

ST. MATT'S MATTERS

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,

Advent is upon us—a time of quiet, joyful preparation for the celebration of Jesus' birth. Advent is also a time to remember that we wait for Christ to come again at the end of time. Advent, then, is a time to enjoy the hope that Christ's Resurrection points to.

Your child will be participating in many activities during Advent. Today we gathered in church for an Advent prayer service, prepared by first grade. Our classrooms also contain a traditional symbol of Advent—the Advent wreath. Second grade is once again constructing the paper mache representations of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, the shepherds and their flock that will grace the Christmas crèche that is displayed near the school office each Christmas. Third grade will be visiting their senior friends at Franciscan Villa during advent. Our entire student body will participate in our annual Christmas concert which will take place on December 13. These are just a few of the activities that your student will be involved in while we wait for the promise of Christmas!

Thank you all for supporting Catholic education!

Mrs. Barber

December 2, 2011

What's Happening 11/19 – 11/29

Monday, 12/5 – School Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, 12/6 – Out of Uniform, PJ Day; Secret Santa Shop Open; Grade 7, Haggerty Museum, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; Student Council Meeting, 3:20-4:15 p.m.; Poinsettia Sale Pick Up, 5:00-6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, 12/7 – Secret Santa Shop Open

Thursday, 12/8 – Immaculate Conception Liturgy, 9:15 a.m.

Friday, 12/9 – Progress Reports Sent Home; Middle School Fundraiser Dance, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Saturday, 12/10 – Grade 2, First Reconciliation, 9:00 a.m. or 11:00 a.m.

Sunday, 12/11 – Cookie Walk

PAPER DONATIONS – In the spirit of giving, the school office is low on copy paper. If you are able please help by donating a ream or two of white 8-1/2 x 11" copy paper. The paper can be dropped off in the school office. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

COOKIE WALK - The baking starts next week and everyone is getting excited about all those great cookies but we need everyone's help. In your family folder there are 2 flyers about the upcoming Cookie Walk. We would like everyone to put the date on their calendar and then hang the flyers somewhere to help us advertise. Pass them on to someone else you know, hang them at the grocery store, work, dance class, gym or other places you frequent. This will ensure that our event is very successful. If you want more flyers, please contact the school office. We can't wait to see you all.

POINSETTIA SALE PICK UP – Just a reminder that pick up will be on Tuesday, December 6th, in the Gathering Space, from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. If you have any questions, call Jill Duchniak at 414-421-3001.

DONUTS WITH SANTA - The South Milwaukee Knights of Columbus cordially invites you to have donuts with Santa Claus. Enjoy fresh donuts, milk/juice, entertainment and lots of fun. All this and more at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 732 Badger Avenue, South Milwaukee. TIME : 10:00-11:30 a.m. DATE: December 3rd, 2011

STAFF CHRISTMAS GIFTS – LAST CHANCE! If you are planning to contribute to this monetary gift, your donation can still be sent to the school office on Monday, December 5th. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Schlotz at 414-764-4832 or lschlotz@att.net.

OUT OF UNIFORM DAY – On Tuesday, December 6th Student Council is sponsoring "P J Day". Students can come to school wearing their favorite pair of pajamas! Students choosing not to participate must come to school in their uniform.

HIGH INTEREST DAY – We are looking for presenters for this fun, informative day for our students. It will be held on Thursday, February 2nd from 8:45-11:15 a.m. Please consider presenting a special talent, interest, activity or career. Call the school office at 414-762-6820 Ext. 10.

HOLD THE DATE – Christmas Concert – December 13th, 2:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. All students are expected to attend.

USED UNIFORM SALE – A sale will be held in the fish bowl beginning Saturday, January 14th until Sunday, January 22nd. School and scout uniforms, bulldog gear and first communion clothing is accepted. To provide used clothing please contact Lori Gillespie at 262-752-0439 or loriandjohn04@aol.com or Julie Czajka at 414-768-0363 or ajczajka@sbcglobal.net. Each item should have an envelope attached with your name and price or donations are welcome.

HOME AND SCHOOL MEETING DATES – The dates of the next three Home and School meetings have changed. The January meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 18th (instead of the 4th), the March meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 21st (instead of the 7th) and the May meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 16th (instead of the 2nd). Please make a note of these changes. Remember that two Home and School meetings are required or \$20/meeting as stated on the 5K-Grade 8 Tuition Contract.

“LIVING OUR FAITH” - Regina Bakala, a political refugee from Congo who was saved from deportation by the efforts of local Catholics, is an upcoming guest on Archbishop Jerome E. Listecki's radio show, “Living Our Faith.” The half-hour show airs every other Friday at 9:30 a.m. on Relevant Radio (100.1 FM), and previous episodes can be downloaded at www.livingourfaith.net. Here is the upcoming topic:

December 2: Mothers of Priests (guests Peggy Burns, Kathy Reesman and Mary Jo Widder)

Save the date - The fifth season of the archbishop’s television program, “Living Our Faith with Archbishop Listecki,” presented by Catholic Financial Life, begins Saturday, December 10, at 2:30 p.m. on WISN TV Channel 12. Seven episodes are planned for this season. The shows will air on the first Saturday of the month, beginning in January 2012. Watch for more information, or visit www.livingourfaith.net.

SERVERS –	December 3	4:00 p.m.: Danny Sievert	Cross: Evan Siira
	December 4	7:30 a.m.: Ryan McNeive	Cross: Trenton Marsolek
	Immaculate Conception	9:30 a.m.: Colin McQuitty	Cross: ThomasDolan
		6:30 p.m.: Jacob Hochschild	Cross: Trenton Marsolek

WE COLLECT – St. Matthew’s School collects the following items to earn money and/or supplies: McDonald’s receipts, empty HP ink/toner cartridges, General Mills box tops, Campbell’s UPC codes, Kemps milk caps and labels, Golden Guernsey/ Morning Glory milk caps and cancelled postage stamps. It is helpful if you separate the items. They can be placed in the marked drawers in the plastic bin in the hallway outside of church or sent to the school office. We have also joined the My Coke Rewards for School program. Go to www.mycokerewards.com/school . Thank you for supporting St. Matthew School.

YOPLAIT YOGURT - If you purchase Yoplait Yogurt regularly, please purchase the ones with the pink lids. Please save ONLY THE PINK LIDS that say, “save lids to save lives”. DO NOT save the gold or red lids that say “race for the cure”. Yoplait will accept only the pink lids. Send the intact pink lids to the school office. Ten cents per lid is donated to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation for breast cancer research. Thank you!

Family Faith Sharing

The season of Advent invites us to renew our lives in preparation for the coming of Jesus. The people who heard the message of John the Baptist repented for their sins and were baptized as a sign of God’s forgiveness. In Baptism, our sins are forgiven, and we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, who helps us in our life of discipleship. Led by the Holy Spirit, we use this Advent season to renew our lives so that we, like John the Baptist, might prepare the way for Jesus.

As you gather together as a family, talk about ways in which the example of others has called you to be a follower of Jesus. Name the people who have been examples to you of Christian discipleship and describe their characteristics that you have tried to emulate. Read together Sunday's Gospel, Mark 1:1-8.

As John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus, Baptism commissions us to prepare the way of the Lord. The gift of the Holy Spirit leads us to continually renew our lives so that we might lead others to Jesus. As a family, identify at least one action that you will take this week to try to be more faithful followers of Jesus. Conclude in prayer together that God will receive this action and use it to lead others to Jesus.

(Retrieved from: <http://www.loyolapress.com/sunday-connection.htm>)

“Ask your purse or wallet what you should buy.”



“C U @ Mass”