



FYI *For Your Information*

St. Croix Catholic School

621 South Third Street

Stillwater MN 55082

651.439.5581

www.stcroixcatholic.com

OCTOBER 1, 2009

Celebrate the Marathon!



Deadline Extended!

One extra collection day has been added on Thursday, October 8th. Students bringing in their money by 9:00 am on the 8th will still be eligible for individual and group prizes.

Remember Marathon Service activities will be taking place next week. Please see page 3 for details.

From the Principal's Desk by Mrs. Epperly

End of Day Procedures - We appreciate all the support that families provide to the dismissal of students at the end of the school day. Please remember that vehicles picking up students parked along the curb out in front of the school cannot be left unattended. All students that are transported by families at the end of the day must be picked up within 10 minutes of our 3:30 dismissal. Our student supervision at dismissal time is only available for this amount of time. We appreciate your support and understanding of maintaining a safe environment for all of our students, staff and families.

Safety - Crossing Third Street – Please remember and remind your children that the only safe way to cross Third Street is at the crosswalk. Cars going by and pulling out are not expecting adults or children to step out between cars. Please set a good example for your children. The extra minute that may be saved is not worth an accident.

Thank You to our Traffic and Bus Volunteers – As I'm sure many of you have noticed we have had some wonderful parent volunteers helping out before and after school with both car and bus traffic. Mr. Bill Vogel has been here every morning helping students and moving car traffic along. Mrs. Camille Kiolbasa has monitored car traffic almost every afternoon. Mr. Al Liehr has filled in directing traffic in the afternoons several times. For the first couple of weeks of busing, many parents helped out at our transfer location, St. Croix Prep, to assist our students as they learned the routine of finding their buses after getting off the transfer bus. We have also had parent volunteers monitoring bus drop off and keeping kids safe in the mornings. Suzie Schulte has coordinated these volunteers – huge job. If you can help in any way either morning or afternoon, please let her know. (suzie.shulte@comcast.net) Thanks to everyone!

Taking Children Out of School Early - If you need to take a student out of school for an appointment, please remember that they will need to be signed out at the office. Also, if you plan to have a relative take your child out of school for an appointment, they must have a signed note from you releasing that student. They will be asked for a picture ID.

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We have just wrapped up our first month of school ... 5 weeks worth of learning, praying, playing and growing together. Thank you for helping us get off to a great start!

We have experienced a smooth opening and the students seem to be settling into the routine of being back at school. We are happy to welcome 451 students in grades pre-K through 8th and 32 energized staff members back to school. We extend a warm SCCS welcome to all families and look forward to much success as we journey throughout the school year.



Scraping for Senteo

October 16
9:00 am – 8:00 pm
and

October 17
9:00 am – 5:00 pm

SCCS Gym

A \$20 donation will allow entry into our "warehouse" and you can fill a gift bag with all kinds of scrapbooking and stamping supplies, invitations, gifts, etc.

We hope to raise \$3,100 to purchase two complete classroom Senteo sets. 100% of your donation goes towards the Senteo purchase!

All products manufactured and donated by Gartner Studios.

The public is invited, so please invite your friends and neighbors.

Learn more about the Senteo system by going to News and Events on the SCCS Web site.

At the Town Hall Meeting September 3rd we communicated our strengths and challenges of the year and also the framework outlining our new discipline plan. Information on the schools discipline plan can be found on the schools web site: www.stcroixcathoic.com. (SCCS Parents > Discipline Policy)

The all school expectations are **Respect, Responsibility, Reverence: 1) Respect Yourself, Others, and Things; 2) Contribute to The Learning Environment; 3) Follow School And Classroom Procedures**. Students and staff will be defining what each expectation looks like and sounds like in their classrooms as we continue with the Discipline With Purpose curriculum. It is important that consistent language be used by all staff members throughout our building.

During the opening weeks, we focus a lot of attention on establishing building safety procedures. Safety is top priority and it is important that we all work together to make that happen.

