



Our Lady of Grace

Catholic School

Expanding Minds • Growing Faith • Inspiring Service

Calendar Links



[CLICK HERE for the
SCHOOL CALENDAR](#)



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LUNCH CALENDAR](#)



Dec. 20-Jan. 2 Christmas
Break
Jan. 3 School Resumes

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EVENT CALENDAR](#)

Weekly Bulletin ~ December 15, 2017

Merry Christmas

The faculty and staff at Our Lady of Grace would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas. May the grace and blessings of Christ be with you in the new year.

COMMUNICATIONS

Inclement Weather

Our Lady of Grace School will follow Northwest Local District plans for any weather related school closings or delays. School closings and delays will be communicated by phone using the telephone number you reported to Option C. Any changes to your phone number should be corrected within Option C.

OLG will not announce an early dismissal for snow. No students will be released to district transportation operating on an early dismissal for fear there will be no supervision at home when they arrive.

Catholic Education Foundation Tuition Assistance



Parents of Elementary School Children,

The Catholic Education Foundation is offering \$2 million of tuition assistance to families of elementary school students for the 2018-2019 school year. Families can apply for up to \$1,000 per student in needs-based tuition assistance.

The application period deadline is January 31, 2018.

If you have questions, please call Pam Jaspers at 513-421-3131, ext. 2713 or email cef@catholicbestchoice.org.

Catholic Education - The Best Choice!



Learn more and apply at:
www.catholicbestchoice.org



Religious Education

May Christ be Born in Our Hearts

Some of you may know that I have been a music minister for many years and play music at Mass and often do programs at churches and schools – and often at Christmas time – I like to volunteer to play music at Children's Hospital and nursing homes. That is when the spirit of Christmas comes alive for me. It is very worthwhile.

As we move into the last week or so before Christmas I wanted to share with you a story that was told to me by my friend Tom – who is a storyteller and juggler – about one particular Christmas program *he did* at a local nursing home. It always touches my heart.

Before Tom began his thirty minute Christmas program of storytelling, juggling, and comedy for the residents of the nursing home – he walked through the crowded room. The room had that familiar nursing room smell and was full of the usual suspects – some in wheelchairs, others lying on beds they had rolled into the room, some who just had blank stares on their faces. He shook hands with them all and most had a smile for him.

But one resident – an old man – sat in a wheel chair simply staring off into space – Tom took particular notice of him and made his way through the crowd and reached down and took the man's yellow, jaundiced hand and shook it and said "hello there!" but the man didn't move and his stare remained unbroken.

So Tom walked to the front of the room and began the show. He did some masterful juggling, evoking some "oooohs" and "aaahhs" from the residents. Not a real magician, he did some funny magic tricks and told a few jokes which the old folks seemed to enjoy – some shouting out the punch lines before Tom could even say them! Everybody was having a great time – but all through the show Tom kept an eye on the man with the yellow jaundiced hands who continued to stare off into space with a fixed blank gaze.

As the show came to a close, Tom was ready for his *big finale*. He reached into his large bag and pulled out a very large and gold colored kazoo that was in the shape of a trumpet. Tom mimicked playing a Christmas tune on it and ended with a flamboyant fanfare. Applause broke out and Tom took a deep bow to end the show.



Packing up his things, he made his way to the door - and as he once again walked among some of the remaining folks to say goodbye – a hand reached out and grabbed his arm with a firm and tight grip. Looking down, Tom saw a yellow, jaundiced hand and realized it was the man with the blank stare he had seen earlier. But this time, the old man's eyes sparkled.

"I USED TO PLAY THE TRUMPET!" the man announced boldly. "*You did?*" Tom said with a smile. "YES, SIR!" the old man said proudly, "IN A BIG BAND!" Tom reached in his bag and took out the kazoo and handed it to the man - who ran his fingers over it and Tom could see the man smile as he handed the kazoo-trumpet back to Tom. "Merry Christmas" the man said faintly and vigorously shook Tom's hand.

