

St Christopher Alumni Association

Celebrating our past and planning for our future



Alumni Newsletter – Spring, 2009

Welcome to the St. Christopher Alumni Association!

The Alumni Association was founded to promote alumni activities, to help alums keep in touch with each other and with the school, and to promote continued success at St. Christopher School.

Fr. Mark's Corner

Dear Alumni and Friends of St. Christopher School,

We are quickly approaching our Spring Fling. What a great chance to see old friends and support a school with so many great memories.

Times are tough, but we journey forward to provide a quality Catholic education to our students. Thank you for all the ways you make that happen. I hope to see you at the Spring Fling!!

Sincerely,
Fr. Mark Walter, Pastor

Upcoming Class Reunions

A number of classes are planning class reunions in conjunction with the School 85th Anniversary Party/Spring-Fling 2009. The classes are:

class of 1946 -63 years	class of 1969 -40 years
class of 1949 -60 years	class of 1979 -30 years
class of 1954 -55 years	class of 1984 -25 years
class of 1959 -50 years	class of 1989 -20 years

If you are from one of these classes, we invite you to attend your class reunion! Also, please spread the word about the reunions to your classmates with whom you are in touch.

For more information or to find out how you can help out with your reunion, please email info@stchrisalumni.org, or call 708-388-8190.

School 85th Anniversary Party/ Spring-Fling 2009 on May 2nd!

All alumni are invited to the school 85th Anniversary Party/Spring-Fling 2009, to be held on **Saturday, May 2, 2009** at St. Christopher School. The evening will begin with an alumni reception in the school at 5:00pm for alumni and their families. Alumni can tour the school and visit with friends. At 6:00pm, alumni will proceed to their reserved seating in the gym, for dinner, dessert, and all-night open bar. After dinner, you can enjoy music and dancing.

Tickets are \$40 per adult and all children are FREE. Free babysitting will be provided for children (3yrs and older) after dinner, with supervised activities. Tickets can be purchased from the Parish Center, at 4130 W. 147th St, Midlothian, IL 60445.

There will be a HUGE silent auction with categories for everyone including entertainment, sports, family packages, school and parish, and much more. Also, there will be raffles for a solitaire diamond and a travel get-a-way package including airfare and hotel stay. All proceeds go directly to support the school.

A professional photographer will also be available for pictures. Pictures will be taken of the reunion classes and more.

For more information, please visit our web site at www.stchrisalumni.org, or email info@stchrisalumni.org, or call 708-388-8190.

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Parish News

The parish had a Lenten morning of reflection on March 28. The presenter was our own Fr. Mark, reflecting about “The Questions of Jesus”. The event featured a presentation, small group discussion, lunch and then a prayer service.

St. Christopher Parish is proud to be chosen as the site of the south-suburban Catholic Charities dinner program that provides meals to those in need. Every Tuesday, volunteers from St. Chris and around the Archdiocese cook and serve dinner for those in need. These Tuesday dinners were inaugurated last Fall and serve to help those who are in need in our area.

The popular St. Joseph’s Table Celebration was held on Sunday, March 22nd. A traditional meal of salad, spaghetti, and pierogi were served along with the famous sweet table. All proceeds from the event went to the St. Vincent DePaul Society who serve the needy in the area.

Boy Scout Troop 358 held their 27th Annual Fish Fry dinners during lent. On three Fridays in lent, parishioners enjoyed perch or shrimp, meatless spaghetti, grilled cheese, and other meatless dishes. The dinners were served with a smile by the boys in our troop. This fundraiser helps defray the cost of summer camp for the scouts.

At their March 16th meeting, the Holy Name Society, invited author Don Dalton to give a presentation. Don authored the book Midlothian Veterans of World War II, in which he tells some amazing stories of Midlothian residents who are ordinary people that have done extraordinary deeds in serving their country.

The Rosary Altar Society is holding their Spring “Island of Dreams” Dinner on Sunday May 17, 2009 at Gaelic Park, where they will be escaping to a tropical island for a few hours! After dinner, the ladies will enjoy music from the Bob West Elvis Tribute Show.

St. Chris School Tuition Assistance Program

St. Christopher Parish and School have recently launched a tuition assistance program for students with financial needs. The goal of this program is to enable students of all economic backgrounds to receive a quality Catholic education at our school.

In these extraordinarily difficult economic times, many families are struggling to afford the expense of Catholic education for their children. The parish staff and finance committee are exploring avenues of assistance to help families who need financial assistance for their tuition.

Thanks to the generosity of friends of our school, including our alumni, financial aid can now be extended to help make St. Christopher School a viable option for all of our families. A portion of the proceeds from the Third Annual Alumni Appeal will go to help fund this tuition assistance program.

Alumni Bean-Bag Tournament

St. Christopher Athletic Association is looking to hold the first annual St. Chris Alumni Bean-Bag Tournament in Fall, 2009. The tournament will be held in the school gym on a Saturday.

