



# Our Lady OF THE Prairie

## CATHOLIC CHURCH

May 7, 2023

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday | 8:00am - 3:00pm

### MASS SCHEDULE

#### Weekend Masses

Saturday | 4:15pm

Sunday | 8:00am, 10:00am

#### Weekday Masses

Tuesday | 6:30pm

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday | 8:30am

#### Holy Days & Holidays

Consult bulletin.

#### Eucharist Adoration

Wednesday | 9:00am - 10:00pm

### SACRAMENTS

#### Sacrament of Confession

30 mins prior to Mass.

#### Sacrament of Marriage

Make arrangements with the Parish Office six months prior to proposed wedding date.

#### Sacrament of Baptism

Congratulations! Thank you for accepting and caring for one of God's greatest gifts. As part of Baptism preparation, expectant parents are required to attend Mass weekly. Please speak to Deacon Mike Daly after Mass during the second trimester of pregnancy to begin the formal preparation process. We look forward to getting to know you and your baby.

### IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY

Please contact 952-992-0140



200 East Church Street | Belle Plaine, Minnesota 56011  
952-873-6564 | [www.ourladyoftheprairie.com](http://www.ourladyoftheprairie.com)

## PARISH STAFF

### PASTOR

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mkaluza@olp.church

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heitkampkeith@gmail.com

## LAY LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

### TRUSTEES

Charlotte Mulroy, Sue Schultz

### PARISH COUNCIL

Mike Buchanan, Dan Flynn, Ginny Morgan, Allen Schmitz, Ty Buesgens, Renee Schultz, Leticia Fogarty, Cindy Berger, Joan Bruggemeier, Sandy Schroers, Bob Smith, Tim Murphy

### SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Ashley Simons, Jessica Fogarty, Loni Scheff, Jason Palo, Kelli Berger

### FINANCE COUNCIL

Dan Neisen, Maria Tracy, Jerome Flaherty, Joe Vandermark, Jim Koepp

## A MESSAGE FROM FATHER MICHAEL . . .



This weekend we celebrate First Communion! Congratulations to those making their First Communion. This is the start of a wonderful on-going relationship to be always fed by God!

I have always taken great comfort in the Gospel reading about the many mansions in heaven! In fact, this is the Gospel that I would like read at my own funeral. Most of you know that I like to travel. One day I desire to tour all of those rooms waiting for God's people to enjoy eternal bliss. But in order to get on that escorted tour of heaven, there is work to be done on earth.

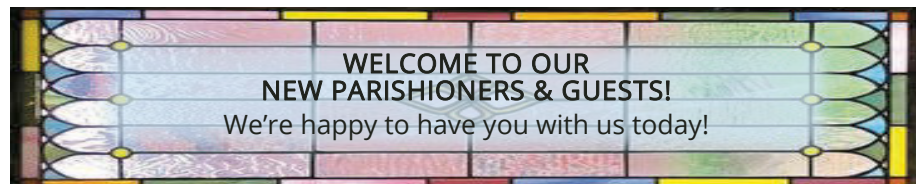
Jesus instructs his disciples about faith in the Gospel. He tells them to believe in him and have faith in him, because he is the revealer of the Father and the one who will send the Holy Spirit. Even those closest to Jesus are having a difficult time understanding him though. That becomes the work set forth by the master for the disciples and it remains the first obligation that we are to also undertake. Belief in Jesus allows us to do great things. It allowed the disciples to act in the name of Jesus and allows us to continue to spread the good news.

We continue to see Jesus in our lives today. First and foremost he remains present in the great gift of the Eucharist. He longs to be united with us and we should share that longing to be united with God who comes to us at Mass and waits for us to visit him in the tabernacle and at adoration. Jesus is also present in the community of believers. As we gather for worship, he has promised to be present in our midst. When we are close to Jesus, we also gain access to the Father and the Holy Spirit. We have that promise and security because of the words of the savior, if only we believe and draw close to his presence. This is the great treasure of our faith.

Our secure future lies in the faith that we profess with our words and deeds. Jesus reveals the face of God to us, may we reveal the love of God to all we encounter.

God bless you,

Father Michael Kaluza



## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE . . .

Ann Woelfel  
Cindy Coughlen  
Angela Hennen  
Genny Mesenbrink  
Loree Heinkel  
Richard Beach

Bob Belousek  
Carol Mezera  
Lyle Nagel  
Rose Donharl  
Lisa Pobuda  
Rory Cruser

Carter Pickus  
Brad Haynes  
Bob Koenig  
Deacon Bob Raleigh  
Nick Johnson

If you know of someone who would like to have their name added to the prayer List, please notify the bulletin editor. A name will be listed for four weeks. Please get the permission of the person you wish to add before calling or emailing.



**STEWARDSHIP & ATTENDANCE**

For the Week of April 30, 2023

Weekly Collection Goal for Month .....	\$8,073.00
4/30/2023 Collection (Week 43) .....	\$4,507.75
Current Week Deficit .....	(-) \$3,565.25
Maintenance Collection .....	\$1,055.00
Church Painting Collection .....	\$1,080.00
Attendance at Saturday 4:15pm Mass .....	181
Attendance at Sunday 8:00am Mass .....	238
Attendance at Sunday 10:00am Mass .....	147
Live stream views of Mass .....	32
Total Number of Registered Active Families .....	486
Total Number of Registered Active Members .....	1,293

\*Collection week includes envelopes and loose total for that weekend collection.

**Automatic Contributions**

Did you know your contributions can be automatically deducted from your checking, savings, or credit card account? For more information call the parish office at 952-873-6564 or check out our website.



Church Painting collected as of 4/30/2023:  
**\$295,105.93**

**OUR LADY OF THE PRAIRIE SCHOOL**  
WITH THE EPILEPSY FOUNDATION

**MAY 13 4-7 PM**  
**MAY 14 12-3 PM**

**OLP IS COLLECTING DONATIONS OF CLOTHING/CLOTH ITEMS FOR THE EPILEPSY FOUNDATION. DONATIONS CAN BE DROPPED OFF IN THE OLP PARKING LOT.**

**200 E CHURCH ST**

\*\*\*\*\*WE CANNOT ACCEPT: UNDERGARMENTS, SOCKS, MEDICAL CLOTHING, ANY HOUSEHOLD ITEMS\*\*\*\*\*

**Thank You!**

"I am feeling so incredibly grateful after wrapping up the Dream Kit Donation Drive at Our Lady of the Prairie Catholic Church and School. If I'm being honest, I was a little intimidated by how large these boxes were & how much it was going to take to fill them. However, I was quickly reminded of how generous of a community I live in & I cannot say thank you enough to everyone who made a donation. Each of the donation boxes were full with sheet sets, mattress pads, pillows, blankets & stuffed animals for children of families who have recently secured stable housing. When dropping these items off with My Very Own Bed, the team was beyond ecstatic to see everything that had been brought in from our community in such a short amount of time! With that being said, again, thank you all for helping me make a difference in children's lives by providing the essentials for a good night of rest!" - *Jessica Brueggemeier*

**Cemetery Price Increase**  
**Effective July 1, 2023**

All cemetery lots purchased after June 30, 2023 will have an additional charge of \$200 (per lot) for perpetual care.

Member: \$700/lot + \$200 for perpetual care  
Non-member: \$1,400/lot + \$200 for perpetual care

**In Christ We Live Forever**  
Please remember in your prayers  
**Jeanette Myrtle Gerres**

We extend our sincere sympathy to her family, friends, and loved ones, and pray for her eternal peace.

**Bulletin Announcements**

If your group would like to post in the bulletin, please send an email to: [bulletineditor@olp.church](mailto:bulletineditor@olp.church) by noon on Monday for the following Sunday's bulletin.




**Registration Open**

Website: [school@ourladyoftheprairie.com](mailto:school@ourladyoftheprairie.com) **2023-2024**  
 Phone: (952) 873-6564 **School Year**



**Our Lady of the Prairie  
Catholic School**  
**PreK to 6th grades**  
*Tuition assistance is available.*





**Our Lady of the Prairie  
Memorial Day  
Liturgical Celebration  
Monday, May 29th**

**Sacred Heart  
Cemetery  
Chapel**

**8:30 am  
Patriotic Rosary**

**9:30 am  
Mass**

**Bring  
your own  
Chair**  
 In case of rain will  
be held at OLP

## Employment Opportunity

### Preschool Teacher


2023-2024 School Year


Our Lady of the Prairie is seeking a loving and energetic teacher to lead a full-day preschool classroom of 4's & 5's.

