



# Our Lady of Perpetual Help

*"Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic School builds character and shapes tomorrow's leaders by delivering academic excellence in a Catholic faith based community."*

December 11, 2016

2016-17 Edition

## In This Issue

- Principal and AP Principal's Corner
- CDC News
- SAMM Ministry
- School Nurse
- Catholic Life Tickets
- Free Family Movie Night
- Accelerated Reader
- Amazon Smiles
- HEB Gift Cards
- St. Vincent de Paul
- Spiritual Corner
- Sports Update
- Box Tops
- Student Essays

## Principal and Assistant Principal's Corner

OLPH Families,

Do we count the days or do we make the days count? With this being Gaudete Sunday, we are reminded to rejoice in the waiting. Gaudete Sunday is the Third Sunday of Advent. The Introit for Gaudete Sunday, in both the Traditional Latin Mass and the Novus Ordo, is taken from Philippians 4:4,5: "Gaudete in Domino semper" ("Rejoice in the Lord always"). Immediately the word patience comes to mind, and how we persevere.

On our [Advent wreaths](#), the rose coloured candle is lit in addition to two of the violet colored candles. Despite the otherwise somber readings of the season of [Advent](#), which has as a secondary theme the need for penitence, the readings on the third Sunday emphasize the joyous anticipation of the Lord's coming

As we were reminded this weekend during Deacon Praveen's Homily, the Greeks had two words for time - *chronos* and *kairos*. For *chronos*, think quantitative (chronology; timeline) and measurements, and for *kairos*, think qualitative (those moments outside of time) moments. What we have to remember is that in order to have *kairos* moments, we have to put in the *chronos*.

During this season of Advent, and always, let us remember to make the days count.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help...Pray for Us!

## START STRONG, STAY STRONG, FINISH STRONG

Mr. Burns, Principal

Mrs. Amanda Miller, Assistant Principal

Please feel free to contact Mr. Burns at [burnsf@olphselma.org](mailto:burnsf@olphselma.org) or Mrs. Amanda Miller at [millera@olph.com](mailto:millera@olph.com).

**CDC News**

## Upcoming Dates:

**12/12 Saint's Bowl,  
8:30 am, cafe**

**12/14 SAMMs  
Ministry Assembly,  
2:00 pm**

**12/15 CDC Christmas  
Program, 10:00 am,  
church**

**12/16 Family Movie  
Night, 6:00 pm**

## Contact Us

Phone: 210-651-6811

CDC: 210-651-6819

Website:

[www.olphselma.org](http://www.olphselma.org)

Dear Parents,

This week will be super busy! Monday and Tuesday we will be practicing for our Christmas Program at 10a in the Church. Our Program is on Thursday, Dec. 15th at 10 am, also in the Church. The children have been practicing and are excited to sing for you. As a reminder, we are taking orders for a DVD of our program. Please see Mrs. Adelina at the front desk if you are interested.

Thursday the 15th is the last day to turn in items for the Guadalupe Home. They are mainly asking for diapers, baby clothes, & cleaning supplies. Please follow your heart and graciously donate what you can. We have already had some wonderful items placed under the CDC tree!

On Monday the 19th we will have a cocoa & PAJAMA Day! All 3K & 4K are invited to participate.

Our K3 & K4 Christmas Party will be held on the 20th beginning at 9:30a. Also, the cafeteria will be closed on this day so children who stay must bring a sack lunch and drink.

Just as a reminder the CDC will be closed from Wednesday, December 21st through Thursday, January 4th. All of us working in the CDC wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

God Bless,

Ms. Ogrin

**After School Activities in CDC building (unless otherwise noted): Classes will not meet December 19th & 20th**

Monday – Art Class at 3:45p

Tuesday – TOT Class (PK 2:30p)

Wednesday – Orchestra Class (violin & guitar) at 3:35p

Thursday – Stomp & Play Class (PK 3p & K 3:45p)

Friday - Dance (PK 2:45-3:30p & K/1 3:45-4:30p)

Chess Class at 3:45p (rooms 401/402 – portable behind the cafeteria)

## CDC Inquiry List for 2017-2018

Are you interested in enrolling your child in the OLPH CDC K3 or K4 program? Please call the CDC Office (210-651-6819) before December 16th to be guaranteed a spot for the 2017-2018 school year. Children need to turn 3 &/or 4 by September 1st to be eligible. Enrollment begins on January 30th. Only current families with age appropriate children are eligible to be placed on the inquiry list at this time. The official list begins on January 9th.

Attached are the final results for the **CAAC Innovate Create & Discover Contest** held on Saturday, December 3, 2016.