Gather your former classmates and form a team, and you can compete against other alumni for fun, fame and fortune!

The details of the event are still being formulated, and further information will appear on the alumni web site (www.stchrisalumni.org) as it becomes available.

If you would be interested in participating in this fun-filled event or would like more information, please let us know by emailing us at info@stchrisalumni.org, or leave us a message at 708-388-8190.

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Calendar of Events

May 2 – School 85th Anniversary Party/ Spring-Fling 2009

May 30 – 8th Grade Graduation.

July 13 – Annual Parish Garage Sale

July 15-19 – Parish Fiesta

July 17 – Alumni Night at Fiesta

Fall, 2009 – Alumni Bean Bag Tournament

Nov, 2009 – Alumni Mass TBD

For more information, call the parish center (708-388-8190) or visit the alumni website at www.stchrisalumni.org.

Alumni Night at Fiesta 2009!

The Fifth Annual Alumni Night at the St. Chris Fiesta will be held on **Friday, July 17th, 2009**. Come on out and enjoy music, food and drink with fellow alumni under the Big Tent.

Alumni Night will be featuring the band “Maggie Speaks.” Come see them perform an incredible non-stop high-energy show covering five decades of music. Visit their web site at www.maggiespeaks.com for more information.

Be sure to visit the alumni booth to register for the free alumni raffle. For those who have registered for our email notifications, we will be sending out emails with additional information as the date approaches. For the latest information about Fiesta 2009 visit the fiesta web site at www.stchrisfiesta.com.



Alumni Appeal-Give your year!

April brings the kick-off of the Third Annual Alumni Appeal. St. Christopher and other Catholic schools are needed today more than ever; however, the future of our school depends on our ability to stay financially competitive in areas such as salary and technology while keeping tuition affordable. This is not an easy task and is not something that we can do alone.

We ask you, as an alumni or friend of the school, to consider assisting us by making a donation in the enclosed envelope. This year, we are inviting all alumni to “Give your year.” For example, if you are from the class of 1969, we ask you to consider making a donation of \$19.69 to our school. Even though it may seem like a small amount, when many alumni give, it can make a big difference for a St. Christopher student and family.

Funds from the Alumni Appeal will be used to help provide assistance to families via our new tuition assistance program. In these difficult economic times, your donation can help us enable families to provide their children a quality Catholic education. Donations are fully tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

St. Christopher has an 85 year history of Catholic education and we invite you to be part of the wonderful things going on at our school by participating in the Alumni Appeal. With consistent help from you, our alumni and friends, St. Christopher can continue its great tradition of Catholic education.



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School News

This year's Catholic School's Week began with Bishop Gustavo celebrating the Saturday evening Mass with our school staff and families. Grandparent's Day was held on January 28. Over 230 guests attended the festivities. The day began with 9:00 Mass. After Mass, our grandparents and other special people attended a reception in our school gym and were invited to tour our school with their hosts. Preschool had special craft projects arranged for their visitors and their own special visitors reception.

Family bingo was held on Thursday night in the gym, where families played bingo together as a family and won some great prizes. We congratulate Ariel and Maeve, the two winners of our "Principal for a Day" essay contest. These two students spent a day shadowing Principal Johnson and learning what a principal's job really consists of! Thursday, January 29th, was Teacher Appreciation Day, where the students show their appreciation for all of the hard work and dedication of the St. Chris faculty.

For Lent, our school participated in Operation Rice Bowl, organized by the Catholic Relief Service. Operation Rice Bowl strives to help

feed those whom are hungry throughout the world. School children and families helped to collect donations for this worthy cause.

The school's mentoring program is in full swing. Our 8th grade mentors are doing a great job with their pals in primary grades and have been reinforcing math skills with them and bringing them to Mass each week. This program helps install responsibility and Christian values in our older students, while helping our primary students learn new skills.

Our school's new reading series has also helped us to accommodate all of our students' needs and to assess their progress on a weekly basis. Each week students are given a test that allows the teacher to assess their performance. These results allow the teachers to determine whether they should challenge the student more or reassess their instruction to help the students better understand the material. Our mathematics curriculum has greatly benefited from the guidance of Dr. Jay Cuneen, who has been assisting our teachers during the second semester to help us further improve our students' math skills.

Are you moving? Have your email or phone number changed? Do you have news to share with fellow alumni? Send us your information online at www.stchrisalumni.org or by mailing this form to: St. Chris Alumni Association, 4130 W. 147th St., Midlothian, IL 60445

Name: First _____ Last _____ Last Name as Student _____

Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell/Work Phone _____

Home Email _____ Work Email _____

Graduation Year _____ Willing to Help at Future Alumni Events _____

News/Favorite Memories _____

St. Christopher Alumni Association • www.stchrisalumni.org