



Liturgical Schedule

Sundays

Saturday Evening Vigil Mass: 5:15 p.m.
Sunday Masses: 8:00, 9:30, 11:30 a.m., and 5:15 p.m.

Weekdays

6:40 a.m. Lauds - Monday through Saturday
7:00 a.m. Mass - Monday through Saturday
5:30 p.m. Mass - Monday through Thursday

Sacraments

Reconciliation

Thursday before First Friday 4:30 – 5:25 p.m.
Tuesday and Thursday 6:30 – 6:55 a.m.
Thursday 5:00 – 5:25 p.m.
Saturday 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
Any time by appointment; please call the Parish Office.

Baptism

First and third Sundays of the month after 11:30 Mass.
To schedule a Baptism, contact a priest at the Parish Office (359-4224).
Before the first child, couples must attend a baptismal program which is normally held the second Sunday of the month. Call Parish Office to arrange. (359-4224)

Marriage

Couples MUST contact a parish priest eight to twelve months before anticipated date of wedding (prior to setting the date) to allow ample time to provide a comprehensive marriage preparation.

Holy Communion for the Sick

The priests and Extraordinary Ministers will bring communion to the sick and shut-in at the hospital or in the home upon request.
Please contact the Parish Office to schedule a visit.

Contact Info

Parish Office & Rectory 359-4224 • Office Fax 359-9846
Parish Office Hours Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Parish Website www.stmatt.net
St. Matthew School 359-4114 • School Fax 359-8319

Just joining us?

Welcome

Newcomers are invited to register at the Parish Office in the Parish Center or online at stmatt.net. We invite you to have your picture taken after any 9:30 a.m. Sunday Mass.

Hospitality

Join us after the 8:00 and 9:30 a.m. Sunday Masses for coffee and donuts in the Great Hall of the Parish Center. (September through May)

Nursery

Childcare is offered during the 9:30 a.m. Sunday Mass in the Nursery located in the Parish Center.

Parish Staff



Msgr. Mark Merdian
Pastor



Rev. Mark Miller
Parochial Vicar



Rev. Robert Lampitt
Parochial Vicar



Kathy Scherer
School Principal



Mary Hazen
Coordinator of Religious Education



Loretta Oakley
**Liturgy Coordinator/
Music Director**

Baptisms



December

Carissa, child of Matthew & Mary Duffy
Elisabeth, child of Jeffrey & Alice Brownfield

January

Ainsley, child of Jeremy & Alison Dirksmeyer
Erin & Brin, children of Andrew & Amy Armstrong
Elijah & Julia, children of Robert & Erin Taylor
Ava, child of Luke & Chris Bronowski

February

Nicolle, child of Mark & Whitney Scifres
Logan, child of Gregory & Stephanie Stortzum
James, child of James & Karen Blatzer

March

William, child of John & Wikolia Alleman
Jaxon, child of Jason & Jennifer Themanson

April

Royce, child of Richard & Sophia D'Mello

New Parishioners

Todd and Erin Benanzer

805 Pheasant Lane • Savoy, IL

Todd works for Caterpillar and Erin works for Carle Hospital.

Jim and Karen Blatzer

Jimmy (16 months)
3909 Aberdeen Dr. • Champaign, IL

Jim is a physician assistant in Convenient Care at Christie Clinic and Karen is the marketing and public relations manager at Christie Clinic.



Paul and Jill Messamore

1606 Oxford Dr. • Champaign, IL

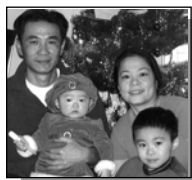
Paul works for Illini FS and Jill works for State Farm in Bloomington.



Phat Nguyen and Tram Tran (Nguyen)

Dustin (5), Emily (1)
607 Luria Lane • Champaign, IL

Phat and Tram own a nail salon in Walmart on Prospect Ave.



Deaths



Antoine Latif, January 6
Anthony Hartman, Jr., January 7
Anita Hamelberg, January 10
Helen Kozikowski, January 22
Phillip Valentine, January 26
Bill Pinkstaff, February 6
Doris Barr, February 7
Robert Trimpe, March 30

Please remember St. Matthew Parish in your Will. Our legal title is St. Matthew Roman Catholic Congregation of Champaign, Illinois. Questions? Contact Ruth Schankin (352-6829).

