

Wednesday Notes



September 21, 2022

Dear OLM Community,

Thank you to all our parents and teachers who came together for a fantastic Back to School Night last Wednesday!

It's fair to say that "together" was a theme of the evening. Or, perhaps even more to the point, it's fair to say that charity was a theme of the evening. Charity, that is, in its classical sense as the virtue of love of God and love of neighbor. Our school is and always will be a ministry of charity.

And it has to be! Last Wednesday, we also worked through some of the economics of our school to help everyone understand the financial and operational context in which we work.

That includes the fact that our tuition is less than half of the average of per-pupil spending for public schools in Rhode Island and less than a quarter of the prevailing tuition rate for elite private schools.

This leaves us with an annual gap of approximately \$400,000 between our operating expenses and the revenue that we bring in as tuition and fees.

Patronal Feast of
OUR LADY OF MERCY
CATHOLIC PARISH
65 Third Street, East Greenwich, RI 02818

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24
The Feast of Our Lady of Mercy
Solemn Feast Mass at 5:00 p.m.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26
OLM Saints & Scholars Open Golf Tournament · 1:00 p.m. Tee Off
Quidnessett Country Club, North Kingstown
Register at olmparish.org

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28
Holy Hour of Mercy at 7:00 p.m.
Fr. James Sullivan, O.P., Pastor of St. Pius V Church, Providence
Homilist
Eucharistic Adoration, Rosary & Benediction
Meditative Music by OLM Music Director
Mr. Henri St. Louis & OLM Choir

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29
Act of Mercy at 6:00 p.m.
Join us at the OLM school field as we prepare meals
and supplies for the hungry and homeless

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30
OLM OKTOBERFEST 6-9 p.m.
OLM School Field
German food, beer & music
"See You In September" Raffle Drawing for \$10,000 in prize money
Join us in the Oktoberfest Beer Tent as we celebrate
the arrival of the Month of Mary in October!
No Admission - Free Will Offering

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And that means that every year, we count on charity in the other sense of the word as well! But it only happens- and our school only functions- because every person in our community is willing to give a little bit more- and not just financially! We count on people who can give their treasure, yes, but also their time, their talent, their prayers, their good will, and their love.

So, as we look ahead to Feast Week, if you have purchased a foursome for the Saints and Scholars Open, or sponsored a tee, or taken a chance on a raffle ticket, or volunteered your time next Monday, thank you! It matters a great deal.

And if you haven't done any of those things yet, well, this coming week and this coming year, we need your help! But we're not keeping score. You know how and when you can make your contribution to our shared mission. And every single one matters. So please read these Wednesday Notes carefully to see if there's a contribution that you can make this week. And if it's not this week, please keep paying attention to see when your opportunity to help may arise.

And most of all, thank you, sincerely, for investing in our school and in our students. We at OLM are in a special place at a special time, and only God knows what we will do together for our kids and for His Kingdom.

**For Christ and Our Kids,
Patrick McNabb
Principal**

The Week Ahead

Wednesday, September 21 Cross Country Meet @ Goddard Park 4:30 pm

Friday, September 23 Middle School Youth Ministry Meeting 6:30-9:00 pm

Saturday, September 24 Patronal Feast Mass 5:00 pm

Monday, September 26 Saints & Scholars Open @ Quidnessett Country Club

Monday, September 26 Deadline to Order Hard-Copy PTG Directory

Wednesday, September 28 Student Council Elections

Wednesday, September 28 Cross Country Meet @ Goddard Park 4:30 pm

Wednesday, September 28 Holy Hour of Mercy 7:00 pm

Thursday, September 29 Act of Mercy 6:00 pm on the Field

Friday, September 30 Oktoberfest 6:00-9:00 pm

(Including the See You in September Raffle Drawing!)

Supporting Our Saints and Scholars: Feast Week

Saints and Scholars Open

The sponsorships are in place and the golfers are ready to go, but we still need help on the day of the tournament! If you can lend a few hours of your time next Monday, please click on the button below to see where you can lend a hand at beautiful Quidnessett Country Club!

