



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

Thursday, 3/9

NAEP Assessments - 8th Grade

Monday, 3/13

Donnelly's cap/gown measure for 8th grade
1pm - School
Confessions - Grades 3-8

Tuesday, 3/14

Mobile Loaves and Fishes - 4th Grade
OLM Students
Audiology Screening

Friday, 3/17

Professional Day - No School

Saturday, 3/18

Gaelic & Garlic Night

Monday, 3/20

St. Joseph Day Italian Mass for Students

Friday, 3/24

8th Grade Boston Museum Field Trip

Friday, 3/31

Dress Down Day - Saints and Scholars Fund

Monday, 4/3

School Board Meeting



"Lent is a new beginning, a path leading to the certain goal of Easter, Christ's victory over death. This season urgently calls us to conversion. Christians are asked to return to God "with all their hearts" (Joel 2:12), to refuse to settle for mediocrity and to grow in friendship with the Lord. Jesus is the faithful friend who never abandons us....."

~ Pope Francis

Principal's Message

As we end the second trimester and enter the home-stretch please remind your child the importance of the "Three A's." **Attendance** is paramount for peak performance this year and to ensure that they will be well prepared for the next. Please continue your efforts to keep your child in school to the greatest extent possible. **Attire** too is important and is part of what makes OLM unique. We wear uniforms for good cause, foremost to promote a school culture of modesty and of unity. Finally, and perhaps most important is **Attitude**. Encourage your son or daughter to always strive to do and be their best to become "A Saint and Scholar." A good attitude when tethered to persistence always yields a good result. Wishing you all a blessed Lenten season. Our Lady of Mercy, pray for us!

Father's Corner

Once again, we come to the season of Lent. Prayer, fasting and almsgiving are the three pillars of Lent. As with anything, it is easier to do something when you do it together with someone else. So Lent is actually a time of bonding and mutual support within a family. I encourage families to plan out what they will do together in regard to prayer, fasting and almsgiving this Lent. Perhaps as a family pray the rosary or read Scripture. Perhaps everyone can choose to give up watching TV in the evening so as to spend it together doing other activities. Finally, there are many opportunities to help the community. Solidarity helps in all matters of life and it can help in Lent as well.

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!

Computer Science and Engineering

3rd grade has finished their solutions for their City X project. City X is an engineering project that inspires solutions for a far-away planet that has many societal issues, giving students an opportunity to solve and create. These are in process of being printed on 3D printers. 5th grade is creating an imaginary creature in a 2D drawing, a short story, along with a 3D printout. 7th grade has finished up their engineering unit on straw bridges. They designed, researched, and created a Truss bridge. The strongest bridge held 446 pennies! 8th grade is using Tynker block programming and is in the process of creating a game to share with lower elementary classes. 6th grade is programming and has begun a Computer Science unit with a rapid prototyping and a problem-solving lesson, Aluminum Boats! 4th grade is creating animations with Tynker programming. Following our g-suite unit 1st and 2nd grade will be doing a lesson designed for the JR First Lego League, using robotics and design to exhibit how animals cohabitate. PreK and K grades continue to learn the basics of computing, representation and problem solving with models, and basic programming skills!

Health/Physical Education

3-2-1 Blastoff!! Everyone gets an "E" in Physical Education. Enthusiasm, Energy, Excitement, and Encouragement. The students can't wait to let loose in the gym or on the field. The class starts with a jog, dynamic stretching, instructions, and on to the activity. All the while, we discuss current events, sports, fitness and health trends. Activities are largely cardiovascular. Run for your Life, Elephant Q-Tips, Capture the Pig, and Scooters are some of the more popular activities. Throughout these activities, sportsmanship, discipline, learning to accept the outcome of the activity, and Christian values are held in high regard. The whole OLM family from students to the clergy played Fantasy Football on a weekly basis. Ironically, Father Barrow won the very first time that he played while Father Healy received many atta-boys for his efforts. The OLM family did contribute over 300 cans of soup for the soup kitchen in the Souper Bowl Contest. Going forward, we will have March Madness, Stanley Cup and NBA championship contests. During this trimester, the Middle school also studied health and well being issues with attention given to body shaming, eating and sleeping habits as well as other current health events.

Library

The Scholastic Book fair was a smashing success! Thank you to all of you who shopped the fair and/or volunteered your time. Our "campsite" was certainly the place to be the last week of January. We raised \$1,600 cash for our school as well as \$1,000 in Scholastic Dollars. The Scholastic Dollars will be used to purchase a large area rug for the library, some books and some will be saved to raffle off for next year's fair. Speaking of raffles, the Chromebooks are here! We raised enough money to put this gorgeous updated technology in our school library. A huge thank you to all the families who bought raffle tickets or donated money toward the "Chromebook Fund." Mrs. Lukens was extremely helpful in selecting the perfect Chromebooks and for setting them up for us. Also, purchased was close to \$400 in books from the Book Fair for our library. This money came from the "All for Books" collection during the fair. Scholastic will match our total "All For Books" collection (\$537) and donate that amount in books to charity. Things are looking great in the library and it's all because of your generosity! THANK YOU!

The library's new Chromebook Station



Father Barrow and students on Ash Wednesday

