St. Matthew’s School Partners in New Regional Catholic School

From the Editor

By now, many of you have heard about the plans for St. Matthew’s School to be part of a new regional school. In this issue, we’ve provided as much information as was available at the time we went to press about the details of the plan, with a focus on what it means to the St. Matthew’s community. Needless to say, this will be an ongoing story.

Some of you may also be wondering if this changes Alums & Friends (A&F) mission to raise scholarship funds for St. Matthew’s students. It doesn’t. Fundraising for scholarships will continue after the regional school is open.

We understand this is a seismic change for the St. Matt’s community. We want to address your questions and concerns as completely as possible. So please let us know what you want to know — email questions to us at regionalschool@st-matts.org. We will try to respond within 24 hours of each inquiry.

Different Building – Same Mission

On October 28, the Archdiocese announced its plan to create a regional school with the combined schools of St. Matthew’s, St. Michael’s, St. John Vianney and Holy Trinity. The regional school will be in operation at the start of the next school year which begins in September, 2012. The plan for the school was largely developed over the summer by a

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Dear Saint Matthew Alums and Friends,

After a year’s intensive work on the part of six parishes and five schools, a bold new configuration for Catholic schools has emerged; a regional Catholic school. St. Matthew’s School will be part of this new regional school.

The focus of all of this work is and has been: what is the best use of our resources to serve children and families, especially low and moderate income families, and create a sustainable, excellent vibrant Catholic school for decades to come?

Because of your generosity and the work of many others, St. Matthew’s has been able to welcome any family seeking a strong Catholic education for their children. No one has been turned away for financial reasons. And with your continued support, St. Matthew’s current kindergarteners, as well as many other children, will continue to receive a high quality Catholic education.

Because of your generosity and the work of so many others, St. Matthew’s enrollment has grown by more than 30% in the past three years. With your help this enrollment growth will continue. People who never dreamed they might be able to have a Catholic education for their children are able to realize their dream.

Because of your generosity and the hard work of so many others, highly dedicated and skilled teachers have been able to close the achievement gap for low and moderate income families in inner urban and first ring suburban neighborhoods. 100% of our 8th grade graduates enter high school and graduate. 80% of our high school graduates enter post secondary education. This is a success rate that is enviable, and possible because of your generosity. With your continued support our students will succeed.

Eight years from now, St. Matthew’s current class of kindergarteners will graduate from our new regional school; they will be ready for high school and beyond. This is a success story which you and I can make happen.

I will remember each of you and your families at Mass on Thanksgiving morning. I am thankful for you, and so are the kids of St. Matt’s.

Yours truly,
Stephen Adrian, Pastor
St. Matthew

Fr. Michael Rudolph, Pastor at St. Michael’s: “I look forward to seeing what God will be doing among us in this new plan for our area Catholic school. I’m sure a lot of good things will happen for our children and the rest of our community.”

Fr. Kevin Kenney, Pastor at Our Lady of Guadalupe: “A regional Catholic school will bring children together from diverse backgrounds to be educated by dedicated teachers and formed in their faith to be good human beings. At our Lady of Guadalupe parish, we look forward to being part of this new school.”
Regional School Committee made up of members of the four school parishes and Our Lady of Guadalupe. The committee submitted a proposal to the Archdiocese who accepted the recommendation.

Not Closing or Merging – This is Something New
None of the schools involved are being closed, nor are they being merged; instead the archdiocese intends to transition all four of them from parish schools into a two-site school that will be economically sustainable and accessible to more students across the region. Going from four buildings to two provides the space needed for current enrollment while dramatically reducing facility costs. Students will benefit because more resources will go directly into the classroom.

The two school sites will be at St. Michael’s, which runs along the border of St. Paul and West St. Paul, and St. John Vianney, on the northern edge of South St. Paul. Each site will offer pre-K thru 8th grade education along with related programs.

The school will be governed by a board of directors comprised of both priests and lay people. The board’s first task will be to choose a principal for each site, a task they expect to complete in December. Each principal will then be responsible for hiring teachers and other necessary staff for their school site. Most, if not all, of the new teaching positions will be filled with staff from the existing schools.

St. Matthew’s Continues Commitment to West Side Families
While the school site has changed, St. Matthew’s mission to make Catholic education available to every family who wants it for their child, has not.

