CCD Family Newsletter
November 4, 2026 - November 11, 2026

Our Next OLS Family Mass

Sunday, November 8th

10:00 am

Our next 10:00 am Family Mass with Coffee and Donuts is this Sunday, November 8th. Please email Colleen McDonald at cmcdonald@olschurch.com if your child would like to participate in a special way during the Mass. (We have some great lectors in training, btw. There is a waiting list for the kids to read the gospel during our Opening Service at CCD!)

If you would like to be a part of the team who helps set up and break down Coffee and Donuts on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month, please reach out to Palma Anton at panton@olschurch.com.

The Month of November:

Dedicated to the Holy Souls

November holds a special place in the Catholic Church as a month dedicated to remembering the faithful departed and praying for the souls in Purgatory. We begin the month celebrating All Saints' Day (November 1st), honoring all those who have entered into the joy of heaven, followed by All Souls' Day (November 2nd), when we remember and pray for those who have died.

As Catholics, we believe that our prayers can help the souls in Purgatory as they undergo purification in preparation for entering God's heavenly kingdom. Throughout November, we are especially encouraged to pray for our deceased family members, friends, and all those who have no one to pray for them. We can offer Mass intentions, pray the Rosary, visit a cemetery, or simply take a quiet moment to remember a loved one and ask God to welcome them into His eternal embrace.

November reminds us that death is not the end of our story. Through Christ, we share in the hope of eternal life, and we remain connected to those who have gone before us through the beautiful communion of saints. Our love does not end when someone's life on earth does, and neither should our prayers!

3-Minute Video on the Teachings of Purgatory

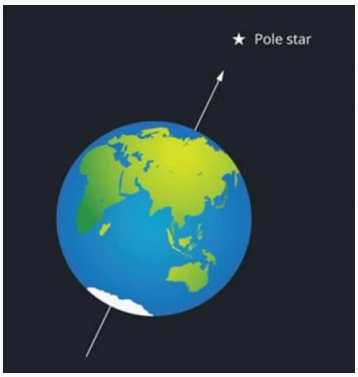
November CCD Schedule

Monday

November 9th - Chapter 6
November 16th - Chapter 7
November 23rd - Chapter 8
November 30th - Chapter 9

Tuesday

November 10th - Chapter 6
November 17th - Chapter 7
November 24th - NO CCD (Thanksgiving Holiday)



Gospel Reflection Sticker

Each day when students enter CCD they receive a sticker relating to our opening service for Sunday's Gospel. **Please ask your kids to see if they can remember why they received a sticker with "X" on it.**

This week the kids received a sticker with an image of Polaris, the "North Star", on it. We talked about how important to navigation the North Star has been throughout history and how if you could find Polaris, you could tell which direction you were moving in. The Saints, whom we celebrated on Sunday on All Saints Day, are like our North Star and when we look to them as examples we can stay on the right track that leads toward heaven.

Homeschooling Connection

This Week's Assigned Chapter: 7

Just a reminder that your child's regular participation in the homeschooling program, which is tracked through the submission of online chapter reviews located in our Google Classroom classes, is necessary for the timely reception of the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and Eucharist and in order to maintain eligibility on OLS School sports teams.

OLS CCD Fall Food Drive

This is our final week of our Fall Food Drive to benefit the OLS Food Pantry. If your family is able, please send in new, unopened containers of the following spices (though others are always welcome as well):

- Cinnamon
- Cumin
- Garlic Powder
- Paprika
- Pepper

Thanks for your participation - we're off to a great start!

Dear CCD Families,

On behalf of the Home and School Association of Our Lady of Sorrows School, we are writing to invite you to join us for our annual Tricky Tray Fundraiser on Saturday, November 14th at 6PM, held at the OLS gymnasium.

The Tricky Tray is one of our favorite community evenings: a night of friendship, fun, and trying your luck on a wide range of baskets and prizes. Proceeds directly support our students and school programs.

Our school and our CCD program share one parish, one faith, and one family, and we would be honored to celebrate that together.

There are two ways you can help:

Buy tickets and join us! Tickets are available now! Please visit our website HERE to purchase.

Donate to the prize fund. We welcome new items, gift cards, or a monetary donation toward prizes.

- Please fill out this FORM to donate an item or a gift card by October 30th.
- You can contribute any amount to our prize fund on our website HERE.

Every donation and every ticket makes a difference, and your support means a great deal to our community. Thank you for your generosity, and we hope to see you there!

Last Call for OLS Crusaders Basketball

November 16th. Games begin the weekend of December 5th. schools/programs. Practices start as early as 10-12 regular season games / playoffs in March. Games are played on select weeknights and weekends. Away games are played at neighboring CYO schools or programs. Practices are located at the OLS GYM. There are 1-2 practices a week (schedule dependent on coaches). The season runs from early November to middle of March

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

CLICK HERE TO PAY REGISTRATION FEES ONLINE

Grades K-2: Registration fee is $30
Grades 3-8: Registration fee is $207

SAINT / FEAST OF THE WEEK

St. Charles Borromeo

Feast Day: November 4th

Patron of: Catechists, Catechumens, Seminarians
Attributes in Art: Cardinal's vestments, rope around the neck, barefoot

November 4th is the feast day of St. Charles Borromeo, a man who reminds us that true greatness isn't measured by wealth, status, or power, but by how generously we serve others.

