



FYI *For Your Information*

St. Croix Catholic School

621 South Third Street

Stillwater MN 55082

651.439.5581

www.stcroixcatholic.com

NOVEMBER 12, 2009



We are collecting

Operation Christmas Child

**Gift Boxes
Extended
through
Wednesday,
November 18th.**

*Watch the
Christmas tree in
the main hallway
near the Library
next week to see
how close we are to
our goal of 250
boxes!*

If you have any
questions you can
go to the website,
http://www.samaritanaspurse.org/index.php/OCC/Pack_A_Shoe_Box/.

From the Principal's Desk by Mrs. Epperly

As noted in the FYI last week, our faculty is reviewing the Social Studies curriculum at SCCS during this school year. The National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) defines Social Studies as: *the integrated study of social sciences and humanities to promote civic competence. Within the social program, social studies provides coordinated, systematic study drawing upon such disciplines as anthropology, archaeology, economics, geography, history, philosophy, political science, psychology, religion, and sociology, as well as appropriate content from the humanities, mathematics, and natural sciences.*

The following is a simple example of a 5th grade Social Studies lesson. The progression and connection to MN State Standards for Social Studies is noted at the end.

In this chapter, *A Young United States*, a time of both growth and change in the United States is described.

Introduction/Overview: After the Revolutionary War *pioneers* migrated into the area beyond the Appalachian Mountains

Lesson Objectives: Describe the geography of the United States in the early 1800's. Explain how Daniel Boone led settlers into the land that became the state of Kentucky.

Prepare: Read opening paragraph; introduction of vocabulary key to learning concepts.

Teach: Essential questions posed: What attracted pioneers to the lands in the west? What was the frontier of the Native Americans?

Within this lesson: map reading (geography), visual literacy; background information.

Close/Assessment: Study the summary points and write an outline of the lesson.

Extension: Write a diary entry that might have been written by a ten-year-old pioneer boy/girl in Kentucky.

Activity: Form class into groups. Together the group will brainstorm what they need for the journey, how they will record journey, and how they will protect themselves from danger. Have each group create a picture of a wagon filled with the needed supplies.

MN State Standards addressed for 5th grade all in one lesson! (see http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/Academic_Excellence/Academic_Standards/Social_Studies/index.html)

I. U.S History: Growth/Westward Expansion 1801-1861

V. Geography: Concepts of Location

VI. Economics: Choices

VII. Government and Citizenship: Civic values, skills, rights & responsibilities



Christmas Time is Here!

presented by the kindergarten and first grade children on

**Thursday,
December 3
2:30 pm
SCCS Gym**

Students will share songs of the season

Refreshments hosted by our Home and School Association will be served in the cafeteria after the program.

Saints and Songs of the Season

will be presented on **Thursday,
December 10
6:30 pm
St. Michael's Church**

Students in grades 2 through 5 and the Middle School Liturgical Choir will join together to share songs of the season and lessons of the saints in a special service to ready our hearts for the coming of Christ. The SCCS orchestra and band will each play fifteen minutes of prelude music.

Coffee With Cressy – Friday, November 20

On Friday, November 20 Mrs. Epperly will be having this year's second *Coffee With Cressy* get-together for parents beginning at 9:15 in the Edith Stein Meeting Room in the St. Michael's Parish Office area.

The topic for the morning will be a discussion of the many safety and security policies and procedures in place at SCCS. She will be giving information on how the procedures are practiced and how policies are developed. Parent input is always gladly accepted.

Childcare will be provided. Please call the school office, 651 439-5581, or email dpolley@stccs.com, to make a childcare reservation. Be sure to let us know the name and age of your child or children who will be coming.

SCCS Students to Perform in the Nutcracker

Seven current SCCS students will be performing in a long-standing Stillwater tradition - the **19th Annual Stillwater Nutcracker** - during Thanksgiving weekend at Stillwater High School. This is a wonderful, family-friendly way to spend a couple of hours together during your holiday. Tickets are \$15 and can be ordered online at www.stcroixballet.com or by calling 651 439-2820.



Standing from left to right - Nina Thueson, Prada Fallin, Catherine Wessel, McKenzie Brady, Rebecca Franke; Front: Ellie Hahn; not pictured: Elizabeth Kaari

Herberger's Community Day Event is this Saturday, November 14th by SCCS Home and School

Thank you to all the families who purchased Herberger's Community Day Coupon Books from Home & School over the past few weeks. So far we've raised over \$300! If you purchased a book, don't forget to do your shopping this week – you can either shop presale (anytime through closing Friday, November 13th) or at the Community Day event on Saturday the 14th.

If you still want to purchase coupon books and support the programs of SCCS Home & School, simply stop by the school office. Coupon Books sell for \$5 each and contain a \$10 off coupon. You can purchase as many as you like, but remember that only one coupon may be used per item purchased. Thank you!

