



OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP CATHOLIC SCHOOL
Inspiring, Educating, and Transforming Lives since 1946.

Principal Search

EFFECTIVE AS EARLY AS SPRING 2023

Our Lady Of Perpetual Help Catholic School
7625 Cortland Ave.
Dallas, TX 75235
www.olphschoolallas.org



The
Education
Group



Mission

The mission of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic School is to provide students with a Catholic education in a safe and nurturing environment. We will inspire every child to successfully develop in faith, knowledge, and service to the school, parish, family, and world communities.

Vision

Rooted in Catholic teaching and values, we are committed to providing the opportunities for each student to discover their gifts, share their talents, strengthen their faith, and grow in knowledge and service to others. Our teachers will create a learning environment that encourages the pursuit of academic excellence; promotes curiosity and critical thinking; and supports the development of the whole child: spiritually, intellectually, emotionally, socially, and physically.

HISTORY

Established in 1942, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish originally had as its first church a wing of Holy Trinity Church. It then moved to Cortland Avenue in the Love Field neighborhood of Dallas to serve until a new church could be built. The parish hall, built in the summer of 1946, served as the parish school until the present school was finished in 1950. In 1947, the convent was built on parish grounds to house the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word who staffed the school. The purpose of the school was to assist families in the Catholic formation of their children and to educate students to become responsible citizens and committed Catholics.

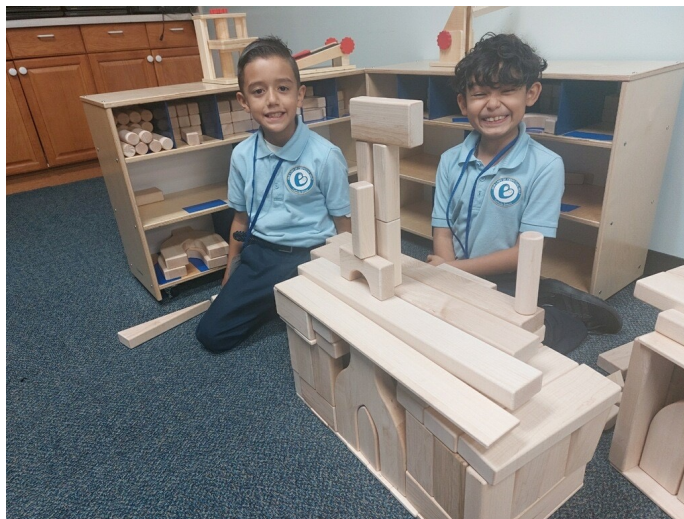
THE SCHOOL

Founded in 1946 as a ministry of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Parish, the School is celebrating 75 years of assisting families in the Catholic formation of their children and educating students to become responsible citizens and committed Catholics. Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic School (OLPH) has evolved over the years to reflect the changing needs of the Church, neighborhood, and society. While the demographics may have changed over the past half century, the overall purpose of the School continues with a clear vision to provide families with an opportunity for their children not only to succeed in school but also to be prepared to make a positive contribution to their community, both locally and globally.





The School is situated on approximately four acres that it shares with the parish church and a convent that houses four Sisters from the Order of the Daughters of the Sacred Heart who direct the Early Childhood Program. As indicated in its FY 2022 Strategic Plan, the School has its sights set on improving existing campus facilities, especially those that enhance safety and security. Currently, there are three main buildings that house classrooms, a cafeteria, library, gymnasium, and administrative offices. Two of the School's six portable buildings serve the Early Childhood Program. Three portables are used as classrooms for Grades 4 and 5 and additional educational support for Title I students. A fourth portable is dedicated to the School's fundraising and marketing efforts and serves as the parish and school Development Office. A practice field for outdoor sports is adjacent to the EC portables.



1. To provide a meaningful environment for the spiritual development of students and to enable them to be formed as knowledgeable and practicing Catholics.
2. That students develop strong leadership skills which they will eventually be able to apply as they become active members of the community.
3. To create an environment in which students can grow and understand their own personal responsibilities as they learn and practice the values of respect for others, property, and authority.
4. That students will be able to not only succeed academically given innovative and challenging programs in all academic areas, but also be able to understand and experience the importance of physical fitness, nutrition and the fine arts, including art, music and drama.
5. Through environmental and global educational opportunities, students will become productive and responsible stewards of the earth and its resources.

