February 19, 2012 Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Matthew Catholic Church

...a community of faith and love

Church/Parish Office/Conference Center
2700 SE Virginia Ave · Topeka, Ks 66605
(785) 232-5012
fax: (785) 232-0028

Adoration Chapel
(785) 232-6335

St. Matthew Catholic School
1000 SE 28th Street · Topeka, KS 66605
(785) 235-2188

St. Matthew Early Learning Center
1000 SE 28th Street · Topeka, KS 66605
(785) 233-1220

Pastor: Fr. Jerry Volz (ext. 204)
frjer@saintmatthews.org

Administrator: Bob Broxterman (ext. 201)
rjbrox@saintmatthews.org

Director of Religious Education/ Youth Ministry: Cheryl Byrne (ext. 205)
cherylb@saintmatthews.org

Accountant: Jamie Neff (ext. 202)
jneff@saintmatthews.org

Secretary/Volunteer Coordinator:
Maureen Leiker (ext. 200)
mleiker@saintmatthews.org

Secretary/Advocate for Annulments:
Sue Carson (ext. 217)
scarson@saintmatthews.org

Director of Liturgical Music:
Melissa Jakmouj (ext. 237)
mjakmouj@netzero.net

Ministry to sick/hospitalized/homebound:
Barb McCauley

School Principal: Heather Huscher (ext. 216)
huscherh@saintmatthews.org

School Secretary: Sandra Barnes (ext. 215)
barness@saintmatthews.org

Early Learning Center Director:
Megan Specht (ext. 234)
spechtm@saintmatthews.org

Pastoral Council:

Mary Alford	379-9585
John Artzer	267-3889
Brad Johnson (chair)	408-9413
Netti Kostecki	266-4706
Richard Lee	266-8144
Michael Mayfield	354-1778
Kim Pittz	379-5733
David Sterbenz	379-9915
Beth Weishaar	266-2224

Finance Council

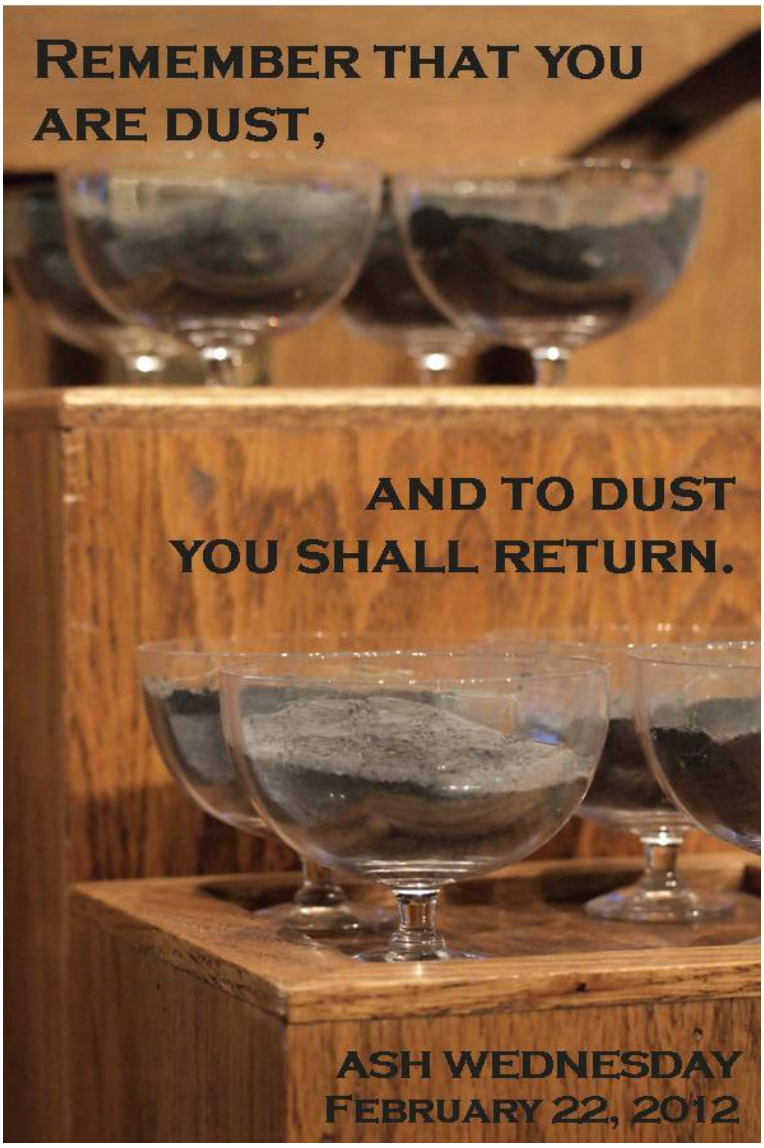
Karen Morrow (Chair)	267-3950

School Council:

