

Our Lady Queen of Peace School
Parent Letter
December 4, 2024

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 5th- Mom's Club Christmas Party
December 8th- Church Smorgasbord
December 11th- Santa Kottage Shopping Day
Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest
Papa John's Pizza Day
December 12th- Breakfast With Santa Reservations Due
Choir singing for "Community 55"
December 13th- Preschool Christmas Program
December 14th- Breakfast With Santa
December 16th- Girl Scouts
December 19th- K-8th Christmas Program
December 20th- Classroom Christmas Parties
Noon Dismissal
January 6th- School Resumes
Girl Scouts
January 7th- Report Cards
January 8th- Papa John's Pizza Day
January 10th- Upper Grade Mystery Dinner Night
January 13th-17th- 3rd-8th Grade MAP TESTING WEEK

Attachments: December Lunch Calendar, Smorgasbord Flyer, bowling night, Dress pass flyer, Breakfast with Santa, Mom's Club Letter,

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.

BABY JESUS

We are looking for a school family baby volunteer to play Baby Jesus in the Christmas program on Thursday 12/19. Ideally the child would be 1 year old or younger. If you are interested, please email the school office (cwoodiel@olqpbethalto.org)

EDUCATIONAL FAIR

Each year students in Kindergarten-8th grade complete projects to be on display during Catholic Schools Week the last week of January. Your child's teacher will be sending

home information about these projects by the end of next week. Projects are due Thursday, 1/23/25.

AFTERCARE HOURS

There will be no Aftercare on Friday, 12/20/24.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

The 7th & 8th Graders will start their annual Christmas raffle on Monday, 12/9. This year we are raffling off a 24 inch squishy stuffed dog, 3 foot bean bag chair, & 5 free dress passes. The tickets are 25 cents each and may be purchased at lunch. The buyer can decide which prize they would like to put their ticket towards. The winners will be picked after lunch on Thursday, 12/19. The money from this raffle will be given to Father To to help needy families in our area.

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, 12/18/24. We will present it to him at the Christmas program on Thursday, 12/19/24.

PE REMINDERS

Remember that tennis shoes are required on PE days. This is for the safety of the students during activities and reduces the amount of black marks left on the gym floor. Also, students need to wear shorts under their jumpers/skirts even on free dress days.

CHOIR

Our choir students have been invited to sing Christmas Carols at the church's Community 55 meeting on Thursday, December 12th. This takes place in the church basement during school hours. Choir students can wear "Christmasey" clothes to school on this day.

CHESS CANCELED

There will be no chess practice today 12/4.

CLOSING FOR WEATHER

In preparation for winter weather, I wanted to let everyone know that, as in the past, we will follow the Bethalto School District if they cancel due to snow & hazardous road conditions. We will NOT cancel school if they close due to cold weather. If school 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.

PLEASE HELP

We are also in need of some parents of basketball players, or any parent since the money raised goes directly to the school benefiting all students, to help work admission money and the concession stand. Service hours will be given for anyone who helps work. We average around \$15,000 a year and this money goes directly to the school to help with technology updates, curriculum, and school safety needs. Follow the link below to sign up.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0944A5AC2EA5F49-51928186-service>

UPPER GRADE (4TH-8TH GRADE) BOWLING NIGHT

We will be having a bowling night on Friday, 12/13/24 for grades 4th-8th. Information went home a couple of weeks ago. **Please fill in the reservation form by Friday, 12/6/24** with shoe size, soda, and pizza preference and send back along with payment. The cost is \$16/student for unlimited bowling, shoe rental, pizza, and soda. The student with the highest game score will win a gift card.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

We are now taking reservations for Breakfast With Santa. Call the school office or email Mrs. Knight (kknight@olqpbethalto.org) to reserve your spot. The cost is \$15 a child OR \$35/Family. This event includes a meet and greet with Santa, picture with Santa, Craft, and Full Breakfast. This is a fundraiser for our students to get to Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama.