Patrick and Amy Rouse

George (2)
3806 Englewood Dr. • Champaign, IL

Patrick works for GTPS Insurance Agency and Amy works for Paragon Marketing Group.

Paul and Susana Sumitro

Richter (22), Richard (16), Grace Maria (8)
3210 Countrybend Dr. • Champaign, IL

Paul works for Smart-Structures.



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welcome/milestones



YSYM Growing in Service, Fellowship, & Faith

By David Schug

The Young Singles/Young Married group at St. Matthew has been meeting since early 2004 to enjoy fellowship with one another, to deepen members' spirituality, and to provide service to others. New members continually enter and enrich the group. YSYM currently has about sixty members. There is no age limit, though the majority of participants are between 25 and 40 years old. The group welcomes single men and women, married couples with and without children, those with religious vocations, and divorced, separated, and widowed parishioners.

YSYM schedules about 5-8 activities per month, and members can choose what to participate in. For example, over the last three months, members have examined Pope Benedict's encyclical Caritas in Veritate, provided free childcare for the parish's marriage enrichment day, took a shift serving parishioners at one of the fish fries, and assembled Easter care packages for the Foster Kids program sponsored by Catholic Charities. In the coming months, we will continue our twice monthly prayer groups where we pray a rosary and discuss our faith; our adopt-a-highway cleanup of a stretch of Kirby avenue; and meeting together for dinners, happy hours, and concerts. The group's schedule of activities is online at the St. Matthew website, or interested parishioners may contact **David Schug**

dschug@illinois.edu or 217-403-0807) for more information.



Respect Life Volunteer Opportunities

Do you want to get involved in planning a local pro-life event? Please consider the following: Sunday, July 4 – Champaign Freedom Celebration – Help is needed toward the end of June to construct a pro-life float. Contact Myrna Buyno at 352-1007.

Thursday, October 28 – Father Thomas Euteneuer, President, Human Life International – Help is needed to coordinate a vicariate-wide event. Contact Joy Pace at joypace@msn.com.



2010 Daddy-Daughter Dance

by John Schmitt

St. Matthew held its third annual Daddy-Daughter Dance on Friday, April 16, with over 130 girls and 90 dads dancing to music provided by deejay **Diane Ducey**.



Tim and Nikki Barnes enjoy the chocolate fountain.

Monsignor Merdian kicked off the evening with a prayer and visited with the Dads. **John Rossi** won the Dad limbo contest for the third year running, while **Ryan Hendrickson** and his daughters **Marguerite** and **Frances** won the polka contest in a close decision over the **Payonk** and the **Rossi** families. **Janice Stilger** laid out a beautiful spread of food, which was donated by parish families,



Placid and Mariel Ferreira share a dance.

including a very popular chocolate fountain. **Patsy Schmitt** organized the tissue paper corsage craft. **Marni Boppart** took portrait photos. **Karen Pollard** organized the door prizes, which included DVDs, Webkinz, Zuzu pets, and other donated prizes. Each girl took home a gift bag put together by **Tece Hendrickson** and some great memories.



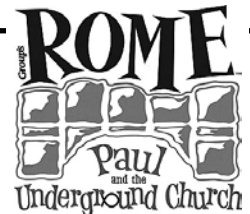
Everyone's favorite song "YMCA."



parish news

Angel Camp Visits Ancient Rome

By John Schmitt



This summer Angel Camp, St. Matthew's summer vacation Bible school, will travel back in time to ancient Rome to visit St. Paul and the members of the early Underground Church.

Angel Camp runs June 21-25 from 9 a.m. – noon each day and is open to any child entering kindergarten through 5th grade. The cost is \$15 per child. The first 200 campers to sign up will receive a music CD of all the songs from the camp.

Angel Camp will include games, snacks, music, crafts, and Bible lessons. Each day, groups will join in Extollo Music (Latin for "Praise"), visit St. Paul and the Underground Church, play Gladiator Games, and go to the Roman Marketplace, where they will get a snack and learn about daily life in ancient Rome.

We are in need of volunteer counselors. Adults and youths 6th grade and above can volunteer. High School of St. Thomas More students can earn service hours for volunteering.

We are also in need of various supplies and props: food, wicker baskets, unbreakable statuary and columns, and other Roman-looking items.

See the registration form at: www.stmatt.net or call **Mary Hazen** at 359-4224 with any questions. Don't miss what promises to be our best Angel Camp yet.



