



ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL

WHERE FAITH AND KNOWLEDGE MEET

WEEKLY SCHOOL BULLETIN

January 29, 2016

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REMINDERS

Saturday, January 30:
-Students Represent St. Mark in Uniform at Masses

Sunday, January 31:



**A NATIONAL SCHOOL
OF EXCELLENCE**

St. Mark Catholic School is a two time recipient of the U.S. Department of Education "National Blue Ribbon Award." This means that our students consistently score in the top 15% in the nation on standardized tests.

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)

Follow us and stay connected!

-Students Represent St. Mark in Uniform at Masses

-9:00 AM, Church: 5th Grade Choir Sings at Mass

-10:15 AM, Main School Hallway: Class of 2015 Portrait Unveiled

Monday, February 1:

-St. Mark Spirit Day (details below)

-9:15 AM, Cafetorium: Pastor Appreciation Day, Laps for Leukemia Presentation

-6:00 PM, St. Mark Church-Bethany Narthex: First Communion Parent Meeting

Tuesday, February 2:

-8:30 AM, Prince of Peace: Diocesan Religion Scholars Bowl

-9:00-10:00 AM, Cafetorium: Open House for Prospective Families

-11:00 AM-12:30 PM: Family Day Lunch/ Classroom Open House/Art Show/Lion's Den Spirit Store Open

Wednesday, February 3:

-6:45 AM - Math Fax Test (participants have been notified)

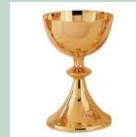
-Buck-A-Jean, Buck-A-Tennie Day (students make a \$2.00 donation and wear jeans/tennis shoes to school)

-Ice Cream Sandwiches at Lunch

-2:15 PM, Bacot Gym: Spring Pep Rally/ 8th Grade vs. Faculty Volleyball Game



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN LIONLAND



Vocations

Chalice: 5th grade was presented with the Vocations Chalice at the conclusion of today's All-School Mass. They will be praying for vocations during the upcoming week.



Gratitude:

Teachers discuss the Virtue of the Month with students by using stories and activities to engage them into seeing the virtue in action. Ask your child what he/she is learning about "Gratitude" this month. [Click here](#) for the full list of monthly virtues for 2015-16.



All-School Service

Project: Service is an integral part of the mission of the Church. To help students understand that by serving others, they are serving God, they will participate in a required all-school service project each month. **Students will receive a homework grade in Religion class for each month's assignment.**

January Project: Laps for Leukemia

Thursday, February 4:

-Student-Teacher Switch Day, Teacher Appreciation Luncheon

Friday, February 5:

-8:30 AM, Church: All School Mass. The Mass is planned by the Faculty. They will offer the Call to Worship, the Mass readings, and present the Communion gifts. All are welcome.

-10:00 AM: International Tasting Faire

-12:00 NOON early dismissal. The After School Program will be available until 6:00 PM. Students will have eaten at the International Tasting Faire, but you may also send a lunch with After School Program students if you feel they will need more.

-Raising Cane's Fundraiser (details below)

Saturday, February 6:

-Sweethearts Gala Dinner & Auction (details below)

Monday, February 8:

-Free Dress Day for all students who attended any Mass in uniform on 1/30-31



**You are cordially invited to attend the
St. Mark Catholic School
29th Annual Dinner & Auction!**

When: February 6, 2016

St. Mark has consistently been a top fundraising school for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society in North Texas. Last year, we raised \$17,000 and we hope to top that amount this year.

During Catholic Schools Week, students will walk laps during P.E. classes to raise money for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Pledge sheets will be distributed to students by P.E. coaches. Students can obtain pledges based on the number of laps they walk. (All students will walk laps, but pledges/donations are not mandatory.) A Pledge Sheet will be completed and returned to school by each student, along with any pledge money collected.

Online Donations - New for 2016:

Donations can also be made directly online by [clicking here](#), giving out of town family/friends a convenient way to donate. Online donations will be credited to St. Mark's total funds raised.

Catholic Social Teaching: Life and dignity of the human person

Who Benefits? Leukemia & Lymphoma Society

Due Date: Laps will be completed at school during the week of February 1. Pledge sheets and money are due to classroom teachers by February 19, 2016.

Links: [Pledge Sheet](#); [Online Donation Link](#)

Where: Marriott Hotel at Legacy Town Center in Plano

Tickets: \$75.00

[Click here](#) to buy tickets and view auction items.

COMPLIMENTARY COCKTAIL HOUR

The evening begins at 6:00 PM with live entertainment during cocktail hour. Tapps Brewery will be providing complimentary beer through their tasting station, and we will also have complimentary wine courtesy of Ben E. Keith.

REMINDERS:

- *The deadline to request seating arrangements with ticket purchases is TODAY, January 29, 2016.
- *The deadline for purchasing tickets online is February 2, 2016.
- *Be sure to check the auction website often, as new auction items are being added daily. Start planning your bidding strategy now!

