



THE GOOD NEWS

May/June 2010
Issue 18

FROM ST. MATTHEW

The community of St. Matthew exists in the world as a visible expression of God's love

Our Graduates Excel While Serving Others

Photo at Right: St. Matt's alumni Brian Edwards, Melissa Lopez and Samantha Casillas are honor roll students and will graduate from Cretin-Derham Hall High School this year.

The *Good News* often highlights the unique culture of St. Matthew's School and the power it has to shape the lives of its students. We talk about what it means to be a small school with a diverse student body as well as the importance of promoting both academic excellence and service to others. But sometimes, instead of talking, it's nice to show people what that really means.

With that in mind, I'd like to introduce you to three alumni from the class of 2006. **Melissa Lopez, Brian Edwards** and **Samantha Casillas** are graduating from Cretin-Derham Hall High School (CDH) in May. All three have achieved academic honors such as inclusion on CDH's Dean's List and two of them are members of the National Honor Society. But these young adults also stand out for their record of service to the St. Matthew's community, and in particular, to the children here.

Melissa volunteers at the Child Care Center; Brian is a leader in St. Matt's Boy Scout Troop and Samantha is a lector and Eucharistic minister at church. But there's one responsibility all three have taken on — they've all coached students at St. Matt's for team sports.

Brian started when he was a sophomore after his former basketball coach, Greg (Pepe) Ortega died suddenly. "I went to his funeral and his son asked if I wanted to help coach the team that Greg was coaching at the time." He continued in his junior year as head coach for the boys' basketball team and this year, he coached girls' basketball.

Melissa coached volleyball her sophomore year, softball as a junior and volleyball again as a senior. Gesturing to her classmates, Melissa says, "All three of us participated in sports when we went here so



it just carried on in high school."

Samantha agrees, "I think because we had such a fun time playing we could share that and let the younger kids have that type of experience."

Samantha and Melissa coached the girls softball team together when they were juniors. Samantha recalls, "It was different coaching with a peer because we got to set up all the rules. It was good leadership training for us."

Continued on page 4

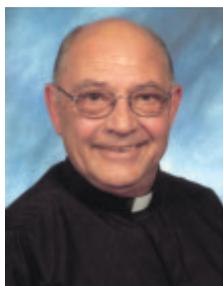


Preschool enrollment is now open at St. Matthew's!

See page 10 for more details.

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE

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Fr. Steve's homilies are available on-line at www.st-matts.org

Dear Saint Matthew School Alums and Friends:

I want to take this opportunity to announce news of a legacy gift made through the estate of a Saint Matthew School Alum to the Saint Matthew Education Endowment.

Vivian (Wiler) Byers died on June 8, 2009. She was an 8th grade student at Saint Matthew's in 1939.

Vivian was born October 20, 1925. Her early years were spent in Minneapolis before her parents moved to the West Side of Saint Paul. After graduating from Saint Matthew's School she attended Saint Joseph's Academy and graduated in 1943. She went to work for Minnesota Transfer Railway, where she became the chief clerk for the mechanical and engineering departments. She held this job until she retired in 1983.

On March 31, 1951 she married Harold T. Byers.

Vivian was an unassuming person. She never owned a car; early in her life she rode the street car and then later the city bus. People described her as "giving," "generous," "very independent" and a "very happy person." Vivian and Harold lived a simple life.

Music was a passion for Vivian beginning in grade school. Vivian and her life-long friend, Sister Lorraine Mosso, SSND would play piano duets together at school dismissal time in the first floor of Saint Matthew's School. For years she sang in the church choir at Saint Francis de Sales and led the funeral choir at Saint James.

Vivian and her husband Harold both became proficient in doing taxes. They

volunteered as tax preparers at many sites. After Harold died, Vivian continued to help the elderly do their taxes.

In 2007, Vivian's health waned and she was no longer able to live in her own home. She lived the final two years of her life at Saint Mary's Home on Norfolk in Saint Paul.

Through the years Vivian would send me a check each Christmas Season for the Pastor's Scholarship Fund for Saint Matthew Students. Her annual gifts to the endowment were between \$3,000 and \$5,000.

