

ST. MATT'S MATTERS

March 11, 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,

The season of Lent has begun. During Ash Wednesday Mass those who received ashes heard, "Turn away from sin, and be faithful to the Gospel," as the sign of the cross was drawn on their foreheads. Lent is a time of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. This year's almsgiving project is Project Tanzania. This Sunday, after the 9:30 Mass, Eric Boos will be giving a presentation of his family's work in Tanzania. Dr. Boos will have a PowerPoint presentation, geared for the whole family, that explains not only what his family has accomplished thus far, but also what their vision is for the future of the people of Tanzania. Please come to hear his story and how St. Matthew Parish will be a part of Project Tanzania through our Lenten almsgiving project.

And now, it's time for two "gentle reminders." First, there are only two Home and School meetings left this year! Your school contract states that you must attend two meetings each school year. At next Wednesday's meeting, Paul Feldhake, a representative from Burke and Associates, will explain what the addition to our creative playground will look like. The playground addition is due to be shipped to St. Matthew School on April 8th. The tentative plan is to install it over Easter vacation, weather permitting. The second reminder is that spring fieldtrip season is just around the corner. Archdiocesan policy states that in order to serve as a chaperone on a school field trip, you **must** attend a *Safeguarding All God's Family* workshop. You only need to take the workshop once. If you have not attended a Safeguarding workshop and would like to do so check out the Archdiocese of Milwaukee's website at: <http://www.archmil.org/offices/safeguarding.htm> for a list of times and places the Safeguarding class will be offered.

Lastly, don't forget that Daylight Savings Time starts on Sunday.

Thank you for supporting Catholic Education!

Mrs. Barber

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday, February 28th - Friday, March 18th - Grades 3, 5, and 7 – ITBS Testing Window

Saturday, 3/12 – Fundraiser Basketball Game at Divine Mercy, 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, 3/13 – Daylight Saving Time Begins, Spring Ahead 1 hour; Tuning into Tanzania, Cafeteria, 10:30 a.m.

Monday, 3/14 – "Pi" Day

Tuesday, 3/15 – 8th Grade Group and Individual Pictures, 9:00 a.m.; Student Council Meeting, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, 3/16 – Home and School Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, 3/17 – Out-of-Uniform, Green or St. Patrick Day clothing; Grades 1-4, South Milwaukee PAC, 9:00-11:20 a.m.

Friday, 3/18 – 1:20 P.M. DISMISSAL; School Liturgy by Grade 1, 9:15 a.m.; Grade 6, Retreat, 10:00 a.m.

Monday, 3/21 – NO SCHOOL – Teacher in Service

ADULT BASKETBALL GAME VS. DIVINE MERCY - On Saturday, March 12th at Divine Mercy's gym (1800 16th Avenue, South Milwaukee) the Coaches and Athletic Association Board members from St. Matt's will take on those from Divine Mercy. The game starts at 7:00 p.m. but doors open at 6:00 p.m. During breaks at the quarter and half time all kids will be able to participate in fun events. Food and beverages will be served and there will be a Social afterwards for everyone. Money raised will benefit needy families in each parish. Please join the fun and cheer on these older Bulldogs!

MEDICATIONS – Just to help clarify over-the-counter medications being used at school—ANYTHING OVER-THE-COUNTER OR ANYTHING USED TO TREAT SOMETHING SUCH AS A COLD (COUGH DROPS) CANNOT BE KEPT AT A STUDENT'S DESK. THE (PINK) OVER-THE-COUNTER FORM MUST ACCOMPANY THE MEDICATION AND IT SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE FOR DISPENSING. (All medication MUST be in its original package—not in a baggie.) We have included the form to our school website. Handwritten notes are **not** acceptable.

MR. Z'S FUNDRAISER – LAST CHANCE! You can still turn in your orders on Monday, March 14. Mark your calendars that pick up is on Wednesday, April 6th Please include **one** check payable to St Matthew Home and School when you turn in your order. If you have any questions, contact Bonnie Sikora at 414-573-9301 or by email at bonnie.sikora@cnh.com.

MARDI GRAS – Congratulations to the Mardi Gras court. These students were chosen by their class to reign over our Mardi Gras festivities: Noah Daun-King, Shannon Dugan-Queen, Joshua Duchniak-Prince and Amanda Lee-Princess.

BULLDOG NEWS - Congratulations to the 6th grade boys gold basketball team on taking 3rd place in the Mary Queen of Saints Hoops Tournament last weekend! They also finished off a great season by finishing 3rd in the regular season. Great job Bulldogs!

