

Our Lady Queen of Peace School
Parent Letter
December 17, 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 18th- K-8th Christmas Program

December 19th- Classroom Christmas Parties

Noon Dismissal- Christmas Break Begins

January 6th- Class Resume

Report Cards

January 7th- Papa John's Pizza Day

January 11th- Mom's Club Wine & Game Night

January 12th-16th- MAP Testing Grades 3-8

January 12th- School Board Meeting

January 16th- PSA Family Fun Night

January 18th- Men's Night Horse Races

January 22nd- Educational Fair Projects Due

January 23rd- Glow In The Dark Bingo

January 25th-30th- Catholic Schools Week

January 25th- Open House/Book Fair

Green schools, auction letter, auction flyer, Cookbook order, Christmas Spirit Week, Mentos flyer, January lunch, PSA family fun night, Bingo

On December 19, we are going to have an all-school Christmas Carol sing along. If your student would like to prepare to lead a song on an instrument, please email Mrs. Waldo at awaldo@olqpbethalto.org. Song choice will be first come, first served.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM ATTIRE

Students are asked to dress nicely. Christmas clothes are preferred. Jeans may be worn if students wear a nice shirt (no t-shirts) with them.

For drill team: Please come dressed in your drill team uniform. Long sleeve shirts and leggings are optional, but shorts must be worn under the skirt at least. The girls will then have the option to change in the bathroom into different clothes for their class song if they choose to.

We look forward to seeing everyone tomorrow for a wonderful show!

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

More info about this fun week will be sent home the week we get back from break. Save the dates of Wednesday, 1/28 for Special Person's Day (each student can invite a guest for lunch) & Thursday, 1/29 for Bowling day (grades PK4-7th).

CLOSING FOR WEATHER

As in the past, we will follow the Bethalto School District if they cancel school due to snow & hazardous road conditions. We will NOT cancel school if they close due to cold weather. If OLQP is canceled, you will receive a text message and email through the FACTS system and it will also be posted on social media as well as Fox 2 News.

Note: When school is canceled due to weather conditions, all evening events at our school are also cancelled. This is for insurance/liability reasons. This includes practices, games, meetings, or anything else scheduled for the evening on those days.

AFTER CARE 12/19/25

There will be **no after care on Friday, December 19th**. Have a wonderful Christmas Break.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES

Once again, the upper grade students will be sponsoring a raffle for needy families. Money collected will be given to Father to help needy families for Christmas. Tickets are 25 cents each. Students can purchase ticket chances during lunch starting next Monday, 12/8/25. The winning tickets will be drawn on Thursday, 12/18. Students have the chance to win a giant bean bag chair, large Christmas squishable, or a 5 free dress pass bundle.

GLOW IN THE DARK BINGO

We are taking reservations for the famous OLQP Glow Bingo!. Flyers went home this week. See attached flyer for more info. This is a fundraiser towards updating our social studies curriculum for next year and for school security improvements. Please consider joining in the fun evening for a great cause! See the attached flyer below for more info.

COLD WEATHER

Please be sure to send coats, hats, and gloves to school with your child each day. We try to go outside for at least a few minutes.

FATHER TOM'S CHRISTMAS GIFT

We would like to collect \$5.00 per family (or whatever you would like to give) for a gift to Father Tom from the students of the school! Please send this to the office not later than Wednesday, 12/17/25. We will present it to him at the Christmas program on Thursday, 12/18/25.

BASKETBALL SEASON

We are needing help this Sunday (12/21) from 2:00-4:15PM. Here is the sign up volunteer link to help at basketball games at the admission table and concession stand. We ask that all parents of basketball players volunteer for a shift or 2. Our athletic directors are just volunteers and they need help to make this season a success. All proceeds made directly benefit our students here at OLQP and help to make security and curriculum updates. You may also sign up if you are a non-basketball parent just to get your service hours in.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0944A5AC2EA5F49-59477717-basketball>

PSA FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Join us in the school gym for the last Family Fun Night of the year (because of fish frys & fun spring events) on Friday 1/16/26. See the attached invite below. We will have ice skating activities (no ice or skates required), sweets, hot cocoa , and lots of winter fun. Email the school office (cwoodiel@olqpbethalto.org) to RSVP.