What's in a Label: Open Dating & Food Safety



Are you confused about the labels found on various foods? "Sell By," "Best If Used By," or "Use By" labels evoke some confusing thoughts as to the safety of these foods. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Safety Inspection Service offers some advice to decipher or better understand product labeling. In the United States, there is no standard, uniform, or universally accepted system used for food-dating classification. Most companies currently use a system called open dating. Open dating uses calendar dates rather than a code on the food package to help the store determine the length of display time for product sale. Its purpose is NOT designed as a safety date.

These open-dating terms are defined as follows:

"Sell By" – the date the store can display the product for sale. Buy the product before this expiration date.

"Best If Used By/Before" – this date is recommended for best flavor or quality. It is NOT a purchase or safety date.

"Use By" – this date is the last day recommended for use of the product while at peak quality. The product manufacturer determines this date.

The USDA offers selected guidelines for food safety, a purpose of the open dating system:

Purchase the product before the "Sell By" date. If you find any expired items on store shelves, report it to the store manager.

If perishable, refrigerate food immediately after purchase. Refrigerator temperature should be at 40 degrees or below for fresh or uncooked products.

Freeze the food if you don't plan to use it immediately. Consult the USDA Guidelines for exact food storage times.



Other selected general tips to promote food safety and avoid what could end in serious illness include:

Perishable foods such as eggs can cause illness when improperly handled.

Eggs, with clean, uncracked shells may still harbor Salmonella bacteria. Remember to cook eggs thoroughly to kill any resident bacteria. **DO NOT** eat raw eggs or sauces made with raw eggs.

Handwashing (especially after handling raw products such as chicken)

Wash your hands with warm water and soap for at least 20 seconds (about the length of time it takes to sing Happy Birthday). Remember, infection protection is in your hands. The hands may be the transmitter of as many as 80% of all infections. Don't risk contamination through a food source.

Meat Juices and Cutting Boards

Wash your cutting board, counter tops, and utensils with hot soapy water before using it for another food product. You may want to consider a separate cutting board to be used only for raw meat, chicken, and fish. Of course, always wash this separate board after each use. When wiping up juices from meat, eggs, poultry, raw seafood, etc., use paper towels and then dispose of them in the trash.

Defrosting Meats

Defrost meats in the refrigerator or in the microwave, never on the countertop.

Remember, you can't see, taste, or smell bacteria, but it may be present in food and will multiply in warm, moist conditions. If you suspect a food might be bad, don't taste it. It's not worth the risk. ***If in doubt, throw it out!***

For more tips on safe food handling and storage, go to <http://www.foodsafety.gov>.

Courtesy of a collaborative effort of the Parish Nurse Ministries of St. Matthew Catholic Church and the Central Christian Church, Danville.



Building a Culture of Life: Sex in the City of God

by Mary Eppich, Respect Life Ministry

As Catholics, we believe that God has a plan for us, and that plan includes our human sexuality. Part of that plan is the virtue of Chastity.

Chastity is an all-inclusive, positive way to view our sexuality. Chastity includes God's plan for our heart, mind, emotions, and physical well-being.

So, what exactly is Chastity? Jason Evert, in a publication entitled *Pure Love*, offers the following definition:

Chastity is a virtue (like courage or honesty) that applies to a person's sexuality. It means that you take all of your sexual desires and order them according to the demands of real love. For example, when you love a person, you make whatever sacrifice is best for them and you do whatever is necessary to keep from harming them. Chastity means that you take this definition of love and apply it to sex.

Some think that chastity simply means "no sex." But that's abstinence: focusing on what you can't do and can't have. Chastity is what you can do and can have, right now: a lifestyle that brings freedom, respect, peace, and even romance—without regret. Chastity frees a couple from the selfish attitude of using each other as objects, thus making them capable of true love.

Chastity is a way of life. Like all virtues, it is a guiding principle, imbued with the grace of God. It provides a framework for making choices.

Both married and single people can benefit from the virtue of Chastity. Chastity is the virtue of understanding and respecting sex to such a great degree that one keeps it in the appropriate time and place, which is within Marriage.

All of us have ample opportunity to demonstrate the virtue of Chastity. It is evident in the way we talk, in the companions we choose, in the entertainments we pursue, in the clothes we wear and the way we wear them.

Chastity means making choices that make us beautiful to everyone, especially God.

