

## Different by Design...

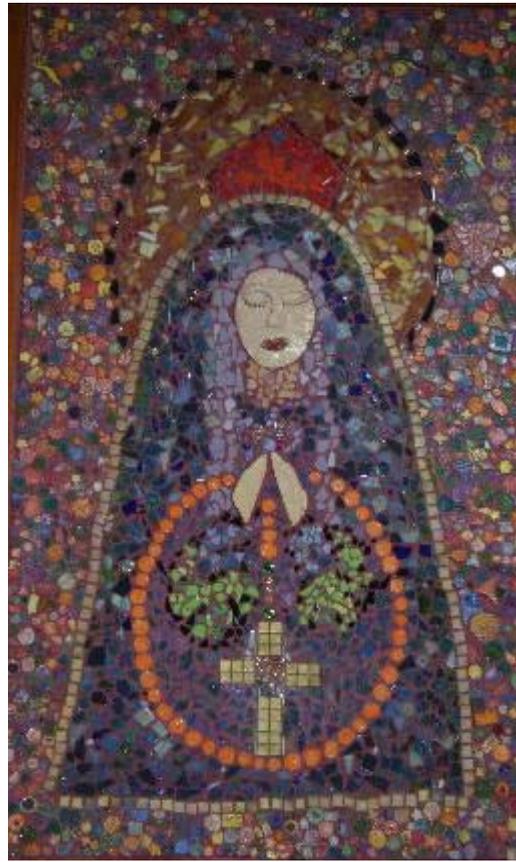
Mother of Sorrows is proud to offer a comprehensive program for children from preschool through eighth grade, specifically:

- ◆ Prekindergarten (3-5 year olds)
- ◆ Kindergarten & Kindergarten Plus
- ◆ Elementary School (Grades 1-5)
- ◆ Middle School (Grades 6-8)

We offer a variety of excellent programs in a new state-of-the-art facility that challenges our students academically, enriches them spiritually, and provides a healthy social environment, all aided by smaller classroom settings. Our program offers Advanced Math which includes Algebra and Math Competitions; Advanced Language which includes Spanish for PK-8th Grade and French for middle school, English Festival Competitions, Reading Specialists and Full Learning Support on staff, Science and Technology Laboratories, Science Competitions, Robotics and Robotics Competitions, Music, Choir, Band, Drama Club and Dramatic Productions, Art Competitions, Track & Cross Country, Girls & Boys Volleyball, Girls & Boys Basketball, Lacrosse, Football, Cheerleading, Jump Rope Club, Student Government, on-site musical instruction and so much more! Our Technology Department has expanded its resources to include personal laptop computers for every eighth grade student. Additionally, smart boards (interactive chalkboards) have been placed in our classrooms.

## Matters of Faith, Matters of the Heart...

Our intention is to form each student to be a contributing member of society and to develop a heart that cares to the point of making a difference for the greater good. We offer a great environment where students can practice and continue to grow in their faith with Jesus Christ as the center of the life of our school. We will help our students to develop their minds, their bodies, and their souls, for today, tomorrow and forever.



MOTHER OF SORROWS SCHOOL

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We invite you to contact us at 724-733-8840 or visit our website at [www.mossschool.org](http://www.mossschool.org) to receive an information packet, including tuition, financial aid information, and an application for enrollment. We would love to make arrangements for you to tour our facilities.

**Come and see why *Educating the Whole Person* is not just a slogan, but a way of life for our students and their families. Please join us!**

# MOTHER of SORROWS



*"Educating the Whole Person"*

## WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN!

## Who We Are...

Mother of Sorrows School is a Catholic School in which spiritual formation is an integral part of the program.

We are a family, a school family, that is devoted to the development of our students according to their individual pace and potential. At the start of each school



year we begin a journey. At Mother of Sorrows we set an expectation for ourselves as educators to not only address the needs of the gifted students, but to equally find the gifts in *each and every student* and to ensure that those gifts are nurtured and challenged. The reward for us is to watch the children grow in ways unexpected to those close to them. This transformation is amazingly rewarding to witness and it reinforces why we became educators.

