



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, April 5

1:00pm and 7:00pm
OLM Living Stations of the Cross

Monday, April 8

9:00am - "Take Two"
Storyteller performance
- Grades 1 - 5

1:00pm - School

Confessions

Wednesday, April 10

1:00pm - PreK/K
"Mother Nature" visit

Friday, April 12

1/2 Day Dismissal -
11:30am (11:15 am for
Bus Dismissal)

Monday, April 15 - 19

NO SCHOOL - Spring
Vacation

Tuesday, April 23

8:15am OLM Weekly
Mass

Friday, April 26

- 7th Grade Biomes
Field Trip
- Dress Down Day
6:00pm
Olm Father/Daughter
dance



"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 enter the Season of Lent. It is the great reminder that when it comes to the most important choice we can make in life, we are presented with an either/or. Either we choose heaven or we choose hell. We cannot embrace both heaven and hell, nor can evil be turned into good. Lent is that time when we strengthen our resolve to say "yes" to Christ and "no" to sin and death. Remember, you cannot take all luggage with you on all journeys. Your right hand may be among the things you have to leave behind. An error in mathematics can be put right, but only by going back until you find the error and then restarting from that point, never by simply ignoring the error and going on. Evil can be undone, but it can never be called "good." As C.S. Lewis writes: "If we insist on keeping Hell (or even earth) we shall not see Heaven: if we accept Heaven we shall not be able to retain even the smallest and most intimate souvenirs of Hell. I believe, to be sure, that any man who reaches Heaven will find that what he abandoned (even in plucking out his right eye) was precisely nothing: that the kernel of what he was really seeking even in his most depraved wishes will be there, beyond expectation, waiting for him in 'the High Countries'."

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-K students are learning about Lent. We will discuss simple things we can do to show our faith. We will be exploring dinosaurs! Kindergarten participated in a "100 Acts of Kindness Challenge" in February to promote good deeds and spread God's love and kindness to all. 1st Graders are exploring the South Pole. We are learning about the animals who live there and how they survive. We will also conduct a Tomie dePaola author study. 2nd Graders have been learning about African Americans. Each child read about, wrote about, and drew a representation of an historic individual that fits this category. They are also preparing to receive their First Penance. Come March 9th, they should feel that a burden has been lifted from their shoulders!

Intermediate Grades – 3rd grade is focusing on biographies. They are enjoying reading about people who have made an impact on the world. In math, they are continuing to master their multiplication facts while learning how to multiply by more than one factor. Science focus is sound, and we can all agree that the experiments are the most exciting part. 4th graders have been working on the mastery of fractions. They can add, subtract, compare and reduce fractions. After much practice, they can admit that fractions "aren't all that difficult, after all". 5th grade has shifted focus to identifying and incorporating the different types of figurative language in writing. We have analyzed the classic poem, *The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere*, by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. It paints a vivid picture of the events we have learned about while studying the American Revolution. We have also begun our exploration of earth science utilizing the science kits. Through inquiry based learning, the students determined the many different types of earth materials that compose soil.

Middle School – 6th Grade World History students have just finished the Reformation and now are onto the Age of Exploration. 7th Grade U.S. History classes are learning about the Age of Jackson, while 8th Grade is learning about "The Greatest Generation" and World War II. In ELA, the 6th grade finished their medieval unit, presenting monologues of different characters in costume from *Good Masters! Sweet Ladies!* to Grades 3 and 4. 7th grade finished *Treasure Island*, as the 8th grade learned about the hardships of the Industrial Revolution in the historical novel *Lyddie*. Grade 6 Math is deep into geometry, Grade 7 is starting to solve the line equations with variables on both sides, while the Algebra 1 students are finishing up factoring trinomials. In Science, 6th grade is learning how pressure and changes in heat affect weather, 7th grade is studying DNA and the processes involved in cell division, and 8th grade is learning about electricity. They have made batteries out of saltwater and apples and will be evaluating factors that affect current in circuits. 8th grade is going to the Boston Museum of Science where they will attend demonstrations of forces and explore the exhibits. 8th Grade theology is learning about the authority in the church of teaching and governing and the visible hierarchical church. 7th Grade is learning about the prophets: God sent prophets as witnesses to the truth, who called men back to the ways of God. 6th graders are learning about Lent and the powerful theme of self-denial. Self-denial means sacrificing our own will, or something we desire, for the sake of the Kingdom of God.

Middle School Medieval Monologues



5th Grade "Play in a Day"