Chris Herrera (Chair)	357-8461

Early Learning Center Council:

Tricia Lespreance (Chair)	817-6198



We at St. Matthew Catholic Church
are a community of faith and love
dedicated to our Lord Jesus Christ.
We are committed to spiritual growth
through active worship, education and ministry.
We provide an environment to support a Christ-centered way of life.
Through our actions others will be drawn to Christ.

www.SaintMatthews.org

Parish Office Hours
Monday-Thursday
8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Friday, 8:00 am - 12 noon

Weekend Mass Schedule:
Saturday, 5:00 pm
Sunday, 8:00 am & 10:30 am

Weekday Mass Schedule:
Monday - Friday, 8:05 am
Please check bulletin for changes

Holyday Mass Schedule:
8:05 am & 7:00pm

Bulletin Deadline:
Monday noon, in writing.

Confessions:
Saturday afternoon, 3:45—4:45 pm, or by appointment.

Who is a parishioner?
One who is registered and regularly participates in the liturgical life of the parish and demonstrates support of the parish mission by completing and fulfilling an annual commitment of time, treasure and talent.

To register in the Parish:
We welcome anyone interested in being an active member of our parish. Please call the Parish Office (232-5012) and an introductory letter and information regarding the registration process will be sent to you.

Baptisms:
First time parents (or those who have not attended a class within the last three years) must attend instruction classes, which are held monthly. Classes are held at the Parish Conference Center (use driveway entrance and parking at 27th and Virginia). Parent(s) must be Regis tered in the parish a minimum of 4 months prior to the baptism. Parent(s) must con tact the church office to sign up for the class. Baptisms are celebrated monthly, nformation on dates is given out at the class.

Marriages:
Church law requires individuals to be registered and active in the parish no less than six months prior to scheduling a wedding. Couples are then required to contact Fr. Jerry at least 8 months prior to the anticipated wedding date and **BEFORE** making any other arrangements or reserving a reception hall.

FATHER'S FORUM

"LENT - A TIME TO RETURN HOME"

Ash Wednesday is this week and we begin another Lenten season. Ash Wednesday, a day of fast and abstinence, is not a holy day of obligation, but is a solemn celebration that ranks third in the number of people it draws to church that would normally not come, following Christmas and Easter.

With each passing year, I look forward to Lent more and more for my individual journey of faith. It usually means many more things to do in the parish and region, but allowing change by the Holy Spirit to guide me is a strength.

There is something about Ash Wednesday that draws such crowds. I think is has something to do with the nature of the day. During Lent, we are called to remember particularly the sufferings that Christ went through for us. Though we should do this all days, Lent is a special time to emphasize this aspect of our faith. Its 40 days remind us of the 40 days that Christ spent in the desert before beginning his ministry.

Remembering Christ's suffering during Lent is also to remind us of why the Son of God had to come to earth and die in the first place: we sinned. We messed up our relationship with God and the community of the Church; over and over again, we lie, cheat, forget about God and His teachings through His church, we are selfish and we hurt those we love the most and oftentimes even hurt ourselves.

Ash Wednesday is the day that we recognize our faults. We admit our sinfulness, beg forgiveness and pray for God's help to repent from our sinful ways because we know we will die and turn to dust.

As we pray the Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent, this devotion helps us to remember the suffering of Christ so we may repent of our sinfulness which caused it and seek to reform by taking up our cross to carry alongside Him.

