



# St. John The Baptist Catholic School Newsletter

November 25, 2009

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St. John's website: [www.stjohns-savage.org](http://www.stjohns-savage.org)  
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Articles due by noon Monday for Wednesday publication  
to Mike Smalley at [mmsmalley@stjohns-savage.org](mailto:msmalley@stjohns-savage.org).

## Mrs. Behnke's Corner

### What Thanksgiving means to students at St. John's!

Last week I got to interview a few students about Thanksgiving! I interviewed Evey Bartsch, Ryan Hietpas, Luke Kempf, and Samantha Nelson. Every year Evey stays at home and has family come over, she said she has a "huge dinner"! Her little brother likes to stuff a whole piece of pumpkin pie in his mouth, yummy! She thinks Thanksgiving is saying thanks to God for everything He has given us! Ryan hangs with his family and his Grandma and Grandpa come over. He loves to eat the turkey! What Thanksgiving means to him is giving thanks! Luke watches football and eats a lot of turkey. He thinks Thanksgiving is about family coming together. Samantha goes out to eat, and eats turkey. She thinks Thanksgiving is about caring for people and thinking of them. They all love Thanksgiving and I hope everyone will have a fun Thanksgiving. Eat a lot while remembering the true meaning of the holiday!

Molly grade 8

## Upcoming Events

### November

- 26 - NO SCHOOL - Happy Thanksgiving
- 27 - NO SCHOOL
- 29 - Advent Begins
- 30 - Advent Service 10:50 in church

### December

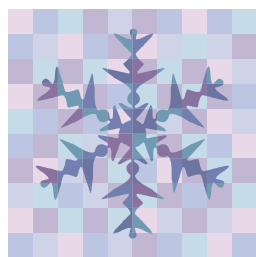
- 1 - SAC, 7pm
- 2 - RE
- 3 - Mass, 9:25am
- 3 - Winterfest, 6pm
- 4 - St. Nicholas Day
- 4 - End of 1st Trimester
- 6 - Children's Shopping Spree
- 7 - Advent Service 10:50 in church
- 8 - LATE START, 11:15am
- 8 - Mass, 2:30pm, Immaculate Conception
- 9 - RE, Large Gathering
- 13 - Barnes & Noble/Home & School Fundraiser
- 14 - Advent Service
- 14 - Home & School Mtg., 7:30pm
- 14 - Davanni's Night
- 15 - Christmas Concert, 7pm  
Grades 2, 3, and 5
- 16 - Preschool Field Trip to Stages
- 17 - Mass, 9:25am
- 17 - Preschool Christmas Program
- 20 - Parish Penance Service, 2pm
- 21 - Advent Service

### Christmas Break

**December 23, 2009 - January 1, 2010**

January

- 4 - School Resumes



### Savage Winterfest

Join us at Savage Winterfest Thursday, December 3 from 5 - 8 pm. Our 5th graders will be welcoming Santa at 6:00pm in song at The Depot, downtown Savage with tree lighting at 6:15pm. Enjoy many other fun festivities throughout the evening.

### From Mrs. Piquette

My most sincere gratitude to the many families who sent cards and prayer-filled expressions of sympathy upon the death of my mother. It was a heart-filled gesture at a difficult time.

God Bless you, Mrs. Kate Piquette

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## *The Fourth Grade Feast*

A huge thank you to all our parent volunteers who helped make our annual Fourth Grade Thanksgiving Feast a huge success. Your time and dedication is truly appreciated. May you and your family be blessed with a Thanksgiving that is filled with joy and love.

God bless,  
Your Fourth Grade Friends



### **"In Everything Give Thanks"**

The 4th grade Thanksgiving feast is complete and had good reviews by those who participated.

Jason Miller said "We learned about Thanksgiving while we had fun."

There were 8 different stations to take some time at and learn what it was like at the first Thanksgiving. The students were divided into a pilgrim group or an Indian group and were able to "dress up" like their character. Other stations were the kitchen, prayer, table manners, Thanksgiving bingo, place mat making, crafts and butter making. For the meal they each enjoyed turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, stuffing, cranberries, snicker bar fruit salad, pumpkin bars, sweet potato pie and sweet rolls.

