

## Wednesday Notes February 26, 2020

Dear OLM Families,

A blessed Ash Wednesday to all, and a special word of thanks to all of our family members who were able to join us this morning for Mass. The sight of so many people gathered to begin Lent together is a powerful testament to the strength of our community, and our shared prayer and sacrifice today will only serve to strengthen us more.

As we begin Lent at OLM, we do want to remind everyone of our parish mission, entitled **Taking up the Battle of Lent: Persevering with Christ in the Desert**, preached by Fr. Thomas McDonald. Fr. McDonald will preach at this coming weekend's Masses and will present mission talks next Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday March 2, 3, and 4 at 7:00 pm. Four priests will be available to hear confessions each night of the mission beginning at 6:00 pm.

There is also an additional daily Mass at 12:05 pm each weekday during Lent with Confessions immediately preceding, Stations of the Cross every Friday at 7:00 pm, an additional priest for Confessions on Mondays at 6:00 pm, and all-day Confessions on Saturday, March 21. All of our school families, both those who are OLM parishioners and those who are not, are invited to attend any of these events and take up the battle of Lent.

At school, please remember that **we will not follow our typical school Mass schedule**, as each homeroom has selected one day per week when they will attend the parish's 12:05 Mass. We will not have the normal Tuesday or Friday morning school Mass until after Easter. Please also note that **throughout Lent, we will not be serving any items containing meat at lunch on Fridays**. If you have already ordered a meat item, a non-meat substitute will be offered instead. Please refer to the table below to see the change. If you have ordered one of the items below and are not pleased with the substitute, you can still cancel and then reorder your preferred menu option from the Campus Cuisine website.

### **AUTOMATIC SUBSTITUTIONS FRIDAYS DURING LENT 2/28, 3/6, 3/13, 3/27, 4/3**

<b>PANERA ITEM ORDERED</b>	<b>PANERA AUTOMATIC SUBSTITUTION</b>
<i>Bowl of Chicken Noodle Soup</i>	<i>Bowl of Creamy Tomato Soup</i>
<i>Half Turkey Sandwich on Wheat</i>	<i>Half Tuna Sandwich on Wheat</i>
<i>Kids Chicken Caesar Salad</i>	<i>Kids Caesar Salad with Mozzarella Cheese</i>
<i>Kids Chicken Noodle Soup</i>	<i>Kids Creamy Tomato Soup</i>
<i>Kids Turkey and Cheese Sandwich</i>	<i>Grilled Cheese Sandwich</i>
<i>Turkey Sandwich with Lettuce and Tomato</i>	<i>Tuna Sandwich with Lettuce and Tomato</i>
<i>Half Fuji Apple Chicken Salad</i>	<i>Half Fuji Apple Salad with Mozzarella Cheese</i>

And finally in our Lenten observance, we are encouraging our students to practice alms-giving in two ways. First, we will begin next week our **Lenten Food Drive**. A flyer with more details is

in today's envelope and is also attached to this email. We have also sent home **Rice Bowls** for students to fill throughout Lent and to return to either school or church to benefit Catholic Relief Services. This final Lenten practice helps us to remember that our prayer and fasting are not done for show, but are undertaken to encourage us toward a greater love of God and neighbor.

Turning away from matters spiritual and toward matters logistical, we want to thank all those families who have already returned **re-enrollment invoices!** It is great to see them coming in as we build our student body for the 2020-2021 school year. Please remember that the deposit amount for each family increases from \$150 to \$250 after March 16. Thank you for your continued commitment to Our Lady of Mercy School. We are looking forward to a great 2020-2021!

Looking ahead to next week, **Spring Picture Day** is next Wednesday, March 4! We invite students to dress up in non-uniform clothes ("Sunday Best") on this day for their pictures. You will see order forms for spring pictures in Wednesday envelopes today.

Inching further along in the calendar, our annual **Father Daughter Dance** will be held at the Crowne Plaza on Saturday, March 28 at 6 PM. Invitations and RSVP cards were sent home, but can also be viewed [here](#). Please submit your RSVP by **March 9**. If you have questions, please contact [Gaiya Berube](#) or [Beth Brugnoli](#).

