Thaṇkful Essay:Made by Alessia Russo Grade:4 School:O.L.G.C

"Let us be grateful to people who make us happy; they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom." This quote by Marcel Proust that really speaks to me. Thanksgiving is a time to think about all the things we are grateful for in our lives. It's important to show others that we are thankful and appreciative of their time and gifts. Some things I am thankful for are my family, friends, pets and Catholic education.

I love my family because they give me unconditional love. They're special to me because they support me in everything I do like swimming, drama, singing and lots of other things. Juliana, my older sister, is always there for me. She is always by my side, no matter what. I love my mom because she'll do anything to help me and she'll buy me stuff that I ask her for. She is the best mom in the world! My dad is really fun to be around and makes everything silly and exciting. My family makes me feel like I can do anything I put my mind to and I am lucky to have them.

My friend Adriana and Gigi are the best friends you can ever have. Adriana can make me laugh so hard that I have to walk away and calm myself down but I really can't stop laughing. She also lives around the corner from me, so we get to hang out more often which I am really grateful for as well. Gigi and I always have the best time together. I love going over to her house and playing with dolls with her. She is a great listener and my first friend. Anytime I am upset, I feel like I can always lean on my friends and they will support me and cheer for me when I am excited. I am so lucky to have such great friends!

I have two pets which I am thankful for as well. My hamster Nutella and my dog Roxie are so special to me. Nutella is super cute, and she's so fun to play with! I learned everything about dwarf hamsters and saved up my money in order to buy Nutella and it was the best decision. My dog Roxie just turned 14 and she's like a sister to me. She is always by my

side, which I love, and she loves to let me rub her belly. I love animals and I am really grateful that I have two kind animals that I get to spend time with and love each day.

I am truly grateful for being able to be a student at Our Lady of Good Counsel. I feel so lucky that I have such nice teachers and great classmates. The school has so many fun activities. We get to go on lots of trips, have pretzel days, field day and my favorite event, the Christmas Fair! I think it is really fun that we get to get a melodica this year and it's been interesting to learn how to play it. OLGC has fun after school activities and this year I am going to be in the play Seussical, which I am really excited about. Additionally, I swim at Trident this year at Wagner College which is really fun. I swim for Hillside, OLGC and now I get to train at Wagner and get to learn new swimming skills. I am grateful that I go to a great school and that I get to sing and swim.

There are so many things that I am thankful for in my life- my family, friends and my school. Thankfulness is something that you should think about everyday and you should always remember to be grateful for the things you have. Many people wish they had the things that we have and it's important to remember that. Like Marcel Proust said, we should be grateful for the people who make us happy. Who makes you happy and makes your soul blossom?