

OLC Response to Minnesota School Shooting

Our Lady of Consolation Community,

As I'm sure you have, we have read the news about the shooting this morning at Annunciation Catholic School in Minneapolis, Minnesota. We are praying for the families and students of the community there.

As you read the news at home you may wonder about our safety and security procedures here at Our Lady of Consolation.

The OLC community has been making continual improvements to safety and security. Some of the ground breaking work we have implemented over the last few years include:

- Continued use of our extensive surveillance system across campus
- Installed protective security film on windows and doors
- Secured all entrances with locked security doors during school hours
- Developed comprehensive and concise emergency response protocols
- Implemented a new digital check-in/check-out system for volunteers and students
- Establishing a Behavioral Threat Assessment Team (in progress)
- Expanded hours of counseling services available to students
- Enhanced church security by keeping doors locked and creating a check-in system for Mass and parish meetings
- Formed a Parish Safety Team to support the school during school Masses. A Safety Team Member is present at every Thursday school Mass!
- Representation on our School Board of Public Safety Officers to assist with making necessary plan updates
- Most importantly, a staff safety committee and strengthened staff training with an ongoing focus on safety preparedness

Please take a look at our Safety FAQs

We also have a special "Safety Spotlight" segment scheduled for our next few Friday emails.

Attached to this email you will also find a statement from the Diocese of Grand Rapids.

Here are some resources for talking with your kids about violence: Tips for Families and Educators

Here is a prayer for all those suffering right now:

Prayer to St. Jude in Times of Suffering

Most holy Apostle, St. Jude, faithful servant and friend of Jesus, I place myself into your hands at this difficult time. Help me to know that I am not alone. Please pray for me, asking God to send me comfort for my sorrows, bravery for my fears, and healing for my suffering. Ask our loving God to strengthen my faith and give me the courage to accept His Will for my life. Thank you, St. Jude, for the hope you offer to all who believe in you. Amen.

We appreciate your cooperation and partnership in helping us to follow our safety and security procedures.

In Christ, and with the intentions of Our Lady of Consolation,

Abby Giroux