

Wednesday Notes October 30, 2019

Dear OLM Families,

Happy All Hallows Eve! We have given Halloween a fitting celebration at OLM. On Friday, our Little Saints and Scholars held their after-school Halloween party, and we hosted our annual Trunk or Treat. Today, our pre-k students are trick-or-treating in costume around the school. We are grateful to everyone in our community who makes these events possible: Mrs. Siani, Mrs. DiPrete, Sr. Emma, and Sr Lourdes in LSS; Mrs. Berube, Mrs. Brugnoli, our whole PTG Board and the many, many families who contributed to Trunk or Treat; and Ms. Grady, Mrs. Auvil, and our parent volunteers in pre-k. The success of these events speaks volumes about this community.

It is fitting that we have these community events in the lead-up to All Saints Day because they point us toward the larger and lasting Communion of Saints to which we all belong as members of the Church. Even the name Halloween (All Hallows Evening) reminds us of what follows it: the day that we remember all the holy ones living in heaven, and then the month when we remember all those who have gone before us in faith. This Friday, we will gather as a community to celebrate **All Saints Day Mass** at 9:00 am. It is a holy day of obligation, and so on this day even more than most, family members and friends are most welcome to join our school community for Mass. Please remember that all students should dress in formal uniform on Friday, and students who have dress down passes may not use them on Friday. Students who have PE on Friday may bring their sneakers for gym.

On All Souls Day, **Saturday, November 2nd**, members of the OLM CAL Basketball program will gather at the 4:00 pm Mass for a blessing. Following the Mass, the members of our basketball program and family members of the late Todd Youngs will gather in the OLM School Gym for the blessing of the **Todd Youngs Memorial Scoreboard**. Todd Youngs was a beloved member of the OLM School Family where he served as teacher, coach, and parent and we are grateful for this gift in his memory donated by his wife June, son Ryan, and the Youngs Family. All are invited to join the Youngs Family and members of our basketball program at the 4:00 pm Mass and the blessing ceremony to follow. Light refreshments will be served in the gym following the blessing ceremony.

Throughout this week, we are remembering the faithful departed of our school community by collecting prayer intentions, to be accompanied by donations to **NPH** that will support boys and girls in need throughout Latin America. Mrs. Franklin has done a wonderful job planning this fundraiser to help our students learn about Catholic culture in Latin America, remember our loved ones in prayer, and support others in their material needs, all at the same time. The letter that went home last week is attached again here for your reference. Please reach out to Mrs. Franklin if you have questions about how to participate.

We have many opportunities to share our blessings this month. Our capital campaign- **Our Faith, Our Future: Grateful for God's Providence**- is up and running! We are hosting one more reception to allow our community to learn more about the campaign, this evening at 7:00 pm. If you have not yet been to one of the receptions, this is your final opportunity! You can

register for one of the receptions by going to this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/receptionsOLM2>.

Thank you in advance for your support of this important campaign for the future of our parish and school.

Our **Thanksgiving Food Drive is now well underway**. This week, we are collecting instant and canned potatoes. Next week, we are collecting turkey gravy. The flyer that we previously sent home is attached again here for reference. Thank you to everyone who has already made contributions! Please do keep them coming.

Friends of Mercy says thank you to all who donated items to our St. Francis collection. Some of the things were dropped off at the Exeter shelter this weekend, and the others will be brought to the Warwick shelter. Both places received toys, dog food and treats, and a warm blanket or towel. We appreciate your making some animals' stays a little more comfortable!

Over the next week, we will be collecting candy to put in care packages that will be sent to military personnel overseas. **Any extra Halloween candy that you'd like to donate will be appreciated**. All candies must be snack size, factory sealed, and NOT powder-based (such as Pixie Sticks). These candy pieces will be placed in boxes with other items that are needed by the soldiers. The soldiers enjoy receiving cards (whether bought or made) too, so if you'd like to send one in, we'll be sure to include it in the care packages. Students should bring anything they would like to donate to their homeroom teacher. The Friends of Mercy will get everything in order and delivered the evening of November 6 (last day of collection). Please see the flyer in today's envelope if you have further questions. What a nice way to remember these men and women during the month that we celebrate our veterans!

We are also excited by our upcoming presentation **Connected Generation: Preparing Our Children to Safely Navigate the Digital World**. A flyer advertising the presentation is in today's envelope. **While the parent presentation is directed toward parents of children in grades 5-8, any of our parents should feel most welcome to attend. We recommend that children do not attend. It is tailored for adults.** Light refreshments will be provided. We are hoping for a great turnout!

In news around our broader community, you will see today in the Wednesday envelope a flyer promoting Kids Day with the **Providence Bruins**. You can also register at www.RIYT.org if interested in joining the **Rhode Island Youth Theatre Company** for its holiday production of Annie Jr. Rehearsals start Sat. Nov 2 at St Luke's Church in EG and the show will be Sat Dec. 21 at 7 pm and Sun. Dec. 22 at 2 pm at The Park Theatre in Cranston. Chelsea Cook is the director.

Happy Halloween and happy All Saints Day. May this community continue to point our attention toward our ultimate destiny in heaven, and in so doing may we make the love of God more visible on earth. God bless. Go Jags.

For Christ and Our Kids,
Patrick McNabb
Principal

Wednesday Envelope Enclosures

Connected Generation Flyer
Friends of Mercy Halloween Candy Flyer
Providence Bruins Kids Day Flyer

Grade-Level Specific Documents

Kindergarten Library Letter

Attachments

NPH Letter from Mrs. Franklin
Thanksgiving Food Drive Flyer

Upcoming Dates

Wednesday, October 30	Our Faith, Our Future Reception 7:00 pm in the gym
Friday, November 1	All Saints Day Mass (formal uniforms required)
Saturday, November 2	Blessing of the Todd Youngs Memorial Scoreboard following 4:00 pm Mass
Tuesday, November 5	Connected Generation Presentation: Parents 6:30-8:00 pm
Monday, November 11	No School- Veterans Day
Friday, November 15	Middle School Dance 6:30-8:30 pm
November 27-29	No School- Thanksgiving Recess
Friday, December 6	First Friday Mass (formal uniforms required)
Monday, December 9	Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception Mass (formal uniforms required)
Wednesday, December 11	OLM School Band Concert 8:25 am & 7:00 pm
Friday, December 13	Christmas Pageant 6:00 pm
Friday, December 20	Half-Day: 11:30 am dismissal
December 21-January 1	No School- Christmas Recess
Friday, January 3	First Friday Mass (formal uniforms required)
Thursday, January 16	Middle School Science Fair
Monday, January 20	No School- Martin Luther King Day
Friday, January 24	Middle School Dance 6:30-8:30 pm
Sunday, January 26	Open House