Because we acknowledge and repent of our faults, I believe that is why so many people come to church. It's a time to start fresh and join with the rest of us in begging forgiveness. It's a time to return home to our Heavenly Father. God wants to wipe away the stain of sin from our lives and thus He gave the Church the Sacrament of Confession. This Lenten season, our Archdiocese will again be focusing on this Sacrament and offering in every parish every Wednesday night from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. the opportunity to receive Absolution by a priest. What a great way to return to God and accept His mercy!

Good luck this Lent. Come home to Christ because he suffered for you and He wants to help you. If you are at all curious, the Church welcomes you. Invite Catholics to come home with you. It's not to proclaim our own righteousness, but to join together to repent of our sins, for truly, the Kingdom of God is at hand.

God bless you! Fr. Jerry

St. Matthew's Parish: "The Refrigerator Page"

This page is provided for you to add to your family's information center, the "frig!"

MASS INTENTIONS
February 20th - February 26th

Monday ..... Ordinary Time
NO Mass

Tuesday ..... Ordinary Time
8:05 a.m. - Don Melton

Ash Wednesday .....February 22nd
8:05 a.m. (All School) - Sylvester Koehler
7:00 p.m. - Leo & Marie Petesch

Thursday..... Lenten Weekday
8:05 a.m. - Elmer Brinker

Friday ..... Lenten Weekday
8:05 a.m. (All School) - Eddie Hess

Saturday.....Vigil, First Sunday of Lent
5:00 p.m. - Joseph Niehues

Sunday.....First Sunday of Lent
8:00 a.m. - Walter and Irene Przedpelski
10:30 a.m. - St. Matthew Parishioners

PRAYER CORNER… *We pray for those among us who are ill and for their caregivers, those experiencing a hardship or difficulty and for those in the Armed Forces. To place someone's name on the prayer corner, please call the Parish Office (232-5012).*

Cassidy Emerson • Betty Ketter • Norma McIntyre • Mary Jane Burnett • Marge Krivjansky • Rhonda Ruddy • Leonard Cullison • Becky Mosler • Delvy Lewis • Jackson Neff • Justin • Vic Hamersky • Ethel Lacore • Corky Briel • Carolyn Peck • Tom Cook • Kelly Lee • Marie Carter • Steve Townsend • Kay Becker • Bryana McDaniel • Virginia Saiki • Gena Wiggins • Chase Ensley • Melanie Stadler • Debbie Escobar • Ashley Miller • Margaret Chapman • Devin Means • Heather Newsome • Joe Moreland • Brenda Harding-Wichman • Pat Schumaker • Lorna and Tim Walker Family • Mary Dennigan • Lindsay • Michelle Carson • Ed Robertson • Bonnie Retter Zwiesler • Errol Saville • Mary Jane Cook • Jack Bone • Liam Newsome • Elwin Reinecke • Curt Dittmer • Susan • George Menge • Trina Tyler • Jeannette Rowland • Gerald Falletti • Cappie Hahn • Angel Valdivia • Kyle Lindteigen • Kerri Enzbrenner Family • Fr. Aaron Peters • Sophie Trull • Karla Mosher • Jack Holmberg • Leona Perrin • Jerry Weigel • Richard Prue • Yvonne Fadley • Shirley and Jerry Vinyard • Fulton Young • Laura Smith • Bob Brinker • Pat Coker • Ken Zweig • Katie Burton • Sherri Reed • Eddie Stowe • Mary Lou Finnegan • Donna Rodgers • Danielle Ritter • Matt & Kelly Latendresse • Debra Latendresse • Megan Alden • Alice Urban • Dolly & Michael Truhe • Lee Kerr • Brody Keli • Barry Gall • Bill Moore • Paula Calhoun • Kathy Flynn • Grant Rempe • Kaylee Ogden

FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES

Tashina Miller · Nick Newsom ·Darrell Linenberger · Josh Hahn · Matthew Pawley · Ulric Baumgardner · Dexter Holliday · Shane Lacallaide · Mark Pawley · Doc Treadwell · Marvin Fehrenbach · Billy Fehrenbach · Dennis Mulryan · Paul Shipley · Craig Loughlin · Richard Kolbek · Ryan Conley · Abraham Sipe · Christopher Day Johnson · Nicholas Gawdun · Alan Bennett · Angelo Cruz · Kyle Conley · Abby Hays · Alvin Pierce · Roberto Caceres · Melissa-Jo Rivera · Mike Perry · Chad May · Barry Price · Dalan Pittz · Anthony Stallbaumer · Paul Alber · Nathan Hunt · Bryan Smith · Glenn Ortiz · Frank Narvaez · Larry Thomas · Michael Tibbits · Danielle Burke· Michael Mathewson · Jesse Adams · Russell Staley · Greg Cochran · Daniel Schiefelbein, Jr. · Jason Dolan · Steven Klumpe · Woody Sisson · Kristin Mathewson · Bill Taylor · Heather Smith · Scott Slyter · Chris Bonilla · Scott Payne · Steven T. Wyer

