



January 4, 2023

Dear OLSS Families,

In his Angelus address on January 1, Pope Francis said, "Today, at the beginning of the year, rather than standing around thinking and hoping that things will change, we should instead ask ourselves, "This year, where do I want to go? Who is it that I can help?" So many people, in the church and in society, are waiting for the good that you and you alone can do." With the beginning of a new year, he said, people need to take time out from their busy lives to grow closer to God, "to hear his word, to say a prayer, to adore and praise him." Devoting time to what really matters also includes dedicating time to others. People must "learn the language of love, which is to take care of our lives, our time, our souls; to take care of creation and the environment we live in; and even more, to take care of our neighbors, of those whom the Lord has placed alongside us, as well as our brothers and sisters who are in need and who call for our attention and our compassion."

We wish all our school families a wonderful year ahead and are excited to see what 2023 brings for our school.

Grace and Peace,

*Mrs. Jennifer Thompson*

Principal

NEWS & REMINDERS:

**FRIDAY:** This Friday, Jan. 6 will be a tag day to celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany, sometimes called 2nd Christmas. Students should wear their Christmas best clothes and bring a canned food item for SMILE Food Pantry.

**D.A.R.E.:** Our 5<sup>th</sup> grade class will hold their D.A.R.E. Program graduation this Friday at 2pm.

**LUNCH HELP NEEDED:** Please sign up to help with lunches in January [here](#).

**KINDNESS SHIRTS:** Students should wear their Kindness shirts to school next **Monday, Jan. 9**.

**NJHS:** The middle school National Honor Society inductees will be announced after Mass on **Wed, Jan. 11**.

**PARISH OFFICE OPENING:** OLSS Parish has a job opening for a part-time Parish Secretary, 20/hours week. Please email Father Bob if you are interested at [kilnerr@adw.org](mailto:kilnerr@adw.org)

**JAN. 13 & 16:** We have a 12:30pm dismissal on **Fri, Jan. 13**, and no school on **Mon, Jan. 16** for MLK Day.

**RAFFLE:** 8<sup>th</sup> Grade is holding a raffle for a "Cozy in Winter" basket of items. Tickets are \$.50 each or 3 for \$1 and can be purchased through the online store. Proceeds support the 8<sup>th</sup> grade's graduation fund.

**PK3 PROGRAM:** We are considering starting a Pre-K Program for 3-year-olds for the 2023-24 school year and would like to determine if there is interest. If you would consider enrolling your 3-year-old in this program (children must be 3 by 9/1/23), for half or full days, please email Mrs. Tamburri at [admissions@olss.org](mailto:admissions@olss.org).

**RE-REGISTRATION FOR 2023-24:** On January 30, every family will receive an email with a link to complete re-registration for the 2023-24 school year. Registration for new families opens Feb. 13. Spaces are given on a first-come, first-serve basis, so we encourage you to complete re-registration ASAP to secure a spot for your child(ren).

**OPEN HOUSES:** We will be hosting Open Houses on Jan. 27, Feb. 3, Feb. 17, Mar. 3, & Mar. 17, from 9-11am. Please share with any friends or family interested in our school.

**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK:** We will celebrate Catholic Schools Week, a national celebration of the value of Catholic Education in the US, from Jan. 29 - Feb. 4. The schedule of events will be out shortly.

**JANUARY**

**Jan. 6:** Tag Day – Bring canned item

**Jan. 9:** Wear Kindness Shirt

**Jan. 13:** 12:30pm Dismissal

**Jan. 16:** No School – MLK Day

**Jan. 20:** End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter

**Jan. 27, 9-11am:** Open House

**Jan. 29-Feb. 4:** Catholic Schools Week

**FEBRUARY**

♥ **Feb. 3, 9-11am:** Open House

♥ **Feb. 6:** Wear Kindness Shirt

♥ **Feb. 14:** St. Valentine's Day Tag Day

♥ **Feb. 17, 9-11am:** Open House

♥ **Feb. 17:** 12:30pm Dismissal

♥ **Feb. 20:** No School - Presidents Day

♥ **Feb. 21:** Mardi Gras / Tag Day / Parade

♥ **Feb. 22:** Ash Wednesday / Lent Begins