

**SOAR WITH THE SPIRIT!**  
**Our Lady of Victory Catholic School - Weekly Update –January 27, 2010**

**Haiti Relief Collection** – Thank you to our very generous families for supporting our appeal for contributions to the Holy Childhood Association – Haiti Relief Fund. Within three days, we collected \$2,575.15. It was wonderful to witness your response to this appeal. Of course, the victims of the earthquake need out continued prayers in addition to the financial support. Please keep them in your prayers daily.

**Catholic Schools Week** – This Sunday, January 31, we begin a week long celebration highlighting Catholic schools and their impact on our faith community. We hope that all of you will join us at the 9:30 am Sunday Mass on January 31. Please wear something to Mass that identifies you and your children as an OLVCS student – sweatshirt, Walkathon t-shirt, team jersey, etc. Students who are participating in the Mass will wear their uniforms. Information was emailed last week with more detail about the week's event. It is reprinted at the end of this Update.

**Second Century Scholarships** – Now is the time to apply for scholarships for the 2010 – 2011 school year. An information flyer was sent home last week with more detailed information. Please note that the deadline is Friday, February 19 to submit applications. This year, 24 students received over \$32,000 in scholarship money. This could be you next year. More money has been designated for this program! For more details, contact the school office.

**Needed - Photos of extracurricular activities and other school activities** – Please send in your photos of your team, cub scouts, brownies, choir, band, etc or other candid photos of school activities for inclusion in the Memory Book. Please forward your digital photos to Eileen Clarke at [ipobilling@yahoo.com](mailto:ipobilling@yahoo.com). Your photos will make it a great yearbook this year!!

**Annual Scholastic Book Fair** - MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!!!! The annual OLV Book Fair is scheduled for the following dates:

Sunday, January 31st Open House following the 9:30 am mass

Monday, February 1st - 5th 8:00 am to 2:20 pm

Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup> - Family Fun Night 6-8 pm

Saturday, February 6<sup>th</sup> - during Hoops games throughout the day (8:00 am until ??)

If you are available to volunteer during any of these time slots, your help would be greatly appreciated. Please contact or e-mail Jennifer Scanlon (769-6217) or [jscanlon68@yahoo.com](mailto:jscanlon68@yahoo.com) if you are interested. More information about the Book Fair will be forthcoming! Thanks, OLV PTG Officers

**Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School – Parent Coffee** - On Thursday, February 11th, BGHS, in Altoona, will be hosting their 2nd Parent Coffee for the season. Parents of grades 4-8 are welcome to attend this informal, yet informative gathering of prospective parents, present students, teachers and Principal Bernie Kubitzka. Beginning at 6:30 p.m. there will be a video presentation followed by interaction with the students. Light refreshments will be served with an opportunity to tour the school before you leave. Reservations are not required however, you may call Jana Sidler at the school, at 944-4014 - Ext. 104, of your intent or with any questions.

**Magazine Sale** – The deadline for Magazine Orders was Thursday, January 21, but you can still turn in orders this week. You can order online ([www.qsp.com](http://www.qsp.com)) all year long. Don't forget to designate OLVCS as your school. Thank you to our parents who participated in this program.

**ATOMS Program** - Appalachia IU 8 is conducting the Advanced Training for Outstanding Mathematics and Science (ATOMS) Scholars Program again this summer. These are hands-on, high level, intensive science and mathematics experiences for very able mathematics and science

students who will be completing grades 2 through 8 this school year. **Applications must be submitted to OLVCS by Thursday, February 11 for teachers to complete their portion of the application.** The application will be returned to you for submission to IU 8 by their deadline of Wednesday, February 24. For more information and application click on the following link. <http://www.iu08.org:9080/iu8/departments/curriculum/programs/special-projects/atoms>

**Centre County PAWS Collection Boxes:** The collection boxes in the library are currently empty. The folks at PAWS were very pleased to receive the last two donations that I delivered. They are in need of dog chew toys as well as anything else on the PAWS list, which is featured under the Library Media Center section of the OLVCS web site. Please remember the cats and dogs at PAWS that are in need of donations as well as good homes. Thank you. Mrs. DeMetrick

### **Upcoming events:**

Friday, January 29 – School Mass @ 9 am sponsored by grade 7/8B

Sunday, January 31 – Catholic Schools Week starts with 9:30 am Mass and reception in the gym.

