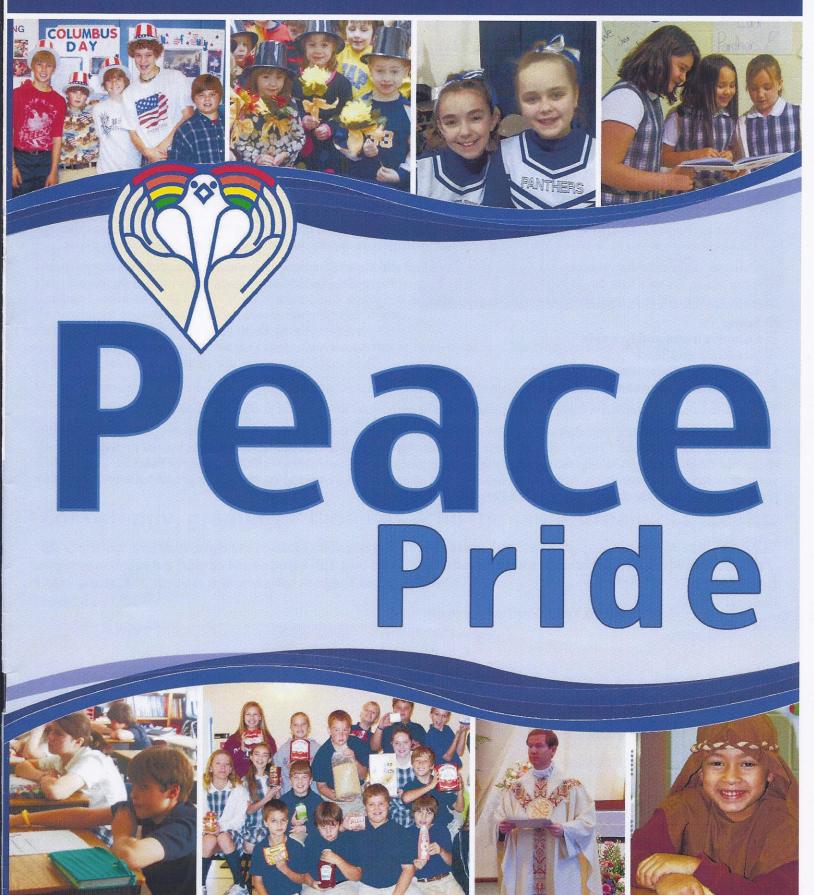
Spring**2011** 



Newsletter for Alumni, Families, & Friends

### Message from the Principal



Dear Alumni,

Almost fifty years ago Father Robert Lee, the Marist sisters and a number of founding families responded to the growing needs of people living and moving to the hilltop area. In their own respective roles they desired to meet the need for Catholic education for the children. From the very beginning Our Lady of Peace held children close to their heart to teach them the gospel message and to educate them in the most qualified manner possible. In June 2012 Our Lady of Peace will celebrate its fiftieth anniversary of this commitment and dedication.

In anticipation of this occasion our school publishes its first alumni magazine. It is this principal's hope the periodical will bring memories of the past, hopes with the present and dreams for the future. It is hard to imagine that next year I will have served as principal for just over half of the school's life. As I share with so many, Our Lady of Peace is a special place to be.

Undoubtedly, the passion for living the faith and desiring the best that motivated the beginning People of Peace now runs through the life blood of these new generations of students, families, parishioners, faculty and our pastor, Father Dennis Schuelkens.

New chapter pages reflect continuing, outstanding academic and athletic achievement, community and social building programs with the strong ties of a faith family. The mission of Our Lady of Peace remains the cornerstone. Each week at the school mass students are engaged in being a member of the **People of Peace**.

P Prayer

E Encouragement and Example

A Academic excellence

C Community, Commitment, Covenant

E Esteem for ourselves and others

The passion to educate and form these students, then and now, permeates every aspect and sector of our parish school.

