



# THE GOOD NEWS

May/June 2011  
Issue 24

FROM ST. MATTHEW

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

## Different Ways to Give

*When it comes to providing financial support to St. Matt's, there are a lot of ways to give. While most people send in a check — always welcome — some contributors have taken a different route. Regardless of the method, contributors have in common a deeply held value for Catholic education and want to be sure it's accessible to all families. As a result of your commitment, funding efforts for this year are ahead of where we were last year. (See pg. 10 for details.)*

*We thought you might like to learn about some of the different paths people have taken towards supporting the children at St. Matthew's. Here are a few of their stories.*

### A Gift of IBM Stock

**John Maeurer** is a retired dentist who lives in West St. Paul. His dad grew up on the West Side and attended St. Matt's but moved elsewhere when he raised his own family. While John never attended St. Matt's, he had a connection to the school through his aunt, Emma Maeurer, who was the school nurse at St. Matt's for 50 years.

As part of Alums & Friends scholarship fundraising, John got a call a few years ago asking if he'd consider a contribution. He agreed, and sent in a check. But the following year, he decided to make another kind of contribution.

*Continued on page 4*

## HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE

- 2 Fr. Steve's Column
- 3 Class '11 Reflect on St. Matt's
- 6-7 Class of '61 8th grade photos
- 8-9 125th Anniversary – Memories
- 10 CAA Basketball Champs!
- 11 St. Matt's New Website

## St. Matt's Graduating Class of 2011



8th graders reflect on their years at St. Matt's – pg. 3. Photo by Emily Kowal

MESSAGE FROM **father steve**



**Fr. Steve's homilies are available on-line at [www.st-matts.org](http://www.st-matts.org)**

**Dear Saint Matthew Alums**

Beginning in March and through the summer months the Catholic parishes in South Saint Paul, West Saint Paul and the West Side are meeting to discuss regional issues facing Catholic education in our joined communities.

There are two schools in South Saint Paul, two in West Saint Paul and one on the West Side. The total enrollment in these five schools is about 1100 students. Clearly five school buildings are far more than needed to serve the combined student body of these communities.

Good stewardship makes it important to find ways to share resources, staffing and program; good stewardship of resources also demands that fixed costs of buildings not gobble up large amounts of the education dollar available to educate these wonderful students.

All institutions are undergoing changes that better use limited resources, so Catholic institutions too must look to responsible use of limited resources.

The face of Catholic education in these communities will change.

What will not change is our parish and alum commitment to provide for the students of this generation the quality

education which has been the hallmark of Catholic education for previous generations.

We have the opportunity to redesign Catholic education for our community in a way that provides strong opportunities for future generations of students.

Change is never easy. It always demands saying "good bye" to a way of thinking and living in order to say "hello" to something new.

John Henry Newman reminded us: "To live is to change, and to have changed often is to have become perfect."

Regional changes will take place beginning school year 2012/2013. This coming school year all will remain as is. As school administration and staff conclude this school year and prepare for the coming year there is enthusiasm and energy to continue our mission to our families and students.

Your continued support is essential in assisting low and moderate income families to have a strong, successful, Catholic education.

God bless you.

Father Stephen Adrian, Pastor

**Fall Festival is September 17-18**

## **Come and Celebrate St. Matt's 125th Anniversary!**

There'll be something for everyone at this year's historic celebration! Mark your calendar and plan to come. Volunteers are welcome. Be sure to check St. Matt's website for more information — [www.st-matts.org](http://www.st-matts.org).

### **What You Can Do Now**

- Start collecting bottle lotto items and plastic bottles to put them in (peanut butter jars are great!)
- Gather up and donate gently used baskets around the house for the Basket Booth. You can also use your imagination to create an interesting package to be sold at the Booth.
- Dig out and donate an antique treasure or fun vintage jewelry and accessories.
- Review your collection of CD's & DVD's and donate those you don't use any more.
- Ask your kids what items they think would be fun to win at the Fish Pond or Cherry Tree.
- Ask a business owner you know if they'd be willing to donate an item or services for the Silent Auction.
- You can bring your items to the parish center on weekdays or to the church on weekends.