Every child currently attending St. Matthew’s is guaranteed a spot in the new school under their current tuition agreements. All students who receive tuition assistance will continue to do so. St. Matthew’s

Doug Lieser started teaching at St. Matt’s 13 years ago and has been the principal for the past seven years. During his tenure, enrollment has increased and the financial stability of the school has improved significantly as a result of increased fundraising, grants and endowments.

A MESSAGE FROM ST. MATT’S PRINCIPAL DOUG LIESER
St. Matt’s is not closing; we are starting something new. We are not losing what is great about St. Matt’s. What’s great about St. Matt’s isn’t the building or this site. What’s great about St. Matt’s is the spirit and values that we all embrace and want for the children. We’re not going to lose that by going to another building. In fact, this is an opportunity to enhance that. We can take all that is great about St. Matt’s and make it even better by being in an improved facility. We want you to be part of this. The more of you that are, the more likely the values we hold as important will be part of this school.

“We can take all that is great about St. Matt’s and make it even better...”

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will work closely with each school family to address any concerns or overcome any obstacles the change in school sites might bring.

In developing its plan, the Regional School Committee placed high value on St. Matthew’s effort to create a culturally open environment that welcomes and supports all families interested in Catholic education. Over the past four years, St. Matthew’s has not turned away any students due to an inability to pay tuition. As a result, St. Matthew’s School has been one of the few urban Catholic schools to increase enrollment. The Regional School is now adopting that approach which means it will help families on a much broader scale.

**Why Wasn’t St. Matt’s Chosen as a School Site?**

The decision to start a regional school comes at a time when St. Matthew’s School has been very successful by all measures. Of the four schools involved, St. Matthew’s is the only one to have increased its enrollment and improved its financial condition with support from its alums, as well as increased income from endowments and grants. Despite these successes, St. Matthew’s aging facility loomed over its future.

The committee reached the conclusion that maintaining a 100+ year old building is not financially viable. While the building has been well kept, the cost to upgrade the plumbing, heating, electrical, and make it handicap accessible, is prohibitive. Costs to heat the building are equally high. General maintenance can also be expensive and when unexpected breakdowns occur, it can even disrupt the educational experience.

The savings realized from moving to a new facility will free up resources that could directly benefit students in the classroom.
A Parent’s View on the Regional School

Dawn Reding Karas ‘84 with her 4th grade son, Max. Her daughter Melissa, who graduated from St. Matt’s in 2006, is a sophomore at the College of St. Benedict.

Next year’s middle school students will have the chance to lead the way.

Dawn Reding Karas is an alum who graduated in 1984. When the time came to pick a school for her own children, she chose St. Matt’s, citing its diversity and small class size. “It prepared us for who we are today,” Dawn said. Referring to her job as a Vice President at a downtown bank she adds, “I can deal with very high net worth individuals as well as people on the other end of the scale. St. Matt’s prepares you to deal with all types of different people.”

Dawn was part of the committee that came up with the proposal for the regional school. She’s confident that what makes St. Matt’s great, like its cultural and economic diversity, can remain strong and benefit a wider circle of students in a regional school.

She also knows firsthand the difficulties in bringing different schools together. In high school, Dawn was a member of the first graduating class for the newly merged Cretin-Derham Hall. Looking back, she admits, her senior year was a challenge. “At Derham, we had open lunch and modular schedules and that all went away when we merged,” Dawn said. “But I look at CDH today and think — what a great place to be! Look at what it’s grown into. That can happen here, too, but it will take time.”

Dawn recognizes that some of the changes may be difficult for students to get used to, but she thinks it also offers them a chance to make a real contribution as student leaders, “What a great opportunity to be part of the first class,” she said. “These guys get to help set this up.”

Fulfilling Our True Mission

Changing facilities will be a jolt to many people, but Dawn doesn’t think it should come as too great a surprise. “We knew just by its age that St. Matt’s school building was not going to be there forever. We knew change was going to have to happen. People have to be realistic.”

For her, it all comes down to fulfilling the true mission of the school and that’s something she believes, is not going to change. “By going from two buildings to one, facility costs will be cut,” Dawn said. “That means more resources can be spent on kids — newer computers, more books, better equipment.”

