

Presentation Press

FALL 2018



Celebrating our
FAITH
Continuing our
VISION
*A Campaign for
Our Lady of the Presentation*

This time of year is filled with an abundance of energy and activity as our various ministries and groups are in full swing. We are blessed to be part of a community that is thriving and growing. Presentation has a rich history, with roots that date back to 1885, and owes its beginnings to a few committed families wanting to live their Catholic faith. From those humble beginnings, Presentation has grown to be one of the largest parishes in our diocese.

With a commitment to continue living and sharing our Catholic faith, **NOW IS OUR TIME** to make a significant impact on the story of our parish by addressing needed projects that will help us better serve the daily and weekly life of our faith community. While recognizing our many blessings, we also need to take seriously our responsibility to meet the demands of our growing parish.

A few weeks ago we officially began our parish campaign, ***Celebrating our Faith – Continuing our Vision!*** This campaign has been in the works for several years and gives us the opportunity to strengthen and build our community. You have already received the campaign booklet that outlines our goals to create a large gathering space with better flow and accessibility, increase seating in the church, increase meeting space and kitchen facilities for use by all ministries, and reconfigure the school for updated classroom space and improved security. We can reach these goals with your support!

As your pastor, I am inspired every day by the ways you share your love for God and make a difference in the lives of others. I have no doubt that we can continue to accomplish amazing things by uniting together during this exciting time in our parish. We are grateful for those who have already made a pledge to our campaign. If you have not yet done so, please prayerfully consider making an investment in the future of our parish through a sacrificial gift to our campaign. We can all give something as an expression of our gratitude for God's blessings.

I also ask you to support the campaign by praying our campaign prayer and keeping our parish in your daily prayers. The beautiful story of our parish continues to live on through each of us. Thank you for your commitment to our parish.

Many Blessings,
Fr. Tom Holder

*Lord Jesus,
Today and every day we live with an awareness of your presence in our lives.
Through prayer and service may we use the gifts and responsibilities you have bestowed upon us.
As we embrace our Capital Campaign **Celebrating Our Faith - Continuing Our Vision** guide us with your wisdom
and understanding. Just as those who have gone before us, may we gratefully and generously share our gifts
with our faith community and our world.*

Amen

The Best Kept Secret in Children's Faith Formation

By Jo Engert, Director of Children's Faith Formation



Have you heard of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd? Did you know we have been offering Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for 10 years at Our Lady of the Presentation? What is Catechesis of the Good Shepherd? Glad you asked!

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) is a particular approach to faith formation for children ages 3 to 12. It seeks to create and facilitate a hands-on "holy ground" called an atrium, in which children and their adult catechists can hear, ponder, and explore essential mysteries of the Christian faith. CGS is Montessori-based and focuses on Scripture and Liturgy to reveal the mysteries of God, and align them with the mystery of the child.

We currently offer a Level 1 Atrium for children ages 3 to 6 on Tuesday mornings and a modified Level 1 once a week for our Kindergarten students in the school. In First Grade, we offer a modified Level II once per month.

To find out more come to our "Seed Planting" on Wednesday, September 19 at 7:00 p.m. in the Etue Room or contact Jo Engert, jengert@olpls.org.

Presentation Early Childhood Center

By Cathy Koob, Director

Presentation ECC is proud to be a ministry of Our Lady of the Presentation Parish. Our program continues to grow and improve every year. We continue to maintain our NAEYC Accreditation, which is reapplied for every five years. We have earned this gold standard accreditation four times.

What does it mean to be a NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children) Accredited center? This accreditation represents the mark of quality in early childhood education and in order to receive accreditation, Presentation ECC has to perform and maintain in-depth self-study and quality standards. One of the ways we are able to achieve and maintain such high standards is by making sure we hire the best teachers and staff. Our teaching staff are degreed professionals who are passionate about the quality care and education we provide. Not only do we want to provide a high level of early childhood education we also want to make sure we are models of our Catholic-Christian faith to everyone we meet either here at Presentation or out in our community.

We look forward to sharing another fun and exciting year with our parish community! Make sure to check out our updates in the weekly bulletin or for more information visit our website, www.olplsecc.org. We also encourage and invite all parishioners to visit anytime!



Presentation School

By Jodi Briggs, Principal



OLP School is proud to be a ministry of Presentation Parish! This year's enrollment of 471 students includes 60

kindergartners; the largest class since 2000. We are blessed to partner with so many families who choose Catholic education for their children and are grateful for the parish's continued support of our school ministry.

Our Diocesan theme this year is **Think JOY: Jesus First, Serve Others and Be Yourself** which folds nicely into our school's *I Am Noticed Program*. With the guidance of the Notice Network and OLP's Student Leadership Team, our school community works to create and sustain an environment where students recognize the good in themselves and in turn find the good in others.

Last spring, OLP School hosted a Diocesan Accreditation Team to review our academics, school climate and leadership. We received commendations for the administration's communication with stakeholders, developing the whole child; spiritually as well as academically, and creating a family environment that encourages and supports participation in parish and school activities as well as service to the greater community. OLP is proud to be dually accredited by the Missouri Non-Public Accrediting and Advanced Ed Accrediting Associations.



OLP School updates are published weekly in the parish bulletin and we invite you to follow OLP School on Facebook to see all the adventures of our students this year.

