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CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK January 29–February 4, 2023

Dear St. Matthias Parishioners,

January in Milwaukee Archdiocesan schools is a wonderful month! Not only are we ready to tackle testing, cold weather, and the new year, we also look forward to celebrating our wonderful parish school. Nationwide, Catholic education is being celebrated during Catholic Schools Week, from January 29 - February 4, 2023 and we are proud to be a part of the celebration.

Sponsored annually by the National Catholic Educators Association, the theme for Catholic Schools Week is: Faith, Excellence, Service. This theme recognizes all that we do every day. Our rigorous curriculum is just one part of the St. Matthias experience. Celebrating our faith is what sets us apart. All that we do is grounded in our mission: Faith First - Educating children while building a Catholic foundation that instills Christian values. Guided by Catholic Social Teachings, we serve others. Our students actively participate in service projects, support a variety of charities, and help each other. Our students and staff know the community we serve reaches beyond the school walls as we have a responsibility to support the needs of our local and global communities.

Catholic Schools Week highlights the importance of Catholic education and celebrating our accomplishments. Our celebration at St. Matthias is memorable every year! This year, we will gather as a school to celebrate our faith with Mass and a prayer service. We will celebrate fun with special dress codes and activities throughout the week.

We know that our education, our school, would not be possible without the support of all parishioners. We thank you for that support. Please keep us in your prayers and thoughts throughout the week and the whole year. If you know of any families that would like to tour our school to see what we have to offer, please ask them to call our school office anytime between 7:30am - 3:30pm Monday through Friday to schedule a tour; our number is (414) 321-0894. We love to share our school with others and to have new families join our community of learners.

Gratefully,

The Students and Staff of St. Matthias Parish School



Faith First - Educating children while building a Catholic foundation that instills Christian values

January 29, 2023



From the Pastor

This week our St. Matthias School and all the Catholic Schools around the country will be celebrating Catholic Schools Week. It is a week of prayer, fun activities and celebrating our Catholic identity. We are very proud of our St. Matthias Catholic School and the wonderful formation & education our students receive. I wish to offer a word of thanks to our Principal Alissa Turner for her leadership and a word of thanks to our school teachers and staff that do an amazing job. I have made an effort to regularly walk through our school and stop into classrooms. I am very impressed with the quality education our students are receiving.

As a Catholic School, we take great pride in passing on the faith. We celebrate All-School Mass each week, which parishioners are always welcome to attend. We offer religious formation and education in the classroom. We pray as a community. A few months ago, one of our students was baptized and soon another student will be baptized. Our second-grade students received first reconciliation and soon will be receiving first communion.

I also wish to thank the parents of our students for trusting our school to educate and form your children in the ways of Christ. If you know of a family that would benefit from sending their child to a Catholic school, or you know someone who would be interested in having their children attend St. Matthias School, please have them contact us. A school tour can be arranged. It is my hope to grow our school enrollment and the best way to make that happen is through word of mouth. Please spread the word, and please tell others about our great school.

When I am out in the community and tell people that I am now the pastor of St. Matthias, very often I will hear someone tell me, "I went to St. Matthias School" or "I sent my kids to St. Matthias School." There is a pride in their voice when they tell me of their connection to St. Matthias, and speak very positively of their experience at St. Matthias School. For many years, we have been able to continue the great tradition of educating our children and helping to form them as disciples of Jesus Christ. This year we celebrate the current success of our school, and we look forward to moving into the future, building upon the traditions of those who have gone before us.

Finally, I wish to thank our parishioners for the financial support they offer to keep our school strong. School tuition and school choice funds do not cover the entire cost of our school budget, so the parish subsidizes the school budget with about \$25,000 each month. This allows us to pay competitive salaries to our teachers and staff, it allows us to buy the books and materials needed to provide a stellar education, and allows us to heat the building and keep the lights on. Thank you for your generosity. May God continue to bless St. Matthias Catholic School.

Fr. Jerry



From the School Principal...

Catholic School Week Greetings,

As I gear up to celebrate Catholic Schools Week, I find myself reflecting on my time in Catholic education. I never planned to be a Catholic educator but as we know, God often takes our best-laid plans and turns them upside down. I wanted to share with you how Catholic education has impacted my life.

As a child, I attended public school from Kindergarten to 12th grade. My college aspirations were to earn my degree in Music Education and teach middle school in a public school. I was passionate about sharing the gospel with students in a public school setting- something a few of my childhood teachers were successful doing (carefully, of course). As my student teaching experience came to a close, I was approached about taking a long-term subbing position at St. Joseph Academy in Kenosha. This is where my journey in Catholic education began. As I began to search for my first teaching position, one of the teachers at St. Joe's suggested I apply for positions in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. The search led me to St. Matthias. I figured I'd teach for a few years at Matthias (three to five years at the most) and finally find that public school job where I could finally share the gospel.