But Dawn cautions that it will take a little time. “Parents will have to be patient. We’ll need everybody’s support to get there.”
A Message from St. Mike’s Principal Maryanna Charley

Probably no one represents St. Michael’s School better than Maryanna Charley. She’s spent the past 41 years working on behalf of its students, first as a teacher and for the last 17 years as its principal.

Maryanna is from the West Side herself, and like many West Siders, she has connections to several communities here. Her father, Larry Weirick, attended St. Matt’s as a boy. By the time Maryanna went to school, St. Joseph’s had opened so she went to church and school there. After she married, she joined St. Michael’s, which was her husband’s parish, and began teaching at the school.

Her long history with the different communities has helped Maryanna develop some useful insights. For instance, while she knows that St. Matt’s and St. Mike’s have often seen themselves as rival parishes, she thinks they’re more alike than they are different. “Both have that family atmosphere and a tradition of being supportive,” Maryanna observed. “And both have a lot of pride in their heritage and who they are.”

“Want Everyone to Feel That This is Their School”

Maryanna sees tremendous potential in the regional school plan and wants to help get it off to a good start before she retires in the next year or two. “Once we get past the initial start-up, I think it will be very positive. It’ll be a stronger education.” She thinks some of the challenges will be eased by the partnership she’s forged with St. Matthew’s principal, Doug Lieser. “Doug and I work very well together,” she said. “We respect each other.” Even so, she understands there will be a period of adjustment. “We will have to work to make sure people feel comfortable. We want everyone to feel that this is their school.”

Her message to parents is that they can have confidence in the quality of the education from day one. “We’re going to continue our high standards of education. That will not go away,” Maryanna said. “In fact, we expect the students will have more opportunities because there will be more resources available to put into the classroom.”

For Maryanna, it all comes down to her commitment to the children. “I’m not walking away from the kids. Where I’m needed, I will be there.”

St. Matthew’s Preschool Program Will Continue at the Regional School

St. Matthew’s preschool will be making the move with the rest of the school. St. Michael’s does not currently have a preschool.
THE NEW SCHOOL SITE

In the coming months, school families, parishioners and alums will have opportunities to visit the new regional school site at St. Mike’s and see for themselves what it has to offer. In the meantime, here’s a few of the amenities that students will appreciate.

• Hot water plumbing throughout the building!
• Green space — the school is surrounded by grass, and there’s a park across the street with playground equipment and an enclosed hockey rink (less asphalt means fewer skinned knees.)
• Ball fields are adjacent to the school.
• Students will be able to go to lunch and attend church without having to go outside.
• The school is all on one floor and compliant with the American Disabilities Act (wheelchair accessible).
• Spacious classrooms — not too hot or too cold.

St. Matthew’s School Building

“It’s About the Friends You Made…”

The retirement of St. Matthew’s school building after 110 years of service is probably the most difficult part of the plan for most people to accept. Like remembering the house we grew up in, nostalgia for the school building runs strong.

Karen Robinette Thompson (‘59) serves on St. Matt’s parish council and worked on the committee that helped develop the regional school plan. For alums disturbed about the idea of shuttering their beloved school building, she offers some perspective. “As I worked on my school reunion, my memories were about my classmates, friends and activities, not the building,” Karen said.

“You remember the building, but the reality is it’s the people who bring back the smiles to your face. It’s about the friends you made. We’re trying to see that every child that wants a Catholic education, gets one. This helps us do that.”

(There have been no discussions to date concerning future plans for the building. We will keep you posted.)

What About St. Joseph’s?

Like most Catholic schools, St. Joe’s is struggling with changing demographics, declining enrollment and budget shortfalls. As a result, St. Joe’s took part in the Regional School discussions. The Archdiocese has decided that St. Joe’s will remain a parish school and will continue to implement the sustainability plan it developed last spring as part of its Archdiocesan school review.

Your Input is Welcome

What are the things that set St. Matt’s apart that you would like to see continued? As planning begins, let us know so we can include your input as part of the planning process. Email your comments to regionalschool@st-matts.org.
Alumni & Friends Donor Report

Best Year Yet – Over $158,000 Raised for Tuition Assistance

Thank you all! Because of your generous support, this year Alums & Friends (A&F) exceeded its fundraising goal of $150,000 by raising a total of $158,063 for tuition assistance. Not only did we exceed our goal, we received 500 gifts, almost 200 more than last year. Thank you for playing such an important role in keeping Catholic education on the West Side strong.