## SAMMinistry Donations

On Wednesday, Dec. 14, representatives from SAMMinistries will be at OLPH to receive all the donations the classes have gathered to help their cause. A presentation assembly will be held in the gym at 2:00 pm. Mrs. Weems will also show the blankets that have been crocheted so far. Please be sure to have all donations at school by Tuesday, Dec. 13 so they can be sorted and bagged. Thanks for your support!

## From the School Nurse:

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic School needs an audiometer.** This piece of equipment is necessary to perform hearing screenings for our students. We do not own one. Since I have been the school nurse I have borrowed machines from other Catholic schools or the Texas Department of Health, or requested help from nursing schools in our city. I never know for sure if and when I would receive this help. My request is to any physician, audiologist, or medical supply sales person if he or she would be able to obtain a discount for us on this equipment. It is expensive and any help would be appreciated. The hearing screenings for this school year have been completed. Please let me know if you can help.

## Catholic Life Ticket Sales Contest Winners

The contest for Catholic Life Ticket Sales ran through Monday, December 5, and here are the winners! At the CDC, Ms. Garcia's class won cookies and a story with Santa. In grades K-3, the winner was Ms. Fleury's class, and they also received cookies and a story with Santa. For grades 4-8, Ms. Henderson's class won Starbucks hot chocolate and cookies.

## Free Family Movie Night

Mark you calendar for Friday, December 16 to attend the Free Family Movie Night. The fun starts at 6:00 p.m. with a visit from Santa and friends. Movies begin at 6:30. Kids can wear PJs and there will be a contest for the best PJs. There's a tacky Christmas sweater contest for adults, too. Pizza will be available through pre-order. Check this past week's Wednesday folder for more details on the event and the order form for the pizza.

## AR 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Update

The 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter for AR will end on Tuesday, Dec. 20. Students still have time to make their goal! Testing is available in the classroom, or in the library daily from 7:30-8:00 or 3:30-4:30 (4:00 on Fridays). Parties for those who reach their goal will be held in January. Let's keep up the great work!



**Support us**  
by shopping at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)  
on Black Friday and Cyber Monday.  
You shop. Amazon gives.

A promotional banner for Amazon Smile. The background is a gradient of orange and pink. The text "Support us" is in large white font. Below it, "by shopping at smile.amazon.com on Black Friday and Cyber Monday. You shop. Amazon gives." is in smaller white font. At the bottom, there are images of a white game controller, a small toy train, a Kindle tablet displaying "CHAPTER 1", and a blue smart speaker. The Amazon Smile logo is in the bottom left corner of the banner.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic School

HEB/GIFT CARD PROGRAM

Gift Cards make great gifts for Family, Friends, Neighbors,  
Employees, Teachers, everyone!

Sold after Masses on Saturday and Sunday until Christmas

Available weekdays at CDC

HEB, Walmart, Target, F Express, Academy, A Depot, Lowes, American  
., Starbucks, Subway,



## Calling All Wildcats to Support Their Community!

The OLPH St. Vincent de Paul Ministry needs our school support to feed the hungry in our community. Each week, families in need come to their door for assistance that includes putting food on the table. Please see the pantry request below and bring in your donation on Monday. Your gesture of care allows each student bringing a donation to wear jeans with their spirit shirt. Through October, your donations totaled just over 1,000 lbs of food! Go Wildcats! Thank you for your continued support of this vital program.

Our students are required to wear their approved school uniform everyday unless specifically told otherwise or for an upcoming special event (which info. will be relayed). **On Monday, Dec.12<sup>th</sup> our students are able to wear their spirit shirt with their uniform bottom.** Or they can wear jeans and a spirit shirt if they bring in **a can of fruit cocktail, 18 oz.**

### Future Requests:

Dec. 19 - Jar of peanut butter, 18 oz.

Jan. 9 – Box of baking mix, 40 oz.

Jan. 23 – Can of chili w/o beans, 15 oz.

Jan. 30 – Bag of pinto beans, 32 oz.

## Spiritual Corner

### December Notes from Sister Clementine

#### THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT: JOY

Hot pink, pale pink, rose pink are all shades of pink painted into a sunrise. Like the various shades of pink, our expressions of joy can be so different. Joy can be exuberant when we experience the faithfulness of God, it can be calm confidence in His sovereignty, or pure delight as He expresses His love.



#### Advent - November 27 – December 18

The season of Advent (Latin “to come to”) is a time of preparation of our souls, with three “comings” in mind. It refers to, firstly, to preparing our hearts for the celebration of the birth of Jesus at Christmas. It also invites us to anticipate the coming of Christ in our lives at the present moment through grace and the reception of the Jesus in the Word and the Eucharist, and adoring Him in the silence of the Blessed Sacrament. Finally, we are to prepare for His second coming at the end of time.

