

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,

Welcome to Catholic Schools Week! This year's theme is "Catholic Schools: Faith, Academics, Service." Please refer to the calendar of Catholic Schools Week events that came home in last week's family folder. You will find out of uniform days, service projects, an all-school field trip, High Interest Day, liturgy and prayer service. Open House tours of our school for prospective parents will take place both after the 9:30 Mass on Sunday and the 9:15 Mass on Friday.

Recently, Dr. Kathleen Cepelka, Superintendent of Schools for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, sent a letter to all Catholic school principals and teachers that spoke to the culture of Catholic schools. The following is an excerpt from Dr. Cepelka's letter.

"Catholic schools exude a Catholic ethos and culture. In them, at every level, the Church's sacramental life is faithfully explained and richly experienced. Prayer permeates all aspects of curricular and co-curricular activities, and timeless Church traditions, especially the liturgical seasons and the lives of the saints, are ritualized and remembered. Visible evidence of faith fills the Catholic school environment.

Catholic school teachers, our most treasured resources, realize how demanding but also how privileged is their call to explicitly teach and tirelessly model, for their students and each other, what it means to live the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

As Catholic Schools Week 2012 dawns, we thank and congratulate the more than 2,500 Catholic school teachers, pastors, administrators, and staff members who lead the 119 Catholic schools of our Archdiocese. In the words of Pope John Paul II, they are "great gifts to the Church," men and women of faith who understand their present mission and who are doing much to shape a "peaceful, just, and hope-filled world for the future." Our 32,100 students and their parents are the grateful beneficiaries of their faithfulness, their foresight, and their care.

A blessed Catholic Schools Week to all!"

A Blessed Catholic Schools Week, indeed! Thank you all for supporting Catholic education!

Mrs. Barber

January 27, 2012

What's Happening 1/29-2/5

Sunday, 1/29 – Catholic Schools Week; Open House, 10:30-noon

Monday, 1/30 – Out of Uniform, Spirit Wear/Blue and Gold; Prayer Service, 9:15 a.m.; Assembly, 2:00 p.m.;
Mad Science, 3:25-4:25 p.m.

Tuesday, 1/31 – Out of Uniform, Jeans/Casual Wear; All School Field Trip, Timber Lee Christian Center, 8:45 a.m.-3:00 p.m.; **BRING BAG LUNCH**

Wednesday, 2/1 – Out of Uniform, Wacky Wear; Get Up and Move Day; Buddy Service Activity

Thursday, 2/2 – Out of Uniform, Holiday Dress; High Interest Day

Friday, 2/3 – Out of Uniform, Dress Up; School Liturgy, 9:15 a.m. followed by St. Blaise Blessing and Second Quarter Honors Assembly; Open House, 10:00-11:30 a.m.; CSW Picture Presentation and Ice Cream Sundaes, 2:30 p.m.

Saturday, 2/4 – Bread Sunday; Winterfest

Sunday, 2/5 – Bread Sunday

REMEMBER: B A G L U N C H

Tuesday, January 31st

for our field trip to Timber Lee Christian Center.

McDONALD'S MONEY - McDonald's money is coming. This easy Home and School fundraiser starts on February 1, 2012 and runs through June 30, 2012. Order forms are available in this week's family folder. Orders will be filled beginning February 1st. Any questions, please feel free to contact Kelly Koronkowski at 414-762-8815. Thank you for supporting this great fundraiser.

SECOND QUARTER HONORS ASSEMBLY – Everyone is invited to our second quarter honors assembly on Friday, February 3rd, following 9:15 a.m. liturgy. It will be held in church.

REGISTRATION – It's time to enroll your child/ren for the 2012-2013 school year. We will begin accepting new registrations this weekend. If you are unable to pay the \$85 (per child) registration fee at this time, you can send a down payment of \$20 (per child). This down payment will ensure your child/ren's enrollment. The \$65 balance (per child) of the registration fee is due Friday, April 27, 2012. If you need special arrangements, please call Mrs. Barber.

SPELLING BEE – The Oak Creek district spelling bee was held Wednesday evening. Congratulations to Thomas Dolan who placed 3rd and Rebecca Koronkowski who placed 6th. They will continue on to Regionals on February 9th. Way to go Thomas and Rebecca and good luck at Regionals.

