



Our Lady of Grace Catholic School

Expanding Minds • Growing Faith • Inspiring Service

Calendar Links



[CLICK HERE for the
SCHOOL CALENDAR](#)



[CLICK HERE for the
LUNCH CALENDAR](#)



Jan. 28 Open House
1:00-3:00

Jan. 28-Feb. 2 Catholic
Schools Week

[EVENTS CALENDAR](#)

Weekly Bulletin

January 25, 2024



We are excited to have the opportunity to celebrate Catholic Schools once again this year! The national theme for this important week is "Catholic Schools: Faith Excellence Service." By celebrating Catholic schools and enjoying some special events, we can take time to reflect on the positive impact a Catholic education has on children and its contributions to our community.

Below is a brief summary of the fun-filled activities planned for CSW.

Sunday, January 28: "CSW Kick Off"

OLG benefits all year long from the religious guidance, prayers and support our four parishes provide. We invite you to join us for Mass at one of the parishes we serve: Assumption, Little Flower, St. Ann, and St. Margaret Mary. If you are not able to attend Mass, we ask you to start our Catholic Schools Week by praying for our faculty, students, and families. Open House at OLG is from 1:00-3:00. All current and prospective parents, families, and parishioners are encouraged to attend.

Monday, January 29: "Proud to be an Eagle"

Show your school pride and celebrate your Eagle spirit with a BLUE OUT DAY! Students can come to school out of uniform in their favorite blue clothes. Socks, hats, accessories, and wigs are welcome. (Please no hair or face paint.)

Tuesday, January 30: "Focusing on Our Faith"

Families are invited to join our school community at 8:30 as we gather for our weekly Mass at St. Ann. The parishioners who join us that day will receive a card thanking them for their support of Our Lady of Grace and Catholic education.

Wednesday, January 31: "Excellence in Our Actions"

Saints and Community Hero Day! We all strive to be living saints and heroes in our service of others and everyday actions. Students can dress as their favorite saint or community hero (ex. Firefighters, police, doctors, nurses, librarians, paramedic, mechanic, dentist, veterinarian, etc.) Students will also be participating in a service project in their classrooms. Eagles #soar2serve

Thursday, February 1: "Appreciating Our Students"

To celebrate our tremendous OLG students, they will be able to come to school out of uniform! To make their day extra special, students will take part in an hourly Principal's Prize Lottery. They will receive a special treat from PTO. To top off this fantastic day, all students will enjoy a homework FREE evening!

Friday, February 2: "Celebrating Our Talents"

To conclude this year's Catholic Schools Week, students may come to school out of uniform dressed as their favorite talented person. Athletes, musicians, artists, actors, or their favorite book character are all examples of people students can dress as on this day. We will also be celebrating our very talented faculty and staff with a PTO provided lunch and hourly prizes for them!

* Please look for information from your child's teacher on additional classroom CSW activities. All out of uniform days should be school appropriate attire.



Finding Faith & Changing Your Life: *The Amazing Story of Amazing Grace*

"Amazing grace, how sweet the sound..." so begins one of the most beloved hymns of all times, found in the hymnals of many Christian denominations. The author of the words was John Newton, who called himself "a wretch" who once was lost but then was found, saved by amazing grace.

Newton was born in London July 24, 1725, the son of a commander of a merchant ship which sailed the Mediterranean. When John was eleven, he went to sea with his father and made six voyages with him before his father retired. In 1744 John joined the crew of the H.M.S. Harwich. Finding conditions on board intolerable, he was exchanged into service on a slave ship, which took him to the coast of Sierra Leone on the southwest coast of Africa. John Newton ultimately became captain of his own ship, one which also plied the slave trade.

Although John had had some early religious instruction from his mother who had died when he was a child, he had long since given up religion. One day, on a homeward voyage, while he was attempting to steer the ship through a relentless and violent storm, he experienced what he was to refer to later as his "great deliverance." He recorded in his journal that when all seemed lost and the ship would surely sink, he exclaimed, "Lord, have mercy upon us." Miraculously, the storm cleared and the ship was saved. Later in his cabin John reflected on what he had said and began to believe that God had spoken to him through the storm and that – for the first time in his life – he had found grace. Soon afterward, John Newton gave up the slave trade for good.



