

School of the Incarnation Newsletter

Thursday, November 7, 2024

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|--------------------------|---|
| Friday, November 8th: | ½ Day (Noon) Dismissal – ESP in session - Parent/Teacher Conferences Spirit Wear Day |
| Thursday, November 14th: | Mass for students in Grades K - 2 10:00 AM |
| Friday, November 15th: | Remote Day for Students - please see attachment for more information End of Trimester 1 |
| Tuesday, November 19th: | 7th Gr. Field Trip - Gallery of Art, Washington DC 8:30 AM - 2:00 PM |
| Wednesday, Nov. 20th: | House Meeting Day- students may wear their house color PAC Spirit Night at Rinconcito Mexicano, Odenton 5:00 - 8:30 PM |
| Thursday, November 21st: | Hearing & Vision Screening for students in PreK, K, 1st, 8th and new students |
| Friday, November 22nd: | Spirit Wear Day Trimester 1 Report Card sent home via email |
| Monday, November 25th: | School Mass 10:00 AM |
| Tuesday, November 26th: | Grandparent & Special Friends Day |
| November 27 - 29: | School Closed - Thanksgiving Break |
| Sunday, December 1st: | Advent Begins |
| Tuesday, December 3rd: | Christmas Band Concert 6:30 - 8:00 PM |
| Wednesday, Dec. 4th: | HSPT for 8th Grade students |
| Friday, December 6th: | Spirit Wear Day |
| Saturday, December 7th: | PAC Christmas Express - more details to follow |
| Monday, December 9th: | Feast Day celebration of St. Juan Diego: out-of-uniform day for Orange House members only |



Grandparents & Special Friends Day

Grandparents & Special Friends Day is back and we can't wait to meet our students' special guests!

Date: November 26, 2024

Time: The event will be divided into 3 sessions based on grade level:

- Session 1: 8:30-9:45 A.M. Grades 1, 4, 7
- Session 2: 10:00-11:15 A.M. Grades Pre-K, K, 3, 6
- Session 3: 11:30-12:45 P.M. Grades 2, 5, 8

Place: Marian Hall, followed by a visit to your student's classroom

RSVP: Register [here](#)

Please note: For planning purposes, we ask that ALL families (whether you plan to have a guest attend or not) RSVP.

Do you have questions? We have answers! Please see our attached FAQ for answers to the most common questions you may have about Grandparents and Special Friends Day.

We need many helping hands to make this day special for our students and their guests! Please see the link below for more information and to sign up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A4CA8A62EA7F8C70-53014625-grandparents#/>

A special note about this very special day: As an act of service and gratitude, we ask that each student pack a snack to share with their grandparent or special friend. We encourage the students to complete this with as little parental assistance as possible so that the snack is truly a gift from them to their special guest.

Contact Meghan Brown at mbrown@schooloftheincarnation.org for any further questions.

Remote Day for students - Friday, November 15

Friday, November 15th (end of the first trimester) will be a remote day for students - an asynchronous learning day. **Please see the attachment at the end of the newsletter** for more information regarding asynchronous learning for end of trimester remote day and asynchronous learning for inclement weather day (snow day). They are very, very similar, but not identical. The difference is related to when work is posted.

Donations are Needed

Our next House Meeting will be on Wednesday, November 20. During that house meeting, students will learn about gratitude and decorate and pack breakfast bags for the homeless. These will be taken to [Happy Helpers for the Homeless](#). To contribute items for this activity, please see below. Please send in peanut free items only. Thank you.

- K/1: paper cups (for hot liquids), spoons, napkins
- 2nd: Individual small cereal size boxes
- 3rd: granola bars/nutrigrain bars
- 4th: fruit cups/applesauce cups
- 5th: hot chocolate packs (individual packets)
- 6th: juices boxes
- 7th: oatmeal packets (individual)
- 8th: paper bags(lunch size)

Vision and Hearing Screening – Volunteers are STILL needed – Can you help??

On Thursday, November 21, 2024, we will be conducting hearing and vision screenings for our PreK, Kindergarten, 1st, 8th grade students and all new students joining SOTI this year. The screenings will be organized and supervised by the Lion's Association for Sight and Hearing of Maryland, Inc. (L.A.S.H.), who will also provide training for our volunteers.

To make this important event successful, we are seeking 15-18 VIRTUS-certified parent volunteers. While some parents will screen students, we also need additional hands to keep things flowing and walk students to and from the screening. There will be a training session for volunteers from 8:00 to 8:30 AM, after which screenings will continue throughout the school day until all students have been seen. Volunteers are welcome to participate for the entire day or for a portion of it.