If we have Chastity, it shows that we value our human sexuality, and it teaches other people to value theirs. In God's City, chaste sex is part of God's plan. Catholics who embrace the virtue of Chastity hold the key to building a greater Culture of Life.

For more discussion about the virtue of chastity, especially as it relates to dating, visit: www.reapteam.org/abstinence-vs-chastity.

Pure Love by Jason Evert, *Catholic Answers*, 2003 can be found at: www.catholic.com/chastity/pure_love.asp.



Prayers Needed During Year For Priests

By Fr. James King

Priests are special objects of the devil's temptation.

At the beginning of every Lent we recall how Christ was led into the desert to be tempted by the devil. We shouldn't be surprised if those who carry on the works of Christ – *the priests of the church* – are also special objects of the devil's temptation.

The following is a list of some of the temptations that priests face. They may come to a priest from the devil, the world, or through his own human weakness, but they all have the effect when he falls prey to one of them of rendering his work for God less fruitful.

As you read these temptations you yourself may be tempted – tempted to pass judgment on a priest or priests you may know. But our Lord teaches us not to judge so that we will not be judged. If it seems that a particular priest (or any person) has fallen to temptation, the best thing we can do in most cases is simply to pray for him, mindful that we too have sinned.

Some of the temptations a priest may experience include:

- The temptation to believe (usually somewhat unconsciously) that he was called to the priesthood by God because of his worthiness or virtues.
- The temptation to think that he is personally better than others because he represents God and the church.
- The temptation to see priesthood as a career ladder on which by climbing higher he can satisfy his own personal ambition.
- The temptation to look at the priesthood simply as a career that he looks forward to retiring from so he can pursue his own interests and pleasures.
- The temptation to so identify himself with his role as a leader in the church that he stops thinking of himself as a disciple of Jesus Christ also.
- The temptation to become discouraged or even despair because of mistakes, personal failures, or because his ministry seems to have borne little fruit.
- The temptation to give himself over too much to secondary or unnecessary concerns and neglect his primary duty as a priest – working for the salvation and sanctification of souls.
- The temptation to think of his priestly ministry more as his work than God's, and to think of his parish as belonging more to himself than to Christ and the church.
- The temptation to be preoccupied with the financial affairs of his parish (like the amount of the Sunday collection).
- The temptation to avoid preaching or teaching on, mentioning or distributing information about, the moral teachings of the church which are countercultural.
- The temptation to focus solely or almost exclusively on liturgical and church matters and to neglect practicing or communicating to others the social teachings of the church.
- The temptation to change the atmosphere in church from a reverent place of individual and communal worship into a social hall.
- The temptation to neglect his friendship with God and pray very little, if at all.
- The temptation to do no voluntary penance (even small penances) either out of laziness or because he thinks his life is already penitential enough.
- The temptation to be unfaithful in keeping his vow of celibacy to God.
- If one were ever unconvinced of the importance of praying for priests, one need only to consider the multitude of ways in which priests face temptation to be quickly convinced of the need. During the season of Lent, in this Year for Priests, may God hear all the prayers we offer for His priests. May He protect priests and deliver them from temptation.



Reprinted with permission from the Catholic Post.

Father King is a priest of the Diocese of Peoria on leave of absence for health reasons.



On the Shelf Selections from our St. Lawrence Library

True Devotion to Mary **St. Louis De Montfort**

Translated by Fr. Frederick Faber

This inspiring book explains the wonderful spiritual effects which true devotion to Mary brings about in a person's life. True devotion provides the key to sanctity and to salvation.

Praying in the Presence of Our Lord with **Fulton J. Sheen**

Michael Dubruiel

Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen spent one hour every day for 60 years with Our Lord in Adoration. He preached constantly about the spiritual benefits of spending time with Jesus. Drawn from the timeless writings of Archbishop Sheen, Michael Dubruiel leads us through a series of meditations on drawing closer to Our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Marriage is Love Forever

Rev. James Socias

This comprehensive book answers questions about love and marriage based on the teachings of the Catholic Church on the Sacrament of Marriage.

The Miracle of Life – NOVA **(VHS)**

This Emmy-award winning film documents a life in great detail from the moment of conception through the miracle of birth. A truly amazing video.

