

January 5, 2012



St. Stephen's
Catholic School

Newsletter

506 Jackson Street / Anoka / Minnesota 55303 / tel: 763-421-3236 / fax: 763-712-7433 / web: www.ststephenchurch.org/school & www.edline.net

Important Dates...

January...

- Jan. 10-Pre-School Open House
6-7:30 PM
- Jan. 12-Kindergarten Parent
Open House 6:30 PM
- Jan. 13-8th Gr. Variety Show
- Jan. 16-No School, MLK day
- Jan. 17-No School,
Staff Development Day
- Jan. 20-6th/7th Arts Festival
- Jan. 25-End of Qtr. 2
- Jan. 29-Feb. 4-
Catholic Schools Week

February...

- Feb. 1-Middle School Ski
Trip to Afton Alps
- Feb. 2-Commission Meeting
6 PM

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Fr. Michael A. Van Sloun
Pastor and Superintendent

Mrs. Rebecca Gustafson
Principal

Ms. Sarah Kelly
School Counselor

School Office	421-3236
Heidi Staggert	712-7473
Dawn Graf	712-7427
Absence Line	712-7467
Kitchen	712-7460
BASE	712-7453
BASE (cell)	612-418-7010*

*After Hours Emergency



From the desk of Mrs. Gus....

Registration for Preschool and Kindergarten for 2012-2013 begins next week!

Next week, our Tuesday and Thursday evening events will be busy with 3, 4, and 5 year old children and their families. Information packets will be distributed, tours provided, questions answered, and new registration forms will be returned to the school office. We are blessed to be members of St. Stephen's Catholic School, our students are learning and our programs are growing.

Preschool Open House - Tuesday, January 10 from 6-7:30 p.m.

Kindergarten Parent Meeting for new families - Thursday, January 12 at 6:30 p.m.

Do you have a 3, 4, or 5 year old child at home ready to come to St. Stephen's School? Now it's time for our current families to receive and return the pre-school and kindergarten registration form. Pre-school families, if you didn't receive a registration form from the school office, please give us a call - we'll send it out to you right away- we want your child to be first on the list. Pre-school tuition for the 3 year old, two day program is \$825 for the year and the 4 year old 3 day program is \$1,125 for the year. Kindergarten tuition is \$2,750. There is a registration fee of \$75, please return the registration form and the \$75 fee to the school office. We will register your older children during Catholic Schools week.

ATTENTION PARENTS OF 4TH AND 5TH GRADERS!

This week, your child received a Passport to Middle School in the mail. When students transition from elementary to middle school, parents and students are usually concerned and anxious. We have a plan to reduce that anxiety and provide a hands-on glimpse of what it's really like in the Middle School at St. Stephen's. We have scheduled an Informational Tours on Sunday, January 29th. Naturally we want you to know why the Middle School is so exemplary. But it is not enough to just know—we believe you must SEE what is happening in the classrooms to fully appreciate the quality programs at St. Stephens. We hope you can make special arrangements to attend this Informational Meeting . We will meet in the School Cafeteria at 10:45 for introductions and then student and parent guides will take you on a tour to visit the classrooms and meet the teachers.

PRESCHOOL/ELEMENTARY TEACHERS

Mrs. Angela Tjosaas
Pre-School

Mrs. Deb Cherney
Kindergarten

Mrs. Mary Kay Wesp
Kindergarten

Mrs. Julianne Haenel
First Grade

Mrs. Mary Kay Tyminski
First Grade

Mrs. Jan Applen
Second Grade

Mrs. Sherry Miller
Second Grade

Mrs. Marileen Diederichs
Third Grade

Mrs. Betty Kowalski
Third Grade

Mrs. Marie Penn
Fourth Grade

Mrs. Susie Toenjes
Fourth Grade

Ms. Katie Geis
Fifth Grade

Mrs. Kim Taggart
Fifth Grade

MIDDLE SCHOOL/SPECIALISTS TEACHERS

Ms. Desiree Hyrkas
Sixth Grade Advisor/Media

Mrs. Lynelle Kocher
Sixth Grade Advisor/Art

Mrs. Theresa Hefel
Sixth Grade Advisor/Spanish

Mrs. Jaime Verkuilen
Sixth Grade Advisor/Music

Mrs. Peg Brown
Seventh Grade Advisor/Math

Mrs. Shelly Miller
Seventh Grade Advisor/Social Studies

Mr. Kurt Werk
Seventh Grade Advisor/P.E./A.D.

Mrs. Colleen Hansen
Eighth Grade Advisor/Science

Mrs. Shelley Lysdahl
Eighth Grade Advisor/Literature

Mrs. Judy Radcliff
Eighth Grade Advisor/Formation

Mr. Tim Burke
Computers

Spring Choir starts January 12! We meet on Thursdays from 2:15–3:30 PM. All 5th–8th graders are welcome! Students can pick up a permission slip from Mrs. Verkuilen or print if off of edline. Please turn in the form prior to January 12 if possible.

Thank you and hope to see you there!



Mrs. Verkuilen

Teachers Wish List

- Stickers and/or Rubber Stamps in Spanish for Spanish Class
- IPEVO Point 2 View USB Document Camera
- LCD Projector for Middle School Spanish and Science
- Old plates of different styles for a Mardi Gras project with Mrs. Kocher
- Gatorade and Diet Coke for School Store/Concession Stand
- A spindle of blank CD's for the music room

Sports News from Mr. Werk...

