



# THE GOOD NEWS

September/October 2010  
Issue 20

FROM ST. MATTHEW

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

## Nine Students Win Scholarship Awards

*Nine St. Matt's students have received a High Potential Scholarship from a grant administered by the Friends of Catholic Urban Schools (FOCUS). The grants are for students in grades 4-6, who are high academic achievers with families in financial need. Each student receives a \$1500 grant for tuition which is intended to help families keep these students in Catholic schools .*

*While students from all 12 FOCUS schools were invited to apply, only six schools submitted applications and St. Matthew's students received almost a third of all the grants awarded. To apply, schools had to demonstrate the ability to teach all different kinds of learners, and in particular, offer programs for gifted or "high potential" students. All urban Catholic schools have programs to help students who are behind grade level, but now there is a growing effort to provide special opportunities for high academic achievers, as well.*

*We'd like to congratulate all the students who received a High Potential Scholarship this year. While many of these students come from very different backgrounds and have faced distinctly different challenges, they are all hard working, high achieving students. What follows is the story of one of the nine students:*

### Meet Sixth Grade Winner, Argentina Lerma

St. Matt's sixth grader, Argentina Lerma, is named after her mother's native country, although she, herself, was born in Texas. Her mother, Estela S. De Paola de Lerma, attended Catholic schools through 12th grade and taught English at a Catholic school in Argentina for a decade. She also received her Masters degree in Education from the University of Minnesota, and at the time Argentina was born, she had a good job teaching in the Texas public school system. Her father, Hector, who is from Mexico, had a career as an electrician. They had a new house, a new daughter and by all standards had achieved a comfortable middle class lifestyle.

That all changed when Argentina was eight months old and her mother was diagnosed with cancer. Estela was told she had 6 - 12 months to live. The family walked away from their life in Texas, leaving their jobs and home, and came to the Mayo Clinic for treatment. Argentina's mother recalls that difficult time, "When I got sick, I said to the

*Continued on page 6*

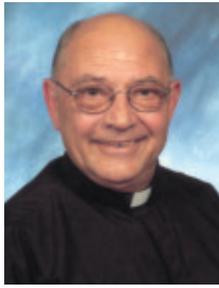
## HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE

- 2 Fr. Steve's Column
- 3 Fall Festival
- 4-5 Remembering the Schmid Family
- 7 Fundraising Challenge Extended!



**Guess what year this Fall Festival photo was taken? We'll run the answer and names of those who got it right in the next issue. See pg. 3 for details about this year's celebration.**

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 School Alums and Friends:**

This September marks the 124th consecutive year students arrived at Saint Matthew's School to begin a school year. 2011 marks the 125th anniversary of the founding of Saint Matthew's parish and next school year marks the 125th anniversary of Saint Matthew's School.

This long and proud history is reflected in the lives of tens of thousands of individuals and families who have been a part of the Saint Matthew's Story.

Each spring — the first weekend of May — we observe the Annual All-School Reunion. Alums are invited to join the parish community for Sunday Mass at 10:30 am. Following Mass the parish provides a brunch for alums and the opportunity to tour the school. Often, classes will also gather at a restaurant on Saturday evening for a meal and visiting.

In the coming year the All-School Reunion will take place on Sunday, May 1st.

Each year I try hard to encourage the five year anniversary classes to come together and celebrate. This year the 50th anniversary class is the class of 1961, and the 25th anniversary class is the class of 1986.

1941 (70th), 1946 (65th), 1951 (60th), 1956 (55th), 1961 (50th), 1966 (45th), 1971 (40th), 1976 (35th), 1981 (30th), 1986 (25th), 1991 (20th), 1996 (15th), 2001 (10th).

The largest challenge in organizing this effort is to get as complete and accurate listing of alums by class; current names, addresses, etc.

I encourage you to offer some help in this effort. Please call the church office and volunteer to assist in the preparation for the All-School Reunion (651-224-9793).

At Saint Matthew's Church we often remember our alums at Mass — both living and deceased. Your individual stories are the story of Saint Matthew's.

Yours truly,

Stephen Adrian, Pastor



**The class of 1960 celebrated their 50th anniversary in 2010. This photo was taken last May, the night before Reunion Sunday, when the group got together for dinner at Joseph's Restaurant.**

## ST. MATTHEW'S FALL FESTIVAL — September 18-19

# Good bargains, great food and fun games for the whole family!

The following is a list of all the activities available that weekend. We are continuing to accept donations for many booth items (see list below). If you have new or gently used items to donate, bring them to the Parish Center during the week or drop them off after Sunday services. Baked goods can be dropped off Sept. 17 & 18. If you'd like to volunteer for one or two hours, call one of the chairpersons. Otherwise, come, bring your friends or grandkids and enjoy the Festival!