**We would love to hear from you! For more information, contact: Joanne Smith, 651-455-4367 or email [transitgranny@aol.com](mailto:transitgranny@aol.com).**

# 8th Graders Reflect on Experience at St. Matt's

Congratulations to all the members of St. Matt's graduating class of 2011.

## Sabrina Warden

The great thing about being at St. Matthew's is that everyone gets along and is accepted for who they are. This school felt like a perfect fit. ....The little kids look up to the older kids. We can be walking in the hallways and the little kids will run up to you and give you a hug...I am glad that I came to this school. I wouldn't change these six years for anything. They've been priceless.



## Roberto Franco

At St. Matt's, they don't just treat you like another face. The teachers take the time to really help you. I think it's a good school academically and socially.



## Sheala Osborne

St. Matt's is the only school I've ever attended and I can't imagine going anywhere else. The memories I have here I'll never forget, from 100th Day with Mrs. M, times tables with Mrs. Marxer, Marathon Day at the park, and lastly the 8th grade trip. St. Matt's has been my home away from home. I know on the last day of school it will not really be the last day because I will always come back to St. Matt's.



## Lexie Erickson

We (classmates) are such a diverse group of people and I think that is why we get along so well. There are times that we don't, but we always seem to get through it, no matter what the situation might be. We push through the obstacles life throws at us together, as a team. This 8th grade class I am proud to call my friends.



## Rafi Fuentes III

It's so nice being at a school with students and staff I can trust.



Ways to Give, continued from page 1



In 1924, these women were among the first nurses hired to work in St. Paul Catholic schools. Emma Maeurer, front row, center, was the nurse at St. Matt's for over 50 yrs. She is the aunt of John Maeurer.



John Maeurer's father, Rudy, grew up on the West Side. This photo from the early 1900's includes siblings (clockwise) Rudy, Eloise, Anne and Emma.

John transferred IBM stock he owned to St. Matt's. He purchased the stock years ago and now has a large holding that's increased in value considerably.

"My wife and I don't spend a lot of money," John says, "But I enjoy investing. I got a deal with the Good Lord, if I make money in the stock market, He's going to get His share."

Taking this approach provides John with distinct benefits. Because he owned the stock for so long, it's worth much more today which would mean a big capital gains tax. By transferring the stock to the church, he avoids all that.

"My accountant and I figured this out over the last 10 years," John says. "I get credit for the value of the stock the day I donate it. That's a big deduction."

For John, that means more money to support Catholic education. "I think the churches need help," he says. "Each of us who the Good Lord's been kind to should donate some money to those who need it."

### In Honor of Son, Tommy

Tom and Sue Doyle are originally from Wisconsin but moved to the West Side when Tom took a job with 3M. They joined St. Matt's and all four of their children graduated from the school.

Three years ago, their son, Tommy, died suddenly. Tommy lived with a bipolar disorder which his family helped him to successfully manage. His mother, Sue, describes his death as more than a tragedy.

"It was a shock," she says. "He'd just been released from the hospital. They changed his medication which he was not aware of, and he took what he thought he was supposed to." The result was an overdose which killed him. It was a tremendous blow to the family.

At the time of the funeral, the family decided to honor Tommy by



Tommy Doyle graduated from St. Matt's along with all his siblings. He died in 2008.

establishing an educational endowment in his name that would support scholarships for St. Matt's students. All the memorials that were contributed went towards establishing the fund.

"We thought it would be a good way to support children in memory of our son," Sue says. "Every year, my husband and I give in behalf of our son. It was something we could do."

### CCF – Donor Advised Fund

**George and Betty Kronschnabel** lived briefly on the West Side after WWII and had their first two children baptized at St. Matt's by Msgr. Ziskovsky. After that, George moved the family to another part of the city where he raised his children; but he recently reconnected with St. Matt's when he chose to support the school with contributions from his Donor Advised Fund at the Catholic Community Foundation. (See sidebar story.)

George is an entrepreneur who owns a small manufacturing business and he has always maintained a strong commitment to philanthropy. "At our business, we have a rule," he says. "Ten percent has to be given to charities. I've always had that rule, even when I worked for other people."

George makes his donations through a Donor Advised Fund at the Catholic Community Foundation. His contributions to the fund are invested along with other charitable funds and distributed to a variety of nonprofits based on his instructions.