Feast Days:

#### **January 28 – St. Thomas Aquinas, priest and doctor (1225 – 1274)**

- Patron of Catholic schools, students, colleges, philosophers, and theologians
- Thomas Aquinas is one of the greatest teachers of the medieval Catholic Church, and his writings are among the Church's treasures. The unity, harmony, and continuity of faith and reason, of revealed and natural human knowledge, pervades his writings.

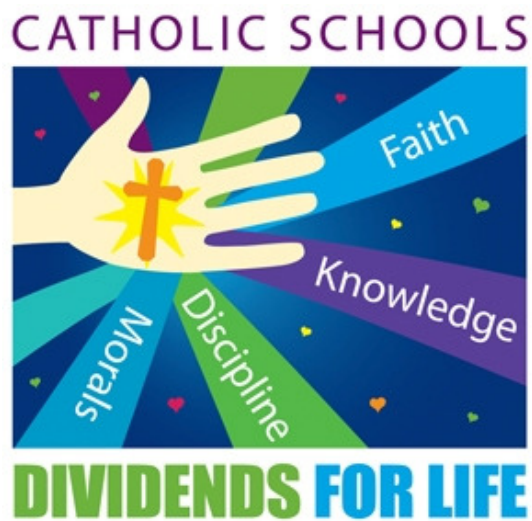
*O, God of knowledge, Thomas Aquinas was born with a brilliant mind. He used his gift to create a better world through his writings. I pray that I will use my intelligence to write and speak in a way that gives people hope and builds up your kingdom on earth. Amen*

#### **January 31 – St. John Bosco, priest (1815 – 1888)**

- Patron of editors, young people
- Educator John Bosco advocated frequent celebration of the sacraments of penance and the Eucharist. He combined catechetical training and fatherly guidance, seeking to unite spiritual life with one's work, student, and play. After serving as a chaplain in a hospice, John opened the Oratory of St. Francis deSales, for boys. He taught them various trades, including the publication of religious and catechetical pamphlets. He founded the Salesians, whose efforts concentrated on education and missionary work. Later he began a group of Salesians Sister to assist girls.

*Lord, you call me to serve. Keep my ears and heart open to your calling. You may be inviting me to be a priest or sister or brother, married or single. I am open to your call, Lord, and desire to serve you. Amen*

*Our Lady of Victory Catholic School*  
*Celebrates*  
*Catholic Schools Week - 2010*



*During the week of January 31 through February 5, two hundred eighty five students at OLVCS join with nearly 2.5 million students in Catholic Schools across the nation to celebrate Catholic Schools Week. Please join us for any or all of our special events this week. Below are the highlights with more information below.*

- *Sunday, January 31 – 9:30 am Sunday Mass at OLV – Reception follows in school gym*
- *Monday, February 1 – Show Your School Spirit Day – Reading Buddies*
- *Tuesday, February 2 – Student Council sells Charm Pops – Ultimate Indoor Recess*
- *Wednesday, February 3 – Dress Down Day – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade vs. Faculty Volleyball*
- *Thursday, February 4 – Luminaries Light the Way and Catholic Bingo*
- *Friday, February 5– Coffee Break – OLVCS Trivial Pursuit - Family Fun Night*

Pray Where You are Planted - Catholic School's Week is the perfect time to pray for our school. Victory in Prayer (VIP) encourages everyone to Pray Where You are Planted! Get into the habit of praying each day, along the way, for our school. Here are just a few ideas to get you started... Bless your children as they walk out the door in the morning. As you drive down Westerly past the high school, say a prayer for our Alumni. As you brush your teeth in the morning, pray that your child has a positive attitude and teachable spirit. Every time you stop at a red light, say "Dear Lord, please watch over our school." You get the message.... Pray As You Go! Just imagine how great it is to know that so many people are praying for our school, all day long. Amen

