



## 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, 11/2**  
9:00am  
Formal  
Mass/FORMAL  
UNIFORMS - All Souls Day (with procession of Middle School to cemetery (5th Grade hosting))
- Wednesday, 11/8**  
2:45pm  
Faculty Meeting
- Thursday, 11/9**  
8:15am  
Weekly School Mass  
9:00am  
Lifetouch Retake  
Picture Day!
- Friday, 11/10**  
No School - Veterans Day
- Monday, 11/13**  
8:15am  
Weekly School Mass
- Tuesday, 11/21**  
8:15am  
Weekly School Mass
- Wednesday, 11/22 – 11/24**  
Thanksgiving Recess - No School
- Thursday, 11/30**  
School Assembly



### All Souls Day Prayer

Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Most Precious Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy souls in purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal church, those in my own home and within my family.  
Amen.

~ St. Gertrude

### Principal's Message

How are we doing? What could we do better? Are school curriculum, assessment, instruction and technology meeting the needs of your children? Do you have an idea that might assist us in improving the school? These and other similar survey questions will be asked of parents, teachers and students as part of our decennial NEASC. (New England Association of Schools and Colleges) self-study that we are undertaking this school year. Your input on the questionnaire will greatly assist us in moving OLM School forward. The faculty, school administration, parish and the school advisory board will use the survey results along with other qualitative and quantitative data, to create an action plan for school improvement. As a believer in the ideal of "continuous improvement", input from all stakeholders is welcome and necessary. I thank you in advance for your thoughtful responses. If you have an idea that could be helpful now, please feel free to share it with me at any time. There's never a need to wait to implement a great idea! Finally, you should know that the NEASC. Visiting team of teachers and administrators is scheduled to commence their evaluation at OLM on Sunday, October 14, 2018. Their visit will continue through Wednesday, October 17. I'll provide updates throughout the year as we make our way through the self-study process.

### Father's Corner

The month of November has arrived with its shorter days, sweaters and praying for the deceased. November is dedicated to praying for the souls in purgatory. Halloween finds its origin in praying for the souls of the deceased. Every day and at every Mass we pray for the dead, but "All Souls" on November 2<sup>nd</sup> gives us the opportunity to reflect on this important act in our faith lives. Teaching children to pray for the dead teaches them to think beyond just the here and now, and to life everlasting; that death does not "destroy the bonds we form in this life." It connects them with their ancestors and helps souls get to heaven. So this November can be an opportunity to set aside time to pray for the dead, visit a cemetery, and light a candle for a loved one.

## 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:** 3<sup>rd</sup> grade  
and up; videos are  
organized, clear and  
free!

**Early Childhood** Fall is in the air! Our Pre-K-3 students have been learning about pumpkins and enjoyed their Halloween party. They look forward to learning about turkeys and Thanksgiving in November and enjoying a special Thanksgiving Feast. Our Pre-K-4 students learned about nocturnal animals, pumpkins, and Halloween in October and explored our church with Father Barrow. They joined our Kindergarten class for a Halloween Party and had a blast! Thank you to all who volunteered! Our Kindergartners have been doing many exciting science experiments, including apple observations and leaf investigations. Next up, they will be conducting candy experiments with our 1<sup>st</sup> graders. Our 1<sup>st</sup> graders have been going batty! They are investigating characteristics and behaviors of bats. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> graders started off the month of October learning and praying the rosary. They made rosaries with the help of their Room Parents and Mrs. Mitchell. In October, they also began Book Reporting. They have been busy reading and reporting on their favorite books. They look forward to earning a prize at the end of the month as they reach their Book Reporting goal! Also, math facts tests have been a daily routine. Mrs. Ryan is very proud of many 2<sup>nd</sup> graders who have been achieving perfect scores on their daily quizzes!

**Intermediate Grades** Sgt. Clark visited the 3<sup>rd</sup> graders this month. He came in his dress uniform, spoke to the children about why a police officer is an important part of the community, and answered many of their questions. They were all amazed that "kids can go to jail!" On Halloween day, we ventured to Caratunk Wildlife Refuge to participate in an Audubon program titled Wigwam Ways. The children learned how the Native Americans survived using their surroundings. This month we collected gently used blankets and toys which were donated to two local animal shelters. We finished our first unit in reading called Dollars and Sense. Children learned about interest and different kinds of money systems while reading entertaining stories that promoted making wise decisions when saving and spending cash. The monthly book report was themed: Mystery Boxes or Mystery Bags. Chelsea Priest, from ABC 6 visited our 4<sup>th</sup> grade science class to discuss her career as a meteorologist and answer all of our questions about weather, climate, forecasting and atmosphere. She even gave OLM a "shout out" on her morning program! Additionally, we have been studying the Industrial Revolution in social studies. We learned that the Father of the American Industrial Revolution is Samuel Slater and his early textile mills are right here in Pawtucket, RI. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade learned about the causes and effects of hurricanes. We specifically studied hurricanes Harvey, Maria, and Irma. The students researched facts about the devastating effects of these storms and used google maps to view the images of the landscape before and after the hurricanes. In an effort to help the victims of these hurricanes the fifth grade donated books from home, made bookmarks, and held a book sale. Students from Pre-K through 4<sup>th</sup> grade visited our classrooms. It was a great success! \$284.00 was raised and sent to the Catholic Charities USA.

**Middle School** Students are busy learning! In Science, 6<sup>th</sup> grade has been learning about measuring and monitoring earthquakes. 7<sup>th</sup> grade has completed their first independent lab report after collecting data on the growth of plants in a variety of controlled experiments. 8<sup>th</sup> grade students worked in groups to plan a design for a device that uses chemicals to reach optimal temperature and is suitable for transporting a reptile egg. Social Studies classes are hard at work, learning about Ancient Civilizations in Mesopotamia and Egypt (6<sup>th</sup> grade), the French and Indian War and early colonization (7<sup>th</sup> grade), and the Gilded Age and Progressive Era (8<sup>th</sup> grade). In addition to that, all classes are learning about North American geography. In ELA, 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are finishing up their time with King Arthur and Merlin by writing their own Arthurian legends, complete with creating the knight's coat of arms. 7<sup>th</sup> grade has been reading Edgar Allan Poe's poetry and the 6<sup>th</sup> graders have been busy reading, as they are finishing up their second in-class novel.

Father Barrow and friends at "Trunk or Treat"



4<sup>th</sup> Grade "Chelsea Priest, ABC6" visit