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK



Catholic Schools Week begins THIS weekend! **Please be sure to carefully review the 2016 Catholic Schools Week information and forms below, as some changes have been made from past years.** This information is also available [online](#).

WEEKEND MASSES

Be sure to attend a Mass this weekend at St. Mark or any area parish. Students who



LIFETIME LIONS

Calling all alumni ... join Lifetime Lions, our official alumni network! Keep up with former classmates, learn about mentoring opportunities, and volunteer for service hours. Click [here](#) for more information.



LIONS DEN

Get your official LION gear here! Check in at the school office on Fridays from 7:30-8:15 AM and shop 'til you drop at the Lion's Den Spirit Store located in the Cafetorium.

Can't visit in person? [Place your order online anytime!](#)

This is a great place to stock up on St. Mark shirts for our Spirit Days, which are held on the first Monday of each month!



SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Minutes from the December 17, 2015 School Advisory Council meeting are now available on the [school website](#).

ST. MARK SPIRIT DAY!

Monday, February 5 is St. Mark **Spirit Day!** Students may wear a St. Mark t-shirt or sweatshirt of their choosing

attend in uniform will receive a Free Dress Day on February 8!

POSTER CONTEST

Thank you to all of our students who submitted a poster for the Catholic Schools Week Poster Contest. The following students are our grade-level winners and their entries will be sent on to the diocesan competition:

1st and 2nd grade - Sophia G.
3rd and 4th grade - Lana N.
5th and 6th - grade - Joshua N.
7th and 8th grade - Zosia S.

OUR STUDENTS THANK PARISHIONERS

Check out the front page of this week's church bulletin -- you'll see some of our students' smiling faces in honor of Catholic Schools Week. In addition, our students have written notes of thanks to our parishioners for their support of our school. They are displayed on the choir loft for all to enjoy.

CLASS OF LONG AGO...

Our 8th graders are already intrigued by something that the staff put together for them in honor of Student-Teacher Switch Day, which takes place next Thursday. Staff members were once in 8th grade too! See if you can figure out who is a member of the 8th grade "Class of Long Ago..."

(this includes any shirt with the St. Mark name, including Field Day shirts). These may be worn with jeans, slacks, Capri-style pants, the school skirt, or the school pants. Students may wear any closed shoe. (Sweatpants, leggings, shorts, caps/accessories, and solid green/gold shirts without the St. Mark name are not permitted.)

Please follow the dress policy as written. No exceptions. For your reference, Spirit Days for the entire school year have been added to the electronic calendar located on the homepage of our [website](#).

APPLICATIONS FOR NEW STUDENTS NOW AVAILABLE

Do you know anyone interested in a Catholic education for their child? The 2016-17 application for new students is now available online at www.stmcs.net.

Be sure to spread the word about our upcoming Open House events:

Tuesday, February 2
9:00-10:00 AM, Cafetorium

Tuesday, February 9
6:00-7:30 PM, Library



[Email to Parents](#)
[Family Day Lunch Invitation](#)
[Detailed Calendar of Events](#)
[International Tasting Faire Information](#)
[Laps for Leukemia Pledge Form](#)

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP

Practice Good Digital Citizenship: Our students have been learning about being good digital citizens using the Common Sense curriculum. It is also important for students to stay safe at home. Discuss your family's values and expectations regarding social media and computer use. [Click here](#) to set up your own

*We have new "information cards" available at the church and school that contain general information and Open House dates. Feel free to stop by and pick some up. Pass them along to anyone who is interested in St. Mark Catholic School. [Click here](#) to see a sample.

BOY SCOUT SPRING PLANT SALE



Begonias, Impatiens, Lantanas, Petunias, Purslanes, Pentas, Vincas! St. Mark Boy Scout Troop 285 will be selling spring flowers after each Mass on January 30 and 31, and again on February 6 and 7. These high-quality plants are provided by St. Mark parishioner and school parent, Steve Bayouth, from Bruce Miller Nurseries. The cost is \$15.00 per flat (no mixing of flowers), and cash, credit cards or checks payable to Troop 285 are accepted. Proceeds from this sale will help fund troop activities and help individual scouts earn money for scouting camps. **Please note the revised pick-up date of April 9 at the St. Mark field from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM.** You can also

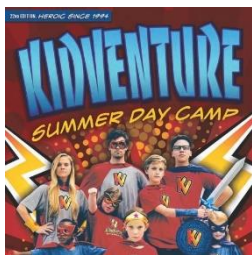
family media agreement with your child. Let's stay safe, think first, and stay balanced!