*Sunday, January 31, 2010 - Thank you to our Parishioners*

**Celebration of Catholic Schools Week begins with 9:30 AM Mass at OLV Church.** All OLVCS families are encouraged to attend and begin our week long celebration. We encourage all of our students, parents, teachers, coaches, and other supporters of OLVCS to wear something to Mass that displays our school – sweatshirt, jacket, football jersey, etc. Selected students will serve in a variety of ministries. These students should arrive at church no later than 9:00 AM and will sit in reserved pews. All other students should sit with their parents. Students participating in the Mass should wear their school "Mass" uniform. Immediately following Mass all parishioners and school families are invited to enjoy coffee and donuts at a **Reception at OLV School Auditorium** until 11:30 AM. The fifth grade students are hosting an **Information Fair** which includes information about our the variety of academic and extracurricular programs in all of our grades. The **Scholastic Book Fair** will be open on the stage. All are welcome. We have some surprises for you this year!

Monday, February 1, 2010 – “Show your School Spirit” Day

- Instead of your usual uniform shirt, get out your OLVCS Walk-a-thon t-shirts and wear them to school on Monday. You may need to wear them over a turtle neck or sweatshirt, but we will still look great. Let's all show our School Spirit!
- Reading Buddies – Our older students will visit with the younger students to read books.
- Fifth grade will visit Middle School to learn about what to expect next year.
- Students can enter the Name that Baby (faculty and staff) Contest.

Tuesday, February 2, 2010 – We Help Others

- Our Student Council students will once again sponsor a service project to benefit the Holy Childhood Association. Charms lollipops will be for sale during lunch on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday for 25 cents. Please send money with your child on these days if they would like to purchase the snack.
- Ultimate Indoor Recess – older students will play with younger students from 1 – 1:45 pm in the gym.

Wednesday, February 3, 2010 – Student Appreciation Day

- Students will be treated to a Dress Down Day. The theme is “Sport Jersey Day” or students are permitted to wear any casual clothes of their choice.
- Volleyball game – between 8<sup>th</sup> grade and the faculty/staff in the gym. K-7 will cheer on their favorite team. 1:15 – 2:00 pm.

Thursday, February 4, 2010 – Teacher and Staff Appreciation Day

- At 8 am all students will report to the gym for a brief prayer service. Students will form a procession and re-enter the school and walk through the hallways lighted with “luminaries” to show how their light shines through their journey from Kindergarten to Grade Eight.
- To show our teachers and staff how much we appreciate them, they will be treated to a lunch in the faculty room. Consider sending a note or card to your child's teacher and tell them how much you appreciate what they do.
- During the day, students will participate in Catholic Bingo. Prizes will be awarded.

Friday, February 5, 2010– Growing in Mind, Body and Spirit Day

- Our week's celebration concludes with our usual Friday School Mass at 9:00 AM. Our parents are invited to a “Coffee Break” after Mass. After coffee and a snack, we invite you to experience the quality and faith-filled instruction at our school. Bring a friend with you! Vocation Posters and other class work will be displayed in the hallways. This is also a great time to roam through the Middle School hallways for our parents of younger children not familiar with this part of the school.
- But, watch out! During the day's usual academics, we will interrupt our classes and invite our students to get out of their seats, stretch, jump, jog, and exercise several times during the day. You may get caught in a classroom and will need to join in!
- OLV Trivial Pursuit – 1:15 – 2:00 pm – students representing each classroom will participate in a trivial pursuit contest.
- In the evening, please attend our Annual Family Fun Night sponsored by the OLV – PTG from 6 – 8 pm in the gym. As usual, be prepared for lots of pizza, bingo and fun.