For George, a main giving priority is Catholic education. "I remember telling Archbishop Flynn my belief that parishes that do not have a grade school should adopt another parish grade school and support it," he says.

Before contributing to St. Matt's, he checked the place out. "I looked the school over and talked with the principal," he says. "I was very impressed with the young people over there. I wanted to help because they need it. I think they're doing a fine job with the students."

### Planned or Deferred Giving

Planned or deferred giving involves gifting one's assets, rather than current income, and typically requires the counsel of a financial planner or an estate attorney.

There are many options for leaving a legacy gift, such as an IRA or 401K, a provision in one's will, life

insurance, charitable gift annuities or appreciated assets such as real estate. The size of the gift can be just as varied, from big to small or somewhere in between.

The most prominent example of planned giving to St. Matt's recently, is the gift from **Vivian Wiler Byers ('30)**.

Vivian grew up on the West Side and graduated from St. Matt's. After marrying her husband, Harold, she moved to the West 7th neighborhood and became active with the parish in her community. But she always remembered her experience at St. Matt's.

Her estate attorney, Richard Wilhoit, helped execute her plans. "She wanted to make sure the funds were used for the education of children," he says. "I think for her it was a given. She was Catholic and she was going to do what a good, religious Catholic would do — help out those in need. Where she saw need was with children."

When Vivian died in 2009, her estate established two endowment funds at the Catholic Community Foundation, one of which will provide perpetual support for St. Matthew's School.

## Giving Through the Catholic Community Foundation

Charitable giving takes many forms, but one thing is always true: the donor wants to make a difference. The Catholic Community



Foundation in St. Paul works with individuals and families to maximize their charitable impact on the community and realize the tax and income benefits of planned giving.

Planned gifts typically involve using assets such as stocks, IRAs, life insurance, property, or businesses for charitable purposes. The complexity of planned gifts is made simple by the Foundation's staff, who focus on finding the right tool to achieve the donor's goals.

To learn more about the Foundation and how it can help you support St. Matt's or other favorite causes, visit [www.ccf-mn.org](http://www.ccf-mn.org) or call 651-389-0300.

# 1961 – St. Matt's Largest Class Ever – 130

A



B





### A SISTER M. ANDREA'S ROOM

Front to Back, L-R: John Corrigan, Evan Simmons, Gregory Patient, Joseph Mansur, Donald Leibl, Anthony Joseph, Robert Plantenberg, John Prow, **Donald Burth**; William Beissel, Ronald Deustermann, Edward Reuter, **Mark Meisinger**, **Bruce Peterson**, Karl Lasch, **John Rock**, Roy Haas, **Harold Shulte**; Mary Soukop, Mary Briel, Barbara O'Connor, Diane Gabriel, Carol Schwarz, Corrine Brucker, Kathleen Willi, Mary Ellen Palumbo, Elizabeth Fischer, Elizabeth Richardson; Linda Mathis, Therese Furlong, Mary Bisciglia, Michaela Wilson, Susan Miller, **Patricia Greene**, **Mary Lou Smith**, Jean Wilmus, Mary Lou Verstraete, Theresa Speiker, Rose Mary Allie, Mary Burlingame, Karen Ketchmark. NOT PICTURED: **Dennis Moore**, **Dennis Blomgren**, **Elizabeth Keonen**.

### B SISTER M. LEO'S ROOM

Front to Back, L-R: Susanne Roeller, Alice Triviski, Nancy Wall, Pauline Lancette, **Karen Kelly**, **Kathleen McCann**, Judith Havig, Carol Livingstone, Michele Kaess, Barbara Justice; Refugio Mendez, Lawrence Koop, Steven DeFoe, David O'Connor, Dennis Beissel, Richard Bruce, James Buggert, John Mooney, **Pat William Shaughnessy**, Michael Skradski, Michael Whebbe; Lynn Winter, May Lou DeFeo, **Carol Gross**, Gloria Kelleher, Mary Lou Wallin, Rita Suter, Christine Haider, Mary Jane Chapdelaine, Linda Drude, Donna Haffley; Anthony Wilfahrt, Gerald Augst, Robert Gross, Robert Hinze, Donald Taube, William Michaelsen, John Leko, Gregory Barnholdt.