Sunday, 2/19
WELCOME SUNDAY: donuts & coffee served in Parish Hall following both Masses
"Simple Abundance" Food Collection Weekend
8:00am Mass/Church
9:00am RE Class/School
10:30am Mass/Church
6:30pm Topeka Area Scouting/Youth Center
7:00pm Youth Scripture Study/St. Matthew Rm

Monday, 2/20
6:30pm Catholic Scripture Study/Parish Hall West
8:00pm Men's Open Gym Night/Trompeter Gym

Tuesday, 2/21
1:30pm Catholic Scripture Study/Parish Hall West
4:00pm Early Learning Center Board/St. Luke Rm
6:30pm P.T.O./St. Matthew Rm
6:30pm Stewardship Committee/St. Luke Rm

Wednesday, 2/22…ASH WEDNESDAY
8:05am Mass/Church
6:45pm RE Class/School
7:00pm Mass/Church

Thursday, 2/23
5:30pm Centering Prayer/Weekday Chapel
7:00pm RCIA/Parish Hall West

Friday, 2/24
2:30pm Stations of the Cross/Church
5:00-7:00pm Knights of Columbus Fish Fry/Parish Hall West
6:00pm Stations of the Cross/Church

Saturday, 2/25
7:30am Men's Fellowship Group/Parish Conference Center
3:45-4:45pm Confessions/Church
5:00pm Mass/Church

Sunday, 2/26
8:00am Mass/Church
9:00am RE Class/School
9:00am 1st Eucharist Parent Mtg Part 2/Parish Hall West
10:30am Mass/Church
7:00pm Youth Scripture Study/St. Matthew Rm

SPOTLIGHT ON STEWARDSHIP

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE UPDATE

	Weekly Total (2/12/2012)	Total Rec'd Fiscal YTD
Envelopes	$ 16,248.00	$ 582,583.34
Automated Giving	1,500.00	194,843.47
Children's Envelopes	64.00	2,167.33
Plate	705.53	18,682.72
	$ 18,517.53	$ 798,276.86
*Average Weekly Income Needed:		$ 24,157.31
Total Previous YTD Income		$744,795.46
Total Budget YTD Income		$797,191.15
Income Over/(Under) Current YTD Budget		$1,085.71
Debt Reduction	$1,925.00	$ 11,493.00
Current Parish Debt		$ 18,474.00

**Current Fiscal Year = 7/1/11 - 6/30/12 YTD = Year To Date*

To date we have received 365 TIME AND TALENT COMMITMENT FORMS (34% of parish families). Extra Time ant Talent Commitment forms will be available in the foyer of church. If you have not returned your form, please do so as soon as possible. Very soon we will be distributing the lists to the ministry coordinators and scheduling training dates for the Liturgical ministers.

COLLECTION FOR THE CHURCH IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

"Christ is the light which illumines the way" (Blessed John Paul II). The Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe illuminates the way for the people of the region by helping Catholic organizations provide food, shelter, medical care, and compassion for the depressed and lonely, in addition to pastoral care and catechesis. Your donation today helps to reinforce the Christian ideals of charity, family values, and kindness in a place struggling in the aftermath of 70 years of atheistic Soviet rule. Please be generous to the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. Visit www.usccb.org/national collections to learn more about the important projects funded by the collection.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Forgiveness, too, is a gift from God. Freed from the paralysis of sin, the man in today's Gospel was able to stand and give witness to the power of God. How do I let sin cripple me? Am I a good steward of the gift of God's forgiveness.

STEWARDS OF THE WEEK

Al Oyerly and Bill Cochran

These dads were the first 2 to step up to help with the new drop off procedure to increase the safety of our students, parents and parishioners in the school parking lot. Thank you for sharing your time and talent.

