



All Saints Catholic School

A semi-annual newsletter for the fans of All Saints Catholic School

3418 Noble Avenue • Richmond, Virginia

Fall 2016



Segura Initiative at All Saints

In 2009, All Saints became an early adopter of the Segura Initiative. The Initiative, created by the Office of Schools and the Office of Hispanic Ministry at the Catholic Diocese of Richmond, seeks to provide Hispanic students the opportunity to receive a quality education in a Catholic environment. What began as a few students has now grown to 25% of All Saints' student population. All Saints is committed to providing excellent educational options for Hispanic Catholic families. In 2013, Mr. Soistman and others from the school participated in training at the University of Notre Dame to recruit and retain Hispanic families. Additionally, the school raises the needed tuition assistance, helps to provide bus transportation and provides bilingual translation for parents. Senora Yenni Leon, All Saint's Spanish teacher, serves as an advocate for families in the Segura program. She works to provide support for the families and create an inclusive culture with activities like those held during Hispanic Heritage Month and around Holy Days.

Hispanic Heritage Family Night

For the second year, All Saints hosted a Hispanic Heritage Family Night for all families to celebrate the heritage and culture of Hispanic and Latino Americans in the United States. This year's celebration included a wax museum, cuisine sampling, crafts, and Hispanic songs and dances. The entertainment included children and parents, and every grade had a part.

The Bright Future of Segura Students at All Saints

The inaugural students of the Initiative at All Saints have graduated and are now in high school and doing well. A few of the students are at Benedictine Prep, including Julio and Abraham, who both graduated from All Saints in 2013. Julio is a National Honors Society student, captain of the Band Company and captain of the Soccer Team. Abraham is the Command Sergeant Major and teaches confirmation classes at his Catholic parish. All Saints is very proud of its alumni!

Join us for a special Mass for Our Lady of Guadalupe, Thursday, December 17th, 11:10 am in the All Saints auditorium.

All Souls and Dia de los Muretos

A Mass was held for All Souls Day to honor the dead, after which a presentation was made by the 8th Graders, led by Senora Leon, about the Day of the Dead or Dia de los Muertos. The presentation included an altar of mementos of the dearly departed and traditional dancing. Parents and students painted their faces with a skull; a half-skull represents the brief transition between life and death. Students then sampled Day of the Dead sweetbread and hot cocoa prepared by the Segura parents.



All Saints is Happening



Classroom STEM and LEGO Robotics Thrive

All Saints is extremely proud of its LEGO Robotics program. Now in its sixth year, the two teams, "The Amazing Knights" and "Flaming Marshmallows" are preparing their robots and research for the 2016 FIRST® LEGO® League Challenge, "Animal Allies." Additionally, middle school students have been putting S.T.E.M. in action in Miss Kelly's classroom. Sixth graders engineered an ecosystem in a bottle, and seventh-graders applied their knowledge of Newton's Laws of Motion to protect an egg (and it's yolk!) from cracking during a fall from a classroom window.

All Saints Families Give Back

All Saints' families participate in numerous community service projects throughout the year. Recently, the school has raised funds for World Missions Month to help a school in Uganda, Breast Cancer & Cures and collected peanut butter for FeedMore.



Dr. Crutcher Encourages Mentoring

Dr. Ronald Crutcher, the President of the University of Richmond, spoke to the All Saints student body about mentoring. He shared his story which includes his experiences riding a bus 90 minutes one way to take cello lessons on the weekends. He also brought cookies for the entire student body and donated peanut butter to the LEGO Robotics teams' collection for FeedMore.



Celebration of Sr. Betty's Golden Jubilee

All Saints honored Sr. Betty Pfeigler, the school's first principal, on her Golden Jubilee--50 years of service with the Sisters of Mercy.



Speak Up Club and Peace Chain

All Saints recently started a Speak Up Club for middle school students. Speak Up Club members commit to being ambassadors of kindness each and every day. The Club's emergence was partially in response to some students attending the Prejudice Awareness Summit. Also, recently, the entire student body participated in a Peace Gathering and is working to build a Peace Chain which grows when students/teachers identify others being kind.



