

ST. MATT'S MATTERS

April 1, 2011

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,

My column did not appear in last week's Family Folder because I was attending the ASCD conference in San Francisco. ASCD was formerly known as the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development. Over 9,000 educators, from 40 countries gathered together for three days of professional development, sharing of best practices, and information on current trends in education. I returned to St. Matthew's, on Wednesday, full of information to share with the faculty.

Our journey through Lent continues. Throughout these 40 days, St. Matthew students have been learning about the meaning of Lent. In addition to daily prayer and weekly Mass, our students have participated in The Stations of the Cross, prayer services, collecting money for Tanzania, letter writing to those who are ill and infirmed, and visiting senior citizens. Girls and boys in grades 2-8 have received the sacrament of Reconciliation. As Lent progresses, we prepare ourselves to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord on Easter.

Thank you for supporting Catholic education.

Mrs. Barber

IMPORTANT DATES

Saturday, 4/2 – Grade 2, Jesus Day, 1:45 p.m.

Sunday, 4/3 – Confirmation, 2:00 p.m.

Monday, 4/4 – Mad Science, 3:25-4:25 p.m.; Market Day Pick Up, 4:30-6:00 p.m.; School Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, 4/5 – **GYM CLASSES TODAY!** Grades 4-8, Mission Trip Presentation, 2:30 p.m.; Report Cards Sent Home

Wednesday, 4/6 – **NO** Gym Classes; Grade 7, Reconciliation, 2:00 p.m.; Mr. Z's Pick Up, 3:30-5:00 p.m.

Thursday, 4/7 – Grades 2, 3, 6, 8, Miller Park, 8:00-4:15 p.m.; Grade 7, Retreat, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Friday, 4/8 – School Liturgy hosted by Grade 5, 9:15 a.m., followed by Honors Assembly; Grade 4, State Fair

Saturday, 4/9 – Lenten Reconciliation Service, 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, 4/10 – GIFT, 10:30 a.m.

McDONALD'S MONEY – Almost there . . . \$350 of certificates are still available! Feel free to place another order. They are good from February 1 through June 30, 2011. If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Koronkowski at 414-762-8815.

HONORS ASSEMBLY – Our third quarter honors assembly will be held Friday, April 8th following Mass (about 10:00 a.m.). All are invited to attend.

GYM CLASSES – Next week we will be having gym class on Monday, April 4th and Tuesday, April 5th. We will not have gym on Wednesday, April 6th.

SPRING GARDEN FUNDRAISER – This Home and School fundraiser begins today and runs until Monday, April 18th. Besides the beautiful flowers, we also sell herbs, peppers and tomatoes. You can pick up your order on Wednesday, May 4th from 3:30-5:00 p.m.—just in time for Mother's Day. All checks should be made payable to St. Matthew Home and School. Profits from this sale is applied to your fundraising obligations. If you have any questions, please call Lisa Reinke at 414-762-8895.

ON THE RADIO – On Wednesday, April 6th from 7:00-8:00 a.m. Judy Wargin, our liturgy and music director, will be a guest on the WMYX (99.1) morning radio show with Elizabeth Kay and the Kidd. Mrs. Wargin won this item at the St. Thomas More Auction. She is not sure what will be talked about, or if she'll mainly listen, but she will be witnessing her former student (Elizabeth Kay) in her career. Be sure to tune in on Wednesday morning. Have fun Mrs. Wargin!

CONGRATULATIONS - Nathan Harvey participated in the 2011 Wisconsin State Invitational 8th Grade Boys Basketball Tournament last weekend in Marshfield, Wisconsin. With 5 seconds on the clock and the score tied, Nathan scored the game winning shot advancing the Oak Creek Junior Knights to the quarter finals. The Knights went on winning and earned their way to the championship game. They came up a bit short loosing against Sun Prairie, taking 2nd place in the State. Way to go Nathan!

SOCCER TOURNAMENT HELP - The SMPAA is looking for a person or group of people to be the food/kitchen coordinator at our annual soccer tournament May 20-22nd. You would be working with the SMPAA to purchase food, coordinate the menu and be in charge of the kitchen area. This would be a great job to work with a friend or group. It also counts toward your volunteer hours. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Tom Borts at 414-750-0745 or borts@sbcglobal.net.

