

**ST. ANDREW CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER**  
**APRIL 27 - MAY 5, 2018**

Dear Parents,

**Wow! What a night! We certainly had an unbelievable evening at the Gala for St. Andrew Catholic School on Friday!** Everything about the event was wonderful – the setting, the food, the auction items – every detail was well considered and went perfectly from beginning to end. The best part of the evening, of course, was the company! It was so much fun to be able to meet and socialize with so many of you, as well as to gather with the large number of alumni, parishioners and school supporters from our Elk River community. It was very humbling to watch so many give from the heart to help our school community. If you weren't able to attend the event and would like to contribute to this major fundraiser for our school, you are welcome to add to our "Fund a Need" collection by giving a donation.

**Because we just completed the event and have a few expenses yet to reconcile, I'll include the total for the Gala in an upcoming newsletter.** We should have everything in order in a couple of weeks at the latest, and I'll get the totals to you at that time. Suffice it to say that the Gala did very well in earning the necessary dollars for our school. *A debt of gratitude is extended to Lynne Miller, Ben Fisher, Kim Larsen, Nancy Sonntag, Mark and Carin Voigt, Elizabeth Robinson, Brittany Renier, Jen Oblinger, Anna Grotte, Glen and Shawna Kolles, Heidi Robinson, Lori Deters and Steve Gramins. Thanks also to Chris Ambrose for the design of the 2018 Gala logo. A special thank you to first time Gala chairs, John Paul and Melinda Wareham for taking on such a large fundraiser like the Gala, and handling all of the duties with patience and grace. You did a wonderful job! As a school community we can't thank you parents enough for the countless hours and generous service you have given to all of us in putting on an event of this magnitude.* I simply can't find the words to adequately express our deep appreciation and gratitude to all of you who organized, worked, attended or supported this event. Thank you all.

**The video "If You Give A Child A Catholic Education" written and voiced by our own fifth grade students as a retrospective on their years at St. Andrew, will be posted on facebook.** It was a wonderful way to lead into our "fund a need" portion of the program, demonstrating how Catholic education touches our hearts and minds. I hope you like it ... I get teary eyed when I watch it! It is lovely. Thank you, Mr. Johnson, for your skill and expertise in making this annual tribute!

**VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION NIGHT THIS WEEK! All those who volunteer in any way to serve our parish and school will be celebrated with a special dinner in gratitude for your volunteer help. See the details now, listed under Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, and bring the family for a dinner on us! PLEASE COME!**

Please continue to keep us in prayer in the days ahead,  
Ms. Scipioni

**APRIL 30 - MAY 5, 2018**

***Talent Show Audition Applications must be returned this week.***

MONDAY, APRIL 30 -

- Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) Testing begins this week and continues through May 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- **Second Grade parent LUNCH RESERVATIONS ARE DUE TODAY** for Wednesday, May Crowning Mass. We really need your advance reservation for this day. Thanks!

TUESDAY, MAY 1 - May Day!

- Band and Instrument lessons gr. 4
- Call with your reservation for you and your family for dinner at Volunteer Appreciation Night if you haven't yet done so (check out info on 5/3/18).
- **It's May - if you, as parents, are ok with the kids wearing shorts - so are we! Make sure the kids wear long pants on Mass day (Wednesday) and bring their shorts to change into after the service.**

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2-

- **10:00 - MASS - MAY CROWNING! "FIRST COMMUNION" CELEBRATION** - Join the second grade students as they celebrate their First Communion with our school community. The students are invited to wear/change into their First Communion clothes for this special Mass. They will also have a special ceremony to honor Mary, the Mother of Jesus, during this Mass.
- **Second Grade parents are invited to join us for lunch today.** We must have you RSVP your place on/by Monday, April 30. Parent lunches will be charged to the kid's lunch account if you are in attendance.
- Band Concert at Guardian Angels Nursing Home - Our excellent St. Andrew Band will entertain the residents of Guardian Angels this afternoon. This date was just added late last week. Parents consult info from Mr. deR.
- **Ava Nelson "rules the school" as Principal for the Day - a prize purchased at the 2017 Gala! Ms. Nelson will start her day with "door duty" in the morning, and has a great day ahead of her! Watch for an email from Ms. Nelson about the day!**

THURSDAY, MAY 3 -

**VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER - 5:00-6:30 p.m.**

*This is a parish and school event to recognize, celebrate and thank our volunteers for all of your help and assistance throughout the year. Invitations were NOT sent, but all of you who volunteer in one way or another at the school are wholeheartedly encouraged to attend! Know that you are invited and welcome to attend this dinner. Please call Tracy at the parish center (441-1483 x301) to inform her how many members from your family are coming so that we can have plenty of food! COME!*

- Ms. Scipioni and Fr. Mark have a Diocesan Catholic Schools event to attend this morning.
- Band and Instrument lessons grade 5

FRIDAY, MAY 4 -

- **SPIRIT DAY!** Uniform requirements are relaxed today as students and staff are able to wear their St. Andrew Spirit wear.
- The first grade goes to Guardian Angels Nursing Home for Mass today.