BULLDOG NEWS – Last weekend the 6th grade girls blue basketball team won 1st place in the Holy Apostles tournament. They won all three games and every player scored in the championship game. The players are Bella Nuck, Corinne Kurz, Dakota Johnstone, Sarah Luther, Emily Shelton, Cassandra Bartek and Abby Lownik. Their trophy is on display in the school office.

CONGRATULATIONS to Alexis Chojnowski and Ally McNeive who competed in a dance competition in Lansing, Michigan on January 7th. Their ballet dance won the highest honor of Platinum, as well as Outstanding Staging and was a Critic's Choice Nominee. Ally also competed in tap, jazz and lyrical dance numbers. Those dances also won top honors. The tap dance won the Critic's Choice award, qualifying their group from Young Dance Academy to compete in the Finals in New York this summer. Way to go girls!

South Milwaukee Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest for Boys and Girls ages 10-14
Divine Mercy Gym, 1800 16th Avenue, South Milwaukee
Friday, February 3rd, Registration at 6:30 p.m., Contest Begins at 7:00 p.m.

“LIVING OUR FAITH WITH ARCHBISHOP LISTECKI” RETURNS FEBRUARY 4TH - Taped on location at Old St. Mary Parish, Milwaukee, where the most Catholic marriage ceremonies took place during 2010-2011, the February 4th episode will look at the topic of marriage – how the Catholic Church defines it, and national and local Catholic initiatives that support marriage. Just in time for Lent, our feature segment will feature the Stations of the Cross at the Basilica of Holy Hill, Hubertus, guided by Milwaukee Auxiliary Bishop Donald J. Hying. Archbishop Listecki will also share his opinion on Catholic online dating and how singles today use social networking in their quest to find the perfect spouse. Watch “Living Our Faith with Archbishop Listecki,” presented by Catholic Financial Life, on Saturday, February 4, 2012 at noon. Can't watch? DVR it, or view it the following week at www.livingourfaith.net.

HOME AND SCHOOL MEETING DATES – The dates of the next two Home and School meetings have changed. 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.

REFER-A-FAMILY PROGRAM

Refer a family to enroll their child/ren in St. Matthew School and receive \$100 off next year's tuition.

Please share these important dates with family, friends and neighbors:

ST. MATTHEW SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

During Catholic Schools Week

Sunday, January 31, 2012

Open House following 9:30 a.m. Mass (10:30 a.m.-noon)

or

Friday, February 3, 2012,

Please join us at the 9:15 a.m. All School Liturgy

Open House immediately following, 10:15-11:30 a.m.

If you are unable to attend these Open House opportunities, call the school office to schedule a tour.

REGISTRATION

Begins January 31, 2012

SERVERS –

January 28

4:00 p.m.: Hollie Marifke

Cross: Sarah Studer

January 29

7:30 a.m.: Tanner Apple

Cross: Beck Apple

9:30 a.m.: Justin Duchniak

Cross: Joshua Duchniak

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. St. Matthew's has partnered with *Think Recycle* to properly dispose of electronic waste. We recycle cell phones, laptops, tablets and MP3 players. Place items in the marked Rubbermaid bins in the hallway outside of church. Thank you for supporting St. Matthew School.

Family Faith Sharing

The people who heard Jesus teach and saw him heal in today's Gospel were said to have been astonished and amazed by the authority of his teaching. So compelling were Jesus' words and actions that the news about him could not be contained; it spread quickly throughout all of Galilee. Two thousand years later, the news about Jesus continues to spread. We are called to participate in sharing the Good News of Jesus with others in our words and in our deeds.

Gather as a family and try to name some amazing things, events, or people. In today's Gospel we hear that the people were astonished and amazed by their experience of Jesus. Read Sunday's Gospel, Mark 1:21-28. What did the people who saw and heard Jesus find so amazing? (In Jesus, the people heard and saw the power and authority of God at work.) People should see in our lives the power and authority of God at work. Can you name any modern examples of people in whom you have seen the power and authority of God at work? Conclude in prayer together that we will experience wonder at the work of God in our world today

(<http://www.loyolapress.com/sunday-connection.htm?slid=83876>)



“Take advice from those you admire.”

“C U @ Mass”