### C SISTER M. CONRAD'S ROOM

Front to Back, L-R: Margaret Ferber, Ellen Eastman, Lana Lingofelt, Marjorie Hall, Elizabeth Swiderska, Cheryl Lorch, **Patricia Schmidt**, Delores Beacom, Sharon Solheid; Darlene Fibuch, Donald Alterndorfer, **David Anderson**, Dennis Mitchell, Donald Weber, George Augst, **James Griffin**, Richard Stickler, Mary Lou Johnson; Kathleen Robinette, Judith Wanger, Candice Willcoxon, Carol Rosenberger, Mary Ann Stadt, Suzanne Lackore, Lucille Klein, **Margaret Schweickert**, **Marie Blenk**, **Susan Ramirez**, Karen Pietruszewski; Waldemar Koniszczuk, Gerald Isaacs, **Jerome Heutmaker**, Richard Bloechl, **Joseph Burth**, Joseph Blaeser, Josef Zaspel, Bernard Lancette, Sylvester Schwartz, Terrence Korman, James Duerscherl; **Thomas Roberto**, George Marthaler, **Richard Neveu**, Stephen Troje, **Harvey Rockwood**, **Richard Auge**.

Deceased Missing

### HELP US FIND OUR MISSING GRADUATES!

If you have information on any of the classmates in red, please email [alumninews@st-matts.org](mailto:alumninews@st-matts.org) or call Peggy Ferber Tate at 651-459-4443 (or email at [bill\\_tate@comcast.net](mailto:bill_tate@comcast.net)). You can also send the information to the parish office in the enclosed reply envelope. *Thank you!*

## Alums Share Their Memories

As part of our 125th Anniversary Celebration, we'd like to include your memories in every issue. Everyone is invited to submit a story, photo or just a few recollections that stand out for them. Thanks to all of you who shared remembrances from your days at St. Matt's. If something you read here reminds you of an experience you had at St. Matt's, write it up and send it in to: [alumninews@st-matts.org](mailto:alumninews@st-matts.org).

### Memories from Edith Minea Lamers

*Just as my five siblings before me, I attended St. Matthew's from kindergarten through eighth grade, graduating in 1943. I share the memories mentioned in the previous publication. Here are a few more.*

My favorite classroom was the kindergarten with its playhouse, sandbox and curved alcove where we sat for story time.

My most memorable teachers were Sister Anastasia (3rd grade), Miss Elm (5th grade) and Sister Rose (6th grade).

I remember the bowling alley well as my parents bowled there regularly.

Another memory is the yearly bazaar held in the gym. My family manned a booth there, located under the balcony.

I remember the divided playground: boys on the side toward Winifred Street and girls on the side toward Robie. Is it still the same?

I remember when standing in line in the hallway we had to stand on the dark green tiles to keep perfect order. I remember filing out of school at the end of the day to march music and walking two blocks with the school patrol in "group one, section two".

I do not know if it is a fact but, I was told that my father, Frank J. Minea, was the first baby boy baptised in St. Matthew's church. Are there, perhaps, records from back then? I know not the date of his baptism but, he was born on July 3, 1887 and I feel sure baptism was not long after that. At any rate, he married my mother, Regina Holl there and they remained members of the parish their entire lives.

**Frank Minea, born in 1887, may have been the first boy baptized at St. Matt's.**



### MEMORIES FROM ALUMNI FROM ST. MATTHEW'S SCHOOL

Smokey beer smell in bowling alley when I went there with my father on his league night.

Trading lunch sandwiches with Art (Fr. Paul) Casper. He had nice soft store bread while mine was dried-out home baked bread. My lunch was wrapped in newspaper while "rich" kids had paper bags.

Walking down by class (with Sister) to the new Coca-Cola bottling plant on Wabasha. We watched the bottles go around on conveyor belts and get filled with "pop." We each got a free bottle of Coke.

"Scouting out" new thru-the woods trails on my way home from school to West St Paul.

Unable to touch-my-toes in Max Mohr's physical exercise gym class.