She strongly believed that the education she received at Saint Matthew's put her in a good place to make a living, to know right from wrong and to deepen her Catholic faith.

After her death we learned that she had created an education endowment for Saint Matthew at the Catholic Community Foundation in excess of \$850,000.00. She provided in a similar fashion for Saint Francis/St James School and for the School Sisters of Notre Dame retirement fund.

The Saint Matthew Education Endowment now exceeds \$1,000,000 thanks to the gifts of so many hundreds of people and families. Beginning in 2011, this endowment will provide in excess of \$50,000 annually for tuition assistance and other needs of Saint Matthew students.

No gift to the endowment is insignificant. Each gift is a gift forever — the invested principal is never touched and annually a portion of the earned income is used for education. The endowment option is a way for a gift to keep on giving.

The support for the educational mission of Saint Matthew's depends equally on annual gifts of support and gifts to the education endowment — it is not an either/or; it is both/and.

Thank you to Vivian Byers and to the many hundreds of parish members, alums and friends of Saint Matthew who make our educational mission possible!

Yours truly,
Stephen Adrian, Pastor

2008-09 Total Expenses educating 180 students: \$768,000*

** This figure does not include parish subsidies for utility, maintenance and bookkeeping. As income to the school has increased, the school has assumed a greater portion of these costs.*

2008-09 Income:

Tuition, Fees & Family Fundraising	\$236,000
Archdiocese's Subsidy	\$201,000
FOCUS, Sister Parish, Grants	\$232,000
Alumni & Friends	\$107,000**

*** Reflects money raised in 2008-2009.*

St. Matt's 8th Graders Go Out on the Town

For their field trip this year, the 8th grade class got to broaden their horizons by sampling the full range of cultural life available in the Twin Cities. They went to plays at the Guthrie, toured the Capitol, went downhill skiing, did volunteer work, and ate at fine restaurants. Their 4-day outing concluded with a mass at the Cathedral with their families. It was another step forward on their journey to adulthood.

Crisanto Dubuc

I really can't stand reading Shakespeare. When we went to see Macbeth I didn't have high expectations. I found I really like Shakespeare when it's performed. It helps knowing the general plot of the play since the old English can be hard to understand sometimes. The second play, Young Frankenstein, was very different. It was a musical comedy based on the son of Frankenstein creating another monster. Most of my class liked it better than Macbeth.

Jack Smith

During the trip, we did many things that were quite enjoyable. We walked the skyways, went to great restaurants, saw plays, went to the orchestra, the capitol and much more. However, the best thing I think we did was talk. We had many deep conversations about our lives and who we want to be next year. We really connected with each other and we had many great experiences as well. We came home with stronger friendships. It really was one of the greatest experiences of my student life.



Arianna Mendez

We 8th graders got to put our school uniforms away and dress up, to learn about the environment around us.

Grads Excel and Serve Others, *continued from page 1*

There were challenges, as Samantha explains, “It was really difficult at first because they’re in middle school and they all have their own opinions. But now, I’m really close with the girls. I see that they look up to me and I appreciate that.”

Melissa acknowledges a special challenge she has as a coach, “I don’t have that much patience sometimes with.....” “Anything,” Samantha finishes the sentence for her and they both laugh. Melissa continues, “I just want to play the game. Sam was the one who’d say, ‘Okay, guys, we’ve got to concentrate.’”

Samantha agrees, “We both took on different roles when coaching together. There was a good guy-bad guy aspect....I was the good guy, unless I got mad then everybody was quiet.”

Brian says, “Coaching is definitely frustrating at times but it’s rewarding to see them improve and know that you helped them. The first game for the girls, we lost by 40 points, so I think the parents and the other coach and I sort of thought, this might end up being how the season was. And the next game we won by 60 points. A lot of the girls hadn’t played before. Once we

told them the rules and got them ready for it, they did a lot better.”

