

Different by Design...

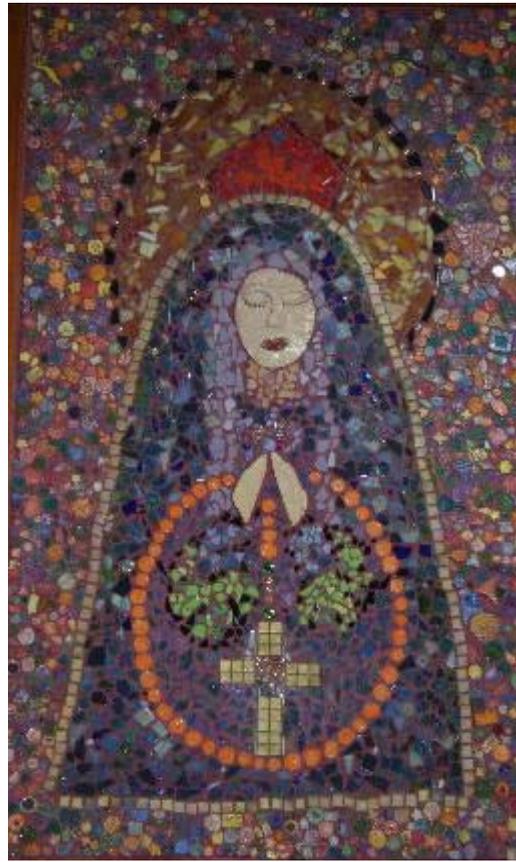
Mother of Sorrows is proud to offer a comprehensive program for children from preschool through eighth grade, specifically:

- ◆ 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 to receive an information packet, including details of our curriculum, 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"

ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL

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.



Our Faculty...

Mother of Sorrows faculty are all certified and very experienced; 65% have advanced degrees and they are fully engaged in both the learning process and the development of our students. In addition to their academic duties, many moderate extracurricular activities.

Parent Involvement...

We view our parents as partners with us in the development of their child's education. During the school year we formally invite parents to attend our open house, our Catholic Schools Week celebration, and to participate fully via our many volunteer opportunities. During the year we conduct two formal one-on-one conferences between parents and the teacher. Our communication is not limited to those formal interactions. All of our teachers are easily accessible via e-mail for questions, answers and updates. If at any time you feel the need to meet with a teacher you are encouraged to do so. Furthermore, Mother of Sorrows utilizes Power School (accessed via our website). Through the use of Power School, parents can easily keep up-to-date on their child's academic achievements and more on a real time basis.

Our Student Body...

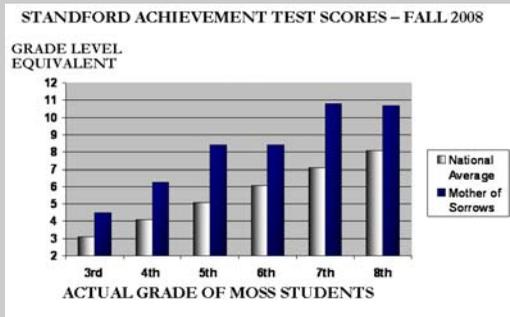
Mother of Sorrows is a coeducational school whose students come from many different backgrounds and geographic areas. Currently 11% of the students are non-Catholic and 39% of the students are from outside of the Murrysville Area.



Mother of Sorrows welcomes students of all races, creeds and national origins.

A closer look in the classroom...

Our core curriculum includes, but is not limited to, Spanish, French (Middle School), Math including Algebra, Reading, Computer Lab, Science, Writing, Music, Religion, Art, Social Studies and Physical Education. Our 8th grade students are issued a laptop computer and we have plans to expand that to include our 7th graders in the upcoming year.



Our 4th grade students currently test at a 6th grade level and our 8th grade students currently test at nearly an 11th grade level. At Mother of Sorrows our children are encouraged to learn about themselves and to embrace new challenges, empowering them to achieve their fullest potential. We focus our core curriculum to exceed the standards set by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

A closer look outside the classroom...

At Mother of Sorrows we seek a balance between academics, the arts, athletics, and extra-curricular activities. We introduce the students to a broad array of activities to give them every opportunity to achieve their fullest potential. We focus on Educating the Whole Person.

Come join us and know that you have provided a best in class opportunity for your child!

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...

Will Mother of Sorrows provide 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.

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 elementary class size average 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 regular classes or regular 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.**