RAISING CANE'S FUNDRAISER - NEXT FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5



Plan to eat at Raising Cane's Next Friday, February 5! On each early dismissal day this school year, eat at Raising Cane's across the street from the school and a percentage of your purchase will be donated back to the St. Mark Athletic Department! **Visit anytime on Friday, February 5 between 10:00 AM and 11:00 PM. Simply mention St. Mark as you place your order.** Treat your family, and earn money for our school!

START PLANNING SUMMER WITH KIDVENTURE!



St. Mark Summer Camps
With Kidventure: We are pleased to once again offer full-time summer camps on the St. Mark campus with Kidventure. Kidventure is in its 22nd season of summer camp. This year's theme is **Summer Quest 2016**, a comic book come to life. Each week provides a new and unique adventure.

Kidventure will be on our campus during Family Day on February 2. Be sure to stop by their table for more information about this year's summer camp program.

General registration for Kidventure's Summer Quest 2016 Day Camp begins at 9:00

prearrange delivery with the troop. Questions or preorders? Contact Mark Hoops at (214) 676-0190. **The young men of St. Mark Boy Scout Troop 285 THANK YOU for your support!**

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

Did you know that there are scholarships available to Catholic school students? Check the ["Financial Aid" page](#) on the school website for the most current information. As updates become available, we will update the website. Most recently, we've received details about the 2016 Jethsuby Scholarship Fund, the Diocesan Tuition Assistance Program, and the Spirit of Love scholarship.

TORNADO VICTIM DONATION

Thank you to everyone who purchased popcorn, and who donated \$2.00 for a Free Dress Day this month. We are so proud to announce that St. Mark raised \$2,500 through our efforts, which was donated directly to families who were affected by the tornado outbreak in December.

AM on February 9. At that time, you and your child can select their Summer Quest adventures.

For more information, please visit <http://kidventure.com/plano-summer-camp/>, or call [214.303.9789](tel:214-303-9789).

For registration starting at 9:00 AM on February 9, click here: <http://kidventure.com/register/>.



HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

IMPORTANT HSA DATES:

Wednesday, February 3: Ice Cream Sandwich Social for all students during lunch, in honor of Catholic Schools Week

Saturday, February 6: Sweethearts Gala & Auction. Please join us for a fun night and help raise money for our school!

Wednesday, February 17: Teacher Luncheon, hosted by Preschool and 5th grade. Parents of these students should be on the lookout next week for an email and Sign-up Genius.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Auction Volunteers

Needed: Want to help plan this fun night? Contact Eric Librea

at eric.librea@sbcglobal.net, or Paola Colon at paolabcolon@icloud.com for more information and volunteer opportunities.

THANK YOU

Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped with the Used Uniform Sale, and to all those

ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL



NEWS FROM ATHLETICS

DPL Swim Meet: The DPL Swim Meet will take place on Friday, February 5 at the North Lake Community College pool beginning at 6:30 PM. GO LIONS!

Track & Field Registration

Dates: Registration is now open for the St. Mark Track & Field team. The deadline to register is February 17 at 12:00 NOON. Please visit the [Track & Field page](#) on our website for more details.

Baseball/Softball

Registration: Registration is now open for the St. Mark baseball and softball teams. The deadline to register is February 15 at 12:00 NOON. Please visit the [Baseball/Softball page](#) on our website for more details.

Soccer Registration:

Registration is now open for the St. Mark Soccer team. The deadline to register is February 24 at 12:00 NOON. Please visit the [Soccer page](#) on our website for more information.

who came out to support the sale. It was a successful morning!

REMINDERS

Helping Hands Committee:

If you know any St. Mark families that are in need of help due to a birth, sickness, death or any life changing event, please [click here](#) to contact the Helping Hands Committee.

Attention Volunteers: All volunteers must sign and return a "Volunteer Pledge Form" before the first day of volunteering. This form can be found in the [Volunteer Handbook](#). Also, volunteers must be Safe Environment trained. [Click here](#) for more details.

Link Your Shopper Cards & Earn Money for St. Mark: Remember to link your Kroger, Tom Thumb and Target cards to St. Mark. Kroger cards need to be re-linked every year. [Click here](#) for more details.



Box Tops: The Box Top committee is going to start counting the Box Tops for the next class contest. If you have any Box Tops sitting at home, please send them in.

SEEN & HEARD AROUND ST. MARK

Bishop Presides at School Mass: A special thank you to Auxiliary Bishop Deshotel for presiding at our All School Mass this morning. Our students learned that, just like King David in the Old Testament, if they ask for God's forgiveness no matter what the sin, it will be granted, and they will be welcomed back into God's grace.

