



MOTHER OF  
GOOD COUNSEL

# KidMail

December 14, 2011

Dear MGC Family,

There is quite a “buzz” in the school today! We are all very excited about tomorrow night’s Christmas concert. All MGC students participate in this annual concert, and we can’t wait to share our spirit with you. Grandparents and other family members/friends are welcome to attend!

This is the last KidMail of the 2011 calendar year. How quickly time flies! As the mother of two sons who have become men right before my eyes, I must encourage all of you to slow down and enjoy every single minute of parenthood. My husband and I truly believe that it has been the greatest joy of our lives! Don’t ever forget that your children are gifts from God, entrusted to your care.

I share with you this poem:

## KEEPING CHRISTMAS

By **Verna S. Teeuwissen**

Is Christmas the smell of evergreen,  
the jingle of bells on a sleigh;  
Is Christmas the laughter of children,  
the greeting of friends on the way?  
Is Christmas the lighting of candles,  
the hanging of wreaths on the door;  
Is Christmas the welcome of loved ones?  
Yes, Christmas is this, and more.

For Christmas echoes from angels  
its message of peace, good will;  
and Christmas tells of a manger  
on a calm Judean hill,  
where shepherds bowed and worshipped  
as God incarnate slept,  
And it's only as we kneel with them  
that our Christmas is truly kept.

Merry Christmas to all of you!

Faithfully,  
Regina Shaw  
Principal



## **And the Winners Are.....**

Thanks to those parents who completed the Parent Survey. Those who did so during conferences were able to enter a drawing for two \$25.00 Sentry gift cards. The names were drawn at last week's School Committee meeting, and they are **Laura Baranyk-Morales** and **Anne Genzmer**. The gift cards will be send home with children.

## **Basketball Schedule for this Weekend**

8 <sup>th</sup> /7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Boys	8 <sup>th</sup> /7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Girls	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Boys	6 <sup>th</sup> /5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Girls	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Boys
At MGC	At Blessed Savior	At MGC	At MGC	At St. Sebs
10:15am	11:15am	9:15am	11:15am	9:15am
v. St. Dominics	v. Blessed Savior	v. St Agnes	NW Catholic	v. St Sebs

**Please come and support the MGC Basketball teams this weekend. Go MGC!!!**

## **Christmas Concert – Tomorrow!!!**

Don't forget that our great Christmas Concert is tomorrow!!! **All MGC students** are required to participate in the concert that begins at 6 PM. **Students are to be brought to Paulik Hall (church basement) at 5:30.**

Parents may then go up to church and find their seats. Parents are asked to keep their child's coat, etc. with them. K3, K4 and K5 children will be returned to their parents after they have performed. All other students will sit with their teachers. **All students are asked to wear dark pants or skirt and a white blouse/shirt.**



## **Spring Saturday Academy**

Saturday Academy is an intense academic program for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders, which runs on six consecutive Saturdays in the fall and spring semesters. Students from all over the greater Milwaukee area come to experience this exciting opportunity at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. During this six-Saturday program, students are assessed on their academic performance and instructed on how to build upon existing strengths and improve in areas of weakness. Parents who are interested may request a brochure from Mrs. Shaw or download it at <http://trio.uwm.edu/minicourses>. This is a great opportunity!!!

## **AR**

All MGC students who participate in Accelerated Reader are expected to meet their goal – that is the **minimum requirement**. Any student who does not meet this minimum expectation for second quarter will automatically become a member of **Mrs. Shaw's After-School Reading Club**. They will be required to spend **one hour each week after school reading with Mrs. Shaw**. Please make sure your child does not become a charter member of this club!



## **Help Needed!**

We all know how hard our MGC teachers work for our students! We are in need of a few volunteers to assist in some areas. If you would be willing/able to assist with any of following areas, please contact me: middle school science labs – shop at Sentry for some of the items needed and assist with lab set-up/clean-up; classroom aide in K4 one afternoon a week so Mrs. Jacobs has time for prep work; assist Mrs. Gordon with prep work; run copies for teachers; decorate bulletin boards; tutor students. Any other gifts/talents you might have to share??? Please contact Mrs. Shaw.