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 5-10 P.M.

Serving tacos, Gorditas, brats, burgers and refreshments  
Bingo and other games  
Deejay Dance Party

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 11:30 – 4 P.M.

Children's games in the gym  
Chicken Dinner (until 3 p.m.)  
Brats, burgers, fries, baked goods & Silent Auction

**Booths are open both days!**

#### CHAIRPERSONS

Joan Lannon – 221-9106  
Jan Steinbrenner – 450-7312  
Joanne Smith – 455-4367  
Elaine Goldberg – 298-0845

#### BOOTH

Bottle Lotto *Donations Welcome*  
Theme Baskets *Donations Welcome*

Books *Donations Welcome*  
DVD/CD's *Donations Welcome*

Root Beer Floats  
Paddle Wheel  
Bingo  
Skill Games  
Jewelry/Vintage *Donations Welcome*  
Holiday Booth (New!) *Donations Welcome*

Pie & Ice Cream *Donations Welcome*  
Animal (Stuffed) Rescue *Donations Welcome*

Lollipop Wheel  
Candle Booth (New!) *Donations Welcome*

Bakery Booth *Donations Welcome*  
Posters  
Silent Auction *Donations Welcome*

Vintage Cars  
Children's Games *Prizes needed for Fish Pond and Cherry Tree*  
(Sunday 12-5 pm)

Money Raffle  
Quilt  
Brats, burgers, fries  
Pizza  
Tacos/Gorditas

Sunday Dinner  
Publicity  
Set Up  
Clean Up  
Security

#### CHAIRS:

Sue Holman – 493-9314  
Darline Borher – 455-1316  
Marian Bergstrom – 453-1779  
Deb Kammerer – 456-1288  
Diane Heitzinger – 222-3295  
Donna Shepherd – 457-9288  
Tim Nowak – 612-269-9471  
Joe Stevens & K of C – 224-8270  
Jerry Smith – 455-4367  
Karen Thompson – 270-2551  
Pat Moser – 266-8913  
Bea Schueller – 227-6261  
Sr. Anne Becker SSND – 224-9793

Anna Marie Moseng – 451-3712  
Keith Goldberg – 298-0845  
Al & Kathy Schowalter – 451-6150  
Lillie Cooksey – 612-202-5735  
Irene Goodstein – 455-7966  
Stella Lundquist – 552-9448  
Marion Wolters – 488-6416  
Alumni – Terry Grundtner – 455-4944  
Kelly Lannon – 451-8362

Bob Creamer  
Joyce Osborne – 457-1651  
Kristine Erickson – 453-1753  
Bill & Corrine Brengman – 450-5530

Brian Osborne – 230-1518

Sue Nowak – 222-3928  
Sophia Vasquez – 222-0941

Tony Moran  
Colleen Erickson – 451-1574

Pat Kachel – 222-0953  
Bob Bejblik – 227-5047

Tom Smith – 227-3050  
Bob & Dave Pavlak

## CHECK OUT THE NEW BOOTHS THIS YEAR!

The **Holiday Booth** has items for every holiday of the year, including Christmas, Valentine's Day, July 4th and Halloween.

The **Candle Booth** – Nothing sets the mood like candle lighting. Come and see what's available to brighten up your next party or quiet evening.

Back again – the **(Stuffed) Animal Rescue Booth!**

## SEEKING GENTLY USED ITEMS

Your gently used items are welcome donations — just bring them by the parish center during the week or leave them at church after weekend masses.





Back Row: Giles, Neil, John Jr (Bud), Nellie Sue, Eleanor and Jim. Mid Row: Mary Ann, Mom (Nellie Giles), Dad (John Sr.) and Jeannine. On the floor: George and Paul.

## Dad and All Ten Schmid Kids Attended St. Matt's

Submitted by Giles Schmid ('46)

*The John A. and Nellie Schmid family of ten children owe a lot of gratitude to St. Matthew's and the School Sisters of Notre Dame.*

Our father, John A. Schmid, attended St. Mathew's school from 1898 to 1904, when all the classes were conducted in German. St. Matthew's School served the children of the immigrants from Germany. St. Michael's served the children of the Irish immigrants. He had to get a job before graduation to help the family with groceries, as did many immigrant children.

**John Schmid, Sr.** married Nellie Giles from Red Wing. Together they had 10 children, 40 grandchildren and 87 great grandchildren. Most of the children scattered so that by the 1960's, nine brothers and sisters lived in nine different states.

**John A. Schmid, Jr.** the first child, attended St. Matthew's and graduated in 1937. He attended

Humboldt High School and married Jeannette Rossini. They have five children and 16 grandchildren. He became a real estate agent and located his company on Smith Avenue on the West Side. It was called John A. Schmid Realty. He lives in St. Paul.

