



**St. Stephen's**  
*Catholic School*

# Newsletter

**December 3, 2009**

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

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### December...

3-6th grade reconciliation 11-12:30p  
7-7th grade reconciliation 9-11a  
7-Edline Posting  
7-It's Magic Class begins  
8-School Mass of Immaculate Conception  
10-3rd grade reconciliation 12-2p  
10-4th grade reconciliation 9-11a  
11-5th grade reconciliation 9-11a  
11-Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration 9:30a  
15-Band Christmas Concert  
17-School Christmas Program 6p  
18-Drama Club Play 6:30p  
22-Edline Posting

## 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 (voice mail) 712-7477  
BASE (cell) 612-418-7010\*

\*After Hours Emergency Line



## From the desk of Mrs. Radcliff...

### Faith is an Adventure

Middle School students had the opportunity to grow in their relationship with God through a day's retreat with the NET ministry team. Through skits, music, and small group activities the students were asked to consider these four questions: "Do I think faith is boring?", "Am I waiting to get active in my faith until I'm older?", "Am I afraid to give up my "fun"?", "Do I need God?"

Students completed their day by making a personal commitment to Jesus and by participating in a Liturgy with Father Bennet. John W. enjoyed praising and worshiping with the team and said that "no matter who you are you can continue to grow in the Lord." As a goal he would like to look at attending Mass with a new perspective.

Sydnee R. said that she liked the openness of the team and as a goal would like to put her faith more in action as a young person, instead of waiting until she is an adult.

Many of the students, like Sarah realized that our Church is not here to entertain us, but it is to sustain us. Taking as much enthusiasm into our Sunday worship as we take to a football game would help us to appreciate the great gift that the Eucharist is for us.



**PRESCHOOL/ELEMENTARY  
TEACHERS****Ms. Denise Herbert**  
*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***Ms. Marie Dockendorf**  
*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***Sra. Fran Ramirez (Corey)**  
*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*

# THANK YOU...

to all the families who contributed to the delicious meals during conferences. The teachers loved taco night and said the soups were delicious! They really appreciated everything you did for them. Thank you for your support!

A message from the playground supervisors:

Please remember to send your child with a warm coat, hat and mittens each day. The cold weather is upon us and snow is right around the corner. Also, now would be a good time to check that your child has snow pants and boots as they will be needed soon.

In addition, if you have any extra snow pants, mittens or boots to donate for those who have forgotten, please bring them to the office.



Thank you!

Eileen Howe and Jessica Ryden

## Choir to sing at tree lighting!

The Middle School Fall Choir will be caroling at the Anoka tree lighting ceremony this Friday, December 4 starting at 6:30 p.m. The tree lighting happens at 7:00. Please join us at the City Hall for carols and fun!

## The St. Stephen Science Fair is upon us!

Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup> is the middle school science fair! Projects will be judged during the school day. There will be an open house for project viewing in FCC #1 from 1:00-2:30, and a short award ceremony at 2:30. Students participating in the science fair need to be picked up from the FCC at 2:45 and should take their projects home at that time.

The District STEM Fair (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) will be held on Saturday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, at Champlin Park High School. Register on line at [www.anoka.k12.mn.us/stemfair](http://www.anoka.k12.mn.us/stemfair). Remember, you do not need to enter the St Stephen science fair to participate in the district STEM fair. All students are encouraged to enter!

Thank you for your support and participation!

Mrs. Hansen

## Christmas concert information!

The Christmas concert is on Thursday, December 17 at 6:00 pm. All students in grades K-5 and the Middle School Choir sing in the concert.

Students should arrive at the FCC at church between 5:30 and 5:45 to meet with their teacher. (Do not drop your child off unless the teacher is there!) Each grade will meet in a different FCC room, which will be labeled with the grade. After the concert, parents please meet your child (ren) in their designated FCC room and check them out with the teacher.