Born in 1538 into a wealthy Italian family, Charles seemed destined for a comfortable life. His uncle became Pope Pius IV and appointed Charles a cardinal at just 22 years old. Although he enjoyed the privileges that came with his family's influence, Charles felt called to something much greater: serving God and His people. After the death of his older brother, Charles experienced a deepening of his faith and committed himself more fully to a life of prayer and service.

As Archbishop of Milan, Charles worked tirelessly to reform the Church, improve the education and formation of priests, and make sure that people received the spiritual guidance they needed. But his faith was not limited to church business. During a devastating famine, he organized food distribution for the hungry, and when the plague struck Milan in 1576, he remained with the people, personally helping care for the sick and providing food and comfort to those in need. He even sold some of his own possessions to help support the suffering.

Charles could have used his position to enjoy a life of privilege, but instead, he used his influence and resources to make life better for others. He understood that being a follower of Christ meant putting faith into action. He was canonized in 1610 and is remembered as a model of generosity, leadership, and selfless service.

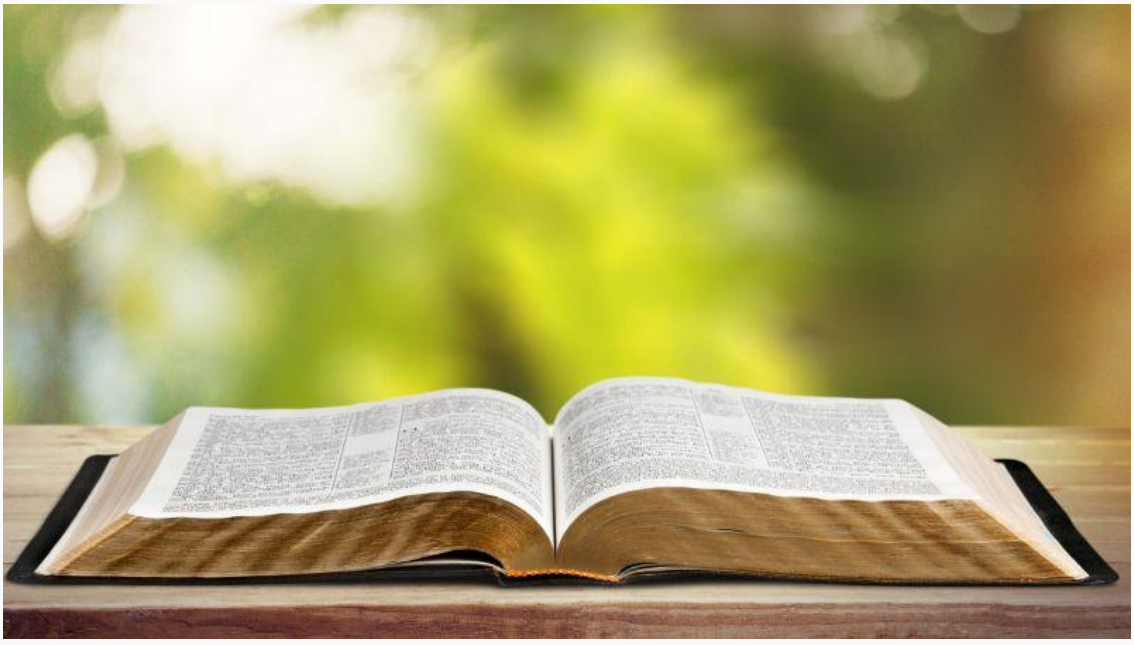
St. Charles teaches us that we don't have to be wealthy, powerful, or particularly important to make a difference in someone's life. We simply need to be willing to put our faith into action. Families can follow his example in some very practical ways:

- **Put others before ourselves.** Whether it's sharing a favorite toy, letting a sibling choose the family movie, or helping with a household chore without being asked, small acts of generosity show love in action.
- **Notice those who need help.** Charles didn't turn away from people who were hungry, sick, or struggling. Encourage children to notice classmates who feel left out, neighbors who may need a helping hand, or family members who could use a little extra kindness.

- **Use our gifts to serve others.** We all have something to share, whether it's our time, talents, resources, or simply a listening ear. Ask children how they might use their own special gifts to help someone else.
- **Let our actions reflect our faith.** Going to Mass and saying our prayers are important, but Charles reminds us that living our faith means carrying Christ's love into the world through the way we treat others.

A Family Challenge: This week, take a page from St. Charles Borromeo's playbook and find one way to serve someone outside your immediate family. Donate food to someone in need, visit someone who is lonely, help a neighbor, or simply take the time to make someone feel noticed and appreciated. Then talk about how that small act of kindness made a difference.

St. Charles reminds us that we don't have to wait for a special occasion or a grand opportunity to do God's work. Sometimes the holiest thing we can do is simply recognize someone's need and respond with love. After all, as Jesus teaches us, "*Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me*" (Matthew 25:40).