Go Knights! Soccer Teams Have Winning Records

All Saints' co-ed soccer team for grades 7 and 8 had a winning record this season. They are also having a fun time coming together as a team.



"Trunk or Treat" is Spooky Fun

The PTO's annual "Trunk or Treat" on Halloween was a spooky delight! Families visited decorated car trunks, enjoyed face painting, the cake walk and chili cook-off and received a fright in the "Haunted Hallway" created by the 8th Graders.



All Saints & Notre Dame Club Hosts Hesburgh Lecture

All Saints and the Notre Dame Club of Richmond presented the 2016 Hesburgh Lecture by noted Notre Dame Professor Dr. Brian S. Collier: "Save Our Schools, Save Our Country, and Save Your Family." Dr. Collier used his personal experiences and history to prompt attendees to think about changing their own family structure to ensure kids are getting the education they need to help re-shape America.



Volunteers Are the Best!

All Saints could not function without volunteers. Parents are encouraged to provide 10 hours a year. Already through October, 89 families have volunteered 496 hours! Also, 18 community volunteers regularly serve at the school providing tutoring, after-school programs, office support, etc. Additionally, in October, Diocesan staff volunteered at the school during their Annual Day of Volunteering.

New Faculty Join All Saints

All Saints is very excited to have two teachers, Miss Taylor Kelly and Mr. Sean Tenaglia, through a partnership with the University of Notre Dame's ACE (Alliance for Catholic Education) Program. This program places specially-selected graduate students at Catholic schools for two years. Miss Kelly teaches middle school science and Mr. "T" teaches middle school English. The school also welcomed a part-time School Counselor, Mr. Burgess, who also serves as the P.E. teacher. School counseling is a new service at All Saints. Additionally, the school welcomes Mr. Chris White for Technology and the middle school After-School Program, and Mrs. Magdiel Sampson as a full-time Kindergarten Assistant.





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All Saints Catholic School, "Gem of the Northside," is a fully accredited Pre-K through 8th grade

Find us on Facebook - "All Saints-RIC"



Holiday Appeal

Dear Fans of All Saints Catholic School,

What are your favorite memories of the holidays at school? A Christmas pageant? Sharing your Christmas list with friends? Singing holiday carols? Holiday parties or collecting cans for a food drive?

All those things and more are a part of the holidays for students at All Saints.

Your contributions have helped make All Saints an exceptional Catholic educational choice for so many families, many of whom could not afford it otherwise.

We are so grateful to you for helping to create and support an environment that reflects the feeling of the season all year long.

Recently, on a parent survey, parents overwhelmingly told us their favorite thing about the school is its family atmosphere. One parent wrote: "We have been very happy. There is a warmth to the school. Teachers love their jobs and the children -- and it shows! Value of education. Children are kind and polite to adults."

All Saints exists to serve families. Your gift is extremely important because it offers immediate resources that are directed to current needs and opportunities at the school.

Your gift of **\$1,000** will help make an immediate impact on available tuition assistance.

Your gift of **\$500** will help make an immediate impact on urgently needed technology.

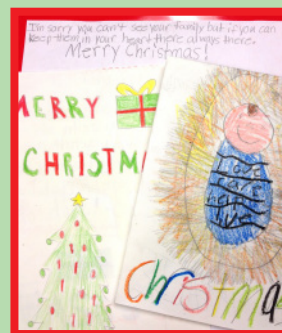
Your gift of **\$100** will make an immediate impact on needed classroom materials.

A gift of any amount is greatly appreciated and put to good use.

You know how important a good education has been to your life. And you know that making an investment in education is making an investment in all our futures.

Our families, Board members, faculty and staff -- everyone here who works to help build that future, joins us in thanking you for your generous partnership and support.

Please send your gift today. A remittance envelope is enclosed. Your donation is helping to make our community better. Right here. Right now.



Sincerely,

Ron Reger
Chair

Ken Soistman
President

Wanda Wallin
Principal