



# FYI *For Your Information*

## St. Croix Catholic School

621 South Third Street

Stillwater MN 55082

651.439.5581

[www.stcroixcatholic.com](http://www.stcroixcatholic.com)

MARCH 11, 2010

### Volunteers Needed Can you help?

During the months of March, April and May we are looking for parent volunteers to help supervise the bus transfer at St. Croix Prep at the end of each school day.

The time frame is about 3:45 pm until 4:00 pm. Please email Mrs. Epperly [cepperly@stccs.com](mailto:cepperly@stccs.com) if you are able to help with this need. You can sign up for one day a week or every day.



### From the Principal's Desk by Mrs. Epperly

The school and SCCS office will be closed for Spring Break  
March 15 through March 19.  
Enjoy the time with your families.



### SCRIP Can Become an Easy Habit!

Some SCCS families have expressed a concern that fulfilling a SCRIP commitment of \$225 in SCRIP revenue (approximately \$7,500 in purchases) per family for next year will be difficult. Yet many of the families who have been using SCRIP this year have reached or even surpassed that level already. 10 SCCS families have between \$4999 and \$7500 in purchases; 7 SCCS families have between \$7500 and \$9999 in sales; and **14 families have more than \$10,000 in purchases!** This year, these families are receiving a credit to their tuition generated by their amount of revenue brought to the school.

Next year the SCRIP benefits look a little different. The SCRIP requirement is being offered as a way for all families to AVOID a bigger tuition increase. Just imagine, if every family (about 240 families) brings in \$225 of revenue to the school from using SCRIP, the school will have received about \$54,000 in income. That is \$54,000 of income that will not have to be raised by increasing each child's tuition.

A few of the families who have so successfully used SCRIP this year have offered to share their thoughts about the program:

*We have been using SCRIP for over a year and 90% of what we use the SCRIP cards for is gas and groceries. They are easy to order and convenient to receive. We can give a card to our daughter for gas or pay our charge account at Kohls. It is a good feeling to know that with our every day purchases, the school will benefit!*

#### Al and Fran Romportl

*We support the SCRIP program, it's an easy way to bring in money for SCCS by doing the things you normally do. You can reach your goal by simply getting scrip for necessities such as gas and groceries, or you can get creative and use local vendors who donate a higher percentage and reach your goal quicker. We also like to use scrip for coach gifts, as well as birthday and Christmas gift cards, it's easier than driving to each individual store or restaurant.*

#### Jeanne and Greg Crea

*Scott and I have been participating in the SCRIP program since it first started. We use it for all our grocery and gas purchases. It's very convenient and easy. I like being able*

## SCCS Religion Family Fun Night

Thursday,  
March 11

6:30 – 7:30 PM  
in the Middle  
School  
Commons

Fun craft and  
learning  
activities will be  
focused on  
Preschool – 5<sup>th</sup>  
grade ages;  
however, older  
siblings are  
welcome to come  
along and are  
sure to have fun!



PLEASE CALL THE  
SCCS OFFICE OR  
EMAIL

[anovack@stccs.com](mailto:anovack@stccs.com)

to let us know if  
your family will be  
attending. Please  
include a count of  
how many adults  
and children in your  
message.

*to give my teenage drivers a gas card when they need to fill up. We also buy from local merchants who give a larger percentage to the school, plus it's great to have restaurant cards on hand. Max's grandparents also help out by regularly purchasing after Sunday mass.*

### Scott and Sue Faust

Feel free to ask these families questions about using SCRIP.

All of your Scrip purchases made beginning May 1, 2010 will qualify for your family SCRIP obligation for 2010 – 2011.

#### SCRIP FAQs:

- If your family chooses to NOT use SCRIP, you can simply have the \$225 added to your tuition bill for 2010 – 2011. Be sure to check that box on your Tuition and Family Commitment Agreement.
- What if you agree to use SCRIP, yet fall short of your family commitment of \$225? The difference will be added to your tuition bill on May 1, 2011. For example if your SCRIP purchases from May 1, 2010 through April 30, 2011 have generated \$210 of revenue for the school, \$15 will be added to your tuition bill.
- Grandparents and other family members can buy SCRIP and designate your family as the "Proxy". That way their purchases count towards your required total.