In the Liturgy of the Word, the Church feeds the people of God from the table of his Word. Previewing the readings before Mass is then a bit like looking over the menu before you get to a restaurant: you have a better idea of what you can expect so that you can enter into the experience more fully prepared. And like a good discussion during a meal, discussing the readings and how they can be applied to your family's daily life helps your family to truly go out and proclaim the gospel after leaving the church.

Here are a few resources to help your family delve deeper into the Liturgy of the Word this week:

USCCB: Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Loyola Press: Sunday Connection
Sadlier: This Week's Liturgy
MaryKnoll Brothers Reflection: You Can't Borrow Oil at Midnight

Mark 10 Mission Little Liturgies

This coming Sunday, we hear Jesus share the Parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins… or, as the Mark 10 Mission is calling it, the Parable of the Ten Bridesmaids!

This can be a tricky gospel to unpack. On the face of it, Jesus might seem quite harsh, closing the door on five bridesmaids who have made a mistake! But, as with so many of his parables, there is a beautiful invitation here to love Jesus, stay close to him and live our lives ready to meet him. Watch with your kids for a better understanding of this gospel.

Are You Ready for Jesus? (Little Liturgy for Kids 7 and Under)
Keep Your Lamp Burning (Little Liturgy for Kids 8 and Up)

Pflaum Gospel Weeklies
FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM

Family companion

Hearts of Thanksgiving

November 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 All Saints' Day **READ:** *About a saint. Ask them to pray for you.*	**2** All Souls' Day **PRAY:** *For all who have died ("To bury the dead").*	**3** Saint Martin de Porres **DO:** *Write a list of three things you are thankful for.*	**4** Saint Charles Borromeo **READ:** *Psalm 100:4. Enter his gates with thanksgiving.*	**5** **DO:** *Donate gently used clothes ("To clothe the naked").*	**6** **PLAY:** *Unscramble:* TINSA.	**7** **ACTIVITY:** *Help cook a meal or a snack for your family.*
8 **READ:** *Matthew 25:1-13. Be ready for Jesus!*	**9** The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica **DO:** *Give a hug to someone in your family.*	**10** Saint Leo the Great **PRAY:** *Jesus, thank you for my home and my bed.*	**11** Saint Martin of Tours; Veterans Day **PRAY:** *For those who served our country.*	**12** Saint Josaphat **READ:** *1 Thessalonians 5:18. Give thanks in all circumstances.*	**13** Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini **DO:** *Sit with someone new at lunch or play with someone new.*	**14** **PLAY:** *Unscramble:* SNHAKT.
15 **READ:** *Matthew 25:14-30. Use your talents for God.*	**16** Saint Margaret of Scotland; Saint Gertrude **ACTIVITY:** *Draw a turkey using your handprint. Write a blessing on each finger.*	**17** Saint Elizabeth of Hungary **PRAY:** *For those who have no family to celebrate with.*	**18** The Dedication of the Basilicas of Saints Peter and Paul; Saint Rose Philippine Duchesne **DO:** *Feed your pet or help feed the birds outside.*	**19** **READ:** *Colossians 3:15. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.*	**20** **DO:** *Tell your parent or grandparent "I love you."*	**21** The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary **PRAY:** *For the homeless ("To shelter the homeless").*
22 Christ the King *Jesus is the King of the Universe!*	**23** Saint Clement I; Saint Columban; Bl. Miguel Agustín Pro **DO:** *Clean up a mess you didn't make.*	**24** Saint Andrew Dũng-Lạc and Companions **READ:** *Psalm 107:1. His love endures forever.*	**25** Saint Catherine of Alexandria **ACTIVITY:** *Help set the table for Thanksgiving.*	**26** Thanksgiving Day **PRAY:** *Say a special grace before eating.*	**27** **DO:** *Thank someone who prepared a meal for you.*	**28** **PRAY:** *Thank you God for full tummies.*
29 First Sunday of Advent **DO:** *Light the first purple candle (Hope).*	**30** Saint Andrew **READ:** *Isaiah 9:2. The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.*	**THEME:** *Gratitude and remembering the saints*				

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Unscramble Answers: 11/6: Saint, 11/14: Thanks

Download the November Calendar

Catholic Trivia

Question: How can you pray for the beloved dead from our parish?

A) Attend the upcoming Mass of Remembrance
B) Record your deceased loved ones' names in our Book of Remembrance
C) Request a Mass intention for your deceased relatives and friends through the parish office
D) Light a votive candle in remembrance of your dearly departed in the back of the church

Answer:

Trick question because the answer is all of the above. You are invited to join the parish at the Mass of Remembrance this Saturday when Mass will be offered in memory of the 24 departed family members and friends who had their funeral Masses here at OLS in the past year. You can list your own deceased love ones' names in our Book of Remembrance located by the baptismal font. You can also request a Mass intention online or in person at the parish office. And it's easy to light a candle and say a prayer for any intention at the back of the church whenever the church building is open (usually until 4:30 or so during the week.)

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace.
Amen.

Joke of the Week

Knock Knock.
Who's there.
Omar.
Omar who?
Omar gosh, it's November already!

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Our Lady of Sorrows Website