The Bible From Scratch, Catholic Edition **A Lightning Tour From Genesis to** **Revelations**

Simon Jenkins

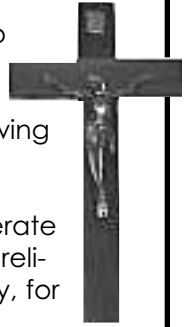
This guide to the Bible uses cartoons, maps, speech bubbles, and family trees to make the Bible more understandable and accessible to everyone.



Traveling Crucifix

St. Matthew Parish would like to invite your family to participate in a prayerful activity designed to support, to learn about, and to promote Vocations.

On the second Sunday of each month, a family may volunteer to attend the 9:30 a.m. Mass, to pick up and care for the **Traveling Crucifix Kit** for the following week.



The program is designed to generate family prayer, to learn about the religious life, and to pray, as a family, for vocations to the Church.

On the following Sunday, you are asked to return the Traveling Crucifix and materials included. Your family may, if you wish, bring forward the Offertory Gifts at Mass.

Please contact **Liz and Keith White**, (white.liz@sbcglobal.net or 398-4872) to arrange a week for your family to participate. This special family ministry opportunity is sponsored by the St. Matthew Parish Vocations Committee.

NURSERY HELP WANTED

9 – 11 a.m.

First Wednesdays

The Respect Life Ministry is helping out in the Parish Nursery while the Mom-Tots moms meet.

Qualifications include a lap and a smile and availability on one or more first Wednesdays.

Contact Mary Eppich @ 352-4549

CATHOLIC TRIVIA

1. What is the liturgical color most often associated with Ascension Day in the Western Church?
 - a. Purple
 - b. White
 - c. Red
 - d. Green
2. Is the Feast of the Ascension always observed on the 40th day after Easter?
 - a. No, sometimes it is kept on the 7th Sunday of Easter.
 - b. Yes, as this is the historically accurate date.
 - c. No, sometimes it is celebrated on June 15.
 - d. No, sometimes it is kept on the 49th day after Easter.
3. According to the Book of Exodus, where did Moses receive the Ten Commandments?
 - a. Mount of Olives
 - b. Mount Ararat
 - c. Mount Sinai
 - d. Mount Carmel
4. The Ten Commandments are recorded in which two books of the Bible?
 - a. Exodus and Genesis
 - b. Deuteronomy and Leviticus
 - c. Deuteronomy and Numbers
 - d. Exodus and Deuteronomy
5. What does "Catholic" mean?
 - a. Revealed
 - b. Universal
 - c. Ancient
 - d. Apostolic

Answers

1. b. White
2. a. No, sometimes it is kept on the 7th Sunday of Easter.
3. c. Mount Sinai
4. d. Exodus and Deuteronomy
5. b. Universal. Catholic means universal in Greek. It is called Catholic because it includes all people, of every race, language, and culture.

Fazio Earns Parvuli Dei Medal

St. Matthew 3rd grader **Griffin Fazio** received his Parvuli Dei Medal at Scout Sunday. The purpose of the Parvuli Dei (Children of God) emblem is to help young boys explore a wide range of activities in order to discover the presence of God in their daily lives as members of their families and parishes, and also to develop a good, positive self-image through the contributions they can make to the group or community.



things to know





things to know

Parish Voice is Going Green



In an effort to cut costs and lessen our impact on the environment, the **Parish Voice** will be published electronically beginning in September. The Parish Voice will still have the same great articles and pictures you've come to expect but it will come in your email inbox instead of your post office box. Issues will be published in a PDF format that allows for printing at home or reading on-line. For those of you who don't use email, a paper copy of the Voice will be mailed out. If you would like to receive a paper copy instead of an electronic copy, contact **Debbie Benz** at 359-4224. If you have any questions or concerns about our Go Green initiative, please feel free to contact **Julie O'Mahoney**, joolie64@yahoo.com.



Go Green

Together we can make a difference.

Girl Scout Troop Earns Family of God Medal

14 of 17 girls from St. Matthew 3rd grade Girl Scout Troop 2570 lead by **Cindy Brya** earned their Family of God medal. In a ceremony held on Scout Sunday the girls were presented this medal by **Monsignor Merdian** and **Father Lampitt**. The scouts earning this medal are: **Sophia Behrensmeier, Heidi Brya, Dianna Boyer, Jessica Crane, Teagan DeLorenzo, Dana Hergenrother, Makayla Horn, Maeve Kirby, Abby Leibach, Hailey Olson, Kennedy Record, Hannah Shields, Melissa Vendal, and Lia Znaniecki.**

The religious emblems programs are awards programs for scouts in the **GSUSA, BSA, Cub Scouts** and other campfire association members. The programs are developed and promoted by the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry for the girls (*they are in the process of changing to the Catholic Committee on Girl Scouting*) and by the USCCB for the boys. These awards are recognized as important achievements by the Scouting organizations.