[Click Here to Volunteer at the Saints and Scholars Open!](#)



Join fellow School Families, Parishioners and Alumni for the OLM School and Parish Golf Tournament to benefit the Saints and Scholars Fund at OLM School.

GOLF SPONSOR PACKAGES

\$7,500 | Tournament Sponsor

Includes exclusive billing as the event sponsor in all collateral material and on the school website partner page; tickets for all OLM events throughout the year; a golf foursome, lunch, cocktails, dinner, signage on the course, during the cocktail reception and at the Dinner.

\$5,000 | Cocktail/Dinner Sponsor

Includes a foursome, lunch, cocktails, dinner, signage on the course and during the cocktail reception.

\$3,000 | Lunch Sponsor

Includes a foursome, lunch, cocktails, dinner, signage on the course and at lunch.

\$1,250 | Golf Cart Sponsor

Includes a foursome, lunch, cocktails, dinner, tee sign and signage on the golf carts.

\$500 | Clergy Sponsor

Sponsor a Senior or Junior Priest of the Diocese for the Golf Tournament. Includes golf and meals.

\$150 | Tee Sponsor

Your name or business name displayed on tee sign

\$1000 | Golf Foursome

\$250 | Golf Individual
\$50 | Dinner

For further information, please contact parish@olmparish.org or (401) 884-4968 WWW.OLMPARISH.ORG



See you in September RAFFLE

GRAND PRIZE - \$5,000

FIRST PRIZE- \$2,500

SECOND PRIZE- \$1,000

THIRD PRIZE- \$1,000

FOURTH PRIZE- \$500

LIVE DRAWING AT THE OLM OKTOBERFEST
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2022

Tickets are \$100 EACH

Call OLM at 401-884-4968 today to get yours!

Support our Saints and Scholars!

See You in September Raffle

Time is running out to purchase a ticket for the See You in September Raffle! The drawing will take place at Oktoberfest next Friday, September 30. Tickets will be on sale through the drawing or until we sell out- whichever comes first!

Don't miss your chance to support our kids AND win up to \$10,000 in prize money!

PTG News



PTG President's Message

There are a lot of events happening over the next few weeks. There are a number of opportunities to volunteer! The OLM Saints & Scholars Open is Monday, September 26! Take a look below for ways you can participate even if you aren't golfing. The Colorthon is October 20 and Trunk or Treat is October 28. Details on both events and ways to volunteer will be shared in the upcoming weeks.

Tee It Up For OLM

Mark your calendars! Join OLM families, parishioners and alumni for the OLM School and Parish Golf Tournament to benefit the Saints and Scholars Fund at OLM School. The tournament is Monday, September 26 at the Quiddessett Country Club. Be sure to [register and join](#) this amazing fundraising event!

We are also looking for volunteers to assist at the event! [Sign up here.](#)

See You In September Raffle

The annual "See You in September" raffle is now on! The raffle, organized by the church, supports the OLM School. Tickets will be sold after Masses, and they are also available at the Parish Office. Tickets are \$100 each. Winners will be announced at OLM's Oktoberfest on September 30.

If you attend weekend Mass and would like to volunteer after Mass to sell raffle tickets, please email olmptg@gmail.com.

Colorthon

The Colorthon Fundraiser will be held on Thursday, October 20 (rain date Wednesday, October 19). Next Wednesday, please check your child's school envelope for the details and launch of this super fun fundraiser.

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It's big week for the PTG!

Check out the newsletter to get all the details and see how you can help!

[Click Here for the PTG Newsletter](#)

2022-2023 Student & Family Handbook

Our updated 2022-2023 Student & Family Handbook is now available on our school website. [Please click here to access it.](#)

If you have not yet returned a signed copy of the Handbook Acknowledgement & Agreement Form, you have received a copy to be signed in your Wednesday Envelope this week. This form must be signed by all students in Grades 5 and above and must also be signed by all parents, regardless of grade level.

