

Our Lady Queen of Peace School  
Parent Letter  
November 26, 2024

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

November 27th-29th- **No School**- Thanksgiving break  
December 2nd- Auction Meeting  
                    Girl Scouts  
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

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

**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.

**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.

## **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.

## **SCARVES FOR SALE**

The 2nd grade class is selling handmade scarves for \$5.00 each. Proceeds will be donated to Stella to help with medical expenses. Stella is a 5-year-old who received a new heart in July after being hospitalized for over 180 days.



## **CHESS CANCELED**

There will be no chess practice next Wednesday, 11/27 and 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>

### **TURKEY CONTEST**

Your child can win a Dairy Queen gift card if the turkey they disguise gets the most reactions/comments on the school FACEBOOK page. 1 student from each category will win a gift card. Grades will be divided into:

PK-Kindergarten

1st-3rd Grade

4th-6th Grade

7-8th Grade.

You can help your child win by sharing the post and having friends and family share the post. Turkey disguises will be posted on Facebook Wednesday morning with voting ending on Sunday, 12/1 at 7PM. 1 student from each category that has the most reactions will win a gift card.

### **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** 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](mailto: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.

<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. Wiggernhorn. 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.

### **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.

### **LIVING NATIVITY**

We are looking for 8-9 volunteers to represent OLQP to help man the Living Nativity Booth at the Bethalto Christmas Village on Sunday, 12/15/24 from 5PM-8PM. This is in an enclosed tent with straw bales to sit on. If you can't stay the entire shift we can switch volunteers out. Email Mrs Waldo ( [awaldo@olqpbethalto.org](mailto:awaldo@olqpbethalto.org) ) if you are interested in helping.

### **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!

### **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.

### **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**

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 12/2-12/6 were due Tuesday, 11/26 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 had 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**

### **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS VOCATION RAFFLE**

The Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a Vocations Support Raffle. Your donations provide



scholarships and financial support to the men and women who are studying to be our future priests and nuns in the six dioceses in Illinois. The top prize you can win is \$10,000. See other prizes listed in the attachment on this email. Purchase online or by scanning the QR code attached to the flyer in this email. Paper tickets can be purchased by contacting a KofC Member. To purchase online go to :

<https://qrco.de/vocation23>

Enter 4688 for the Bethalto Council Number. The online portal for tickets will close on 12/1 to have time to complete entries before the drawing meeting. The Drawing is being held on 12/7/24.

### **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](mailto:cwoodiel@olqpbethalto.org) ) asking for some to be sent home and we will send them home with your child.



The auction committee is looking for an individual or family to chair the bank during the night of the auction. If you are interested, please contact the school office ([cwoodiel@olqpbethalto.org](mailto:cwoodiel@olqpbethalto.org)). The next auction meeting is scheduled for Monday, 12/2/24 at 6:30PM in the 6th Grade Classroom.

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: Snatch up a great deal on Black Friday and donate it to the Auction.

### **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 11/30- 4:30PM- Reid and Ryder Bouillon

Sunday 12/1- 8:30AM- Adult Servers

10:30AM- Brinley DeVries and Hadley Militello

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

### **CHURCH NEWS**

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

Sunday Offerings- **Weekend of 11/16-11/17/24**

Loose \$462.00

Envelopes \$12,489.25

Online Giving \$3,219.31



Young People (Offering Envelopes) \$1.00

**TOTAL COLLECTED-** \$16,171.56

- **Operating Budget \$15,391.25**

- Tithe to Diocese \$1,500

**Difference= \$719.69**

**Total Envelopes received- 115**

**Online Donations- 49**

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. Text or call Kris Magee to RSVP or sign up on the OLQP Church Facebook Page.

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

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

*Giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. ~Ephesians 5:20*