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Kenneth W. Soistman, President  
Michael Kelleher, Principal

## Frequently Asked Questions 2020-2021

### **Why choose All Saints Catholic School?**

All Saints Catholic School provides superior academics and values in a safe and supportive environment. We are a regional school with a diverse student body--religiously, racially, and socio-economically. We offer Junior Kindergarten through Grade 8, and provide an After School Program. All Saints is staffed by a faculty of whom over 50% have advanced degrees. High school credits are available for Algebra 1, Earth Science, Spanish 1, and World History. We have a championship LEGO Robotics program, and actively integrate technology, STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) and hands-on learning in our classrooms, curriculum and extracurricular activities. We have offered a variety of extracurricular activities like Environmental Action Club, 4-H STEM club, choir, drama, basketball, and soccer. 100% of our students have graduated from high school, including several valedictorians and more than 90% have gone on to college. Schedule a visit to our growing campus and see why All Saints is an invaluable investment for your child's future!

### **Do you have to be Catholic to apply?**

No, All Saints Catholic School is a faith-based school that is open to both Catholic and non-Catholic families. Mass is held weekly and Religion class is a core class held daily. About 40% of our current student body is Catholic. We invite you to request to see the Religion curriculum during your tour if you have questions.

### **What grades are offered?**

We offer Junior Kindergarten through eighth grade. Junior Kindergarten is full day, five days a week.

### **What are school hours?**

- Early drop-off begins at 7:30 a.m.
- 7:50 a.m. to 3 p.m.; monthly early dismissal days
- Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten are full day
- After School Program is available until 6 p.m. (Additional cost)

### **Is financial aid available and how/when do I apply?**

Need-based financial aid is available. All applications for aid are made online at [www.online.factsmgmt.com](http://www.online.factsmgmt.com) and must be submitted between January 1 and March 1 each year.

### **What resource classes do you offer?**

Once a week, students take P.E., Spanish, music, art, and STEM.

### **Do you have resources for children who are above grade level or need extra help?**

Middle school students have the opportunity to graduate with high school credits in Algebra I, Geo Science, Spanish I, and World History. Our dynamic faculty, of whom nearly half have masters degrees, focus on providing individualized attention for students. We are fortunate to have extremely qualified teacher aides who

provide additional assistance in the classroom in Junior Kindergarten through Grade 2, as well as a licensed Title 1 Resource teacher for qualifying students.

### **Where do graduates typically attend high school?**

The majority of our students attend public high schools offering challenging specialty baccalaureate programs. Our graduates also attend both Saint Gertrude High School and Benedictine College Preparatory, in addition to other private schools. 100% of All Saints graduates have graduated from high school.

### **How do I apply to your school?**

- Schedule a tour of the school with our Admissions Office by calling (804) 329-7524, or by email to [jgilman@allsaintsric.org](mailto:jgilman@allsaintsric.org).
- Complete the application form and return it to the school with the \$175 registration fee per family. Enrollment Applications for the 2021-2022 school year may be submitted beginning in November 2020. Please check the Admissions Process page for updates: [allsaintsric.org/admissions/admission-process](http://allsaintsric.org/admissions/admission-process)
- Schedule an entrance test and “shadow” day for your child.
- Submit a birth certificate, health forms, and transcript release for each child. You will be informed about acceptance decisions in Spring 2021 once paperwork and transcripts are received.
- New parent packets will be provided in Summer 2021.

### **What is a “shadow” day?**

Students in Grades 4 or higher may benefit from a “shadow” day where they spend a full day at All Saints in the classroom. The student will meet fellow students, the teachers and staff and get a feel for All Saints’ schedule and atmosphere. Shadow days are typically scheduled after an application is submitted. Due to Covid, we are not holding shadow days at this time.

### **Do students have access to current technology?**

All grades JK-8th have access to current technology. Teachers and students access the Internet wirelessly via Google Chromebooks which provide one-to-one computing in grades K through eight. Google Apps for Education is used by students and teachers for ease of file sharing and collaboration. Younger students have computer centers for building computer literacy and skills reinforcement. All of our classrooms are technologically-integrated with SMART boards, large screen TV’s, and Google Chromebooks.

