

ST. MATT'S MATTERS

February 11, 2009

MISSION STATEMENT

As a Christian community of believers at St. Matthew School in Oak Creek, we declare our mission to be one in which we promote academic excellence by providing a high quality, Catholic education. Through value-centered education and spiritual nourishment we strive to meet the needs of our families. Our mission is to build a Catholic community where we encourage others to proclaim the Gospel with compassion and hope.

A Note from the Principal

Dear Parents,

"A Night at the Premier" was a fantastic event. Thank you to all who worked on making it a success. Upon viewing the movie anyone can tell that our school is filled with talented young actors. What a wonderful evening!

Thank you for supporting Catholic education!

Mrs. Barber

IMPORTANT DATES:

Monday, 2/16 – NO SCHOOL – Midwinter Break; Market Day Pick Up, 5:00-6:00 p.m.

Thursday, 2/19 – Grade 7, Internet Dangers Assembly, noon-2:30 p.m.

Friday, 2/20 – 1:20 P.M. DISMISSAL; All School Liturgy by Grade 7, 9:15 a.m.; Diabetes Assembly, 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, 2/22 – Pancake Breakfast by Grade 8, 8:30-11:30 a.m.

LUNCH MENU CHANGE – Please change your February lunch menu. On Tuesday, February 24, we will have turkey subs. On Ash Wednesday, February 25, we will have rotini noodles and sauce.

SCHOLASTIC CHALLENGE – The St. Matthew's Scholastic Challenge team defeated both St. Romans and Divine Mercy last Wednesday night in Racine. The team finished with a record of 4 wins and no losses. They have advanced to the championship game that was played last night. Members of this year's team are 8th graders Emily Chen, Fiona Dolan, Zachary Harvey and 7th graders Michael Armanious, Drew Butzer and Nick Cheaney.

AUCTION VOLUNTEERS THANK YOU – A HUGE thank you to all the volunteers who helped with the School Auction this year. The success of the auction always depends on help from many and your efforts made a big difference. You are all appreciated. God bless you!

The Auction Committee

ST. MATT'S MOVIE, "HERE'S LOOKING AT YOUR KIDS" – There are 36 movies available that was featured at our School Auction on Saturday night. The student body also saw the movie Wednesday afternoon. What a wonderful keepsake this is of your children. There is a flier in your family folder to order your copy today. Each movie costs \$35 which includes a free poster. The cost is \$5 to purchase only a poster. (A framed copy is on display in the school office.) Checks should be made payable to St. Matthew School Auction. Orders will be filled on a first come first serve basis.

MCDONALD'S MONEY – There's still McDonald's money/certificates available. For every \$1 of McDonald's Money you purchase, 30 cents goes to Home and School and is applied towards your fundraising. Orders will be filled on a first come, first served basis, so get yours in quickly. This is an easy fundraiser and certificates are good now until June 30. Any questions, call Michelle Luczak at 414-762-5426. Additional order forms are available in the school office.

ATTENTION PANCAKE LOVERS! – St. Matthew's 8th grade class is having a pancake breakfast on Sunday, February 22, in the cafeteria. It will be held after the 7:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. Masses (from 8:30-11:30 a.m.). The cost is \$6.00 (\$5.00 in advance) and for children 5 years and under, \$3.00 (\$2.50 in advance). Advance tickets can be purchased after all Masses on February 14 and 15 and at the school office during school hours. Please join us for a wonderful breakfast and help support the class of 2009! All proceeds go toward the 8th grade class trip to Washington D.C. and their class gift to the school. Hope to see you there!

THANK YOU – This is what a note from the Department of the Army in Baghdad, Iraq said after receiving the treats and treasures collected as admission to the 4K and 5K Christmas program. *To all at St. Matthews, I received a box today from you and shared its*

contents with the other soldiers. Thank you so much for your support and know that we appreciate it. Command Sergeant Major, Gulf Region Division, Corp of Engineer

HELP FIGHT HUNGER IN AMERICA - Yoplait is currently running a campaign by which you can help fight hunger right from your own kitchen. With every yogurt lid (gold colored Pound for Pound Lid) saved they will donate 10 cents to Feeding America. Please wash lids and place in the bucket in the Reaching Out box. We will collect them and send them to the appropriate address. The offer is good until 12/31/09. For more information visit www.PFPCChallenge.com

LIVING OUR FAITH - The February 14th Catholic Knights presents Living Our Faith with Archbishop Dolan episode looks at the importance of being good stewards of the earth in "Going Green." Archbishop Dolan welcomes Bob Pauley, president, St. Thomas More High School, who shares examples of measures the school is taking as part of a major sustainability initiative. The Racine Dominicans eco-justice farm featuring self-sustaining solar powered buildings is spotlighted. In addition, Fr. Ken Omernick, pastor, St. Gregory the Great Parish, Milwaukee, discusses saints, including St. Valentine. Watch Catholic Knights presents Living Our Faith with Archbishop Timothy Dolan Saturdays at noon, on WISN TV 12. The program also airs on Time Warner Cable's Wisconsin On Demand, Channel 1111. If you miss a show, every segment is available at www.livingourfaith.net.