**Our Lady of the Prairie believes children should . . .**

- Be given opportunities to freely explore their interests
- Experience the world using all their senses
- Be immersed in language rich environments with songs, stories, fingerplays, and conversation
- Learn through play to develop social & emotional skills
- Embrace nature and spending time outdoors
  - Be supported socially, emotionally, & spiritually

Please submit resume and cover letter to:  
 Sheila Hendricks  
[shendricks@ourladyoftheprairie.com](mailto:shendricks@ourladyoftheprairie.com)



 Our Lady of the Prairie  
Catholic School






**FAITH IN ACTION**

*If you haven't donated yet . . .*

**There is still time  
to make your gift.**

You are invited to prayerfully consider giving to the Catholic Services Appeal.

You can complete and return your pledge card to the collection basket, or make a secure gift online at: [csafspm.org](http://csafspm.org)



**CATHOLIC SERVICES  
APPEAL FOUNDATION**  
 SERVE • SUPPORT • STRENGTHEN

Weekly Calendar with Readings	
Monday <b>8</b> May	<i>Acts 14:5-18 / Psalms 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16 / John 14:21-26</i>
Tuesday <b>9</b> May	<p><i>Acts 14:19-28 / Psalms 145:10-11, 12-13, 21 / John 14:27-31</i></p> <p>1:30 pm   Kingsway Mass</p> <p>6:30 pm   Mass † d. Brent Meyer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PREP May Crowning of the Blessed Virgin (after 6:30 pm Mass)</li> <li>• 7:00 pm   CCW Meeting in Roedel Hall</li> <li>• 7:00 pm   Liturgy Meeting in Art Room</li> </ul> 
Wednesday <b>10</b> May	<p><i>Acts 15:1-6 / Psalms 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5 / John 15:1-8</i></p> <p>8:30 am   Mass † d. Judy Morrison</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9:00 am - 10:00 pm Adoration</li> <li>• Coffee &amp; donuts after Mass</li> </ul> 
Thursday <b>11</b> May	<p><i>Acts 15:7-21 / Psalms 96:1-2, 2-3, 10 / John 15:9-11</i></p> <p>8:30 am   Mass † d. Derrick Schmidt</p> <p>2:00 pm   Kingsway Mass</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7:00 pm   Sacrament of Confirmation at Cathedral of St. Paul/Bishop Williams presiding</li> </ul> 
Friday <b>12</b> May	<p><i>Acts 15:22-31 / Psalms 57:8-9, 10-12 / John 15:12-17</i></p> <p>8:30 am   Mass † Liv. &amp; d. Guertin &amp; Klehr Families</p> <p>OLP School Children's Mass / OLP School May Crowning of the Blessed Virgin</p> <p>10:30 am   Funeral Mass † Marian Hennen</p> 
Saturday <b>13</b> May	<p><i>Acts 16:1-10 / Psalms 100:1-2, 3, 5 / John 15:18-21</i></p> <p>4:15 pm   Mass † For the Parish</p> <p><b>Lector:</b> Sarah Williams</p> <p><b>EMHC:</b> Betty Weldon, Charlotte Mulroy, <b>Volunteer</b></p> <p><b>Ushers:</b> Jim Fogarty, Joe Hartmann, <b>Volunteer, Volunteer</b></p> <p><b>Servers:</b> Ian Saxe, Andrew Saxe, Addy Saxe</p> <p><b>Greeters:</b> <b>Volunteer</b></p>
Sunday <b>14</b> May	<p><i>Acts 8:5-8, 14-17 / Psalms 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20 / John 14:15-21 / First Peter 3:15-18</i></p> <p>8:00 am   Mass † d. Jean Marie (Daly) Martinson</p> <p><b>Lector:</b> James Fogarty</p> <p><b>EMHC:</b> Susan Cole, Bob Fahey, Janice Teal</p> <p><b>Ushers:</b> John Edberg, Paul Guertin, Dr. Tim Halloran, Tim Murphy</p> <p><b>Servers:</b> Henry Hennen, Luke Hennen, Peter Hennen</p> <p><b>Greeters:</b> <b>Volunteer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9:00 - 10:00 am Choir Practice in Church</li> </ul> <p>10:00 am   Mass † Eldina Eyrich</p> <p><b>Lector:</b> Joe Vandermark</p> <p><b>EMHC:</b> Rick Morgan, Terry Feddersen, Jason Palo</p> <p><b>Ushers:</b> Hubert Jeurissen, Jeff Klein, Johan Miller, Peter Feddersen</p> <p><b>Servers:</b> Stella Scheff, William Scheff, John Schudy</p> <p><b>Greeters:</b> <b>Volunteer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7:00 pm   Marriage Encounter Meeting in Roedel Hall</li> </ul> 