We are dedicated to assisting each family in



preparing their children for life and in helping them achieve and develop a good self concept, a healthy sound body, academic excellence, standards of social behavior,

and to maximize their personal creativity — all in an environment based in Christian principles.



## 3 Distinct Options...

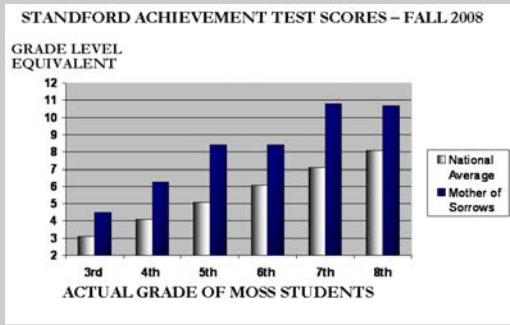
We offer three distinct options to meet the unique needs of your child. One size does not fit all.

- ◆ **Full Day Kindergarten Plus -**
  - ◇ Designed for children who have already experienced Kindergarten, but would benefit by having more time to develop their skills without “just repeating Kindergarten”.
  - ◇ Designed for children who have demonstrated strong academic skills.
- ◆ **Full Day Kindergarten -**
  - ◇ Perfect for the student ready to start Kindergarten in the full day setting.
  - ◇ Specifically designed for the student that will excel in a smaller class and a hands-on-environment.
- ◆ **Half Day Kindergarten -**
  - ◇ Perfect for the student ready to start Kindergarten in a half-day setting.
  - ◇ Specifically designed half-day program that will enable the students to be well prepared for 1st grade. .



## A closer look at the class room...

Our weekly Kindergarten curriculum includes, but is not limited to, Spanish, Math, Library, Reading, Computer Lab, Science, Writing, Music, Religion, Art and Physical Education.



We practice a hands-on, multi-sensory approach to learning in small and large group settings that encourages active learning experiences in our state-of-the-art facilities. This approach allows us to integrate creativity within the core curriculum to meet and more importantly exceed the standards set by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

We seek a balance between academics and social skills by introducing the students to social tools needed for successful development. Our curriculum and activities are designed to foster cooperation with peers and responsibility for themselves and others. We seek to develop their communication skills as well as conflict resolution techniques to enable students to resolve their own differences.

Come join us and provide a once-in-a lifetime experience for your child. A small sample of what is ahead in the upcoming year includes the following: Our Young Scientist Program, Alphabet Alive Program, People Around the World, Special Person of the Week, Carnegie Museum Animals Up Close, I Am Special and much more!

## State of the art...



The facilities at Mother of Sorrows school are second to none. In 2003 we completed a nine million dollar expansion. We offer our students the opportunity to learn and grow with the support of a new library, a full size gym, science lab, computer technology lab, spacious classrooms, family life center, dedicated music and art classrooms, a stage, and a full service cafeteria. Our school was expanded to support the growth that we are anticipating over the next decade and to provide every advantage for our current PK3 through 8th grade students.



## A few more data points...

### Is there transportation?

Busing is available from the following school districts: Franklin Regional, Penn Trafford, Gateway, Norwin, Kiski, Plum, Woodland Hills and Greensburg Salem. If your district is not listed, please contact your local school district office to inquire (note: end of day busing for half day students varies by school district).

### Does Mother of Sorrows offer a Before and After School care program?

Yes, we offer Before School care beginning at 6AM and an After School care program beginning at the end of the school day until 6PM. The cost is \$8 per hour for the first child, \$6 for the second and \$4 for each additional.

### What are Mother of Sorrows student-to-teacher ratios?

More important than the “student-to-teacher ratio” is the class size. Student-to-teacher ratio calculations can at times include administrators. Class size is exactly that, the number of children in the classroom. Our average elementary class size is 16. This is a very important statistic for any school. STAR research has concluded that through 8th grade those students who were in small classes during K-3 continued to score significantly higher on standardized achievement tests than their peers who attended larger classes or larger classes with a teacher’s aide.

### Are smaller schools an advantage?

W.J. Fowler, Jr. “School Size and Student Outcomes.” *Advances in Educational Productivity 5 (1995)* Reviews research on the relationship between school size and student attitudes, achievement, attendance, extracurricular participation, and satisfaction. **Findings in all areas favor small schools.**