Thankfully, so many alumni, parishioners, families and community individuals have shared in our mission, passion and commitment to Our Lady of Peace. I invite you to share in these encompassed memories and news and then join us to design and celebrate our future. I ask you to respond through your prayer, passion and generosity to build Our Lady of Peace for the next fifty years and succeeding generations. As founding families built a home for you, I ask and encourage our graduates over the past fifty years to become the new change agents for the People of Peace.

Peace be with you, C'Ann Reilly

Principal

## Continue the Dream

Alumni are invited to be a part of Our Lady of Peace "Count-Up to Fifty" in 2012 and Continue the Dream.

Take that same dream sharing spririt of parents who bought the first school bus with Top Value stamps, turned four two-grade classrooms into ten classrooms, computer lab, office suite and Peace Family Center gym and cooking in a back hall to a full kitchen serving Hot Lunch daily.

#### Next building steps for Our Lady of Peace include:

Wireless Network and classroom laptops - Total cost \$15,000

Tuition Scholarships = Giving assistance to families who could use some TLC to provide a Catholic education to their children

Both of these areas are important in the advancement of Our Lady of Peace for the next fifty years.

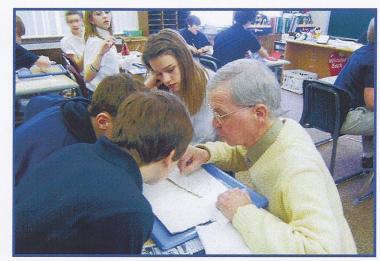
Share and Continue the Dream as Our Lady of Peace counts up to fifty years of educational excellence!

## Peace Be With You, Mr. Holly

#### **Principal's Note:**

After 37 years of sharing his teaching gifts with Our Lady of Peace, Mr. Holly is beginning a new phase in his life journey. For 25 of his teaching years it has been my privilege to witness Mr. Holly's teaching. He is a master.

In each person's reflection of their own school days, one recalls a teacher of influence upon one's life. In the life blood of Our Lady of Peace streams memories and recollections of Mr. Joseph Holly. Upon chance meetings with alumni, the first question placed to this principal is, "Is Mr. Holly still there?" followed by "I learned so much from him." One alumna recently contacted the school for registration of her children. She told this writer, "Tell Mr. Holly he can't retire until my children graduate!" Sev-



Joe Holly

eral alumni have related to me that they chose a teaching career in Math because of Mr. Holly. In school introductions in my capacity as principal, I often refer to him as our own "Mr. Chips."

Mr. Holly's persona springs from a deep spirituality. His personal faith and strong moral identity serve as models for our students. Reverence for God and faith traditions; respect for one's own self, family, and others; responsibility of the individual to the whole are intrinsic in his teachings and interactions with our students.

Mr. Holly is respected and appreciated by students, parents, colleagues and past and present administration. Mathematically he has shared 2,797,200 teachable moments of his life with Our Lady of Peace students. For his investment, our return is priceless! Peace will always be with you, Mr. Holly, and your presence will be with our students and families for a lifetime.

#### Consistently, graduates' thoughts echo the same stream of thought:

"His exciting and thorough ways of teaching are awesome. From his hair to his Snoopy ties and nice khaki pants, Mr. Holly is a wonderful teacher from head to toe."

"He makes you think and makes you use your mind to the fullest."

"He takes his teaching job seriously, not letting a minute go to waste and we were always late for lunch."

"He is a teacher I can't forget."



Sister Ephrem Kyne Teacher/Principal January 19, 2011

## In Memorium

The life of Our Lady of Peace Parish and School has been touched by the commitment and love of so many people through the years. In a heartfelt way we remember two most special individuals who served the school and parish in their respective roles:



Mr. Charles "Chic" Curran
Founding Member, Parent
An Inspiration
October 30, 2010

## A Look at the Past

As anniversaries are anticipated, minds tend to wander back to past years. Recently, Mrs. C'Ann Reilly, principal, sat with Grace Kolibash, OLP alumni parent of four children, to learn more about those beginning dreams and days of OLP. We are so pleased to share some of those recollections:

When plans were made to begin a school with the new parish, neighborhood parents gathered on the Niebergall's porch Upstairs two grade classrooms were turned around and used

to discuss transportation. (Grace adds that this was before the day of two car families.) They learned there was a second hand bus for sale. It was determined for everyone to "pool" their Top Value stamps and so they did and bought the first school bus with Top Value stamps. Mr. Herman Montgomery was the driver and two runs were made back and forth to Mozart and Bethlehem. Mr. Charlie Gantzer took care of the yellow bus.