Your support is crucial for this event to take place. We hope you will consider volunteering to help our students receive these essential screenings. **Contact Sue Toth, RN at stoth@schooloftheincarnation.org if you can help** or for any questions.

Save the Dates!! More Details to Follow

- Tuesday, November 26th: Grandparents & Special Friends Day - see above for more details
- Friday, May 9th: The Gala 2025
The Westin, Annapolis
Room Blocks & VIP Packages Available

8th Grade Registration for HSPT

Registration for the High School Placement Test (HSPT) is currently open online. You may access the site via the link below, and our **deadline for registration is Tuesday, November 26, 2024**. Please, note that a \$45.00 fee is required to be paid online at the time of registration.

For students who qualify to receive accommodations, parents must upload official copies of educational test results by November 22nd. This is a firm deadline because the system will lock afterward, preventing further uploads.

<https://stsusers.com/stsusers/registration/static/baltimore.php>

SOTI students will take the exam in school on Wednesday, December 4th, and it is important that they register to test at School of the Incarnation. The high schools are listed in the first section on the registration site, and you will need to scroll through those choices to find the elementary/middle schools toward the bottom of the page.

As always, you may request to have results sent to three Archdiocese of Baltimore high schools. You may also select two Archdiocese of Washington schools for an additional \$10.00 each. (Please, note that there is no refund offered for the ADW school fees.)

House Feast Day Celebrations

Monday, December 9th-

Monday, December 9th is the Feast Day of **St. Juan Diego** and students who are members of his house (Orange House) may dress out-of-uniform. Students must wear the color **ORANGE**. Students who have PE must wear sneakers. Please refer to the Parent/Student Handbook for out-of-uniform guidelines.

Monday, February 10th-

Saturday, February 8th is the Feast Day of **St. Josephine Bakhita**. Her Feast Day will be observed on Monday, February 10th and students who are members of her house (Green House) may dress out-of-uniform. Students must wear the color **GREEN**. Students who have PE must wear sneakers. Please refer to the Parent/Student Handbook for out-of-uniform guidelines.

The Spirit Wear store is always open!!

The new Spirit Wear store will stay open year round. Items may change based on the season or special events. These items will be shipped directly to your home.

<https://chesapeakedistribution.com/collections/school-of-the-incarnation>

2024-2025 School Year

Remote Day for Students - Friday, November 15, 2024

Thanksgiving Break: November 27 - 29, 2024

Christmas Break: December 23, 2024 – January 1, 2025

Remote Day for Students - Friday, February 28, 2025

School Closed (Professional Day) - Friday, March 21, 2025

School Closed - Monday, March 24, 2025

Easter Break: April 18 - 25, 2025

Last day of classes for 8th grade students: Friday, May 23, 2025

Last day of classes for Pre-K students: Friday, May 30, 2025

8th Grade Graduation: Saturday, May 31, 2025

Last day of classes for students (Grade K-7): Thursday, June 5, 2025



*link to school calendar: <https://www.schooloftheincarnation.org/events/calendar>

Volunteer Certification

If you are new to School of the Incarnation and would like to volunteer or chaperone for an upcoming event or field trip, you must complete Virtus training. Please follow the steps outlined on our website. The link can be found here: <https://www.schooloftheincarnation.org/resources/parent-volunteering>

If you need assistance or have questions, please contact Lisa Hanson, Volunteer Screening Coordinator, at lhanson@schooloftheincarnation.org

Returning parents who have already completed Virtus training can contact Lisa Hanson to check your Virtus status.

ESP Teachers/Aids Needed for 24-25 School Year

Do you know a college student or older high school student who loves to work with children and is looking for some part-time work? Our ESP program is hiring staff for the afternoons (3:15-5:30 PM). In order to be considered for ESP Teacher positions, the candidate must be 18 years old. Teens 16-18 are eligible to be considered for assistant positions. Please contact Lisa Bucci, lbucci@schooloftheincarnation.org for more information.



BEYOND PROGRAM INFORMATION

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Please consider giving the gift of your time and talents! VIRTUS certified family members (parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, close friends) are also welcome to volunteer.

CLUB HAPPENINGS:

The Dance and Cheer Squad members have been learning different dance routines and sideline cheers during their recent meetings. They were able to cheer at the girls' final home soccer game last week, which was enjoyed by the soccer team as well as families who had come to watch the game.

The Lego Explore Teams and the Robotics Challenge Team continue to engage in this year's theme, "Submerged," which has a focus on careers related to bodies of water as well as plants and animals that live within them. Team members are also learning about and practicing the program's "Core Values" of teamwork, inclusion, impact, fun, discovery, and innovation.