CHRISTMAS SPIRIT WEEK

A flyer came home (and is attached below) with fun themes for each day the week of 12/15-12/19.

K-8th CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

We will have 2 performances for our Christmas program. Both will be on Thursday, 12/18/25. We will have the first at 1:30PM (Doors open at 1:00PM) & again at 6:30 PM (Doors Will Open At 6:00PM). Please have your students in their classrooms no later than 6:15PM. Please keep all their coats with you as after the performance students will not be allowed to return to their classrooms to grab items.

CLASSROOM CHRISTMAS PARTIES

Classroom parties will take place later in the morning on Friday, 12/19/25. You will be hearing from your child's teacher regarding more information about the parties.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

To all the Dads:

How would you like to be a better Man, Husband, and Father? The Knights of Columbus is looking for good men to join our mission of protecting our families and serving our parish and community. **WE NEED YOU!** By scanning this QR Code, you can join for FREE and try us out for a year – no obligation. The KofC was established by a parish priest to enable good men to grow stronger in their faith and serve their family. By joining, you will be protecting your family with our top-rated insurance program (there is an automatic and free accidental death benefit for every member) and you and your family will be eligible for even more benefits. Scan the QR Code, Enter 4688 for the Council Number, 3474411 for the Member Referral Number, and at the bottom enter the promo code BLESSEDMCGIVNEY for a year of free membership. You have nothing to lose and everything to gain for your family. Join Today!



COOKBOOK SALE

Cookbooks are in! **We have 30 copies left. Get yours before they are gone!** It is filled with almost 300 recipes we collected from the parish and has the history of the school and church in it as well. Cookbooks are \$12 each. See attached order form.

MOM'S CLUB WINE & GAME NIGHT

Join us Sunday, 1/11 @ 4PM in the school gym for Mom's Club Wine & Game Night. This is a fun evening to help gather donations of wine for the school auction in February. Bring a Bottle of wine to donate and another bottle to share and drink. We will play card games. Invite a friend and join the fun! If you have not attended a Mom's Club gathering... this is the perfect opportunity to come enjoy a fun night.

MEN'S NIGHT AT THE HORSE RACES

Sunday, 1/18 join us at 7pm in the church basement for a night at the horse races. Cost is donating a pack of 24-30 count beer(you will get 5 tokens to bet on the horses). The beer will be donated for use at the parish dinner auction in February. Join us for fun and have a chance of winning \$100. Suggested beer for donations: Miller Lite, Bud Select, Busch, Coors).

GREEN SCHOOLS

Keep bringing in items for recycling! We currently have 144.5 pounds of soft plastic. Keep up the good work!

Upcoming Green School Projects:

- Have your child decorate a Mentos gum container like a snowman and send it to school by Wednesday, December 17th. The winner from each group (K-1, 2-4, 5-7) will receive a \$10.00 Amazon gift card. We have a few containers here at school. If your child would like one, please reach out to the office. See the samples below.



- Kindergarten - 7th graders will be doing an upcycle project using tires. We need parent help with this project. (Check out Pinterest for ideas on upcycling tires.) Please contact your child's PSA representative if you would like to help out with this project. **PSA representatives- please let the school office know by Friday 12/19 how many tires are needed.**
- November-January we will be collecting Christmas lights. Working or not, we want them all!

You may send these items to the school as you collect them. Please make sure the containers and lids are clean. Thanks



HOT LUNCH

Important Update!!! Bethalto wants us to turn our lunch orders in on Wednesday now. **Lunch orders will have to be due on Wednesday at 9AM from now on.** Hot Lunch this year will be \$3.00/meal and include milk. Ordering can be done by sending in the dates your child wants to order and the payment in a marked envelope labeled "Lunch Order" with your child to school. Orders can be done for an entire month at a time or every week. Please specify if your child would like the "Hot Lunch" or "Cold Lunch" option when ordering.

DINNER AUCTION NEWS

Tickets are live on our website to purchase. Prices go up 1/9/26. 1 VIP TABLE LEFT. Please order online or send in the paper order form into the church or school office with payment. Prices will go up after next month so get your tickets early! We will offer 4 VIP tables for \$500 each. These will seat 8 and will give you the opportunity to have first in line for food, skip the line at the bar, and enjoy appetizers and desserts. You will also be able to arrive 1 hour early to check in and have time to look at the auction items and the fun games. Tickets are \$40/person & \$320 for a reserved table of 8. After 1/9/6, tickets will go up in price to \$50/person or \$400 for a table of 8 so claim your tickets early to the most fun date night of the year.

