



Our Lady of Grace

Catholic School

Expanding Minds • Growing Faith • Inspiring Service

Calendar Links



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Sept. 15 Walk-a-thon
Kickoff

Sept. 21 Picture Day

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Weekly Bulletin ~ September 14, 2017

Picture DAY



Picture Day is Thursday, September 21st. Students can come to school out of uniform. Here are the guidelines from the Our Lady of Grace Student Handbook outlining the clothing expectations for out-of-uniform days:

Special "out-of-uniform" days are designated by the principal and only affect the type of clothing worn. Jeans and skirts may be worn on these days with the addition of shorts or capris during March, April, May, June, August, September and October. The length of shorts/skirts is to be no shorter than three inches above the middle of the back of the knee. Shorts must be worn at the natural waist. Athletic shorts may be worn on these days if they are consistent with the aforementioned guidelines. Leggings must be worn with shorts, skirt, or dress. All shirts worn on these special days must have sleeves and midriffs must be covered at all times. Shoes and socks must be selected with safety in mind. No flip flops, heels or other styles that would hinder the student's ability to evacuate the building in case of emergency.



Saint Ann

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I am sure some of you are wondering why the practice of giving a blessing during Communion is no longer done at school masses. Here is the simple answer: This practice has never been allowed in the church. We are merely correcting an abuse to the Liturgy that had occurred. With this change, we are doing what is right, proper, and expected. The primary job of a Catholic School is to teach the faith, to ensure the teachings, practices, disciplines of the Church are taught, explained, and followed.

This “practice” of giving a blessing during the Communion Rite, takes away the focus of this Rite, which is on the reception of Holy Communion. It does not matter if one is Catholic or not. If a person is not able to receive communion (there could be many reasons for this) he/she is to remain seated/kneeling and encouraged to pray. We encourage all people of whatever age or faith to pray, and praise and thank God for His awesomeness.

As Catholics, whether clergy or lay, we have a duty and the privilege of upholding the beauty and dignity of the Sacraments and Liturgies of the Church. Failure to do so is a disservice to Catholics and non-Catholics alike, and an offense to God Himself. "Therefore no other person, not even a priest, may add, remove, or change anything in the liturgy on his own authority." Vatican II, General Norms [for the liturgy], A. 22(3).

What about a blessing for those who do not receive Holy Communion? All who attend Mass can still receive a blessing, which is awesome. It now takes place at the proper time, before the dismissal. In fact, this is the only purpose of having a final blessing before the dismissal, since those who have received Holy Communion don't really need an extra blessing beyond the reception of the Lord Himself. This is why, the Church includes this practice in the Liturgy, and why it follows after the Communion Rite. It would be unnecessary to have a final blessing, if the Church expected everyone attending the Mass to receive Communion. Even with this correction to the practice of everyone coming up at communion time, everyone still gets to receive God's blessing, regardless of age or faith. It will now occur at the time in the Mass the Church intended.

Fr. Thomas H. McCarthy
Pastor- St. Ann



Religious Education

God is Love

Hurricanes Harvey and Irma have dominated our nation's news. Thankfully, we are only seeing images; can you imagine being there? Can you imagine having loved ones in danger of losing your home and property basically overnight? Considering the loss of life and the devastation, it's impossible not to wonder: where is God in all of this? How do we find the Divine in the disaster?

In the wake of tragedy, it's a question that begs our attention, and for good reason. We ask how a loving God could let something so destructive happen, and how a loving God responds to all of it. There are no simple answers but there is a simple truth - God never intends suffering; in fact, He weeps over it as Jesus wept at the death of His friend Lazarus. (John 11:35) God is not apathetic to suffering, and God is not the cause of it. Yet, for reasons somewhat difficult to understand, God allows the world to continue on its natural course, which means that suffering happens.