CALL TO SHARE

As of today, 29% of our parishioners have faithfully responded to the Archbishop's Call to Share, our annual campaign to fund over 40 ministries in the Church of Northeast Kansas. Please prayerfully consider what you can do to help us reach our parish target of $66,146. To date, we have received pledges of $52,366 which is 79.2% of our goal. Once we reach our goal, 50% of each dollar raised over the goal will be returned to our parish. Thank you for your generous gifts in support of the ministries of the Church in Northeast Kansas.

PLEASE PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER SHARING YOUR TIME AND TALENT

The Dinner/Auction Committee will meet on **Wednesday, February 29th, 6:30 p.m,** St. Matthew Room at the Parish Conference Center (use driveway and parking at 27th and Virginia). All are welcome to attend. Many volunteers will be needed to help with planning, publicity, decorations, etc.

If you are new to St. Matthew and would like to register in the Parish please join us for

WELCOME SUNDAY

TODAY — February 19th

in the Parish Hall

Following the 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Liturgy

AROUND ST. MATTHEW'S

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER THOSE WHO HAVE RECENTLY DIED

Theo Hamer, father-in-law of Sarah Hamer.

Our thoughts and prayers are with their loved ones in this time of sadness.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Adorers are needed for the following hours —

- Sunday, 10 p.m.
- Wednesday, 12 noon, 7 p.m., 9 p.m.
- Thursday, 12 noon
- Thursday, 10 p.m.

Please call Sue (354-7762) if you can help with one of these hours or an hour of your choice.

THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

The next RCIA Class will be held on **Thursday, February 23rd, 7 - 9 pm** in the Parish Hall. All are invited. The topic will be "Marriage and Annulments."

Mark your calendar...
AN EVENING OF REFLECTION AND PRAYER ON THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE
March 7th, 7 pm

Presented by the *Apostles of the Interior Life,* religious sisters whose ministry is spiritual direction and the spiritual life.

LIGHT OF THE WORLD PARISH RETREAT MARCH 9-11, 2012

To register for the Retreat, please call the Parish Office (232-5012), register online at www.SaintMatthews.org or registration forms are available in the foyer of Church.

We will be leaping into PRAYER BLANKETS on **February 29th.** Come and spend the day or part of the day with us. We sort, cut, pray and even sew a little while we are there. Each brings there own special talents to help with this ministry to the sick. For more information call Dale Rose (862-3702). Yarn is needed for the prayer blanket ministry. You may leave donations in the collection box in the foyer of church.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 19TH

Sunday: Is 43:18-19, 21-22, 24b-25/2 Cor 1:18-22/Mk 2:1-12
Monday: Jas 3:13-18/Mk 9:14-29
Tuesday: Jas 4:1-10/Mk 9:30-37
Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18/2 Cor 5:20--6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday: Dt 30:15-20/Lk 9:22-25
Friday: Is 58:1-9a/Mt 9:14-15
Saturday: Is 58:9b-14/Lk 5:27-32
Next Sunday: Gn 9:8-15/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15

LENT 2012

February 22nd

8:05 a.m. and 7 p.m. Mass

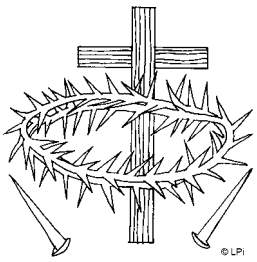
Day of Fast and Abstinence

LENTEN REGULATIONS

- All Catholics, 14 years of age and older, are obliged to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, February 22nd and all Fridays of Lent.
- Catholics,18 to 59 years of age, are obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday — a fast consisting of one normal meal and two lesser meals, with no eating in between.

LENTEN PRAYER

God of love and forgiveness,
you give us this season of Lent
to call us back to you through repentance
and acknowledgement of our sins and offenses.
Through our prayer draw us closer to you
and help us to know the depth of your love.
Through our fasting help us to rely on you
as we put aside our own wants and needs.
Through our almsgiving make us aware
of the needs of our brothers and sisters
whose only hope is often in you alone.
In your great mercy,
heal us from our sins
and wipe out our offenses,
so that,
renewed in your grace
and revived by your love,
we may rejoice in your
saving power.
Amen.