Melissa had a similar experience with her 5th grade volleyball team this year. “Through the season they all kept getting a lot better. One girl couldn’t serve at first and then she became one of our best servers. It was great just seeing how happy they were because they could get the ball over the net. They’re gonna be good when they’re in 8th grade.”

They agree that very few high school students are interested in spending time at their old grade school, much less taking on the responsibility of coaching one of its teams. But they also point out, St. Matt’s is different.

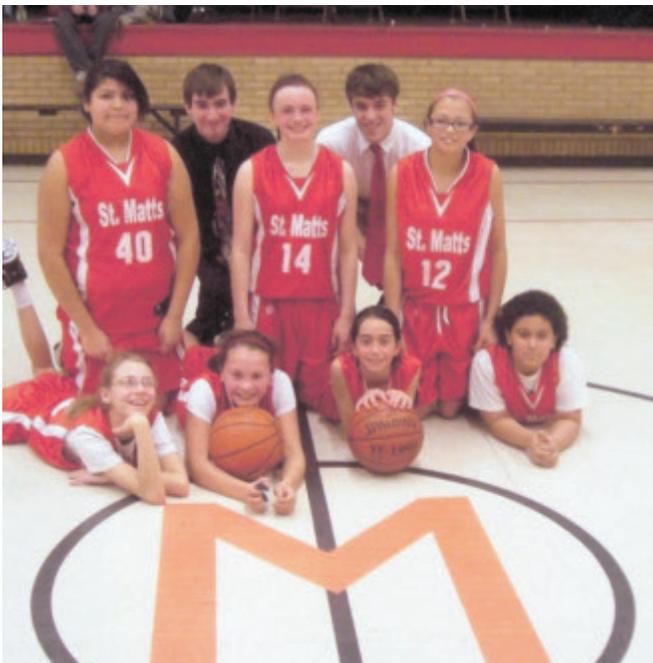
Brian says, “I think just the fact that it is small. We knew a bunch of the kids that we came back to coach. Like, one time I came to practice and they had an old yearbook and I was in it.”

Samantha adds, “We know the families and we know the parents and they depend on us as much as we use to depend on them. You see everyone at Fish Fry’s or events at St. Matt’s. Everyone is willing to help out and be supportive of whatever you do.”

In addition to their service at St. Matt’s, all three alumni are busy with a wide range of activities. Brian is completing the requirements to earn the rank of Eagle Scout this spring. For the past three years, he’s also served as a tutor and mentor for a member of his boy scout troop who has autism. Brian says, “He was really shy and I was the first one that he talked to.” Brian helps the boy with his school work, but more importantly, helps him as a friend. “I tutor him but the main thing is his social skills. And that’s the biggest thing he’s improved upon, being able to talk to people he doesn’t know.”

Melissa also has a pretty unusual job for a high school student. Since the beginning of her junior year she spends three nights a week at the home of an elderly neighbor who has Parkinson’s disease and mild dementia. “Sometimes she sleeps all night but other nights she may get up a few times.” Melissa says her neighbor’s challenges range from not being able to get her muscles to work to being confused about what’s happening around her.

Samantha has a summer job at the Wabasha Deli and is a nanny during the school year. But she also has made a strong commitment to participating in the liturgy at both CDH and St. Matt’s. “I’ve always been a server and in the choir, so I’ve been close with people who do



Brian Edwards (on the left) coached the girls B-squad basketball this year. Last year, he coached the boys' team.



Melissa Lopez and Samantha Casillas (center) are surrounded by some of the students they coached in volleyball and softball.

the masses. They thought it was a good idea for me to step up to being a Eucharistic Minister and Lector year round.”

All three have made their choices for college and are preparing for the next stage of their education. Melissa will be attending St. Benedict’s and has received the Regents Scholarship. She loves science and is already planning to go to medical school.

Brian will be attending the University of Minnesota’s Liberal Arts College and will learn later this month which scholarships he’ll receive. He also plans to attend medical school and hopes to become an emergency room doctor.

