**Dia de Los Muertos**

For more than 3,000 years, communities—from ancient Mesoamerica to modern México—have provided refuge to the spirits of loved ones who traverse the world of the dead to commune with the living.

November begins with Día de los Muertos, a national holiday in México. Throughout the country, communities diligently prepare for the two-day celebrations (Nov. 1-2) by creating altars and preparing special aromatic foods. Cemeteries bustle with visitors delivering flowers to gravesites and mausoleums. Papier mâchè skulls line store-window displays and paper banners with images of dancing skeletons drape across walkways. At night, city plazas welcome revelers whose marigold-festooned altars display personal trinkets and treats in honor of the departed.

Although Día de Los Muertos coincides with Halloween in the United States, the south-of-the-border tradition does not focus on candy collection or mischievous tricksters. For Mexicans, the symbolic visits from the dead are neither morbid nor macabre. They are celebratory.

Día de los Muertos remains an important and profound holiday laced with Christian religious symbols and figures, including the Christ on the cross and the Blessed Virgin Mary. The celebration has a rich historical and cultural tradition that springs from the human hope to never be forgotten.



**STEWARDSHIP**

**Collection for September 26: $268.80, 51 envelopes**

**Collection for October 3: $ 192.36, 56 envelopes**

ST. Matthew Catholic School

Principal, Mrs. McGowan

Dean of Discipline, Mr. Guerra

Asst. Principal for Curriculum and Instruction, Miss Koontz,

Office Manager: Mrs. Tomasa Bracy, Registrar: Mrs. Sarah Slis

# Principal’s News

**Fall Break**

Monday, Oct 21-Wedneday, October 23. School resumes on Thursday, October 24

**Friday, October 25:** End of Quarter. Junior High party from 4:00-7:00 p.m.

**Sunday, October 27**: School “Family Mass” at 11:15 a.m. Come worship with other parish/school families

**Week of October 28**: Parent Teacher Conferences on October 30 & 31. 1:00 p.m. Dismissal on both days. Report cards will be given out during conferences

**Halloween, Thursday, 10/31**

Wear your costume to school for $1.00 (remember, we are a Catholic school so costumes must be appropriate). If you do not wish to wear your costume, bring it and you will have a chance to change before lunch. Parade of Costumes after lunch, 1:00 p.m. dismissal for Parent-Teacher conferences.

**Dia de los Muertos**

As we do every year, we shall be building altars to our faithful departed in each classroom. Students are encouraged to bring mementoes to celebrate their loved ones. For more information on this important holiday, see the article that follows.

October is Our Lady’s month: Remember to pray the rosary as a family!



### St. Matthew Catholic School

Rev. Raymond Ritari, Pastor

October 18, 2013

Volume 7, Issue 5

# Katzin Classical Music Composers:

## Week of October 24-November 1: Aaron Copeland, *Rodeo: Four Dance, Episodes 4. Hoe Down*



## 1539-1623

**Week of October 22**: Telemann, *Viola Concerto 2. Allegro*





Once again, the issue of “appropriate dress” came to a head on Friday, as several young ladies lost free dress privileges until the end of the year. We are a Catholic school, yet parents continue to allow their daughters to leave home dressed in a manner that flies in the face of our dress code. Last year, the School Board adopted a dress code for all adults on the grounds at St Matthew. This means for men no “baggy” trousers, no tank tops, and no covered heads in church. For women it means, no “short-shorts”, no mini -skirts, no tank tops, no excessively low cut tops. If we ask our girls to wear skirts to their knees, it is not appropriate to have indecently dressed men and women on campus. The school administration and the faculty are charged with enforcing this. Thanks in advance for your cooperation and understanding.

This dress code applies to ALL school functions, including parent meetings, retreats, field trips, anything where parents and students represent St. Matthew Catholic School.

## School Board and Parent Corner

ACTIVE CATHOLICS

FOR THE FIRST QUARTER

The following young people are outstanding examples of what it means to live out our Number One School-wide learning expectation!

*Kinder: Amaia Garcia*

*1st Grade: Tatiana Ceballos*

2nd Grade: *Estevan Ortega*

*3rd Grade: Mariana Perez*

*4th Grade: Alan Rascon*

*5th Grade: Amanda Garcia*

*6th Grade: Sophia Anderson*

*7th Grade: David Jasso*

*8th Grade: Alexis Mendibles*

*Computers: Antonio Ixehual*

*Phys. Ed.: Jaykob Schultz*

*Congratulations to these fine examples of what it means to live out the mission of St. Matthew Catholic School.*

**Fall conferences**

Your student will be bringing home a note about fall parent-teacher conferences. They will be held on the 30th and 31st . Once again, these are extremely important and, in an effort to encourage 100% parent participation, report cards will be handed out at conferences.

St. Matthew Catholic School Newsletter

Franz Schubert

**Antonio Vivaldi** (2678-1741)

We will be listening to “Summer” from *The Four Seasons.*

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