



# Our Lady of Grace Catholic School

*Expanding Minds • Growing Faith • Inspiring Service*

## Calendar Links



[CLICK HERE for the 2020-21 school calendar.](#)



[CLICK HERE for the LUNCH CALENDAR](#)



May 7 Spiritwear Day

**Do not  
abandon  
yourselves to  
despair. We  
are the Easter  
people and  
hallelujah is  
our song.**

- Pope John Paul II

## Weekly Bulletin

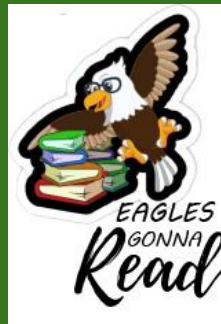
April 29, 2021



**UPDATE: Students last day will be Tuesday, May 25. This will NOT be an early dismissal.**



[CLICK HERE for the 2021-2022 School Year Calendar](#)



## Our Lady of Grace PTO has decided to hold a Read-a-thon this year!

Due to Covid restrictions the PTO was not able to host the normal walk-a-thon this year. However, we are still incurring expenses and need to raise funds for the work we do for students and teachers and for you!

Read-a-thons actually get your reader excited about reading and it gives friends and family the opportunity to encourage your child to read even more.

Our Read-a-thon starts Monday May 3rd 2021.

About a week or 2 before our Read-a-thon starts we will send home instructions on how to activate your reader's personal page. This is where you will be able to view and record their progress.

We've chosen Read-a-thon because it will not take much of your time, gives your child a reason to read and helps in the development of stronger reading skills.

We hope EVERYONE participates.

Thanks so much,

Our Lady of Grace PTO

# Religious Education

## Today is Saint Catherine of Siena's Feast Day

A couple of years ago – pre-pandemic – I had the opportunity to travel to Italy. One of our stops was the beautiful town of Siena, located in the Tuscany region. As we walked through this beautiful town surrounded by hills and vineyards, I couldn't help but think of one of my favorite saints – Catherine of Siena. I imagined her walking through the same plazas and the beautiful churches I was seeing there, and prayed a silent prayer to this great Saint of the Church.

Caterina Benincasa's birth into a middle-class Italian wool dyer's family caused scarcely a ripple; she was the twenty-third of 23 children – although half of those children died including her twin sister! Another event that same year, was a tidal wave of disease called the "Black Death." In just three years, 1348 to 1350, more than one-third of the population of Europe died. Baby Catherine survived the onslaught and, in adulthood, she saved many plague victims through her compassionate nursing.



*The Cathedral in Siena*

As a young girl, Catherine often went to a cave near her home in Siena to meditate, fast, and pray. At about age 7, she claimed to have seen a vision of Jesus and announced to her parents her desire to live a religious life. Convinced of her devotion, they gave her a small room in the basement of their home that acted as a private place of prayer. However, Catherine was not satisfied living a meditative life; she wanted to help the poor and sick. But she did not want to be an ordinary nun. Through the influence of her cousin, a Dominican priest, Catherine joined the Dominican Order in 1363 at the age of 18 and spent the next three years in seclusion, prayer, and simplicity. Gradually, a group of followers gathered around her—men and women, priests and religious. An active public ministry grew out of her meditative life. Her letters, mostly for spiritual instruction and encouragement of her followers, began to take more and more note of public affairs. Opposition resulted from her mixing fearlessly with the world and speaking with the candor and authority of one completely committed to Christ. This extraordinary girl blossomed into a no less extraordinary woman whose spiritual, moral, and political efforts had a lasting effect. What is most impressive about her is that she learned to view her surrender to her Lord as a goal to be reached through time. Her public influence reached great heights because of her evident holiness, and she made a deep impression on the Pope. She worked tirelessly for the crusade against the Turks and for peace between Florence and the Rome. In 1378, the Great Schism began, splitting the Christian world in two, and putting popes and even saints on opposing sides. Catherine spent the last two years of her life in Rome, in prayer and pleading on behalf of the cause of Pope Urban VI and the unity of the Church.

Catherine died in Rome, on April 29, 1380, at the age of thirty-three, having suffered a stroke which paralyzed her from the waist down. Surrounded by her many followers, her last words were, "Father, into Your Hands I commend my soul and my spirit." She was canonized a saint in 1461. Catherine ranks high among the mystics and spiritual writers of the Church. In 1939, she and Francis of Assisi were declared co-patrons of Italy. Pope Paul VI named her and Teresa of Avila Doctors of the Church in 1970. Her spiritual testament is found in her book "The Dialogue."

Though she lived her life in a faith experience and spirituality far different from that of our own time, Catherine of Siena stands as a companion with us on the Christian journey in her undivided effort to invite the Lord to take flesh in her own life. Events which might make us wince or chuckle or even yawn fill her biographies: a mystical experience at six, childhood betrothal to Christ, stories of harsh meditation, her frequent visions. Still, Catherine lived in an age which did not know the rapid change of 21st-century mobile America. The value of her life for us today lies in her recognition of holiness as a goal to be sought over the course of a lifetime. Saint Catherine is the patron saint of Europe, Fire Prevention, and Italy.