Samantha has chosen St. Mary’s in Winona and is waiting to hear whether she received a First Generation Scholarship. She says, “That’s for being the first one in my family to go to college.” She’s also been awarded the Presidential Scholarship, “It’s only a small number of people who get it, so that’s really a big deal.”

They also have some advice for the students graduating from St. Matt’s this year. Melissa says, “Make sure you get involved. Try different parts of the high school. Don’t worry what people think.” Samantha adds, “And continue to work hard because that pays off in the end — especially when it comes to college choices.” Brian concludes, “It goes faster than you think. You want to try new things because, before you know it, you’ll be graduating.”

What makes St. Matt’s Special — From the Students Perspective

SAMANTHA: Knowing that I have a whole community that will support me pretty much in whatever I do. I can go back, say, to pick up my sister and have a 20 minute conversation with a former teacher or a parent. I can ask advice or share a story and know that they really do care and want me to succeed.

BRIAN: One of the big things at St. Matt’s is the diversity. At CDH they talk a lot about diversity and learning to be more accepting and I think it’s something we already know. That’s going to help us a lot later on. St. Matt’s doesn’t teach it — it just does it. You see it as a regular thing, a part of life, which it is.

MELISSA: Because we had small classes, everybody felt like they were good at something. And that gave us confidence when we went into high school knowing that we can achieve, that we were good students. And we know that if we fall, there’s a huge community that’s there to pick us back up. It’s okay if you fall a few times.

St. Matthew's Grade School



FRONT ROW: **Keith Casby**, Richard Allie, **John Britton**, **Gerald Groetsch**, Ed Blaeser, Tony Komor, John Tackaberry, Tom Blissenbach, **Daniel Doyle**, Tom George, **David Faehnrich**, Joe Naseff

ROW 2: **Lupe Diaz**, June Moyer, Patricia Lotzer, **Virginia Abel**, Diane Crawford, Jean Kammerer, Joan Kammerer, **Marilyn Lancette**, Mary "Bonnie" Schadegg, **Patricia Trettel**, Joyce Juenemann, Patricia Michel, Denise Booton, Joanne George, Barb Walters, **Rose Marie Thompson**, Linda Mishler

ROW 3: **Richard Thomson**, John Sullivan, Walter Roeller, Martin Furlong, Micheal Shearen, Gerald Crane, **Robert Rothstein**, James Schilling, Joe Ring, Donald Fuchs, **Donald Koher**, John Kuhns, Tom Kabesh, **Robert Berger**, John Francis, James Stehr

ROW 4: Janice Fedeli, Rita Kukacka, **Laura Bateman**, Mary Helen Schreiner, Lucille Petrasek, Joyce Ringold, Carol Alich, Kathleen Bellows, **Marlene DcChene**, Marilyn Moe, Sandra Johnson, Mary Ann Kosel, Cynthia Wessel, **Margaret Koehnen**, **Karen Jorgensen**

ool — CLASS OF 1960



ROW 5: **Marilyn Koehnen**, Ladonna Patnode, Patricia Theisen, **Gladys Kelleher**, Mary McGinn, Mary Kay McCauley, Georgene Schaps, Karen Burton, **Laurie Quirk**, Carol Deustermann, **Kathy Cufer**, Joan Husnik, Jeanette August, Laura Stelter, Jo Ann Ketchmark, **Sheryl Cartier**, Frances O'Neill, Helen Ketchmark

BACK ROW: Ellen Shaughnessy, **Laurence Ritchie**, Pat Kunz, **Robert Blaeser**, Chris Schletty, George Kolb, **John Grogan**, **Leo Lingofelt**, Bob Stoven, **David Duerscherl**, **Tom Bitterman**, **Tom Klotz**, Ted Aguirre, Steve Exley, El St. Martin, Kathy Sonnen

Not in Picture: **Ellen Anderson**

HELP US FIND OUR MISSING GRADUATES!

If you have information on any of the classmates in red, please email alumninews@st-matts.org or call Mary Ann Kosel at 651-455-7788. You can also send the information to the parish office in the enclosed reply envelope. *Thank you!*

Deceased



Advent is the season of waiting and hopefulness.



