

Dear Parent,

To help you become better acquainted with MGC,
I invite you to schedule a personal tour. Please call me
at (414) 442-7600 ext. 119, or email me at shaw@mgcparish.org.
I look forward to meeting you and showing off our wonderful school!

With the Lord's Peace,



Regina Shaw

Regina Shaw, Principal

P.S. Be sure to ask about tuition plans, School Choice vouchers and PAVE grants.



MOTHER OF
GOOD COUNSEL

3001 N. 68th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53210-1299
414-442-7600 ext. 118
Fax: 414-442-0644
<http://www.mgcparish.org>
shaw@mgcparish.org.

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MILWAUKEE, WI
PERMIT NO. 480



Educating the entire child –
mind, body, heart and soul.



MOTHER OF
GOOD COUNSEL

An exemplary Catholic education
for K4 (full or half day) through 8th grade

Located on 68th and Lisbon on Milwaukee's west side



An education based on the teachings of Jesus

At Mother of Good Counsel School, our students grow and learn in an ideal environment. We teach our children to love and respect one another, and we inspire them to become the person God calls them to be.

While academics make up the core of our curriculum, we also make it a point to educate the entire child – mind, body, heart and soul. To this end, we work to instill strong moral values, community advocacy, confidence and poise.

For nearly 80 years, this teaching philosophy has helped generations of children grow into strong Catholic adults, community participants and motivated leaders. Now we invite you and your child to join in this great tradition.

*"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment?"
Jesus said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God
with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.
This is the greatest and first commandment. And the second is like it:
You shall love your neighbor as yourself.*

Matthew 22:36-40



Welcoming all

At Mother of Good Counsel School, we pride ourselves on diversity. Our students come from different races, socio-economic groups, religions and family structures. While parents often remark at our harmonious diversity, our children see it as commonplace. They grow up knowing each other simply as classmates and friends.

Teaching to potential

Our goal is to inspire our students to produce their very best work. As one of Milwaukee's largest Catholic schools, we know this requires a dedicated team effort.

At the helm, we have a motivated, passionate principal who leads by example. Our teachers share not only her enthusiasm, but also her love for children and commitment to the school's success.

Classes are small, allowing our teachers to know each child individually and to adapt their methods to match each child's style of learning. We also offer tutoring services for children who risk falling behind and additional challenges for our more gifted students.

Yet for our team to be complete, we also need the support of each child's parents. Studies show that parental involvement is just as vital to a student's success as the school's curriculum.



Anchored in the Word

At MGC, practicing our faith is part of our daily routine. Children begin and end each day in prayer, often adding their own intentions. They also participate in weekly Mass and take active roles in the liturgies. In religion class, they learn more about Catholic beliefs, ceremonies, sacraments and history, as well as a respect for other faith traditions.

However, building a strong, lifelong faith requires an ongoing effort from both home and school. We encourage our school parents to nurture their own family's faith by taking part in all the parish offers.



Our students develop all their God-given talents

At MGC, your child is sure to receive a strong foundation in the basics: math, reading, science, social studies, etc. To support this claim, we offer our high standardized test scores, our well-respected reputation, and our graduates' success in high school and beyond.

Yet, unlike many schools in today's economy, we continue to offer our students many high-quality specialty courses. These are made possible through the generosity of our parishioners, who remain committed to our school's strength and vitality, as well as the neighborhood it serves.



ART

All students participate in art class once a week beginning in first grade. With every project, our art teacher integrates aspects of art theory and art history. For example, our children are taught to use color theory, symbolism and perspective in their own creative works. But first, they study how the “great masters” applied these techniques. Our students also learn creative techniques from many world cultures, like Japanese brush painting and Polish paper cutting. In addition, they participate in many local and state-wide art competitions. In fact, MGC students have won the honor of displaying their artwork in the state capitol four years in a row.



MUSIC

Our multi-talented music teacher takes a developmental approach to teaching music. Following the National Standards, she helps our children become musically literate while also developing their singing voices. In addition, the children learn to dance, move creatively, and play the recorder, auto harp and guitar, as well as pitched and non-pitched percussion instruments. They study music history and, beginning in third grade, attend a yearly youth concert presented by the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra. All students perform annually in grade level concerts, with a repertoire reflecting our diverse Christian culture and academic curriculum. By eighth grade, our students are well prepared for their annual musical – a tradition enjoyed by the entire MGC community!