PILLAR — $15,000+
Roy & JoAnn Ferber,+ 1959

PACESETTER — $10,000-$14,999
Hugh Cullen, 1973
Tom & Mary Cullen McKeown,+ former parent
Jerry & Marilyn Sexton,+ 1944

LEADER — $5,000-$9,999
Boss Foundation,+ business
Bill & Bonita Frels, friend
Kletcasky Funeral Home, friend
Bruce & Jean Johnson,+ business
John Riehle,+ 1957

EDUCATOR — $2,500-$4,999
Susan Frank & Anthony Alleva, 1956
Anchor Bank,+ business
Joe Cullen,+ 1978
John Maeurer, friend

SUSTAINER — $1,000-$2,499
Charles Bohrer, 1970
Raoul Booton, business
Ron & Joan Cornwell, friend
Tom Cullen, 1971
John Curran,+ 1950
Mark Delvecchio,+ 1973
Jack Ferber, 1956
Jean Froehle,+ 1949
Carol F. Pelton Heitzinger, 1940

Kenneth Herriges, friend
George Kronschnabel, friend
Jack Lannon, 1949
Joe Mansur,+ 1961
Anonymous, friend
Ann Cullen Miller, 1977
John Posel, 1955

Daniel Riehle, 1968
Joe Riehle, 1971
Anonymous, 1975
John & Dorothy Scanlan,+ member
Daniel Schadegg, 1979

Marjorie Smith, staff - grandparent
Richard Votel,+ 1954
Jerry Weigenant, 1941

BUILDERS — $500-$999
A. Lloyd Alm, friend
Gerald Bergum, 1946
Fred & Molly Commers, friends
Anonymous,+ 1952
Elizabeth Richardson French,+ 1961
Leo Goodrich, friend
Judy Helsper, friend
David & Mary Kaul Hottinger,+ 1981
Steve Karbon & Eileen McMahon,+ committee
Mary Ann Kosel,+ 1960
Andrea & Larry McGough, friends
Leo Goodrich, friend
Judy Helsper, friend

Mary & William O’Neill,+ 1958
Betsy Riehle, 6th gr
Marie Riehle, 1962
Marty Riehle, 1964
Pat Palon Rolewicz, 1954
Mary Ann Stadt Roscoe, 1961
Gerald Schadegg, 1958
Giles Schmid, 1946
John Snyder,+ 1952
Clare Vogel,+ 1946
Dick Votel,+ 1954
Jackie Weinhandl, friend
Richard Wolter, former associate
Mary Cullen Yeager, 1974

BENEFACTORS — $250-$499
George Beran, 1953
Clem & Molly Commers,+ friend
Maureen & Bill Cosgriff, friend
Sue & Tom Doyle, former parent
Maggie Lee/Richard Dunn, parent
Mary Jane Ferber,+ 1962
Jan Mosberger Finnegan,+ 1964
Charles Froehle, 1955
Daniel Gangl, 1971
Jim Gesell, friend
John Grieb, friend
Bernice Grossman, 1937
Michael Kaess, 1968
Mary & Ronald Kammueler, friend
Mike Kosel, 1957
Janet Leibl Lackner, 1956
George Lang, 1956

Rebecca Medellin, 1984
Richard O’Gary, 1952
Rita Ryan, friend
Richard Schadegg, 1966
Thomas Schmidt, 1962
Richard Schoenberger, 1939
Anonymous, 1952
Corinne Gangl Schuster, 1973
Russ Sudeith, 1954
Boy Scout Troup 469, memorial
Allen & Diane Volkenan, friend
Terry Votel,+ 1956
Lois & Robert Wallner, 1939
Yvonne Scherbel Wilhelm, 1949
Peg Wolters, friend