SANTA KOTTAGE SHOPPING DAY

This fun PSA fundraiser is being held on Wednesday, 12/11. This fundraiser allows students to be able to shop for gifts for everyone in their family including pets. Shopping will begin at 8:30AM. More information is coming home this week. We are needing parent volunteers to help wrap gifts and ring students out for their purchases. If you are able to help, follow the sign up link below. More information and a money envelope were sent home last week.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0944A5AC2EA5F49-53244609-santa>

UGLY CHRISTMAS SWEATER CONTEST

Info is coming home this week about this. Cost to enter is \$5.00 and all the money collected will be donated for the staff Christmas party. Each grade will have 1 winner (a Christmas Fun Bag Filled of Items) and 1 student will be picked for the grand prize of "Best In School" and win a \$10 gift card. It is still a uniform day if you do not participate in the contest.

K-8th CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The Kindergarten-8th Grade Christmas Program will be held in the gym on Thursday, 12/19/24. We will have a performance at 1:30PM & again at 6:30PM. Students are required to attend both performances and should wear dressier type clothing- no jeans unless otherwise directed by Mrs. Wiggenghorn. Doors will open at 1:15PM for the afternoon performance and 6:00PM for the evening performance. Students need to be in their classrooms by 6:15PM. Students should leave their coats with their parents as they will not be going back to their classroom after the performance.

PRESCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Our preschool Christmas program will be on Friday, 12/13/24 at 9:30AM in the school gym. Enrichment room doors will be unlocked at 9:15AM to come in the school and grab a seat.

SANTA LETTERS

The Mom's Club is sponsoring Letters to Santa. They have set out mailboxes in the school lobby and the back of the church. Please have your child a self-addressed stamped envelope with their letter. **Letters to Santa are due by Thursday, 12/5 at 3pm.** Letters back to the children will be mailed the week of 12/9/24.

CHRISTMAS WONDERLAND

Mom's club has decorated a tree for OLQP in Alton's "Christmas Wonderland" light display. Please go vote for it. You will be handed a ballot at the entrance and they will collect the ballot at the exit of the light display. OLQP is tree number 7. The display is open from 11/29-12/29/24. Mom's club can win up to \$300 to go towards their projects they want to complete around the parish. The cost to enter the light display is just a donation (suggested donation is \$10).



MOM'S CLUB

Mom's Club is having their Christmas Party on Thursday, 12/5 at 6PM in the Enrichment Room. Bring your favorite snacks and drinks to share. Santa's elves will be busy writing letters back to those who mailed a letter in the Santa mailbox. We will also be having a "Favorite Things" gift exchange. Bring 3 same items that are \$5.00 each (so spending a total of \$15.00). We will draw names and everyone who participates will go home with 3 new items to try. This is optional. You do not have to do the gift exchange.

CHRISTMAS SPIRIT WEEK

Christmas spirit week will begin on Monday 12/16. A note is coming home soon with the below dates listed.

Monday 12/16- "Baby It's Cold Outside" day. Bundle up in your favorite winter scarf and wear free dress.

Tuesday 12/17- "Welcome to Whoville" day. Wear green for the Grinch.

Wednesday 12/18- "Silent Night" day. Wear your favorite Christmas pajamas.

Thursday 12/19- "Wear Your Holiday Best" day. Wear Christmas color outfits appropriate for the Christmas program.

Friday 12/20- "Light Up The Tree" day. Be the Brightest and Merriest in the school!

CLASSROOM CHRISTMAS PARTIES

Classroom parties will take place later in the morning on Friday, 12/20/24. You will be hearing from your child's teacher regarding more information about the parties.

MADISON COUNTY GREEN SCHOOLS

The first week of January will be the last week we will be collecting tennis shoes. Send those tennis shoes in!! Continue sending in plastic and tennis shoes for our recycling projects. We collected 147 pounds of plastic so far!

HOT LUNCH

Weekly orders for the week of 12/9-12/13 are due Thursday, 12/5 at 9AM. Lunch is \$3.50. Send lunch order/money in an envelope marked " Hot Lunch" with days your child would like to order into the school office by the deadline. You can still order off the December menu for the weeks of 12/9 & 12/16.

