

OUR LADY OF GRACE SCHOOL

Excellence in Catholic education for more than 50 years

ANNUAL REPORT

www.olgraceschool.org

FALL 2009



Eighth-grade student Kara Randall and first-grader Carmelina Komyatte lead the way in August as the new "buddy" classes took part in a "getting to know you" afternoon walk. Each year, OLG students "buddy up" with members of another class to participate in various activities throughout the school year. In 2009-10, the eighth-graders are serving as buddies to first-graders.

2nd Annual Fund Drive passes goal

The second Our Lady of Grace School Annual Fund Drive passed its goal of \$35,000 in 2008-09, reaching a total of \$40,699.

The amount raised surpassed the inaugural year's Annual Fund Drive total by more than \$10,000.

The fundraising effort, authorized by the School Board after years of strategic planning, came to a close June 30 and capped a highly successful school year. Also in 2008-09, OLG School again was named "exemplary" by the Indiana Department of Education, and its Science Olympiad team qualified for the Indiana state finals for the fifth straight year.

The funds raised enabled the school to work toward completion of a two-part effort to replace all desks in the school, and to purchase some additional computer equipment.

Annual Fund co-chairmen Daniel Dernulc and Dan Kalinowski report 413 donations were received, up from 398 the previous year.

"The OLG Annual Fund committee would like to thank all the volunteers and contributors to this year's Annual Fund," Kalinowski said.

"The generosity of our donors is a wonderful reflection of their faith in Catholic education at Our Lady of Grace School. We are looking forward to even greater success this year."

Thanks to Anthony, alums



Anthony Fenyves, parent of an OLG pre-school student and owner of Anthony's Cafe in downtown Highland, donated two gift certificates from his restaurant that were raffled off to OLG alumni this summer. The winners were Jay Bolsega, Class of 1975, and Charlie McShane, '65. They were eligible after stopping by the OLG School alumni table at this summer's Fourth of July Festival at Main Square Park. Twenty-four OLG alumni stopped by the table and signed in. Traveling the greatest distance was Maureen (Haber) Gonzales, Class of 1970, who traveled from Pleasanton, Calif. Thanks to all who stopped by, and thanks to Anthony for his donation.

■ We'd like to hear from all our alums. Please drop us a line to update us on your accomplishments and whereabouts by e-mailing olgnews@yahoo.com, or mail it to OLG School, 3025 Highway Ave., Highland IN 46322.

OLG SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Phil Companik	Mike Kaim
Jon DeGuilio	Virginia Lenart
Leslie Dernulc	Sonia Magallon
Patti Ernst	Carol Mullaney
John Gomez	Julie Stickler
Martha Jelski	Teresa Zahorsky

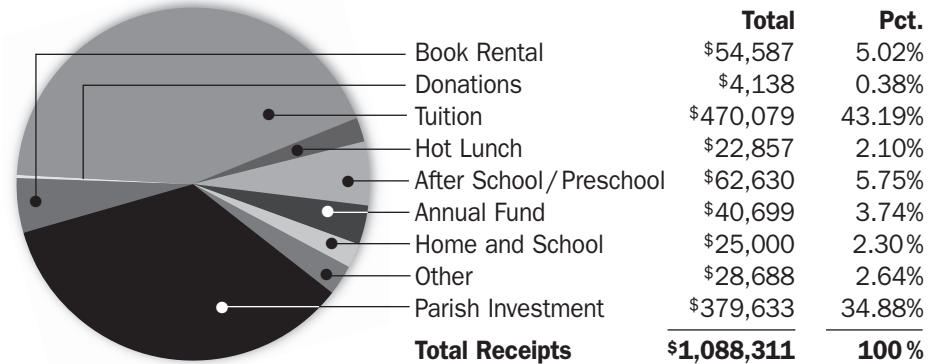
Ex-Officio Members:

