

Our Lady Queen of Peace School
Parent Letter
November 20, 2024

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 20th- Midterms

November 22nd- **Noon Dismissal**- Curriculum training
Free Dress Pass Fundraiser Ends

November 25th- Picture Retakes
Turkey Disguises Due

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

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,

PICTURE RETAKES

Info about picture retakes is coming home this week. Retakes are on Monday, 11/25. Students who are retaking pictures will be allowed free dress this day. Below is the info we were asked to share from Inter-State Studio.

Retake Picture Day is 11/25/2024! 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 88049YF 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](#).

Please let your child's teacher know ahead of retake day if your child will be returning a photo package or digital download code so they will know to check their backpacks before sending them for their pictures. Inter-State is needing these back so retakes will be free.

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 because of Thanksgiving Break. Have a great Thanksgiving!

PSA FUNDRAISER

The PSA will once again be selling Dress Down Passes. These passes allow your student to dress down on a day of their choice (NOT on mass days) by turning in a pass to their teacher. All orders must be sent back to school **by this Friday, November 22nd**. These make great stocking stuffers. The flyer is attached.

BUTTER BRAID FUNDRAISER

Thank you to all who sold Butter Braids and made this a successful fundraiser. The PSA received \$3,689.60 as profit.

8th GRADE RAFFLE

Thank you to everyone who participated in the raffle. \$163.50 was raised for the end of year activities for the 8th graders.

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. Contest info and the turkey template that must be used went home last week. 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.

Your disguise is due by Monday, 11/25/24 by 9AM. If you have any questions, please contact the school office. If you need a new template, call or email the school office.

This contest is free to enter. You can turn completed projects into the school office when finished.

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) 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 about it will be coming home before Thanksgiving break. We are however 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.

MOM'S CLUB

Mom's Club is decorating a Christmas Tree this Saturday (11/23/24) starting at 10:15AM at Alton's Rock Spring Park for the Christmas Wonderland light display. All the decorated trees will be judged by visitors to the light display throughout the Christmas Season.

They are hoping to place in the top 3 to win a cash prize which will go towards projects they are wanting to complete around the parish.

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. We will 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) if you are interested in helping.

MADISON COUNTY GREEN SCHOOLS

Continue sending in plastic and tennis shoes for our recycling projects. We collected 120.5 pounds of plastic so far!

HOT LUNCH

Weekly orders for the week of 11/25-11/29 are due Thursday, 11/21 by 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. The December menu went home last week. The last day to order for the month for December is Tues, 11/26 by 9am b/c of Thanksgiving break starting.

ONLINE DONATIONS

The church office is transitioning from GiveCentral to Push Pay for online church offerings. You will find this online giving platform an easy and secure way to manage your giving, even from the convenience of a mobile device. As before you can make a one time gift donation to the school or church, and also set up a recurring gift for weekly Sunday offerings instead of using the paper envelopes. See the QR Code below to sign up. If you used the old system (GiveCentral), you will need to stop payments from your online Give Central account.



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) 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). 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: Child theme gifts: trunk of dress up clothes, birthday party, doll house, sleep over package (games, crafts, etc)

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 11/23- 4:30PM- Mya Bequette and Jace Certa

Sunday 11/24- 8:30AM- Ellie and Carson Williams

10:30AM- William Wolff and Josie Hagaman

Saturday 11/30- 4:30PM- Reid and Ryder Bouillon

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

10:30AM- Brinley DeVries and Hadley Militello

CHURCH NEWS

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

Sunday Offerings- **Weekend of 11/9/24-11/10/24**

Loose \$606.00

Envelopes \$9,871.00

Online Giving \$5,287.43

Young People (Offering Envelopes) \$1.00

TOTAL COLLECTED- \$15,765.43

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

- Tithe to Diocese \$1,500

Difference= \$1,125.82

Total Envelopes received- 113

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, 11/20-Church Calendar/Church Year, 12/4- Q&A with Fr Tom, 12/11- Rosary

Rosary- Thursday, 11/21 at 6:30PM. Join parishioners in the church to pray the rosary asking for healing for out loved ones, friends, and/or ourselves who are in need of Jesus's healing touch.

Community 55 Luncheons- November 14 & December 12. Thursday, 11/14 is the next lunch. It is at Wiggler's Bar & Grill at 11:30AM in Holiday Shores. Text or call Kris Magee to RSVP or sign up on the OLQP Church Facebook Page.

Prayer Group- Next meeting is 11/26 at 6pm in the church. Bring your Bibles. Everyone is welcome!

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

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ~**Philippians 4:4-7**