Parish Reflection Day – May 16, 2010

Please plan to attend the **Parish Reflection Day** on Sunday, May 16 from 2:00–4:00 p.m. in the Great Hall. This is an opportunity to share ideas and suggestions about the ways in which Christ's mission is being carried out in and through this parish. How do you think this is being done? In what areas can this be improved? We, as a parish community, can help answer these questions. Light refreshments will be served and childcare will be provided. If you have questions, please contact **Jane Walsh** in the parish office, jwalsh@stmatt.net or 359-4224. Registration forms can be put in the box marked "Parish Reflection Day" in the church vestibule.

SPaRk!

Hey teens! Looking for a new place to hang out with friends?

Here's a list of our upcoming **SPaRk!** events:

X-TREME Mixer for area jr. high youth groups
Friday, May 14th, from 7–10 p.m. in the Great Hall at St. Matthew
A free, fun-filled night of games, music by indie-rock band **"The Abuse,"** taco and drink bar, and **illusions** by **Andrew**.

SPaRk! End of the Year Social

Monday, June 14th at St. Matthew
We'll say adios to our great 8th graders and welcome incoming 7th graders.
Come and meet our new high school youth group leaders **Morgan and Jason Schreder**. Watch the bulletin for more information.

The **SPaRk!** youth group is open to all 7th and 8th grade kids of St. Matthew parish. Please contact **Mary Knight**, mary.knight@mchsi.com or Jennifer Clarke, jenniferandjohnc@sbcglobal.net for more information.

Be the **SPaRk!** that starts the fire for the good news of God!

"If you are what you should be, you will set the whole world on fire. Let the truth be your delight...proclaim it...with a certain kindness"
Saint Catherine of Siena



things to know

Raising Funds for a Good Cause

St. Matthew collected \$461 for the American Heart Association on "Go Red for Women" day.



Helping Haiti

St. Matthew raised a total of \$5369.03 to aid the victims of the devastating earthquake in Haiti.

The Parish Voice

The Parish Voice is a quarterly publication of St. Matthew Roman Catholic Parish in Champaign, Illinois. It is produced by volunteers and staff. All content is subject to approval by the Pastor, Monsignor Mark Merdian. Editor is Julie O'Mahoney. Graphic Designer is Michelle Haug. Staff and ministry contributors include Debbie Benz, Linda Ross, Jane Walsh, Mary Hazen, Monsignor Mark Merdian, Father Mark Miller, and Father Robert Lampitt, and the Parish Nurses. Production staff includes Barb Davis, Mary Eppich, Marcy Bellafiore, Ruta Rauber, and Kristin Wetzel. Mailing is prepared by the hands of many angels. All parishioners are welcome to submit article ideas, help research and write articles, and contribute photographs. Please address all comments to The Parish Voice at the Parish Office or email Julie O'Mahoney at joolie64@yahoo.com

If you would prefer not to receive this newsletter or are receiving multiple copies, please contact the Parish Office.



THE HIGH SCHOOL OF

SAINT THOMAS MORE

Congratulations!

school news

The St Thomas More Math Team won the ICTM Math Regional Competition for the second year in a row, winning three out of the last four years.

The STM Scholastic Bowl ended the season in 2nd place in the Conference and earned 4th place at the Regionals. Congratulations to **Patrick Ahasic** who was named to the 1st Team All-Conference, to **Clint Coulter** who made 2nd Team All-Conference, and to **Trevor Schmutz** who received Honorable Mention.

Hinders and Telthorst Win Good Citizens Award

Seniors **Regina (Gina) Hinders** and **Justin Telthorst** received the 2010 Good Citizens Award. Winners are selected by both faculty and classmates to honor those who best exemplify the qualities of leadership, dependability, service, and patriotism in school, home, and the community. They were honored at a joint DAR and SAR luncheon at the Champaign Country Club.