MR. Z'S PICK UP – If you ordered from the Mr. Z's fundraiser, be sure to pick up your order on Wednesday, April 6th from 3:30-5:00 p.m. in the gathering space. Any questions, please call Bonnie Sikora at 414-768-9301.

ALUMNI NEWS - Crystal Staszak, a senior at Oak Creek High School and a St. Matt's graduate in 2007 was nominated for service academy appointments. Getting a nomination to attend a U.S. military service academy, while not a guarantee for acceptance, is quite an honor. U.S. Rep. Paul Ryan nominated Staszak for appointment to the Air Force Academy, as well as the Naval Academy. Getting a nomination from an authorized source, such as a member of Congress, is part of the application process for those interested in attending a service academy. *"It's a privilege to recognize these students for their solid records of achievement and nominate them to attend our nation's military service academies,"* Ryan said in a news release. *"I know these students will excel at these institutions if they are accepted, will be able to meet the rigorous requirements set by the academies and will serve our nation with honor."* Way to go Crystal!

FREE THROW CONTEST - April 16th, Saturday at 11:00 a.m., St. Thomas More Gym. Are you the next Michael Jordan? Four divisions open to: 5th and 6th grade boys and girls, 7th and 8th grade boys and girls. Each opponent will have 50 shots and one winner will be selected from each division. Cost to participate is \$5 and each participant will receive a t-shirt. Register by contacting us at 414-481-8370 x 140.

CATHOLIC FINANCIAL LIFE PRESENTS LIVING OUR FAITH WITH ARCHBISHOP LISTECKI - The April 2nd episode will focus on Medical Ethics and Moral Theology. Dr. Michael White, Physicians Guild, will share his thoughts on the Church's positions on issues like stem cell research and euthanasia. Watch "Catholic Financial Life presents Living Our Faith with Archbishop Listeck," at noon, on WISN TV 12. The program also airs on Time Warner Cable's Wisconsin On Demand, Channel 411 (under Your Community tab). If you miss a show, every segment is available at www.livingourfaith.net.

CATHOLICS AT THE CAPITOL 2011; LIVING FAITH IN THE PUBLIC SQUARE - Join us on Tuesday, April 5, 2011, for an event in Madison featuring workshops on Catholic social teaching, promoting life, state budgeting from a Catholic perspective, justice for immigrants, human trafficking, and more. Hear from speakers including keynote speaker, Archbishop Jerome E. Listeck of Milwaukee. End the day by traveling to the State Capitol to meet and speak with policy makers and staff. For information and registration forms, go to: www.wisconsincatholic.org. Admission: \$37 for adult advanced registration; \$12 for full-time students. Wisconsin Catholic Conference 608-257-0004. Join us for a day of Catholic fellowship, education, and advocacy! The Office of Social Justice Ministry has chartered a coach bus for the event. Bus registration is available at <http://www.archmil.org/Resources/BusRegistrationtoCatholicsatth.htm>. For more information please contact Rob Shelledy at 414-758-2286 or shelledyr@archmil.org

REFER-A-FAMILY PROGRAM

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

REGISTRATION

We are accepting registrations for the 2011-2012 school year in grades 4K-8.

Please call the school office at 414-762-6820 ext. 10.

SERVERS –

April 2
April 3

4:00 p.m.: Bryce Schultz
7:30 a.m.: Abby Czerwinski
9:30 a.m.: John Pintar

Cross: Kristen Fakler
Cross: Amanda Czerwinski
Cross: Frank Margraff

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. In addition to these collection programs, the school also participates in the Pick 'n Save We Care Program as well as the Target Red Card program. Thank you for supporting our school.

Prayer First

"Whenever you fall pick something up."

Prayer Square

A Parent's Prayer At Report Card Time

O God, who sent us children of such different talents.

Help us to appreciate them for what they are.

Help us not to over praise the scholar and under praise the dreamer.

Inspire us, as parents,

to say the right words to let them all know they are loved equally

in spite of their grades.

And thank you, God, for not grading parents.