



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK
January 26 – February 1, 2025

Dear OLS School Parents,

On Sunday, January 26th, we will begin our annual observance of Catholic Schools Week (CSW), the time set aside each year to celebrate Catholic education. During this week, we will focus on Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic School's high-quality, faith-filled education and will honor everyone who contributes to the school's success – not only students, families, faculty, and staff, but also our parish, volunteers, community supporters, and local leaders.

The theme for this year is “**Catholic Schools: United in Faith and Community.**” Catholic schools have a specific purpose to form students to be good citizens of the world, to love God and neighbor, and to enrich society with the leaven of the gospel and by example of faith.

As communities of faith, Catholic schools instill in students their destiny to become saints. Academic excellence is the hallmark of Catholic education intentionally directed to the growth of the whole person – mind, body, and spirit. Finally, service is fundamental to Catholic education and the core of Catholic discipleship. Service is intended to help form people who are not only witnesses to Catholic social teaching but also active participants in social learning.

Please encourage your children to participate in the activities we have planned and to celebrate their Catholic faith. In addition, encourage friends who may be considering Catholic education to visit our website at olsschool.com and complete an application. They can also call the school office for more information and to schedule a personal tour and/or shadow day for their child.

If you can, please take the time to express your appreciation to our teachers, staff, board members, volunteers, and everyone else involved in making our school successful. Through their dedication and commitment, they make our school a wonderful example of faith, excellence, and service.

As always, thank you for your continued support of OLS School.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Mary Jane Dorn
Principal

United in Faith and Community

As we celebrate this exciting week, we give thanks to God for
Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic School and all who contribute to make it so special.

On dress-down days, please refer to the out-of-uniform policy in our student handbook.

Sunday, January 26th

We are thankful for the support of our parishes. Parishes with children attending OLS School will be sent a letter of appreciation. We will have a speaker at each Mass sharing many of the good things about our school. **We will host an Open House from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. for all interested families.** We encourage you to invite new families to join us to learn more.

Monday, January 27th

Mix & Match Monday - Students may come out of uniform in mismatched clothing, socks, and shoes (MUST BE TENNIS SHOES). We recognize all the variety of talents and personalities it takes to make up a fabulous community! Use your imagination, but all clothing must be suitable for our Catholic school environment. Tennis shoes must be worn, but do not need to be uniform colors. **On this day, our community will be celebrated.** Spiritual bouquets will be delivered to our local post office, fire department, library, and board of education. Our own resource officers will be treated as well as our church office and sacristy friends who do so much for us. **Join us at Taco Mama (Homewood location) for OLS Spirit night from 5:00 - 9:00 p.m.**

Tuesday, January 28th

Team Tuesday - In celebrating our nation today, students and faculty may wear their favorite "American" team shirt or jersey with uniform bottoms. This must be a team within the USA. **Get your FREE library card this evening at the OLS Library Card Drive from 3:30-6:00 p.m. Join Mrs. Miceli and Mrs. Dorn for snacks and fun!**

Wednesday, January 29th

Just woke up Wednesday! Students and faculty may come wearing their Comfy sweats or pajamas that are appropriate, modest, and suitable for our Catholic school environment. Tennis shoes must be worn, but do not need to be uniform colors. **Today, we celebrate our students.** Our eighth grade students will organize and lead a carnival for Kindergarten through 4th grade. Fifth through eighth graders will enjoy an afternoon of music, games, and special treats! ***At 2:00 p.m. in the Roger McLaughlin Gym, we will have a school assembly to open a 25-year-old time capsule created by OLS School students from the year 2000- the end of the 2nd millennium! All parents and alumni are invited!**

Thursday, January 30th

Throw it on Thursday! K-5 students, bring your favorite hat or accessory to wear *after Mass*. Jr. High students will have “**anything but a backpack**” day! Parents will receive a treat from their child. **We will celebrate our wonderful parents today.**

Friday, January 31st

Rhyme without a Reason - Faculty and staff will be celebrated today. Each class will select a book or theme to inspire a fun rhyming dress-up activity. Students will dress in costumes or outfits that rhyme (without a reason) with one of the characters, the theme, the title, etc. Examples: Harry Potter/fly swatter; cat/bat/rat, Holes/flagpoles, Junie B/bumblebee, fox/box/rocks, etc. Teachers will explain in more detail. The possibilities are endless! All costumes must be appropriate, modest, and suitable for our Catholic school environment. Tennis shoes must be worn, but do not need to be uniform colors. *Sixth graders will participate in a special Mass with Bishop Raica at St. Paul’s Cathedral with other sixth graders from the diocese. They may bring their costumes to change into after mass. Teachers will enjoy a quiet lunch provided by our PTO. **Join us for the OLS Family Disco night from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. in the Roger McLaughlin Gym (school gym).**

OUR SERVICE PROJECT

In response to our Catholic social teachings, **students will participate in putting together “snack packs” for the Catholic Center of Concern to be distributed to students in need of after-school food and snacks.** This will be a House competition. Whichever house collects the most items will win the “Trophy” to be displayed in their meeting classroom for the next year! The total number of items will be divided by the number of House members. There will be a designated space for each house to collect items. **PARENTS**, please check expiration dates before sending items.

Items needed

Individual serving packages of grits, oatmeal, etc
Individual serving cups of macaroni and cheese
Nutri- grain bars, protein bars, any type of snack bar
Pop tarts
Peanut butter crackers, cheese crackers, etc
Fruit cups, fruit snacks, etc
Individual serving size chips, gold fish, pretzels etc
Candy