SCRIP

SCRIP order forms for the holiday went home last week. Please send them back with whatever cards you are wanting and the church office will get them together and we will send them home with your child. This is a win for the church and you. You will earn 80% back of the rebate to go towards your tuition, Before/After Care bill, or to buy more SCRIP. Example, if your total gift card rebate is \$5.00. The church would collect \$1.00 from it and you would get \$4 back to put towards tuition, child care, or more gift cards. You can also download the app and purchase Egift cards to use at stores at the time you are shopping. Walmart has Egift cards that can be used instantly inside the store. Domino's even has Egift cards that can be used when ordering pizza. When setting up your account use the enrollment code for OLQP for it to count for you.

ENROLLMENT CODE: **FF1ECBD61859**

AUCTION NEWS

We are asking any and all parents to help gather donations. We have auction donation request letters in the office. If you would like some to hand out to businesses you know personally or frequent, we would greatly appreciate it. Please email the office (cwoodiel@olqpbethalto.org) asking for some to be sent home and we will send them home with your child.



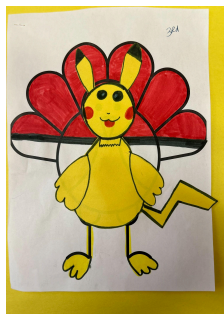
The next auction meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 1/14/25 at 6:30PM in the Enrichment Room.

Your class parent should be reaching out soon about what classroom basket they are going to put together for the silent auction.

The week's auction donation request challenge: Get together with friends and put a theme basket/bundle together.

TURKEY CONTEST

Below are the winners of the Turkey Disguise Contest. Everyone did an amazing job!





SMORGASBORD & BAZAAR

Sunday, 12/8 is the Annual OLQP Smorgasbord & Bazaar. Dinner will be served in the school gym from 11-3pm. Carry-outs are available. Adults are \$15, Children are \$5, & 5 & under are free. Dinner includes: Knights Fried Chicken, Turkey & Dressing, Pigs in the Blanket, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Vegetables, Tossed Salad, Desserts, & Beverages. They will have a cash raffle, quilt raffle, and Advent calendar raffle with \$225 in gift cards in it. If you would like to purchase raffle tickets contact the school or church office or you may purchase them the day of.

SERVERS

Saturday 12/7- 4:30PM- Tinsley Busse and Clayton Pritchett

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

10:30AM- Nora Militello and Hope Kistner

Saturday 12/14- 4:30PM- Mya Bequette and Camryn Friedel

Sunday 12/15- 8:30AM- Ryder and Ellie Williams

10:30AM- Ellie Waldo and Brinley DeVries

CHURCH NEWS

*If you have any questions about the following, please contact the church office for more info.

Sunday Offerings- **Weekends of 11/23-12/1/24 (2 weeks)**

Loose \$1,469.00

Envelopes \$17,248.00

Online Giving \$5,201.78

Young People (Offering Envelopes) \$2.00

TOTAL COLLECTED- \$23,920.78

- Operating Budget \$30,782.50

- Tithe to Diocese \$3,000

Difference= - \$9,861.72

Total Envelopes received- 115

Online Donations- 49

Holy Day of Obligation- Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception Celebrated on Monday 12/9. Masses will be 8:30AM & 6:30PM

Poinsettia Memorials

Would you like to donate a Poinsettia to decorate our church sanctuary at Christmas in memorial of a loved one? Just drop the name for the memorial, your name, and the \$10 donation to the parish office box (or in the collection basket) no later than Thursday, 12/19/24

Community Hope Toy Drive- Donation Barrels for this year's Toy Drive are in the back of the church. Purchase new, unwrapped toys for boys and girls, ages 1-12. Barrels will be picked up on 12/10.

Attention all Catholics- Are you looking to learn more about your Catholic faith? Consider joining us on Wed nights from 7-8:30PM in our RCIA classes. We would love for you to join us. Upcoming topics, 12/4- Q&A with Fr Tom, 12/11- Rosary

Community 55 Luncheons- December 12 in the church basement at 11:15AM. Text or call Kris Magee to RSVP or sign up on the OLQP Church Facebook Page by 12/9/24.

Parish Ladies Club- Next meeting is Thursday, 12/5 in the church basement. More info to come.

Prayer Group- Next meeting is December 10th, 6pm in the church. Everyone Welcome!! Bring your Bibles.

Evening Prayer- Every Sunday night at 7PM during Advent in the church beginning December 1st. Come make this Advent special and prayerful for you.

Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child. LUKE 2:4-5



Have a Blessed Advent!