

The Spirit

Of Holy Spirit Catholic School

Fall 2019



In this issue: Student and Teacher Accomplishments, Gala Save the Date, Fine Arts, Athletics, Alumni News



Accept the Mission; Share the Spirit

Happy fall! It's hard to believe our students and teachers are at the end the first semester of the school year. It was great to see some of our alumni at Homecoming 2019. We love passing on the traditions of Catholic education that provide a strong foundation for life-long learning to our students, our future alumni. If you would like to be an alumni ambassador and keep us in touch with your classmates please let us know! There is a Holy Spirit alumni Facebook page available at Holy Spirit Alumni & Friends to keep our former students in touch with our school family.

The annual Gala date has been set! You won't want to miss our biggest event of the school year! This year we will have a "Roaring 20s" theme on Saturday, February 1, 2020, at the Bryant Conference Center. It is expected to be a great community event, so please invite your friends and neighbors to come. Fundraising is critical to our school operations. It is through supporters that we are able to maintain the reputation for academic excellence that Holy Spirit Catholic School is known for in our community. Your generosity enables our students to continuously contribute to our society through their academic goals, achievements, and community service. Together we can make a difference. If you work for a business that might like to sponsor our Gala or donate auction items please contact me at lmitchell@holyspirit-al.com or at 205-553-5606 ext. 102.

Our school board is in need of a member from Holy Spirit Church. To apply or submit a nomination, please contact Mara Jones at mararjones@yahoo.com.

The basketball and bowling teams have started their seasons. We invite your family to attend our sports events. Please see our athletic calendar on the school website.

Sincerely,

Laurie Mitchell, Director of Advancement



On the Cover:

Lilou Drewelow works on a project in
Tricia Schuster's art class.

The faculty and staff of the elementary
and high school prayed the rosary
together for peace.

Save the Date !



Don't Miss Our Event of the Year!

Saturday, February 1, 2020

6:00 pm—10:30 pm

**At the Bryant Conference Center
Great Food, Open Bar, Live Music,
Silent & Live Auctions**

Adults only.

Babysitting available through St. Francis Bama Catholic.

**Donate auction items and submit tax deductible business sponsorships
to Laurie Mitchell at 553-5606 Ext. 102**



At right: Syndle Nichols with her dog at the pet blessing.
Above: Sam McLaurine has his pet ferret blessed.

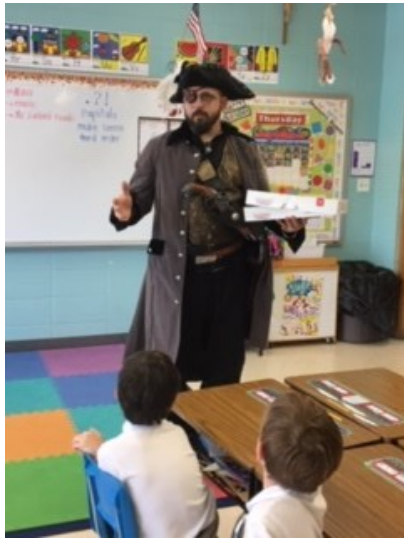
Blessing of the Pets

A pet blessing was held on the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi on October 4th. Rev. Michael Deering, pastor of Holy Spirit Church, blessed a variety of pets. St. Francis was known for his love of animals and was canonized a saint in 1228.



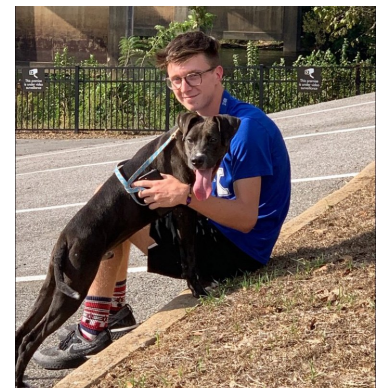
Arrgghh!

Krispy Kreme gave out doughnuts for "talk like a pirate day", so one of our very own "pirate" dads specially delivered some to our first grade students.



Dog-gone Good Time

Members of the cross country team helped out the Metro Animal Shelter by spending a day playing with some of the dogs that are up for adoption.



A Good Harvest!

Some of our students helped to harvest the vegetables that were ready at Jeremiah's Community Garden and tasted some of the crops they helped to grow - mustard greens, radishes, garlic and parsnips.

Celebrating in Grand Style

We welcomed grandparents of our students to come for a visit on our annual Grandparents Day in September. Visitors were able to attend Mass with their grandchildren, visit the Pre-K through high school classrooms, shop at the book fair, and enjoy a reception in the cafeteria. Anyone wishing to join the Holy Spirit Grandparents Club can contact Susan Schepens at r.schepens@comcast.net.



It's Going to Be a Banner Year

The senior class banner is complete. The class of 2020 picked a theme of "Growing Together" and incorporated the 2020 numerals into their design. Each year the senior class designs the class banner and uses fabric characteristic of each student's personality.



Read For the Record

The elementary and preschool participated in Jumpstart's *Read for the Record* program along with millions of adults and children around the world to read the same book on the same day in order to raise awareness about the critical importance of early literacy. The book read was ***Thank You Omu*** by Oge Mora. Pictured above: Librarian Line Brake .

Students Accepted into Leadership Program

Evan Jones, Rohan Peramsetty, Jade Stewart, Jordan McNair, Caitlin Johnson, and Jentzen Moore have been selected to this year's Chamber of Commerce Forerunner's class. This leadership program sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce through the Leadership Tuscaloosa program allows students to learn about the community through guest speakers, simulated business situations, and facility tours around the Tuscaloosa area. Students are selected to the program through written and oral interviews during the second semester of their sophomore year in high school.

Homecoming 2019

Homecoming took place during basketball season this year. Our students had a great time participating in homecoming costume days, pep rally, parade, bonfire and activities. Our sophomore class won the annual gym decorating contest in which the students create a design with non-perishable food to be donated to Catholic Social Services. Congratulations to our homecoming court representatives: Elena Spence (Queen), Brendan Fuller (King), Saniya Singh, Ben Midkiff, Avery Lake, Kameron Woolverton, Bria Johnson, Eli Sheffer, Eva Altman, Michiah Gill, and Alyssa Mack.



Robotics at BEST

The HS Robotics team competed in the BEST (Boosting Engineering, Science and Technology) Robotics competition at Shelton State Community College on Saturday, October 26, 2019. The team had a assignment “Off the Grid” when building the team robot and coming up with a marketing campaign for competition. The Thing-a-ma-jigs, as the team is named, finished in 7th place and was sponsored by Crimson Internal Medicine; Nextowner Automotive; Askey Farms; and Keith & Company LLC. Team members included Kameron Woolverton, Ben Midkiff, Saniya Singh, Alexandria McCoy, Carla Leal, Anaelyse Perez, Jacob Bui, Marie Mewes, Madalyn Mitchell, Alex Pilkinton, Jack Reilly, Victoria Whitehead, David Holman, Allison Williams, Christina Matos, Kailey Bartlett, Pearl Davis, Bethany Fording, Alex Halbesleben, Drew Lopacki, Katelyn Nash, Noah Schaetzle, Ugie Alilonu, Paul Rodriguez, Jonas Senkbeil, Miranda Keith, Luke Langkawel, Andre Rice, JP Schaetzle, Demiyah Underwood, and Berkley Young.



Science Fun

Third grade students got a visit from the Magic School Bus' Mrs. Frizzle (although she looked a lot like their third grade teacher) while studying the solar system in science class.

As part of the third grade Mystery Science curriculum the students studied the skull and jaw and enjoyed making skull masks in time for Halloween.



Amy Turner's first grade class studied worms in preparation for beginning their worm farms. At right: Ashton Bass –Smith finds a worm. The class will grow worms and use the worm tea to enrich the soil at Jeremiah's Community Garden across from campus at Catholic Social Services. In the meantime, high school freshmen Hannah Kinney and Madelyn Barr learned about cell membranes through an experiment with bubbles (pictured far right) in the science lab, and our PreK4 students had a pumpkin investigation and studied the seeds and weight of a pumpkin.



Rockin' at School 50s Style

The fiftieth day of school celebrated our youngest students in 50s style. Poodle skirts, slicked back hair, and rootbeer floats completed the day along with sock hop music. Some of the teachers even participated in the theme dress. We can't wait to see what the one hundred day of school brings!



Be sure to look for the Holy Spirit School Christmas tree on the Tuscaloosa Tinsel Trail this holiday season!

Telling Bible Stories

Our ninth grade students composed and illustrated stories based on the Book of Genesis and presented them to our kindergarten students.



Students Making History (Projects)

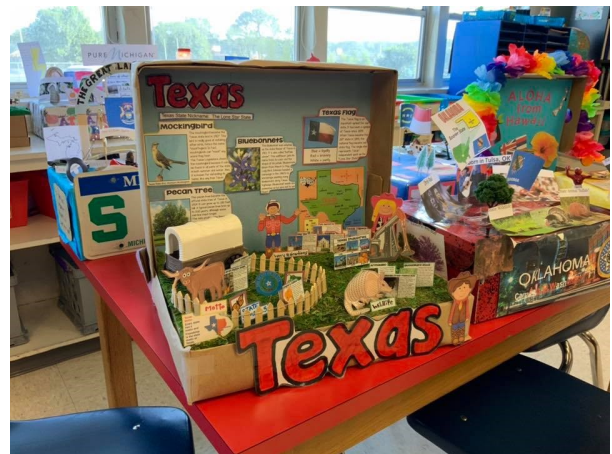
The National History Day (NHD) program was started in 1974 as a “science fair” for history, giving students a chance to become real historians. This year, students participating in NHD nationwide are researching topics based on the theme, “Breaking Barriers in History.” At the contest, students present their research in one of four categories: exhibits, performances, documentaries, or websites. To celebrate Holy Spirit participating in NHD for the first time, the school hosted a kickoff celebration. Social Studies teachers presented a skit, and then several lucky students were selected to participate in history theme mini-games that reinforced the theme of breaking barriers in history.



Students work on solving problems during the group games at the History Day kickoff.



The sixth grade students are getting some help from our high school juniors on their History Day projects. The two grade levels collaborated at the Tuscaloosa Public Library to work on some research.



State Facts and Architectural Design on Display

Fifth grade students presented dioramas representing the state that they were assigned to research for US Geography. Latin class took on the task of building replicas of ancient Roman houses from cardboard boxes for Latin studies.



W.O.W—So Much to Learn About

The eighth grade class took a trip to the World of Work Expo at Shelton State Community College to learn about different areas in the work force. Students had a hands on experience to learn about different jobs from various corporations throughout Tuscaloosa County.



A Salute To Our Veterans

Veterans Day was celebrated with a special program. Our elementary choir performed and Veterans in attendance were recognized. Thank you to all Veterans for your service!



This pumpkin patch at the high school foyer was decorated by our tenth grade theology class with bible verses on them .





Creative Posters Remind Everyone That Kindness Matters

Our elementary students are taking a stand against bullying. The students created posters in Paige Yeager's guidance classes while discussing ways to show respect to others. Guidance classes are offered as part of the curriculum to cover social issues such as making friends, peer pressure, and working with others.

Trick or Treat for Catholic Social Services

First grade put on their costumes and trick or treated from classroom to classroom around the school. They weren't hoping to get the usual Halloween treats of chocolates and lollipops, however. They collected personal items and nonperishable foods from other students for Catholic Social Services to distribute to the needy of our community.



ACT Prep

We are pleased to offer the opportunity for students to participate in on campus ACT workshops with tutor Wendy Davis who has 32 years of educational experience. Sessions are currently being held on Wednesday afternoons in the lecture hall. Registration information is available at the high school office.



Inspirational Music

Motivational speaker and songwriter Sean Gasaway brought his talent to our 7-12 grade students. Mr. Gasaway stressed to the students how we can do anything we set our minds to and the importance of being kind to everyone you meet. He met his success through his love for music and is now a songwriter and musician by profession.

