St. Ann School

324 N. Harrison St. Stoughton, WI 53589 (608) 873-3343 www.stanns-school.org email stanns@stanns-school.org

Wednesday Memo

Lunch supervision volunteers must arrive by 11:15 AM

Total for 20 Lunches for Jan.: \$58.00

Thursday, Jan. 2 Shredded Hot Beef Sandwich

Supervision Fernholz, Ploch

Friday, Jan. 3 Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza

Supervision Fernholz, J. Martin

Monday, Jan. 6 Beefy Macaroni "Goulash"

Supervision Ploch, Pedersen

Tuesday, Jan. 7 Pancakes & Ham Slice Supervision Hanson, Hellenbrand

Wednesday, Jan. 8 Creamy Turkey Gravy and Mashed

Potatoes

Supervision Wise, Wood
Thursday, Jan. 9 Mini Hot Dogs
Supervision Wise, Hellenbrand

Friday, Jan. 10 Subs

Supervision J. Martin, Wood



Mass Schedule for St. Ann Parish for Christmas and New Year's

Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24:

- 4:00 PM Angel Choir (music beginning at 3:30 PM)
- 9:00 PM Adult Choir (music beginning at 8:30 PM)

Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25:

• 10:00 AM (music beginning at 9:30 AM)

New Year's Eve, Tuesday, Dec. 31, 5:15 PM

New Year's Day 10:00 AM

Lunch Supervision Needed For January



We are in need of Volunteer Lunch Supervisors for the following dates in January:

January 16, 22, 23, 29, 30

If you can help, please call or email the school office.

Congratulations, First Grade!!!!

You are the winners of an Ice Cream party for brining early donations for the Spaghetti Dinner baskets!!! The date of the party will be picked by Mrs. Urvin. Thanks to everyone that brought in donations.

We will be having a drawing in January from the names of all school families that submit donations for the baskets. All donors will be entered in the drawing. WE NEED EVERYONE TO PARTICIPATE IN DONATING! This is St Ann's largest fund raiser and it will not be successful without the participation of all of our school families. Please bring your donation (cash is preferred) to the school office and we will purchase items to fill the baskets. Also, please remember when shopping for Christmas, that you can donate Rewards Points from Best Buy to St Ann School by providing the school phone number. These points can be converted to cash for basket items.

As always, thanks for your generosity. We could not do this without your help.

The Spaghetti Dinner Committee

God bless you all and have a Merry Christmas. See you on January 2, 2014.

Your Box Tops Are Wanted



Please turn in all you Box Tops by this Friday. We will be sending in what we currently have collected as some will expire by the end of the calendar year. Thank you for supporting St. Ann School by saving your Box Tops for Education



Altar Server Appreciation Brunch

As a reminder, if your child is an Altar server, he/she should have received an sign-up genius invitation to our Altar Server Brunch on January 5, 2014, 11:30 AM in Healy Hall. If you did not receive an invite, please call or email Virginia Carrano, 873-3343 or virginia.carrano@stoughton.k12.wi.us

Please respond as soon as possible so that we can plan for food.



Principal's Corner

"We observed His star at its rising and have come to pay him homage." (Matthew 2:2)

This past Saturday, I journeyed to Dubuque to visit my mom and sisters. I decided to kennel Buddy and stay in Dubuque overnight. After playing cards and watching the Christmas shows on the Hallmark channel and having homemade soup for supper, we decided to pile in my car and drive through the "Reflection of Christmas" light show displayed in Murphy Park. As we drove through the park and gazed upon the beautiful light display and listened to the synchronized music on the radio, my mom shared a commentary on her favorite displays as we enjoys an ice cream come at Dairy Queen. "Christmas lights are so pretty and wonderful! They are even better than other years. This is my favorite part of the Christmas holidays. My favorite lights were the shooting stars across the road and the live Nativity scene. They were beautiful.... This is what Christmas is all about."

When I got back to my mom's house, I decided to take a walk with the family pup, Spirit, as I needed to reflect upon the simple, child-like joy that my mom had shared as we gazed upon the Christmas light displays. As I walked, I gazed up into a starry winter sky and spent a few quiet moments in prayer as I felt God's presence and was inspired by mom's commentary. I felt a deep love for this special woman in my life and the wisdom that she shares in the simplest of ways.

Stars are more than tiny, distant, twinkling lights in the heavens. They have a living presence of Jesus. The star was a guide, an enlightener, a revealer, the main symbol of the Epiphany. The star showed forth the presence of God in Jesus to the magi and the world.

As I stood gazing up into the starry sky, I found myself humming, "We Three Kings" and recalling one of my favorite stories, <u>The Mysterious Star.</u> The story takes Jamie, a young boy of six on a search for the star of Bethlehem. Before he leaves home, his father gives him a clue, "You'll find the star, but not in the sky."

As he travels along, he meets a very sad little girl. He stops to cheer her and tell her of the beautiful star. As he walks off, the story reads, "He did not notice that he was being followed."

Next he meets a lonely old man and shared the peanut butter and jelly sandwich his mother packed for his trip. The man has seen the star so Jamie sets off again. Then he passes a girl for whom he sings a song and an unhappy boy to whom he offers a drink from his thermos. Last of all, he comes across a woman who is blind. He spends a few moments talking with her. To all of these he tells the story of the star, yet, he cannot find it. As he sets off, the story tells us, "He did not know he was being followed."

Once back on his doorstep, he turned around and there were two little girls, the old man, the boy and the blind woman. They were all talking at once about how they have seen the star, "Where have you seen it?" cried Jamie, "I looked everywhere I could think of and did not find it."

"We saw it in your voice and in your kindness. We saw it in the way you shared with us and in your happy spirit."

The Mysterious Star is the story of presence. Christmas is a celebration of presence, the presence of God born into the world, living among us, sharing with us. As this Christmas season continues to unfold, may you experience the presence of our loving God as you share with your family and friends. May you be blessed with many moments of kindness, happiness and love as you share the light of God's love. May you be "a star" for all those you meet. Have a blessed and holy Christmas!

~ Joan Leonard

Congratulations

A special congratulations is extended to Brady Schipper (Grade Eight), who is the champion of the St. Ann School National Geography Bee. Patrick Wolter (Grade Six) received runner-up honors. Brady will move to the next step of the competition in January by completing a written test to qualify for the state competition.