The Arts and Crafts Club for 1st and 2nd graders had fun making Halloween themed projects last week and will continue to create artwork with Autumn themes.

The Junior Joggers Running Club and the Guys on the Go running team continue to participate in running games, pace themselves while running laps, remember the importance of staying hydrated and choosing healthy snacks.

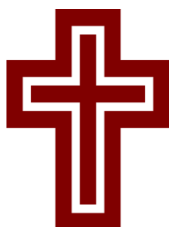
The Knights Chess Club members continue to practice their game skills and learn some strategies of the game from Mr. Ian Gill. Their final session will be held on Nov. 11th.

The Co-Ed Tag Rugby Club has its final session on Nov. 22nd for this introductory season. In the Spring, the hope is to have more students participate in this club so that our school can play against other area schools who have the same program.

REMINDERS:

- The next "round" for new club groups to be formed will occur during Trimester 2/Winter session. Look for Interest Forms to be posted in next week's newsletter.
- At the end of the club meeting, all students are brought to the front doors to check if a parent has arrived for pick up. If needed, ESP students are sent to their ESP class for regular pick up.
- Snacks are optional and are meant to be a quick, healthy food item (fresh or dried fruit or vegetable, applesauce pouch, tree nuts, and a small protein bar are great options). Please...NO candy, chips, cookies, etc. Labeling the item with "club" is helpful to avoid it being eaten at lunch time.

If you have any questions or ideas for a club, please contact our school's Auxiliary Services Coordinator, Amy Santini at asantini@schooloftheincarnation.org



The God Spot

Adoration Volunteers are Needed for Friday, December 6th

On Friday, December 6th we will have Adoration in our school chapel. We are looking for volunteer adorers to provide coverage for 30-60 minute blocks between the hours of 8:30-2:30. This will allow the teachers to bring their classes in for adoration according to their schedule throughout the day.

To volunteer, please click on this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0849AFA92AA5F5C25-52458768-volunteers>

For general information on Adoration, you may want to visit the following website for Catholic articles and resources: <https://catholic-link.org/how-to-go-to-adoration-eucharist/>

Weekly Rosary

Parents, faculty, and staff are invited to participate in saying the rosary on Wednesday mornings at 7:15 a.m. in the chapel (enter through front doors – chapel through door to immediate right). We hope that you can join us for all or part of the rosary! Questions - please contact Ms. Hinton at chinton@schooloftheincarnation.org



Parent Advisory Council News

Save the Date! PAC Spirit Night!!

The next PAC Spirit Night will be on Wednesday, November 20, 5:00 - 8:30 PM at Rinconcito Mexicano restaurant, located in the Odenton shopping center at 1103 Annapolis Rd. A portion of the profits will be donated back to SOTI. We hope to see you there!

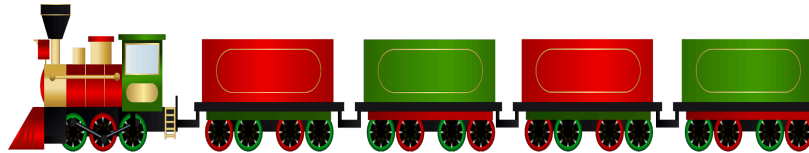


Join us for the Christmas Express!

We are thrilled to invite you to our annual Christmas Express event at School of the Incarnation! Let's kick off the holiday season together with joy, laughter, and festive cheer.

Date: Saturday, December 7, 2024

Please sign up below to volunteer: [2024 Christmas Express Volunteer Form](#)



Parent Advisory Council

Do you have questions or ideas? Please email the PAC at pac@schooloftheincarnation.org

PAC Facebook Page

Did you know the PAC has an [official Facebook page](#)? Join today to stay up to date on important PAC news and events!

From the Community

Mount de Sales Academy presents *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*

Mount de Sales Academy will be having a free preview show of *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory* this Friday, November 8th at 7pm. This is open to all middle school girls and their families. To register for the free preview or to purchase tickets please click on the link below (look at the bottom right corner for the middle school free production). <https://www.mountdesalesacademy.org/willy-wonka>

2025-2026 OLF Holy Name Society Scholarship Program

Our Lady of the Fields Holy Name Society is offering two \$1000 scholarships for the 2025-2026 school year. Application is open to all Our Lady of the Fields parishioners with children attending or planning to attend the School of the Incarnation from grade 1 to 8.

Applications are available at Our Lady of the Fields parish office or by clicking on the link below <https://www.ourladyofthefields.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/HNS-Scholarship-Application-for-2025-2026.pdf>

Completed applications must be received in a sealed envelope at the OLF Parish office by January 30, 2025. Every attempt will be made to notify the selected recipient in order to meet the SOTI registration requirement.

