

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA SCHOOL NEWS

January 1, 2025

Dear OLSS Families,

Happy New Year! We begin 2025 with gratitude for the many blessings of the past year and excitement for the opportunities that lie ahead. We pray that this year brings joy, peace, and growth to your families and to our school community.

In his New Year's Day homily, Pope Francis emphasized the sanctity of human life and highlighted the importance of cherishing and caring for every child, the suffering, the poor, the elderly, the lonely, and the dying. He has also reminded parents of their primary responsibility as educators, emphasizing that they are the most important teachers of their children. The Pope encourages parents to be actively involved in their children's education, working closely with teachers to ensure a holistic formation that integrates intellectual, human, and spiritual development.

Let us continue to work together, guided by faith, to make this year one of growth and blessings. A May God bless you and your family abundantly in 2025!

20125

Grace and Peace, Mrs. Jennifer Thompson

NEWS & REMINDERS:

INCLEMENT WEATHER: OLSS follows Calvert County Public School's school closure policy for inclement weather. Decisions on delayed openings and closures are posted on <u>CCPS's website</u>, usually by 5:30am. OLSS will send parents email and text notifications of any delayed openings, school closures, or early dismissals due to weather.

SPAGHETTI DINNER: Please join us for a Spaghetti Dinner hosted by OLSS staff on **Thu, Jan. 16 from 5-7pm**! Cost is by donation and all proceeds benefit our school.

JAN. 17 & 20: Fri, Jan. 17 is a 12:30pm dismissal, and there is no school on Mon, Jan. 20 for MLK Day.

RE-REGISTRATION: On **Jan. 20**, families will receive an email to complete re-registration for the 2025-26 school year. Admissions for new families opens Feb. 3. We encourage you to complete reregistration ASAP to secure a spot for your child(ren) for 2025-26.

OPEN HOUSES: We will be hosting Open Houses for prospective new families on **Jan. 24** and **Jan. 31**. Please share with friends or family interested in our school.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK: We will celebrate Catholic Schools Week, a celebration of Catholic education in the United States, from **Jan. 26-31**. More info on special events will be out soon.

PASTRIES FOR PARENTS: Please join us on **Mon, Jan. 27** from **7-8am** for Pastries for Parents in the Providence Room to kick off Catholic Schools Week! Coffee, juice, donuts, and pastries will be provided.

TALENT SHOW: Our annual Talent Show will be held on **Jan. 28** as part of Catholic Schools Week celebrations. All students wishing to participate must turn in the <u>permission form</u> by **Jan. 20**. Please contact our Music Teacher, Mrs. Alyssa Gross, with any questions at <u>music@olsss.org</u>. Parents are invited to attend the Talent Show; times will be posted closer to the date.

ADW TUITION ASSSISTANCE: ADW Tuition Assistance for the 2025-2026 school year is accepting applications through **Feb. 21**. You must apply for ADW assistance first to be considered for OLSS tuition assistance. See <u>here</u> for more info and to apply.

GALA: OLSS's annual Fr. Alexander Gala will be held on **Sat, Feb. 22** at the Hollywood Firehouse Banquet Hall. Tickets are \$75/person and proceeds will benefit the remodeling of our PK building. For more info, please visit the Gala website at <u>https://olss.org/gala</u>

CALENDAR: Please note the following changes made to our school calendar:

- Feb. 28 is now a 12:30pm dismissal (was previously a regular school day)
- Mar. 7 now a regular school day (was previously a 12:30pm dismissal)