Rev. Edward J. Moszur, Pastor
 Marilyn Tomko, Principal
 Esther Slack, Home and School Association
 Donna Frazier, Recording Secretary

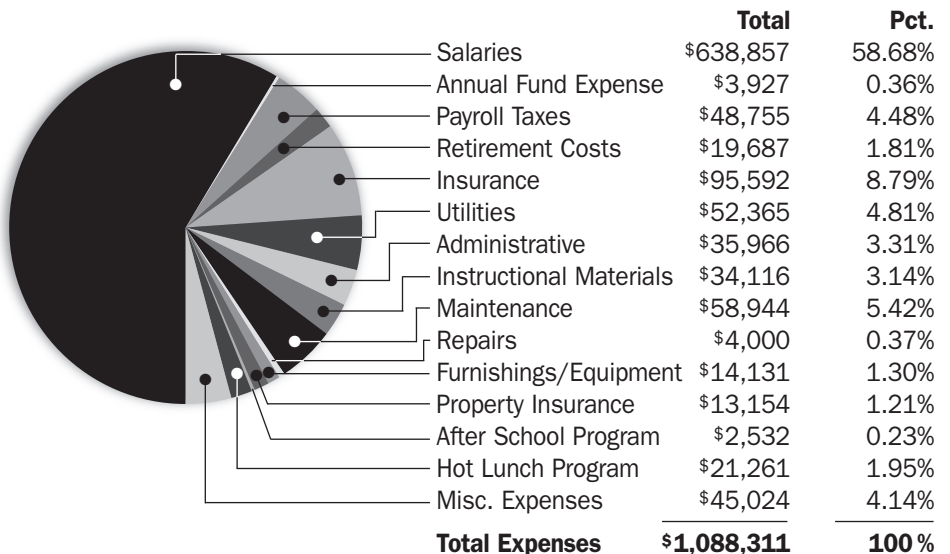
OLG School By the Numbers: 2008-09

Below is a breakdown of OLG School finances for the 2008-09 school year. As our school and parish stakeholders work to keep quality Catholic education as affordable as possible to all who seek it, the Annual Fund campaign and efforts of our Home and School Association have helped to keep the investment from our parish near the 30% mark, which is in line with diocesan expectations for parish schools.

RECEIPTS



EXPENSES



Breakdown of Annual Fund contributors: A total of 413 gifts were made to the 2008-09 Our Lady of Grace School Annual Fund. Below is a general breakdown of who made the gifts. Be aware there is overlap in these groupings. For instance, a school parent who is a parishioner was counted in the parents group, but not the parishioners group. Thank you so much to all of our contributors.

Parishioners.....163 gifts	Grandparents23	Faculty14
Parents85	Businesses23	School Board.....12
Alumni79	Friends14	

Mission Statement for Our Lady of Grace School

Our Lady of Grace School, with the support of the school families, dedicated faculty and the entire parish community of Our Lady of Grace, cultivates academic excellence and Catholic values within a distinctive educational framework. The major goal is to prepare students to respond to the challenges in their lives by:

- Providing quality instruction;
- Encouraging students to lead "Christ-Centered" lives; and
- Developing a consciousness of the family of God by providing service to others.