PARENTS OF SERVERS – Remember that the Server Availability slip for April and May for your son or daughter who serves Mass is due **Friday, March 18th**.
Judy Wargin

MARDI GRAS COSTUME WINNERS – The costume theme this year was to decorate a hat. Congratulations to our winners: Grade 4K, 1st Hailey Strzok, 2nd Meredith Hacker, 3rd Mariah Jacobi, Grade 5K, 1st Kaelan McDonough, 2nd Olivia Schueller, 3rd Erika Spankus, Grade 1, 1st Jordan Gillespie, 2nd Stephanie Czajka, 3rd Avalon Pook, Grade 2, 1st Tori Goedland, 2nd Sophie Koronkowski, 3rd Teresa Daun, Grade 3, 1st Tony Czajka, 2nd Kalsie Chojnowski, 3rd Madison Sumiejski, Grade 4, 1st Alexa Dietsche, 2nd Nithya Attipetty, 3rd Justin Duchniak, Grade 5, 1st Alexa Chojnowski, 2nd Jacklyn Payne, 3rd Mathew Attipetty, Grade 6, 1st Dolores Ehrhardt, 2nd Anna Daun, 3rd Nathan Wester, Grade 7, 1st Carly Sikora, 2nd Bryce Schultz, 3rd Emma Sims, Grade 8, 1st Shannon Dugan, 2nd Noah Daun and 3rd Joshua Duchniak. 1st place winners received a \$10 gift card to Target. 2nd place received 10 game tickets and 3rd place received 5 game tickets. Great job on all the hats!!!

McDONALD'S MONEY – \$1,050 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.

CATHOLIC FINANCIAL LIFE PRESENTS LIVING OUR FAITH WITH ARCHBISHOP LISTECKI - The March 13th episode focuses on marriage. In a filmed feature, Dr. Jennifer Roback Morse will discuss current societal issues relating to marriage and family. The March 19th episode focuses on Hispanic Catholics. In a filmed feature, viewers will see how St. Andrew Parish, Delavan, ministers to its large Hispanic population. Watch "Catholic Financial Life presents Living Our Faith with Archbishop ListECKI," at noon on WISN TV 12. The program also airs on Time Warner Cable's Wisconsin On Demand, Channel 411. (Find it under Your Community tab.)

BEST-SELLING AUTHOR TO SPEAK AT DSHA ON RAISING GIRLS OF COURAGE AND CONFIDENCE - Best-selling author, educator and bullying expert Rachel Simmons will discuss how to coach girls to develop relationship expertise, emotional intelligence and a balanced self-image during a workshop entitled "Raising Girls of Courage and Confidence," to be held Wednesday, March 23rd at 6:30 p.m. at Divine Savior Holy Angels High School (DSHA), 4257 North 100th Street, Milwaukee. The event, which is designed for parents, guardians, teachers and troop leaders of girls of all ages, is free and open to the public. For more information, call Divine Savior Holy Angels High School at 414-462-DSHA (3742) or Girl Scouts of Wisconsin Southeast at 1-800-565-GIRL (4475).

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 –	March 12	4:00 p.m.:	Aaron Craig	Cross:	Amanda Craig
	March 6	7:30 a.m.:	Ryan McNeive	Cross:	Keagan Wardius
		9:30 a.m.:	Joshua Duchniak	Cross:	Evan Siira

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.

P r a y e r F i r s t

“Long faces make short lives.”

Prayer Square

St. Patrick's Breastplate is a popular prayer attributed to one of Ireland's most beloved patron saints. According to tradition, St. Patrick wrote it in 433 A.D. for divine protection before successfully converting the Irish King Leoghaire and his subjects from paganism to Christianity. (The term breastplate refers to a piece of armor worn in battle.) More recent scholars suggest its author was anonymous.

When St. Paul referred to putting on the "Armor of God" in his letter to the Ephesians (6:11) to fight sin and evil inclinations, he could have been thinking of prayers just like this one! We may not wear combat gear in our daily lives, but St. Patrick's Breastplate can function as divine armor for protection against spiritual adversity.

St. Patrick's Breastplate Prayer

Christ be with me, Christ within me

Christ behind me, Christ before me

Christ beside me, Christ to win me

Christ to comfort me and restore me.

Christ beneath me, Christ above me

Christ in quiet, Christ in danger

Christ in hearts of all that love me

Christ in mouth of friend or stranger.