Fast forward to the present. I never became a public school teacher or administrator. Instead, God has blessed me with 19 years in Catholic education and has allowed me to share the gospel all day, every day. In return, my faith has been deepened by adult faith formation, my time at Mass, and through day-to-day interactions with other believers. I share this story as a testament to the greatness of Catholic education. Catholic education has the potential to touch every individual who walks through our school doors. Thank you to those who make it possible for St. Matthias School to thrive through your financial giving, your service, and your prayers. Our success is a testament to your generosity and love. Who do you know that could benefit from a Catholic education? Please tell others about St. Matthias. We'd love the opportunity to meet them and give them a tour of our amazing school.

Blessings,
Alissa Turner, Principal



WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, January 29, 2023 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 8:00 am **Mass - Church** - Fr. Jerry Herda
†Michael Hannon (Therese Kreinus)
10:00 am **Mass** - Fr. Jerry Herda
Parishioners of St. Matthias

Monday, January 30, 2023

- 8:15 am **All School Mass - Church** - Fr. Jerry Herda
3:15 pm Brownie Troop Mtg. - Steiger Hall
7:00 pm River of Life Prayer Group - Steiger Hall

Tuesday, January 31, 2023

- 8:15 am **Mass - Church** - Fr. Dave Cooper
†Glenn Gabor (Leona Gabor)
7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop Mtg. - Parish Center Scout Rm.

Wednesday, February 1, 2023

- 3:15 pm Junior Handbells - Church
6:30 pm Dartball - Steiger Hall
7:00 pm Centering Prayer - Parish Center Living Rm.

Thursday, February 2, 2023

- 8:15 am **Mass - Church** - Fr. Jerry Herda
6:30 pm Adult Faith Formation Bible Study - P.O. Conference Rm.
7:00 pm Adult Choir practice - Church
8:00 pm A New Awakening Group - Parish Center

Friday, February 3, 2023

- 2:00 pm Sleeping Bag Ministry - Steiger Hall

Saturday, February 4, 2023

- 8:00 am Sleeping Bag Ministry - Steiger Hall
8:30 am Individual Confessions - Church
10:00 am P.E.O. Projects & Philanthropies Mtg. - Steiger Rm. 7
4:00 pm **Mass - Church** - Fr. Jerry Herda
Parishioners of St. Matthias
5:15 pm Anointing - Church
6:00 pm **Mass - Church** - Fr. Jerry Herda
Our Sister Parish, Santa Maria de Los Angeles

Sunday, February 5, 2023 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 8:00 am **Mass - Church** - Fr. Jerry Herda - Children's Liturgy of the Word
†Larry Trzebiatowski & †Virginia Tetzloff (Bade family)
8:00 am Confirmation Retreat - Steiger Hall
9:15 am K4-8 grade Christian Formation—62 Bldg., Beloit Bldg. & Gym
10:00 am **Mass** - Fr. Dave Cooper
†Joan Lengua (Cynthia Nalencz)

Readings for the week of January 29, 2023

- Sunday: Zep 2:3; 3:12-13/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10 (Matthew 5:3)/
1 Cor 1:26-31/Mt 5:1-12a
Monday: Heb 11:32-40/Ps 31:20, 21, 22, 23, 24/Mk 5:1-20
Tuesday: Heb 12:1-4/Ps 22:26b-27, 28 and 30, 31-32/Mk 5:21-43
Wednesday: Heb 12:4-7, 11-15/Ps 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18a/
Mk 6:1-6
Thursday: Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40 or
2:22-32
Friday: Heb 13:1-8/Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8b-9abc/Mk 6:14-29
Saturday: Heb 13:15-17, 20-21/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mk 6:30-34
Next Sunday: Is 58:7-10/Ps 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (4a)/1 Cor 2:1-5/
Mt 5:13-16

GRACE. GRATITUDE. GENEROSITY.

PARISH WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP WEEK OF: January 22, 2023

*These funds represent the majority of the parish income
needed to sustain the mission of St. Matthias.
Thanks for all you do!*

Finance and Stewardship Committees

Total # Envelopes	186
Total Contributions	\$17,944.75
Year to Date Total	\$485,310.47



The 2023 Catholic Stewardship Appeal will start in February.

Envelopes will be in the pews on the weekend of February 11 & 12. Please be as generous as you can. No amount is too small. Thank you!