PATRONS — $100-$250
Yvonne Allie, 1954
Stewart Arth,+ 1957
Joanne Posavad Asmus,+ 1951
Steve Bade
Jeffrey Barthe, 1971
Anonymous, 1967
Patricia Cooper Blaskie,+ 1964
Henry Blissenbach, 1956
Mary Lou Allie Bova,+ 1944
Mary Sue Hopkins Brass, 1946
Corinne Heinrich & Bill Brenman, 1947
Jim Brewer, 1953
Muriel Budziszewski, friend
Mary Blaeser Burke, 1951
Nancy Riehle Burke, 1959
Laurice Cameron, 1936
Ellen Schwartz Cournoyer, 1970
Gerald Crane, 1960
Joseph Crawford, friend
Tim Dalzell, +
Gene Daugherty, + 1942
Jerald Dosch, parishioner
Shawn Doyle, 1972
Wayne Dressler, + 1955
Judy Kosek Dunn
Darlene Fibush, 1961
Diane Gabriel, 1961
Jim Gabriel, 1962
Steven Gangl, friend
Joanne George, 1960
Joe George, 1957
Barbara Miller Gnan,
Joanne George, 1960
Steven G Anglic,
Judy Kosel Dunn
Mary Kay Wallace Grzybek,
Jim Gabriel,
Diane Gabriel,
Darlene Fibush,
Patricia Casey Holmes, 1950
Robert Hinze, 1961
Patricia Casey Holmes, 1950
Anita & George Hottinger, parishioner
Janet Humphrey, + friend
Randal Jenniges, 1968
Bradley Jenniges, OSB, + 1976
Susan Jensen, + 1961
Maryl Dressler Joyce, 1949
Thomas Kabesh, + 1960
Patricia Werden Karels, 1954
Anonymous, 1972
Anthony Komor, 1960
Jim Korman, 1955
Tom Landsberger, + 1952
Don Leibl, 1961
Mary Leibl, + 1960
Pat Achman Leseman, 1968
Edward MacDonald, 1954
Joan Meisinger Mahoney, 1951
Donald Mallinger, 1944
Robert McKenna, friend
Elizabeth Schadegg Miller, 1955
Robert Miller, friend
Lawrence Isaac Monsour, 1955
Judy Klotz Morhar, + 1957
Barbara Neff, 1954
Eileen Norton, memorial
Jane O’Brien, parishioner
Margo Earle O’Malley, 1954
Patricia Schadegg Orth, 1967
Ellen Buckrey Parravano, + 1959
Mary Margaret Mohr Perren, 1957
Nancy Pochmann, 1965
COF % Larry Poppler, friend
Margarita Abel Probst, + 1964
Sandy & Tom Reding, grandparent
Susan Jean Schadegg Ross, 1964
Rita Simpson Roubik, 1952
George Schadegg, 1968
Thomas Schadegg, 1962
Chris Schletty, 1960
Joe Schletty, 1962
Thomas Schmidt, 1966
Tony Sitzman, + 1957
Thomas Smith, 1972
Georgene Schaps Sorensen, + 1960
Jack St Martin, + 1936
Liz Blissenbach Stoven, 1962
Mary Pat Topritzhofer, 1975
Dwaine Troje, 1955
Michael Vasterling, + 1968
Charleen Stefaniak Vitelli, 1956
Jim Vogel, + 1956
Marlene Blaeser Vogel, 1954
Lynn Volkernant, former staff
Joseph Votel, 1972
Susan Schmidt Wallace, 1972
Mary Lou Wallin, 1961
Jim Wenker, 1963
Jean Werden, 1950
Kathryn Schadegg Wilce, 1963
Toni Bloechl Wilburn, 1972
Peter Willems, + 1943
Marlene Hudalla Yurasso, 1950
Barbara Zimmer, friend
SUPPORTER — UP TO $99
Catherine Stevens Adams, 1971
Lillian Altdorfer-Morales, 1984
Mark Anderson, 1980
Sheila Haas Anderson, 1965
In collection anonymous, friend
Tom Armstrong, 1961
Monica Anderson Atneosen, 1982
Elaine Anderson Bache, 1954
Victoria Petschauer Baker, + 1968
Jennifer Bejblik, 1998
Beth Bohrer Bellon
Thomas Beran, 1949
Kathleen Yanish Bidwell, + 1952
Claudia Landesberger Biron, 1966
Christine Haider Blissenbach, 1960
Patty Flis Bloomquist, 1957
Jim Bohrer, 1972
Margie Bandholz Boyd, 1968
Diane Ketchmark Bruecker, 1968
Helen Wimmer Bukowski, 1943
Helena Stevens Byrne
Cheryl Frank Campbell, 1962
Joan & Andrew Chandler, friend
Mary Chapdelaine, 1961
Pat O’Day Clemen, 1958
Joann Rindfleisch Clemens, 1945
Frances Weyer Cook, 1957
Lorraine Amadick Cook, 1951
Denise Wessel Crawford, 1965
George Dalglish, 1952
Patti Bejblik Dee, 1971
Mary Ketchmark Deeth, 1961
Catherine Schmidt Duffy, 1966
Joanne Blaeser Dufour, 1957
Rebecca Dunfee, 1998
Mary Giesel Durham, 1975
Bonita Kosek Edwards
Roxann Bohrer Eller
Mary Ann LaRocque Firner, 1953
Mary Helen William Fischer, +
Rosemary Giefer Fischer, 1950
Rita Kosek Fisher
Mary H. Fitzharris, 1960
Susan O’Leary & Ed Flahavan, friend
Don & Esther Giesel, parishioner
Kathleen Ferber Gobeli, 1966
Linda Mathis Gor, 1961
Nancy Ring Grausam, 1954
Margaret Gallagher Hamilton, 1952
Joanne Fischer Hartigan, + 1946
Dorothy Froeder Hawkins, 1952
JoAnn Heimel, parishioner
Mark Heinen, 2001
Michael Heitzinger, 2001
Janice McIntosh Hemming, + 1957
John Hernandez Jr., friend
Juliana Hernandez-Friske, 1975
Mary Ann Savard Hillrey, 1958
Mary Lou Johnson Hoeschen, 1961
Theresa Schadegg Hoffard, 1970
Lynne Sward Johnson, 1978
Robert Joseph, 1972
EM Brenny & Walter Jost, friend
Karen Ketchmark Kachel, 1961
Marcy Walker Kaehler, 1969
Michele Kaess, 1961
Dawn Karas, 1984
Jim Karas, 1975
John Karas, 1978
Renee Karas, 1985
Gloria Kellieher, 1961
Peggy Bastien Kelsch, 1950
Kathleen Kennedy, former staff
Tim Kenney, 1946
Charlie Ketchmark, 1967
John Ketchmark, 1950
Karen Ketchmark, 1961
Ted Ketchmark, 1949
O. William Klingner, + 1939
Mary Firmer Knezovich, 1978
Marjorie O’Day Koska, 1952
Jeffrey Kubiszewski, 1979
Rita Kuchemeister, friend
Anonymous, friend
Cecil Stevens Lamb
Edith Minea Lamers, 1943
Bernie Lancette, 1961
Joan Leighton, memorial
Melissa Lopez, 2006
Mary Lotzer, 1963
Mary J. Hager Luna, 1970
Stella Flis Lundquist, 1943
Rita MacDonald, 1949
Wanda Savary Mahnke, 1957
William & Patricia Mahoney, 1951

