



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, 9/14

5:30pm

Back to School/Meet the Teacher Night

Monday, 9/18

1:00pm

School Confessions

Friday, 9/22 – 9/24

Mum Sale

Sunday, 9/24

12:00pm

Parish/School Picnic

Monday, 9/25 – 10/13

STAR First

Assessment

Administration

Friday, 9/29

DRESS DOWN DAY TO BENEFIT HURRICANE VICTIMS

Thursday, 10/5

Walk-a-thon

Friday, 10/6

Walk-a-thon (Rain Date)

9:00am Formal

Mass/FORMAL

UNIFORMS

Monday, 10/9

No School - Columbus Day



“Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible.”

~ St. Francis of Assisi

Principal's Message

As we collectively commence another school year, I cannot help but reflect on the manifold blessings that God has bestowed on us and this wonderful little place we call home, OLM School. We live in an amazing country with countless freedoms that many others do not possess.

At the same time, I am equally overwhelmed by the devastating homelessness, poverty, sickness and hunger that so many in our Catholic family in this country and around the globe experience daily. It's a challenge to continue to watch the destruction from wars and weather on television or on social media. So, what can I do? What can we do? St. Paul says in 1 Corinthians chapter 12....."If one part (of the body) suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it." And, St. Teresa of Avila has said, "Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours..."

This September 29th is our first dress down day. The proceeds will be contributed to the N.C.E.A (National Catholic Education Association) for the benefit of our brothers and sisters in Houston, TX. who have suffered from Hurricane Harvey. All Catholic schools nationally have been given the call to participate. I thank you in advance for your generous support.

Father's Corner

Welcome back to the students, families, and teachers of Our Lady of Mercy School! Part of the mission of OLM School is to form children to be saints and scholars. An essential part of accomplishing that involves the formation of virtue. Virtues are formed when they are practiced repeatedly over a long period of time. In order to help students and parents, the Nashville Dominican Sisters have put together a program called "Virtues in Practice." This program is meant to be used in the classroom, but it can also be used at home. It is age appropriate and each month there is a specific virtue. Also there are family activities that help to foster the virtue of the month. You can find more information here:

<http://www.nashvilledominican.org/apostolate/evangelization-and-catechesis/virtues-in-practice/>

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!

Early Childhood

Pre-K3 has had a wonderful start to the new school year. They are making new friends and learning all about school. Our Pre-K4 students have been learning about their classroom routine. They will get to know their classmates better by taking turns in bringing home their Favorite Things Book Bag! A special topic our Kindergartners have enjoyed learning about is Labor Day and different jobs that people have in our community. Each kindergarten student brought in a tool for "Show and Tell" that his/her parent uses at work and presented to the class about the purpose of this tool. Our 1st graders have donned their sailor hats and set sail on their 1st grade adventures. Each crew member is learning about their responsibilities, daily routines, and how to earn special rewards as they strive for smooth sailing! 2nd graders have been busy settling into their new classroom and the Land of Oz. They are excited as 2nd graders will be receiving two sacraments, Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist. Other highlights include cursive writing and double-digit addition and subtraction later in the year.

Intermediate Grades

We are all settled into our 3rd grade classes. The children have been excited to reconnect with old friends and have enjoyed getting to know the new students in 3rd grade. Everyone is becoming more comfortable with our schedule each day as well as recording assignments in their planners. We have been busy working with partners and small groups on different assignments such as place value in math and sequencing in reading. 4th graders are off to an AMAZING start this year! We have the class expectations and typical routine "down pat" already. Among other things, we will continue learning Latin/Greek roots, we will read 25 novels, write essays, learn long division, geometry, fractions, state capitals, and we will even experiment with magnets and electricity! 4th grade is a very exciting year. The 5th grade is off to a great start. Everyone has settled in nicely. We've spent a few days getting to know each other and building a positive classroom environment. In math, we are becoming experts at place value to the hundred billion and decimals to the thousandths. In science students are partaking in a variety of activities that illustrate the nine traits all scientists should possess. We've had tons of fun being flexible in our thinking, communicating in different ways, trusting each other and learning the importance of being persistent. We've also focused on the need to be imaginative and the ability to work cooperatively. We plan on studying hurricanes next and explore the devastation caused by Hurricane Harvey and Irma. Science is so much fun!

Middle School

The Middle School classes are off to a great start! Students arrived the first day eager to meet our two new teachers, Mr. Ryan Cleary, Social Studies, and Mr. Bill Lippe, Theology. Walking through classrooms, one would hear ELA students discussing the Christian symbolism in *The Hobbit* and comparing the creation stories in C.S. Lewis's Narnia vs. the Book of Genesis, analyzing maps and learning the skills of finding absolute and relative location in Social Studies. 6th grade Math students are reviewing place values and decimals, while the 7th and 8th grade are studying algebraic expressions and equations. In Science, 6th graders are "journeying to the center of the earth" as they learn about the layers of the Earth and making scale models, 7th graders are choosing variables that may affect plant growth in their controlled experiments, while the 8th grade is studying the structure of atoms and getting acquainted with the periodic table. As you can see, it's been a quick start and we look forward to a good academic year!

First Day of School smiles



Blessing of the new school sign