Holy Thursday



Creating Liturgy with Style and Grace

Bonnie Faber, St. Matthew's Director of Music and Liturgy, sums up her job by explaining that she strives to create liturgy with style and grace. While the idea seems simple, the execution can often be a challenge, especially on a tight budget.

In addition to serving as the choir director, Bonnie's job includes adapting the physical space of the church to each liturgical season. As she explains, "The church environment functions to carry out the sacred actions that we, as a Christian community, do as we gather. We listen to the word and come to the table."

Each season has its own meaning and requires a different environment to reflect it. Advent is the season of waiting and hopefulness. To create that atmosphere in the church, Bonnie acted on an idea she'd been thinking about for some time. "In the fall, I called my brother who has a hobby farm with some acreage. I knew he planned to thin a wooded area so I told him I needed some trees." She cut down 22 trees that matched the size and appearance she had in mind.

Bonnie continues, "Then I called my other brother who has a lumber company and borrowed his trailer and hauled them to my front door." About six weeks before Advent, Bonnie and Chrissy Fritzen, a volunteer on the Environment Committee, laid the trees out in Bonnie's front yard and painted them white. Bonnie says, "The neighbors wondered what I was doing." Choir member, Shelley McMonigal, used her truck to help transport the trees to the church where they found buckets to anchor them in sand. In the end, they wound up using about 12 of the 22 trees.

Bonnie admits that it was a huge amount of work but the result was just what she'd hoped for; a starkly beautiful grove of winter white trees framing the altar. "For those of us who live in a climate that changes, we understand the difference between living, dying and going fallow. When we are fallow, we're living in wait."

While the trees looked beautiful and enhanced the space, Bonnie says any church decoration must also be ritually beautiful. "What's different for us is it must point us to the ritual, the Word."

While Advent is the season of waiting, for Easter, Bonnie says, everything is glorious. "Colors, flowers, light – our hope has been fulfilled. When you walk in at Advent, it's a time to reflect and be quiet. At Easter, it's a party!"

Bonnie says the seasons of Christmas and Easter are easy because she can just fill the church with flowers. The challenge is the 32 weeks of Ordinary Time, which takes place mainly in the summer, fall and in the winter between Christmas and Lent. Ideally, she'd like to have a covering for the north wall behind the altar but doesn't have money in the budget. "It's expensive to buy material and the back wall is massive."

Bonnie has already demonstrated her knack for thriftiness. When she needed to replace the baskets that hold worship aids, she discovered the ones she wanted had been discontinued by Pier One. So she went from store to store and when she found one with the baskets, she asked for them as a donation.





Good Friday



Easter Sunday – it’s a party!



The donated ambry, containing the Holy Oils, is placed next to the Baptismal Font until Pentecost.

Bonnie Faber, Director of Music and Liturgy at St. Matt’s.

When she noticed a religious supply store was going out of business, she got bold and asked if they would donate an ambry, the pedestal with a lid that holds Holy Oil. In addition to the ambry, the owner donated two additional matching pedestals.

After shopping for screens that hold votive candles, she bartered with the store owner until he gave her four screens for the price of two.

She’s also in the process of replacing all the hymn book stands which are falling apart. A parishioner has offered to build and stain each stand for the cost of the wood. Bonnie is currently looking for donors (see sidebar for more info.)

Bonnie has lots of ideas for things she’d like to do, and in all her efforts, she works with the Environment Committee, a subset of the Liturgy Committee, who help plan and carry out all the details relating to church services. Bonnie says, “Everything we do is 100% collaborative.”

Bonnie says every church has its challenges but the space within the church should point to the ritual and support the community’s worship. The most important thing is for the space to be welcoming. Bonnie says, “The gathering area should transition us from the outside world to the sacred world. From our ordinary daily lives, to spending time with God.”

NEEDS

The Environment Committee has no budget and must get creative when doing their job. Here’s a few things they could use help with.

GATHER CONGREGATION BOOKCASES — Shelly McMonigal has volunteered to build these for the cost of materials, which is \$175. An unstained sample stand is in the back of church.