-Nicole M. 7th grade



## ***Thanksgiving Food Drive***

Thank you for your generosity. The school donated 1,221 pounds of food to the CAP Agency. Plus 27 needy families received Thanksgiving Baskets during our drive.

## ***Student Service Council***



***2009 Toy Drive!!***



***November 30<sup>th</sup> - December 9<sup>th</sup>***



***Bring a gift to school for a child the same age and gender as you or your child.***



***Please leave gifts unwrapped.***



***(Please bring what you would buy for you or your child)***

***Bring in toys to celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary!***

## ***Ski Club News***

Ski Club registrations are currently being accepted for the winter season. Students grades 3 to 8 are invited to participate in this extra curricular activity. Forms and Welcome letter were sent via email on Wednesday, Nov. 18. They are available on our website [www.stjohns-savage.org](http://www.stjohns-savage.org) for download. Any questions please contact Jane Hurinenko at 952-892-7664 or [hurinenko6@msn.com](mailto:hurinenko6@msn.com).

## ***Library News***

The Library would like to thank the following families for their recent donations:

Amelia and Ellissa Kapusinski  
Jake Morris  
The Brickwig Family  
The Schafer Family

The Nunne Family  
Clare Williams  
The Lerick Family  
Lucas Lesser

The Diedrick Family  
Richie Diedrick  
The Voxland Family

## ***Christmas at the Academy***

It's become a holiday tradition! Enjoy holiday carols and music by candlelight during *Christmas at the Academy* on Wednesday, December 16, at 7 p.m. at the Academy of Holy Angels. There is no admission charge for *Christmas at the Academy*, but a freewill donation is accepted. The Concert Choir, Academy Singers and Praise Group will perform with instrumentalists in the Holy Angels chapel. After refreshments, the audience will move to the theater for the Academy Jazz Band and Concert Band performances followed by a holiday sing along.

## ***Holy Angels to present Star Child***

***Show dates are December 4 and 5***

Begin your holiday season with a performance of *Star Child*—a celebration of the season in music and words, featuring the music of David Haas. *Star Child* is presented by the students at the Academy of Holy Angels (AHA) and its Starlight Productions theater company. Holy Angels is located at 6600 Nicollet Avenue S., Richfield. *Star Child* is a one-hour show perfect for every member of the family. Public performances are Friday, December 4, at 7 p.m. and Saturday, December 5, at 4 and 7 p.m. General admission tickets are \$5. Neighboring elementary schools will receive special invitations to one of two Friday, December 4, matinee performances. For more information, call 612-798-2612.



## Faith Community News



### **ADVENT-ure into the Season**

Everyone is invited to celebrate the Season of Advent on Friday, Dec. 4, from 7-9pm, in the parish center. There will be a variety of activities for all ages including creating an Advent wreath from live greenery. Cost is \$10 per family. Pre-registration is required; a minimum of 10 families is required for this event to occur. Registration forms are available on-line at [www.stjohns-savage.org](http://www.stjohns-savage.org) and in the atrium or parish and education offices.

*\*\*Adults, teens and Confirmation candidates who are looking for a great service opportunity are welcome to volunteer to help younger participants at activity stations. To learn more about St. John's ADVENT-ure or to volunteer, contact Andi Little at [alittle@stjohns-savage.org](mailto:alittle@stjohns-savage.org) or call 952.890.9434.*

### **Steve Angrisano in concert at LIFELINE**

Steve Angrisano is an internationally known Catholic musician, songwriter and witness. He will be in concert at NET Ministries LIFELINE on Saturday, Dec. 5. Meet at door #1 at 4:30 pm. (LIFELINE doors open at 5:30pm) with planned return to St. John's by 11 pm. The concert will be part of an evening which also includes Mass and presentation by Fr. Nels Gjengdahl. **Tickets are required for this event.** Cost if registered before Nov. 23 is \$10 per person; after Nov. 23 cost is \$20 per person. Depending on the number of people attending, a bus may be reserved at an additional cost of \$5 per person; otherwise, transportation to and from West St. Paul will be by car. Adult chaperones also are needed!