Come Let us Adore Him! Come, Lord, Jesus, Come

**December 6 – St. Nicholas** was born in the third century in modern day Turkey to wealthy parents, but orphaned at a young age. Raised Christian, he lived out the words, “sell what you own and give the money to the poor”, by secretly using his inheritance to assist the needy, the sick, and the suffering. He would perform acts of charity in secret, like hurling bags of money into windows, becoming known throughout the land for his generosity to all, but especially his love for children.

“The giver of every good and perfect gift has called upon us to mimic Gods giving, by grace, through faith, and this is not of ourselves.” St. Nicholas of Myra

### **December 8 - Feast of the Immaculate Conception      Holy Day**

We honor the Blessed Mother this holy day where we recall that the Mother of Jesus had no original sin; “the most **Blessed Virgin Mary was**, from the first moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of almighty God and by virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ, Savior of the human race, **preserved immune from all stain of original sin.** “ CCC 487-492

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee, blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, mother of God, pray for us sinners, now, and at the hour of our death, Amen.

### **December 9 – St. Juan Diego**

**December 12 – Our Lady of Guadalupe** Juan Diego, of Indian decent, was born in 1474 in Cuauhtitlan, Mexico, and lived as a weaver, farmer and laborer. In 1531, the Blessed Mother appeared to Juan Diego and asked him to request from the bishop that a church be built so that all would know of her love, compassion, help, and defense, and would call her in their need. In his humility he did this, but at the bishop’s request, asked for a sign. The following day, St Juan Diego, although distracted and delayed by his uncle’s illness, encountered the Blessed Mother who consoled him, “Am I not here, I who am your mother!” She gave him the sign to present to the bishop; an abundance of flowers unseasonably in bloom, imprinted permanently and beautifully on his mantle with the Virgin’s image! The bishop and all with faith believed!

Because of the Juan Diego’s humility and cooperation, through God’s grace, Our Lady of Guadalupe influenced the conversion of over 9 million to Catholicism of native Mexican people, only 20 years after Christianity was introduced to the land by the Spanish.

“Am I not here, I who am your mother!” Our Lady of Guadalupe

“I am a nobody, I am a small rope, a tiny ladder, the tail end, a leaf.” – Saint Juan Diego

**December 13 – St. Lucy** St. Lucy was born into a noble Christian Roman family about the year 283, and betrothed by her mother to a wealthy pagan family. However, Lucy rejected her suitor; Lucy had consecrated her life to Christ, giving her worldly goods to the service of the poor, as well as secretly providing food and drink to the persecuted Christians in the catacombs. Her rejected suitor was furious denounced her to the local governor and she was tortured and put to death. She is the patron of those who are blind, and young people who are persecuted for their faith.

“No one's body is polluted so as to endanger the soul if it has not pleased the mind” – St. Lucy

### **December 25 – January 9 Christmas**

Christmas Day is the one of the most important days of the Church year (second only to Easter Sunday); It is the feast of the Incarnation; God becoming flesh in the person of Jesus. He is Emmanuel, or “God-with-us”.

Although Jesus was born over 2000 years ago, suffered, died and rose again, every Eucharist is actually “like Christmas where the bread and wine are transformed into his flesh, His Body and Blood, and in a sense, He is born anew on the altar. “(US Conference of Catholic Bishops).

So while December 25 commemorates the birth of Jesus, the liturgical season of Christmas actually begins with the vigil mass on Christmas Eve, but does not end until the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord; As Catholic Christians, we can keep our Christmas tree up this year until January 9th!

“During this SEASON, we celebrate the birth of Christ into our world and into our hearts, and reflect on the gift of salvation which is born within him...including the fact that he was born to die for us.” (USCCB)

**December 28 Feast of the Holy Innocents** On this day we honor the little children who were martyred by Herod in his attempt to kill the child Jesus, whom he feared would replace him as a king. (Matthew 2: 1 – 18). On this day, we can remember the unborn; the innocents, and pray for life and healing for all !

Prince of Peace, through your healing Spirit,  
help us to lovingly accept every conceived child created in your image and likeness,  
as a messenger of peace and goodwill toward all people.

**December 30 - Feast of the Holy Family** This beautiful feast celebrates the virtues of Mary and Joseph, their trust in God’s protection, and their loving interaction as together they cared for the child Jesus.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph,  
help us to live as your Holy Family, united in respect and love. Bring us to the joy and peace of your eternal home.