## **Home & School News**

We need five more volunteers for the Teachers' Christmas Lunch this coming Monday, December 19. If you are available between 11 AM-1 PM, please contact Cindy Katzka by this Friday.

LIGHTS! CAMERA! AUCTION! NEWS □SAVE THE DATE! This school year's auction will be held on Saturday, May 5, 2012. Our Auction Team Leader this year is Shawn Glessing. We need 50+ volunteers in order for this event to happen. This is an ANNUAL TRADITION!!! We need YOU at our next meeting! These meetings are very important and are our basis for communication. We need our committed volunteers to attend each meeting. Mark your calendar! The next meeting is on Thursday, January 12, 2012 at 6:30 PM in the school cafeteria. Everyone is encouraged to join the Auction committee. We need your skills to help create and support Home and School's Annual Auction. We are very blessed to run this event each year. This event will not happen without support from the entire school.

Target has a great year round fundraising program for authorized organizations. MGC is one of the Take Charge of Education program organizations that receives kick back money just simply by shopping! We currently have 38 Target Credit/Debit Card holders who have designated MGC as their choice for this wonderful program. If you do not have a Target Credit or Debit card, it is very easy to sign up for one. If you already have one, what are you waiting for? Sign MGC up as your organization!!! □MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL SCHOOL MILWAUKEE , WI 53210-1252 School ID: 17219 □The most recent Target donation to this school (August 2011): \$597.41 □Total of all Target donations to this school through August 2011: \$12,305.05 □Amount accumulated toward the next Target donation: \$211.50 □Number of REDcard holders who have designated this school: 38 □More information is available in our school office. Also feel free to contact Cindy Katzka for further information.

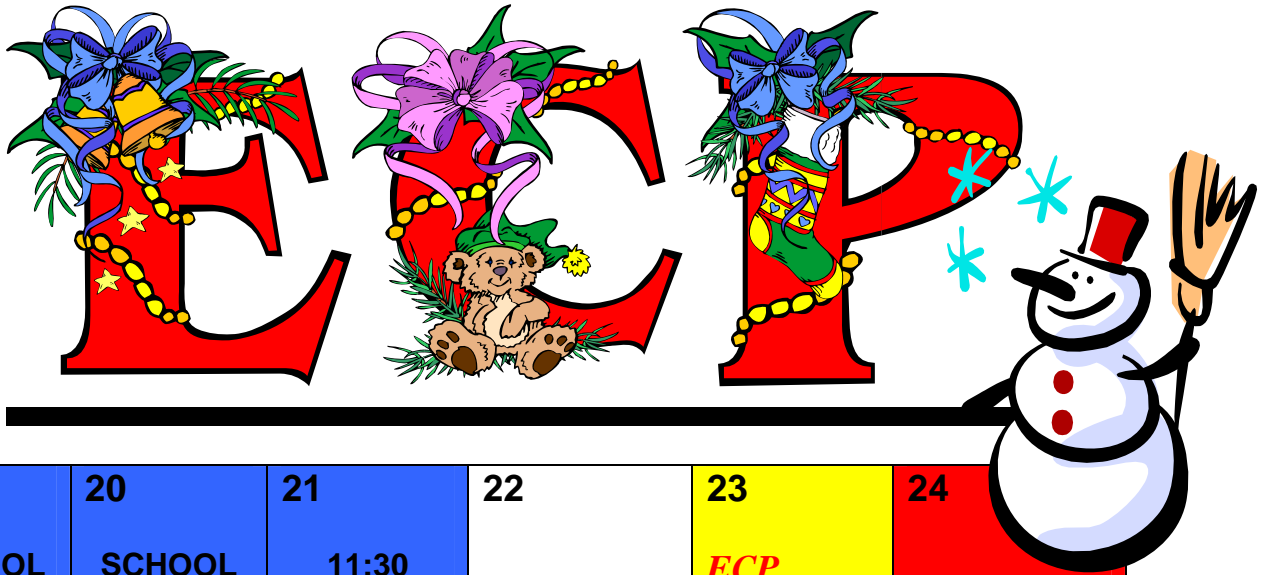
Keep saving those McDonald's receipts because we will have another contest after the holidays. How many receipts can you collect? Have you thought about asking the cashier if they have any additional register receipts? Simply tell them that your school is participating in the McDonald's Neighbors Program, and we can earn school items by collecting as many receipts as possible.






