese of Washington conduct the Catholic Identity Program Effectiveness Survey. This survey, a requirement for retaining our accreditation with Cognia, seeks to measure satisfaction with criteria aligned to strong Catholic identity and program effectiveness. The results of this survey will help identify school and archdiocesan-wide program strengths and challenges and will also help inform our priorities for school and archdiocesan strategic planning.

It is important we receive feedback from all members of the school community- parents, students, faculty and staff- regarding our programs and how we can continue to grow and improve in the coming year. Please click the following survey link to provide your valuable parent feedback. Your responses will remain anonymous.

[Click Here to Take the Survey!](#)

#### Tuition Assistance Applications **VERY IMPORTANT!!!**

The window for families to apply for tuition assistance for the 2020-21 school year began on October 1 and ends on December 6. The process requires that you submit tax documents and other forms. We **strongly encourage** every single St. Mary's family apply for tuition assistance.

There are two tuition assistance funds, one from the Archdiocese of Washington and one from St. Mary's Parish. The amount of money that is distributed by the Archdiocese of Washington is partially determined by the number of tuition assistance applications they receive from our families. The more applications the Archdiocese of Washington receives, the more assistance we will be able to provide to all of our students. Even if you do not think your family qualifies for assistance, please apply anyway.

The question was asked last week whether or not 8th grade students should apply for tuition assistance. We do encourage all 8th grade students to apply, even if you decide not to attend to an ADW high school. If you have children in elementary and high school, you only have to apply once for all of your children.

In addition to the money from the Archdiocese, we also have assistance available from St. Mary's Parish. **YOU MUST APPLY FOR TUITION ASSISTANCE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE** in order to be awarded assistance from St. Mary's Parish. The admissions team will be very strict about this policy for the 2020-21 school year. You will receive several notices between now and December 6th. Thank you in advance for your attention to this.

#### National Junior Society Induction Ceremony - October 17

Please join us on Thursday, October 17th at 2:00 pm to congratulate the National Junior Honor Society inductees from 7th and 8th Grades. The National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) elevates a school's commitment to the values of scholarship, service, leadership, character, and citizenship. These five pillars have been associated with membership in the organization since its inception in 1929.

Today, it is estimated that more than one million students participate in NJHS activities. NJHS chapters are found in all 50 states, US Territories, and around the world. Chapter membership not only recognizes students for their accomplishments, but challenges them to develop further through active involvement in school activities and community service.

Five main purposes have guided chapters of NJHS from the beginning: to create



### Looking Ahead

#### † Tuesday, October 8

Gonzaga and Visitation HS  
Presentation for 7th & 8th Graders  
11:20

#### † Thursday, October 10

St. Anselm's and Holy Cross HS  
Presentation for 7th & 8th Graders  
1:00

#### † Monday, October 14

Federal Holiday  
No School

#### † Thursday, October 17

National Junior Honor Society  
Induction Ceremony 2:00  
4th Grade Field trip to  
Historic St. Mary's City

#### † Friday, October 18

HSA Fall Family Festival 6:00-8:00

#### † Sunday-Saturday, October 20-26

National Friends of Libraries Week

#### Monday-Friday, October 21-25

Scholastic Book Fair

#### † Friday, October 25

End of the 1st Quarter

#### † Monday, October 28

All School Mass

#### † Tuesday, October 29

**Livescan Fingerprinting 4:30-6:30**

**Virtus Training in Parish Hall**

**Protecting God's Children for**

**Adults 6:30-9:30**

#### † Wednesday, October 30

Silver Diner Family Fun Night!  
(wear your Halloween costume)

*Please note that the date of this event  
changed from 10/29 to 10/30*

#### † Thursday, October 31

Early Dismissal 12:00  
Parent/Teacher Conferences  
Report Cards Sent Home

#### † Friday, November 1

All Saints Day  
Conference Day  
School Closed

#### † Sunday, November 3

Daylight Savings Time  
Fall Back

#### † Monday, November 4

Teacher Collaboration Day  
School Closed

#### † Tuesday, November 5

Election Day  
SCHOOL IS OPEN



enthusiasm for scholarship; to stimulate a desire to render service; to promote leadership; to encourage responsible citizenship; and to develop character in the students of secondary schools. These purposes also translate into the criteria used for membership selection in each local chapter.

### Little Flower Girls Club

We will be starting the Little Flower Girls Club for girls in grades 3-5. This club teaches virtues through scripture, crafts, activities and service projects. The club will meet once a month on Wednesdays from 3:20-4:00 in the 3rd grade classroom. We will have our 1st meeting on Wednesday October 23rd. Students need to be picked up at the front entrance at 4:00. Students not picked up will be signed into After Care and applicable fees will be applied. Register your daughter by logging into your [OrgsOnline.com](https://OrgsOnline.com) account and clicking on "Enrichment."

### Oops! Forgot Lunch?



It happens. Sometimes students forget to pack a lunch or forgot to order hot lunch. No worries! If your student forgets their lunch, we will provide an Oops lunch that consists of a cheese stick, fruit cup, granola bar, and a water. A \$4 charge will be added to your OrgsOnline.com account. Please let your child know that if they forget their lunch to let the lunch attendant or teacher know. Often times the child will not speak up and tell someone they're hungry. If you have questions, please call the school office.



**LITTLE FLOWER GIRLS CLUB**

This new club is for girls in grades 3-5 and teaches virtues through scripture, crafts, activities and service projects. The club will meet once a month on Wednesdays from 3:15-4:00 and will be overseen by Mrs. True and Mrs. Hare. Log into your OrgsOnline.com account and click on Enrichment to register your daughter today!

### Virtus Volunteer Training Class and Fingerprinting Here at St. Mary's!

We were able to secure a Virtus Training session, *Protecting God's Children for Adults*, on Tuesday, October 29 from 6:30-9:30 pm here at St. Mary's Parish Hall. If you or one of your family members would like to volunteer at our school or chaperone on field trips, please be sure to have them attend this class. You must register in advance! Log in to your Virtus account (or create a new account) at [www.VirtusOnline.org](https://www.VirtusOnline.org).

In addition to the class, we also booked the company *Prevent First* to come out and do Livescan fingerprinting from 4:00-6:30 ahead of the class. The cost for fingerprinting is \$59 (\$61 if paying with a credit card). Click [HERE](#) to register for fingerprinting only. We will send out an e-mail reminder a few days before the fingerprinting session.

We do not often have Virtus classes at our school, so this is a great opportunity to get both steps accomplished in one day. Remember, each family is required to complete at least 20 hours of volunteer service at the school each year and you must be Virtus cleared to participate. If you are unsure about your Virtus clearance status, please contact the school office.



**NAVSEA**  
WARFARE CENTERS  
Indian Head EOD Technology Division

**CCPL/NSWC**  
INDIAN HEAD EOD TECHNOLOGY DIVISION  
**STEM FEST**  
@ WALDORF WEST  
**OCT 26 @ 1-4 PM | AGES: 8+**

PARTNERING WITH THE NSWC INDIAN HEAD EOD TECHNOLOGY DIVISION  
**10405 O'Donnell Pl, Waldorf, MD 20603**

COME ONE COME ALL!  
LET'S CELEBRATE FALL AT

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL OF PISCATAWAY

# FALL FESTIVAL

OCTOBER 18, 2019 | 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM  
13407 PISCATAWAY DRIVE  
CLINTON, MD 20735

GAMES, PRIZES, AND FUN!