bold: first time donor  +: 4 year donor

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Clem Maranda, 1945
Oscar Marfori, Jr, 2006
Kathy Marquardt, 1983
Mary Marthaler McDonough, 1947
Margaret McKane, parishioner
Dolores McKenna, friend
Mary Ann Schmid McMillan, + 1940
Helen Lannon McNell, + 1955
Refugio Mendez, 1961
Anne Nasseff Miller, memorial
Susan Miller, 1961
Mary Lou Mohn, friend
Michelle Mooney, 1964
Peter & Dorothy Murk, friend
Carol & John Murphy, parishioner
Mary Schadegg Murphy, 1960
Barbara Hager Olson, 1969
Nancy Buron Ottmann, 1951
Geri Johnson Padelford, 1969
Mary Ellen Palumbo, 1961
Sarah Anderson Pavlek, 1976
Rita Blaeser Pavel, 1946
Judy Wanger Pekarek, 1961
Audrey Staudacher Peltier, 1943
Ardena Andress Prudenske, 1945
Mary Ramisch Putnam, 1946
Mark Reding, 1982
Nick Reding, 2010
Margaret Jungbauer Reed, 1951
Albert Rindfleisch, 1942
William Rindfleisch, + 1951
Kathy Robinette, 1961
Jeanie Bohrer Roers, 1971
Christopher Rolewicz, parishioner
Andrew Rosenberger, 1932
Don Rosenberger, 1957
Tony Roszak, parishioner
Ralph Roubal, 1950
Fr. Michael Rudolph, pastor
Susan Brengmann Sabanjo, 1986
Joseph "Octave" Savard, 1950
Michael Schadegg, 1955
Marion Schaps, 1940
Anonymous, faculty
Beatrice Martinneau Schueller, 1944
Mariette Sears, friend
Mary Deustermann Sellner, 1957
Michael Seubert, 1955
Joan Littfin Shields, 1959
Helen Ketchmark Sigmeth, 1960
Larry & Shirley Smith, parishioner
Patricia Smith, + 1941
Robert Smith, 1959
Scott St Martin, 1979
Fran Ketchmark Steen, 1952
Thomas Stehr, 1958
Dean Steinbrenner, 1979
James Stevens
Joe Stevens
John Stevens
Patrick Stevens
Florence Henly Stifter, 1945