**January 1 – Solemnity of Mary Mother of God** On this day we honor the mother of Jesus, the Blessed Virgin Mary, as a model for the renewed Christian life, her openness to the Holy Spirit and God’s will for her life, her “yes” to all that God asked of her.



It is also the World Day of Peace. Let us pray for peace in our troubled world.

“We entrust my urgent prayer for all humanity at the beginning of the year...

to which we look with hearts full of hope, notwithstanding the dangers and difficulties that surround us.

May Mary show us, in her Son, the Way of peace, and enlighten our vision,

so that we can recognize Christ's face in the face of every human person, the heart of peace! “  
Benedict XVI 2007

## **Sports Report**

On Sunday, December 4th, two of our students, Alyssa Bauer (Kindergarten) and Delanee Mora (3rd grade) competed at the Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders Fall Classic Cheerleading Competition with their All-Star Cheer Team from Aerial Athletics Gym in Schertz, TX. This is a state-wide cheerleading competition for All-Star Cheerleading squads for teams all across the state.

Their squad came in 5th in the competition!

They have been working and preparing very hard for months with their team, on top of their school responsibilities and activities.

These two cannot wait until they are in middle school here at OLPH and can cheer on the WILDCATS!



## **Snack Sale After School**

The middle school cheerleaders are going to be selling water, Gatorade, and snacks after school Monday – Thursday from 3:30-3:50 in the courtyard. Everything will be \$1. Thank you for supporting the cheerleaders!

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## Box Tops Christmas Raffle

The rules for the raffle are as follows:

1. Only the pink box tops will be allowed as entries (please, no Campbell's soup labels) .
2. Simply write the student's name & grade on back of box top. If the box top is too small, please adhere to a piece of paper and write the info on back of paper.
3. All labeled box tops can be submitted in an envelope or Ziploc bag. There will be a container in the office where box tops can be dropped off. Each teacher will have a bag to collect raffle entries, as well.
4. Raffle entries will be received beginning December 5th – December 15th (3:30pm). The raffle will take place on Friday, December 16th.
5. The CDC will have a separate raffle, so please keep their entries separate.
6. There is no limit on the number of entries. Students are allowed to win more than one prize. Prizes include, Christmas treats, books, toys, and more. All prizes have been donated by the Box Tops Coordinator. If you have any questions, please direct them to Michele Marroquin at [ccnative@gmail.com](mailto:ccnative@gmail.com).

### Notes

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Newsletter submissions must now be submitted no later than Thursdays at noon to Joan Brooke. Items received after the cut off will not make it into the newsletter. Send submissions to [brookej@olphselma.org](mailto:brookej@olphselma.org)

## The Student Corner

Student writings from the Journalism class

### Thoughts on the Election

By : Gabi M. and Hannah H.

We interviewed several middle school students about their thoughts on the new president, Donald Trump. Here are some things they said: An 8th grader said, "I think he is very capable of the job." Another 8th grader said, "Clinton has more leadership skills." One of the 7th graders said, "I have mixed emotions about him, and "I think he is disrespectful to prisoners of war." Two 6th graders said, "I think both of them should have lost." Some 5th graders said, "He does not think before he speaks." And, "Hillary spoke funny and Trump said bad things about Hillary." Overall, the people we interviewed most preferred Hillary over Trump. But in the school election the results were: Donald Trump had 240 votes and Hillary Clinton had 120 votes, and in the electoral college result Donald Trump won.

## **Tennis**

By: Nuria E.


I play tennis because i think it's great to play and become friends with people. I started to play when i was 7 years old. I wanted to play it because my dad played it and i thought it would be great as my hobby. I am very aggressive because I like to end the point fast. My favorite thing to do when I play is to go up to the net and hammer the ball. I always try to be nice and respectful if I am losing. The best thing to do is to have FUN!

## **Girls' B Basketball**

By Landry S.

This year, the OLPH "B" girls' basketball team started the season strong!

This past weekend they received 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the St. Peter and Paul Basketball Tournament. Let's take a step back to tryouts. This year's girls tryouts were from November 7-8, 2016. During tryouts there were different exercises like dribbling, suicides, shooting, lay-ups, etc. The hardest part was (Sofi, 6<sup>th</sup> grade): "Running." The best part (Aubrey, 6<sup>th</sup> grade): "Lay-ups." In these basketball tryouts, everyone learned something about sportsmanship, even



how to dribble. Basketball is a hard sport and not everyone is good at it, but everyone tried their best. Good luck to the "B" girls' basketball team as they continue their season!

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