



Our Mother of Good Counsel School was established in 1933 to provide a strong elementary school program to families in the Los Feliz area. Beginning with 36 students in two small cottages on Ambrose Street, OMGC grew and another house was purchased on Dracena Drive to accommodate the 7th and 8th grade. Work on the present school building began in 1949. From its beginning until 1968 the school was staffed by the Sisters of Immaculate Heart. It is presently served by dedicated lay teachers and staff. A Catholic, co-educational program within the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, our school enrolls students in Transitional Kindergarten through 8th grade. Our school is a parish school closely affiliated with Our Mother of Good Counsel Parish.

Our Mother of Good Counsel School

A Community of Faith and Excellence

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Our Mother of Good Counsel School

FACT SHEET

Enrollment: Approximately 135 students in grades TK through 8 are enrolled at Our Mother of Good Counsel School.

Promotion: Our students are well-prepared for high school, easily transitioning to Catholic High Schools, such as Loyola, St. Francis, Immaculate Heart, and Providence, and the new academic, social and spiritual opportunities before them.

Standardized Testing: Students participate in the archdiocesan-wide, standardized testing, which is used for diagnostic purposes to assist teachers in gauging progress and enhancing curriculum. ACRE testing occurs in grades 5 & 8; STAR testing occurs in all grades for Early Literacy, Reading, and Math. This distinguishes Catholic schools and demonstrates how instruction focuses on comprehensive learning and retention.

Class size: The average class size is 13.

Teaching staff: The school employs 10 full-time teachers, and 3 part-time teachers. All teachers have or are working toward California teaching credentials.

Students: Approximately 40 percent of students live in the immediate area and 60 percent commute to the school.

Ethnicity: All God's children. We are a uniquely diverse school with children from all cultural backgrounds. Cultural differences are celebrated and welcomed.

Special programs: We strive to provide opportunities for all students to participate. We offer programs within the school day, at no cost to parents, such as Certificate of Merit and the Spelling Bee, we also offer after school Sports and Enrichment.

Service learning: All students participate in service learning. Students in the upper grades perform hours of community service work in harmony with Catholic social teachings. All grades engage in service projects to reach out to people in need before Thanksgiving, during Advent and during Lent.

Uniform: Students wear a uniform daily. Girls wear a plaid skirt or jumper or navy pants with white or navy polo-style shirts. Boys wear navy pants with white or navy polo-style shirts. Polos, sweatshirts and sweaters bear the school logo. There is a special formal uniform for Mass and field trip days.

Mission

Our Mother of Good Counsel School promotes the growth of faith in Christ, academic excellence and responsible citizenship. As a small community, together with parents, faculty and staff, it is our goal to develop these values in each student.

Pillars of Catholic Education

- Faith
- Academic Excellence
- Stewardship

Faith Foundation

Our Mother of Good Counsel School integrates the Catholic faith into all aspects of school life. This Christian foundation presents itself in many ways*:

- Regular opportunities for the school community to experience prayer and the Sacraments.
- Obvious and visible signs, sacramentals, traditions and rituals of the Catholic Church exist throughout the school.
- Authentic Catholic teachings, which include a curriculum infused with Catholic values throughout the “secular” subjects.
- Ongoing formation of teachers for catechetical and instructional competencies.
- Emphasis on partnership with parents—as the primary educators of their children—with fundamental concern in their spiritual and academic education.
- Service-orientation fostered among students.
- All staff members are actively engaged and committed to bringing the Gospel into the total educational experience.

*Catholic Identity factors for measuring the integration of faith life into the entire program as defined by the Western Catholic Educational Association.

Technology: Our computer lab offers students access to a class set of computers. Each class participates in a formal computer lab each week. Classrooms have access to portable iPad carts with a 2:1 iPad ratio.

Art: Students participate in a weekly art and music class. Art is included as a departmentalized subject in the upper grades.

Foreign Language: Spanish is infused throughout the day in the lower grades. In the upper grades it is a weekly class and a departmentalized subject. Our Spanish program is not intended for fluency, but instead for exposure and success in a high school language program.

Physical Education/Athletics: A comprehensive physical education program offers students opportunity for exercise and team sports. Students may also opt to participate in competitive team sports with students from other regional Catholic and Christian schools. This is made possible due to our participation in the Catholic Youth Organization, which organizes programs for boys and girls in flag football, volleyball, and basketball.

Activities/Student organizations: A range of activities allow for a well-rounded elementary experience, including Student Government, Yearbook, Spelling Bee, Choir, Debate, Newspaper, Beautification Team, and school Buddies.

Facilities: Our school features 10 classrooms each equipped with AV equipment and Apple TV, a research room, a resource room, a multi-purpose facility serves as a gym and assembly space, a play structure, blacktop play yard and basketball courts, and outdoor lunch tables. As part of the larger education ministry of the Catholic Church, students also regularly attend mass in the church.

Cost to Educate: The actual cost to educate a child at OMGC is approximately \$6,400 per year. The current tuition rate is \$5,900 per child. We fundraise to make up the difference and ask families in need of financial aid to apply for CEF tuition assistance.

Percentage of students receiving financial assistance: Approximately 10% percent of students receive tuition assistance. Amounts of aid vary depending upon demonstrated financial need as determined by the Catholic Education Foundation.

Other Fund Development Activities: Our Mother of Good Counsel School reaches out to build community and grow financial resources via its annual Fall Festival, annual Walk-a-thon, and various smaller fundraising activities.