

Our Lady Queen of Peace School
Parent Letter
January 7, 2026

UPCOMING EVENTS

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 14th- Fish Fry Meeting
January 15th- Auction 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
January 28th-Special Person's Day
January 29th- Bowling Days (Grades PK3-7th)
February 11th- Preschool/Kindergarten Open House

[Green schools, auction letter, auction flyer, January lunch, PSA family fun night, Bingo, Catholic School Week Info, Men's Night Flyer](#)

SICKNESS

With the amount of illness going around right now, I wanted to remind everyone about our policy. Please keep your child home until they are fever free with no vomiting or diarrhea for 24 hours. We will increase sanitizing and remind students to wash their hands.

FACTS

American Express Payments for Tuition payments through FACTS to be Disabled

Effective **January 15, 2026**, Our Lady Queen of Peace will no longer accept American Express (AMEX) as a payment option. If you are currently using American Express for any scheduled payments, including for a payment plan, you must update your payment method by **January 15, 2026** to avoid any interruption in your scheduled payment(s).

For step-by-step instructions on updating your payment method, please refer to this [tutorial from FACTS](#). We appreciate your prompt response to this change. Thank you.

Terri Zykan

Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish

THANK YOU

Thank you to our maintenance staff, Brian and Jake, for all of their cleaning and organization over Christmas break. The building looks good and smells clean!!

Thank you to the parent/parishioner volunteers who put insulation behind the cubbies in the classrooms in an effort to make our building a little more energy efficient.

MAP TESTING

3rd-7th grades will be taking the Winter MAP test next week. Please make sure your child has a good night's sleep and a good breakfast in order to help them do their best work next week. If your child is going to be coming in late or leaving early for appointments next week, please let the school office know in advance so we can schedule a different time for your child to take the tests.

PRESCHOOL/KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE PLEASE SHARE

Here is our online event on FACEBOOK for our open house for the 26/27 school year for preschool and kindergarten. Please share it on facebook with friends and in any area neighborhood or mom groups.

<https://www.facebook.com/share/1CJTXQ2P4x/>

TUESDAY'S COLD LUNCH

Tuesday, 1/6 was the first lunch back from break. Bethalto substituted the lunchable to the yogurt plate due to supply reasons. We wanted to let parents know in case your child said something about not getting a lunchable Tuesday. The yogurt plate when served comes with a yogurt, granola, a cheese stick, fruit, vegetable, and milk.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Info and Permission slips are coming home this week about this year's Catholic Schools Week fun. Please fill these out asap and **return them to the school office by Friday, 1/16/26**. We need to purchase food for the special person's day and give the bowling alley the school's reservations on this due date. If you have any questions about Special Person's Day or bowling please call or email the school office. A flyer is also coming home with each day's theme and anything special you need to know about each day. The flyer is also attached below.

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.

GLOW IN THE DARK BINGO SPONSORS

We are also looking for 10 more businesses, individuals, or families to sponsor a round of Bingo for \$100. The sponsors will be on the evenings program and announced during the round of Bingo. If you want to be a sponsor, email knight@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. Projects are due Thursday, 1/22/26. We are looking forward to seeing the wonderful projects our students will turn in.

SAVE THE DATES

OLQP is happy to announce that we will be offering summer camp once again during the following weeks along with VBS. More info coming soon!

Summer Camp- Wednesday 5/20 -Friday 5/22

Summer Camp- Tuesday 5/26- Friday 5/29

VBS- Monday 6/1-Friday 6/5

Summer Camp- Monday 6/8- Friday 6/12

Summer Camp- Monday 6/15-Friday 6/19

BASKETBALL SEASON/UNIFORMS

Thank you to all who picked up shifts to work during our games here at OLQP's gym. Proceeds greatly benefit our students.

Please have your child return their basketball uniforms to the school office washed and ready to be used for next season.

