



Our Lady of Grace

Catholic School

Expanding Minds • Growing Faith • Inspiring Service

Calendar Links

2018-2019
SCHOOL YEAR
CALENDAR

[CLICK HERE for the
SCHOOL CALENDAR](#)



[CLICK HERE for the
LUNCH CALENDAR](#)



Dec. 13 2nd/3rd Christmas
Play 7:00 OLG gym
Jr. High NET Retreat ~
Assumption
Dec. 16 Soarin' Concert ~
OLG Gym



Weekly Bulletin

December 7, 2018



*Congratulations to OLG students in
grades 4-8 who received honor roll during
the first trimester.*

[CLICK HERE](#) for the complete list.



*Please join us for the Soarin'
Christmas Concert on December 16 at
3:30 in the OLG gym.*



*There will be NO Art Studio on
Wednesday, December 19th.*



**Come join OLG's reigning
champion Academic Team!**

Tryouts will be Monday, December
17th after school for the 7th and 8th grade students. Please make
sure to arrange a ride home.



Religious Education

The Challenges of Advent: *Don't lose the manger!*

The challenge of entering Advent, or of entering into any religious experience these days, is that we are often very busy. We may feel bad that we don't have time, but it is true - we just don't have time. The result is that our experience of Advent is four Sunday Masses or Worship Services, which begin with lighting a new candle in the Advent Wreath and the rest of it just passes around us, without any real effect. Here are two things that are critical for a new way to experience Advent: **desire** and **focus**.

Desire: The powerful advantage of Advent is that it offers us light in the midst of darkness, hope in the midst of despair, liberty in the midst of captivity, and peace in the midst of war or conflict. The key to a grace-filled Advent is to begin by identifying where I am personally experiencing darkness, despair, captivity and war in my own life. Recognizing our own unique version of these struggles is the first grace of Advent. We can't say "Come, Lord Jesus" with any real meaning unless we have a felt experience of what it is we need. Once we experience our need, then the desire can formulate in our heart to ask for *what* we need.

Focus: How do we do that first step if we don't have time? We do it by focusing our attention whenever we can, especially during the "background" times of our day. These are the in between times – in the shower, getting dressed, walking down stairs, getting coffee, driving to work, walking down the hall, doing laundry, shopping, walking to the bathroom, preparing a meal, walking from one meeting to another, heading home from work, getting ready for bed. Whatever is going on in our minds and hearts during those "background" times can easily be refocused from the hectic to the holy. It takes a little practice and some discipline, but it works.

Step One - Don't Rush: It is important to take this first step. There might be Christmas decorations to put up or Christmas parties to go to, but the first step we need to experience is to slow down and begin at the beginning. If we are to have a deep religious experience that allows us to celebrate the birth of Christ – then we have to first taste the depth of our longing for a Savior. *Until we feel our need for a Savior, we are at risk of missing gifts of the Season of Advent altogether.*

Step Two – Longing and Anticipation: Once we experience our deep desire for Light, Hope, and Peace, we can start to pray with deep longing and anticipation. Longing is an expression of how much we want something. Anticipation is an expression of how much we expect it to become a reality. Advent can be a time of real faith, full of deep desire and powerful hope. Of course, the prayers and readings of this period are all about offering us these graces. The expression of promise and expectant hope can feed our desires.

Step Three - Letting It Become Personal: Advent takes us into the story of Jesus' coming to be our Savior. This is not the story of a generic god saving us. Jesus is sent to be a *human* Savior. God becomes one of us in Jesus. So - in our longing and anticipation - we can see the hesitation and questioning of Mary's cousins Zachary and Elizabeth, then of Mary and Joseph themselves. They all make great acts of faith to believe, to trust, that the promises made would be fulfilled. Let your faith become personal, as you express your faith and your trust in Jesus' coming to you this year.

The Final Days of Advent – Getting to the Manger: So often the final days before Christmas become a blur of activity. Hopefully, this year, you can use the background time each day to focus your reflection and conversation with God and with Jesus. Now that we come to the hectic days, we can choose to stay focused right up to and including Christmas. One of the special ways to do that is to not *lose the manger*. It is the central piece of the story and it is loaded with meaning and message. The richest of the Advent experiences are here – in letting ourselves imagine the Holy Family of Joseph and Mary arriving in Bethlehem for the census, having nowhere to stay – we imagine that stable where our Savior was born. It is there in that stable, in its humble feeding trough that we can find the fulfillment of our longing and hope. In that poverty, our Savior reveals to us the Good News He came to bring. He came into this world for all people of good will.

Christmas Joy: Christmas can be totally different if you have a deeper Advent journey. We can't help but experience real joy for having prepared for the gift of life that comes to us through Jesus. If we do so, we will sing, "Oh Come All Ye Faithful" with a much deeper meaning on Christmas Eve or Day. Putting the meaning back into Christmas is reason enough to give Advent a new chance this year, in the midst of our busy lives.

Mark Friedman, CRE

2nd Trimester Christian Service Days

Sponsored by Leadership Council



What & Why?

- A fun, monthly event to raise money for a special charity!
- Donate \$1 (minimum) to participate in our monthly out-of-uniform theme days!

Remember:

All money raised this year through our Christian Service Days will be donated to the Pray, Hope, Believe Foundation in memory of Tony Merk. We were able to raise \$812.00 during first trimester, but we still have a long way to go to make our goal. So, please be generous and be sure to bring in your donation to be out of uniform on these days!!