As he began to leave, a nurse suddenly ran up to Tom and said frantically "Did *that man* over there speak to you?" "Yes," Tom said, "He told me he use to play the trumpet." "Oh my God!" the nurse said – fighting back a tear – "He has been here at this nursing home for over six months and has never said a single word to anyone! *No one here even thought he could speak!*"

Tom looked over at the man with the jaundiced hands – and through his own tears, Tom could see the man was still smiling.

For that old man, his Christmas gift came in the most unlikely way - by a juggler with a trumpet-kazoo – happy memories of a wonderful life he had once lived. You could call it a miracle, but Christmas is a time for miracles. After all, it was to a darkened world so many centuries ago that the sound of a trumpet and the voices of angels were heard singing "*Glory to God in the highest – peace on earth – good will to all!*" For the greatest miracle came to the earth in the most unlikely of ways.

Listen for the trumpet this Christmas and you may hear the angels sing. *Blessings to all!*

Mark Friedman, CRE

OLG Talent Show Auditions

The show will be Friday, February 2, 2018,
at 7:30 PM in the Little Flower Parish Center.

Auditions will be held in the Music Room:
Thursday, January 4- Acts Grades K - 4
Friday, January 5 - Acts Grades 5 - 8
(Including 8th Grade Emcees)

Audition sign-up sheets will be posted on Wednesday, Jan. 3,
next to the Music Room. (You need to sign up for a time.)

We are looking for all kinds of talent - musical, vocal, dance, magic,
comedic, novelty! If you can do it, we'd like to see it!

This year we would like to see fewer solo acts and more group acts.
Some things to keep in mind:

- 1) Your act should be no more than 3 minutes long!
- 2) You don't need all costumes or props for the audition, but you should be able to describe them to the judges.
- 3) Singers may not lip sync or sing along with the performer who created the song. You need to sing a cappella or with an instrumental accompaniment. Make sure all lyrics are appropriate.
- 4) All members in a group act need to be at the audition.
- 5) The mandatory dress rehearsal will be Thursday, February 1, at the Little Flower Parish Center from 4:30 - 8:00.
- 6)

If you have questions, see Mrs. Robers, Mr. Langjahr, Mrs. Flynn (K),
Mrs. Flynn (Gr. 5) or Mrs. Jordan.

8TH GRADE DAY
JANUARY 6, 2018
LITTLE FLOWER GYM
GAME 1 @ 9 AM
GAME 2 @ 10 AM

**COME CHEER
THE GIRLS
TO VICTORY!!**





Monthly Focus: Gratitude



[CLICK HERE](#) for a video on optimism.



Christian Service Days Update

The Jr. High Families want to thank everyone for participating in our Christian Service Days throughout First Trimester! Your incredible participation and support helped us raise \$1006 to donate to Matthew 25 Ministries! Your generosity will truly make an impact as they continue to help those affected by the hurricanes earlier this year.

This Friday, December 15th, kicks off our Second Trimester Christian Service Days! We're excited to announce that our December, January, and February collections will be donated to the Pray, Hope, Believe Foundation in honor of Tony Merk, a past OLG kindergarten student who died after an almost three-year battle with brain cancer. The Pray, Hope, Believe Foundation provides funding for pediatric brain cancer research and supports children and teens who are battling cancer.

To help us get into the Christmas spirit this Friday's theme is Red & Green Day. Remember, for a donation of just \$1.00, you may wear your most festive Christmas outfit. So, track down your red and green clothes, your favorite ugly Christmas sweaters, your fun holiday socks, as well as your other Christmas accessories, and let's show OLG has the Christmas spirit!



Education Commission would like to encourage all members of OLG's community to get involved in various service activities. We are partnering with the 4 covenant parishes to bring joy to parishioners who are unable to get out of their homes for the holidays.

OLG students in grades K-8 created Christmas cards to send to over 103 shut in parishioners and over 300 local nursing home residents. Let us all remember the importance of kindness this Christmas season and throughout the year.





Our Lady of Grace Athletic Association

[OLGAA](#)

The OLGAA has been hard at work with restructuring the Board positions and responsibilities. This is a volunteer organization and we need your support in order to run a successful program. If interested in helping out in any way, please contact President Jim Schreyer: presidentolgaa@gmail.com or Athletic Director Ellen Hughes: olgeaglesad@gmail.com.