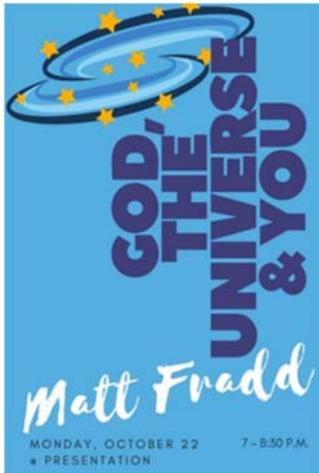
<https://www.facebook.com/OurLadyOfPresentation/>

Why are we here? Matt Fradd has the answer!

Matt Fradd, Catholic apologist, writer and speaker is coming to Presentation!

Join us Monday, October 22 at 7pm in the church for his talk,
God, the Universe and You.

This event is free; plan now to attend and bring your friends!



Where did we come from? Why are we here? Where are we going? Everyone wants the answers to these questions. Matt Fradd shares his own story of being shaken out of the agnostic apathy he suffered as a young adult. Challenged to find reasons to believe that life has meaning - no matter how messy or senseless or full of suffering it may get - his long search finally led him to believe in the God of Christianity, and in his Church.

Learn more about Matt Fradd from one of the many organizations he blogs, makes podcasts or videos for: Ascension Press, Catholic Answers, FOCUS, LifeTeen and more.



"After I experienced a profound conversion to Christianity at World Youth Day in Rome in 2000, I have committed myself to inviting others to know Jesus Christ and the Church he founded. This year I expect to speak to upwards of 100,000 teens and young adults about the Catholic Church and what she teaches."

Youth & Young Adult Ministries *By Christy Gruenbaum, Director of Youth Ministry*

This month, Pope Francis has called for a Synod of Bishops on Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment in Rome. As Pope Francis wrote in the preparatory document for the synod, "By listening to young people, the Church will once again hear the Lord speaking in today's world." We will be hosting our own Parish Synod for Young Adults on Tuesday, October 16 in the Mulligan Room at 7:00 p.m. We invite all young adults ages 18 & up to this listening session. Now more than ever in our church, we need to know our youth and young adults by name. We need to encounter, listen to and accompany our young people and invite them to leadership; and we need your help.

We are blessed to have hundreds of active youth and young adults in our parish. We offer a wide variety of experiences to help each person grow in faith. We offer middle and high school youth group nights every second Sunday of the month which include scripture and catechesis, current topics, community building and sports. We encourage active participation in our Third Sunday@12Noon liturgy for all ages, but especially

youth and young adults. We offer conferences for high school youth such as the KCYC in November (KC Catholic Youth Conference) offered by our diocese. We have a strong and active peer ministry program where teens share their gifts of leadership in our Confirmation and Youth Ministry programs. We have year round opportunities for service, events and faith building experiences such as the service mission trip with Catholic Heart Workcamp, summer camps like Camp Savio or Camp Bosco offered by our diocese for middle and high school youth; a weekend at the Steubenville Conference; and the upcoming national speaker, Matt Fradd, who will be here in October.

We also have an active Young Adult Ministry that hosts a Speaker Series four times a year, monthly social gatherings with faith topics called Last Call for the Gospel, service opportunities and nights of Holy Hour and Confession. All of these events, experiences and worship opportunities are in response to needs of our young Church, a way to build lasting relationships with one another and ultimately a deep

connection with Jesus Christ. Consider sharing your gifts in these ministries. It will change lives, yours included.





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TURN CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR ON NOVEMBER 4

Opportunities for Worship, Service, Education and Community

September

- 12: Children's Faith Formation Classes Begin
- 15: Fiesta Hispana
- 15-16: Nametag Sunday & Parish-wide Open House
- 16: Sunday School Meet Your Teacher
- 18: Come & See For Women
- 21: OLP PTO Golf Tournament
- 22-23: Divine Donuts
- 25: Gaudete et Exsultate - Learn About Pope Francis' Letter On Holiness
- 26: Confirmation 2019 Parent & Sponsor Meeting
- 27 & 29: First Reconciliation Parent Meeting

October

- 1: LSSS Food Drive
Free Blood Pressure Checks
K of C Parish Breakfast
- 2: Women's Fall Retreat
- 5: Marrieds Mini-Retreat
- 16: Young Adult Synod Meeting
- 19: OLP School Trunk-or-Treat
- 20-21: Celebrating Stewardship & Divine Donuts
- 22: Matt Fradd: God, The Universe & You
- 25 & 27: First Reconciliation Parent & Child Meeting
- 27-28: Stewardship Renewal Kick-off Heart & Sole Kickoff

November

- 1: All Saints Holy Day Masses:
6:30am, 8:15am, 6pm
- 3-4: LSSS Food Drive
Free Blood Pressure Checks
K of C Parish Breakfast
Mass of Remembrance: 8:30am & 10am
- 10: OLP Turkey Trot 5K Run/Walk
- 15 & 17: First Reconciliation Parent & Child Meeting
- 16: Wine & Jesus
- 18-19: Stewardship Renewal & Campaign Commitment Weekend
Heart & Sole Collection
Divine Donuts
Advent Giving Tree
- 22: Thanksgiving Day Mass, 9am
- 29: First Reconciliation