*Blessings!* Mark Friedman CRE



# Our Lady of Grace Athletic Association



Fall Soccer Registration is now open! Girls and boys who attend the school or belong to one of the covenant parishes (Assumption, St. Margaret Mary, Little Flower, St. Ann), and were born between January 1, 2007 and December 31, 2015, can register to play soccer for the Fall 2021 season. Visit the link below to sign up. Registration will close at the end of June, so grab your spot today!  
<https://soccer-fall-2021.cheddarup.com>



3rd-8th Grade Girls Volleyball Registration for the 2021-2022 season is now open! Visit the link below to register. Registration closes at the beginning of August - sign up early & get a jump on next year!  
<https://girls-volleyball-2021.cheddarup.com>

OLG Athletics is looking to fill a couple of positions on the board next year. We are looking for a Track & Field Coordinator and an Athletic Director. OLG Athletics is a 100% parent run organization and volunteering is a great way to be a part of your child's development at OLG while also helping the school, and its sports programs, thrive. Below is a quick summary of each position. If interested, please send an email to [olgaasecretary@gmail.com](mailto:olgaasecretary@gmail.com). Get involved today!

## **Sports Coordinator Summary**

- Provide Board Secretary registration dates & key dates for communication posts
- Attend league meetings & provide all required information for enrolling teams & gym space for home games
- Select Coaches from available volunteers (to be approved by AD)
- Secure suitable independent evaluators and venue for skills assessments
- Assign athletes to teams based on skills assessments
- Work with Facility Coordinator to secure practice locations
- Hold coaches meeting at the beginning of each season
- Assist Coaches & Athletic Director with resolution of parent/athlete issues

## **Athletic Director Summary**

- Support the sports coordinators and act as a liaison between the leagues and the OLGAA Board.
- Assist the sports coordinators with resolving any escalated parent/athlete issues.
- Confirm with sports coordinators that all coaches are VIRTUS trained and have undergone the required Archdiocesan background check.
- Attend OLGAA monthly board meetings and submit reports on behalf of the individual sports coordinators.

**FUN PRIZES!**

Read-A-Thon  
**rewards**



**REWARD 1**



Activate your Read-a-thon page  
Book Mark

**REWARD 2**



Send out 10 emails  
Snack Time

**REWARD 3**



Make a post on facebook  
Treasure Chest Item

**REWARD 4**



Read 250 Minutes  
Free Prize

**REWARD 5**



Read 500 Minutes  
Lunch with the Librarian

**REWARD 6**



Read 3000 Minutes  
**per classroom**  
Extra Recess Time

**REWARD 7**



Raise **\$75** in donations per student or **\$125** per family  
Free Dress Day - Out of Uniform every day from first turn-in  
until last day of read-a-thon day of Read-a-thon (May 3-14)

**REWARD 8**



Raise **\$100** in donations per student or **\$150** per family  
Free Homework Pass or Free Prize

**REWARD 9**



Raise **\$150** in donations per student or **\$200** per family  
Free Ice Cream

**REWARD TOP**

Top 3 Student or family in Donations  
Lunch with the Principal

**REWARD TOP**

Classroom with most Donations (per student average)  
Cupcake Party

### All School Goals

50,000 Minutes Read  
*Learn a tik tok dance as a class  
or movie time in library*

\$15,000 Raised  
*Chalk the Walk - decorate the lower lot*

\$20,000 Raised  
*Kona Ice for  
Everyone!*

**REWARD TOP**

Classroom with most Minutes Read  
Popcorn & Movie Time

**REWARD TOP**

3 Students with most Minutes Read  
Free Book of their Choice

**The prize program is cumulative**

Readers will receive 1 reward for each reward level they reach during the Read-a-thon

[www.read-a-thon.com](http://www.read-a-thon.com)

# PLAY TENNIS! MIDWEST!

USTA  
MIDWEST



## FIND YOUR NEW FAVORITE SPORT AT OUR **FREE INTRODUCTION TO TENNIS EVENT!**

Interactive tennis activities, games and play will be offered in a fun and festive environment. If you don't have a racquet, loaner racquets will be available.

**Play Tennis Midwest!...Cincinnati**  
**Sunday, May 23, 2021**

*Cincinnati Tennis and Education Center*  
*2488 Madison Road*



Signing up is easy with our  
**NEW REGISTRATION!**



SCAN TO SIGN UP

**Grades 1-4: 2:30 p.m.**  
<https://qrco.de/ptmcincy1-4>



SCAN TO SIGN UP

**Grades 1-3: 3:30 p.m.**  
<https://qrco.de/ptmcincy1-3>



SCAN TO SIGN UP

**Grades 4-6: 4:30 p.m.**  
<https://qrco.de/ptmcincy4-6>



**Do you have a 3, 4, or 5 year old child?**

**Are you looking for a quality preschool for the 2021/22 school year?**

**St. Paul Early Learning Center is enrolling now!**

**Contact Judy Staudigel at (513) 931-9062 to schedule a tour!**

During the private tour, you will have the opportunity to...

- meet the teachers
- learn about our program
- ask questions
- tour our spacious classrooms
- view our child appropriate curriculum
- obtain an enrollment form

**St. Paul Early Learning Center**

**is formally known as St. Paul Nursery School**

**6997 Hamilton Avenue**

**Cincinnati, Ohio 45231**