Please be sure that your children are not dropped off at school too early. Supervision begins at 8:40 AM and students should not be left unsupervised. Bikes, scooters or skateboards are not to be used on the sidewalk during start or dismissal times. Be sure that children are picked up after school by no later than 3:40.

Conference schedules are being sent home this week. Conferences are scheduled for November 5th and 6th.

NWEA MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) testing is being wrapped up this week. Test results will be sent home with your son or daughter later in October. Teachers will be meeting with students to discuss results and goals for the school year. If you have any questions, please talk with your child's teacher during conferences.

As always, if you ever have any questions, comments or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 651 439-5581, by e-mail at cepperly@stccs.com or by stopping in the office to arrange a time to meet.

Time to Sign Up for November Parent-Teacher Conferences

We are approaching the middle of the first trimester of the school year. If you haven't already checked PowerSchool to look at your Middle School or Intermediate age child's progress, we encourage you to do so. PowerSchool logins and passwords for each child were included in your registration packets at the beginning of the school year. If you have forgotten or misplaced your information, please call the school office or email Diane Polley at dpolley@stccs.com. If you have immediate concerns about your child's progress, please call your child's teacher.

We are also beginning to schedule Parent-Teacher conferences for the first week of November (November 5th and 6th). Conference times on November 5th are 4:00 pm until 8:30 pm and on November 6th from 8:00 am until noon. This is a good time for parents and teachers to share information about the academic, social and spiritual progress of your child.

Conferences for students in grades K – 5 will be scheduled 15 minute times. Middle School conferences will all be walk-in. Parents will have the opportunity to meet with any Middle School teacher. Please be aware that Mrs. Donlon, Computer teacher, and Mrs. Bates, Spanish teacher, will also have some scheduled conferences, so Middle School parents might have to wait a little longer to see either of these teachers. Mrs. Fioritto, Middle School Art, and Mrs. Thompson, Middle School Communications, will only be available on Thursday evening. Please limit your time for Middle School conferences to a maximum of 15 minutes.

Music News

LITURGICAL CHOIR

Liturgical Choir begins Friday, October 23 at 9:15! Rehearsals will be on Fridays from 9:15 to 10:00. Liturgical Choir is open to Middle School students. Choir members support school liturgies by helping to lead music. Liturgical Choir will also be a part of the Advent program this year. Come sing, raise your voice, lift your spirit, and develop your musical skills. Visit the Music Room on Friday, October 2 between 9:15 and 10:00 for more information and to sign up. If you miss the sign up on October 2, please come to the first rehearsal to join. Come join Liturgical Choir and lift your voice and spirit!



IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR 4th and 5th GRADE STUDENTS:

Please bring your recorder to music class by Monday, October 5. We will need them for some of our music activities. If this is not possible, please email Miss Kaup at rkaup@stccs.com to make other arrangements.

If you are not able to meet with a teacher during the times set aside, or if you need more time, feel free to contact the teacher to set up an alternate conference time that works for both of you. Scheduled telephone conferences are also an option.

Conference Request Forms for K – 5 students are attached to this FYI – Please complete one Conference Request Form for all of the K – 5 children in your family and return it to the teacher of your youngest child at SCCS by Wednesday, October 14th. Confirmation of your conference times will be sent home on Thursday, October 22nd. The Conference Request Form can also be found at www.stcroixcatholic.com > SCCS Parents > Important Forms and Documents > conference forms.

SCCS Service Marathon Update – Deadline Extended One More Week!



go to the classroom with the highest per student average for the entire Marathon and will stay with that class for the remainder of the school year!