# May 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30 8am For the Parish 9am Choir practice in church 10am d. Bill & Dorothy Meiers	1 7:00-9pm CI (whole campus)	2 6:30pm d. Alfred Miron 7pm KC Meeting in PH	3 8:30am d. Pauline Holcombe Coffee & donuts after Mass OLP School Outdoor Clean-up Day cemeteries & school grounds 3:30-7:30pm Faith Formation 6:30-7:30pm Confirmation PREP	4 8:30am d. David Hottinger 7pm CCW Meeting in RH	5 <b>Cinco De Mayo</b> 8:30am d. Marcel & Clara Miron	6 4:15pm d. Pam Tilleman <b>1st Holy Communion Mass</b>
7 <b>8am &amp; 10am Masses: 1st Holy Communion</b> 8am d. Joseph & Thelma Ott 9am Choir practice in church 10am For the Parish KC Exemplification after 10am Mass	8	9 1:30pm Kingsway Mass 6:30pm d. Brent Meyer <b>PREP May Crowning</b> 7pm CCW Meeting in RH 7pm Liturgy Meeting in Art Room	10 8:30am d. Judy Morrison Coffee & donuts after Mass	11 8:30am d. Derrick Schmidt 2pm Kingsway Mass <b>7pm Sacrament of Confirmation at Cathedral of St. Paul/Bishop Williams presiding</b>	12 8:30am liv. & d. Guertin & Klehr Families <b>OLP School May Crowning</b> 10:30 am Funeral: Marian Hennen	13 Deacon preaching weekend 4:15pm For the Parish PTA Stuff the Truck (parking lot)
14 <b>Mother's Day</b> Deacon preaching weekend 8am d. Jean Marie (Daly) Martinson 9am Choir practice in church 10am d. Eldina Eyrich 7pm ME Meeting in RH	15	16 Father out of office 6:30pm d. Teresa Fritz	17 Father out of office 8:30am d. Gene & Mary McMahon Coffee & donuts after Mass	18 Father out of office 8:30am liv. & d. Hottinger Family	19 Father out of office 8:30am CCW Volunteers	20 Deacon preaching weekend 4:15pm For the Parish
21 <b>Ascension</b> Deacon preaching weekend 8am d. Susan Fahey 9am Choir practice in church 10am d. Robert & Mary Harsh	22	23 1:30pm Kingsway Mass 6:30pm d. Frank Gilszczinski 6:30pm Church Night Meeting in RH	24 8:30am d. Eleta Donaldson Coffee & donuts after Mass	25 8:30am d. Judy Morrison <b>OLP Last Day of School</b> Early Release at Noon <b>OLP 6th Gr. Graduation</b>	26 Office Closed 8:30am d. Bob Michel	27 4:15pm d. Kevin Schmitt Decorate Church for Pentecost OLP PTA Treats & Fellowship after Mass
28 8am For the Parish 9am Choir practice in church 10am d. Loy & Eldina Eyrich Decorate Church for Ordinary Time after 10am Mass OLP PTA Treats & Fellowship after both Masses	29 <b>Memorial Day</b> Parish Office Closed 8:30am Patriotic Rosary 9:30am Sacred Heart Cemetery service to the USA	30 Father out of office 6:30pm Lee & Connie Stuewe	31 Father out of office 8:30am d. Dick Klehr Coffee & donuts after Mass	1 Father out of office 8:30am d. Agnes Orthaus	2 Father out of office 8:30am d. Tom Deutsch	3 Missionary Priest: Father Frederick Byaruhanga 4:15pm d. Al & Irene Sowden
4 Missionary Priest: Father Frederick Byaruhanga 8am d. Pam Stelten 10am For the Parish	5	<p><i>Notes:</i></p> <p>Adoration: Every Wednesday 9:00 AM-10:00 PM</p> <p>Sacrament of Confession: Half Hour before mass each day</p> <p>*RH - Roedel Hall Gathering Space)</p> <p>*PH - Parish Hall</p> <p>*CI - Catechetical Institute</p> <p>*ME - Marriage Encounter</p>				



April 28, 2023

# The "Know it all" News

Our Lady of the Prairie Catholic Church and School, 200 East Church Street, Belle Plaine, Minnesota 56011

## A Note from the Principal . . .

### Congratulation to OLP's Writing Contest Winners

Our Lady of the Prairie has four more writing contestant winners!



