



# Our Lady Star of the Sea School

*An Island of Learning... A Sea of Faith*

**Newsletter: September 7, 2016**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Our 2016-2017 school year is off to a fantastic start! It was so great seeing all of the children back in their classrooms last week, excited to begin a new year. The short week gave us all a chance to ease back into the routine of school, and allowed the students to learn and practice the rules and procedures each teacher has in place for their classroom.

I would like to thank our parents for your continued support and commitment to Catholic education. It is going to be a wonderful year!



## FIRST MASS OF THE YEAR

We celebrated our first Mass of the school year together last Wednesday. Older students sat with younger children to help them throughout Mass.

Thank you to Joanne Pensensstadler for making ten candles – one for each class – with each student's and teacher's name.



## **F R O G** Full Rely on God



*Students received "Leap for the Lord" frogs last week to remind them to Fully Rely On God.*

*Pre-K, K, & 1<sup>st</sup> graders received their frogs from their middle school buddies.*



## **FROG IT CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK:**

Our students are given a FROG IT challenge every week to help them spread God's word. This week's Challenge is, "It is nice to feel important, but it is more important to be nice to others, especially those who challenge us." Be nice to everyone you meet!

## **NEWS :**

**School Portraits:** Lifetouch will be taking student portraits tomorrow - **Thu, Sep. 8**. Students should wear appropriate dress clothes to school. Lifetouch order forms were in yellow folders last week, or may be ordered online through the link emailed to parents last week.

**Back to School Night:** I would like to see 100% participation from parents at Back to School Night on **Wed, Sep. 14**. The evening will start at 7pm with presentations in the Providence Room, after which parents visit their children's classrooms to meet with teachers.

**Spirit Night:** Please support our Spirit Night at Roy Rogers in Solomons on **Mon, Sep. 19** from **5-8pm!** Mention OLSS when ordering, and Roy Rogers donates a portion of the sale to our school. Greeters are needed from 5-8pm; please sign up online.

**OLSS Basketball:** Registration for OLSS's Basketball teams for boys in grades 4-8 and girls in grades 5-8 is now open! The Registration form and Waiver form are included with today's news. Please turn them into the School Office **by Sep. 23** if your child would like to participate in the Basketball Program. Our Athletic Director will give a brief talk about the Basketball Program at Back to School Night.

**Home & School Association:** Many thanks to our HSA Committee:

- President: Katie Franklin
- Vice President: Patty DiBonaventuro
- Secretary: Stephanie White
- Treasurer: Katie Wingenter
- Volunteer Coordinator: Heather McGaffin

HSA will have info out at Back to School Night on the various volunteer opportunities available throughout the year. Please plan on signing up to help out!

## PARISH PICNIC

The annual OLSS Parish Picnic is this coming **Sun, Sep. 11**, following the 10:45am Mass. We hope you can join us for this fun event!

If your last name starts with **A-L**, please bring a side salad.

If your last name starts with **M-Z**, please bring a dessert.



## Archdiocesan Band Program



The Archdiocesan Music Program offers instrumental lessons and a group band experience in Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Washington for students in grades 4-8. An ADW Music Teacher will come to OLSS to present a Band Demonstration on **Sep. 12**. Program info and registration forms will be sent home that day. Lessons begin **Sep. 26**.



Volunteers are essential to keeping our school running smoothly. Please sign up through the school website's "Volunteer Opportunities" page if you can help with any of the following events:

### Hot Lunch Program

Help prepare, serve, and clean up for school lunch on Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays.

### Sep. 19, 5-8pm: Roy Rogers Spirit Night

Greet visitors as they come into the restaurant, and answer any questions about our school.

### Oct. 8 & 9: OLSS Table at PRAD

OLSS will host a Sand Art table at the PRAD festival at the Calvert Marine Museum. Volunteers are also needed both days to help with set-up, working at the booth, and clean up.

### Oct. 24: Grandparents Day

Help is needed with set-up, cleanup, and donating brunch dishes.

### Oct. 29: OLSS Table at Annmarie Garden

OLSS will host a table at "Halloween in the Garden" Annmarie Garden. Volunteers are needed to help with set-up, cleanup, and working at the table.

## REMINDERS:

**Emergency Forms:** Please complete & return the "Emergency Contact" form to school ASAP.

**Family Survey:** Please complete and return the ADW Family Survey ASAP (one survey per family).

**Book Fair:** The Scholastic Book Fair will be open during school hours this week, through **Friday, Sep. 9**.

**Rediker:** Info on our new parent portal system, Rediker, will be given to parents at Back to School Night on **Sep. 14**.

**Virtus Training:** OLSS is hosting a Virtus Child Protection training class on **Thu, Sep. 22**. Please register in advance for this account through your Virtus online account.

**Scantron:** Scantron baseline testing in Math, Reading, and Religion will take place during the week of **Sep. 19-23** for grades K-8. Please avoid making doctor appointments, etc. for your children during this time.

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

### SEPTEMBER:

- **Sep. 3-9:** Scholastic Book Fair
- **Sep. 8:** Lifetouch School Picture Day
- **Sep. 13, 9am:** Ryken Visit for 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grades
- **Sep. 14, 7:00pm:** Back to School Night
- **Sep. 19, 5-8pm:** Roy Rogers Spirit Night
- **Sep. 22, 6:30pm:** Virtus Training Class at OLSS
- **Sep. 30:** 12:30pm dismissal (Fair Day)

### OCTOBER:

- **Oct. 7:** No School – Collaboration Day
- **Oct. 20:** Lifetouch Portraits Make-Up Day
- **Oct. 24:** Grandparents Day
- **Oct. 28:** 12:30pm dismissal–Teacher Development

God Bless,

*Mary Bartsch*

Mrs. Mary Bartsch  
OLSS Principal