

Wednesday Notes



May 25, 2022

Dear OLM Community,

This is a very odd evening to be writing, as we are looking forward to Grandparents Day here tomorrow amid the excitement of field trips, athletic events, and artistic performances that have brought the life of our school back to full bloom this spring, since we are doing all of this at the same time that our brothers and sisters in Texas are mourning the loss of their children.

From one perspective, this strange juxtaposition can give us a sense of gratitude for the many gifts that we have been given. It can also inspire us to offer prayer for the souls that were lost and for the loved ones they have left behind; our faith assures us that those prayers will not be in vain. I know for my part that I have felt compelled to pray just to try to make some sense of yesterday's events and to ask for God's guidance in moving forward well.

To that end, please know of our continued commitment here at OLM School to keeping our children safe. We have recently invested in new security cameras and new locks for classroom doors to enhance our existing security protocols, and we continue to enjoy an excellent relationship with the East Greenwich Police Department, who have been exemplary in their response whenever we have had cause to contact them.

We can also offer prayer for children and young people everywhere who face so many obstacles to their happiness, and we will continue to do everything that we can to make our school a place where students grow in mind, body, and spirit, and where they are surrounded by caring adults who communicate through their words and actions that each and every person that walks through our doors is a beloved child of God whose life carries infinite value.

And perhaps we can pray that a spirit of love and hope would take hold in those places and in those hearts where it has faded. In a world where God is often forgotten, we will always strive to make OLM School a place where faith, hope, and love prevail, and where the joy of children makes the presence of God unmistakable. Thank you for your continued partnership in that effort. May God bless us all, and may He give us the

wisdom, the courage, and the love that we need to lead our children through these difficult times.

The Week Ahead

Thursday, May 26 Ascension Thursday/Grandparents Day 9:00 am Mass;

Formal Uniforms

Thursday, May 26 Band Practice 2:30-3:15 pm

Thursday, May 26 Beloved Meeting 2:30-3:30 pm

Thursday, May 26 Choir Practice 3:30-4:30 pm

Friday, May 27 Last Day for the Stock the Pantry Food Drive

Friday, May 27 Youth Ministry Meeting 6:30-9:00 pm

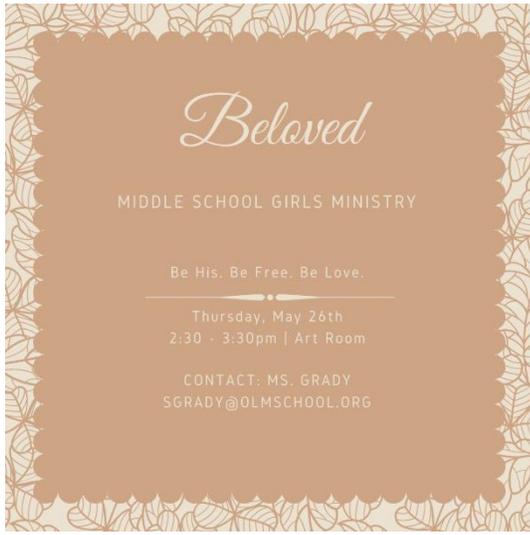
Monday, May 30 Memorial Day: No School

Tuesday, May 31 Eighth Grade Retreat

Grandparents' Day!



Spiritual Life



BELOVED

The next meeting of Beloved, our ministry for middle school girls, is tomorrow, May 26 from 2:30-3:30 pm. All young ladies in Grades 6-8 are welcome to attend!

YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Ministry returns this Friday, May 27 with a reflection on prayer and a trivia night! All students in Grades 6-8 are welcome to attend!



“To the Height of Prayer”

Middle School Youth Ministry
Friday, May 27. 6:30pm-9:00pm, OLM Gym

Talk and Discussion on the importance of
personal prayer.

Followed by:

TRIVIA COMPETITION

Teams of 3. Prizes for the winners!
Sign up your team in the Theology room by
Wednesday, May 25!



STOCK THE PANTRY FOOD DRIVE

Help Us Stock the Shelves of The Mercy House Food Pantry for the Upcoming Summer Months

OLM School will be collecting non-perishable food items to benefit Mercy House. Students are asked to bring in one item each week from the collection schedule below. Donation bins will be set-up at each drop-off door each morning. All items collected will be delivered to Mercy House where volunteers will sort and stock the shelves of The Mercy House Food Pantry for the upcoming summer months.

Week One	May 2nd - May 6th	Canned Meats & Protein: Ham, Spam, Chicken, Tuna and Beans
Week Two	May 9th- May 13th	Condiments: Ketchup, Relish, Mayonnaise, Mustard, Salad Dressing, Cooking Oils & Sprays
Week Three	May 16th- May 20th	Canned Meals: Chef Boyardee, Spaghettios, Chili, Baked Beans, Soups and Stews
Week Four	May 23rd- May 27th	Breakfast & Dessert items: Cookies, Canned Fruits, Jams, Jellies, Cold Cereals, Pancake Mix & Syrup



Thank you for your goodwill offering!
Enjoy Your Summer!

PTG News



Our Lady of Mercy School PTG Newsletter

PTG PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Be sure to save yourself time and stress by ordering your SchoolKidz Kit for the first day of school. Additional details are below. Have a wonderful holiday weekend! –Gaiya Perube

JOIN THE PTG TEAM!