Second Trimester Monthly Christian Service Day Themes

- WEDNESDAY, December 19th - RED & GREEN DAY
 - Wear your favorite red & green Christmas clothes to show your Christmas spirit!
- FRIDAY, January 18th - PAJAMA DAY
 - Wear your most comfy PJ's to stay warm & cozy on this cold, winter day. (No slippers though!)
- FRIDAY, February 15th - SPORTS DAY
 - Wear your favorite team's jersey, t-shirt, or sweatshirt to show your team spirit!

Third trimester themes will be announced as those dates approach.

Remember our goal for the year is to raise \$4500!

We need EVERYONE's help!

Please give generously to support the fight against childhood brain cancer!

REMEMBER: JEANS, SWEATPANTS, & BOOTS ARE PERMITTED ON ALL CHRISTIAN SERVICE DAYS!!

YOU ARE THE PTO



TOGETHER WE CAN DO SO MUCH MORE.

Off to a great school year!

Our school is awesome! Our teachers, students and families all work together to be and do our best. THANK YOU!

Our first Dine & Donate at Krimmer's was a success and we raised \$225 in just one night! Krimmer's was so pleased, they offered to host another Dine & Donate for us.

We also have a few great things coming up for the next Trimester:

- St. Nick will visit our students on Thursday, 12/6
- Catholic Schools Week and Open House – 2/27-2/2
- Perfect North Family Night – Saturday, 1/12. Look for a flyer with more details to come.
- Odd Ball Dance – Saturday, 2/9 at OLG. This is a new event where families can dance the night away. The flyer will be released and there will even be a photographer if you need to purchase family photos.

Did you see PTO share a Facebook Live video?

Pixie Dust & Mermaids Boutique graciously donated a wine glass to be raffled at our November meeting. Katie Grueter was winner. We plan on holding raffles at each meeting. In addition to the raffle, you can earn additional chances for a tuition credit at the Volunteer Dinner.

In May, the PTO hosts a volunteer dinner to say thank you to all our volunteers. During the dinner, we raffle off tuition credits and starting in January you can increase your chances by attending PTO meetings. If you have any questions, please email PTO@olgcs.org.



PTO Meeting Reminder.

Join us at our next PTO meeting in the teacher lounge on Monday, December 12/17 at 6:30pm. Our goal is to have 1 parent from each grade represented! AND REMEMBER, you have a chance to win a door prize.

If you have any questions you can always email PTO@olgcs.org.



Our Lady of Grace Athletic Association



Boys Volleyball

Interested in playing Boys Volleyball this spring? If so, we need to hear from you. Please contact Terri Lynch at tlynch2@cinci.rr.com by the end of December if you are interested in playing. Sign up will be in January if we have enough people interested. This is for grades 3-8. Gather your friends and let us know you're interested!




OLGAA is selling Larosa's Buddy Cards for \$10 each....Enjoy your favorites while also supporting OLG Athletics - Stop by the school office and pick one up!

Our Lady of Grace

K-2

Instructional
Basketball

Learn the basics!



\$40 includes:

- 7 nights of instruction, focusing on dribbling, passing and shooting
- team shirt
- 30 minute practice
- 30 minute game
- end of season award



Sign up @ bit.ly/k2bbolg

For any questions, email k2bbolg@gmail.com

OUR LADY OF GRACE ATHLETICS



NIGHT at the RACES

JANUARY 19, 2019

at Assumption

\$15 Admission includes food and drinks

\$10 for ages 60 and over

Purchase tickets online at
squareup.com/store/OLGAA
or by contacting Jennie
Ludwig at 266-8226

Bingo Ball, Split the Pot,
Wheel of Fortune!
Doors open at 7pm
First race at 7:40pm

OWNERS BONUS!! Buy your own Horse before the night ONLY \$7

Our Lady of Grace Athletics Association fundraiser, A Night at the Races, will be held on Saturday January 19, 2019. Doors open at 7:00 pm and the first race is at 7:40. Tickets are \$15 per person. \$10 for ages 60 and over.

This annual event is a major fundraiser for OLGAA which helps to maintain costs for our athletic program for students and families. This annual event is an opportunity for Our Lady of Grace parents, grandparents, etc... to socialize, catch up with old friends and make new ones here at OLG.

Ticket price includes draft beer, pop, water, Brotherton's Family Restaurant chicken wings, Larosa's pizza, chips and pretzels. Feel free to bring desserts/appetizers to have at your table that evening. Games include betting on 10 Horse Races, Wheel of Fortune, Bingo Ball, and Split the Pot.

In addition, we have 100 horses to name (sponsor) at \$7 each. You can name the horse that you sponsor for just \$7 and will appear in the official horse program that evening. If your horse wins a race, you will take home 1 of 10 limited edition engraved gifts (and bragging rights!)

Tickets and Horse Sponsorships will be available December 1, 2018 at www.olgcs.org thru the Square page or by contacting Jennifer Ludwig at 266-8226 or ludwig@fuse.net.

OLG Athletics Presents



Family Open Gym

Wednesday, December 19th from 6:00pm – 9:00pm

Family Open Gym is a great way to meet other families and let your kids burn some energy. There will be different stations for kids of all ages to enjoy. Our goal is to let kids have fun and build a strong community for OLG Athletics. We'll have light refreshments and snacks. There is NO COST to attend.

Play. Socialize. Build Community.

Meet the OLGAA Board