Congratulations to Sr. Mary Bethany's first grade class. They claimed the trophy (and candy) for the third week of the Marathon with the highest average per student turned in for the week. (\$74.31) This Friday, the Marathon trophy will again go to the class with the highest average funds per students collected for the week. Watch for the picture of the winning class on the Web site on Friday afternoon. Next week the traveling trophy will

Our fourth Marathon collection day is Thursday, October 1st, and we hope to be at goal by then, but just in case some families would like an extra week to round up a few more dollars for SCCS, we have decided to extend the collection one more week. Therefore, our final collection date for Marathon 2009 will be Thursday, October 8th. All contributions received by 9:00 AM on October 8th will be counted towards individual and class incentives. Anything brought in after 9:00 AM that day will still count towards the school goals.

Next week is Service Week. Students in grades K-2 will be singing at Linden Nursing Home, third through fifth graders will be sprucing up St. Michael's Cemetery, and middle schoolers will be visiting Feed My Starving Children to prepare nutritious meals for students in third world countries. If you think your child may be ill, please do **not** send them to school on the day of their field trip. We do not want to expose nursing home residents or malnourished children across the world to anything that could have been prevented.

The Marathon Committee is currently in the process of assembling the Take Home Thank You Treat Bags for students meeting their individual or family goal. We'd happily accept any donations of goodies or freebies appropriate for these hard-working students. Perhaps some of our parents' employers would have something desirable to elementary-aged students and would be willing to contribute something. It's hard to know how many students will meet goal at this point, but any donations are greatly appreciated.

Many employers provide matching grants for their employees' contributions to non-profit organizations (such as SCCS Marathon) and these matching grants are greatly appreciated. They contribute to the school goals as well as the incentives associated with the school reaching its goals for Mrs. Epperly to Rule from the Roof and Christmas

**SCCS
Girl Scout News**

**St. Croix Valley
Girl Scout
Cookie Manager
Needed**



The Girl Scout Council is looking for a volunteer/volunteers to manage the Girl Scout Cookie Sales in the St. Croix Valley Area. If this position is not filled soon, our local Girl Scout Troops may not be able to sell cookies this year. This volunteer would get all cookie information to the area troops, collect all cookie orders and money, and organize the cookie prize/awards. The Council is willing to have people share this position and split up the tasks. If you are interested in knowing more about this, please call Laura Ogren, 439-1806 and she will be able to direct you to the person at the Girl Scout Council.

break beginning one day early. Please check with your employer to see if they participate in such matching grants, and if so, please submit one form for the entire family contribution.

Total collected by students as of Thursday, September 24th : \$ 33,233.23

Matching gifts committed to date: \$ 1,275.00

Marathon 2nd Collection at St. Mary's and St. Michael's: \$ 3,515.07

Marathon 2nd Collection at St. Charles this past weekend: \$ 369.00

For a grand total of: **\$38,392.30**

Our goal: **\$75,000 (\$80,000 to get an extra day off at Christmas break.)**

Only \$36,607.70 more to go to see Mrs. Epperly Rule from the Roof for a day! And only \$41,607.70 more to go to get the day off before Christmas break (December 23). We can do it!

**A Message on the Marathon's Final Stretch
from the SCCS Board of Directors**

SCCS parents and students, thank you for your efforts in getting us to the ½-way point of the Marathon's fundraising goal. Home & School reported contributions of \$38,000 as of Thursday, September 24. That's a lot of little hands and feet at work! Thank you to the students who have been hard at work, and the parents behind their efforts. We've heard of some innovative work: bake sales, Kool Aid stands, babysitting services, neighborhood clean-up efforts, and more. Additionally, dozens of students helped out with the School Participation Masses where our tri-parish supporters were given an opportunity to contribute through a second collection. Great job, students. Keep it up!

We also extend our sincere appreciation to Home & School Chairs, Carrie Sandquist and Angela Nolde, and the entire committee for their creative energy in making this well-organized, fun, and attainable fundraising program for our families.