THANK YOU TO OUR ANNUAL FUND DONORS

ALUMNI

Banhart, Larry & Carolyn
 Barenie, John & Gail
 Beaver, William
 Bedka, David & Amy
 Bednarek, Marilyn
 Behary, Richard & Anita
 Bodnar, John II
 Brenner, Steven
 Calarie, David & Kathleen
 Carroll, John
 Courtright, Richard & Mary
 Cullen, Brian & Amanda
 Daville, Sylvia
 Doherty, Paul E. & Kathleen
 Donner, James & Carole
 Donner, Molly
 Dvorscak, John & Rosemarie
 Faulkner, Lois Lebryk
 Fitzpatrick, Michael & Angela
 Gallagher, Lawrence Mr. & Mrs.
 Germick, Paul
 Golumbeck, Michael
 Grecnik, Christopher
 Gronek, Michael & Annette
 Guenzer, Charles
 Haralovich, Barbara
 Harker, Jay & Debra
 Herrin, James & Patricia
 Huppenthal, Dan & Jeanine
 Jackowski, Ronald
 Jackson, David & Mary
 Jencopale, Ronald & Linnea
 Kristy, Amanda
 Kruger, Christa
 Kulasa, Allen
 Last, Nora
 Lenart, John & Meghan
 Lenart, Phillip
 Maman, Patrick & Patricia
 Mathews, Harold & Laura
 McNerney, Joan
 Melton, Sandra
 Meyer, Thomas & Carrie
 Michalak, Thomas & Patty
 Miller, Gary & Shar
 Mitcheltree, Mark
 Murphy, Patricia
 Nagel, David
 Nahnsen, Mark & Agnes
 Nies, Thomas & Denise
 Novosel, Joseph & Mary
 O'Brien, Kerry & Lynne
 Ossanna, Gloria
 Ozelie, Mark & Laura
 Palikan, Greg & Pam
 Pellar, John & Claudia
 Pena, Philip & Cathy
 Plautz, Danette
 Ryfa, Jeffrey
 Shelton, William & Mary
 Smolen, Christopher
 Smolen, Harry J.



FUTURE DONORS GET EARLY START

Before graduating from OLG School, the Class of 2009 made a donation of \$1,830.59 to the school to assist in the purchase of a SmartBoard for the eighth-grade classroom. The funds were additional dollars raised by the students for their class trip to Indianapolis this past spring. The students decided they wanted their gift to help OLG School reach its goal of providing additional educational opportunities to future students by installing SmartBoard technology into every classroom. The class donation is not part of the Annual Fund drive, but is sincerely appreciated by all in the OLG family.

Sobek, Susan
 Somodi, Andrew
 Sowinski-Hamlett, Jackie
 Spring, Donna
 Stassin, Larry & Ann
 Steiner, Terry & Jennifer
 Swinehart, James & Karen
 Topor, Michael
 Tulig, Michael & Anne
 Veneziano, Anthony
 Veneziano, David & Susan
 Vrabel, Joyce
 West, Carole
 Wieser, Gilbert & Eileen
 Williams, Michael
 Wolak, Barbara
 Woodward, Jason
 Zolkos, Peter & Michelle

BUSINESSES

Baxter Printing, Inc.
 BP Fabric of America
 Christenson Chevrolet
 D. Ghezzi Construction
 Dean's Landscaping
 Doctor's Pharmacy, Inc.
 Dunhill Formal Wear
 Excelon
 Ferree Movers
 First Midwest Bank

Grimmer Family Ltd.
 Partnership
 Jeffrey Stolarz, D.D.S.
 Konni & Karen Kuiper
 Korellis Roofing
 Kusiak Construction, Inc.
 Levin Tire Center
 Pitney Bowes
 Pleasant View Dairy
 Popa Heating & Cooling
 Precision Management, LLC
 Project Resource & Dvelopment
 State Line Pizza
 Subway Sandwiches
 Verizon

FACULTY

Dodd, Rita and Bobby
 Drake, Judi & Daniel
 Franzen, Beth
 Grisafi, Luanne
 Jackman, Deborah & Roger
 Kolbus, Paula
 Kristy, Heather
 O'Dor, Patricia
 Reid, Janet & Daniel
 Robbins, Cheryl & Dennis
 Sroka, Joseph & Delores
 Veneziano, Georgia & David
 Wojtanowicz, Victoria
 Wozniak, Kathy

FRIENDS

Anonymous Donor
 Brown, Thomas E.
 Dumezich, Daniel
 Fulka, Bruce
 Krajewski, Anna
 Oboy, Stanely & Irene
 Rudolph, Michael
 Rawski, C.
 Sasewich, Marilyn
 Spekis, Alfred