On all the Wednesday's of Lent (except Ash Wednesday) from 6— 7 p.m. St. Matthew Church and all the parishes of the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas will be open for **individual confessions.** Inviting Catholics to experience Christ's healing love through the Sacrament of Reconciliation is one of the major hopes that the Archbishop and his priests have for the local Church during this Lenten season.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

will be held **every Friday evening, 6 p.m.** during Lent (except Good Friday). Following Stations there will be **SOUP SUPPERS** on the dates listed. If you or your group or organization would be interested in hosting one of the Soup Suppers, please call the Parish Office. This involves setting up, making drinks, serving and cleanup following the supper.

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

Donations of meatless soups and sandwiches are needed for the Soup Suppers which will be held during Lent. Please call the Parish Office or complete this form and return by way of the collection if you can help.

I can provide soup (meatless variety, ie., potato, broccoli and cheese, tomato, etc.):

_____ March 2nd

_____ March 16th

_____ March 23rd

I can provide sandwiches (1 dozen cheese, peanut butter and jelly, egg salad, tuna salad, etc.):

_____ March 2nd

____ March 16th

_____ March 23rd

Name_____

Telephone _____

YOUTH NEWS

T3

Catholic Bible Study for Teens

There is still time to participate in the Bible Study program. We meet on Sunday evenings 7:00 pm-8:00 pm at the Parish Conference Center. All high school youth are welcome! Cost: $15.00 for the workbook. If you plan to come, please contact Cheryl at 232-5012, ext. 205 or cherylb@SaintMatthews.org.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

The youth will gather for prayer in the Adoration Chapel on Sunday evenings, 6— 7 p.m. Join us!

HOW ARE YOU SPENDING YOUR SUMMER VACATION? NEED SOME IDEAS?

Here are some upcoming events our youth are involved in...

- Totus Tuus, June 3—7th
- Camp Tekakwitha, June & July 2012
- Catholic Heart Work Camp, Various dates/places
- Prayer and Action, June, 2012, a mission trip that provides service to people in the Kansas City area
- Steubenville Youth Conference, July 13-15th

For more information check the parish website, www.SaintMatthews.org, follow us on Facebook — Saint Matthew Catholic Youth Group or contact Cheryl at the Parish Office.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS

...Delegates to the state convention are Galen Greenwood and Ron Flax. Alternates are Vince Melvin, Jr. and Ray Dashnaw.

...Please make note of the April and May meeting dates — April 12th and May 10th.

...For information on becoming a member of the Knights of Columbus, contact Mike Barnard (224-7276).

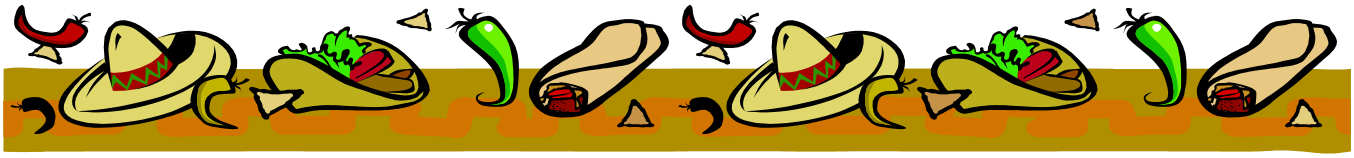
...The Knights of Columbus Kansas State Council sponsors a poster contest for elementary and junior high school students to promote Vocation Awareness. Contact the school or RE Office for more information.

ENCHILADA PROJECT NEWS

YOU DID IT AGAIN!!! Another successful enchilada project!! You may have heard that I was unexpectedly unable to be there last weekend to "supervise". Usually one does not want to hear 'we did just fine without you,' but I was thrilled at how well the St. Matthew crew took the reins and got the job done. Thank you to everyone that gave of their time to jump in and help. Quite a few of you were there for countless hours (I can't name names for fear of leaving someone out), for that I am forever grateful!! I didn't have to stress one bit and that is exactly what the doctor ordered!!! Thank you from the bottom of my heart (no pun intended)!!!!

Deb Escobar
Enchilada Project Coordinator

Enchilada totals and prize winners will be announced in the near future.