**Neil F. Schmid** graduated from St. Matthews in 1938. Neil attended Cretin High School and served in the 17th Airborne Division which merged into the 82nd Airborne toward the end of WWII. He married Betty De Zeller and they had nine children and 11 grandchildren. He started Viking Glass Company in Sioux Falls, SD and died of Lou Gehrig's disease in 1973.

**Mary Ann Schmid McMillan**, St. Matthew's class of 1940, finished high school at St. Agnes. Her marriage to Stu McMillan was held at St. Matthew's and they had seven children and 15 grandchildren. Stu retired as the National Sales Manger of General Foods Institutional Division. She lives in Orlando, Florida.

**James O. Schmid**, class of '42, graduated from Cretin High School. He joined the Navy and with the GI bill got an engineering degree from the University of Minnesota. He married Mary Lou Tollas; they have seven children and 15 grandchildren. He retired from managing several glass factories for Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company and built a retirement home in Hampstead, NC. He is now deceased.



**Nellie Sue, Mary Ann, Eleanor and Jeannine (left to right).**

**Jeannine Schmid Olson** is from the class of '45. She attended St. Joseph's Academy and became a Glenmary Sister for 17 years. During those years she earned a Doctorate in child development from Purdue University and became a pioneer in Montessori schooling. She published a book, *"Religion, Montessori and the Home,"* and was a national speaker in religious education. She founded three Montessori schools, two in Cincinnati, and one in San Luis Obispo, CA. She was honored as Woman of the Year in Cincinnati. She is now deceased.

**Giles C. Schmid**, class of '46, attended Cretin High School, and became a Christian Brother for 20 years. He earned a Ph.D. from University of Minnesota in Management. He married Marguerite O'Connor and has two children and five grandchildren. He became the Superintendent of Catholic Schools in San Diego, then retired from Winona State University after 21 years. They live in Winona Minnesota.

**Nellie Sue Schmid Haugland** is from the class of '47. She attended St. Joseph's Academy and became a

Glenmary Sister for nine years. She taught at St. Joseph's in West St. Paul and married Roger Haugland, a children's wholesaler clothing representative. They have one child and two grandchildren. She lives in Austin, Texas.

**Eleanor Schmid Carroll** is from the class of '49 and is a graduate of St. Joseph's Academy. Her wedding to Tom Carroll, a pharmaceutical sales person who retired from the publications department of the American Medical Association, was held at St. Matthew's. They have five children and 13 grandchildren. They live in Chicago.

**Paul E. Schmid**, class of '51, graduated from Cretin High School. He became a Christian Brother for eight years and served in the Army. He was a Coca Cola representative and is now retired with his second wife in Macon, Georgia. He has two children and two grandchildren.

**George W. Schmid**, from the class of '55, graduated with honors from Cretin High



**Paul, Jim, Bud, Giles and George (left to right).**

School. Turning down 16 football scholarships and appointments to West Point and the Air Force Academy, he spent five years at the St. Paul Archdiocese Seminary. January 4th, 1964 was a big day for George. That day he left the seminary and met and subsequently married Pinky Roy. They have three sons and eight grandchildren. He retired from a career in insurance/equity sales management and is very active with the St. Matthew's class of 1955 alumni. He is a "snow bird" ... six months in AZ and six months in St. Paul.

**Nine Students Win Scholarship Awards, continued from page 1**

Lord, 'I want to be around for my daughter. It's Your will, but if You think I deserve it, I want to raise my daughter.' That was the engine that drove me. I knew I needed the best doctors."

Estela had surgery and treatment and now, ten years later, she describes her health as stable. The experience dramatically changed her family's life while also strengthening her faith, as she says, "Faith helped me, made me stronger. Those are the times when you see how much your faith is a value in your life."

In addition to dealing with Estela's health, the family faced many financial challenges. What money they do have, they invest in their daughter. Argentina began attending St. Matt's when the family moved to the West Side three years ago, when she was in 3rd

grade. Estela also enrolled her in violin lessons when she was just three years old. She is now a talented violinist who performed in last year's student talent show. Argentina also sings in St. Matt's children's choir and often assists with music for Sunday mass.

As a teacher herself, Estela has very high standards for her daughter's education and is a dedicated parent. "When Argentina was six, I got rid of the T.V. I've been teaching all my life, in Texas and Minnesota. I see kids get hooked on screens and they don't perform well. They don't have the habit of reading. Argentina is hooked on reading."

Estela is very happy with both the academic and spiritual education her daughter is receiving at St. Matt's, "I think St. Matt's is doing a great job. The academics are good." Estela also believes Argentina understands the importance of cultivating her soul, as well as her mind and body. Referring to St. Matt's religious education, Estela says, "When she was going to public school, what she was learning there was not the same as at home. Now, what's taught at school is taught at home. I wish St. Matt's went up to 12th grade!"

