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THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF OUR LADY ACADEMY

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*"Be ever ready to praise, to encourage, to stimulate, but slow to censure, and still more slow to condemn."*

*--Catherine McAuley*

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**Theme for the year:** Our theme for the year, "Wonders of the Sea, Wonders by the Sea" was celebrated by the student body at the opening of the year prayer service. Students and faculty were challenged to recognize their own unique characteristics and to cherish their place in God's creation.

**Retreat Schedule:** *"The Saints, who know the value of spiritual exercises, considered a retreat as one of the most special graces in the treasury of God; and many of them now in glory...owe their state of bliss to a well made retreat."* - Catherine McAuley

Each class at OLA leaves the campus for time away to be on retreat. All of the retreats offer time for the students to get to know themselves in a more meaningful way, to learn more about each other and to gain a deeper relationship with God. The scheduled retreat dates for the 2010-2011 year are

- 7th Grade—September 30
- 8th Grade—December 2
- 9th Grade—February 18
- 10th Grade—April 12
- 11th Grade—January 27-28
- 12th Grade—October 28-29

**Registration Packets:** If you have not already signed and returned the handbook form, the internet form, and the student directory form, please do so as soon as possible. Participation in the student directory is optional, but we must have forms for all those who chose to participate by Tuesday, September 7.

**PowerSchool:** The teachers have started entering assignments and grades into the PowerSchool information system. Information on how to access the system was included in the packet you received at registration. If you do not have your password and login, our receptionist, Mrs. Kren (x10) can look it up for you.

**Progress Reports:** Progress Reports will be mailed Wednesday, September 1 to the parents of those students who have Ds or Fs in classes.

**Booster Club Raffle:** Tickets for the annual booster club raffle are due October 1. Please have tickets and money turned in to the office or Coach Elias before the deadline. If you do not wish to sell the tickets, please send the athletic fee of \$150.00 to the office by October 1.

**Development News:**

• Hooray for OLA honoring the Martinolich family is scheduled for Saturday, November 6. Dr. and Mrs. Andrew Martinolich sent six daughters to Our Lady Academy, and two of those daughters, Julie Martinolich Cranford (OLA '77) and Nancy Martinolich Hoelzel (OLA '80) are current OLA teachers. For ticket information or further details, please call Mrs. Gleber at 467-7048 x 16.

- The lock-in for 6th grade girls who are considering Our Lady Academy is set for Friday, December 3. The sixth graders from Holy Trinity, St. Vincent de Paul, and Coast Episcopal automatically receive invitations.

However, if you know a sixth grade girl at another school who would be a good candidate for OLA, please call Mrs. Gleber at extension 16 with her name and address.

**Big Sister / Little Sister Ceremony:** In keeping with Our Lady Academy tradition, the members of the class of 2011 will adopt little sisters from the class of 2014. The ceremony will take place on Friday, September 10 at 2:30 in OLG church.

**Mercy Day:** The Sisters of Mercy of the Americas (including Sister Jackie and Sister Elisa), number over 5000 Sisters. Their ministries are characterized by respect, compassion, hospitality, service, and excellence. This year, on September 24 Our Lady Academy will pause to recognize the Sisters of Mercy for their devotion and service to the school. Please consider joining us for a Prayer Service followed by a family picnic beginning at 9:55 in OLG church. There will also be a formal tea in the afternoon. If you would like to volunteer to help with the tea, please call the school.

**Guidance News:**

- Regular registration for the October 9 SAT (administered at SSC) ends September 10.
- All OLA sophomores and juniors will take the PSAT (administered during school hours) on October 13. Mrs. Emmel will provide more details to the students as the date approaches.
- Regular registration for the October 23 ACT (administered at SSC) ends September 17.
- During the year, colleges send representatives to our campus to meet with students and to answer questions. Please encourage your junior

and senior daughters to visit with these representatives during lunch—time and place are announced at school.

**Boogie on the Beach:** Please come out and support St. Vincent de Paul, one of our local Catholic elementary schools!! Event will be at 7:30 PM, Saturday, Sept. 25 at the Conwill Family Home in Pass Christian. Music by *The Sarah Boddie Band* and by *Barbara and Company*. Tickets are \$75 per person in advance, \$85 per person at the door. All tickets include food, beverages and entertainment. Patron Tickets, Corp Sponsorships, and all event details are available at [boogieonthebeach.org](http://boogieonthebeach.org) or call (228) 596-8177.

**Catholic Schools License Plate:** Have you considered showing your support of Catholic Schools by purchasing a Catholic Education License Plate? The special plate costs \$31. Just fill out the information on the enclosed flyer. You can purchase the Catholic Education plate at any time—you don't have to wait till your current plate expires.

**Life Teen at St. Thomas:** St. Thomas Parish has a new Youth Minister, Luke McClure. On Sunday, August 29 at 5:00 p.m., there will be a Life Teen Kick-Off Mass and Concert at the Long Beach Recreation and Senior Citizen Activity Center on Daugherty Road. There will be food, fun, prizes and great speakers. All teens are welcome to Life Teen Youth Mass, usually on Sunday evenings at 6:00 at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, followed by Life Night in the Youth Room.

**Host Families:** I have had several inquiries about local host families for foreign exchange students who would be students at OLA. If you would be interested in finding out more about the program, please call the school, and we will put you in touch with the program director.