

Our Lady Queen of Peace School
Parent Letter
November 19, 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 20th- Midterms
November 21st- PSA Family Fun Night
November 24th- Picture Retakes
 School Board Meeting
November 26-28th- **Thanksgiving Break**
November 29th- Panda Express Fundraiser
December 1st-Classes Resume
December 4th- Auction Meeting
December 7th- Church Smorgasbord
December 8th- Mom's Club Christmas Party
December 10th- Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest
 Santa Kottage Shopping Day
December 12th- Preschool Christmas Program
December 13th- Breakfast With Santa
December 18th- K-8th Christmas Program
December 19th- Classroom Christmas Parties
 Noon Dismissal- Christmas Break Begins
January 6th- Class Resume

December Hot Lunch, Green schools, PSA Family Fun Night, auction letter, auction flyer. Cookbook order, ugly sweater, letters to santa, Smorgasbord Flyer , Christmas Spirit Week, Free Dress Pass Fundraiser, Breakfast with Santa, Picture Retakes, Mentos flyer, Christmas tree contest picture and flyer

LOST AND FOUND

We have a new spirit sweatshirt, size Youth XL, in the lost and found. We also have a gray size 8, gray hooded winter coat. Let me know if either of these items belong to your child.

FRIENDSGIVING CELEBRATION

This Thursday 11/20, we are going to have an all school "Friendsgiving of Kindness Celebration" beginning at 1:00. We will begin with a Thanksgiving prayer. We will show the movie "A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving" and have a snack. Following the movie, we will paint "kindness" rocks that will be hidden around town.

FREE DRESS PASS FUNDRAISER

Forms to purchase free dress passes are coming home today or tomorrow. This is a fundraiser for the PSA for grades K-8th. You can purchase a max of 5 per student and each pass is \$5.00. Forms are **due back by Friday, 11/21/25.**

PSA FAMILY FUN NIGHT-CHRISTMAS

Join us for Movie Night to get us in the Christmas spirit on Friday 11/21/25 from 5:45-8PM. Each kid will receive a Christmas gift from the PSA, 2 slices of cheese pizza, mac n cheese cup, and an ice cream sundae. The famous OLQP saran wrap game begins (Christmas gifts will be given out) at 5:45PM with the movie Home Alone starting immediately after. Wear your favorite Christmas pajamas and bring blankets and pillows to watch the movie. Please RSVP to the school office (cwoodiel@olqpbethalto.org) by Thursday, 11/19/25 at 9AM if your family plans to attend (so we can have enough gifts & food).

DECORATE A CHRISTMAS TREE CONTEST

Students are bringing home a paper Christmas tree they can decorate however they want. The trees are due back by Wednesday, 12/3. They will be put in the gym foyer for decor. Pictures of each tree will be uploaded to the school facebook page and people will be able to vote. The tree in each category with the most "reactions" will win a gift card. Parents may share the post to get more votes for their child. Extra copies of the tree and the flyer for the contest is attached below.

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.

DRAMA CLUB

We are so excited to be bringing Drama Club back to OLQP! Students in grades 1-7 will perform Disney's The Lion King Kids on April 17th and 18th. Try outs will be held in December. Keep your eye on the parent letter for more information.

PICTURE RETAKE DAY

Monday, Nov 24 is retake day.

If you're satisfied with your child's picture, no further action is required.

If you purchased and were unhappy with your Picture Package, please send your Picture Package to school with your student on Retake Day. Your Retake Picture Package will be produced and shipped to the school four weeks after Retake Day. *Please note, if your child is photographed on the original and Retake Picture Days, the Retake picture will replace the original picture in certain products, like the yearbook.*

Students who were absent for Picture Day should come to school prepared to have their picture taken. If you have not preordered, please use the Retake Order Code 0111XSF to place your order at <https://inter-state.com/Order>. To see your Order History, check your Inter-State Account. Find answers to Retake Day questions here.

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, 12/18/24.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Flyers are coming home this week and attached below for our annual Breakfast With Santa. Please send in your RSVP by Wednesday, 12/10/25.

BASKETBALL SEASON

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>

COMMUNITY HOPE CENTER CHRISTMAS DRIVE

The Community Hope Center is looking for donations of new, unwrapped toys for needy children for Christmas. Donation cans can be found in both the school and church lobbies. Donations are due by Sunday, December 7th.

SMORGASBORD

Please look at the flyer attached for the annual Parish Smorgasbord being held on 12/7/25.

CHRISTMAS SPIRIT WEEK

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

PRESCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The preschool Christmas program will be held in the gym on Friday, 12/12/25. Gym Doors will open at 9:15AM and the program will start at 9:30AM. Please enter through the Enrichment Room doors to grab a seat.

