

**SOAR WITH THE SPIRIT!**  
**Our Lady of Victory Catholic School - Weekly Update –February 3, 2010**



*As we observe Catholic Schools Week, Mr. Terry Stec, chairperson of the School Council would like to share with you some reasons for celebrating Our Lady of Victory Catholic School. Many positive and wonderful things happen everyday at OLVCS, but Mr. Stec wanted to highlight some of the new accomplishments by our School Council, PTG, faculty, staff and parents.*

*Dear Parents,*

*As your School Council Chairperson, it has been an honor and a privilege to be associated with such a dedicated and committed group of parents, faculty, staff, volunteers and all of the people who make Catholic School a reality for our faith community. Looking back over the past year, we have many things of which to be proud.*

- 1. Msgr. Lockard initiated the formation of a "Spiritual Life Committee" that assists the staff with the mission of providing a great Catholic Education.*
- 2. Through the efforts of the School Building and Grounds committee, improvements have been made to both the infrastructure and aesthetics of the building. We are truly blessed to have one of the best looking school campuses in the county. Thanks to Bernie Harlow, her committee, and recent incredibly generous class gifts – the new sign and statue at the front entrance.*
- 3. After three years, the OLVCS Walk-a-thon has raised nearly \$90,000. A simple idea has expanded into an exciting annual event. Many thanks to School Council and PTG for sponsoring this event.*
- 4. We have experienced a positive enrollment growth in our Kindergarten over the past few years and most fifth grade students enroll in our Middle School.*
- 5. There have been increased marketing and public relations efforts through members of the School Council, office staff and PSU marketing interns, who have done a great job in getting the 'word' out about our school and reaching out to the community.*
- 6. The "Second Century Fund" provided tuition assistance to 23 students this year. Next year the funding is expected to increase.*
- 7. We have a new and improved website – [www.olvcatholicsschool.org](http://www.olvcatholicsschool.org) .*
- 8. Thanks to the encouragement of Father Matt, the middle school students will have an opportunity to participate in the spring Forensics competition in Altoona.*
- 9. Our new LOGO is everywhere! We even put it on a rug in our entry way to embellish our new “waiting area” furniture.*
- 10. And last but not least, is a relatively new program – The Our Lady’s Scholarship Fund – which is designed to encourage parishioners and former OLVCS families to make donations to help our current families with the tuition.*

*These are just a few of the highlights and I apologize if I forgot to mention something that is near and dear to your heart.*

*Also let us not forget the dedicated and well qualified faculty and staff, who do what they do not because of the "money" but because of love. Love of God, love of children, love of family. Remember to thank a teacher or staff member the next time you see one, it means a lot to them.*

*Last but not least, thank you to Msgr. Lockard for his continued support of the school and our families, and for his guidance that he provides to the School Council.*

*Thanks to God for his continued blessing upon our school!*

*God Bless,*

*Terry Stec*

Weekly Announcements:

**CAMP ZACCHAEUS 2010** Camp "Z" is a week-long summer camp for youth grades 4-9. Campers experience a week of lively Liturgies, inspirational music, prayer experiences, evangelization sessions, campfires, games, skits, a live concert and lots more! Scholarship money is available to eligible applicants. For more information or to receive a brochure, contact Francine Swope in the Youth Ministry Office at (814)693-1401.

**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!!

**COUNSELORS' CORNER UPDATE - WELCOME FEBRUARY!** - This month's Friendship Circle theme will focus on Kindness. The month of February is noted for celebrating Valentine's Day. Each student will be encouraged to show their kindness to friends, family and teachers.

**Annual Scholastic Book Fair** – If you missed the annual OLV Book Fair earlier this week, don't worry, you still have a chance to do some shopping. The fair is open....

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 ??)

**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>

**Upcoming events:**

Friday, February 5 – School Mass @ 9 am sponsored by all grades

Friday, February 5 – Family Fun Night 6 – 8 pm in the gym

Friday, February 12 – Parent Teacher Conferences