GRANDPARENTS

Barnebee, Marie
 Belle, Sandra
 Benko, Larry & Sandra
 Boleski, Gertrude
 Bradtke, Robert & Roberta
 Buckley, Ken & Geraldine
 Cusack, Marilyn
 Eickleberry, Sharon
 Gaines, Gloria
 Garza, Richard & Connie
 Gil, Ralph & Maria
 Gordish, John
 Gross, Arthur & Bertha
 Gruszkowski, Georgiana
 Olmos, Enedina
 Peres, Michael

Continued next page 

Ramos, John
Ramos, Lydia
Rocky, Dorothy
Rucinski, Peter & Beverly
Young-Ready, Katy
Zisoff, Terry & Patsy
Zuccarelli, Rich & Gerrie

PARENTS

Annoymous Donor
Arredondo, Mark & Tracey
Barnebee, Bill & Jennifer
Barry, Stacey
Barsich, Michael & Heather
Boleski, Charles & Gina
Bradtke, James & Kelly
Brown, Dwayne & Andrea
Castro, Adam & Annette
Cazares, Rosita A.
Cossey, George & Kelli
Cusack-Marvel, Eileen
Deleon, Luis & Angela
Dernulc, Daniel & Cindy
Dernulc, Janice
Duran, Francisco & Maria
Dutton, Larry & Michelle
Eickleberry, Stacey
Ernst, Mark & Patricia
Fairchild, Richard & Kim
Feddeler, Daniel & Jennifer
Feezel, Kathryn
Flores, Sergio & Veronica
Fowler, Richard & Susan
Gallegos, Vincente & Maria
Garcia, Jose & Michele
Garza, Richard & Veronica
Gerba, Joseph & Mary
Giordano, Peter & Joanne
Glick, Marcus & Joann
Gomez, Feliz
Gonzalez, Oscar & Eloisa
Gordish, Mark & Cindy
Gordon, Michael & Luzelena
Gruszkowski, Jerome & Joann
Guerrero, Francisco & Norma
Guzman, Raul & Kathleen
Haluska, Thomas & Linda
Hamilton, William & Tonya
Hays, Richard & Lisa
Herrera, Estanislao & Carmen
Hobson, Dave & Paulette
Holder, Joshua & Aubrey
Johnson, Brice & Ramona
Kalinowski, Dan & Karen
Komyatte, Jude & Caterina
Kowalski, John & Teresa
Krask, Paul & Julie
Kristy, Michael & Lisa
Krukowski, Joyce
Larmon, Waldo & Charleen
Magallon, Mel & Sonia
Maldonado, Dora
Medina, Eduardo
Melendez, Israel & Melissa
Mendez, Juana
Mestrovich, Stephanie
Mitchell, Michael & Jacqueline
Morana, Marilyn

Mullaney, Paul & Kelly
Munoz, Adam & Elizabeth
Munoz, Guillermo & Marthia
Ochoa, Andres & Gloria
Opach, Alex & Teresa
Parker, Theresa
Pruitt, Joseph & Juanita
Puntillo, Ray & Mary
Ramos-Valdivia, Renee
Randall, Barbara
Reyes, Monica
Rucinski, Deanna
Savarino, Dino & Charlene
Semanick, Daniel & Patty
Severson, Peter & Michelle
Sharp, Elizabeth
Shive, Charles & Cynthia
Smith, Dean & Kristen
Smith, Gregory & Rhefinette
Sobczak, Michael & Mary Ann
Sorrell, Christopher, & Lenora
Stickann, Mike
Sullivan, Edward & Donna
Witham, Jr. Theodore & Tara
Young, Jeffrey & Linda