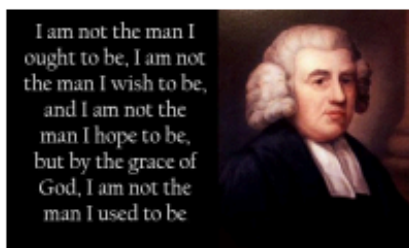
Newton's ship met with a relentless and violent storm

For the rest of his life, John observed May 10, 1748 as the day of his conversion, a day of humiliation in which he gave over his will to God. John wrote in his famous hymn: "Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come; 'tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home." Inspired by his newfound grace, he soon decided to become a minister and applied to the Archbishop of York for ordination. The Archbishop refused his request, but Newton persisted in his goal, and was ordained and became the Pastor of Olney, Buckinghamshire, England. He preached not only in Olney but in other parts of the country and Newton's church became so crowded during services that it had to be enlarged.

John soon tried his hand at writing hymns and contributed to several books of hymns, which achieved lasting popularity. The first edition, published in 1779, contained 280 pieces by Newton. His most famous hymn, however, was, and still is, "Amazing Grace," based on his personal conversion aboard the slave vessel.

Composed probably between 1760 and 1770, "Amazing Grace" was possibly one of the hymns written for a weekly service. Among Newton's contributions which are still loved and sung today are "How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds" and "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken," as well as the beloved "Amazing Grace."

"Amazing grace! How sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see." In the context of his life, those words rang true.



I am not the man I
ought to be, I am not
the man I wish to be,
and I am not the
man I hope to be,
but by the grace of
God, I am not the
man I used to be

The origin of the hymn's melody is unknown. Most hymnals attribute it to an early American folk melody. The Bill Moyers special on "Amazing Grace" speculated that it may have been the tune of a song enslaved Africans once sang. Newton was not only a prolific hymn writer but also kept extensive journals and wrote many letters, and historians accredit these for much of what is known today about the eighteenth-century slave trade. In 1780 Newton left Olney to become rector of St. Mary in London. There he drew large congregations and influenced many, among them William Wilberforce, who would one day become a leader in the campaign

for the abolition of slavery in Great Britain. Newton continued to preach until the last year of his life. In one of his sermons, Newton said: *"I am not the man I ought to be, I am not the man I wish to be, and I am not the man I hope to be. But by the grace of God, I am not the man I use to be."* John died in London on December 21, 1807 and is buried next to his wife at St. Mary's. Slave trader turned minister in the Church of England, he was secure in his faith that *amazing grace would lead him home.*

Blessings, Mark Friedman CRE / OLG

PTO BOARD NOMINATIONS



Seeking nominations for PTO
president
vice president

Send nominations by 2/14/24 to
PTO@OLGCS.org

All nominations will need to qualify per PTO bylaws prior to voting - Have questions?
Email or talk to a current PTO board member directly

[CLICK HERE for the Sponsorship Form for Eagle Walk](#)

Please call the school office if you need a
hard copy of the sponsorship form sent home.

Cafeteria News



FREE & REDUCED MEAL APPLICATION ARE ACCEPTED THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL YEAR

- Apply on-line at [LINQ Connect](#) or paper Applications are available in the school office or the OLG Website/Calendar/Cafeteria.
- Households that were denied benefits in the fall may re-apply if their circumstances change during the school year (loss of income, new baby).
- Money is added to student's accounts by sending in labeled **cash/check** to the OLG Cafeteria or by **electronically** at [LINQ Connect](#) to your student(s) meal account. Credit card payments incur a service fee.

Tuition Assistance Scholarships



The Catholic Education Foundation for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati (CEF) will once again offer tuition assistance scholarships for the 2024-2025 school year.

Scholarships are available for Pre-School - 8th grade students. FACTS applications may be submitted between now and **February 25, 2024**.

Please visit www.CatholicBestChoice.org for more details and instructions on how to apply.



CATHOLIC
Education Foundation
The Archdiocese of Cincinnati



<p>School Office Pick Up Procedures Final Forms Option C Volunteer Information</p>	<p>Cafeteria Lunch/Snack Account Breakfast Information CLICK HERE to Volunteer</p>	<p>PTO/Athletics Out of Uniform Passes</p>
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Please join us for an
OPEN HOUSE!

January 27, 2024
10:00 am-12:00 pm

6997 Hamilton Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45231
(513) 931-9062

Judy Staudigel (Director)
stpaulearlylearningcenter.com

Please park in the lower lot of Journey Community Church by the playground.

St. Paul Early Learning Center is a learning community geared to the needs and abilities of children 2.5-5 years of age. Through a play based curriculum, children are encouraged to become creative and independent thinkers! The foundation of the program is based on the principles of Early Childhood Education! Children will learn, grow, and play with others under the guidance of degreed lead teachers and assistant teachers.

SETTING FAMILIES UP FOR SUCCESS!