\* \* \* \* \*

This spring is a perfect time to log onto [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com) - enrollment code: LEA75CE48226 and set up your account! We continue to raise funds for the school, without spending additional money yourself! There are so many more retailers on-line than what we can offer on-hand. Log-on today and watch for a spring promotion to kick off after spring break!

Also, our list of retailers on-hand continues to expand - this week, we will be adding **Olive Garden/Red Lobster** and **Len's Family Grocery** to our mass and office sales!

### Year of the Priest and Lenten Vestments

During this Year for Priests, St. Croix Catholic School is praying for priests and supporting them in various ways. It was brought to our attention that a new Lenten chasuble and cope (liturgical vestments) were needed for our priests' use in leading the Stations of the Cross and Benediction.

As an expression of gratitude to our priests and as a way of practicing stewardship, SCCS students and staff would like to donate the money needed for the purchase of these vestments. **We ask that each student and staff member contribute \$3.00 for this gift.** Please send your donation to the school office or your child's teacher. May God bless you for your support of our priests.

### Middle School Lenten Retreat

In keeping with our Middle School tradition of providing many meaningful, faith-based experiences, we will be offering a special Lenten Retreat. It will be held at St. Mary's Great Hall on Friday, March 12<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 - 3:00.

Our theme is "Prayer" which ties in beautifully with the Lenten lessons on prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Annie Fochtman, Youth Minister, will be our facilitator. Father Brian Lynch and other youth ministers will assist in providing opportunities for our students to grow in their love of Christ and the Church.

## SCRIP Orders During Spring Break and Upcoming Sunday Sales



We will be placing a SCRIP order during spring break week! If you place your order on-line, we will call you for pick-up by Wednesday afternoon. All paper orders need to be to Amy Gag by Monday, March 15<sup>th</sup>.

We will **NOT** be selling Scrip at masses Palm Sunday through Easter Sunday. We will have it on-hand at the SCCS office (during regular school hours) and available through Laura and Amy the following week (April 2nd - 9th). We will resume mass sales, April 10th & 11th. Great Lakes Scrip offices will be closed April 5th - 9th - we will not be placing an on-line order that week but we will have our regular cards on hand!

Thank you to Tom & Sarah Rooker for joining our SCRIP team! They have taken on the organization of local SCRIP businesses.

Retreat activities will include large and small group presentations and discussions, music, prayer, and a holy hour. Students will also have the opportunity for games and social time with their peers.

Many thanks to all parents who are sponsoring or volunteering their time to make our retreat successful. This is a non-uniform day, however students should wear their retreat t-shirts. Students should bring a bag lunch and beverage, we will provide a special treat for dessert.

### 2010 Olympic Torch Visits Grade 5

The 2010 Vancouver Olympics became a bit more exciting on February 23 when Patrick Tinucci (Anthony's dad) brought his friend Dan McKeown to 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Mr. McKeown works for Specialty Manufacturing Co. in St. Paul. His company made the gas flow control valve for the newest Olympic torch. He brought in one of the torches and showed how they work. He also explained that there were 16,000 of the torches made because so many places in Canada got to share in the Olympic experience with the torches traveling throughout the country. It was a fascinating and welcome visit. Thank you Mr. McKeown for sharing your torch with us, and thank you Mr. Tinucci for bringing in your friend.



### Uniform Room to Offer First Communion Clothing by the SCCS Home and School Committee

The SCCS Uniform Room would like to begin offering First Communion clothing to parents of second graders on a rental basis. If you have a suit or dress your family no longer needs and you would be willing to donate it, please drop it off in the school office in the lower level of the school as soon as possible (First Communion days are scheduled for April and early May). Items may then be checked out for a flat fee of \$15 per outfit. Laundered clothing will be due back in the Uniform Room by the end of the school year so that other families may benefit from this program in the future. All proceeds benefit the programs and events sponsored by SCCS Home & School. Thank you for your help getting this service off the ground!