A few weeks ago **Quinnlyn Gleason** was the American Legion first place winner with her essay on Patriotism. This week, Rotary Club essay contest winners for the topic "What Makes My Family Special" are:

First place (2nd-3rd grade): **Peter Hennen**

First place (4th-6th grade): **Stella Scheff**

Third place (4th-6th grade): **Quinnlyn Gleason**.

There were over 100 contestants in the above categories.



The Center for Mission through the Archdiocese 3rd-5th grade writing contest 2nd place winner was **Luke Hennen** on the topic: "How do you share your gifts of the Holy Spirit with your community and how does this help you live out Christ's mission?"

OLP students have shown a strong competency in their essay writing ability. Nicely done!

## GALA

Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's GALA event. It was a tremendous outpouring of support to our school and parish community. There were many joyful faces and much camaraderie. We are grateful for all the ways that this event will support and encourage our teachers, families, and students. It is through your generosity that we will continue to bring God's amazing love and joy to our young people as they grow in their knowledge and faith.

A huge shout out to **Carolyn Gleason** and **Ashley Simons** for the amazing job they did in making this a wonderful success.

Blessings,

Mrs. Hendricks

## Calendar of Events

May Saint of the Month: Saint Elizabeth

### MAY

- 1-5 Teacher Appreciation Week
- 2 Principal for 1/2 day (MJ Kurvers)
- 1 Karen Feddersen in for Rachel Schroers
- 3 Ecumenical Lunch  
OLP Student Walking Service Project: Cemetery & School grounds clean-up after lunch
- 5 April Student Saint Awards  
Karen Feddersen in for Andy Lopas  
Climb Theatre
- 6-7 1st Holy Communion  
(David Fogarty at 8:00am Mass)
- 8 Title I Testing K-2
- 12 8:30am Mass hosted by grades 4-5  
May Crowning of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
MN Zoo Grades 2-6 \*bring bag lunch  
RAD Zoo PreK-1st \*Pizza lunch provided
- 13-14 Stuff the Truck  
(PTA/The Epilepsy Foundation soft textile donations)
- 19 May Student Saints Awards  
Staff bonding - Prairie Grille & Bowl
- 23 Teacher/Staff Meeting  
Field Day
- 24 6th grade Valley Fair Field Trip  
PreK Graduation
- 25 6th Grade Graduation Mass  
Student Last Day (1/2 day) \*no lunch
- 26 Teacher Work Day (optional)



Birthday Mass celebrating students with April, May, June, & July birthdays.

## A Word from Father . . .

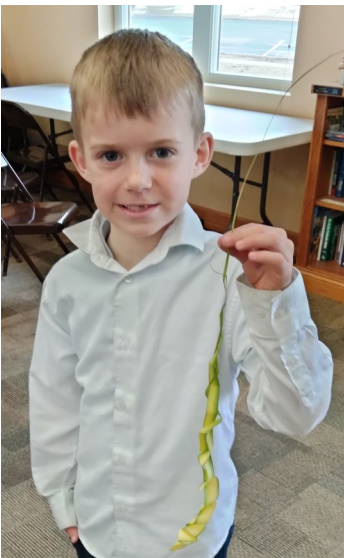
On Sunday, April 16th we celebrated the Second Sunday of Easter, also known as Divine Mercy Sunday. The message of The Divine Mercy is simple. It is that God loves us — all of us. And, he wants us to recognize that His mercy is greater than our sins, so that we will call upon Him with trust, receive His mercy, and let it flow through us to others. Thus, all will come to share His joy. This message and devotion to Jesus as The Divine Mercy is based on the writings of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska, an uneducated Polish nun who, in obedience to her spiritual director, wrote a diary recording the revelations she received about God's mercy. Even before her death in 1938, the devotion to The Divine Mercy had begun to spread. And in the Jubilee 2000, Pope John Paul II declared each Second Sunday of Easter as Divine Mercy Sunday.