VOLLEYBALL SEASON

Volleyball practices have already begun this week. We ask all Volleyball parents to pick up a shift or two to work our games held here at OLQP gym. There are 78 shifts to fill throughout the season. You can even watch your child's game if you sign up to work the admissions table. Follow the link below to sign up for shifts. Non-Volleyball parents.....you can still sign up for shifts to earn family service hours for the year.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0944A5AC2EA5F49-61498494-volleyball>

PSA FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Join us in the school gym for the last Family Fun Night of the year (because of fish fries & 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.

FOOD DRIVE

Once again the Upper Grades are sponsoring a drive to support our parish food pantry. The pantry is appreciative of all items brought in but spaghetti sauce, peanut butter, canned fruit, skillet dinners, and cereal are especially needed. Paper products such as toilet paper, paper towels, facial tissue, wipes, paper plates, and napkins are also appreciated. They would once again like to include personal care items. Items such as bar soap, body wash, hand soap, lotion, wash clothes, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, dental floss, nail files, lip balm, hand sanitizer gels, bandaids, q-tips, disposable razors. This year we would like to focus on boxes of cereal. As part of the pep rally during

Catholic Schools Week, we would like to do a domino build with the cereal boxes before we turn them over to the food pantry. Cereal boxes, larger items, or items that cost more will be counted double this year in our contest between the classes. In the Kindergarten through third, the class with the highest number of items per student will throw whipped cream filled plates at the winning class from the fourth through seventh grades. The last day items can be brought in is Friday, January 30th. Items need to be here by 8:30AM that day to count in the contest. Thank you for your support.

YEARBOOKS

Order your 25/26 yearbook online today. A flyer is coming home this week. You can order online(inter-state.com/order). The order code for OLQP is 0339MJ. Orders are due by Friday, March 13th.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

We are needing your help to spread the word to past alumni that had Mrs. Dorsey for a teacher. She is celebrating 40 years here at OLQP this year and we would like to celebrate her at our Catholic Schools Week Open House on Sunday 1/25/26. Please let past alumni know we would like them to stop in and say hi to Mrs. Dorsey. She will be in her classroom from 9:30AM to 12:00PM during the Open House. If you have any pictures of Mrs. Dorsey with her students throughout the years, please email them to kknight@olqpbethalto.org or cwoodiel@olqpbethalto.org.

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 20 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 165 pounds of soft plastic. Keep up the good work!

Upcoming Green School Projects:

- 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.** Example: The order for the week of 1/19-1/23 is due by 9AM on Wednesday, 1/14. 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 Friday(1/9/26). We have 1 VIP TABLE LEFT. Please order online or send in the paper order form into the church or school office with payment. 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/>

- **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.

DESSERT AUCTION CHAIR- We are looking for someone to chair the Dessert Auction. You would be responsible for getting desserts donated, coordinating drop off, and making sure they get entered on the online bidding platform. The desserts will be auctioned off for dessert after dinner. We usually have about 20 desserts donated.

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.

VIP AUCTION CHAIR- 20 Hours

DESSERT AUCTION CHAIR-20 HOURS

AUCTION SERVICE HOURS SIGN UP-

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0944A5AC2EA5F49-61515575-dinner>

VOLLEYBALL SEASON SERVICE HOURS SIGN UP- Click the link for open shifts to sign up to work during games at home.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0944A5AC2EA5F49-61498494-volleyball>

UPCOMING MASS SERVERS

Saturday 1/10- 4:30PM- Mya Bequette and Addison Villalobos

Sunday 1/11- 8:30AM- Adult Servers

10:30AM- Brynlee Spa and Elliott Perez

CHURCH NEWS

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

Weekend(s) of 12/13 & 12/21/25

	This Week	Total To Date
Loose	\$941.61	\$12,795.53
Envelopes	\$36,157.00	\$293,763.28
Online Giving	\$7,638.94	\$83,165.63
Total	\$44,737.55	\$389,724.44
Operating Budget	\$31,874,30	\$398,428.75
Tithe to Diocese	\$3,000	\$37,500
Difference	\$9,863.25	\$46,204.31

Total Envelopes :

Online Donations:

"After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him'". ~Matthew 2:1-2