John McAninch and Aileen Mansuetto, alumni parents, always cooked for special events in the little kitchenette at the end of the second floor hall.

for card parties, Christmas shows (yes, even back then) and dances. Tom and Ruth Palmer were great

Current Grade 2 classroom was the school library started by Pat Rine, Sister Joan Krenbull, Grace Kolibash and other mothers. Then and now, Book Fairs and Sales helped the library.

It is evident from these and other memories that the Peace pride, spirit and generosity of one's self have always been present within the heart and soul of this parish and school.



Grace Kolibash and C'Ann Reilly

## **Alumni** Updates

Mark Kemp '66 Active member of OLP Parish. Married to Donna with three daughters: Angela '93, Gretchen '94, and Sarah '99. Lori Wiethe Simon'72 Married to Mark, with two children, Avery '00, and Samantha '03. Works for Wheeling Hospital and is a member of OLP Parish.

Randy Weisner '73 Network Administrator for Reynolds Memorial Hospital in Glen Dale, WV.

Sharon Ritz Zelkowski '74 Married with three children and lives in

Lori Ann Palmer Clarridge '76 Married to Brian with two daughters, Brittney and Madison, and living near Columbus, OH.

Alexis Antonucci Smith '81 An attorney who practiced law for 16 years in Knoxville, TN before moving to Georgia last fall with husband, Scott.

Melanie Antonucci Chastain '83 Completed MBA in Business and Finance. Works for the County Clerk of Marion County in Indianapolis, IN as the Chief Financial Officer. Married to Roger with two daughters, Lauren and Brianna.

Steven Palmer '83 Living in Bellaire, OH and married to Denise with three children: Alicia, Brooke and Darren.

Michael Patrick, '83 BS Aerospace engineering, MS Mechanical Engineering, Works as engineer for Pratt & Whitney Engine Services in Bridgeport, WV. Married to Maria Folio and has three children: Ryan, Allison and Carter.

Sharon Hedinger Robb '86 Married to Brian, with four children, Haley '09, Chloe '11, Laurel '14, Ryland '21. Co-chairs Hot Lunch program for OLP School.

Joshua Wiethe '86 Married with a 4yr old daughter. Works for Ohio Dept of Health in Columbus, OH.

Angela Kemp Mowery, '93 Graduate of Marshall University. Taught elementary school before children were born. Married with two small

Jessica Hewitt Glenn '94 Currently teaching at Wheeling Catholic Elementary. Beginning with 2011-2012 Jessica will be the new Kindergarten teacher at OLP.

Maureen Thalman Kerr '94 Sixth grade teacher at OLP. Married to Steve with two children: Brady in OLP Preschool and Claire.

Amy Schneid Yester '94 OB-GYN at Magee Women's Hospital in Pittsburgh, PA. Married to Mark with two young children, Lily and William.

Tiffany Hoffman '95 Works at WesBanco Securities Inc in Wheeling as Executive Assistant/Life and Health Representative. Active member of OLP Parish.

Lisa Thompson Parr '96 Former 5th grade teacher at OLP, now teaches at St. Michael's in Wheeling. Married to Brent with two young sons, Grayson and Slaton.

Sarah Kemp '99 Program Director for USO in Khandahar, Afghani-

R. Brian Cain '02 BS Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering. Currently enrolled in masters program at WVU for Aerospace Engineering. O. J. Hays '02 Production Assistant for Mills-James Productions in Columbus, OH.



**David Oleska '64** I remember when JFK was assassinated and we were all sent home from school. Also, that every day the entire school would go outside and put up the flag and say the pledge of allegiance. Fr. Lee would make fried bananas for the altar boys.

