

## ***OMC: An Excellent Choice***

By Louise Jakubik, PhD, RN

Three years ago, my husband Mark and I were selecting a school for our oldest child, Caroline. It was kindergarten. She was five years old. Yet somehow the decision seemed so important. I have often joked that the decision about which school to select for Caroline felt more like “Harvard or Yale” than ABCs and 123s. We wanted to choose the best school for our daughter and, ultimately, for our son Patrick as well.

**We wanted to choose the best school for our children**

We went to the OMC Parish School open house during Catholic Schools’ Week. We attended observation days in the kindergarten classroom. We considered other schools and we wrestled with the decision. Over time, we felt that God was calling our family to be at OMC Parish School.

On the first day of kindergarten we stood with the other kindergarteners and their parents while Caroline cried and cried, not wanting to leave us for her first day of school. When the bells rang for the start of the day, Ms. Gallagher, Caroline’s kindergarten teacher, looked me in the eyes and in her characteristic reassuring, take-charge way said, “She’ll be fine. If she’s not, I’ll call you at 10:30.” And off Caroline went hand-in-hand with Ms. Gallagher to her first day at OMC Parish School. We knew at that moment we were in good hands. I have never once since that moment doubted that our family is in the right place.

Since that first day of kindergarten three years ago, Patrick has had the opportunity to attend pre-school and kindergarten, and Caroline has gone on to complete First Grade with Ms. Tobin and Second Grade with Mrs. Weir.

The teachers at OMC Parish School are nothing short of impressive. Many are masters prepared or in graduate school, and some have been recognized by the City and the Archdiocese for their exceptional teaching.

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OMC Parish School is a very special place where parents, teachers, clergy, staff, and administrators work together to prepare our children to be effective learners, grow in the Catholic faith, and become kind, generous, and compassionate citizens. If you are a parent of a toddler or a preschooler, I encourage you to seriously consider OMC Parish School for your child’s education. It is an excellent choice.

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