It's a baffling mystery, but it shouldn't drive us to despair. Because God has given us a glimpse into the way He brings good from the worst of situations. There are stories of civilians with boats, rowing down flooded streets in order to rescue complete strangers. Emergency officials putting their lives on the line to do their jobs. There are photos of people transporting children, the elderly, and even pets, crossing the water to get to safety. A priest got in his kayak and went to check on parishioners, workers at one Houston Pizza Hut used kayaks to deliver over 120 pizzas to surprise Harvey victims. "We packed the pizzas in kayaks and took them out to people stuck in their homes," said Sugar Land branch manager Shaya Habib who made the decision to deliver the pies after hearing residents were hungry and low on food. "It was so nice to see their smiles!" said Habib who plans to keep doing this until her store runs out of food.

God is love, and amid the destruction of Irma and Harvey, we have seen love poured out in so many ways. Love has appeared, in little ways and in big ways, through the efforts of people who could very easily seek only their own benefit. "God is love" is not just a Bible verse anymore. It is a reality to which we must cling: God shows Himself in the love of His people, and it is this love that will move us forward, no matter what suffering comes our way.

Mark Friedman
CRE



and Breakfast??

Breakfast News:

Our new breakfast is going great! Come join us for a healthy morning breakfast from 7:30-7:50. Breakfast will end promptly at 7:50 to ensure everyone has time to get to their classroom.

Marcos Cheese Pizza Day

will be the Friday of every Orange Week on the Cycle Menu. The first date for Marco's in Friday, Sept 22nd.

Extra slice is available for \$1.50 and must be ordered in the morning.



Jacket season is upon us. Please make sure all jackets and sweatshirts are labeled with your child's name. We have found several jackets in the gym, and they did not have names in them. They have been placed in the lost and found in the main hallway. If it has a name, we will return it directly to the student.



Sign ups for our 10th Annual Walk-A-Thon have begun! We welcome anyone who is Virtus certified and would like to volunteer!

To sign-up, please go to :

To sign up, please go to:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080b4ea5ae2baaf94-walkathon>
(link can be found on the PTO page on OLGCS.org)

**Walk-A-Thon needs your help!
We are looking for volunteers to
collect donations for Walk-A-Thon
at each parish before and after
masses!**

**Please let us know if you and/or
your child can help!
volunteers@olgcs.org**



- K-2 Instructional Basketball: We are very excited to announce that Boys & Girls K-2 Instructional Basketball will be offered as a new sport this school year!

Registration will be coming soon for this winter sport, so stay tuned for more details! It's a great opportunity for kids too young for competitive play to learn the sport, stay active and have fun!

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.



Girls Volleyball - Open Gym/Assessment Information & Schedule is now available [CLICK HERE](#).

We look forward to seeing everyone and having another great volleyball season!



The Eagles cross country team completed at the hilly Sacred Heart Invitational. The girls varsity team including Keelin Elmer placed 2nd out of 13 teams and the boys varsity team including Jacob Sukovaty placed 7th out of 18 teams. In addition, Keelin came in 15th in the varsity race with a time of 14:22 and Grace Schreyer came in 9th in the open race with a time of 15:41.

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.



THERE IS POWER IN EVERY

G.I.R.L.

Believe in the Power of G.I.R.L.

Join now at gswo.org/join.

You can be a part of it, too! Volunteer today at gswo.org/volunteer.

Picture this: a safe, no-limits place where she can try new things, take on challenges, build community, and inspire others! That's Girl Scouts. A place where "Can I?" quickly turns into "I will!" Where your **G.I.R.L. Go-getter, Innovator, Risk-taker, Leader**™ can transform her ideas into action, turn her questions into adventure, and grow her confidence through practice.

With more than 60 million Girl Scouts and alumnae to cheer her on every step of the way, there is no adventure too big, no challenge she can't face, and no fear she can't conquer.

Kindergarten families:

Girl Scout troops at Our Lady of Grace are formed with parent leadership. Please complete the interest form on the back to designate your daughter and your interest.

New to Our Lady of Grace in First—Eighth Grade:

Girl Scout troops at Our Lady of Grace are leaders in the community and having lots of fun. Join a troop today.

Complete the interest form on the back.

Questions? Contact

Leigh Howard

Our Lady of Grace Girl Scout Representative

1leigh.howard@gmail.com

513.378.3924

I will contact each person who returns an interest form to the school office. I look forward to welcoming you to the Girl Scout family at Our Lady of Grace.

04-5033-01/2017

[CLICK HERE for information.](#)