**Valerie Jafrate Pickett '65** With an Irish Pastor and four Irish nuns teaching, St. Patrick's Day was a big deal. Each year we had a big show with Irish singing and dancing. The girls had to learn all the dances from a 2 Hand Reel, all the way up to a 16 Hand Reel.

Mark Kemp '66 I remember when the nuns played soccer (hurley) with us. They would hitch up their skirts with safety pins and nobody could stop them on the field.

**Randy Weisner '73** The one thing I remember best is Father Lee teaching us and playing soccer with us at the soccer field (the present day parking lot of the Peace Center).

Karen Prezkop Klamut '85 Being the first girl altar server at OLP!

**Nichole Kudlak Perani '91** One of my favorite memories of Our Lady of Peace was Father Raymond. He always seemed happy and upbeat, and was a great priest and a joy to be around.

Amy Schneid Yester '94 Playing red rover in the field. Hot dog lunches outside in the field.

**Nicole Schneid '97** When I made the winning shot in our basketball game at the buzzer and bested undefeated St. Mary, Martins Ferry. My dad, who was our coach, ran on the court and picked me up. Also our grade 8 class trip to Niagara Falls.

# Memories

**Heather Schneid '00** Jubilee 2000 – Spring Show (showtunes in the church)

Maria, Sophia and Gabriela Greco '04 Our 8th grade class was the best ever!

**Aaron Schneid '07** All of 8th grade year! Especially receiving the Golden Horseshoe Award.

**Addie Schneid '08** Dancing to "Singing in the Rain" with my friend Sarah at the Valentine Dinner Dance.

**Megan Rush '09** My favorite memory was making it to the National Spelling Bee in Washington DC.

**Katie Scott '09** My favorite part of Our Lady of Peace was the great teachers. They really prepare you well. I owe it to them for the success of my freshman and sophomore years.

**Delaney Denniston '10** My favorite memory was when we all dressed up as Mr. Holly for the Walk-a-thon.

**Austin Evans '10** The 8th grade trip to Philadelphia, all the dances and graduation – these were all so much fun! Plus many more.

**Natalie Marquart '10** My favorite memory from OLP was definitely "The Unicorn Song."

For Veteran's Day 2011, Our Lady of Peace School would like to honor our alumni who have served in the military. Please send information/photos to info@ olpschool.org. We plan to include this information in the Fall 2011 issue of our alumni magazine.

As always, please feel free to send photos, memories and life updates to be included in a future issue of our magazine. You may mail these or send to info@ olpschool.org

## **Awards**

Our parish and school are most proud of the continuing success and achievement of our students in the community. Congratulations are extended to them and their families. Their performance reflects the commitment and work of not only them but our entire school community.

#### **ACADEMICS**

#### **Marshall County Math Day**

Adam Jarrett - Alternate County Team Coleton Berletch - First Place

Ryan Bartsch - Second Place

C.J. Hores - First Place

Ten (10) Superior Ribbons were awarded to the Our Lady of Peace Math Team members

#### **Diocesan Social Studies Fair**

Zach Hamric - First Place

Rhett Schodzinski - Second Place

Noah Ilovar - Third Place

Four (4) Superior Ratings were given to Our Lady of Peace Winners

#### West Liberty Science Fair

Coleton Berletch - First Place in Medicine & Health Division Andrew Rush - Third Place in Behavioral Science Division

