



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF OUR LADY ACADEMY

"How quietly the great God does all His mighty works."

--Catherine McAuley

Thank you students, parents, teachers, and staff on another wonderfully successful year! We couldn't have done it without your help!

Class of 2011: At the conclusion of the 2010-2011 school year, we would like to again congratulate the Our Lady Academy Class of 2011. One hundred percent of this year's graduating class has been offered college scholarships and grants totaling \$2,972,120! This class was outstanding in academics, generous in service, and committed in athletics. They led the school with love. We will miss them.

Graduation Awards: The graduation ceremony was held on Saturday, May 28 at Our Lady of the Gulf Church. With musical accompaniment by OLA teacher Joy Mehrtens, the class of 2011 processed in white graduation robes, each carrying a single red rose. Members of the National Honor Society wore blue stoles. The Baccalaureate Mass was celebrated by Bishop Morin and our parish priests. Senior Sarah Jackson sang a beautiful rendition of Ave Maria after communion. Following the liturgy, the salutarian, Whitney St. Mary, and the valedictorian, Hannah Wikoff, spoke, and the thirty-seven members of the Class of 2011 were presented with Our Lady Academy diplomas. The following seniors were recognized with special

awards after diplomas were conferred:

- Chamber of Commerce Award—
Whitney St. Mary
- Achievement Award—
Sherri Airhart
- American Legion Award—
Denise Powell
- Spirit of Mercy Award—
Erin Gibson
- Principal's Cup—
Hannah Wikoff
- Mary Patricia Schmidt Character
Cup—Virginia Comer

Mothers and students of the class of 2012 hosted a reception in honor of the graduates in the OLG community center after the ceremony. Our heartfelt thanks go to Nancy Artigues who coordinated the event.

Eighth Grade Promotion: Congratulations to the Our Lady Academy Class of 2011. The girls were presented with promotion certificates at a ceremony in Our Lady of the Gulf Church on Friday, May 27. Three girls, Isabella Cottone, Megan Krynen, and Lauren Lawhead, were presented with certificates and a letter from the President as recipients of the President's Education Award. Bill Taylor of American Legion Post 139 presented Brittany Corder with the American Legion Award. A reception for the girls and their guests was held after the ceremony in the OLA Commons. Many thanks to Dena

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Somerhalder and the 7th grade parents for preparing and coordinating the reception.

Uniform Policy for 2011-2012:

Uniform items may be purchased from In-Style School and Career Apparel (228.452.7407) In-Style is hosting an Early Bird Uniform Sale with discounts and layaway available. Used uniform items may also be purchased at a discount price at OLA during normal summer hours. The following changes to the uniform policy will be implemented next year:

- **Navy Blue Wool Blazers** will be added as optional outer wear. Students may continue to wear uniform sweaters and sweatshirts. No other outerwear jackets may be worn to school
- **Shorts** will no longer be allowed.
- **Tights:** only solid grey or white tights may be worn.
- **Scarves:** only OLA scarves may be worn as part of the outerwear attire. (sold only at final registration)

Reading List: Reading is an integral component of the education experience and helps to enhance reading and comprehension skills. Please be sure students purchase and read their required books (summer reading list enclosed with this mailing) prior to the start of school. The summer reading list is also available on the OLA website.

**Bay Books on Main Street in Bay Saint Louis is offering a 10% discount on all required summer reading books.

Close-Up Washington: Ms. Deano is hoping to take a group of our enthusiastic girls to Washington to view and

experience democracy in action. The cost of the trip is \$1629. A \$300 deposit will be due before Labor Day. For more information, contact Elise Deano at 228.209.1504 or elise9097@cableone.net.

Bus Service: Bus service from Gulfport, Long Beach, Pass Christian, Diamondhead, and Picayune will be offered for the coming year. If you are interested in participating, please contact Sr. Jackie during summer hours.

Bus Driver Needed: If you are interested in driving the OLA school bus route (Gulfport-Long Beach-Pass Christian), please contact Sr. Jackie.

Our Lady Academy Summer Hours:

June 1-30: 9:00-2:00 Monday through Thursday

July 1-17 Office will be closed

July 18-29: 9:00-2:00 Monday through Friday

School will resume on Monday, August 8

Have a Safe and Fun
filled summer, God Bless
and we look forward to
next year.