Get your tickets now!!! -<http://e.givesmart.com/events/LY4>

Join our Facebook event page for the dinner auction to stay up to date on all the fun auction news! See the link below to join.

<https://www.facebook.com/share/1BKgiQNsh/>

- **WEEKLY DINNER AUCTION CHALLENGE**

Consider adding "OLQP Auction" to your Christmas buying list.

- **DINNER AUCTION HELP NEEDED**

We are looking for some CHAIRS: Chairs will receive all 20 family service hours needed.

VIP CHAIR- responsible for getting appetizers and desserts donated/delivered to tables before 4:30PM. Make sure each table has what they need and knows that they can skip the line at the bar with their wristbands we provide.

SMALL BUSINESS DONATION COORDINATOR- We are seeking an individual that will collect business cards from various local businesses that offer vendor sales so we can solicit for donations with the OLQP official donation request letter we provide. We are also hoping to get crafters/vendors info from craft fairs coming up so we can request donations as well (Bethalto, Edwardsville, Alton).

If you are able to help with either, please email the school office (cwoodiel@olqpbethalto.org) and let us know.

SERVICE HOUR OPPORTUNITIES

Below are a few service hour opportunities. Reminder that each family is required to complete 20 service hours in PK4-8th. PK3 requires 10 hours per year. Completed hours are due by 4/30/26. Use the service hour log record sheet in your welcome packet to keep track of your service hours over the school year.

BASKETBALL CONCESSION/ADMISSION HELP-

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0944A5AC2EA5F49-59477717-basketball>

VIP AUCTION CHAIR- 20 Hours

SMALL BUSINESS AUCTION COORDINATOR- 20 Hours

SCRIP FOR CHRISTMAS

It's not too early to begin thinking about your SCRIP order for Christmas!!! The church office keeps gift cards for approximately 45 retailers in stock, with hundreds more available to order from the www.raiseright.com website. They order weekly, and should have no problems in getting your orders in before Christmas is upon us. Just visit the above website to see all of the retailers who participate. If you set up an account, you can also place an order directly on the website. To do this, you will need this enrollment code: FF1ECBD61859 Questions, just give the parish office a call, 618-377-6519. The church keeps 20% of the rebate back and gives 80% of the money back to school families. This amount can be used to pay off tuition, pay your caring hands bill, or to order more SCRIP.

JOIN KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS RAFFLE

The Knights of Columbus are participating in the statewide Vocations Support Raffle. For every \$20 book sold the council keeps \$10 to support local seminarians in our diocese. The remaining \$10 is used in vocations support programs statewide (and to pay the prizes you could win). Please consider buying a book or two this weekend. Purchase online at <https://qrco.de/vocation23>

UPCOMING MASS SERVERS

Saturday 12/20- 4:30PM- Mya Bequette and Tinsley Busse

Sunday 12/21- 8:30AM- Logan and Conner Stutz

10:30AM- Hope Kistner and Lucy Colley

CHURCH NEWS

OCIA (Formally RCIA) Classes Began, 9/3/25- The OCIA is the process established for individuals to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. Contact the church office if you are wanting to sign up for this.

Rosary Leaders- The church is in desperate need of Rosary leaders for the 4:30PM Mass. With enough leaders you should only need to lead once a month to every 6 weeks. All that is required is for you to arrive at church at 4pm the day you are scheduled and lead the Rosary right from your pew. Contact the church office to sign up (618-377-6401).

Card Game Bingo- CARDS fundraiser will be taking a break until 2026. The next one is Friday, 1/23/26

Bible Study Group- Join in on the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of each month for bible study. 9:30-10:30AM.

Sunday Offerings

	This Week	Total To Date
Loose	\$	\$
Envelopes	\$	\$

Online Giving	\$	\$
Total	\$	\$
Operating Budget	\$	\$
Tithe to Diocese	\$	\$
Difference		

Total Envelopes :
Online Donations:

