



Saints & Scholars

...so that Mercy may flourish

The mission of the Catholic school is the integral formation of students so that they may be true to their condition as Christ's disciples and as such work effectively for the evangelization of culture and for the common good of society ~ Pope St. John Paul II

Calendar of Events

Friday, 1/22

8:15am School Mass

Thursday, 1/28

8:15am School Mass

Friday, 1/29

5:30pm Warm Hearts and Warm Wishes (PTG)

Sunday, 1/31

10am Open House

10am Scholastic Book Fair Opens

Monday, 2/1

9am Mass - Hosted by 4th grade

7:30am Scholastic Book Fair

Tuesday, 2/2

7:30am Scholastic Book Fair

8am Student Appreciation Day

Wednesday, 2/3

7:30am Scholastic Book Fair

9am Classroom Visit Day

Thursday, 2/4

7:30am Scholastic Book Fair

9am Community Service Day

Friday, 2/5

Teacher Appreciation Day
12pm Scholastic Book Fair Closes

6pm Volunteer Appreciation Dinner



"Where God is born, mercy flourishes. Mercy is the most precious gift which God gives us, especially during this Jubilee year in which we are called to discover that tender love of our heavenly Father for each of us. May the Lord enable prisoners in particular to experience his merciful love, which heals wounds and triumphs over evil. Today, then, let us together rejoice in the day of our salvation. As we contemplate the Crib, let us gaze on the open arms of Jesus, which show us the merciful embrace of God, as we hear the cries of the Child who whispers to us: "for my brethren and companions' sake, I will say: Peace be within you"

Pope Francis

News!

Catholic Schools Week (1/31 – 2/6): The theme for the National Catholic Schools Week 2016 is "Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service". Schools observe the annual celebration of Catholic education with Masses, open houses and other activities for students, families, parishioners and community members. See the OLM calendar for dates of events.

Winter Advisory Reminder: OLM School follows East Greenwich announcements about closings, delayed openings and/or early dismissals. Listen to TV announcements or have alerts sent to your email or phone. To sign up for email or text notifications go to www.turnto10.com select "weather" then select "closings & delays". Click "If you want school closing text alerts sent to your phone or email". Complete the RIBA sign in. Select "Our Lady of Mercy-EG" from message group 3 (RI CATHOLIC SCHOOLS) **and** select "E Greenwich Public Schools" from message group 1 (RI PUBLIC SCHOOLS). We will also use the Blackboard Connect5 email blast/call alert system.

Great News: OLM school start times for next year will remain the same.

Father's Corner

Next week the Church celebrates the feast day of St. Thomas Aquinas, patron saint of all students. We will have our weekly school Mass at 8:15am on his feast day, January 28th.

St. Thomas was born in Italy in the year 1225. He entered the Dominican order of Friars Preachers, like the Dominicans at Providence College. He studied under the renowned St. Albert the Great and later became known as the greatest theologian and scholar in the Church's history. St. Thomas utilized the pre-Christian philosophy of Aristotle and harmonized knowledge discovered from both faith and reason.

He is the model of Christian inquiry, open to the truth wherever it may be found while at the same time remaining convinced of the truth revealed in Jesus Christ. At Our Lady of Mercy, we try to form our students to be both saints and scholars. In St. Thomas Aquinas we find a model and a patron. May we learn from his example and benefit from his prayers. St. Thomas Aquinas...pray for us.

Our Lady of Mercy School

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Parish

olmparish.org
Daily Readings:
uscc.org/readings
Catechism of the
Catholic Church
usccb.org/catechism

Web References

Academic ~ General
Khanacademy.com
(online tutorials for
many subjects)

Literacy

Seussville features
Dr. Seuss's books,
games and activities,
videos and much,
much more!

Starfall is an
educational
alternative to other
entertainment
choices for children."

Mathematics

Fact Monster - Fact
Monster is a free
reference site for
students, teachers,
and parents.

Puzzle Maker -
Create your own
content related
puzzles.

**Art of Problem-
Solving:** 3rd grade
and up; videos are
organized, clear and
free!

1st grade class: Our Art Master Parents incorporated the spirit of giving in their wonderful December lesson. Inspired by the book Beautiful Hands, by Bret Baumgarten and Kathryn Otoshi, our first graders used their beautiful hands to help first graders at a nearby school. They collected hats and mittens to help keep them warm this winter, used their handprints to make both a Christmas tree and wreath for them, and gave them a copy of the book. We were touched when our new first grade friends wrote beautiful thank you notes and used their beautiful handprints to make reindeer ornaments for our first graders! Thank you, Art Master Parents for a wonderful lesson!

2nd grade class: Over the past few weeks second graders played the part of angels in the Christmas Pageant. They sang their little angelic hearts out and made us so proud! They also completed reports on Christmas traditions in many countries. We learned about the origin of the Christmas tree and different foods served at Christmas dinners. In Science they were assigned a rock project. They learned about different rocks and their formations. The children are very excited as they have started to learn cursive writing. We are now becoming comfortable with learning double placed addition and we are about to learn double placed subtraction. Second grade is a very busy place!

Recycling Rhinos Update: Grant Winners! Exciting news from the Recycling Rhinos! Toray Plastics is the manufacturer of the chip bag material the Rhino's are trying to find a solution for. After the group wrote a letter to the company explaining our program they have decided to give us a \$350 grant to buy an additional robot! A big Thank You to Mr. de Bont for letting us know of the available grants. Our Recycling Rhino's qualified for the State Championship on January 16th at Roger Williams University. Also, 3 members of team Gyro Fusion competed in the Robot Invitational at Bryant University on January 9th! Congrats to both teams on their hard work and perseverance!

Science Olympiad: The OLM Science Olympiad Team has been working hard in preparation for the Rhode Island State Science Olympiad competition, April 9th, at RIC. We are still in need of a few coaches! Bottle Rocket, Crimebusters (chemistry/forensics), Food Science (chemistry), Invasive Species, and Dynamic Planet (oceanography). If you or anyone you know is interested in coaching these events please contact Mrs. Lewandowski at mlewandowski@olmschool.org

Library: OLM is now a member of RILINK, Rhode Island Literacy Information Network for Kids! One of the many benefits of being a RILINK member is the FREE access that students have to hundreds of eBooks. These eBooks can be downloaded to your personal devices. The login information to access the eBooks will be provided in the January Library Newsletter.

OLM Soccer: We are looking to see if there are any 6th grade parents interested in coaching a team this year. Please contact the school office for details.

Prayer Requests

For the repose of the soul of Mrs. Sorrentino, grandmother of Jane, Katie, Jeremiah and Sam Murphy

For the repose of the soul of Mr. Douglas Hauser, father of 4th grade student Kali

Mrs. Ryan's Angels



Mrs. Hackett's Art Masters