Holy Spirit School expresses our sincere sympathy for the loss of Tuscaloosa Police Officer Dornell Cousette. Our school family offers prayers for his family. A donation by our school family has been made to support his family.



Let's Go!

Fieldtrips help to enhance the learning experience through hands on opportunities away from the classroom. Several grade levels were able to take some trips off campus. The fourth grade students attended the Moundville Native American Festival to learn about the Native American culture and traditions. Kindergarteners spent the day at Griffin Farm. Our middle and high school students went to Montgomery for the Alabama Shakespeare Festival's production of **A Midsummer Night's Dream** and visited the Montgomery Museum of Art. Several classes attended the Tuscaloosa Children's Theater production of **Annie** at the Bama Theater, and our seniors went to a college fair at the University of Alabama.



Kindergarten visits the farm



Bus ride to the Bama Theater

John Robert Austin attends the college fair at the University of Alabama.

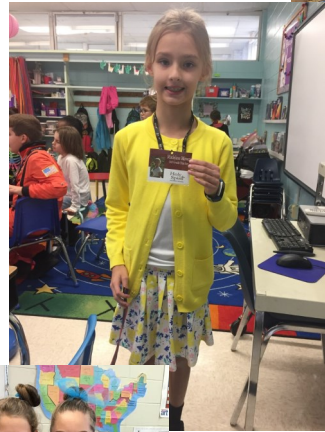


High school students study art at the Montgomery Museum of Art.



Fall Fun

Halloween brought some fun class parties and creative costumes to campus. The students enjoyed playing games and treats without the tricks thanks to the help of our room parents. The older kids took part in a costume contest to help raise funds for Coach Tracey Raines' cancer treatment. The preschoolers enjoyed a hayride around campus with Principal Saibini along for the ride.



All Saints Day

The Feast of All Saints was celebrated on November 1st with student representatives from each grade level representing a saint while presenting a banner and facts about the saint's life. All Saints Day is a reminder for all of us that we are called to be saints and can be like the men and women who have gone before us and are now saints in heaven.





Fine Arts

High School Students Selected to Honor Choir

Savannah Osborn, Sarah Martin, Jentzen Moore, Grady McClendon, and Sidd Davis were selected to the 2019 University of Alabama Honors Choir. The students attended workshops under the direction of Dr. Ronald Staheli, Clinician, and performed at in concert at the Moody Music building on the UA campus on October 28th.



Holy Spirit Joins Music Fest

Nine of our fifth grade students participated in the Alabama Music Educators Festival Choral Festival in Montgomery. Griffin Gordy, Andrew Langkawel, Louisa Mangieri, Molly Strozier, Briony Loper, Sarah Tidwell, Liesl Halbesleben, and Ciel Coma attended workshops and performed at a concert.



Photo by Doug McLaurine

Stars Fell On Alabama

The Annual Talent Showcase included vocal performances by the elementary school choir, Syndle Nichols, Kate Wilson, David Holman, Hannah Kinney, Sadie McClendon, Jack Reilly, Avery Lake, Sydney Perry, Sarah Martin, Casen Washington, Cylen Washington, Savannah Osborn, and Emma Carreon. Instrumental acts were performed by Christien Washington, Camden Washington, Dawn Horn, JJ Horn, Jadyn Fording, Chasing Hearts Band, Berkley Young, Jeff Carreon, Ciel Coma, Iolo Coma, Ben Midkiff, Saniya Singh, Jentzen Moore and Jonathan Loper. Jonesy Musgrove and Madeline Reeves showed off their gymnastics talents and Isabelle Chen, Angie Vitt, David Vitt, Ava Cicatiello and Sabine Senkbeil performed dance routines. Jonas Senkbeil was super fast at solving the Rubix Cube and staff members Paige Yeager, Jenna Strickland, Liz Landry, Beth McLaurine, Tricia Schuster, and Wilma Cross were our Holy Spirit cheerleader act. You can see all the terrific talent at the Holy Spirit 2019 Stars Fell on Alabama YouTube video.



Earning a Black Belt the Musical Way

Students in the third grade received their recorders for music class. The students will earn colorful "belts" or ribbons for their instrument as they master songs for the Music Karate lessons.