If you received one in your Wednesday Envelope today, please sign it and return it with your child tomorrow. Thank you very much.

[Handbook Acknowledgement & Agreement Form](#)

Order Your PTG Directory! By Monday!!!!

When you log in to your FACTS Family Portal, you will notice that you can now access our family directory online through the Portal!

But we also like our traditions, so we are not getting rid of the trusted paper Directories. If you would like to order one or more PTG Directories for the coming year, please click the button below and complete the form! And please do it by this coming Monday! Orders will close after Monday, September 26!

Payment will be deducted through FACTS.

Please note that the information that will appear in the Directory for YOUR family is whatever you both entered into FACTS at the time of enrollment and consented to display. Please take a moment to check that the information you have entered is correct by following these steps:

Go to factsmgt.com. The District code is OLM-RI. Please use the user login and password for your FACTS account. From the "School" dropdown menu select "Web Forms", then click on "Family Demographic Form", then select the form(s) you wish to update:

- Student Demographic Form
- Student Medical Form
- Custodial Parent Form (update contact information and preferences for Directory blocks/Parent Alert options)
- Emergency Contacts
- Transportation Form
- Add Grandparents

Please call our office with any questions and thanks for joining us in the 21st Century!

[Click Here to Order a Paper Copy of the PTG Directory](#)

Arrival & Dismissal

Thank you to everyone for your help in making our arrival and dismissal go so smoothly! Three points to help it stay safe and efficient:

- **Please drive slowly!** Little eyes are often not watching for cars. Please drive slowly on campus- always and everywhere.

- **PK-2 parents, please wait to help your child out of your car until there is a staff member who is present and attentive to your child.** Our staff is trying to manage the flow of traffic to make it both safe for children and reasonably quick for parents trying to get to their daily responsibilities. While it is perfectly fine and expected for parents of young children to help them out of the car, if that happens without the attention of our staff, there is one less person watching your child, and you are likely slowing down the pace of the line for those cars behind you. Thank you very much for your cooperation.
- **Children may not run unsupervised in the parking lot at dismissal.** It is a severe safety hazard. Once you have received your child(ren) from school, please supervise them carefully and do not permit them to run in the parking lot. Thank you very much for your cooperation in this important safety matter.

Spiritual Life

Middle School Youth Ministry

The first youth ministry meeting of the new year is almost here! It will take place **THIS Friday, September 23** from **6:30-9:00 pm**. This month's theme is the **Welcome Back Pizza Party**. All students in **Grades 6-8** are welcome, so come out to have fun, make friends, and build your faith!



Sacramental Preparation

Students in **Grade 2** and **Grade 8** received paper copies today of a letter that went home via email last week regarding sacramental preparation this school year. Please review them carefully and reach out to the listed contacts if you have any questions!

Athletics Update

We might be in the middle of cross country season, but the planning has already started for basketball! Look out for more information next Wednesday!

Keep Yourself Up-to-Date!

**Have you recently moved?
Gotten a new phone number?
Made a new pick-up arrangement with your neighbor?**

If those or anything similar sounds like you, please make sure to update your information in the [FACTS Family Portal](#).

You don't have to call us! You don't have to email! Just log in, make the changes, and we will see them. This is how we stay up-to-date on all the family information we need to keep the school running well, so please help us out and make the changes when they happen! Thank you!!

COVID-19 Information

To open the 2022-2023 school year, the following policies will be in place regarding COVID-19:

- Any student or staff member who tests positive for COVID-19 must isolate for at least five days from the date of symptom onset or the positive COVID-19 test, whichever occurred first.
- The individual may return on Day Six if his or her symptoms are improving, and then must wear a well-fitting mask from Days Six through Ten.

Please note changes to our policies from the Spring of 2022:

- Household contacts of positive cases- both vaccinated and unvaccinated- are no longer required to quarantine.
- Remote learning via Zoom will no longer be made available to students who are at home for COVID-related reasons. Students who are absent for medical reasons will

receive assignments in a manner consistent with our standard practice for all absences.

