



# THE ROYAL TIMES

## Academy of Our Lady of Grace

# Mother's Day: Honoring Mom

*By: Andrea Chucaralao*

Mother's Day is a day that individuals everywhere observe to show appreciation for the incredible women who have given birth to them, cared for them, and loved them throughout their entire lives. It is a day to be thankful for all that mothers do and to express appreciation for their constant devotion and nurturing.

In this article, the history of Mother's Day, creative ways to celebrate the day, and some special gift ideas to make the day memorable for the lovely moms in one's life will be examined.

### The History of Mother's Day

Mother's Day has a long history that dates back to ancient times when the Greeks and Romans used to celebrate festivals to worship mother goddesses. In America, the modern celebration of Mother's Day originated at the start of the 20th century as a result of Anna Jarvis's initiative, who wanted to honor her mother's life of love and help. On the second Sunday in May, Mother's Day is currently celebrated in most countries all over the world, such as the U.S., Canada, Australia, and the majority of Europe.



### How to Celebrate Mother's Day

There are many ways to celebrate Mother's Day and make it a special and memorable day for mom. From little gestures of love and appreciation to grand surprises, the key is to make mom feel loved and appreciated on her special day. Here are some ideas to help one celebrate Mother's Day meaningfully:

Cont'd. on page 2



### **1. Plan a Special Brunch**

Gather the family together and treat mom to a delicious homemade brunch. One can make her favorite dishes or even try out a new recipe to surprise her. Do not forget to set a beautiful table with fresh flowers and her favorite drinks for an ideal morning.

### **2. Write a Heartfelt Letter**

Take the time to write a heartfelt letter to mom expressing love and gratitude for all that she does. Share favorite memories, funny stories, and the reasons why she is so special. A handwritten letter is a thoughtful and personal gift that she will treasure forever.

### **3. Plan a Fun Family Activity**

Plan an enjoyable family outing that mom will love, such as a picnic in the park, day at the beach, or a hike outdoors. Quality time with one's loved ones and new experiences are a great way to commemorate Mother's Day and let mom know how important she is.

Mother's Day is the perfect time to celebrate the wonderful women who have touched lives with their wisdom, guidance, and love. Regardless of whether there is a special brunch to attend, one writes a love letter, or gives a thoughtful present, the most important thing is to let mom know just how much she is loved, cherished, and how much one loves everything that she does. Make every Mother's Day a day to remember by showering mom with love and appreciation, and helping her feel how much she is loved in one's heart.

# Confirmation

By: Fatna, Catalina, and Skylar

Confirmation is one of the seven sacraments in the Catholic Church. It is a rite in which a baptized person strengthens their faith and receives the gifts of the Holy Spirit. It is often seen as a deepening of one's commitment to the Church.

On May 16, 2025, the Seventh grade received the sacrament of Confirmation in the church. In the months leading up to the big day, the Seventh graders participated in a retreat and learned many lessons about this important sacrament with their teachers.

Students reflected on their spiritual journeys and wrote letters to Bishop Flesey, expressing their desire to be confirmed. They were given the honor of Bishop Flesey coming to celebrate the beautiful ceremony with them. Bishop Flesey included a touching homily on how the Holy Spirit is like a navigation map. The bishop was also kind and funny.

As tradition, all the candidates had chosen a saint to be their role model.

Furthermore, parents, godparents, and parishioners filled the pews in support of the young candidates, making them all feel very special.



# First Holy Communion

By Isabella Freda



By: Andrea Chucaralao

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# Honoring The Brave

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**The 80th Anniversary of Victory Day and the Timeless Significance of Memorial Day.**

**As spring blossoms and the scent of blooming flowers fills the air, two significant days of remembrance approach on the calendar - Victory Day and Memorial Day. This year, Victory Day marks its 80th anniversary, a milestone that invites a deeper dig into its historical significance.**

**Victory Day, celebrated on May 9, is a day of immense historical importance. It marks the end of World War II in Europe, a conflict that claimed millions of lives and reshaped the world. This year, as the 80th anniversary of this momentous day is commemorated, the bravery and sacrifice of those who fought for freedom and peace are remembered. Victory Day serves as a poignant reminder of the cost of war and the value of peace. It is a day to reflect on the lessons of history and to honor those who risked their lives for freedom.**

**In the spirit of these commemorations, communities across the nation come together to pay tribute. Parades featuring veterans, active military personnel, and military vehicles wind through streets lined with waving flags. Speeches and ceremonies at war memorials and veterans' homes provide a platform for sharing stories, expressing gratitude, and remembering those who gave their lives.**

**Victory Day, while not widely recognized in the United States, is celebrated with great fervor in many parts of the world, particularly in countries that were part of the former Soviet Union. The day is marked with military parades, fireworks, and concerts. Families gather to remember loved ones lost in the war and to honor the veterans who are still with them.**

**Following closely on the heels of Victory Day, Memorial Day is another significant day of remembrance. Observed on the last Monday of May, Memorial Day is a time to honor and remember the men and women who have died while serving in the U.S. military. Memorial Day is more than just a long weekend or the unofficial start of summer. It is a day to reflect on the sacrifices made by military personnel and to honor their memory.**

**One way honoring their memory can be done is by visiting cemeteries and laying flowers and placing flags on the graves of fallen soldiers. This simple act is a powerful way to show respect and gratitude.**

**Cont'd. on page 7.**

By: Andrea Chucaralao

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# Honoring The Brave

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Cont'd. from page 6.



