

ST. MATT'S MATTERS

November 19, 2010

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,

As noted below, we will not be sending out a Friday Family Folder next week. I want to wish every family a Happy Thanksgiving! We are so grateful for the gift of your children who bless our lives each day at St. Matthew School.

Thank you all for supporting Catholic education!

Mrs. Barber

IMPORTANT DATES

Sunday, 11/21 – Grade 2, Parent/Child Sacramental Meeting 10:30 a.m. OR 11/22

Monday, 11/22 – Grade 2, Parent/Child Sacramental Meeting 6:30 p.m. OR 11/21

Tuesday, 11/23 – Grades 5-8, Naval Academy Speaker, 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, 11/24 – 11:20 A.M. DISMISSAL; Prayer Service, 9:15 a.m.

Thursday, 11/25 – NO SCHOOL; Happy Thanksgiving

Friday, 11/26 – NO SCHOOL; Thanksgiving Break

Sunday, 11/28 – Advent Begins

THERE WILL NOT BE A NEWSLETTER OR FAMILY FOLDER NEXT WEEK BECAUSE OF THE SHORT SCHOOL WEEK AND THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY.

ACTIVITY DAY PICTURES - Friday, December 3, 9:00 a.m. On this day photographs are taken of our various activities for the Memory Book. **IT IS A REGULAR UNIFORM DAY.** The only exception is Boy and Girl Scouts. They should dress in their scouting uniforms on Friday, December 3.

STAFF CHRISTMAS GIFTS – Reminder: If you are planning to contribute to this monetary gift, your contribution is due in the school office on Friday, December 3rd. If you need another order form, stop by the school office. Any questions, call Lisa Schlotz at 414-764-4832.

PARISH MEETINGS – Please contact the parish office regarding meetings being held at St. Matthew's. All meetings **MUST BE** scheduled through the parish office.

PARISH LIFE MINISTRY – Come and join us with your ideas. Tuesday, December 7th, a meeting will be held in the Good Shepherd Room at 6:00 p.m.



THANK YOU! THANK YOU - The book fair was a smashing success! Sales exceeded \$5,800 allowing us to fulfill over \$3,000 of wishes for the school and classroom libraries. Your generosity also provided over \$50 in books for the Racine Cops 'n Kids program. The book fair committee sends a special thank you to St. Matthew's staff and our volunteer heroes who generously gave their time to help make this a fun event to hold.

NEW SERVER SCHEDULE - The Server schedule for December/January and the revised sub list of servers which includes the new 5th grade servers is in today's family folders.

MARCUS MOVIE THEATER FUNDRAISER – St. Matthew Home and School is running this fundraiser for Marcus movie tickets or Marcus gift certificates. Orders are due on Monday, November 29th and will be filled before Christmas. Our school will receive a certain percentage on each movie ticket or gift certificate sold. In addition, you will receive a profit percentage of your sales which will apply to your Home and School fundraising obligations. Please make ONE check payable to: ST. MATTHEW HOME AND SCHOOL and turn in with your order form by Monday, November 29th. If you have any questions, please contact Cathy Gruszewski/Schultz at 414-916-5356.

ALUMNI NEWS – Congratulations to the following St. Matthew School alumni students who obtained academic honors during the first quarter of St. Thomas More High School: Highest Honors (A cumulative GPA of 3.845 and Up) – Tyler Schultz, Cecilia Margraff, Brian Zapp, James Murphy, Christopher Rolling, Evan Johnson, Matt Cheaney, Nicholas Cheaney, Glenn Margraff, Scott Butzer and Drew Butzer. First Honors (A cumulative GPA of 3.145 to 3.844) – Andrea Schulner, Alyssa Loferski and Mathew Peter.

DID YOU KNOW? - Each week the *St. Matt's Matters* is posted to the St. Matthew website. Check it out at: www.stmattoc.org.

LIVING OUR FAITH - "Living Our Faith with Archbishop Listecki," on Relevant Radio on December 3rd, features the Hispanic holiday traditions of Las Posadas and La Virgen de Guadalupe feast day. Fr. Raul Gomez, vice president, academic affairs, Sacred Heart School of Theology, discusses the story behind Our Lady of Guadalupe and how the feast day is celebrated. Pedro Martinez, former director, Hispanic ministries for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, reflects on the importance of Las Posadas in the Hispanic community. Listen to "Living Our Faith with Archbishop Listecki," Friday, December 3rd, at 9:30 a.m. on Relevant Radio FM 100.1 and on www.relevantradio.com. Episodes will also be available on www.livingourfaith.net.

CHRISTMAS CD – The children of St. Matthew Parish; day school and religious formation, joined together to present a timeless keepsake for the Christmas season. This professional recorded CD contains 15 songs—a wonderful blend of traditional carols and fun, lively songs to help you celebrate the birth of Jesus. The CD also features a special song performed and accompanied by Father Pat! There's still time to order. Orders received before December 15th will be available for pick up prior to Christmas break.

HOLD THE DATE/S – Holiday Cookie Sale: December 4th and 5th, after all Masses;
Christmas Program: Thursday, December 16th, 2:00 p.m. and Tuesday, December 21st, 7:00 p.m.

SERVERS –	November 20	4:00 p.m.:	Hollie Marifke	Cross:	Emma Sims
	November 21	7:30 a.m.:	Corinne Luczak	Cross:	Rachel Anderson
		9:30 a.m.:	Nathan Wester	Cross:	Nicole Burchardt
	Thanksgiving Mass, November 25	9:15 a.m.:	Beck Apple	Cross:	Tanner Apple

YOPLAIT YOGURT - If you purchase Yoplait Yogurt regularly, please purchase the ones with the pink lids. Please save ONLY THE PINK LIDS, that says "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!

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

"Get even with the people who have helped you."

COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS.
HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Prayer Square

A PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We are gathered here as Your family, Oh Lord, as a family of faith and love, we give You thanks.

As Your guests at the table of life, we are grateful that You have set a place for us.

As Your children, we strive to follow You in all we do.

As servants to Your will, we acknowledge the gift of Your understanding and mercy.

As Your stewards, we are filled with wonder in the presence of Your mighty deeds
and accept our responsibilities in Your service.

As Your heirs, we are humbled by the bounty You have given us,

for each beat of our heart and each breath that we draw, is ours only through Your grace.

And, as Your family, we shout Your name and give You all glory and honor, praise and thanks. Amen.