



## 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, 2/15

Dress Down  
Day/Funds for  
Emmanuel House

#### Monday, 2/18 – 2/22

NO SCHOOL -  
Midwinter Vacation

#### Friday, 3/1

9:00am  
First Friday  
Mass/Formal Uniforms

#### Tuesday, 3/5

7:30am Lifetouch  
Spring Photos

#### Wednesday, 3/6

9:00am Ash  
Wednesday  
Mass/Formal Uniforms

#### Friday, 3/8

8:15am 8th Grade  
Field Trip to Boston  
Museum of Science

#### Saturday, 3/9

5:00pm OLM Garlic &  
Gaelic Night

#### Wednesday, 3/13

12:00pm Hearing  
Screening



“I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need.”

~ **Philippians 4:12**

### Principal's Message

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your part in yet another wonderful year at Our Lady of Mercy School. You and your child(ren) have been a blessing to me and the entire OLM faculty and staff.

This year as last, Father Healey and I would like to say “Thank You” to our current families in a special way. First, you should have received a re-enrollment letter last week that provides for an “early bird special” (\$100 off of the usual \$250 re-registration fee) if you re-enroll your child(ren) on or before March 15, 2019. Second, if you refer a friend or another family that registers a student(s) for school, you’ ll receive either a \$100 gift card to La Masseria Restaurant or an Amazon gift card in the same amount (your choice)! While these may be small tokens of our appreciation, we remain abundantly thankful for your unflinching support for the school and its mission.

### Father's Corner

Parents ask me if they should make their children go to Mass with them. I always answer “yes.” I have heard the argument that if you force a child to go to church they will grow up hating it. Yet we refuse to apply that same logic to other areas of children’s lives. No parent ever said: “If we force a child to go to school they will grow up hating learning,” or “I won’t force my child to go to school because they don’t like it.” I think the difference here is that children know why we force them to go to school — they know it’s ultimately for their own good. Therefore we need to instill in children that the Mass is also for their own good; in fact the greatest good. Do we instill in them an appreciation and love for the Mass? Do they see us praying daily and joyfully making Mass a priority? Or do we make excuses Sunday morning? Do our kids know why we go to Mass; for the worship of God, the ability to live virtuously, and the overcoming of sin? Don’t give up on your kids, because through your efforts to bring them to love God, you will grow in love of God.

## 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!

**Music – Ms. Hollowell** – Music class has been full of excitement and, of course, music these past few months. The early grades have been experiencing music concepts through games and activities. They're learning so much, even if they don't realize it yet! Third grade will be attending the Link Up program this year in May, which is an educational program hosted by the RI Philharmonic. This is sure to be a fun and exciting experience for all! More information will be sent home soon. Fourth and Fifth grades have been working on cooperative music games. These focus not only on music skills, but also on building teamwork. Middle school recently finished up their Music Literacy Unit, which means it's time for the World Music Unit! We just spent two week exploring the culture and music of Japan. Students compared traditional and modern Japanese music, as well as learning a dance excerpt from the world famous Yosakoi Festival. There is always more music to come, so please look forward to it!

**Technology – Mrs. Verret** – It has been a busy few weeks in Computer Science and Engineering! We spent the first weeks of the New Year conducting STAR Testing in both Reading and Math. Then, in our kick off to becoming more familiar with Google Suite products, the students were introduced to Google Forms. 4th through 8th graders learned how to create a form all about them with varying response types. After sending to classmates, they were able to collect data in charts with the answers received from friends. Grades 1-3 learned about binary code, created bracelets that represented the first letter of their names, and decoded secret messages using the new information they learned. Our Pre-K and Kindergarten classes have been enjoying early coding games with Bee Bots and building class-themed designs with Knex and Zoobs. All the students have been so kind and welcoming to me...it has been a great start to the year!

**Physical Education – Mr. Stefanik** – All is right with the universe - Red Sox won, Patriots won, and OLM is winning. What more can you ask for? We just finished the latest football contests. The Super Bowl Squares Winners were Maddie Ourique, Lola Reikhrud, Rachel Baker, and Alex Johnson. The Super Bowl Questionnaire Contest Winner was Griffin Cooper - student division and Mr. Michael O'Connell - adult division. Congratulations to all. Next contest will be March Madness. We just finished our basketball portion of the PE classes and are on to volleyball, elephant q-tips, mats, balance beams, and the ever popular GaGa ball. There is always an ongoing emphasis of sportsmanship and self-control in all of these activities. We are constantly discussing and modeling good behaviors in all aspects of the physical condition. The outside world with it's me first attitude (except for the Patriots) has a strong pull on the students but like I stated before, we here at OLM are winning.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Beat Exploration**



**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Yosakoi Dance**