**Parents of Edith Minea Lamers, Frank Minea and Regina Holl Minea, were life-long members at St. Matt's. Pictured here in 1912.**

## Excerpt from Leo Showalter's Essay "Those Were the Days – St. Matthew's 1944"

*Leo recalls his sophomore year of high school at St. Matthew's.*

Now at St. Matthews, the sisters expected and got respect. No-nonsense, do your best and obey the rules. What were the rules? Well a few were, always wear a tie, say yes sister, no sister. Line up in a straight line. Always line up, smallest person up front and the tallest person in the back. No sloppy sign of the cross. Attend Mass every day, write JMJ on each of your homework papers.

Donate to the pagan baby box, play on your side of the playground, girls on one side, boys on the other. When the recess bell rings, walk — do not run into school. Do not look out the bathroom window. Don't take too long in the bathroom or they would come in the bathroom and get you (however they never did).

Now in our sophomore year we were the old-timers and this unnamed sister set up a long list of rules. We were to be awarded merits for good and demerits when we did something wrong. The merit list was a bit smaller however than the demerit list which was a full-page long.

You were required to get more merits than demerits. It didn't take too long before we were in trouble. Yes, we had more demerits than merits and it looked like we were all going straight to hell! Oops, another demerit. Something had to be done. I decided that I would sacrifice my life for the good of the class. I knew now what had to be done. I would go on strike!

I acquired a large sheet of cardboard and printed in large letters: ***STRIKE. Unreasonable demands expected that no human being could achieve. Suffering pain when we are not able to accomplish this impossible goal. 50 ways to get demerits and only five ways to get a merit. Unreasonable, even in this God-fearing country of ours.***

I posted this sign in the bulletin board and went home for lunch. After lunch I walked into school and all eyes were on me. Someone said report to the principal's office as soon as possible. They took off the John Philip Sousa March record and placed on a funeral march. Slowly I marched in tune to the music to the principal's office. Sister Vincent was waiting for me. Oh boy, only six weeks before graduation, I may have pushed my luck too far. Sister told me to sit in the chair facing her. She did not look happy. Come to think about it, I never did see her smile. I did see her use the handheld school bell as a club to hit a stray Protestant dog that got onto the Catholic playground. She also used the bell when she told the Yo-yo salesman to get away from the schoolyard. He saw something in her handling of the bell that sent him running.

The bell sat on top of the desk right in front of me. She said nothing but bent over her desk, opened the drawer and pulled out a cardboard strike sign. "Leo, did you write this?" "Yes, Sister, I did." Her hand moved for the bell. She picked it up and I was sure I was going to get the poor dog bump on the head. Instead she used the bell to hold down the strike poster. She smiled and said, "Leo, you know what sister was trying to do don't you?" "Yes," I said, "I do, I'm sorry." "Okay, go back to your classroom." "Yes, Sister, and thank you."

She changed the record to play the John Philip Sousa march and I left the room. The last remaining days of school no one asked about merits or demerits.



Leo Showalter

# Congratulations to the CAA Basketball Champions!



St. Matt's 8th grade boys' basketball team won the Catholic Athletic Association Class B Championship this year. Standing L to R: Assist. Coach Dan O'Brian, Roberto Franco, Kai Endahl, Chris Slepica, William Hernandez, Head Coach Tyler Ortega. Kneeling L to R: Makai Ousley-Brown, Rafael Fuentes, Jan Ousley-Brown.



Here's a photo of St. Matt's basketball team from 1951, courtesy of Joan Meisinger Mahoney. Uniform styles may have changed, but the West Side spirit remains strong. Pictured front row (L to R): Coach Fr. Schreiner, Jack Gross, Jim Schletty and Paul Schmid. Back row (L to R): Leo Razidlo, Jim Mallanger, John Floeder and Tim Curran.

## Jerry Krueger Scholarship

Last year St. Matt's alums who played on teams coached by Jerry Krueger ('72) staged a reunion and launched a scholarship fund to honor their former coach. At the year-end Athletic Banquet, that scholarship will be awarded to a 7th grade student who has demonstrated both athletic and academic leadership. We will announce the recipient in the July issue. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this on-going scholarship fund. Plans for another Krueger Reunion are in the works for next January. For more info contact: Dave Hottinger ('81) at [dghottinger@stthomas.edu](mailto:dghottinger@stthomas.edu) or call 612-363-7691.