PARISHIONERS

Alexander, Helen
Allison, Thomas
Barnes, Patricia
Bartell, Rita
Batcho, George & Mary Ann
Bercellie, John Jr.
Bilka, Michael & Jacqueline
Bogusz, Sophie
Bohling, Cynthia
Bohling, Jane
Bukovac, Matt & Mary
Burczyk, Lorraine
Camarena, Rose Marie
Carstensen, Darryl & Teresa
Catolin, Elmer & Mayleen
Cengel, George & Catherine
Colter, Richard & Linda
Cummins, Mary
Cziperle, Mary Ann
Daronatsy, Shirley
Daville, Beatrice
Daville, Douglas
Dernulc, Ed & Julie
Diacek, Geraldine
Doffin, Leon & Nancy
Doherty, Paul & Mary
Dombrowski, David
Dombrowski, Phil Mr. & Mrs.
Drabek, Joseph & Carol
Dresden, Gary & Judie
Dupin, Dolores
Fischer, Jon
Fisher, Mary Jane
Fistrovich, Stephanie
Fitzpatrick, Mary
Foster, Ralph & Diane
Franz, Delbert & Imon
Franz, James & Patricia
Frazier, Donna
Furjel, Joseph & Monica
Garcia, Mr. & Mrs. Rudolph
Gembala, Mathew Sr.

Golub, John & Clara
Golumbeck, Ed & Karen
Gonzales, Ernesto & Maria
Gorsich, Mathew & Mary Ann
Grencik, Steve & Terrie
Grimmer, Greg & Aggie
Groat, Rose
Gutierrez, James & Mary
Gutierrez, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph
Haenny, John & Mary
Halas, Virginia B.
Hanusin, Joseph & Lorraine
Haralovich, Vera
Hermann, Mr. & Mrs. Eugene
Herod, Eleanor
Hmurovic, Albert & Joan
Hoffman, Herb & Rosemary
Hoffman, Patricia Ann
Holub, Frank & Madeleine
Horvat, William & Cindy
Houck, Ann
Huppenthal, Larry & Anne Marie
Ivanich, Frank & Rose
Jackson, Dorothy
Johnson, Rose
Kapsky, Violet
Kaptur, Joe & Isabelle
Kendra, Nancy
Kerr, Diane
Killion, Lowell
Kobeszka, Vickie
Kolb, Gerald & Mary
Kolbus, Louis Jr.
Kolisz, Harry
Korbel, Charles & Denise
Kowalski, John & Margaret
Kozlowski, Eugene Sr.
Kuric, Steven & Mary
Kutcka, Joseph & Catherine
Lachowiec, Steve & Krystyna
Lacko, Anne
Langner, Leon & Carole
Lesko, Violet
Lowry, Joseph
Lukich, Brian & Terri
Mackowiak, Ed & Geri
Maley, John & Helen
Marciniac, Richard & Carol
Marlow, Michael & Barbara
Matulis, Charles
Mayernik, Steven & Dorothy
McGruder, Christopher & Tracy
Meilleur, Harold & Gladys
Michalec, Steve
Military, Joseph & Charlotte
Miller, Robert & Jeanne
Murphy, Priscilla
Murray, Thomas & Lucille
Murzyn, Stanley & Helen
Neumaier, Harry & Doris
Noce, Dominic & Joann
O'Malley, Francis
O'Malley, Rosemary
Ostrowski, Terrence & Denise
Palikan, Elsie
Pawlowski, Edward
Penwell, Robert & Margaret
Peters, John & Susan