All applications will be held in strictest confidence and destroyed upon completion of the selection process.

Contact Dave Demers at 410-923-3205 or david.demers@verizon.net for any questions.

SOTI Asynchronous Remote Learning Days

End of Trimester Work Day

Per the updated AOB policy, there will be one day at the end of the first and second trimester designated as a teacher work day and asynchronous learning day for students. This is counted as a half-day instructional day for students and a full-day work day for all teachers and staff. There are no in person or online synchronous classes for students on this day. However, students will be provided with independent learning activities prior to the remote learning day which will be assessed and included in the next marking period. Students will be expected to complete lessons provided by teachers via Google classroom and SOTI Studies.

- Daily assignments will be posted on SOTI Studies for all grade levels by 5:00 PM the day prior to the asynchronous learning day.
- Attendance will be based on completion of assignments
- Assignments should be completed independently at home with minimal support needed.
 - PreK will have a simple activity to be completed at home
 - K-5 will have one assignment for both math and ELA with an additional assignment from religion, science, social studies, or cross-curricular. Each assignment should take approximately 20-30 minutes to complete.
 - Grades 6-8 will have one assignment for each core subject: math, ELA, religion, science, and social studies. Each assignment should be approximately 20-30 minutes to complete.
- Student work must be submitted to the teacher by the time they arrive at school on the next school day. Classwork and/or assessments that are due may be locked and marked as incomplete if not done in the expected window of time.

Inclement Weather Remote Learning Day

Per the AOB policy regarding inclement weather, after the first three inclement weather days of the year, the school will pivot to asynchronous learning for the next two inclement weather days. On those days, students will be expected to complete lessons provided by teachers via Google classroom and SOTI Studies.

- Daily assignments will be posted on SOTI Studies for all grade levels by 8:00 AM on asynchronous learning days.
- Attendance will be based on completion of assignments

- Assignments should be completed independently at home with minimal support needed.
 - PreK will have an optional activity to be completed at home
 - K-5 will have one assignment for both math and ELA with an additional assignment from religion, science, social studies, or cross-curricular. Each assignment should take approximately 20-30 minutes to complete.
 - Grades 6-8 will have one assignment for each core subject: math, ELA, religion, science, and social studies. Each assignment should be approximately 20-30 minutes to complete.
- Student work must be submitted to the teacher by the time they come to school the following day. Classwork and/or assessments that are due may be locked and marked as incomplete if not done in the expected window of time.
- Specials (art, PE, music, world cultures, Spanish) will not post assignments for weather-related school closures.
- Parents and students should communicate questions directly to the teachers.



SCHOOL OF THE
INCARNATION

GRANDPARENTS & SPECIAL FRIENDS DAY

PLEASE JOIN US!

NOVEMBER 26, 2024

I ♥ my
GRAND ♥
PARENTS

8:30 AM
-
9:45 AM

Grades 1, 4, 7

10:00 AM
-
11:15 AM

Grades Pre-K, K, 3, 6

11:30 AM
-
12:45 PM

Grades 2, 5, 8



PLEASE CLICK [HERE](#) TO RSVP AND REGISTER FOR THIS EVENT.

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS? WE HAVE ANSWERS! PLEASE SEE OUR ATTACHED FAQ TO FIND ANSWERS TO THE MOST COMMON QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE ABOUT GRANDPARENTS AND SPECIAL FRIENDS DAY.

SCHOOL OF THE
INCARNATION
**Grandparents &
Special Friends Day**
♥ 2024 ♥

Frequently asked **QUESTIONS**

Do you have questions? We have answers! Please take a moment to read through our FAQ to find answers to the most common questions you may have about Grandparents and Special Friends Day. If you can't find the answer you are looking for, please contact Meghan Brown at mbrown@schooloftheincarnation.org.

What is Grandparents and Special Friends Day? What can we expect?

This is a special event that allows our students to share SOTI with someone important in their life. Grandparents and special friends will gather in Marian Hall to hear from Ms. Baker about the wonderful things happening at SOTI every day. Then, they will have the opportunity to join their student in the classroom for visits full of hospitality, game playing and a special snack prepared for them by their student.

What time should grandparents arrive?

Grandparents should arrive no earlier than 15 minutes before their session starts to keep the parking lot moving smoothly.

Where do grandparents enter campus?

Grandparents should enter through the lower gate, just as you would for morning drop off.

Where should grandparents park?