Light Their Way

On behalf of St. Croix Catholic School and the Light Their Way committee, a very sincere and heartfelt thank you to all donors, sponsors and volunteers of the event. Through the generosity of so many individuals from both the school and parish communities, the event was able to raise over \$40,000. This commitment to the students of SCCS is a wonderful way to celebrate the school's achievements and secure its future. Thanks to their support, SCCS will be able to continue its tradition of a strong Catholic education for all.

Catholic Order of Foresters



Carnival

to benefit St. Croix Valley Faith Formation Programs

Friday,
November 13

6:00 – 8:30 pm
St. Mary's
Education Center
and Great Hall

Games

Ring Toss

Lolli-Pop Tree

Face Painting

Dance- Dance
Revolution

Ice Cream

Hot Dogs

Tacos

Chips

Pop

The success of this event was made possible through the efforts of many, many people. A very special thank you to Dr. Thomas Loomer for securing the speaker of the event, Mr. Thomas Monaghan, to Dave Middleton for preparing the meal, to the St. Michael's Men's Club, St. Michael's Council of Catholic Women and Cub Foods for donating the funds for the meal, to PJ Murphy's Bakery for the donation of desserts, to Patrick and Helen Tinucci for donating funds for the wine, and to Denise and Dominique Boczek for their beautiful gift of music.



Mr. Thomas Monaghan

A genuine note of thanks to Fr. Miller, Fr. Kasel, Mike Campbell, Bruce Landsem, Lori Kennedy, Sue Steveken, Coleen Siegfried, Karen Nelson, Karen Sisson, Cressy Epperly, and Diane Polley for their special assistance to the committee.

The number of volunteers needed for this event was tremendous, and we would like to thank the following for their faithful gift of time: Dan de St. Aubin, Tim & Rosemary Burt, Mike Thompson, Jerry Johnson, Mike Nystrom, Dick Butler, Eileen Middleton, Luba Thueson, Glenda Houle, Jackie Valerius, Connie Richards, Kristen deLeon, Bree Young, Peggy Talbot, Lindsay Seeman, Ann Tomek, Mary Rose Sisson, Theresa Purdie, Katie Rolf, Denise Seeman, Cathy Loehr, Barb Powers, Joan deLeon, Leah Stickia, Michelle Lemanski, Jerome & Geri Wasinger, Jeff & Carrie Seifert, Kathy Witzmann, David deLeon, Paul Loomis, Al Romportl, Dan O'Keefe, Olivia Kennedy, Faye Kennedy, Deb Fedor, and Amy Dinzeo.



Gift to Mr. Monaghan - Picture and key to the school signed by all SCCS students

The following 7th & 8th grade students did a marvelous job serving and waiting on the tables. They are a beautiful testament to what a strong Catholic education provides for in our children: Oliver O'Keefe, Maggie Ogren, Henry Luloff, Nathan Powers, Anna Osmian, Lucien Lemanski, Helen Keyes, Lucas Campbell, Catherine Wessel, Ashley Mancuso, Kallie Uner, Will Henschell, Max Stevens, John Talbot and Claudia Schulte.

Again, THANK YOU to all who provided for a wonderful evening!

Light Their Way Committee

Wally Nelson, Sue Campbell, Steve DeMeuse, Stephanie Landsem, Laurie O'Keefe, Susan Schlegel

And A Big Thank You To: Sue Campbell for the Success of the *Light Their Way* Fundraiser

The committee members of the Light Their Way fundraiser join SCCS in thanking Sue Campbell for her tireless efforts in making the Light Their Way fundraiser an incredible success. Sue spent countless hours planning the many details of the event. Thank you, Sue, for your dedication to the students of St. Croix Catholic School

Light Their Way Committee

Wally Nelson, Steve DeMeuse, Stephanie Landsem, Laurie O'Keefe, Susan Schlegel

Scrappping for Senteo

There are still some materials from this great sale available - particularly many designs of 12" x 12" scrapbooking paper.

If you would like to purchase a grocery bag full of materials of your choice, they are now available at the discounted price of \$5

Since this sale has been so successful and we have already been able to purchase two classrooms sets of the Senteo system, the additional proceeds are now going toward the purchase of SmartBoard systems for more SCCS classrooms.

Stop in the office to purchase a bag.



2009 – 2010 Basketball Season Begins With Enthusiasm by Mr. Kolnik, SCCS Athletic Director

Lots of enthusiasm about the upcoming Basketball season is filling the SCCS gym! St. Croix Catholic is cheering on NINE teams this year: 8th grade girls, 8th grade boys, 7th grade girls, 7th grade boys, 6th grade girls, 6th grade boys, 5th grade girls, and two 5th grade boys teams. Best of luck to them all.



Focus on Faith by Jeanne Crea

Catholic saints are holy people and human people who lived extraordinary lives. Each saint the Church honors responded to God's invitation to use his or her unique gifts. God calls each one of us to be a saint.