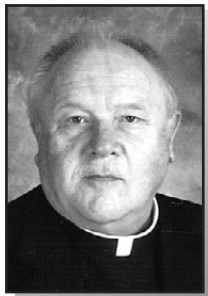
Plautz, Donald & Charmaine
Pnakovich, Mr. & Mrs. Thomas
Pogorzelski, Edward
Pramuk, Richard & Ann
Przybyla, Don & Joan
Puntillo, Ascanio
Putrus, Arthur
Quinn, Michael & Susan
Rajkovich, Thomas & Polly
Rodriguez, Augustine & Margarita
Rokita, Frances
Rose, Jeanette
Sandrick, Anthony & Joyce
Sartini, Evelyn
Schramm, Charles & Mary
Schwegman, Stephen & Cindi
Sencaj, Thomas & Evelyn
Senetar, Janet
Sharkey, Joann
Shiel, Jim & Gloria
Slamkowski, John & Kathy
Smith, Robert & Rita
Smolen, Dolores
Solis, Mr. & Mrs. Jesus
Stenger, James & Nancy
Stevenson, Eric & Gertrude
Stiglitz, Arlene
Stone, William & Judith
Strom, E. Lynn
Surufka, Ann
Sutko, Jerome & Pamela
Szanto, Nandor & Tilly
Thompson, Charles & Denise
Topor, Ted
Torrenga, Angela
Trela, Marie
Trgovich, Mark
Trytek, Dyonizy & Magdalena
Turich, Ann
VerWey, Thomas & Sandra
Vician, Kathleen
Victor, Lenore
Villarreal, Joseph & Esperanza
Williams, Ruby
Witkewicz, Richard & Delores
Wohadlo, Harriet
Wojcinski, David & Elaine
Woodward, Jerry & Nancy
Wrobel, Stanley & Victoria
Yothment, Margaret
Ziemniak, Chester & Virginia
Ziolkowski, Frank & Sheila
Zolkos, Terry
Zurek, Joann

SCHOOL BOARD

Companik, Phil & Christine
Deguilio, Jon & Barb
Dernulc, Leslie
Gortat, David & Kathy
Jelski, Ron & Martha
Kaim, Michael & Christine
Lenart, Richard & Virginia
Magallon, Sonia
Mullaney, Carol
Stickler, Julie
Tomko, Marilyn
Zahorsky, Teresa

It all starts with the Sign of the Cross

When parents present their child to receive the Sacrament of Baptism, one of the first things that they do along with the priest/deacon and godparent(s) is make the Sign of the Cross on the forehead of their child. Being marked with the Sign of the Cross – the sign of Jesus – is what we as Catholics share with our children, both as parents and members of Christ's Church community. The Sign of the Cross was also



**REV.
EDWARD
MOSZUR**

made in blessing and commitment to Jesus and His message 55 years ago when the building next to our church was blessed and dedicated to Catholic education of our children and community.

The faith, vision, courage, dedication and self-sacrifice that built our parish and school at its beginning are the same qualities present today in all

who support our school – parents, parishioners, alumni, grandparents, teachers and staff. These qualities, while evident in other educational centers, are unique at Our Lady of Grace and every Catholic school because of the commitment to live and share our faith. There is a difference, at times intangible but always present, in a Catholic school that makes the difference. For we all know excellent teachers and outstanding examples of education that take place in public schools and non-sectarian private school.

In a special issue of Catholic School Management entitled "Managing Successful Catholic Schools in Difficult Financial Times," one of the points was to have a clear statement regarding the underlying purpose of the school – its philosophy. The article noted:

■ "The school integrates elements of faith with learning;

■ The school teaches a well-articulated program of religion and proclaims Gospel values;

■ The school is a proponent of Community Service Learning Programs;

■ The school provides worship opportunities, Liturgies, para-liturgical

services, and retreats."

These points must continue to be embodied in our school's philosophy and purpose. We must keep them before us in all we do and all we plan. Our parish school is what Jesus refers to in the Gospel about being the "salt of the earth." If the "salt" loses its flavor, it is not good for anything but to be trampled under foot. This is how important the Gospel message is for each of us and for our parish and school.

I believe further proof of the quality of our education helped bring about the recent State of Indiana budgetary consideration. The Indiana Non-Public Education Association's executive director, John Elcesser, has reported a breakthrough for private schools. In June, the General Assembly passed a budget that included a tax credit program for corporate and individual scholarships of \$2.5 million – an opportunity for many children in our state, including our own children at OLG. Time will tell how it will be implemented and utilized by corporations and individuals.

