



The Diocese of Knoxville

Living our Roman Catholic faith in East Tennessee

MEDIA ADVISORY
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Bike ride from Oak Ridge to Chattanooga will honor teacher battling cancer

125-Mile *Tour de Mary* begins Wednesday

OAK RIDGE — A priest, a parent, and an eighth-grade pupil at St. Mary Catholic School in Oak Ridge will begin a two-day, 125-mile bike ride from Oak Ridge to Chattanooga this Wednesday to bring awareness to a courageous battle against cancer.

Father Joe Reed, associate pastor of Sacred Heart Cathedral; John Deinhart, diocesan director of stewardship; and his daughter Molly Deinhart, a student at St. Mary School, are riding to honor Darlene Adams, 35, a teacher at St. Mary, who has been diagnosed with ovarian cancer.

The driving force behind the ride is Molly, who has dreamed of doing something special to honor Mrs. Adams.

"Mrs. Adams taught me Spanish at St. Mary's since I was little. Many of those years she also battled ovarian cancer,"

Molly Deinhart said. "She is one of the strongest, most inspiring people I know."

The two-day trip will begin at St. Mary School in Oak Ridge, Wednesday, Oct. 5 at 7:50 a.m. The school is located at 323 Vermont Avenue, Oak Ridge, 37830

The cyclists will depart Oak Ridge and travel down State Highway 58 to Kingston where they will take State Highway 304 to State Highway 68 before crossing Watts Bar Dam and moving on to U.S. Highway 27. The group will continue to Soddy-Daisy and spend the night at Holy Spirit Catholic Church.

The first day of the benefit ride will cover approximately 85 miles.

On Thursday, Oct. 6, the trio will continue their trek to Chattanooga. **They will arrive at Our Lady of Perpetual**

Help Catholic School at approximately 2 p.m. The school is located at 505 South Moore Road, Chattanooga, 37412.

The ride is called the *Tour de Mary* because both diocesan schools are dedicated to and honor Mary, the Blessed Mother of Jesus.

Molly's online fundraising effort has already raised \$5,300 for a scholarship in honor of Mrs. Adams.

Connect with the online fundraising effort here: <https://www.crowdrise.com/tour-de-mary/fundraiser/mollydeinhart>