Are you interested in becoming a Home & School board member? Home & School encourages you to join as an apprentice. Do you have any ideas, help or questions for the Home & School board? You are more than welcome to contact one of our board members.

Co-President: Cindy Katzka (414-659-2426/ckpackers@yahoo.com) □Co-President: Tina Hayes (414-803-4978/tina.golla@yahoo.com) □Vice President: Melinda Kwiatkowski (414-388-2045/melinakwiat@yahoo.com) □Secretary: Angela Williams (414-559-3000/aw4rkidz@yahoo.com) □Treasurer: Juanita Jones (414-444-7391/jjones23@sbcglobal.net)

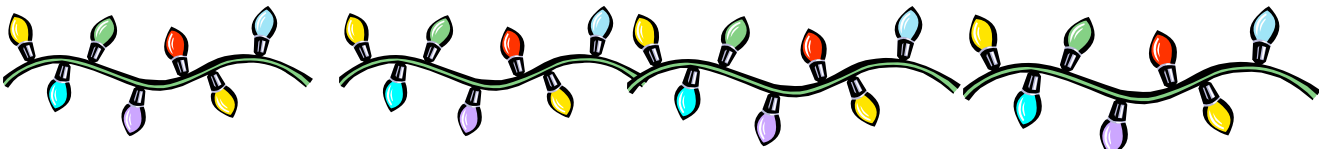
## **How Do I Get In???**

There is only one door through which parents and any other adults/visitors are to enter the school building – that is the front door – at 68<sup>th</sup> and Lisbon. No one other than students is to enter through any other door. This is for the safety of all children!!! Parents/visitors must enter through the front door and register at the school office



18	19 SCHOOL IN SESSION	20 SCHOOL IN SESSION	21 11:30 Dismissal Day 	22 Stone Fire Pizza	23 <u>ECP</u> <u>CLOSED</u> 	24 <u>Christmas</u> <u>Eye</u>
	25 <u>ECP</u> <u>CLOSED</u> 	26 <u>Bowling</u> at Bowlero	27 ECP Day Movie Day (bring all winter attire for outside play)	28 <u>Butler</u> <u>Skateland</u>	29 ECP Day Movie Day (bring all winter attire for outside play)	30 
Jan. 1 2012	2 <u>ECP</u> <u>CLOSED</u>	Parents, get ready to register your children for "Christmas Camp" during our Christmas break in December.				

For \$30 a day, plus field trip fee your child can have a great winter break.



## *It's Cold Outside – and it will get even colder!*



Please remember that we do take the children outside for recess during winter. If the temperature/wind chill is at or above zero, we go outside. It is important that every MGC student come to school every day prepared for recess. This includes a winter coat, hat, mittens/gloves, scarves, snow pants and boots. **Children who do not have snow pants and boots are not**



**allowed to play in the snow.** Please do not put your child in that situation! **Also, if anyone has snowpants, etc. that your child has outgrown, please consider sending them to school. We always have children who can use them.**

## *Pick-Up/Drop-Off-----Please Read!!!*

Please note that there is to be no drop-off or pick-up in front of the school on 68<sup>th</sup> Street or Lisbon Avenue. Both of these are marked accordingly. I have heard from the District 7 Police Station that they are, once again, going to be patrolling these areas. It is **against the law** to stop or park in these areas. This is for the safety of all children. **Tickets will be issued!!!** Even if you don't receive the ticket at the time, the officer will note the license plate; and it will be mailed to you. Please do not park in these areas!!!

## *Six Flags Six-Hour Reading Program*

MGC School is, again, participating in the Six Flags Six Hour Reading Program. This is a free educational program that encourages recreational reading. Students in K5 through sixth grade are invited to participate. Students who complete six hours of recreational reading by February 22 and return the paperwork will receive a free ticket to Six Flags Great America. Forms were sent home and must be completed, signed and returned to school by February 22, 2012.

## *Band & Orchestra*

Just a reminder to parents that band and orchestra lessons take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Students must remember to bring their instruments and their music. If students lose their music, they will be responsible for the purchase price of the replacement. Parents, please remind your children to practice for a few minutes every single day.