HOLY OIL CONTAINERS — Replace the current containers with a set designated for Holy Oils. The cost for a set of three \$125-150.

COVERING FOR THE WALL BEHIND THE ALTAR — Fabric to create two sets of banners that would cover the wall behind the altar during the 32 weeks of Ordinary Time. Estimated cost \$300-\$500.

TWO HANDHELD MICROPHONES —These are used anytime a speaker needs to move around the church, in particular during Holy Week. Cost is \$150 per microphone.

ALTAR CLOTHS — While these are always in rotation, some are over 40 years old.

If you’d like to help with any of the above or get involved with the committee, contact Bonnie Faber at the parish center 651-224-9793, or by email musicliturgy@st-matts.org.

Places 6th in Spelling Bee

De-Jionn Morey-Foster, a fifth grade student at St. Matthew's, came in 6th place at the Archdiocese Spelling Bee last February. De-Jionn got to represent St. Matthew's after winning the school's spelling bee, which was open to students in grades 4-6.

At the Archdiocese's contest, De-Jionn competed against students from 20 other Catholic schools, including St. Joe's in West St. Paul, Faithful Shepherd in Eagan, and St. Croix Catholic in Stillwater.

His mother, De-Anna Linsy, says De-Jionn was in chair #1, which meant he went first at the beginning of each round. She says, "I was nervous every time he got to the podium. I didn't look at him. But De-J was very calm."

De-Jionn is new to St. Matt's this year. He attended Adam's Spanish Immersion through 4th grade, but when the family moved to a new home on the West Side, his mother thought St. Matt's would be a better school for him. De-Anna says, "It was more personable, more one-on-one in the classroom. At the St. Paul public schools, some kids are left behind and I know that's not

going to happen at St. Matt's."

De-Jionn's family is Catholic and De-Anna also appreciated the religious education her son would receive. When asked how his first year has gone, she says, "St. Matt's has been a really positive experience. I do believe that De-J has grown as a person."

This was De-Jionn's first spelling bee, and while De-Anna is happy with how he did, De-Jionn told her he plans to be back next year. "He said, 'Mom, next year I want to win for St. Matt's.' He's very smart and very competitive — when he's determined, he puts his mind to it."

De-Anna thinks whether he wins or not, it's been a great experience. "I was really proud of him and he was proud of himself. It was something we'll remember."



De-Jionn Morey-Foster made it to the 6th round. The word he missed: geyser.



Enrollment is open at St. Matthew's Preschool!

For students ages 3-5 years old.

This pre-kindergarten curriculum is rich in literacy, math and science and introduces students to different languages including French, Spanish and American Sign Language. The children learn respect for themselves and others in an environment that stresses Christian values. Students who graduate from St. Matthew's Pre-School are well prepared for any kindergarten program they choose.

Hourly rates are available for maximum flexibility and some scholarships may be available. To find out more, call 651-224-1450.

Honoring Coach Krueger

By David Hottinger '81

Last January, a group of St. Matthew's alumni and athletes gathered for a reunion with our coach, Jerry Krueger '72. We shared handshakes, hugs and memories and renewed old friendships.

Coach Krueger dug out his old baseball cap and jacket and brought along the old stat books from basketball and baseball. His record keeping was meticulous. Proof for all, stats do not lie, and many of us were not quite as great as we remembered.

He spoke to all of us about how much he enjoyed coaching our teams and the scrappy determined work ethic that made us successful. He made it clear that St. Matthews did not have the best uniforms, or the biggest and strongest teams, but we did have a will to win and compete. He was glad to see that those same characteristics have made us successful as adults.

He was still coaching during the evening free throw contest. We all remembered the charts he kept, seven out of ten was the minimum expectation. It was evident that evening that we all needed some practice!