SCHOOL NEWS

KINDERGARTEN ROUNDUP March 2nd

We are very excited to meet our potential future students! For your convenience, you may choose either a morning session or an afternoon session. The morning session will begin at 8:30 a.m., and the afternoon session will begin at 12:30 p.m. Please contact Sandra Barnes, SMCS secretary, (235-2188or barness@saintmatthews.org) to let us know which session you prefer.

Please bring the student's birth certificate, social security card, baptismal certificate and immunization record.
In addition, please bring the baptismal certificate for the Catholic parent(s). If you are members of St. Matthew Parish, please bring your completed 2012 time and talent form and your 2012 financial pledge card if you have not already submitted those to the parish office.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Keep clipping and sending in those Box Tops! We will be submitting box tops one more time before the school year ends. Collection boxes are located right outside the School Office or in the foyer of Church.

LABELS FOR EDUCATION

The submission deadline for the 2011-2012 school year is March 1st. Please send in any *Labels for Education* you might have as soon as possible! Collection boxes are located right outside the School Office or in the foyer of Church.

All are invited...

St. Matthew Council 13012

LENTEN FISH FRY

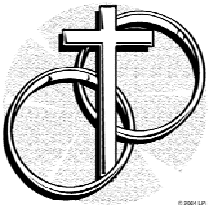
February 24th

5:00—7:00 p.m.

Menu includes baked or fried fish, fried shrimp, grilled cheese sandwich, hush puppies, cole slaw, mixed vegetable, coffee, tea or lemonade. $8/ages 13 and older; $4/ages 5-12 and 4 and under are FREE.

Proceeds to benefit Adam Wilczak and Mark Ostrowski, Archdicocesan Seminarians.

Mark your calendar...the Knights will also host a Baked Potato Bar on March 30th.



Congratulations to
Gerald Houpt
and Janice Heinen
who were married
February 3, 2012

NOTE TO LECTORS

There is an updated list of lectors and their phone numbers to use for finding substitutes when you are unable to meet your ministry obligation. The list is located in the lector information drawer in back of the church. Please pick up a copy for your convenience.

A PLAN TO PROTECT GOD'S CHILDREN:

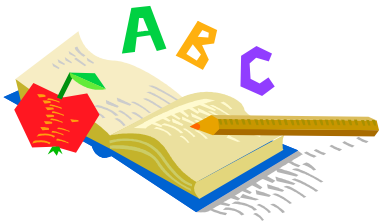
Control Access. Controlling access means that as a parish and as part of the Archdiocese, we are careful about whom we allow to work with our children. We want potential child molesters to get the message loud and clear that when it comes to childhood sexual abuse, we as parents and as parishioners are alert and on guard. It is a responsibility that we all share and that we take very seriously. *(Taken from the Child Protection Policy of the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas).* Note — if you volunteer in any capacity at St. Matthew Catholic School or with the Religious Education Program and have not been trained in the Virtus program, please plan do so at your earliest opportunity. For information on upcoming training dates, log on to www.archkck.org and click on the "Virtus" link.

Thank you for all of the prayers, expressions of care and concern, cards, flowers, food, prayer blanket and friendship following my recent heart attack and during my ongoing recovery. Words cannot express how grateful I am and the peace & comfort that it gave me knowing that so many people truly care. St Matthew's – there is no place like home! Much love to all.

Debbie Escobar

ST. MATTHEW EARLY LEARNING CENTER

will host a **Spring Open House, Tuesday, March 6th from 6pm to 7pm.** Come see what the Early Learning Center has to offer your preschool child. Enrollment for the 2012-13 school year will begin March 6, 2012. For more information, please contact Megan Specht, Director, 233-1220.



TRANSPORTATION NEEDED

for resident of McCrite Care Home. She would like to come to church on Saturday evening. If you can help, please call the Parish Office for more information.

LITURGICAL MINISTER TRAINING

for Lectors, Servers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Greeters and Ushers

Sunday, March 4th, 12 noon
Thursday, March 15th, 6:30 p.m.

This training is MANDATORY for all NEW ministers, and is a great 'refresher' for those currently serving in these ministries. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend on one of these dates.