PARISH PICTURE DIRECTORY SIGN UP – It has been 4 years since the parish published a parishioner picture directory. The dates for pictures will be: March 19, 20, 21 and 23, 24 and 25. You can sign up at the display in the Gathering Space or online at: <https://signup.olanmills.com/familyinfo.aspx?chcontract=39490>. You will receive a free 8X10 portrait and a parish picture directory if you participate. This is an excellent stewardship opportunity to develop community. If you'd be willing to serve as a "greeter/host" for picture taking, call the parish office. If you cannot make these dates or are unable to come to the parish and would like to submit a picture for inclusion, call Tom Schneider at 414-762-4200, ext. 21. If you would like to submit a picture of a family member in the military, contact Tom.

SERVERS:	February 14	5:00 p.m.: Emma Sims	Cross: Rachel Anderson
	February 15	7:30 a.m.: Abby Czerwinski	Cross: Hannah Tezak
		9:30 a.m.: Frank Margraff	Cross: Glenn Margraff

"If you scatter thorns, don't go barefoot."

GIFT: GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER

MORE MATTERS . . .

STM STOCK SOARS, AMIDST TUITION FREEZE - In response to tough economic times, Saint Thomas More High School's Board of Directors has decided not to raise tuition, for the first time in the school's history. STM, already one of the most affordable Catholic schools in Milwaukee for the 2008-2009 school year, seeks to ensure students can take full advantage of the school's opportunities regardless of the economic climate. Even though tuition will stay the same, the value of that investment will increase for the upcoming school year. Saint Thomas More will begin offering courses in Biomedical Sciences for the first time. These new courses and the school's award-winning Engineering courses will give students a unique opportunity to explore growing industries. The Biomedical Sciences courses will help prepare students for careers in Health Care, which has been projected to have over 3.6 million new jobs by 2014. The combination of the school's innovation, tradition, and historic tuition freeze make Saint Thomas More High School a great value.

STM GRADE SCHOOL PEP BAND DAY - The Saint Thomas More High School Band is inviting grade school musicians to perform with the STM Band on Tuesday, February 17, at 7:00 p.m. at a Girls High School basketball game. Performers will get a free STM t-shirt as a uniform. There will be a pre-game rehearsal in the STM band room at 6:00 p.m. The band room is on the east side of the school, just north of the gym entrance. Please contact Eric Blaufuss A.S.A.P. at eblaufuss@tmore.org to register for the event. Include the musician's name, grade, school, instrument, and shirt size. We expect performers to bring their own instruments unless other arrangements are made.

THE JOURNEY OF ST. PAUL - Theater of the Word will be performing *The Journey of St. Paul* at three parishes this month. *The Journey of St. Paul* is a 4 person play that recounts Paul's life with dialogue taken almost entirely from the book of Acts and from Paul's epistles. It is a wonderful event especially during this Year of St. Paul. *The Journey of St. Paul* is appropriate for adults, teens, and older children. Younger children (under age 10) may be able to understand the play, but it is not directed specifically to them. The following parishes are sponsoring this play:

Saturday, February 21 – 6:30 p.m., *The Journey of St. Paul* – A Theatrical Production

St. Paul – School Building Hall, 1720 East Norwich Avenue, Milwaukee

Cost: \$10 – Tickets available at parish offices of both St. Paul and St. Veronica

Presenter: Theater of the Word, Sponsored by St. Paul and St. Veronica Parishes

For more information contact Karen Bushman at 414-481-0777 or karenbushman@saintveronica.org or visit www.saintpaulmilwaukee.org and/or www.saintveronica.org

Sunday, February 22 – 6:30 p.m., *The Journey of St. Paul* – A Theatrical Production

St. Alphonsus Parish, 6060 West Loomis Road, Greendale

Cost: Free will offering

Presenter: Theater of the Word, Sponsored by St. Alphonsus Adult Formation

For more information contact Sr. Eileen Kazmierowicz at 414-421-0690 or eileen@st-alphonsus.org

Monday, February 23 – 7:00 p.m., *The Journey of St. Paul* – A Theatrical Production

St. Mary's Visitation Parish, 1260 Church Street, Elm Grove

Cost: Donation of non-perishable food items

Presenter: Theater of the Word, Sponsored by St. Mary's Visitation Parish

For more information contact Kathy Janusz at 262-782-4575 or kjanusz@wi.rr.com

PIUS XI HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT TEST - Pius XI High School will hold an additional Incoming Freshman Placement Test on Tuesday, February 17, from 8:00 am to 12:30 pm. Pre-registration is required through the Counseling Center. There is no fee to take the test. Please call Sue at 414-290-8145 for more information and/or to register.

2009 PIUS XI SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITIONS - All 8th grade students are invited to compete for academic scholarships in English, Performing Arts, Visual Art, Science and Math. A total of \$12,000 in tuition awards will be granted in this year's combined academic scholarship competitions. Students can compete in any or all of the competitions as multiple awards are possible. Pre-registration for each is required. For competition dates, registration form and other information, visit www.piusxi.org or call 414-290-8175.