Teacher Wins Scholarship for Continuing Education

Congratulations to our art teacher Tricia Schuster. While at the Alabama Art Educators Convention in October, she received a scholarship to the Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) Educator Forum. Participants have the opportunity to revitalize their creative energy and develop new skills in the midst of a bustling art scene. This year, SCAD will offer seminars in topics ranging from motion media to sculpture to design thinking, and participants will have a variety of opportunities to soak up the charm of historic Savannah.



Art Classes, Great Prizes

Recent fourth grade Draw Squad winners Kate Osucha, Mia Scalfani, Jonesy Musgrove and Benjamin Morris were awarded art supplies and new sketchbooks for their 100+ stacked boxes drawings. Be sure to follow our art department at the **ART-Holy Spirit Catholic Tuscaloosa** Facebook page.



Students Learn Skills

Our visiting artist series has brought in some experts to teach our students their skills. Professional photographer Scottie Jones has been teaching our high school photography students about lighting. Artist Andrea Moen brought her weaving skills to our art classes to show students how to weave on a loom. Local artist Kerry Kennedy taught our sixth grade students to make fairy garden houses from pottery.



The photography work of students Becca Melton, Anaelyse Perez-Ruiz, Abbi Price, Jade Stewart, Saniya Singh, Claire Laubenthal, Kate Rainey, Tricia Schuster (teacher), and Jonathan Loper (Principal) is now on display in the Tuscaloosa Photography Club at Easter Seals of West Alabama through January 2020.

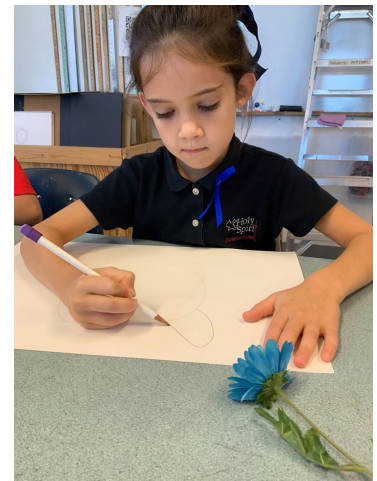


The story you **THOUGHT** you knew... brought into modern times. A gaggle of farmyard characters join the naïve, but loveable, Ugly in his rites-of-passage journey from misrepresented duckling to elegant swan. Peril lies around every corner, usually in the shape of the ravenous Cat, but Ugly receives help from unlikely sources and wins through thanks to his sheer good-naturedness. Students planning to audition should memorize a monologue and sing an up-tempo musical theater or Disney style song.

Auditions will be Saturday, January 24th 10-12pm
The show will be on April 3rd and 4th, 2020

Creating Masterpieces

Art classes have been studying the works of master artists. Our first grade students learned how to “paint like Mike” as they studied Michelangelo and his Sistine Chapel work. Fourth grade art was popping as the class learned how to create the illusion of a 3D can, then designed an Andy Warhol style can. Second grade imitated the style of Georgia O’Keeffe’s flower paintings.



Field Trip Brings Student to Art Gallery

The high school art and photography classes visited the Harrison Galleries in Tuscaloosa where they met with UA MFA student Jonathan Lanier and artist Craig Wedderspoon to learn techniques and hear about the sculpture in Mr. Lanier’s exhibit entitled “Released”.



How Did They Do That!

Middle school art classes worked on some fun projects with forced perspective photography and came up with some creative ideas while altering perspective of objects.





Athletics



The high school flag football teams brought some friendly competition to the field. Our middle school and high school students formed boys and girls team to play some Friday night football during the month of October.

Volleyball

Congratulations to the varsity volleyball team for making it to the second round of the regional competition. Best wishes to our senior players Avery Lake, Ashanti Hall, Bria Johnson and Sophie Livaudais.



Got Spirit?! Let's Hear It!

The elementary cheerleading team helped out our varsity cheerleaders at a recent pep rally. The team will help cheer on Saints basketball this season.



Cross Country Team Goes to State! HS Students Finishes Third in State!