REGIONAL NEWS

TOPEKA CATHOLIC SINGLES, Feb. 20th, 6:30 p.m., Book Club at Planet Sub, Shanghai Girls, books are available (call Melanie, 249-5316); Fat Tuesday, Feb. 21st, 5:30 pm at Boss Hawgs BBQ, Brookwood Terrace, meeting following dinner (call Don, 266-4830); Feb. 24th, 7 p.m., Silent Film Festival (call Nancy, 249-7037).

THERE WILL BE NO MARIAN MASS IN FEBRUARY. The next Mass will be held on March 28th.

CHRISTIAN WIDOW AND WIDOWERS ORGANIZATION, Potluck dinner, O'Connor Hall, Most Pure Heart of Mary Church, Thursday, February 23rd, 5 p.m. Dime Bingo will be played after dinner. Bring a covered dish, table service and your dimes and join us for an evening of fun and friendship. For more information, call Doris Patterson (272-0055) or Marilyn Sanderson (235-6656).

MEN UNDER CONSTRUCTION CONFERENCE, Feb. 25, 2012, Church of the Ascension, Overland Park KS. Come spend a day with other men from our archdiocese learning how to better live our faith. Men Under Construction 16 is a perfect Lenten investment in your spirituality. Featured speakers include Fr. Larry Richards, who calls it like it is and Steve Ray, an enthusiastic convert helping men learn how to God wants them to live. You will also be able to participate in reconciliation and Eucharistic Adoration with the Archbishop. For more information, contact the parish office or register online at www.ksmuc.org or call 913-302-7530. Reservations being taken for bus transportation from Mother Teresa of Calcutta Church ($18/person), contact John Hurla, 286-2171 for more information.

In the Gospel we hear that Jesus went off to a deserted place to pray; He took the time to refresh his spirit. When was the last time you took time to get away as a couple and renew your relationship? Deepen your communication, strengthen your relationship, rekindle your romance and renew your sacrament by attending the next WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND. The weekend will be held at Savior Pastoral Center in Kansas City, KS on March 2-4, 2012. For more information contact Kyle & Denise Mead (357-5000) or visit the website at www.wwmeneks.com.

THE ACCW WILL HOST A LENTEN RETREAT, Mater Dei-Assumption Church in Topeka, March 10th, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.. For reservations or more information, go to Eventbrite.com or call Susan Draftz at 913-674-6172.

MOST PURE HEART OF MARY CHURCH, TRIVIA NITE, Saturday, March 3rd, 7 p.m., $10/person. Concessions available but you may also bring your own. Contact Jennifer (554-3728 or jowen@mphm.com) to reserve your spot or with any questions. Proceeds to benefit Summerfest 2012.

Divorced? Widowed? BEGINNING EXPERIENCE WEEKEND gently helps people move through the loss of their marriage to a new beginning in their lives. The Beginning Experience Weekend for the Kansas City area is March 9-11, 2012 at The Salvation Army Three Trails Camp and Conference Center in Kansas City, MO. For more information log on to: www.beginningexperience.org or find us on Facebook search: Beginning Experience of Greater Kansas City. For questions or registration material, email BEWeekendKC@hotmail.com or call Kim (816-739-4733) or John (913-219-3465).

MATER DEI IRISH FEST, MARCH 17TH
Come one come all to the first Mater Dei Irish Fest. Celebrate St. Patrick's Day during and after the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade in Downtown Topeka. We'll have Irish food, hamburgers, soda, music and, of course, Irish libations. Spend the day with us and don't forget the GREEN! Join us at Mater Dei Assumption, 8th and Jackson , for an Irish Sing-along at 10 a.m., Mass at 10:30 a.m. Festivities and Beer Garden open after Mass.

INVITING ALL COUPLES

Who: Married Couples
What: Marriage and Family Enrichment
When: March 10, 2012 (and then monthly, every second Saturday
Time: 7—8:15 p.m.
Where: 8th and Jackson (old Assumption School Bldg)
Why: To improve Family and Marriage Relationships

This is NOT a problem solving evening, but an opportunity to look objectively at topics that are a part of almost every marriage. Topics such as communication, disciplining children, forgiveness, religious practices, prayer life, spirituality and many more. NO registration fee. Questions, call Fr. Tom Hesse (887-6276) or Kevin and Karen Mead (266-7573).