Registration materials are available on-line at [www.stjohns-savage.org](http://www.stjohns-savage.org) and in the education office. For more information contact Lori Taormina at [taormina@stjohns-savage.org](mailto:taormina@stjohns-savage.org) or 952.890.9434.

*\*Adult chaperones need to have completed a background check and VIRTUS training. If carpools are to be used, all driver/chaperones also must have completed a driver's check. To check on your status or to get background check materials, contact Tracy Tredinnick at [tredinnick@stjohns-savage.org](mailto:tredinnick@stjohns-savage.org) or call 952.890.9465, ext. 118.*

### **Children's Shopping Spree**

Children in grades 6 and under, here's your chance to shop for mom, dad, brothers, sisters, grandmas and grandpas at great prices. It's the Children's Shopping Spree. Mark your calendar for Sunday, Dec. 6, from 8am-12:30pm, in the parish center. Gifts are priced from \$.50 cents to \$3.50. Santa's helpers will assist the young shoppers in choosing their gifts. We are in need of adult volunteers that are VIRTUS trained to supervise tables during the Children's Shopping Spree. If you can share a few hours of your time, contact Lori Kapusinski by e-mail at [kapusins@integraonline.com](mailto:kapusins@integraonline.com) or by phone at 952.226.5372. Donations of new items, cash or nicely handcrafted items may be brought to the parish or education offices.

### **Schwan's Fundraiser**

Starting Sunday, Nov. 22 at Turkey Bingo, St. John's parishioners, their friends and family members can order holiday delights such as seasonal pies and hors d'oeuvres for their Christmas parties and celebrations from Schwan's and help raise money to help us create a Vacation Bible School experience for the children of our sister parish, Immaculate Heart of Mary, in Houston, Miss. Order forms and catalogs, which include a wide variety of seasonal specials as well as traditional Schwan's favorites, are available in the atrium and parish and education offices. Pre-orders will be taken until noon, Monday, Dec. 14 for guaranteed delivery on Wednesday, Dec. 16. The Schwan's fundraising truck will be in the church parking lot from 4 to 7 pm, Wednesday, Dec. 16. At that time, you also may purchase items without pre-orders then, but some items may be limited. No payment is due until delivery is made. Schwan's also offers the opportunity to purchase gift cards for family, friends and others as a perfect gift for those "hard-to-buy-for" people on your Christmas giving list. This year, Schwan's also is offering a special calendar for purchase for \$7.99 which contains coupon savings of over \$150. For more information or to place a Schwan's order for IHM VBS, contact Andi Little at [alittle@stjohns-savage.org](mailto:alittle@stjohns-savage.org) or call (952)890-9434.

### **Operation Christmas Child**

Confirmation candidates and young people in our school and religious education programs will be going to the Operation Christmas Child packing center at a variety of times in the next few weeks. All parishioners are more than welcome to pack a shoe box for OCC -- for a girl or a boy who may have never experienced the joy of receiving a gift -- and our teens will bring them to the center on their packing dates. To learn more about Operation Christmas Child and what to pack in a box, visit: [www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org) or pick up a flyer in the Education Office. Packed shoe boxes should be brought to the Education Office no later than Wednesday, Dec. 2, to ensure they are ready for overseas delivery. To learn more, call (952)890-9434.

### **December Adult CCD features An Evening of Advent Reflection**

Celebrate the joyful anticipation of the Advent season with an evening of reflection facilitated by Lori Dahlhoff, musician, teacher and catechesis specialist on the Archdiocesan parish services team, on Sunday, Dec. 6, from 6:30-8pm in the atrium. Lori works to build bridges between the richness of people's daily lives and the banquet of the Catholic Tradition. Adult CCD (Catholicism, Coffee and Dessert) is hosted by members of St. John's Adult Faith Formation Committee. There is no cost to attend and everyone is welcome. There is no cost to attend and everyone is welcome.