Winter Sports Recap

The STM girls' varsity basketball team ended a 24-6 year by winning the Class 2A Regional against their Sangamon Valley Conference rival Paxton-Buckley-Loda. Senior **Maggie Fitzgerald** was named All-State First Team (1A/2A) by the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association, and was named to the News-Gazette All-Area Girls' Basketball First Team. Senior **Gina Hinders** made the All-Area Second Team, senior **Brittany Einck** received All-Area Special Mention, and sophomore **Lisa Clarkson** received Honorable Mention.

The STM boys' varsity basketball team enjoyed a winning season, making it to the Class 2A Regional finals before losing to Unity.

Senior wrestler **Nathan Santhanam** set a new STM school record for career wins. Santhanam placed 4th in the Class 1A IHSA State Wrestling Championship, ending his season at 38 and 6. Santhanam will be attending West Point in the fall.

GR-R-Reat Saber Raffle

Congratulations to all the winners of this year's GR-R-Reat Saber Raffle held during the Spring Gala on April 17th. **Paul Lewis** was the Grand Prize Winner of \$15,000. **Russ Stewart** won \$5000, **Tom Clarkson** won \$2500, and **Jon Shiota** won \$1000. Check the STM website for a complete listing of all of the live and silent auction winners! The money that was raised will be used to buy a bus for the high school. Thank you to everyone involved in making the Spring Gala and raffle so successful.

The **2010 Spring Gala, "Lives of Legacy,"** was a memorable 10th anniversary celebration. The evening kicked off with a private reception for the STM Founding Fathers, alumni and alumni parents who began it all—the Classes of 2003-2005. Under the direction of **Nick Stefanic** and **Amy Stocha**, STM music and drama students performed a fantastic musical review. **Steve Kachaturian** served as an enthusiastic emcee for the evening as guests bid on many exciting, useful, and just plain fun items in the live and silent auctions. Gala guests had an opportunity to purchase commemorative brick pavers to be a part of the Saber Trail. Twelve trees honoring the classes from 2003 to the incoming class of 2014 were among the items guests could bid on. The trees will be planted on school grounds with a commemorative granite rock and nameplate. This special anniversary event honored the founding fathers of St Thomas More and showed that support and generosity for our Catholic high school continues to grow.



Congratulations!

Congratulations to the St. Matthew Science Olympiad team on their 1st place finish in the Regionals and their 2nd place finish in the State Science Olympiad. Team members include: **Mara Fallon, Katie Gillette, John Walker, Frank Kelly, Dom Corso, Ian Gidcomb, Maggie O'Mahoney, Aidan Reilly, Jack Johnston, Tim Ayers, Thomas Hazelwood, Will Vavrin, Charlie Hergenrother, Mitchell Flanagan, Connor Aubry, and Matthew Bamert.**



Congratulations to our St. Matthew Geography Bee winners:
John Walker – 1st pl, **Connor Aubry** – 2nd pl ,
Dom Corso and **Alex Yeazel** – 3rd pl.

Lenten Projects 2010

St. Matthew School held a Lenten F.A.S.T. (Festival of Art, Service, and Talent) show during the last week of Lent. Seventh grade students presented Shadow Stations of the Cross at the church. Five Minute Musicals based on great stories from the Bible were performed by the third, fourth, fifth, and sixth grade classes under the direction of **Sister Mary George**. Class service projects were on display in the Great Hall. Art pieces created by the students and jewelry made by the art club were available for purchase. The proceeds from this event were sent to the orphanage in Tanzania where Erick, our sponsored student, lives. This money will help provide a water system for the school. In addition, each classroom collected money in alms jars to help our school Sisters' order with their missionary work.



Scenes from the Hall
 Catholic Schools Week
 The Tradition of St. Matthew School: Values to Last a Lifetime



7th Grade Girls Volleyball
 From left to right: *Brittany Freuhling, Nikki O'Neill, Sophie Herr, Lexi Wallen, Lauren Murray, Caroline Hopper, Olivia Atkins, Laura Vendal, Emma Asklund, Grace Lamb, Maggie O'Mahoney, Samatha Hayek, Ellie Knox, Allison Wisniewski, Mary Kate Mulcahey, Coach Ruth Paunika.* In front: *Nikki Bilger, Katie Sloniger.*



Congratulations to our seventh grade girls' volleyball team on winning Regionals and Sectionals.



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Graced by the sacraments
and strengthened by
our faith in the Trinity,
St. Matthew Roman Catholic
Parish celebrates its mission:
to educate and form our
children and all members
of our parish family
to know, love, and serve
God and community.