We hope that many grandparents and special friends can attend this wonderful event! Please keep in mind that parking is limited on campus. Teachers and staff will be parking on the field, to allow for the entire lot (including the late lot) to be open for grandparents. There will be staff members in the lot to direct traffic. We also suggest carpooling if multiple grandparents and special friends from one family are attending the event. Another low-stress option is to arrange a ride from family members to drop off at the front door, so that visitors won't need to worry about parking at all.

What should we do if our Grandparent or special friend has mobility issues and requires assistance?

Please indicate that assistance is required in the appropriate space on the Registration Form. Someone will contact you to discuss arrangements.

Where should grandparents go upon arrival?

All visitors will check in at the registration tables located outside the front entrance of the school. From there, grandparents will be directed to Marian Hall. Student ambassadors will be in the lobby and hallways to escort our guests. Classroom visits will follow.

What should I do if my grandparent has more than one grandchild in the same session?

Grandparents can divide up between their students, or the older student may attend the program in the younger sibling's classroom.

What if a grandparent has students in more than one session?

Grandparents who are staying for consecutive sessions may return to Marian Hall at the conclusion of the classroom portion of the previous session. They do not need to return to the registration table. Grandparents who have a break in between sessions may choose to leave and return for their final session or they may return to Marian Hall and enjoy a cup of coffee while they wait for their final session to begin.

Will there be refreshments served?

As an act of service and gratitude, we ask that each student pack a snack to share with their grandparent or special friend. We encourage the students to complete this with as little parental assistance as possible so that the snack is truly a gift from them to their special guest. Coffee will be available in Marian Hall.

Can the student leave with his/her grandparent or special friend?

Students who have been given parental permission on the registration form may leave with a grandparent or special friend at the conclusion of the classroom visit. Students will be signed out directly from their classroom. Please note: **ALL GUESTS WHO ARE PERMITTED TO SIGN OUT STUDENTS MUST PROVIDE A VALID PHOTO I.D.**

What if my grandparent is going to multiple sessions? How will he/she sign out my other children?

At the conclusion of their final session, the grandparent should sign out the student they are with directly from the classroom. The grandparents and that child should then report to the front desk to have the remaining siblings signed out and called from their classrooms.

What if my student does not leave with his/her grandparent or special friend?

Your child will follow the normal dismissal procedures.

Should my child come to school if they do not have any guests attending?

Yes! While Grandparents & Special Friends Day is a special event where relatives can bond and see your children in action at school, we will take special care in ensuring that all of our students—whether they have a visitor or not—feel included during the day. If you choose for your student to stay at home, please follow the normal procedure for notifying the school of an absence.

**Donate
to the**

SOTI Cereal Drive!

**Benefitting our
local community!
November 4th-15th**

*One classroom per
wing will win a special
prize for the most
boxes donated!*





New Family Referral Program

Our current Incarnation families are by far the best ambassadors for spreading the word about our school! Our New Family Referral Program rewards current families with a one-time \$250 tuition credit for referring a new family who applies and enrolls. Here's how it works:

- If you know of a family that you believe may be interested in School of the Incarnation, complete the "New Family Referral Form" below and submit to the school office.
- Reach out to the family and share your experiences at School of the Incarnation. Share with them the reasons you have chosen Catholic education and why you think they should do the same. Let them know that you have or will refer their information to the school and that an admissions representative will call or email them to provide more information.
- For each new family that applies and enrolls at least one full-time student, a \$250 tuition credit will be awarded to the current referring family after the new student has been in attendance for 30 days.
- Siblings of current students and previously enrolled students do not qualify as new families. Staff members are not eligible for the referral credit.
- Note that this form must be on file in the front office before the new family has contacted the school on their own for information or to visit so it is best to submit the form as soon as possible after speaking with the new family. In other words, the referral form is not retroactive and you are not eligible for the referral if the family contacts school before the referral.
- This referral program is open to all families with students currently enrolled in PreK4-Grade 8.
- Referral fees are limited to one per family per academic year.

Current Family

Parent name(s)

Student name(s) /Grade(s)

Address

City, State, MD

Phone

Email

New Family

Parent name(s)

Student name(s)/Grade(s)

Address

City, State, Zip

Phone

Email

How do you know this family? Work Friend Relative Neighbor

Church Community Other _____

Any information we should know? _____

By signing below, I confirm that I personally know this family and have shared the good news about School of the Incarnation with them. I understand that an Admissions representative from the school will be contacting this new family to provide more information and invite the family for a tour. I have read and understand the guidelines of the New Family Referral Program. Contact Casey Boswell at 410.519.2285 with any questions.

Signature _____

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|---|
| <p>-Office use only- Form submission date _____ Contact date _____ Enrollment date _____ \$250 tuition credit date _____</p> |
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