SUNDAY, MAY 6 -

- **STUDENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! All students are invited to participate at the 10:30 Mass, where our St. Andrew Kids will lead the congregation in singing praise to our loving and gracious God. Students should wear their best uniforms, and arrive at the church at/around 10:15 to meet in the choir area.**
- Join your parish family and friends for a **delicious breakfast today, served by the Knights of Columbus of St. Andrew Parish.** Bring the family for this all you care to eat buffet, available to you FREE – with a free will offering requested to support Vocations to the Priesthood in our diocese. Breakfast follows all Masses today.

**FIFTH GRADE STUDENT “PUBERTY TALK”**

Chris Codden, representing the Office of Marriage and Family of the Diocese of St. Cloud has been invited to speak **TO PARENTS** of St. Andrew fifth grade students on Monday, May 7th at 6:00 p.m. in the fifth grade classroom. Mrs. Codden will talk about the emotional, physical, spiritual, and relationship changes during puberty; God’s gift of sexual intimacy in marriage, and the miracle of new life and how it develops and enters the world. This same talk will be given **to THE FIFTH GRADE STUDENTS** on Friday, May 11<sup>th</sup>. As a school community, we recognize that parents are the primary educators of their children, and this session is not to replace that responsibility. It is intended to support what you have already taught – or help you in what you are teaching your children. Mrs. Codden is exceptional at this talk, and does it at Catholic schools and faith formation classes throughout the diocese and state. If you have questions about this talk, please contact Ms. Scipioni

**MEASURE OF ACADEMIC PROGRESS TESTING -**

Throughout the month of May we will be completing our academic progress testing for the school year. This testing will be scheduled for each grade at times that are opportune for the kids, and able to fit into scheduled technology. The MAP test is a web based, computer adaptive assessment that will measure a student’s instructional level, as well as track academic growth throughout the school year (year to year as well). MAP tests are unique in that they adapt to the level of difficulty appropriate for the student with each question selected dependent on the correctness of the previous response. Because this test is meant to measure growth

throughout the school year, it is given three times during the year. This is our final testing for 2017-2018.

### **PARENTS PLEASE HELP –**

**All parents are invited and encouraged to assist with the Mass on Wednesday, May 16<sup>th</sup>.** All parents/grandparents/relatives who volunteer will be included in the choir – but those of you who are interested in doing “double duty” will help with the reading, the prayers of petition, greeting, Eucharistic Ministry, etc. We only have one “Parent Assisted Mass” each year, and really appreciate your willingness to assist with this. It is a great example for your kids, and makes Mass scheduling a little easier for us as well. Please contact us to volunteer your services – and plan on being at church at 9:00 on that day for a short practice before Mass.

### **MORE HELP OPPORTUNITIES**

**At this time we are in need of volunteers to assist with Field Day (Fri. May 25).** Check the SignUp Genius Please plan on joining us for that day.

### **SUMMER TACKLE BOX**

It's time to register for our summer vacation childcare program. Mrs. Hipsag has given much time and effort in putting together a summer program for the kids that is fun, entertaining and educational – as well as safe and well supervised. Get your registration form in now if you are interested. Please contact the school office or Mrs. Hipsag with questions.

### **SUMMER TUTORING AND EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS**

If your child's teacher – or you – feel like a little “academic boost” during the summer would make a difference to your child's success in the upcoming 18-19 school year, know that Mrs. Cross is available for summer tutoring this year and parents are invited to directly contact her if you would like to hire her for this service.

### **MAY UPCOMING EVENTS**

**GRADE 3 (and new students in Gr. 4) BAND/INSTRUMENT RECRUITMENT –** All students in grade 3 and 4 not currently taking an instrument lesson will . Parents will be sent information.

**SCHOOL BAND CONCERT! 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup>** (also a concert during the school day ... time to be announced)

**KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION AND MASS – MAY 23<sup>rd</sup> AT 10:00.** This is a lovely liturgy and ceremony assisted by and honoring our Kindergarten students.

**PREKINDERGARTEN GRADUATION AND RECEPTION –** Wednesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00 p.m. in the church. Reception to follow.

**THE TALENT SHOW! Join us on Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup>** for a morning of singing, dancing, joke telling, ninja turtle kicking, hoola-hooping, rope jumping, and all kinds of fun, plan on being in attendance at the Talent Show! The time will be announced, but probably at/near 9:00 a.m. start.

**FIFTH GRADE GRADUATION MASS, CEREMONY AND RECEPTION** – Make plans now to attend the Fifth Grade graduation Mass and ceremony, set for Wednesday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 in the church. A reception will follow for fifth grade family, friends and guests in the cafeteria.