Estela is very proud of her daughter and sees in her a unique temperament which allowed her to thrive despite the challenges the family has faced. Referring to the many changes they've dealt with over the years, Estela says, "It must have affected her, but we didn't notice. She learned how to adapt. She's a very independent girl."

With a good education and strong spiritual base, Estela thinks the future is wide open for Argentina. "I know she's a good girl. She focuses on studying and is very responsible. I will support her 100% in whatever she wants to be."

**Estela Lerma and daughter, 11 year old Argentina. Argentina is holding her new dog, Brownie, who she inherited from a neighbor who could no longer keep him.**



## “Why Catholic School is Important to Me,” by Argentina Lerma

In order to qualify for the High Potential Scholarships, each student had to write an essay which explained what he or she most valued about their Catholic education. What follows are three excerpts from Argentina’s essay.

“Attending Catholic school has been giving me the persistence to go to Mass weekly, being involved in my parish services such as playing bells at Sunday Mass, being a member of the children’s choir, and recently becoming an altar server...”

“By learning about Jesus at school, I was able to learn how to speak to Him, how to deposit my problems in Him, feeling confident that I can count on Him...Without a Catholic education, I would not have been able to relate to Jesus in such a deep way.”

“All this involvement and participation is planting many seeds in me that will grow like a big plant as I become a Catholic adult.”

### From the Editor

## Tuition Assistance \$ Gifts Doubled until September 30

We started publishing this newsletter three years ago as a way to reconnect with alums, raise money for tuition assistance, and increase enrollment. We didn’t know when we started that we were on the verge of what is now being called The Great Recession. But despite a rough economy, Alums & Friends (A&F) has been very successful.

School enrollment has increased to nearly 200 students — that’s up 45% from when we started. A&F raised \$120,000 for scholarships the first year, and last year reached its goal of \$150,000.

**September 30th marks the end of our third fundraising year and your support is critical if we are to meet our goal of \$175,000.** To help, the fundraising challenge we announced in the last issue is now being extended until the end of September.

The challenge comes from an alum and a parent, who have committed to match every new or increased contribution to the tuition assistance fund, dollar for dollar. If you’ve never contributed before or if you increase the amount you give, your gift will be doubled. As a result of the challenge, a new \$25 contribution

becomes \$50; a gift that’s increased by \$50, will go up by \$100. This is a great opportunity to make your gift worth even more.

Whatever amount you give, it goes directly towards providing a high quality, Catholic education to students whose families could not otherwise afford it.

We often give examples of how St. Matt’s graduates excel academically, but what’s even more important, is the spiritual foundation St. Matt’s students receive. As sixth grade student, Argentina Lerma, explains in her essay about why Catholic School is important to her, “(I have) learned how to listen to the homily, how to respect mass, open the Bible and read it and try to put it into practice, and how to care for the rest of the society.”

Contributing to tuition assistance helps students like Argentina and ultimately represents an investment in the future of urban Catholic education and the children it serves. So thank you for your past contributions and for the support you continue to give. By investing in the children at St. Matthew’s, you’re investing in the future for all of us.

— 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

### SCHOOL'S OPENING PRAYER SERVICE — September 8, 1:30 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to join the the students for the first religious service of the school year.

### ROSARY SOCIETY MEETING — September 14, 6:45 p.m.

The meeting will take place in the Social Hall and will feature Fr. Adrian giving a talk entitled "The Spirit in Action." He recently gave this speech at the Archdiocesan Ministry Day and received a standing ovation. Society meetings are the second Tuesday of each month, same time and location (October 12 & November 9th.)

### FALL FESTIVAL — September 17 & 18

Great stuff to buy, games to play and food to eat for all ages! *See page 3 for more details.*

### VIKINGS VS. PACKERS — September 24, 7 p.m.

The Men's Club host a party in the Social Hall to watch the game on really big screen TV. Food and refreshments for \$5.00.

### SUNDAY COFFEE & DONUTS — September – June

We are looking for volunteers to host Coffee Sundays. Parish organizations, families, friends or individuals are all welcome. It's a great way to meet your fellow parishioners. For more information or to sign up, call parish administrator, John Riehle at 651-224-9793.

### BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS — October 3, 6:15 p.m.

In recognition of the Feast of St. Francis, animal lovers are invited to bring their pets to this outdoor service conducted by the Hall Avenue entrance.

### MEN'S CLUB WINE TASTING — November 12, 7 p.m.

Over 70 different wines will be available to sample plus select cheeses and a chocolate fountain. Admission is \$15 and tickets can be purchased at the door of the Social Hall. Guests can order wine at discounted prices through Nowak Liquor.