At its heart, the School is a community in pursuit of these five goals: spiritual formation, development of strong leadership skills, personal responsibility, the whole-child, and stewardship. Prayer is integral to the School's daily life. Each day begins and ends with prayer, and every Wednesday the school community (Grades 1-8) attends weekly Mass with liturgy prepared by the students and teachers at each grade level on a rotating basis. The School provides sacramental preparation for second- and eighth-grade students who will be receiving the sacraments of Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and Confirmation. Much of the preparation is done during the school day and in partnership with parents.



[Watch a video about OLPH here](#)


Dr. Maria Montessori once said, “Our care of the child should be governed, not by the desire to make him learn things, but by the endeavor always to keep burning within him that light which is called intelligence.” Early childhood learning at OLPH is a Montessori-inspired program that is highly regarded throughout the Diocese. It offers a holistic approach to education for three- to five-year-old children using multi-sensory, manipulative materials that are developmentally appropriate. Teachers capitalize on the child's natural curiosity, and independence is encouraged in a clutter-free and nurturing environment that fosters both personal and academic growth. The children are grouped at various levels of maturity and ability to work and learn together at their own pace. Thus, younger children have role models, and older children develop empathy as they learn the value of helping others. Academic emphasis is placed on reading, writing and arithmetic.


Our Lady of Perpetual Help is an English-language immersion school, and the Diocesan curriculum serves as a model for content and pacing at each grade level. Core elementary subjects include: English language arts, math, religion, science, and social studies. Offerings in art, music, and physical education round out the whole-child approach to the students’ education. One-to-one technology is integrated at every grade level with daily use of a STEM lab and TEAL room (Technology Enabled Active Learning). Web-based programs such as SeeSaw, IXL, and BrainPOP enhance OLPH’s curriculum at every grade level. The computer-based program, Accelerated Reader, is infused into the language arts curriculum throughout Grades 1-8. Click [HERE](#) to view the guide to the Diocesan curriculum’s scope and sequence at every grade level.




The School has revitalized its athletic program this year and again offers several sports for both boys and girls in middle school. These include: volleyball, cross country, basketball, track and field, and soccer. Several extra-curricular activities and clubs are provided to meet the interests and talents of the students. Students in Grade 5-8 learn Ballet Folklorico dances, and middle school students read and discuss a book of the month through Book Club or participate in Dungeons and Dragons to hone their strategy skills. Choir is offered for students in Grades 1-8, and the songs they learn are sung at Mass and various school events.

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP FAST FACTS

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| SCHOOL  | <p>Founded: 1946</p> <p>EC Enrollment: 26</p> <p>K-8 Enrollment: 133</p> <p>Total Enrollment: 159</p> <p>Average class size: 16</p> <p>Ethnicity: 98% Hispanic/Latino</p> <p>Catholic: 98%</p> |
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| FINANCE  | <p>Tuition K-8:</p> <p>Parishioner 1 Child - \$4,815.00</p> <p>Non-parishioner 1 Child - \$5,450.00</p> <p>PreK3 and PreK4: \$488.50/month</p> <p>Tuition Assistance: \$315,000.00/two-year average</p> |
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| FACULTY  | <p>Instructional Staff:</p> <p>Full- and Part-time: 21</p> <p>Ethnicity: Hispanic/Latino 77%</p> <p>Catholic: 77%</p> <p>Average years teaching at OLPH: 6 Years</p> |
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ASSOCIATIONS AND AFFILIATIONS:



**Texas Catholic
Conference of Bishops**



Living in Dallas

Dallas is a thriving, global city with a diverse economy and vibrant culture. The city is ninth largest in the continental United States and is the main cultural and economic center of the 12-county Dallas-Fort Worth metropolitan area—at 7 million people, it is the fourth-largest metropolitan area in the United States. Dallas enjoys an economy based on banking, commerce, telecommunications, computer technology, energy, healthcare, and transportation.

A vibrant educational and intellectual city, the DFW area is home to more than 12 institutions of learning, including Southern Methodist University, Texas Christian University, the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, University of Dallas, University of Texas at Dallas, as well as the Perot Museum of Nature and Science and the Holocaust and Human Rights Museum. Four Nobel Laureates live and work among these institutions. It is a city with a large and collegial independent school network as well as an active non-profit and philanthropic community.

Downtown Dallas has undergone an impressive expansion and energized appearance with the Dallas Arts District providing leadership. The Dallas Arts District, the largest contiguous urban arts district in the nation, spanning 68 acres and 19 contiguous blocks, is home to the City's leading visual and performing arts institutions, whose range and depth make Dallas a destination for the arts that is unique in our country. The District is comprised of museums, performance halls, corporate offices, residences, restaurants, churches and a high school for the performing arts. There are numerous opportunities throughout the Metroplex for family outings—George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum, Dallas Arboretum, Fort Worth Botanic Garden, the Dallas and Fort Worth Zoos and Dallas Aquarium, to name a few.