- We will no longer be notifying families of individual COVID-19 cases as they occur. We will, however, be keeping a regularly updated tracker of COVID-19 cases in our school for those families who find that information helpful in making necessary health decisions. You can find the tracker [here](#).

These policies remain subject to change based on guidance from public health authorities or the specific needs of our school community. Any further changes will be communicated promptly.

Preparing to Volunteer

Are you interested in volunteering at OLM School during the 2022-2023 school year? If so, now is the time to prepare! Because we take the moral and physical safety of our students very seriously, there are steps that all volunteers must take before beginning:

BCI and Safe Environment Training paperwork must be processed in order to allow parents/grandparents to volunteer at OLM on field trips, in classrooms, etc.

Here are the steps that all prospective volunteers must complete:

- [OLM Volunteer Application](#) - complete this form.
- [BCI application](#) - complete this form - which must be notarized by a Notary Public. Attach a copy of the **FRONT** and **BACK** of your driver's license. The school pays the \$5.00 processing fee.
- [Safe Environment Training](#) - complete this form once you have reviewed the following links:
 - [Safe Environment Training Link](#)
 - [Safe Environment Code of Ethical Conduct Link](#)
 - [Safe Environment Extract Link](#)

Please send/bring all these forms/documents to the front office once you have completed them so we can submit them for processing. **Please note the process can take a few weeks, so the time to act is now!**

Thank you for working with us to ensure the safety and well-being of all students at OLM School.

Wednesday Envelope

Handbook Acknowledgment & Agreement Form
(only those families who have not yet submitted one this school year)
Grade 2 Religious Education Letter (Grade 2 Only)
Grade 8 Confirmation Letter (Grade 8 Only)

Upcoming Dates

Friday, September 23 Youth Ministry Meeting 6:30-9:00 pm
Monday, September 26 Saints & Scholars Open
Friday, September 30 Oktoberfest 6:00-9:00 pm; See You in September Raffle Drawing
Monday, October 3 School Confessions 12:45 pm
Thursday, October 6 OLM Parish Families Group Rosary & Pizza 5:30 pm
Friday, October 7 First Friday Mass 9:00 am (Formal Uniforms)
Monday, October 10 NO SCHOOL: Columbus Day
Friday, October 14 Youth Ministry Meeting 6:30-9:00 pm
Tuesday, October 18 PTG Board Meeting 6:00 pm
Thursday, October 20 Colorthon!
Friday, October 21 NO SCHOOL: Parent-Teacher Conferences
Friday, October 21 Flu Clinic in the Gym 4:00-6:30 pm (Ages 3 +)
Friday, October 28 Trunk or Treat!
Tuesday, November 1 All Saints Day Mass 9:00 am (Formal Uniforms)
Wednesday, November 2 All Souls Day Mass & Procession 9:00 am (Middle School Only; Formal Uniforms)
Friday, November 4 Youth Ministry Meeting 6:30-9:00 pm
Friday, November 11 NO SCHOOL: Veterans Day
Tuesday, November 15 PTG Board Meeting 6:00 pm
November 23-25 Thanksgiving Recess
Friday, December 2 First Friday Mass 9:00 am (Formal Uniforms)
Friday, December 2 OLM Parish Families Group Christmas Caroling 6:30 pm
Tuesday, December 6 St. Nicholas Day!
Thursday, December 8 Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception Mass 9:00 am (Formal Uniforms)
Friday, December 9 Youth Ministry Meeting 6:30-9:00 pm
Monday, December 12 School Confessions 12:45-2:00 pm
Thursday, December 15 Christmas Pageant 6:00 pm
December 22 HALF DAY 11:30 am dismissal
December 23-January 2 Christmas Vacation
Tuesday, January 3 School Resumes

**Thank you for investing in Our Lady of Mercy School.
Every contribution matters.**