Education is not just expanding knowledge and learning of specific subjects and skills for a job or profession. The whole child is important – not just the child's mind, but the child's soul created by God and redeemed by His Son Jesus. What is unique in a Catholic school is the outward commitment to the faith. It is unique because in a Catholic school, faith-committed people teach and work for the life and salvation of their children. In a Catholic school, children experience many faith-committed persons who are dedicated to the child's welfare, happiness and growth as a human being according to God's plan.

Some will argue it is better to present a whole table of beliefs and ways to live, and then let the child choose. What is lacking in this manner of approaching faith is commitment. The child has no example of commitment – only choice. A person cannot live just with choices and no discussion or decision to commitment. It is the Catholic faith and commitment to a faith-filled life of all those connected to our school that makes our school so uniquely important in the life of our children.

For some of us, the most visible recognition and appearance of our Catholic schools has changed – fewer and fewer religious sisters and brothers. The dress

may have changed, but not the dedication and faith commitment of lay teachers and staff. Maybe this is better – for now it isn't just a special group of people in distinctive dress, but people just like your parents, grandparents, family and neighbors. Maybe it is and will continue to become a stronger witness of the faith for our children.

There has been another noticeable change. The responsibility and dedicated support has grown from just parents and parish to include grandparents, alumni, friends of Catholic education, local business community support, as well as support through grants from foundations. It has been documented in studies that students of a parochial school education do better in high school and college.

All of us must continue to promote our school and the achievement of our students and graduates, whose talent and leadership continue to make great contributions in the local community and beyond. The message of our school to our present and past students is one that clearly will guide them with principles and values, as well as give them a firm academic foundation. This message not only will benefit our students, but also the communities in which they will live and nurture their own families. It is the one we have received and the one we share with our young. It is the message of Christ – unique, complete and of timeless value for our children and ourselves.

Our stewardship of Christ's message is the shared responsibility of every one of us. One of the most important ways in showing it is the evangelization we do, especially in our Catholic schools. This message to evangelize is the constant work of each of us because of our baptismal commitment to turn more and more to Christ. Our own ongoing conversion to Christ is needed for us to witness to our children the value of Christ's message.

Our time, talent and material resources will continue to be necessary for our success in bringing Christ's message to our children and their generations.

With all of our efforts, it is good to remember that we are a people and community of prayer. With the efforts of our stewardship, by working and praying together, we will assure our successes as parish and parish school.

We have been marked with His sign.

WALK-A-THON RAISES \$11,900



Five OLG students were rewarded with a limousine ride to McDonald's and a supreme lunch for obtaining the most pledges in the 2009 Walk-a-Thon. Treated were (front, from left): Gabriela Herrera, Dana Savarino, Miranda Munoz, Ethan Boleski, Michael Kristy; (back) Principal Marilyn Tomko, Ronald McDonald, Teacher Georgia Veneziano, and McDonald's restaurant owner/operator Randy Conn.

Our Lady of Grace School hosted its fifth annual Walk-a-Thon, the students' biggest fundraiser of the school year.

More than 200 children this spring walked the school grounds to meet their personal lap goals. A committee of parents, staff and volunteers made the day special by serving a healthy free lunch for students after the walk.

A total of \$11,900 was raised to benefit the school, thanks in large part to great support from local businesses. Rock 'n' Roll McDonald's at 10326 Indianapolis Blvd. in Highland, owned and operated by Randy Conn, supported the school by offering a "supreme lunch" for the five students who gathered the most pledge money. The supreme lunch included a ride from OLG School in a limousine to the restaurant. Teachers were also eligible for prizes for their pledges.

Thanks to Randy Conn, all the participants, volunteers and donors who made the event a success.

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