Because we are 4/5 of the way through the timeline, we have little catching up to do in this final stretch. If you have not participated yet in the Marathon, now is the time to step forward. We need ALL families to participate. Each student is asked to raise \$250 with a maximum amount of \$750 per family. **You can either fundraise your family's responsibility or donate the amount.**

While HOW we raise this money is optional, the money itself is not. The school's Marathon goal of \$75,000 is a line item in the school's annual operating budget, and along with tuition, parish subsidies, and endowment distributions, it is an essential funding source for the quality education we've all come to expect. At the request of parents, we have limited student-driven fundraising to just the Marathon each year. However, if we do not reach the Marathon goal, we will likely have to undertake another fundraiser, as fundraising is a key part of the total budget.

We are all committed to meeting our family goals, and we simply ask our fellow parents to join us and put forth your best effort. Thank you and please keep the school community in your prayers in this final stretch.

Your Board Members,

Stacie Forti, Lori Kennedy, Camille Kiolbasa, Deb LeRoux, Dionne Meisterling, Wally Nelson, Erik Ogren, Patrick Thueson, Polly Uner

**Is There An
Interest in
Starting a
Kindergarten
Girl Scout
Troop?**



If there are any parents of Kindergarten girls that are interested in information for starting a Girl Scout Troop, please contact Laura Ogren, 439-1806. We have Girl Scout Troops already developed in grades 1,2,3,4, 6 and 7. All girls are welcome to join any of these troops at anytime. There are many volunteer/ service projects that the girls can get involved with, as well as different fun field trip outings, a school Family Dance in the Spring, and Girl Scout Cookie Sales!!!

**Geography Family Fun Night
October 22
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
SCCS Middle School Commons**



Your whole family is invited to come spend an evening of fun doing Geography related activities. Those of you who have come to Science Night, Math Night, Art Night or Dr. Seuss Night in the past know what fun these evenings are. There will be games and activities geared mostly for K – 5th grade students, but younger and older siblings will have fun joining in as well.

Activities will include: murals, map games, SMARTBoard and laptop games, a Geography CakeWalk, Pin the Name on the . . . , drawings for prizes, and much more.

Continents - States - Great Lakes - Rural/Urban/Suburban - Native Americans

RSVP to the SCCS office, 651 439-5581 or email Diane Polley, dpolley@stccs.com if your family would like to attend. Please let us know the number attending and the ages of the children so that we can plan to have enough materials.

**School Participation Sunday
Thank You! From Glenda Houle and Jerome & Geri Wasinger**

Our School Participation Sunday the last two weekends was a great success! THANK YOU to all of our uniform-wearing Mass volunteers, and to the great group of parent helpers as well. Watch for information on our next School Participation Sunday, January 24, 2010, which will be in conjunction with Catholic Schools Week.

Focus on Faith by Jeanne Crea

The Feast of the Guardian Angels is celebrated October 2!

Guardian angels are not just for children. Their role is to represent individuals before God, to watch over them always, to aid their prayer and to present their souls to God at death.

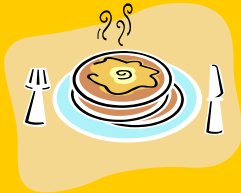
The concept of an angel assigned to guide and nurture each human being is a development of Catholic doctrine and piety based on Scripture but not directly drawn from it. Jesus' words in Matthew 18:10 best support the belief: "See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven always look upon the face of my heavenly Father."

Devotion to the angels is, at base, an expression of faith in God's enduring love and providential care extended to each person day in and day out until life's end.

"May the angels lead you into paradise; may the martyrs come to welcome you and take you to the holy city, the new and eternal Jerusalem." (*Rite for Christian Burial*)
<http://www.americancatholic.org/Features/Saints/saint.aspx?id=1156>

Prayer to your Guardian Angel: Angel of God, my Guardian dear, to whom His love commits me here, ever this day (or night) be at my side, to light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen. <http://www.catholic.org/saints/angelpray.php>

**Knights of
Columbus
BENEFIT
BREAKFAST
for the Marathon**



Everyone is invited to a delicious Benefit Breakfast on

Sunday,
October 11
at the KC Hall
1910 South Greeley
Street, Stillwater
8:00 am – 1:00 pm

Enjoy scrambled eggs with optional toppings, pancakes with hot syrup, sausage, coffee, milk, orange juice and applesauce.