Both the boys and girls cross country teams qualified for the state meet in Moulton, AL after placing in the top three at the sectional competition held at Sokol Park on October 31st. The teams came in sixth place at the state level and senior Anaelyse Perez Ruiz placed 3rd in the state individually in the 1A-3A division! The state meet was the last high school race for senior runners Anaelyse Perez-Ruiz, Alejandro Perez-Ruiz, and Brendan Fuller. The teams have done well all season. At the local TCBY Invitational at Sokol Park Senior Anaelyse Perez-Ruiz finished 3rd overall with a Bronze Elite Status time in Division 1A-4A and an individual time of 21:27.32. The girls team also finished third in their division. The boys team finished fourth in the 1A-4A division and Junior Jentzen Moore finished 6th overall with an individual time of 18:23.17.

Team members pictured below: Jackson Killen, Mason Gibbs, Drew Lopacki, Jentzen Moore, Aaron Lodree, Brendan Fuller, David Holman, Coach Tracey Raines, Luke Langkawel, Anaelyse Perez-Ruiz, Alejandro Perez-Ruiz, Sarah Martin, Bethany Fording, Mateo Innis-Kopelson, Allison Williams, Mario Lopez-Moreno, Jonas Senkbeil, JT Besanceney, Sadie McClendon, Reed Simmons, Deblyn Gomez-Corea, Hannah Kinney, Mia Livaudais, Bailey McLaurine, Eva Altman, and Wesley Killen.



Indian Rivers Fruit Sale to support the Holy Spirit Golf Team will be held during the day on Friday, December 20th at the University Mall Veterans Memorial. Oranges, grapefruit, and tangelos available.



A League of Their Own

Some of the elementary students enjoyed a three day baseball camp to run some basic drills at the baseball field. Coach Cameron and some of our high school baseball players were on hand to give guidance.



Teachers STRIKE!

Who says teachers can't bowl. Members of our faculty and staff took on the HS bowling team. A few even made some strikes! Not sure which group won, but everyone had a good time. All bowling matches are held at Bowlero on McFarland Blvd.