#### **Diocesan Science Fair**

Andrew Rush - First Place

Five (5) Superior Ratings were given to Our Lady of Peace Winners

#### Mt. Olivet Lions Essay Winners

Gavin Saldivar - Grade 8 Bailey Filben - Grade 7

#### **Regional Social Studies Fair**

Zach Hamric - First Place

Noah Ilovar - Honorable Mention

#### **Knights of the Golden Horseshoe**

C. J. Hores

Devon Kalo

#### State Social Studies Fair

Zach Hamric - Honorable Mention

#### **National Geography Bee Qualifier**

Cara Martin

#### **Aguinas Medal Award**

Adler Roth

#### **ATHLETICS**

#### Our Lady of Peace Grade 5/6 Boys' Basketball White Team:

WPL Undefeated Season Champions & Tournament Runner-Up

### Our Lady of Peace Grade 7/8 Boys' Basketball Blue Team: WPL Third Place Season and Third Place Tournament



# Making a Difference

The year was 1999 and the whole school was gathered in the gym for a big assembly. The occasion? The closing of the all important "time capsule" for Y2K—the year 2000. This incredible silver time capsule would hold a symbol that was thoughtfully chosen by each class at OLP, a piece of history if you will, and it would not be reopened again until 2010. It was a very big day to say the least.

I have to admit that I do not remember what token my class offered that day, but I will never forget the dreams for the future that this day incited more that 10 years ago. Sitting in a circle at recess with several of the girls from my 7<sup>th</sup> grade class, we tried to imagine what life would be like in 10 whole years. What

would we look like? What would we be doing? Where would we live? What if we never saw each other again? Scary thoughts of uncertainty were offered up along with girlish fantasies of our future husbands and families and dreams of being singers and actresses, traveling the world and writing about it. But then again, ten years was so far away, wasn't it? My mind reeled with the possibilities.

But oh how time flies. Life picked us all up and threw us all down a few times since then, but here we are. And here I am...living in the bush (rural Africa) among the native Acholi

people of northern Uganda. I teach business development to young war-affected women in the hopes that when they go back to their home villages, they will be able to start small businesses and provide a better future for themselves and their children. Needless to say, this is not what 13-year-old me imagined I would be doing. Growing up in Wheeling, I didn't know many people who did this sort of thing, especially not any women. Now that I am here, I see that there are many young women doing similar work in some of the most dangerous parts of the world. It makes me proud to be in the company of such brave women, and it makes me even more proud because I've known some of those young women for as long as I can remember.

A fellow OLP alumnus of the class of 1999, Sarah Kemp, is serving those in the military as Program Manager with the USO in Khandahar, Afghanistan. Jessie Blackwell, OLP alumnus of the class of 2001, is no stranger to world travel having studied

#### **Class of 1999**

The following article was written by Natalie Committee



**Natalie Committee** 

in universities in Ireland and Hong Kong. When she is not traveling and doing international service work, she works in entertainment with Disney in Orlando, Florida. I was honored to have both of these brave, intelligent women join me in my work in Uganda.



Jessie Blackwell, Natalie Committee, and Sarah Kemp

Together we overcame the struggles of speaking Acholi, living in a mud hut and managing various projects for a Christian nonprofit organization called ChildVoice International. At the end of the day as we sat in a circle in our shared hut, we reminisced about our days at OLP and Wheeling Central, everything from hot lunches and school plays to Mr. Holly's jokes and Mrs. Milam's songs. Struck by a sudden desire to watch *Anne of Green Gables* (a Milam classic), we launched into a 15 minute debate – was Anne from Canada or the U.S.?

Funny memories aside, we knew that we would not be where we were today if it had not been for the firm foundations of faith, constant love and excellent education we received from an early age at OLP. We reflected on the sacrifices our parents and teachers had made along the way to see that these things happened, and realized how blessed we are simply to be American women in this time, when the possibilities really are endless.

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future" (Jeremiah 29:11). From a young age we all attempt to plan our futures, yet it is comforting to know that God has a plan for us that is always better than what we could have ever imagined for ourselves. I believe God never presents us with these tasks without first preparing us for the journey, and I am grateful for the positive influences on the journey which have led me here.

This spring, as a collective service project, OLP Parish and School sent 10 boxes of collected DVDs, art and first aid supplies and medicine to Natalie in Uganda.



Signed\_

Our Lady of Peace School 640 Old Fairmont Pike Wheeling, WV 26003

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My business/company/place of employment will make a contribution or matching contribution of \$ for Continuing the Dream Fund  Please make check payable to OLP Development Fund. Your prompt returned response will be appreciated as it will enable us to cite your contributions in our grant requests.