### Eighth Grade Crucifix Project



Every year the 8th graders at SCCS do a special project during Lent. They read and reflect upon the scriptures in Isaiah on the Suffering Servant. Then they create a crucifix in a medium of their choice and write on how it represents their personal feelings about the Crucifixion. Their creativity and sensitivity is always amazing to see.

**Some of the crucifixes from this year's 8<sup>th</sup> grade class are on display in the front hallway of the school.**

## Stepping into Spring



Save the Date!

**Saturday,  
April 17**

11:30 am — 1:00 pm

for the

**St. Croix  
Catholic  
School  
Annual  
Luncheon and  
Style Show**

Sponsored by the  
Catholic Aid  
Association

Silent Auction  
Gift Baskets  
Drawings  
Fun Fashions

Watch for ticket  
information in the  
upcoming weeks.

## Stillwater High School Basketball Players Team Up With Local Third and Fourth Grade Basketball Players! by Jeanne Crea

This winter, the Pony Pal Basketball Club welcomed all third and fourth grade boys who were interested in meeting the 2009-2010 Pony Basketball Players and becoming involved with Pony Basketball. During the season the High School Players teamed up with their Pony Pals, got to know them and helped with their basketball skills. They stressed the importance of school, teamwork, and positive decision-making while being role models for their Pals.

The \$25 membership included two basketball clinics with the Stillwater Pony team, a Pony Pal t-shirt signed by team members, free admission to all Pony home games and special recognition at the February 26, 2010 basketball game. The Pony Pals got to sit behind the team and at half-time, their names were announced and they ran out to mid-court and were recognized. The program ended March 3 with a short practice with the team and a pizza party.

During the regular home games, when a player is announced at the beginning of the game, the announcer says where they went to grade school. Ryan Duxbury and Paul Franklin, both seniors and two of the team's best players went to St. Croix Catholic. Andrew Duxbury is in 9th grade and one of only two 9th graders on the Junior Varsity team. They posed with this year's St. Croix Catholic Pony Pals at the last Pony Pal event.



**SCCS Pony Pals with SCCS Alums  
Andrew Duxbury, Ryan Duxbury and Paul Franklin**



**The whole group of Pony Pals and Pony players**

**GOOD LUCK  
to the Hill-  
Murray High  
School Hockey  
Team**



The Hill Murray team is participating in the State Hockey Tournament starting on Thursday. *Willie Faust, Andy Faust, and David Bruchu* are SCCS alums and are members of the team.

## Prayers and Pictures for Haiti

SCCS 2<sup>nd</sup> graders are busy this week thinking about the children of Haiti. Henry Still's uncle is a medical doctor who is traveling to Haiti next week. He will be working to help many people affected by the recent earthquake as they continue to recover physically and mentally from the hardships they have endured.

The classes made pictures for him to take to the children he meets. The pictures will remind the Haitians that we are thinking about them and praying for them.



## Focus on Faith

During spring break, we will celebrate the wonderful St. Joseph on March 19. The Feast of St. Joseph honors the foster-father of Jesus, St. Joseph. He is the patron saint of fathers, families, workers, and the Church. His main feast falls on March 19. The feast of St. Joseph the Worker falls on May 1.

Short prayer to St. Joseph from the New St. Joseph People's Prayer Book:  
*St. Joseph, foster father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and true spouse of the Virgin Mary, pray for us.*

There is a novena, or 9 day prayer, that can be said to St. Joseph for his intercession. This novena starts Wednesday, March 10. For more information, see <http://www.ewtn.com/Devotionals/novena/joseph.htm>

**Watch for  
Report  
Cards to  
come home  
this Friday,  
March 12**



## Youth Advantage Equipment Drive by Amy Gag

Ready to Spring Clean? Are the equipment bins in the garage overflowing? SCCS will be holding an equipment drive for Youth Advantage on Monday, March 29th and Tuesday, March 30th! We will be collecting gently used sports equipment and musical instruments each morning from 8:15 - 9:00 in the school gym.