Those in attendance agreed to honor our coach by setting up a scholarship fund at St. Matthew's in his name. The Coach Jerry Krueger Scholarship will be awarded to a 7th grade student who demonstrates leadership in academics and athletics and will go



Front Row: **Mark Reding, Marty Lopez, Stoney Schneider and Jim McKnight, all from the class of 1982.**
Back Row: **Tom Bade '80, Bob Zimmerman '80, Ken Goers '80, Coach Jerry Krueger '72, David Hottinger '81, Dan Schadegg '79, Joe Cullen '78, Bill Szlaius '81.**

towards his or her 8th grade tuition.

If you are interested in contributing to the fund, use the Alumni & Friends envelope in the newsletter and specify the Jerry Krueger Scholarship.

We all agreed that we'd get together again in January, 2011 — so mark your calendar! Special thanks to the St. Matthew's Men's Club including: **Brian Osborne, Bobby Nowak, Mike Lind '85, John DelVecchio '75, Dean Steinbrenner '79.**

From the Editor

Return on Investments

At St. Matt's today, the average cost to educate each child is over \$5,000 per year. That money comes from a variety of sources including tuition, subsidies from the archdiocese and parish, grants shared with other urban Catholic schools (FOCUS), and increasingly from St. Matthew's Alumni & Friends (see chart on page 2).

Some people will read Fr. Steve's column about Vivian Wiler Byers \$850,000 gift and think the job is done — that St. Matt's doesn't need any more support. But the reality is that Vivian Byer's legacy gift will generate an annuity of about \$43,000 per year for our school. In other words, it's one brick in the wall — a big brick — but only one of many that's needed.

The Community of St. Matthew's has a standing commitment to provide a high quality education regardless of a family's ability to pay. This includes the 190 students currently enrolled as well as future school families. Not a lot of communities are willing to make this kind of promise. It's an ongoing effort and requires ongoing support.

Whether you can contribute \$10 or \$100 or \$1000, you are joining with scores of fellow alumni who have, in effect, become a part of the lives of our students. What those students become will, in some measure, be the result of your support. And regardless of what level you can afford to give, at St. Matt's, that means a pretty good return on the dollar. — Maggie Lee, Editor



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St. Paul, MN 55107

Pastor: Fr. Steve Adrian

Parish Office: 651-224-9793

Weekend Liturgies:

Saturday - 5 p.m.

Sunday - 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

www.st-matts.org

EVENTS calendar

PROJECT RAINBOW MASS AND RECEPTION — May 5 at 9:15 a.m.

Students in 4th – 8th grade will get to visit in person with their Project Rainbow pen pals. After Mass, everyone will go to the social hall for a reception.

WEST ST PAUL SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT — May 15, 9 am – 5 p.m.

The Men's Club runs this tournament and will be cookin' up great burgers, brats and hot dogs on the grill. Stop by the WSP Sports Complex on Oakdale and Wentworth to eat, soak up some sun and watch a softball game or two. Food and games will be served up all day.

SPRING CONCERT AND SCHOOL SCIENCE FAIR — May 13 at 7 p.m.

This year's concert, which takes place in the gym, will feature hits from Broadway. Before and after the concert, everyone is welcome to check out the students' science fair projects on exhibit in the school hallways.

KINDERGARTEN VISIT — May 18, 9 – 11 a.m.

Children registered for St. Matthew's Kindergarten next year and those who are considering it are welcome to come and find out what kindergartners actually do. For more information, call the school office at 651-224-6912.

8TH GRADE GRADUATION — June 6 at 10:30 a.m. Mass

St. Matthew's 8th grade class of 2010 will have their graduation ceremony during the 10:30 a.m. mass. Following the mass, there will be a luncheon in the social hall for family and friends of the graduates.

PRAYER SERVICE ON LAST DAY OF SCHOOL — June 9 at 9 a.m.

MEN'S CLUB ANNUAL TRIP TO MIESVILLE — June or July

Watch the parish bulletin for information about going to Miesville to see the Mudhens play baseball. Date to be determined.

FEAST OF ASSUMPTION MASS AND PICNIC IN CHEROKEE PARK — Sun., August 15 at 11 a.m.

ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL — September 18-19

Mark your calendar! Looking for alums to sign up for booths — so come on and join the fun. Call the parish office for information, 651-224-9793.