St. Vincent de Paul Society

St. Vincent de Paul is an organization of lay Catholics, following Christ's call to serve the poor and the suffering. Vincentian members establish personal relationships with our neighbors in need, not only providing material assistance such as rent, utilities or food, but also offering friendship, understanding, and prayer. **If we can be of assistance to you, please call us at (414) 321-0893 ext. 408.**

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry

The next Food Pantry dates are February 11 and 25 from 7:30 am-11:00 am. Please drive up in the circle drive in front of St. Matthias Church and stay in your car. A food pantry volunteer will come to assist you.



The following items are needed:

Chef Boyardee	Soup	Pasta Sauce
Hamburger Helper	Toilet Paper	Applesauce
Canned fruit	Pork and Beans	Rice
Diced Tomatoes	Cereal	Tuna
Laundry Detergent (less than 75 oz)		Pasta

Please do not donate baby food.

Mid-Year, 2022-2023 Results

Parish		School	
Total Contributions	\$555,847	Choice Tuition	\$427,929
Total Other Revenue		Private Pay Tuition	\$ 69,733
(Formation fees, investment income)	\$ 11,704	Parish Subsidy	\$100,000
Fund Raising	\$219,946	All other revenue	\$ 94,974
Total Revenue	\$787,497	Total Revenue	\$692,636
Salaries and Benefits	\$234,543	Salaries and Benefits	\$468,508
Supplies and Purchased Services	\$196,866	Supplies and Purchases Services	\$ 70,037
Buildings and Grounds Expenses	\$ 71,516	Building and Grounds Expenses	\$ 95,512
Arch assessment, fundraising and other expenses	\$180,860	Arch assessment, fundraising and other expenses	\$ 89,607
Total Expense	\$683,785	Total Expense	\$723,664
Net Income	\$103,712	Net Income (Loss)	\$(31,028)

Through the first half of the fiscal year, envelope contributions remain down 16% compared to budget. Offertory cash is 18% over budget, however, not nearly enough to offset the loss from envelope contributions. We have received anonymous donations which offset the weekly contribution loss. On total, the parish is slightly ahead on projected revenue.

Parish salaries and benefits are 13% below budget thanks in part to a refund in unemployment benefit premiums for past years and a decrease in health insurance costs. Supplies and Purchased Services are significantly over budget due to added festival costs, however, by a lesser percentage than Q1 due to reduced need for expenditures and allocation of costs to the school. Utilities are significantly higher than were budgeted, which was increased by 15% to cover inflation.

The net income for the parish is 11% less than what was budgeted at this point for the fiscal year.

The school is still reflecting a loss for Q2, however, the loss is significantly less than Q1 and about 33% better than was expected for this time in the fiscal year. The School is actually 31% ahead of expectations at this point.

Salaries and benefits are in line with expectations. Supplies and Purchased Services are under budget by 11%. Buildings and grounds are over budget by about 17% but coming back into alignment since Q1. There continued to be unbudgeted expenses to correct issues with the dishwasher in Steiger Hall.

Finance Council continues to monitor the financial position of both the parish and school. The Parish and School could not exist without contributions from, and volunteer efforts, of parish members. Thank you for your continued generosity in support of St. Matthias Parish and School.

Fr. Jerry Herda, Pastor,
and Finance Council

PARISH NEWS AND NOTES



Baptisms

We welcome **Lyla**, child of Daniel and Leslie Lyrenmann, **Henry**, child of Matthew and Amanda Schmidt, and **Bernadette**, child of Benjamin and Marian French, who were recently baptized at St. Matthias. Congratulations and God bless!

Rest in Peace

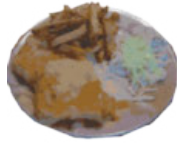
We commend to God the souls of **John Leskovar** and **Nanette Miller**. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in eternal peace. Please remember them and their families in your prayers.

Memorial

A memorial donation was given to St. Matthias Parish in loving memory of Chuck Retkowski, from friends and family, to be used for the Food Pantry.

All-You-Can-Eat Fish Fry

Friday, February 3 | 4:30 - 7:00 p.m.
(Doors open at 4:00 p.m.)



St. Florian Parish, 1215 S 45 St., West Milwaukee

Menu: Beer Battered Fried Cod, Heart-Healthy Baked Cod, Chicken Tenders, SALAD BAR, Homemade Clam Chowder, French Fries, Parsley-Buttered Potatoes, Rye Bread, Coffee, Milk & Dessert

Beer & Soda are available for purchase

Take-Outs are available!

Adults - \$16 | Children 3-10 - \$9


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