The chaplet of Divine Mercy is prayed on ordinary rosary beads and is a very beautiful devotion. It is very simple and begins with an Our Father, Hail Mary and Apostle's Creed. It continues like a rosary with the Eternal Father Prayer (Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world). Followed by ten prayers: "For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world." That is repeated 5 times (five decades) and then concludes with the following prayer: "Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world." It makes a nice family prayer and I hope your family will enjoy sharing God's mercy with one another and with the whole world.

God bless you,  
Father Michael Kaluza



Palm braiding  
With Father



## Here's what's happening in the classrooms . . .

### Ms. Katie Cates Preschool

We had so much fun last week at the Children's Museum in Mankato. There were so many things that kept us engaged and curious. Some of our favorites included climbing in the tree top maze, pretend fishing, working in the construction zone, kitchen, and store. On another note, the weather is slowly warming up and with it we are seeing so many signs of spring. We have flowers coming up around our school, our bird feeders are full of seeds, and our sandbox is open! We are also learning so much. Our weekly themes have centered around spring time, plants, weather, and birds. While learning more about those topics, students are practicing printing and identifying letters and numbers, counting, pattern identification and making, and improving their fine motor skills like coloring and cutting.



### Mrs. Schroers K-1st Grades

It's hard to believe but we are already in our last month of the school year! One highlight for our class was our field trip to the children's museum in Mankato. There was so much to explore: a construction site, a cabin, fishing on the dock, a bank, and a tree fort to name a few. It's great when we can learn and explore in new places. In our Believe and Read, the kindergartners are working on digraph sounds sh, ch, th, wh, and ck. Next week we will begin learning to distinguish between short and long vowel sounds. In first grade Believe and Read, the focus has been on recognizing homophones, vowel digraphs and reading and spelling new words. In math, the kindergartners have been working on counting, writing, and ordering higher numbers. In first grade math, the focus has been on adding two-digit numbers, breaking apart numbers to add, and expanded form. We will now begin working on subtracting two-digit numbers. In Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, some of our newest works have been the Eucharistic Presence, the Last Supper, the City of Jerusalem, and the Empty Tomb. God Bless, Ms. Schroers.



Hi Families,

### Mrs. Hennen 2nd & 3rd Grades

The students always amaze me with their great works of learning! We have been learning different strategies for problem solving our math problems. We discovered we are always using strategies for solving problems in life in general! In Second grade math we are studying money and time.

In Language Arts we have our Believe and Read skills of knowing when to use vowel digraphs ou/ow, and will be starting oo/ue sound soon. Third grade is also working on writing contraction words and proper nouns. Next up it will be using commas in series. Second grade is working on silent letters, and will be starting suffixes and prefixes.

In our Social Studies we are learning about local, state, and national government and who has authority to make the laws.

In Science we will be finishing our Ecosystems and begin Weather.

Our Religion lessons are about The Church is World Wide! We discuss how to spread the Good News and how to live it!

We have finished our April book reports, entered a poetry contest, and keep engaged in classroom activities and projects!

Blessings to all,

Mrs. Hennen



### Mr. Lopahs 4th, 5th & 6th Grades

As we come into the home stretch of the school year the 4th/5th/6th graders are still striving for challenges and growth. In Social Studies each student is exploring a different country of Asia and sharing his or her knowledge with the class. In addition each student is answering the question "Where am I from" and will research a specific country of origin. In Language Arts besides working on their last book report Poetry is the name of the game and they will submit their best poem for another contest (yes another contest!). And in Math we are rounding out the year with Geometry and Measurement with some Data Analysis sprinkled in.

### Carolyn Gleason, Music

The 2nd-6th graders had a great time at Orchestra Hall! The Minnesota Orchestra performed featured music from around the world. The students listened and studied the music in advance and it was a joy to see the recognition on their faces during the performance. Thanks to the OLP PTA and donors who helped fund the trip.

Our younger students finished their unit on instruments of the orchestra. I loved hearing my preschools identify the difference between a double bass and a violin. We are entering our final month of school and will be working on some special music for our 6th grade graduation Mass!



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