Nominations for the 2022-2023 PTG Board are now open and we'd love for you to join the team! Take a look at [this flyer](#) for additional details about what the PTG does. If you're interested in helping with events like Trunk-or-Treat, the Father-Daughter Dance, or the Mother-Son Event, consider joining the Socials team!

Please review the [PTG positions](#) and complete the [nomination form](#) to volunteer or to nominate someone you know who is interested. Even if you aren't interested in a board role, there are plenty of support roles to fill. Please contact olmptg@gmail.com with questions.

ORDER YOUR STUDENT'S SCHOOLKIDZ KIT

Save yourself time and let SchoolKidz provide your child's school supplies for you! SchoolKidz assembles student supply kits based on what each teacher has indicated is needed. Kits are shipped directly to the school. No muss, no fuss. For order details, please refer to the [SchoolKids Kits flyer](#). The deadline to order is June 17!

CONTINUED ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE...

[Click Here for PTG Newsletter](#)

Thank You, Mr. Tremblay!

After a year of leading the music, band, and choir programs at OLM, Mr. Tremblay will be moving with his family to pursue very exciting new opportunities for his recording and performing career in Nashville, TN. While we are sad to see him go after the great work he has done with our students this year, we wish him and his family the very best in the years to come. One day, we'll all be able to say that we knew him before he was famous!



2022-2023 School Calendar

**Please click on the link below for a copy of our
2022-2023 School Calendar!**

[2022-2023 School Calendar](#)

COVID...Apparently It's Still Here...

**Do you have questions about current COVID-related school policies?
Then please read this carefully!**

With the COVID-19 pandemic moving toward an endemic, and with the Rhode Island Department of Health relaxing restrictions related to COVID-19, we have been able to make more adjustments to our practices. We have moved many aspects of our school day back to "normal," and while we hope that we will continue to move in this direction, please bear in mind that all of our practices are subject to change based on the needs of our school community. With that in mind, here are a few highlights that are important for families to know:

- Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 must still isolate for ten days and return on Day 11.
 - They MAY return to the school building between Days 6 and 10 IF they are completely free of COVID-19 symptoms AND test negative for COVID-19 (COVID-19 tests will be available at school for students wishing to test for re-entry) AND wear a well-fitting mask through Day 10.
- Household contacts of people positive for COVID-19 must quarantine for five days from their last contact with the positive individual. They may return on Day 6 from their last contact IF they are asymptomatic.
- Household contacts are the only close contacts now required to quarantine. **We are no longer conducting contact tracing of COVID-19 cases in the school building.**

- In the event of a positive COVID case in the school building, we will notify the families in the affected class, but testing or quarantine will not be required of anyone.
- **Students must continue to stay home and contact Mrs. Fleury for directions for return if they have any of the following symptoms:**
 - Fever of 100.4 degrees or higher
 - Must allow 24 hours after resolution of symptoms to return to school building
 - Vomiting or Diarrhea
 - Must allow 24 hours after resolution of symptoms to return to school building
 - New Cough
 - New Loss of Taste or Smell
 - Shortness of Breath or Difficulty Breathing

Students with more minor symptoms are free to attend school. Please however, note that **Mrs. Fleury always has the authority as the medical professional on our staff to determine that a child should not be in class for medical reasons.**

- With contact tracing no longer in effect, we are loosening restrictions in regard to visitors and volunteers in the building. **Teachers may now welcome parent volunteers under the following circumstances:**
 - Volunteers have an up-to-date BCI and Safe Environment Training (please check with Mrs. Buonaccorsi if you are not sure of your status).
 - Volunteers are free of the symptoms noted above.
 - Volunteers are serving the needs of our students under the leadership of our teachers.
- With the pandemic shifting to an endemic state, we are shifting our decision-making calculus in classrooms to more heavily weight our students' educational needs, as opposed to their safety needs. You may notice more flexible seating arrangements in classrooms and less social distancing around the school building. You may also see greater levels of partner work and group work in classrooms.
- We will continue to prioritize ventilation, air filtration, and hand hygiene at all times in order to help manage our transition to an endemic and continue to promote our students', teachers' and families' health.

Wednesday Envelope

Nothing This Week!

Upcoming Dates

Thursday, May 26 Ascension Thursday/Grandparents Day 9:00 am Mass; Formal Uniforms

Friday, May 27 Youth Ministry Meeting 6:30-9:00 pm

Monday, May 30 No School: Memorial Day

Tuesday, May 31 Eighth Grade Retreat

Friday, June 3 First Friday Mass 9:00 am; Formal Uniforms

Friday, June 3 Eighth Grade Dance 6:00-8:00 pm

Sunday, June 5 Class of 2022 Graduation Mass & Brunch 10:30 am

Monday, June 6 School Confessions 12:45 pm

Monday, June 6 Class of 2022 Graduation 6:00 pm

Monday, June 13 Field Day!

Thursday, June 16 Pre-K End-of-Year Celebration 9:00 am

Thursday, June 16 Kindergarten End-of-Year Celebration 10:30 am

Friday, June 17 Half Day: Last Day of School

Our Lady of Mercy, Pray for Us.