# Principal’s News

Dear St. Matthew Catholic School Families,

**Advent Activities**

As Christmas approaches, family traditions and activities take on a special meaning. I was actually very surprised to see very few hands go up last Monday when I asked “how many of you lit the first candle on the Advent Wreath?” Lighting the candles on the wreath was a highlight of our family’s Sunday dinners.

Growing up in France, my mom always made sure we had a “crèche” or, in Spanish, “un nacimiento”. At school each student was assigned a figure of a little sheep and as the season progressed, the figure was advanced closer and closer to the crèche so that by the last day of school, kids that behaved were close to the manger.

An Advent calendar was also part of our childhood activities. I used to love the ones with a chocolate or candy behind every door.

The point of all of this is the importance of reminding our children of the importance of the season of Advent as one of “waiting and preparing”. Everything around us is conspiring to make us forget this and celebrate Christmas “right now.” However, as Catholics, we realize the importance of “getting ready” and all of these activities (or some of your own) help children learn how important this is.

Won’t you start some of your own? Blessings,

***Mrs. McGowan***

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***SCHOOL NEWS***

Next week, Americans throughout our country celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Since it is on a Thursday this year, the school will adjust the weekly schedule in order to celebrate Our Mother during an 8:15 a.m. mass. The parish is also sponsoring several activities on the Eve of the celebration, and our own “littlest matachines” will be taking part on both days. See the flier for the parish activities and plan on joining us for mass on the 12th.

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Advent 2013

ST. Matthew Catholic School

Principal, Mrs. McGowan

Dean of Discipline, Mr. Guerra

Assistant Principal for Curriculum and Instruction: Ms. Koontz

Office Manager: Mrs. Bracy

Registrar: Mrs. Slis



### St. Matthew Catholic School

Rev. Raymond Ritari, Pastor

December 6, 2013

Volume 5, Issue

Wednesday, December 11: Happy Birthday, Ms. Koontz

NO LOYOLA PROJECT/study hall UNTIL JANUARY 21, 2014

Thursday, December 12: 8:15 a.m. Mass honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Tuesday, December 17: field trip, December VIP’s. “let’s go to the movies!” Cost: $5.00 plus snacks

Thursday, December 19: 1:00 p.m. dismissal, 6:30 p.m. Christmas Pageant in the church

*Christmas Vacation begins!*

Friday, December 20: “Happy Birthday, Mrs. Slis!”

Saturday, December 28: “Happy Birthday, Mrs. Portillo!”

Friday, December 30: “Happy Birthday, Mr. Bradley!”

Monday, January 6, 2013: School resumes.

LOOKING AHEAD

Thursday, January 9, 6:30 p.m. Kinder-Fourth Grade Parent Meeting. Come hear more about our dual-language program with our Boston College mentor, Sra. Ladas. EVERY FAMILY needs to be represented at this meeting



# This Month’s Highlights

#  Katzin Classical Music Composers:

Throughout the balance of December: Christmas Carols from all over the world



**School Board and Parent “corner”**

Saint Matthew Catholic School has a “Facebook Page” titled “Saint Matthew Catholic School”. This is a perfect page to “friend” as we are trying to keep it updated with school events and pictures. Parents can also leave messages for staff and even post available services. We see it as an excellent source for networking among school families and their friends. The page is monitored daily, and of course no inappropriate materials will be allowed to remain posted.

**Stewardship News**

**Mass collection** for December, 4, 2013

# of envelopes: 59 , $ 232.07

St. Matthew Catholic School Newsletter