Peggy Ferber Tate, 1961
Iva Tereau, friend
Greg Thompson, 1984
Barbara Wehner & Eugene Tinucci, 1946
Robin Tinucci, + 1944
Julie Karels Treinen, 1978
Dorothy Hanso Turcotte-Tait, + 1953
Mary Lou Verstrate, 1961
Paul Vierling, 1951
Mary Walsh, parishioner
Tony Wilfahrt, 1961
Irene Wimmer, 1932
Marie Cognetta Zobel, 1952
Mary Sudeith Zupfer, 1959

GIFTS IN MEMORY OF:
Joe Ahern
Ella & William Amadick
Carolyn Marie Anderson
Kathleen Anderson
Jack Bandholz
John & Elvira Bandholz
Joseph Bejbliek
George & Tilda Beran
Anthony Bloechl
George Bohrer
Vivian Byers
Jim Clemens
Lucille Daugherty
A.J. DelVecchio
Clarence Ernst
Janice Ferber
Luverne Manda Feucht
Betty Lou Wolters Fink
Donald Fischer
Family: Fischer
Russ Gesell
J. Donald Giefer
All Grads
George Gubash
James & Mirella [Stehr] Haider
John & Elvira Hanson
Albert Hanzal
Ernie Heininger
Louise Heller Heinrich
Jack Heitzinger
John & Elvira Heitzinger
Vincent Imdieke
Gladys Jaeger
Myrna & Alfred Johnson
Josephine Joseph
Jackie Connaker Justenen
Joseph Karas, Jr.
Joseph Karas, Sr.
Family: Kosel
Mary & Cyril Kosel
George Lackner
Frank & Mildred Lannon
Ed LeClair
Joan MacDonald

GIFTS IN HONOR OF:
Father Steve Adrian
Virgil Bloechl
Siblings in Bloechl family
Deceased classmates Class of 1950
Family Fischer
George Gangl
Sr LaVerne Hudalla, OSB
Eleven years of Lasallian reading
with 1st graders
Joyce Poehlman
Family: Schmitt
Diane & Allen Volkenant
Lynn A Volkenant

FAMILY GIFTS
Bohner
Cullen
Ketchmark
Riehle
Rolewicz
Schadegg
Stevens

M/M Tom McKane
Paul Medellin
Kathleen Merry Anderson
Anton & Katherine Meyer
John & Rose Meyer
George & LaVerne Miller
Joe Mueller
Donald Neff
Jane O’Brien
Gertrude Palon
Carl & Delma Petschauer
Charles Poehlmann
Lillian & Gerald Posavad
Bill Rascher
Mary Riehle
Albert Rindfleisch
Mr. & Mrs. William Rindfleisch
Loretta Ringold
Clare Robideaux
Adam Roscoe
Andrew Rosenberger
Nellie & John Schmid
Mary Schwartz
Jean Smith
James Snyder
Mr. & Mrs. M.L. Snyder
Bob & Jeanne Stadt
Agnes Stefaniak
Peter Vogel family
Pat & Hank Votel
Ann Marie Walker
Robert Werden
Francis & Marie Werden family
Amanda Weyer

bold: first time donor  +: 4 year donor
Thank You Bonnie!