Attire: Students need to dress up for the concert (no jeans, sweats, etc.) and follow the school's non-uniform dress policy! (no tank tops, low cut tops, short skirts, etc.)

Mrs. Verkuilen

## Blue Folder items:

1. Evening of Advent
2. Dr. Kahn article
3. Drama—Ticket Sales Form

## Teachers Wish List

Wish list for the music room  
iTunes gift cards (to download music for use in the classroom) Appropriate CD's (new or used) of a variety of non-classical music for use in music class (oldies, rock and roll, jazz, world music, Christian rock/rap, folk music, dance music, etc.) NO CASSETTE TAPES PLEASE!!

Mrs. Kocher would like any plastic placemats, old toothbrushes, glue sticks and wood glue.

Craft sticks, Velcro tape and candle wick for 5<sup>th</sup> grade colonial day.

Mrs. Lysdahl would like some bean bag chairs.

Mrs. Taggart needs empty Fuji film canisters (clear ones) and Alka-Seltzer tablets for science.

# SPORTS NEWS

**From the Athletic Department**

Tuesdays scores

SS B-team	29	Heritage	25
SS varsity	46	Epiphany	65

2009-10 NSPSL Boys Basketball

(through 11/28/09)

<u>Varsity</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>
Maranatha Black	4	0
St. Peter Paul	3	0
Heritage	3	1
Providence Blue	2	1
Maranatha Red	2	1
St. Vincent	2	2
Providence Gold	2	2
Calvin	1	1
St. Stephen	1	2
Epiphany	1	2
St. Alphonsus	1	2
Meadow Creek	1	3
St. Raphael	1	3
Sacred Heart	0	4

<u>B-Squad</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>
Calvin	3	0
Meadow Creek	3	0
St. Stephen	2	1
Providence White	2	1
St. Alphonsus	1	1
Heritage	1	1
Epiphany	1	2
Sacred Heart	1	2
St. Vincent	1	2
Providence Black	1	2
St. Raphael	0	3

Kurt Werk, Athletic Director  
[kwerk@ststephenchurch.org](mailto:kwerk@ststephenchurch.org)



## Before & After School Enrichment

Director: Teri King

BASE Voice Mail: 712-7477

	<u>Morning</u>	<u>Afternoon</u>
<b>Mon., 12/7</b>	Gym	Roller Painting
<b>Tues., 12/8</b>	Gym	Fusion Beading
<b>Wed., 12/9</b>	Gym	Color Pages
<b>Thur., 12/10</b>	Gym	Beading
<b>Fri., 12/11</b>	Gym	Tissue Paper Art

**School Commission – Meeting December 3**

**AGENDA ITEMS**

Call to Order

Opening Prayer

Open Forum

Approval of Minutes

Principal Report

Review of Strategic Planning

Review of Preschool Welcome Calls

Subcommittee Status Reporting

Closing Prayer

**CONCLUSION**

Next meeting- February 4

This week the kindergartners are learning the real meaning of Christmas. For the next couple of weeks we will be traveling with Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem. We will await the most awesome gift of all, the gift of Jesus. Each day will gather around the Advent wreath and listen to a special story that will end with the birth of Christ in the manger. The children also have a special prayer to say and follow each day. For many it is a new and fun adventure.

As our homes get filled with decorations, baked goodies and presents, we want everyone to remember the real reason for the season.

Happy Holidays from the kinders in room 108!



# Volunteer

## Coordinator Corner

After many desperate pleas for help we are finally happy to announce, welcome, and THANK three new super moms that have decided to join our Volunteer Coordinator team.

Rachel Stoehr  
Linda Loes  
Gwinneth Bhagroo



~ Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart. ~

Book fair is our next major school event. Please consider volunteering. As we get closer to this event we will be posting the details.

Your Volunteer Coordinators~

Rosinda Majano

Rachel Stoehr

Linda Loes

Gwinneth Bhagroo