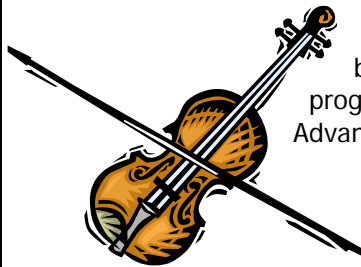
Youth Advantage is a non-profit organization in our community that aims to provide access to arts, athletics, and educational-enrichment experiences for children of financially-challenged parents or guardians who reside in District #834 boundaries. Youth Advantage recognizes that giving children these opportunities puts young people on a path to success.

Youth Advantage helps young people...

- Participate in athletics
- Pursue their passion in music, fine arts, or theater
- Join an after-school club
- Attend summer day camp



Youth Advantage provides eligible young people access to activities through financial need-based scholarships and loan of new or gently used athletic equipment, musical instruments, or other necessary items.



Families who live in Independent School District 834's boundaries and are currently on a free or reduced-fee lunch program (or financially qualify to do so), may qualify for a Youth Advantage Scholarship. Serving students in grades K-12.

While Youth Advantage will accept any youth sports equipment we are especially in need of spring/summer equipment:

Baseball/softball bats, balls, shoes, pants, helmets, gloves;  
Soccer balls, shoes, shorts, shin guards;  
Tennis rackets, swimming caps and goggles, volleyballs;

Tax deductible financial contributions are also welcome. Thanks in advance for your generosity. For more information about Youth Advantage, please contact Rob and Amy Gag or Tina Valek or go to: [www.youthadvantage.org](http://www.youthadvantage.org)

## Upcoming Events

### Thursday, March 11

1:30 pm Reconciliation for grade 3  
6:30 pm Religion Family Fun Night

### **Friday, March 12 – Report Cards Come Home**

- 7:30 am Mass at St. Mary's – MS students encouraged to attend
- 9:15 am Stations of the Cross (grades 3, 4, 5)
- TBD Stations of the Cross (grades K, 1, 2) (Times may vary this week. Check with your child's teacher.)
- 9:00 am – 3:00 pm Middle School Retreat at St. Mary's
- 4:30 pm – 7:00 pm Men's Club Fish Fry in St. Michael's Social Hall
- Deadline to turn in School Tool Box orders for 2010 – 2011

### **March 15 – 19 – Spring Break – No School**

#### **Monday, March 22**

- 1:00 – 4:00 Ark of Angels Preschool Parent-Teacher Conferences

#### **Tuesday, March 23**

- 1:30 pm Reconciliation for grade 4
- 3:30 – 5:30 pm Ark of Angels Preschool Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 4:00 – 7:00 pm SCCS Family Dairy Queen Night

#### **Wednesday, March 24**

- 9:15 am All School Mass
- 1:30 pm Reconciliation for grade 5

#### **Thursday, March 25**

- 1:30 pm Reconciliation for grade 2
- Students will all be participating in a Spring Writing Extravaganza today

#### **Friday, March 26**

- 7:30 am Mass at St. Mary's – MS students encouraged to attend
- 9:15 am Stations of the Cross (grades 3, 4, 5)
- 2:00 pm Stations of the Cross (grades K, 1, 2)
- 4:30 pm – 7:00 pm Men's Club Fish Fry in St. Michael's Social Hall

#### **Monday, March 29**

- 8:15 – 9:00 am Equipment Drop-off for Youth Advantage in the SCCS Gym

#### **Tuesday, March 30**

- 8:15 – 9:00 am Equipment Drop-off for Youth Advantage in the SCCS Gym

#### **Wednesday, March 31**

- Registration for 2010 – 2011 due from current families