



OLH

NOW

more than ever

VOLUME 17 NUMBER 7

APRIL 2020

MESSAGES FROM "HOME"

EASTER 2020.....The March-April edition of NOW had been planned well in advance of this date and was to have brought you coverage of the Intermediate and Primary Science Fairs, Primary Speech contest, third grade assembly, Music Masters Day, and of course, the sacrament of reconciliation, the Seder Meal and the Living Stations of the Cross. Obviously, the presence of the Coronavirus and the ensuing pandemic has necessitated a whole new mind-set, and a realignment of our priorities concerning the education of our wonderful children.

This issue is dedicated then to coverage from HOME. The teachers and administration are in daily contact with families, and the course of study for Pre-K 3 through Prep 8 continues. Photos, telephone calls, Zoom sessions, the use of GoogleClassroom, Skype and other avenues have allowed teachers to have direct contact with each student. Technology has been used abundantly...and we are still learning new ways to be creative while directing learning on a home platform.

In addition to Math, English, Science, Social Studies and Spanish, the children are guided through Physical Education, Health, Art and Music. More importantly, perhaps, the religious education of the children continues through class study, the inclusion of virtual daily liturgy and prayer.

Each day does begin with an early morning videoed session with the principal that serves to set the tone for the day, as well as giving a basic invitation to prayer, and inclusion of faith and Scripture. The invitation and reminder to attend Sunday Mass as a family seated around the table, hopefully, will help to bring that tradition back into family life.

*May the Lord
bless and protect all of us and our families
....until we meet again!*

EDUCATION CAN BECOME TRULY PHYSICAL



Gym and dance classes at OLH are among the most popular things in the school day. Despite the at-home teaching, the teachers have found ways to inspire their students.

Mr. Turnbull and Mrs. Curro have posted links to daily workouts in exercise, fitness, yoga and other easy-to-do workouts for the time at home.

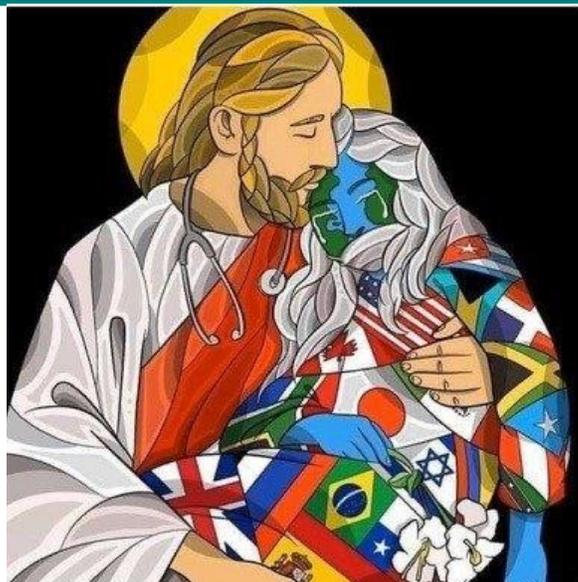
Some of these require attention to their videos, tracking progress and others need nothing except open space for a walk, a run....an open beach....or, in a few cases, actual gym equipment.



.....SO CAN OUTREACH



Seeing opportunities to work in the outdoor air and care for the earth is a great source of service and outreach that can be done easily by everyone.



Cards, letters, emails, phone calls and virtual visits to the elderly and shut-ins can be a great source of comfort.

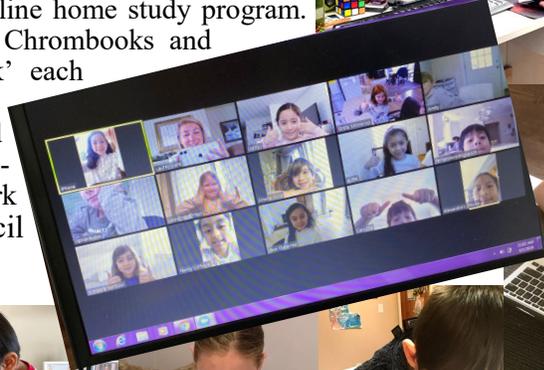
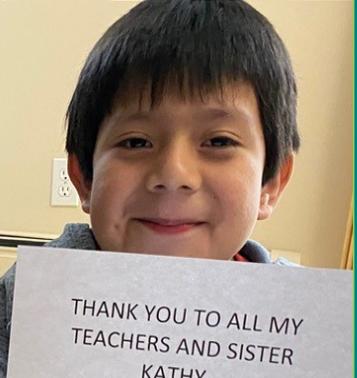


At home projects such as doing errands for the neighbors, creating masks and other objects that may be needed by the community are welcome gestures,...as are the virtual cards and greeting to essential service workers.

IT'S ACADEMIC....even in pajamas!

Along with scientific terms like 'pandemic', Anti-virus, social distancing, stay-at-home orders, and the new normal, school children world-wide have learned that technology, if used appropriately can have great benefits.

Beginning on Monday, March 16, students from PreK to Prep 8 began the online home study program. Working on laptops, iPads, Chrombooks and PCs, students 'go to work' each day, doing online study enhanced by teacher-directed Zoom sessions, Google-Classroom...and..even work occasionally.....with pencil and paper!



EASTER WAS HERE ..VIRTUALLY



Our parish held Mass online and recorded the reading, homily and liturgy of the Eucharist. We were urged to gather around



Triduum beginning Families mass and then celebrations.

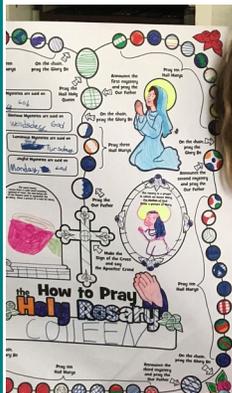
In the days students found ways



celebrate the events of the Easter with Palm Sunday.

were urged to dress up, watch the brate with simple dinners or family

that led up to and followed, OLH to watch Sister Kathy's morning



prayer, to do their class Religion lessons, to pray..and even MAKE new rosaries, and set up special prayer corners in their homes.





THE HOME ALSO INVITES ACTION

The additional time that families are spending at home also provides opportunities for the learning of “domestic science” to stress chores and development of cleaning baking and cooking skills, trash removal and table setting..... (as well as a little recess “time” for virtual board games.)

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...AND TIME FOR FINE ARTS PRACTICE!



One of the hallmarks of OLH is the outstanding Fine Arts Program of violin, band, guitar, drama, chorus, art, tap, jazz and ballet.

The spring music festivals of Fine Arts week will not happen as we had hoped, but students have been in contact with their teachers and are urged to practice and work on their skills so that the new beginning will get off to a good start.

Mrs. Basar has been doing virtual guitar lessons. Mrs. Curro has even been teaching tap dancing via Zoom, while Mrs. Seckel is guiding artists online.

Next on the horizon is virtual rehearsals for both the Hamptnix and Hamptones.