### **What online tools are available for parents?**

Parents have access to Renweb/FACTS which allows parents to access grades, homework, behavior, and attendance records for most grades. Parents can also pay for after school care online. Another FACTS program manages tuition payments.

### **Are there opportunities for parents to get involved?**

We have an active PTO. All parents are asked to provide 10 hours of volunteer time during the year. These may be spent as a field trip chaperone, one-on-one reading with students in classrooms, PTO functions such as the Carnival, assisting with after-school clubs, assisting in the office, etc. All volunteers who work with children are required to take the “Protecting God’s Children” training provided by the school. See more on the PTO page: [allsaintsric.org/parents/pto](http://allsaintsric.org/parents/pto)

### **What about the uniforms?**

All Saints values education and not materialistic things, objects, or fads that would interfere with the learning process. Adherence to the dress code is mandatory. Students are required to wear school uniforms each school

day. Uniforms are purchased from a specific vendor. P.E. uniforms can be purchased from the school office. For more detailed uniform information, please see the Uniform Info page: [allsaintsric.org/parents/uniforms](http://allsaintsric.org/parents/uniforms)

### **How is All Saints accredited?**

All Saints Catholic School is accredited by AdvancEd whose accreditation process has been approved by the Virginia Council for Private Education Committee on Accreditation as authorized by the Virginia State Board of Education. All Saints adheres to the policies and guidelines set forth for Catholic schools in the Catholic Diocese of Richmond.

### **What is the curriculum?**

All schools of the Richmond Diocese use the Consensus Curriculum. Each grade's curriculum can be viewed at <http://richmonddiocese.org/office/catholic-schools/>. These are the minimum standards and often our excellent teachers prepare additional creative activities and learning experiences. In addition to the regular curriculum, All Saints offers weekly courses in P.E., Spanish, Art, STEM and Music in all grades.

### **What are the teachers' qualifications?**

Over half of our teaching staff have master's degrees. The dedicated faculty includes new graduates and veterans of 20+ years.

### **What is the average class size?**

While the Diocese allows up to 28 students per class (except for Jr-Kindergarten which is capped at 20), we typically cap each class at 24. There are some classes with significantly less - around just 15 students. Overall, we have 10 grades and 200 students total for an average of 20 students per class. We have classroom aides in Jr-Kindergarten through grade 2.

### **Does my child need to bring lunch?**

Yes. All students will need to bring lunch and snacks from home daily. Students do not have the use of a refrigerator or microwave.

### **What extracurricular activities are currently offered?**

All Saints has offered activities such as LEGO Robotics, Engineering Club, soccer, basketball, choir, student government, Drama Club, Environmental Action Club, and Digital Productions Club, cooking club, Legacy Chess, Run Club, Art Club, swimming and many more! The school also participates in community service projects throughout the year. For the latest offerings and schedules, please visit the Extra-Curricular Activities page: [allsaintsric.org/beyond-classroom/extra-curricular](http://allsaintsric.org/beyond-classroom/extra-curricular)

### **What about the After-School Program?**

All Saints offers an after-school program for its students from the end of school to 6 pm each school day. The After-School Program operates ONLY when school is in session, and is only open to enrolled All Saints students. The cost is \$50/person. The program is supervised by program coordinators and our teachers and includes physical fitness, help with homework, snack time and activities. For more information, please visit the After-School page: [allsaintsric.org/beyond-classroom/after-school-program](http://allsaintsric.org/beyond-classroom/after-school-program)

### **What about transportation?**

Transportation to and from school is on your own. Transportation to field trips, after-school activities, etc. is generally offered by the school for a nominal fee.

### **What is the administrative structure at All Saints?**

In July 2019, Michael Kelleher became Principal. The principal is supervised by the Superintendent of Schools in the Catholic Diocese of Richmond, Kelly Lazarra. The principal is responsible for the day-to-day operations and enrollment of the school. Ken Soistman, President, who joined All Saints in 1996, oversees finance, fundraising, marketing, and facilities. The administrative team includes Patrizia Humphrey, Director of Curriculum and Instruction; Jessica Gilman, Admissions and Enrollment Director; and Wikita Coleman, Office Administrator. The entire staff, including our teachers, aides, and the administrative team, works together to uphold the mission of All Saints and to ensure the school is well-run.