And it is time to start thinking about spring sports! **OLM Baseball** is getting started for the 2020 season. Middle school families received communication this week with details for registration. If you would like to register, **please contact Mr. Dean Burdon at [dean@tameracq.com](mailto:dean@tameracq.com) before March 9**. Go Jags!

For younger students, St. Greg's is once again sponsoring a baseball league, and registration is now open. **St. Greg's Baseball** is open to boys and girls from ages 3-13, and all skill levels are welcome. At St. Greg's Baseball, the emphasis is on having fun, sportsmanship, building friendships and learning about the great game of baseball. Games are played behind St Greg's Church on Cowesett Ave in Warwick (you do not need to live in Warwick to play). St Greg's Baseball designs its schedule to limit conflict with E.G. Little League and several of our players play in both leagues. The league will be holding an **in-person registration session on this Saturday, February 29, from 9 to 11 am at St. Greg's**. Additionally, a registration form is available online at [stgregsbaseball.com](http://stgregsbaseball.com) and you can always drop it off or mail it to St. Greg's. The season will begin the week of April 20 and Opening Day will take place on Saturday, April 25. Please feel free to contact Mike Maynard at 401-203-6454 with questions.

And **East Greenwich Little League** registration for Spring 2020 is open. You can register online at [EGLLRI.com](http://EGLLRI.com). Registration will close towards the end of March. Teams will be formed early April with games starting for Majors and AAA in mid-April and other levels in late April. All coaching volunteers are welcome.

And to close us out this evening, a couple of notes on fundraising. One is small: you will see a flyer in today's envelope about a **Yankee Candle fundraiser** to support our band. Easter and Mother's Day are not that far away, and a new candle can go a long way to enhance both celebrations! The second is larger: our **capital campaign** is on-going, and to date we have raised in excess of \$1.5 million toward our \$2 million goal. If you have not made a contribution

yet, please prayerfully consider a gift to support our parish and school. \$500,000 of our \$2 million goal is planned for improvements to our school and is a true investment in our future.

We wish everyone in our school community a holy Lenten season filled with many blessings. Thank you for all that you continue to do to help our students as they strive to be saints and scholars at Our Lady of Mercy School.

For Christ and Our Kids,  
Patrick McNabb  
Principal

### **Wednesday Envelope Enclosures**

Rice Bowl (one for each student)  
Lenten Food Drive Flyer  
Lifetouch Spring Picture Order Forms (one for each student)  
Yankee Candle Fundraiser Flyer

### **Grade-Level-Specific Documents**

None

### **Attachments**

Lenten Food Drive Flyer  
Yankee Candle Fundraiser Flyer

### **Upcoming Dates**

<b>Wednesday, March 4</b>	Lifetouch Spring Picture Day (“Sunday Best” outfits)
<b>Saturday, March 7</b>	First Penance
<b>Friday, March 13</b>	Second Trimester Report Cards go home
<b>March 14-15</b>	Rhode Island State Science Fair
<b>Tuesday, March 17</b>	St. Patrick’s Day Mass 12:05 pm (formal uniforms required)
<b>Wednesday, March 18</b>	PTG Meeting 6:00 pm (all parents welcome!)
<b>Thursday, March 19</b>	St. Joseph’s Day Mass 12:05 pm (formal uniforms required)
<b>Friday, March 20</b>	No School- Teacher Professional Day
<b>Saturday, March 28</b>	Father-Daughter Dance
<b>Monday, March 30</b>	School Confessions
<b>Friday, April 3</b>	Living Stations of the Cross
<b>Sunday, April 5</b>	Sports Banquet 6:00 pm
<b>Thursday, April 9</b>	Half Day: Holy Thursday
<b>Friday, April 10</b>	No School: Good Friday
<b>Wednesday, April 15</b>	PTG Meeting 6:00 pm (all parents welcome!)
<b>April 20-24</b>	No School- April Vacation

### **File attachments:**

[Lenten Food Drive.pdf](#)  
[Band Yankee Candle.pdf](#)