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

### \$69,000 Raised So Far This Year!

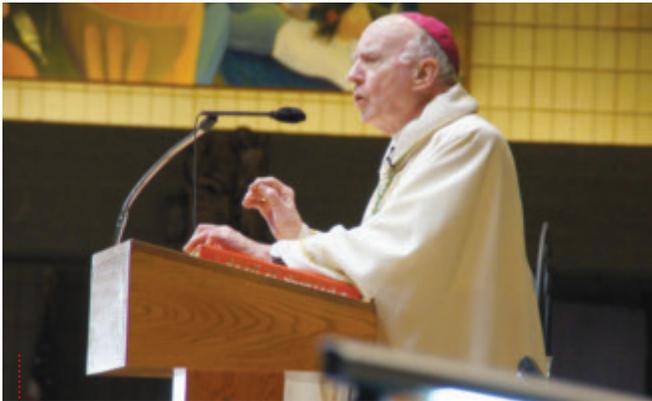
That's 10% more than we had raised by this time last year. In addition, we have a wider base of support this year with 25% more people contributing. Thank you for your tremendous support of Catholic education on the West Side. We are well on our way towards making our goal!

**From the Editor**

# St. Matt's New Website – Check It Out!

In the last issue of the newsletter, we announced that St. Matt's has a new website. If you haven't had a chance to check it out yet, it's worth a visit. It provides up-to-date, comprehensive information about the church and school. If you visit online today, here's a sampling of what you'll find:

**Fr. Steve's Homilies** — Every homily from the last two years is available. Just click, download and listen.



**Archbishop Flynn at St. Matthew's 125th Celebration Mass** — If you couldn't make it to the service on March 5, you can listen to the Archbishop's reflections and often humorous observations.



**125th Anniversary Events** — Find out what's coming up, such as the Great Conversation Series, which will feature a variety of speakers on a range of topics. We also have photos from the kick-off Mardi Gras dinner in March — check them out!



**School News for Prospective Parents** — Provides great information for families.

**The Good News** — Every edition is available on-line.



**On-line Giving** — A convenient and secure way to support St. Matt's and to invite others to do the same.

**We also welcome your input** — did you find the site easy to use and did it provide the information you were looking for?

The website is a resource for the entire St. Matt's community. No matter where you live or what your connection is, this website is meant for you.

— 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](http://www.st-matts.org)

## EVENTS calendar

### **CINCO DE MAYO PARADE — May 7 at 10 a.m.**

Come and see St. Matt's float in the festival's annual parade. The parade route begins at Plato & Wabasha and ends at Ada & Cesar Chavez. There will be performances and events all weekend. If you're driving, St. Matt's Men's Club will be raising money by parking cars at the Drake Bank. Don't miss the fun!

### **SCHOOL SCIENCE FAIR AND SPRING CONCERT — May 13, Beginning at 5:30 p.m.**

Everyone is welcome to both events! Beginning at 5:30, the Science Fair exhibits will be on display in the Social Hall. Middle School students in the art elective class will also be displaying work. After viewing the exhibits, head upstairs to the church where, at 7 p.m., students in grades K-5 will perform their annual Spring Concert.

### **SCHOOL ATHLETIC BANQUET — May 15 at 11:30 a.m.**

The Men's Club sponsors St. Matthew's Athletic Program and will host a luncheon for all students who played on a team at St. Matthew's this year. Athlete's families are welcome to come to the luncheon which follows the 10:30 a.m. Mass. At this year's banquet, the Jerry Krueger Scholarship will be awarded to a 7th grade student-athlete (See pg. 10 for details).

### **KINDERGARTEN VISIT — May 17, 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 5 at 10:30 a.m. Mass**

St. Matthew's 8th grade class of 2011 will have their graduation ceremony during the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Afterwards, there will be a luncheon in the social hall for family and friends of the graduates.

### **PRAYER SERVICE ON LAST DAY OF SCHOOL — June 10 at 9:00 a.m.**

### **ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL — September 17-18**

Mark your calendar and celebrate the Parish's 125th year! See pg. 2 for details.