We’re sorry to announce that after five years as St. Matthew’s Director of Music and Liturgy, Bonnie Faber is resigning. Bonnie is a highly accomplished musician, choir conductor and voice coach with a national reputation in the field of music liturgy. Just last year members of St. Matthew’s choir traveled to New York City where Bonnie was one of seven liturgical choir conductors throughout the country invited to conduct at Carnegie Hall.

During her years at St. Matthew’s, Bonnie conceived of and implemented the idea for Team Liturgy, a program where middle school students assume responsibility for all aspects of planning and executing school Masses. The program has been highly successful and has drawn many students in as active participants in the Liturgy.

Bonnie also undertook efforts to beautify the church and, with virtually no budget, she arranged for new hymnal bookcases, backdrops, altar covers and a series of beautiful altar displays that reflect each distinct, liturgical season.

While Bonnie plans to continue her work in music liturgy, she has decided that it is time to retire from parish work. “I’ve been doing this for 44 years,” Bonnie said. “I want to have more time to be available for my grandchildren. My mom is 80 and I want to make more time for her, too.”

Thank you, Bonnie, for your tremendous effort on behalf of St. Matthew’s. After all those years of hard work, we hope this Christmas you get to enjoy a leisurely day with your family. You’ve earned it.

Young Alums and Young at Heart

All are invited to special showing of Harry Potter Deathly Hallows, Part 1 & 2

St. Matthew’s graduates from 2004-2009 share a special memory of 5th grade teacher, Ms. Volkenant, reading from the Harry Potter books and attending the movies together.

As part of our 125th Anniversary, please join us on Sunday, Jan. 8 at 1 p.m. in the Social Hall to watch the last two films of the series. Starting at 1 p.m., Lynn Volkenant will read from the Deathly Hallows Part 1 followed by the movie at 1:15 p.m. There will be a pizza break (popcorn & pop will also be available) and Part 2 will begin at 4:30 p.m.

During the break, Fr. Steve Adrian will speak to those present about his take on the series, his hopes for the young people present and maybe even about his plans for retirement.

While the event is free, attendees are invited to bring donations for Neighborhood House’s Food Shelf. For more information, contact the Parish Center at 651-224-9793.

Mardi Gras Dinner – Saturday, Feb 19

Last year’s dinner & dance were so much fun — we’re doing it again! Mark your calendar so you won’t miss this year’s party held the Saturday before Lent begins. The Social Hour will begin at 5 p.m. immediately following Saturday Mass. The evening will include great food, live music and lots of fun. Bring your friends! For more information, call the Parish Center 651-224-9793.
EVENTS calendar

MASS ON THANKSGIVING DAY — November 24, 9 a.m.

FEAST OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION — December 8, Mass at 6:30 a.m., 9:15 a.m. & 5 p.m.

ROSARY SOCIETY CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE — December 10 & 11
Last year this event got snowed out so come help the Rosary Society make up the difference this year. Home baked goods will be available in the Social Hall on Saturday 2-6 p.m. and Sunday 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA — December 11, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
The boy scouts will be serving an all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast. Santa will be there so bring your kids and grandkids to get their picture taken.

MEN’S CLUB CHRISTMAS AUCTION — December 14, 8 p.m.
Held in the Social Hall, money raised supports the Retirement Fund for the School Sisters of Notre Dame and St. Matthew’s Holiday Giving for families in need.

SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CONCERT — December 15, 6:30 p.m.
Join the fun when students in K-5th grade sing songs and perform a Christmas pageant. The concert takes place in the church and everyone is welcome.

COMMUNAL Penance SERVICE (non-sacramental) — December 18, 2 p.m.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE — December 24, 4 p.m.; December 25, Midnight (12 a.m.), 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

MEN’S CLUB MEETING & DEBT REDUCTION DINNER — January
The Men’s Club will hold their monthly meeting on January 11, 8 p.m. in the Social Hall — everyone’s welcome. They will also be sponsoring another debt reduction Hot Dish Dinner in January. Watch the bulletin for the date and other details.

MLK BREAKFAST AT ST. MATT’S — January 16, 7:30 a.m.
St. Matt’s will host this annual event which includes a simulcast from the Minneapolis Convention Center. Breakfast will be provided by the Guadalupana Ladies.

ROSARY SOCIETY RETREAT — February 18, 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.