On November 17, the Church celebrates the life of St. Elizabeth of Hungary. In her short life, Elizabeth showed such great love for the poor and suffering that she has become the patroness of Catholic charities and of the Secular Franciscan Order. The daughter of the King of Hungary, Elizabeth chose a life of penance and asceticism when a life of leisure and luxury could easily have been hers. This choice endeared her in the hearts of the common people throughout Europe.

At the age of 14 Elizabeth was married to Louis of Thuringia (a German principality), whom she deeply loved; she bore three children. Under the spiritual direction of a Franciscan friar, she led a life of prayer, sacrifice and service to the poor and sick. Seeking to become one with the poor, she wore simple clothing. Daily she would take

bread to hundreds of the poorest in the land, who came to her gate. Elizabeth understood well the lesson Jesus taught when he washed his disciples' feet at the Last Supper: The Christian must be one who serves the humblest needs of others.

The Feast of the Presentation of Mary is celebrated on November 21. It stresses an important truth about Mary: From the beginning of her life, she was dedicated to God. God came to dwell in her in a marvelous manner and sanctified her for her unique role in God's saving work. At the same time, the magnificence of Mary enriches her children. We, too, are temples of God and sanctified in order that we might enjoy and share in God's saving work.

For more November saints and feast days see

<http://www.americancatholic.org/Features/Saints/ByDate.aspx>

Middle School Students Collecting Quarters for Feed My Starving Children by SCCS Home and School

If your middle schooler is collecting quarters in his or her M&M tube (received in the Marathon Thank You Packets last month), please note that they are **due to the school office this Friday, November 13th**. Remember that each filled tube equals \$14 and will provide 82 meals for starving children across the world. If your M&M tube is even only partially filled, please send it in anyway – every little bit helps! Donations by check will also be accepted; and checks can be made out to SCCS.

Next week we will deposit all those quarters and have a check cut to FMSC for the total amount collected. Watch next week's FYI for a grand total. Thank you for your participation!

Student Council Sponsors Thanksgiving Food Drive

Hello. My name is Patty Dierberger and I am the secretary on Student Council. I want to talk to you about a food drive. The Student Council will be collecting food for St.

Michael's Food Shelf. The foods you can bring in are canned foods, macaroni, and hygiene items like shampoo, soap, toilet paper and toothbrushes. You can bring your food in as soon as possible – the collection dates are the 16th through the 20th.

**GIVE THANKS BY
GIVING BACK**



Winter Weather and School Closings

As we enter the season when inclement weather can cause school closings, late starts or early dismissals; we want to remind parents of SCCS procedures.

In the event of bad weather, SCCS will do whatever District #834 schools does for closings, late starts, or early dismissals.

Announcements will be made on area television stations (Channels 4, 5, 9, 11). The announcement will be for Stillwater schools or District #834 schools. SCCS **may not** be specifically listed. Closings and late starts will also be posted on our website www.stcroixcatholic.com.

Note that all of these television stations have a section on their Web sites where you can request email notification of school closings. Emails can be sent to multiple addresses, such as both home and work. If you choose to do this, we suggest that you request email notification for both St. Croix Catholic School and Stillwater Area Schools.

Web addresses for the television stations are: Channel 4 – <http://wcco.com>, Channel 5 – <http://www.KSTP.com>, Channel 9 – <http://www.kmsp.com>, Channel 11 – <http://www.kare11.com>.

While we are enjoying nice weather now, we all know that at this time of the year the weather can be unpredictable. This is a good time to discuss with your children the importance of having **all** the cold weather gear for outside play during recess. Hats, gloves, boots and snowpants are a must. It is also a good idea for students to have an extra pair of dry socks in his or her backpack.

Upcoming Events

Thursday, November 12

9:45 am 6th grade plays performed for grades 5 – 8
SCCS Gym
Cupid's Website and Half a King is Better Than None

2:00 – 2:45 pm Ronald McDonald presentation "Good Choices" – Grades K – 5

Saturday, November 14

Herberger's Community Day Sale – buy your coupons in the school office

Monday, November 16 and Tuesday, November 17

Ark of Angels Preschool Conferences

Monday, November 16 through Friday, November 20

Student Council Food Drive for St. Michael's Food Shelf

Tuesday, November 17

4:00 – 7:00 PM SCCS Night at Stillwater Dairy Queen

6:30 PM Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, November 18

9:15 am All School Mass

Extended deadline to bring in Operation Christmas Child gift boxes

Friday, November 20

9:15 AM *Coffee with Cressy* – School Safety Policies and Procedures
Childcare available – please call 651 439-5581 or dpolley@stccs.com
to reserve

Tuesday, November 24

End of First Trimester

9:15 am All School Mass (PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS A TIME CHANGE – Due
to a scheduling conflict, the All School Mass will be in the morning
today.)

Wednesday, November 25 through Friday, November 27

NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Break