Adults: \$6.00
Children age 12 and under: \$3.50

All proceeds will benefit the SCCS Marathon for Non-Public School Education. Bring your family and friends as well as an item for the St. Michael's Food Shelf. Everyone is welcome.

Former Knight Volleyball Players Find Success at SAHS

The following girls who are all former SCCS students, and played volleyball for the Knights, are enjoying a successful season this Fall at Stillwater Area High School. On Tuesday October 6 during their conference game against Park of Cottage Grove at SAHS, they will be hosting a "Dig Pink" volleyball match. The girls are raising awareness and funds for the Side-Out Foundation to support breast cancer education and research for a cure. Please come to their game, wear something pink, and cheer these former Knights to victory! Sophomore and JV games start at 5 pm and Varsity follows at 7 pm. If you are interested in donating to the Side-Out Foundation, please see their team event page at: www.side-out.org/application/teams/team_page/1297

Thank you for your support!



back row: Savanna Handevidt, Maggie Hamerly, Allie Guild, Erin Ouradnik, Mary Mikutowski, Katie de St. Aubin

middle row: Keri Murphy, Sami Borndale, Meghan Olsen

front row: Emily McDonough, Claire Luby, Kitty Tynen

Date Change for Altar Server Training at St. Michael's

Due to the funeral Mass for Fr. Miller's grandmother taking place on Tuesday, September 29th we had to change the date for St. Michael's altar server training. The new date is Tuesday, October 13th at 6:15 p.m. in the church. Boys and girls, grade 4 or older are invited to become altar servers at St. Michael's. Fr Miller and server coordinator, Dave deLeon will be conducting the training. ***Father will be going over some changes to the current procedure so we would like all current servers to attend as well as new servers.***

The primary role of the altar server is to assist the priest in the celebration of the liturgy during Mass. The altar server is also a valuable help to the priest at funerals and weddings and other types of liturgical services throughout the year, such as Stations of the Cross during Lent. It is a privilege to serve at the altar and we hope that many young people will answer the call to help. If you are not a member of St. Michael's, but would like to be trained as a server to help at school Masses or funerals during the school year, you are more than welcome to attend. Please email or call Deb Mayer if you will be attending – dmayer@costm.org 651-379-1265.

Light Their Way An Unforgettable Evening

*Be a part of this
once-in-a-lifetime
event for St. Croix
Catholic School*

The tables are filling up quickly, so don't delay. Be a part of this extraordinary evening, an evening you will never forget. The greatest gift we can give our children is the gift of faith, of knowing and loving Our Lord. So come and enjoy a small, intimate gathering and listen to one of America's most respected lay Catholics. Mr. Thomas S. Monaghan, an amazing rags-to-riches entrepreneur who founded Domino's Pizza and Ave Maria University, will be the guest speaker for the night.

We have been extremely blessed by Mr. Monaghan's gracious donation of time for the benefit of our school and its students. It is our hope that you join us for this never-to-happen again event.

**Tuesday, Nov. 3
6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
St. Michael's Social
Hall**

Seating is very limited, so please contact Sue Campbell at 651-983-6037 or email

monaghanevent@gmail.com today!

Complete information at:

<http://stcc.webaloo.com/files/stcroixcatholics/files/FYI%200910/September/Monaghan%20Flyer%20FINAL.pdf>

Boys and girls, grade 4 or older are invited to become altar servers at St. Michael's. The primary role of the altar server is to assist the priest in the celebration of the liturgy during Mass. The altar server is also a valuable help to the priest at funerals and weddings and other types of liturgical services throughout the year, such as Stations of the Cross during Lent. It is a privilege to serve at the altar and we hope that many young people will answer the call to help. We will have a training session on Tuesday, September 29th at 6:15 p.m. in the Church. Fr Miller and server coordinator, Dave deLeon will be conducting the training. **Father will be going over some changes to the current procedure so we would like all current servers to attend as well as new servers.** If you are not a member of St. Michael's, but would like to be trained as a server to help at school Masses or funerals during the school year, you are more than welcome to attend. Please email or call Deb Mayer if you will be attending – dmayer@costm.org 651-379-1265