Professional sports draw large crowds. The NFL Dallas Cowboys, MLB Texas Rangers, NHL Dallas Stars, NBA Dallas Mavericks, and MLS FC Dallas offer year-round opportunities for spectators. High school and college sports are not far behind when it comes to fan participation and interest. The cityscape is punctuated by multiple skyscrapers and handsome architecture. Iconic buildings include the Reunion Tower, JFK Memorial, and Dallas City Hall, designed by famed architect I. M. Pei. The Margaret Hunt Hill Bridge, with its signature steel arch, expands the Dallas skyline and is a notable landmark to the city's western corridor. As for weather, winters are usually mild, spring and fall are short, and summers are hot and sometimes humid. Air-conditioning reigns.

The Position

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic School is seeking an experienced, confident and dynamic principal who has proven success in an educational environment, preferably a Catholic elementary school. Above all, s/he must be a person of unquestionable integrity with a deep commitment to the Catholic faith. The principal has the responsibility for the School's overall management and leads the development, implementation and monitoring of an exceptional academic program that supports and promotes the School's mission and values. The School is a ministry of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, and as such, the Principal reports to the Pastor and serves as his partner in the school community's spiritual growth.

The next principal of OLPH will enter an educational environment that is a diverse, loving community that views itself as family--close-knit, caring, and devoted to the School. S/he will find an engaged and supportive pastor who is new to OLPH but very experienced in working with parish school principals in this Diocese. Moreover, the next Principal will also find involved parents, dedicated teachers, hard-working volunteers, and a strong, experienced advisory council who pour their hearts, souls, and contributions into the School's success.

EFFECTIVE AS EARLY AS SPRING 2023



Opportunities & Challenges

Opportunities for the next Principal abound at OLPH. S/he will be able to build on the excellent work accomplished by the steady and experienced hand of the current Interim Principal. A strategic plan is in place and ready to be implemented. Through the School's current Self-Study, thoughtful planning and work toward the School's upcoming fall 2023 accreditation is in progress. Moreover, the next Principal can focus on the School's growth in academic excellence and Catholic identity and leave the fundraising to the successful efforts of the Advisory Council and Development Office. Yet, the next Principal will face several challenges in leading OLPH into the future, as schools with limited resources often do. As such, the next Principal will be asked to focus on the following priorities for the next three to five years:

PRIORITIES:

- Recruit and retain students and families
- Recruit exceptionally talented and qualified teachers and staff
- Improve quality of education and professional development opportunities
- Improve consistent and effective communication across all sectors
- Set a consistent expectation for all to be accountable
- Provide structure and direction



Qualities & Qualifications

The successful candidate is required to be a practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church and possess a master's degree in educational leadership (preferably Catholic leadership) or its equivalent. Although not required, it is highly desirable that the next Principal be bilingual. The next Principal will be expected to embrace the School's mission and values and bring the following experience and abilities to the position:

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND ABILITIES:

- Strong leadership ability that inspires others and engenders confidence
- Ability to attract, supervise, and empower faculty and staff
- Ability to attract and retain students
- Exceptional communication, management, and organizational skills
- Experience in working with school boards
- Knowledge of best practices in teaching and learning

The successful candidate will possess:

PERSONAL QUALITIES:

- A passion for education and children
- High moral and ethical values
- An ability to build trust and community
- Ease in making fair and firm decisions
- A flexible, collaborative and confident approach to working with others
- A creative and innovative mindset
- A warm and approachable personality



How to Apply

Applications will be accepted until the successful candidate is found. Therefore, it is important to submit your materials as soon as possible.

Prospective candidates are required to be a practicing Catholic and possess a master's degree in educational leadership or its equivalent. Although not required, it is highly desirable that the next Principal be bilingual. Please send the following materials in PDF documents to the search consultants:

- Letter of interest specifically addressing this position and school
- Résumé
- Statement of educational leadership philosophy
- List of five references (four professional and one personal) with email and phone contact information as well as a statement regarding the relationship to the applicant
- Additional letters of reference are accepted but not required



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The School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national or ethnic origin, gender, sexual orientation, or any other legally protected status in the administration of its educational, admission, financial aid or employment policies, or any other programs administered by the School.