The Big One that Didn't Get Away

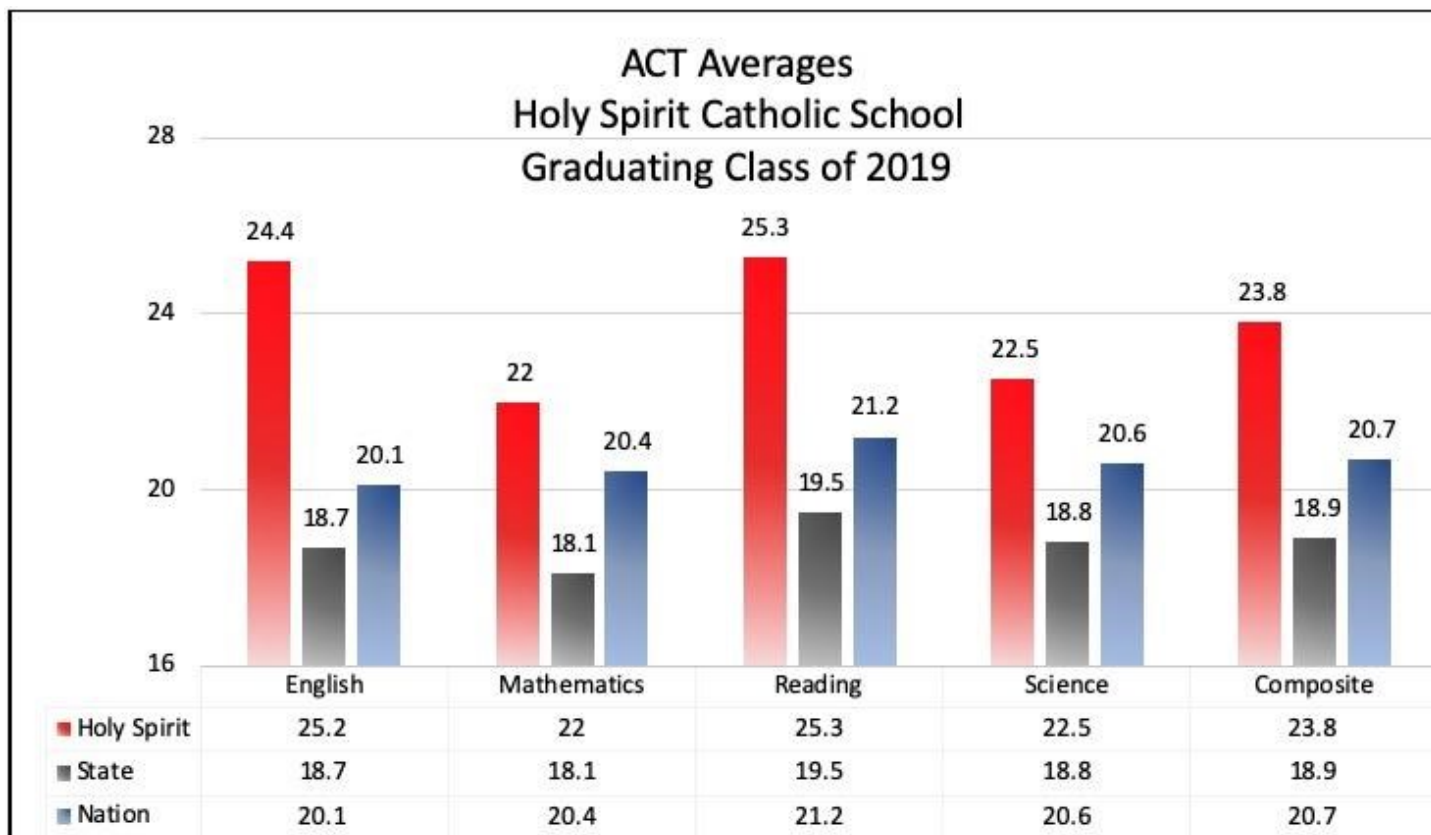
High school freshmen Grady McClendon and Matthew Wilson, members of the bass fishing team, qualified for the state tournament. The duo finished in the top 25 out of 150 teams at the Alabama Bass Nation Tournament on Lake Tuscaloosa .



Spirit Night Success

The athletic booster club was presented with a check for \$500 earned from the spirit night held at Tazikis' Restaurant and sponsored by Mathnasium of Tuscaloosa. Thank you to everyone who participated to help make this fundraiser successful .

We are so proud of our teachers and students! Their hard work has paid off once again. A recent report of average ACT scores for Holy Spirit Catholic School Class of 2019 exceed the state and national averages.



Alumni News

Robert Hemphill, Class of 2014, is working on a MS in AG Economics at Oklahoma State in Stillwater. He graduated with a BS in AG Economics from Auburn University in 2018.

Jackson Terry, Class of 2012, is now an account executive for Lamar Advertising in Tuscaloosa.

Send alumni news and achievements to llmitchell@holyspirit-al.com.

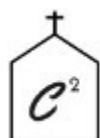
Stay in touch with our Alumni Group on Facebook at ***Holy Spirit Alumni and Friends***.

Help Students While Earning Tax Credit

Dollar for dollar tax credit is available by re-directing your Alabama State tax liability to a scholarship granting organization in accordance with the Alabama Accountability Act at no cost to the donor. Over \$18 million dollars remain in tax credits for the year. Dollars raised in 2019 will go to support scholarships for the 2020-2021 academic year. Holy Spirit School partners with C2 Scholarship Opportunities, Scholarships for Kids, Inc., and Alabama Opportunity Scholarship Fund to grant scholarships to eligible families. Please check with your tax advisor for more information on how to earn your tax credits while helping students.