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

MGC is one of the few area schools to have a degreed and licensed physical education teacher. Our program promotes fitness, healthy living, sportsmanship and fun. Our younger children work on developing basic motor skills, endurance and hand-eye coordination. Our older students develop these skills further while also learning to play many team sports. Throughout their years, our students also work on the skills necessary to compete for the Presidential Fitness Award. In recent years, a number of MGC students have won this prestigious honor.



LIBRARY

MGC is unique in having a dedicated media specialist. She not only runs our library and media center, but also teaches all children on a weekly basis. With her inspiration, our students develop a life-long appreciation for reading as well as the skills necessary to fully utilize the library's resources. We have over 10,000 books (plus a thousand more in the classrooms), vast reference materials, an online book catalog, and privileged access to several educational websites. She also administers the "Accelerated Reader" program, one of today's most successful tools for boosting our students' reading comprehension by motivating them to read.



COMPUTERS

MGC has an impressive technology lab, with enough computers to accommodate each class of students. Our curriculum is designed according to state-mandated standards. For example, our younger students learn basic keyboarding skills, use drawing and painting programs, and navigate through various multimedia programs. Our older students take these skills to a much higher level. They create and edit word processing documents, import graphics and charts into their documents, create spreadsheets, and hone their research skills using the Internet. They also maintain a portfolio that demonstrates their competency in meeting these goals.



RELIGION

Religion class is part of our everyday curriculum. In addition, we're blessed with a highly qualified director of religious education, who enriches the entire MGC community – students, teachers, parents and parishioners.

She meets with our younger students on a biweekly basis, helping them become more familiar with Mass, the act of praying, the liturgical calendar, and just what it means to live as a Christian. Children enjoy the privilege of having class at the church altar and in the sacristy. She takes our older students on yearly field trips, to such places as St. Josaphat's Basilica, the Cathedral of St. John, St. Ben's Clinic for the Homeless, and Congregation Beth Israel – Conservative Synagogue.

She supports our teachers by planning class liturgies, writing prayers, and providing meaningful AV materials. She also supports MGC parents by helping them prepare their children for the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist. During the seasons of Advent and Lent, she offers families with young children "activity kits" that reinforce the meaning of these special seasons.



Your child's home away from home



Extended Care Program

MGC provides a warm and inviting child care facility. We offer before- and after-school services during the school year and full-day care when school is not in session. We open at 6:30 a.m. and close at 6 p.m. Our scheduling is flexible – a 24-hour notice is all that's needed. We offer a full range of activities, both indoors and out. We create weekly themes, and tailor our arts and crafts, games, and snacks accordingly.



Hot Lunch Program

Throughout the school year, our children enjoy nutritiously balanced USDA hot lunches prepared daily in our cafeteria. Freshly baked bread is a regular feature.



Summer Day Camp

Our popular day camp offers 10 weeks of fun. Every week includes at least two field trips as well as many organized on-campus activities. Our camp is open to all and registration is flexible. Get all the details by asking the school office for our "Summer Camp" brochure.



Vacation Bible School

MGC also offers a popular Vacation Bible School, organized by our director of religious education. This program annually attracts over a hundred children and nearly half as many volunteers.

Proud to be MGC!

Inspired leadership: Our principal holds a master's degree in school administration from Marquette University. She is well respected by her peers for using the latest tools in education, technology and communication. We also enjoy the gifted leadership of our Salvatorian pastor, himself an educator with 30 years of experience.

Impressive test results: The Iowa Tests of Basic Skills is considered the benchmark of student achievement. At MGC, our students consistently score higher than 75% of all students nationally who take this test. Our principal will gladly give you our most recent scores.

Dedicated teachers: The average tenure of an MGC teacher is 14 years. Five staff members are themselves MGC alumni. All are licensed by the State of Wisconsin and have a minimum of a bachelor's degree.

Innovative technology: MGC is the first area school to offer online access to "PowerSchool." Parents can log on to this program with a confidential ID and track their child's grades, attendance records, and even individual assignment scores. They no longer have to wait for quarterly report cards to see how their child is performing.

Extracurricular activities: Through MGC, your child can take part in soccer, volleyball, basketball, softball, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Art Club, Pop Chorus, Band, private piano lessons, and altar serving.

Involved parents: Our Home and School Association brings school families together by sponsoring an ice cream social, Halloween dance, Breakfast with Santa, wine tasting auction, road rally, "Hot Dog Days," and more. They also hold meetings throughout the year to keep parents involved and informed. For many MGC parents, these events help promote a strong sense of community and many lifelong friendships.