## *Weather Regulations*

When there is a question of whether the school will be opening for the day because of extreme weather conditions, Archdiocesan regulations require that the school follow the Milwaukee Public School system. **The decision not to open is usually made before 6:00 AM on the day in question and is announced on local radio and TV stations. If the announcement is made that MPS schools are closed due to inclement weather, MGC will also be closed.**

Whenever the school is closed due to inclement weather, ECP and the parish offices are also closed. However, if MPS is not in session, or for some reason fails to close, an independent decision will be made for MGC. This decision will be made by the Principal and the Pastor. The announcement will be made on local television and radio stations. Additionally, if MGC closes independently of MPS, an e-mail will be sent and local TV/radio stations will be informed.

**MGC will not close early due to inclement weather.** However, parents are welcome to come to school and pick up their children if they deem that to be in their family's best interest. If MPS closes early or fails to open due to staffing concerns, that will not affect MGC.





## **MGC's Website**

Have you checked-out MGC's website ([www.mgcparish.org](http://www.mgcparish.org))? If not, please do so. You'll find a great deal of information about our church and school. The hot lunch menu is posted there so you don't have to worry about losing yours. Current and past editions of KidMail are also posted there. There are also many great student resources available through the library page. Don't miss this great resource!

## **MGC Phones**

We are experiencing some difficulties with our phone system. It is being worked on, but it may take some time. If you try to call the school office and are not able to get through, please send an e-mail to Mrs. Berthold ([berthold@mgcparish.org](mailto:berthold@mgcparish.org)) or Mrs. Shaw ([shaw@mgcparish.org](mailto:shaw@mgcparish.org)). We hope to have the situation rectified soon.

## **MGC School Calendar**



- 15 - **Christmas Concert 6 PM in Church – all students participate – arrive at 5:30**
- 16 - Tag Day
- 21 - Nativity Play 9 AM – in church
- Christmas Vacation begins at 11:30 AM
- 22 – 31 - **No School** – Christmas Vacation



- 2 - Christmas Vacation
- 3 - Students Return
- 4 - School Committee 6 PM – Library
- Young Men's Group – 3:15 – 4:15 PM
- 11 - Young Men's Group – 3:15 – 4:15 PM
- 13 - Tag Day
- 16 - **No School** – Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday
- 18 - Young Men's Group – 3:15 – 4:15 PM
- 19 - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation Pictures
- 20 - End of Second Quarter – 11:30 Dismissal
- 25 - Young Men's Group – 3:15 – 4:15 PM
- 26 - Family Lunch
- 29 - Open House – Registration begins for 2012-2013
- 31 - Home & School Mtg.



- 1 - School Committee 6 PM – Library
- Young Men’s Group – 3:15 – 4:15 PM
- 8 - Free Dress for Students with **no tardies** in 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter
- Young Men’s Group – 3:15 – 4:15 PM
- 9 - 11:30 Dismissal – Conferences
- 10 - 11:30 Dismissal – Conferences
- 14 - AR Store
- 15 - Young Men’s Group – 3:15 – 4:15 PM
- 16 - Tag Day
- 21 - Mardi Gras
- Family Lunch
- 22 - Ash Wednesday
- Young Men’s Group – 3:15 – 4:15 PM
- 24 - No School – Teacher Inservice



- 2 - Group Yearbook Pictures
- 7 - School Committee 6 PM – Library
- Young Men’s Group – 3:15 – 4:15 PM
- 14 - Young Men’s Group – 3:15 – 4:15 PM
- 15 - Tag Day
- 16 - No School – Teacher Inservice
- 21 - Young Men’s Group – 3:15 – 4:15 PM
- 22 - Family Lunch
- 23 - 11:30 Dismissal – End of Third Quarter
- 28 - Young Men’s Group – 3:15 – 4:15 PM



## Bring your family to church!

More and more families are attending MGC Church! Our children learn the traditions and values of the Catholic faith each day in school. Please support your children’s faith journey by bringing them to church!

**Mass times: Saturday at 5 PM, Sunday at 8:30 AM and 10:30 AM.**