We are still looking for volunteers to organize/run our annual Lenten Fish Fry committee. If you are interested in volunteering for one of the chair positions and have availability starting at 3:00 pm on Thursday's & Friday's during the active season, contact Melinda Miller at olgaasecretary@gmail.com for description of the committee positions. We need your help in keeping this OLG community tradition alive!



OLGAA is in need of donations for the popular "Cooler of Cheer" raffle to be held at this year's Night at the Races event. Any type of adult beverages or accessories are accepted. You can drop off donations at the Little Flower concession stand during the following OLGAA home games:

Saturday 12/16 at Little Flower from 9:00 am-1:00pm,
Assumption from 11:00am-2:30pm

Sunday 12/17 at Little Flower from 1:00pm-4:00pm

Saturday 1/13 at Little Flower from 9:00am-11:00 am,
Assumption from 10:00am-2:30 pm

Sunday 1/14 at Little Flower from 1:00pm-4:00pm
Assumption from 1:00pm-4:00

If you can not make one of these dates, you can make arrangements for drop off with Jenny Ludwig @ 513-266-8226 or Terri Lynch @ 513-518-8474.

The purpose of OLGAA is to provide athletic activities for the youth of OLGCS and/or the Covenant Parishes and the opportunity to engage in these activities/sports under the supervision and guidance of elected and/or appointed officials.



PTO would like to thank Ms. Waltner on using her time and talent to help update the new and improved PTO page on the OLG website. [CLICK HERE](#) to get information on meetings, volunteer opportunities, Walk-a-thon pictures, and much more!



The PTO is currently looking for a volunteer to fill the position of Donations Coordinator. The Donations Coordinator is responsible for soliciting donations from local businesses to be used as prizes at events such as the Walk-A-Thon and Carnival. If you or someone you know is interested in this position, please email volunteers@olgcs.org. Thanks!!



Join in the OLG Family Fun with these future events!

2/22 Skating Party @ Skatin' Place

3/10 March Madness Basketball Tourney (12-4)

4/13 Spring Carnival (6-9)

5/14 Volunteer Dinner @ Italianette

❄️SAVE THE DATE❄️



WINTER SOCIAL

Sunday January 14th, 2018
7:00-10:00PM in Madonna Hall
(Parish Activity Center)
St. Margaret Mary Parish
Music and Snacks provided

More information will
be sent after the new year.

Crystal Clear Science Specialty Class

Grades 1,2,3,4

January/February 2018



Our Lady of Grace School will host the popular Crystal Clear Science enrichment class with all new class offerings. Taught by certified teacher, Mary Jo Fischer, these classes are sure to delight and inspire the budding scientist in your child. Scientific concepts, critical thinking, following directions, measurement, reading, and teamwork are all strengthened in this course.

Thursdays 3:00-4:00
January 18,25 February 1,8
<i>(Possible Snow Day Make Up: February 15)</i>
Shocking Science
Balancing Act
Cars and Ramps
Potential and Kinetic Energy
Swinging Scientists

The \$50 cost includes demonstrations, hands-on activities, and ongoing experiments. Space is limited. Classes filled on a first come first served basis. Return this form and fee (payable to Crystal Clear Science) to the school office in an envelope labeled: Mrs. Mary Jo Fischer - Crystal Clear Science

Questions? Please contact me at mjfischer@fuse.net or call the school at 931-3070.

-----Cut here -----

Crystal Clear Science Registration

Child's Name _____ Grade _____

Room/Teacher _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Email _____ Please watch for Class Confirmation in your email.

Parents'/Guardians' Names _____

In case of emergency or class cancellation, contact _____
at Phone Number _____

Additional Phone Numbers where you can be reached _____

Allergies: (i.e. food, latex, etc.) _____

_____ has my permission to attend the Crystal Clear Science class on the dates and times above.

Parent or Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

_____ My child is enrolled in the Y's Kids after school program. Please send my child to Y's Kids after the science class.