**Memorial Day has a solemn tone. It is a day for quiet reflection, when many people also take a moment of silence at 3 p.m., local time, a national moment of remembrance.**

**Memorial Day is also a time for communities to come together. Picnics, family gatherings, and sporting events are common, creating a sense of unity and shared gratitude. It is a day to be with loved ones and remember that the freedom enjoyed is thanks to the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice.**

**As the 80th anniversary of Victory Day and another Memorial Day approach, it is important to take a moment from busy lives to reflect on the true meaning of these days. The memory of the fallen is honored, the courage of the veterans is celebrated, and the peace and freedom enjoyed today are appreciated. These days are not just about remembering the past, they are about acknowledging the sacrifices made and cherishing the peace the veterans have allowed Americans to enjoy.**

**Both Victory Day and Memorial Day serve as reminders of the courage, sacrifice, and dedication of military personnel. They are days to reflect, remember, and honor.**



WRITTEN BY:  
ISABELLA MARIE  
GAYOMA



# AOLG

## SPRING SHOW AND ART SHOW EXHIBIT



PICTURES BY:  
MARY LEACH

### BAND CONCERT

On May 21, the band concert was part of AOLG's Spring Concert. The band show was directed by Mr. Andrew Beals.

The band performed, "Hot Cross Buns," "Au Claire de la Lune," "London Bridge," "Merrily We Roll Along," "Theme from Beethoven's 9<sup>th</sup> Symphony," "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star," "Yankee Doodle," "Can't Buy Me Love," "The School Blues," and "We Will Rock You."

The instruments played were: the flutes, clarinets, trumpets, drums, and bells.



### DRAMA CLUB

AOLG's Drama Club performed some songs from their sold out play, Matilda Jr.

The club performed: "The Hammer," "When I Grow Up," "Quiet," and "Revolting Children."

Matilda Jr. was directed by Ms. Emily Stanzione and choreographed by Ms. Marianna Tsartolia.



### SPRING SHOW

Ms. Emily Stanzione, Ms. Vera Olinski and Mr. Mark Bottoni prepared K-5<sup>th</sup> graders to perform for all their parents.

The Kindergarten sang, "The World Is A Rainbow" and "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands." The 1<sup>st</sup> graders sang, "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" and "A Dream is a Wish Your Heart Makes." The 2<sup>nd</sup> graders sang, "Pure Imagination" and "When You Wish Upon a Star." The 3<sup>rd</sup> graders sang, "Imagine" and "Put a Little Love in Your Heart." The 4<sup>th</sup> graders sang, "Heal the World" and "I Have a Dream." The 5<sup>th</sup> graders sang, "Seasons of Love" and "Hold us Together." The Italian classes sang, "Nel Blu, Dipinto Di Blu." (Volare) For the finale, all of the students sang, "When You Believe."

### ART SHOW

AOLG's Art Show Exhibit was prepared by Ms. Valentina Leuzzi and Ms. Lauren Morich.

The theme this year was "Under the Sea." Each grade level showcased their talent by creating different sea creatures using various art materials such as: crayons, water color, paint and clay.

All parents and guests were invited to view the children's art work in the Cafeteria.



# AOLG GOLF OUTING

## HOSTED AT CRYSTAL SPRINGS

**On May 20, the Academy of Our Lady of Grace held its 8th Annual Golf Outing at Crystal Springs Golf Course. It was a sold out event.**

**The day started off with all of the golfers eating breakfast and then starting the 18 golf holes.**

**Once the golfers were finished, they came back for dinner and prizes.**

**There were about 40 prizes, so many people had a good opportunity to win.**



**The event was supported and sponsored by many local businesses, which made the event a huge success. Without them, the event would not have been possible.**

**By Gia, Vasi, and Luciana**



Royal Times members work on articles for the paper.



## What Has the “Royal Times Club” Been Doing? Signora O.

**As the 2024 - 2025 school year comes to an end, the “Royal Times Club” members continue to produce articles and photo pages through Canva. [Canva is a graphic design platform which allows the students to create their own layout pages for the paper.]**

**The students are also reviewing the importance of writing in third person and remembering to include dates. These are just a few of the important details for real journalists to include: “Who, What, Where, When, Why, and How,” without personalization.**

**Thus, the students are continually challenged to report the news and facts as observers and not participants.**