Basketball Registration Is Now Available

Basketball registration forms for the 5th – 8th grade Boys and Girls CAA (Catholic Athletic Association) teams have been offered to all 5th – 8th grade students. The deadline to register is October 30th. Forms are available in the kiosk outside of the computer room and on the school website, www.stcroixcatholic.com under Athletics > CAA.



Upcoming Events

Thursday, October 1

4th Marathon Money Turn-In Day

1:00 am Marathon Eucharistic Adoration through 1:00 am on October 2

Friday, October 2

Marathon Eucharistic Adoration continues from Midnight – 1 AM

Grade 4 Field Trip to the State Capitol and a play

Monday, October 5 through Friday, October 9 Marathon Service Week and Fire Prevention Week

Monday, October 5

Primary Music Marathon at Linden Healthcare Center beginning at 9:15 am

Mrs. Daniels class leaves SCCS at 9:15 am

Sr. Theresa Anne's class leaves SCCS at 9:45 am

First grade classes leave at SCCS 10:00 am

Kindergarten classes leave SCCS at 10:15 am

Tuesday, October 6

11:00 am – 3:00 pm Grade 6 to *Feed My Starving Children*

Fire Prevention Presentations for Kindergarten (9:15 am), grades 1 (10:00 am), and 5 (11:00)

6:30 pm Home and School Meeting

***Are You In Need
of Used
Uniforms?***

If so, come check out the selection in the Band/Orchestra room.

Home and School organizes and keeps a great supply of used uniforms available. The room is open every day for you to visit during school hours, but please try to avoid Thursdays and before school on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday because the room is used for band and orchestra during that time.

Prices are:

Jumpers - \$5

Vests, Pants,

Sweatshirt, Skirts,

Skorts and

Spiritwear - \$4

Shorts, Shirts - \$3

Socks and

Accessories - \$1

Payment can be made in the school office.

Wednesday, October 7

9:15 am Marathon Mass

12 noon – 3:00 pm Intermediate Marathon Clean-up at St. Michael's Cemetery (rain date is Friday, October 9)

Thursday, October 8

Bonus! 5th Marathon Collection Day – *any money brought in by 9:00 am this morning will count towards individual and group prizes. Anything brought in after 9:00 am will only count towards the all school goal.*

Kindergarten Field Trip to Aamodt's Apple Farm

11:00 am – 3:00 pm Grades 7 and 8 to *Feed My Starving Children*

Sunday, October 11

8:00 AM – 1:00 PM Knights of Columbus Benefit Breakfast supporting the SCCS Marathon at Knights of Columbus Hall (*see page 6*)

Tuesday, October 13

1:40 pm Catholic High School Presentations for 8th grade students

Wednesday, October 14

9:15 am All School Mass

Pizza with the Principal Marathon Prize (for students raising \$275 or more)

Conference scheduling forms for grades K – 8 are due back to school today

Thursday, October 15 and Friday, October 16 - NO SCHOOL

Education Minnesota Professional Conference

Friday, October 16

9:00 am – 8:00 pm Scrapping for Senteo (*see page 2*)
SCCS Gym

Saturday, October 17

9:00 am – 5:00 pm Scrapping for Senteo (*see page 2*)
SCCS Gym

Monday, October 19

No AM buses today – parents drive; buses run as usual in the afternoon

Tuesday, October 20

Picture Day for Ark of Angels 2 day afternoon and 3 day morning classes

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

6:30 pm Board of Directors meeting

Thursday, October 22

6:30 pm – 8:00 pm **Geography Family Fun Night**
SCCS Middle School Commons
Please RSVP to dpolley@stccs.com