Project Title

Our Lady of Lourdes
Catholic School

Address

444 Sherbourne Street

Architect

Melillo Architects Incorporated

Owner

Toronto Catholic District
School Board

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Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School is an elementary school community for 720 students and 50 staff with underground parking. Completed in 2005, it replaces two pre-war buildings on a compact site in Toronto's downtown core.

A compact building configuration maximizes the available sunlit play area. A colourful, expressive façade achieves the urban planning objective of a formal edge at Sherbourne. The glass enclosed library extending to the south screens play areas from noise and traffic.

The central skylit atrium brings natural light to all floors and to the foyer, which links the office, library, kindergartens, gymnasium and music room into a neighbourhood of spaces at the intersection of two indoor 'streets'. Glazed masonry, curtainwall, zinc, red brick and maple millwork provide a backdrop for the colourful occupants. OLOL is a fully accessible building. All full-time programme spaces receive natural light, and a rooftop semi-courtyard provides additional outdoor amenity space. Intimately scaled spaces are arranged around generous circulation areas to reinforce the project's central theme of community.