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.

COOKBOOK SALE

Cookbooks are in and were sent home this week. We have a limited number of extra left to claim. Please turn in your order as soon as possible to make sure you get a copy. It is filled with almost 300

recipes and has the history of the school and church in it as well. Cookbooks are \$12 each. See attached order form.

OLQP TRUCKER HATS

We are taking a preorder of Knight trucker hats. Please email the school office if you would like to order one (cwoodiel@olqpbethalto.org) and we will add you to the list. Please specify if you would like Adult or Youth Size. They will be \$25 each. These will make great Christmas gifts and will be great to wear to all the OLQP sporting events. Any proceeds (depending on how many order them) will be put towards the new roof fundraising account.



SCRIP NOTES

The church office has a limited number of \$100 Kohl's cards that can be used to pay off your Kohl's charge cards. Remember..... families can earn 80% of the rebate amount back and the money can be used to purchase more SCRIP gift cards, money off tuition, or towards your before/after care bill. See the church office for more details.

GREEN SCHOOLS

Keep bringing in items for recycling! We currently have 84.5 pounds of soft plastic and three large trash bags of bottle caps! 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

teacher if you would like to help out with this project. Items made can be sold to help raise money for our "Buddy Bench."

- 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. Example: The order for the week of 12/8--12/12 will be due on Wednesday, 12/3.

LETTERS TO SANTA

Mom's Club is once again sponsoring "Letters To Santa". Have your child write a letter to Santa and drop it in the North Pole mailboxes either in the school lobby or in the back of the church. Include with the letter a self addressed stamped envelope. Santa's Elves (Mom's Club) will write your child back the week of 12/9. See the attached flyer below for more details.

MOM'S CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY

Join us in the Enrichment Room for the Mom's Club Christmas Party on Monday 12/8 starting at 6pm. Bring your favorite appetizers and drinks to share and 3 items of your favorite things (valued at \$5.00 each or less). We will have a favorite things gift exchange along with writing Santa letters back to kids. All Mom's are welcome and invited to attend.

UGLY SWEATER CONTEST

PSA will be sponsoring the Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest once again this year. The cost to enter or wear Christmas free dress is \$5.00 per child. There will be a prize awarded to the ugliest sweater in

each class and then a grand prize to the ugliest sweater in the entire school. Money will be given to Mrs. Knight for the Faculty Christmas Party to buy food. The contest will be the day of Santa Kottage gift shopping which is Wednesday, 12/10.

DINNER AUCTION NEWS

Tickets are live on our website to purchase. Please order online or send in the paper order form into the church or school office with payment. Price 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. We will have Human Slot Machines & the Knight Queen of Hearts game happening during the event along with our usual 50/50 drawing and selling of playing cards and free dress passes. Get your tickets now!!! -<http://e.givesmart.com/events/LY4>

If you are interested in helping out the decorating committee, reach out to Alyssa Spa or Sonya Hagaman.

[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**

Do you or someone you know own a timeshare or vacation rental - ask them offer up a week or weekend getaway.

- **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.

SANTA KOTTAGE CHRISTMAS SHOPPING DAY-

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0944A5AC2EA5F49-57720902-santa>

BASKETBALL CONCESSION/ADMISSION HELP-

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

DONATION- Donate a case of water to the OLQP Basketball concession stand and your family will receive 1 service hour.

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.

BASKETBALL GAMES WEEK 11/15-11/16

4TH Boys- Coach will give out new game times

4TH Girls- Wednesday, 11/19/25 6:00PM @ OLQP

5TH Boys- Coach will give out new game times

5TH Girls- Coach will give out new game times

7TH Grade- Coach will give out new game times

*Coaches will notify teams if game time changes

UPCOMING MASS SERVERS

Saturday 11/22- 4:30PM- Hudson Hall and Mya Bequette

Sunday 11/23- 8:30AM- Ellie and Carson Williams

10:30AM- Elowynn Olmsted and Brynlee Spa

Saturday 11/29- 4:30PM- Clayton Pritchett and Vivi Lord

Sunday 11/30- 8:30AM- Abram and Duke Diericx

10:30AM- Ben Cripps and Brynlee Spa

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

Weekend Of: 11/1-11/2 & 11/8-11/9

	This Week	Total To Date
Loose	\$870.00	\$9,511.18
Envelopes	\$19,943.00	\$181,336.28
Online Giving	\$6,029.33	\$61,879.28
Total	\$26,842.33	\$252,726.74
Operating Budget	\$31,874.30	\$302,805.85
Tithe to Diocese	\$3,000	\$28,500.00
Difference	- \$8,031.97	- \$78,579.11

Total Envelopes : 188

Online Donations: 87

“Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.” ~Colossians 4:2

