

Our Lady Queen of Peace School
Parent Letter
November 25, 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 26-28th- **Thanksgiving Break**
November 29th- Panda Express Fundraiser
December 1st-Classes Resume
December 3rd-Christmas Tree Contest Pages Due
December 4th- Auction Meeting
 Educational Fair Project Info Coming Home
December 7th- Church Smorgasbord
December 8th- Mom's Club Christmas Party
December 10th- Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest
 Santa Kottage Shopping Day
December 11th- Educational Fair Projects Topics Due (5-8th Grade)
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, t, auction letter, auction flyer. Cookbook order, ugly sweater, letters to santa, Smorgasbord Flyer , Christmas Spirit Week, Breakfast with Santa, Mentos flyer, Christmas tree contest picture and flyer, Panda Express

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.

PANDA EXPRESS FUNDRAISER

This coming Saturday (11/29) is our Panda Express Dine To Donate Fundraiser for the new roof. Order on the app and enter code "3841054" in the fundraiser code box or show the attached flyer on your phone in person. If you are tired of Thanksgiving leftovers stop by Panda Express to dine and help OLQP at the same time.

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.

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.

AFTER CARE 12/19/25

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

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. Follow the link below to sign your child up for auditions being held on 12/2/25.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044CAA2AA2FAC34-60613541-lion?useFullSite=true#/>

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 preorders have been sent home. 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.

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. 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>

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 to 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.

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>

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

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

10:30AM- Ben Cripps and Brynlee Spa

Saturday 12/6- 4:30PM- Tinsley Busse and Camryn Friedel

Sunday 12/7- 8:30AM- Adult Servers

10:30AM- Jace Certa and Layne Frisch

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	\$604.00	\$10,115.18
Envelopes	\$17,808.00	\$199,144.28
Online Giving	\$3,952.94	\$65,832.22
Total	\$22,364.94	\$275,091.68
Operating Budget	\$15,937.15	\$318,743.00
Tithe to Diocese	\$1,500	\$30,000.00
Difference	\$4,927.79	- \$73,651.32

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Total Envelopes : 117

Online Donations: 49

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.~1 Thessalonians 5:16-18.