ALABAMA
OPPORTUNITY
SCHOLARSHIP FUND



Opportunity Scholarships



SCHOLARSHIPS
— for KIDS —

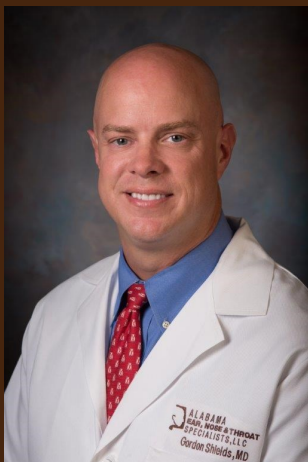
Thank you to our 2020 Gala Sponsors

If your business would like to sponsor this great event please contact Laurie Mitchell at llmitchell@holyspirit-al.com. Tax deductible sponsorships are a terrific way to advertise your business to Holy Spirit families, alumni, supporters, and friends throughout the Tuscaloosa area.

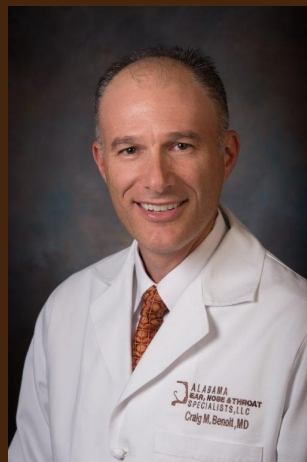
Please support these businesses that help support our school.

Alabama Ear, Nose, & Throat Specialists
Alabama Heart & Vascular Medicine
Animal Medical Center
College City Realty
First Federal Bank
Ear, Nose, & Throat Associates of Tuscaloosa
Liberty Recycling, Inc.
Mathnasium
Michael H. Echols
MJ's Academy of Dance
RiverFall Credit Union
Townsend Honda
Tuscaloosa Chevrolet
University Oral & Facial Surgery, P.C.

Alabama Ear, Nose & Throat Specialists, LLC



Gordon A. Shields, M.D.

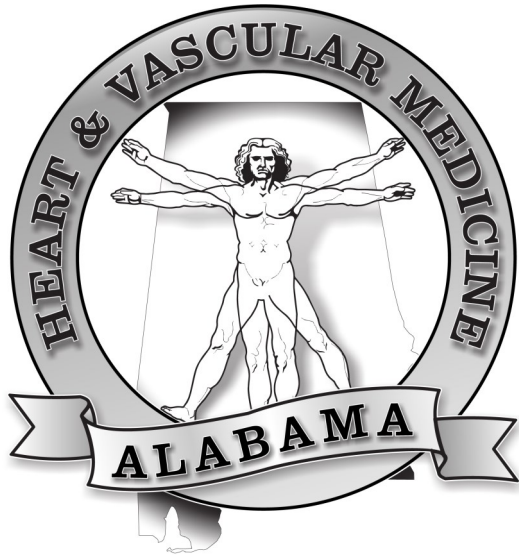


Craig M. Benoit, M.D.

Susanne M. Snider, RN,MSN, CRNP

302 Merchants Walk Ste. 100
Tuscaloosa, AL 35406
(205)523-5300

www.alabamaentspecialists.com



Alabama Heart & Vascular Medicine

100 Rice Mine Road Loop Suite 104

Tuscaloosa, AL. 35406

205-561-2370



Liberty Recycling

A Proud Supporter of Holy Spirit Catholic School

Townsend Honda



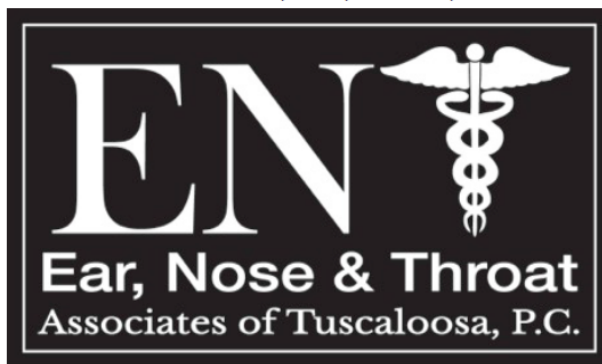
3121 Skyland Blvd. E
Tuscaloosa, AL 35405
(888)711-6093

Proud Supporter of Holy Spirit Catholic School.



*A Merry Christmas and a
Blessed New Year to all
from Holy Spirit Catholic
School administration, staff,
and students.*

Salem K. David, Jr., M.D., F.A.C.S.



1224 McFarland Blvd. N (205) 333-3330