Welcome back to school, hello 2012. We are just getting our girls basketball and wrestling seasons going this week. While the JV boys basketball team has only two games left in the regular season, they are preparing for a run at the conference title. They are at Legacy tonight and finish out the season at Sacred Heart next Monday! Good luck boys!!!

Reminder if you are in girls basketball or Wrestling make sure you fill out your forms and pay your fee!!!!

Mr. Werk (kwerk@ststephenchurch.org)





Pre-School Open House and Registration Night:
Tuesday, Jan. 10th 6—7:30 PM

Kindergarten Parent Meeting and Registration:
Thursday, Jan. 12th 6:30 PM

ALL School Open House:
Sunday, Jan. 29th 10:30 AM—12:30 PM

Middle School Information and Tours:
Sunday, Jan. 29th, starting at 10:45 AM



Please feel free to share these dates with friends and neighbors! If they cannot make the date, have them call the office and schedule an appointment with Mrs. Gus for a private tour!

Before & After School Enrichment



Director: Teri King

BASE Voice Mail: 712-7453

Week of: January 9th

Morning

Afternoon

Monday

Gym

Beading

Tuesday

Gym

Marble Painting

Wednesday

Gym

Color Pages

Thursday

Gym

Snowmen

Friday

Gym

Chalk Drawings



There will be FULL DAY BASE on Monday, January 16 and Tuesday, January 17. Please sign up early so we can plan accordingly.



Archbishop John C. Nienstedt has appointed Fr. Fernando Ortega as the Canonical Administrator of St. Pius X Catholic Church in White Bear Lake, Minnesota. This appointment is effective January 9, 2012. Fr. Fernando replaces Fr. John Mitchell who has been appointed Pastor of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Columbia Heights, effective January 2. Without this shift, St. Pius X would have been a parish without a priest. Fr. Fernando's ministry will insure continuity in priestly ministry there. Midyear transfers to fill major vacancies occur frequently. Fr. David Blume was taken mid-term for St. Patrick's in Cedar-Oak Grove and Fr. Paul Treacy was taken mid-term for Our Lady of Peace in South Minneapolis. Please join me in gratitude for Fr. Fernando's ministry among us, and in prayerful petition that God will richly bless his life and new ministry in the future. Fr. Fernando's last weekend at St. Stephen's will be Saturday and Sunday, January 7-8. He will be present after Communion at every Mass to receive a blessing from us and to share his comments. A reception will be held in the FCC after the Masses on Saturday evening and Sunday morning, as well as after the Spanish Mass. It is my hope that we will also be able to schedule a staff lunch to honor his service.

With my prayers and best wishes, Fr. Michael Van Sloun, Pastor

Parents Lunch Week

We would like to take this opportunity to invite you and your family to come and enjoy a meal with your children during Catholic Schools Week.

This is a great chance to check out our cafeteria here at St. Stephen's.

If you cannot make it during this time, remember our door is always open!

We offer a full salad bar as well as hot lunch. Please see our menu for a complete listing of dates, lunch times and prices.

Please make a reservation in advance via edline, e-mail,
or by simply giving us a call at 763-712-7460.

Meal tickets will be sold at the door.

Checks, cash, or you may charge on your child's lunch account.

Freshly Baked Cookies will be for sale at \$4.00 per dozen.



Be sure to check out the 2011 Marathon Success Stories!

<http://mnmarathon.org/success-stories/2011-stories-photographs/>

To date the Minnesota Marathon for Nonpublic Education has raised over \$2.8 million dollars for our schools. That is once again a phenomenal noise being made for our schools of choice.

Mark your calendar!

Bus Driver Appreciation Day is January 11!

Please let your bus driver how much you appreciate them with a special thank you or note.



Sign Up for Winter Enrichment Classes Today!

Registration is now open for the following classes:

Art Enrichment - Grades K-6

Lego We-Do Robotics - Grades 1-5

Mad Science - Grades 1-6

Junior Basketball - Grades 2-5

Drama Club - Grades 1-8



Sign up right away!
classes will fill quickly!

Registration forms are being sent home with students today, and can be found online with today's blue folder items, as well as on Edline (SAFE link under Clubs and Groups). Please see the individual forms for specific class dates and times. All registrations are processed in a first-come, first served basis. So don't delay... sign up today! **Signed forms and payments are due in the school office by Friday, January 13, 2012 (Drama Club registration due by January 19th).**

Questions? Contact Joanne Fonseca at 763-767-6896 or fonsecafamily@comcast.net .

El Dia de Los Reyes

Mrs. Diederichs' 3rd graders learned how Latin American countries and Spain celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany, El Dia de Los Reyes, on January 6th. Instead of Santa, the Three Wise Men bring gifts for the children. During Advent, the children write letters to the Three Kings. Then, the Kings travel by camel and arrive during the night of January 5th, and the children leave cut grass outside their homes for the Kings' camels to eat. On the morning of January 6th, the streets and parks are filled with children enjoying and sharing their new bikes, skates, dolls, and other toys. One typical treat this day is the "Rosca de Reyes"; a sweet crown-shaped bread decorated with candied fruit.

After we read about their tradition, we wrote our own letters to the 'Reyes', giving examples of how we were good boys and girls this past year, how we loved one another, and what good works we did to help others in need. Additionally, we compared and contrasted El Dia de Los Reyes with our own Christmas traditions here in Minnesota.