Come out and cheer on your Lion basketball teams! This weekend's games*:

5th grade girls Green vs. St. Monica @ St. Mark, 1/30, 3:00 PM

5th grade girls Green vs. St. Paul @ St. Mark, 1/31, 12:00 PM

5th grade girls Gold vs. St. Thomas @ St. Thomas, 1/30, 10:00 AM

5th grade boys Green vs. St. Monica @ St. Mark, 1/30, 11:00 AM

5th grade boys Gold vs. POP @ St. Mark, 1/30, 10:00 AM

6th grade girls Green vs. POP @ St. Mark, 1/30, 2:00 PM

6th grade girls Gold vs. St. Monica @ St. Mark, 1/30, 1:00 PM

6th grade girls Gold vs. The Highlands @ The Highlands, 1/31, 2:00 PM

6th grade boys D2 vs. Mt. St. Michael @ St. Mark, 1/30, 12:00 PM



Geography Bee: The competition was fierce at Wednesday's Geography Bee as students vied for the top spot. In the end, 8th grader, Antonio M., won the championship round, with 8th grader, Joann N., placing second. Congratulations to all of our geography experts!

(photo removed)

St. Mark Parents Profiled in *The Texas Catholic*: Be sure to read the latest issue of *The Texas Catholic* coming to mailboxes this week. School parent, Melissa Waldon, who leads the diocese's Office of Disability and Deaf Ministries, praises a co-worker who will be honored with the 2016 Bishop's Award For Service to the Church. Alumni parents, Mary and Richard Templeton, are also featured as attendees at the Our Faith, Our Future 125th Anniversary Leadership Appreciation Dinner. In addition, St. Mark is credited as the host of the Diocesan Spelling Bee, and our Catholic Schools Week events calendar is also featured.

1st Grade Celebrates 100th Day of School: 1st grade celebrated the 100th day of school by stacking 100 cups and pennies. They built structures of 100 marshmallows and Legos. They also made Fruit Loop necklaces and paper chains. They read books and made self-portraits of what they will look like when they are 100 years old.

6th grade boys D2 vs. St. Monica @ St. Mark, 1/31, 4:00 PM

6th grade boys D1 vs. CKS @ CKS, 1/30, 12:00 PM

6th grade boys D1 vs. St. Patrick @ St. Patrick, 1/31, 7:00 PM

7th grade boys vs. St. Patrick @ St. Mark, 1/30, 9:00 AM

8th grade girls vs. St. Monica @ St. Mark, 1/31, 1:00 PM

8th grade boys Green vs. St. Bernard @ St. Mark, 1/30, 2:00 PM

8th grade boys Green vs. Bishop Dunne @ St. Mark, 1/31, 2:00 PM

8th grade boys D3 vs. St. Mary-Sherman @ St. Mary-Sherman, 1/30, 1:00 PM

*Games are subject to change. Please confirm with team coaches.

During home games, be sure to visit our fully-stocked concession stand, and stock up on LION gear at the Lion's Den spirit store!



(photo removed)

3rd Grade Gets Into Character: Our 3rd grade students are studying the chapter book, *The World According to Humphrey*, by Betty Birney. One of the main characters, Aldo Almato, has a big black mustache. He is the school janitor and he becomes a dear friend to little Humphrey the hamster. They decided to get into character last Friday!

(photo removed)

6th Grade Unit Studies Greece: In Literature class, students worked in pairs to research and create a Glogster presentation of a Greek god or goddess. They also worked in pairs to read a Greek myth and present the story to the class using the Shadow Puppet app on the iPad. In English, students are writing their own Greek myths. Students worked in groups during Social Studies class to create their own mythological monsters. The monsters were created from items found around their houses. They also wrote a story about their monster and presented it to the class. In P.E. class, students competed in the "Greek Olympics."



Pinterest Elective: This elective challenges students to use Pinterest as a resource for fun

BISHOP LYNCH BASKETBALL NIGHT

Bishop Lynch High School invites all middle school students to join them for Basketball Night on Friday, February 5 beginning at 5:00 PM at Bishop Lynch, as they take on John Paul II High School. There will be six games in two gyms and a halftime contest.

MS. WILLIAMS NEEDS BOTTLE CAPS

Art teacher, Ms. Williams, is still in need of **YELLOW** bottle caps only. If your child brings in a minimum of 20 caps at once, he/she will receive a "Caught Being Good" certificate!

CELEBRATION OF LOVE

St. Mark Parish invites you to the annual "Celebration of Love." Renew your marriage vows and enjoy an evening of dinner, dancing, love and laughter on February 13 at 6:45 PM in the St. Mark Parish Center Great Room. [Click here](#) for more information.

ST. MARK 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION WITH PAST/PRESENT CLERGY

Join past/present clergy in celebrating St. Mark's

project ideas. Last week they made bookmarks. This week, they made some tasty fudge!

(photo removed)

Teachers In Training Elective: Our students are practicing their fairy tales this week, which they'll soon share with our elementary students.

(photo removed)

[Join Our Mailing List](#)

[Forward To A Friend](#)

milestone 50th anniversary on Friday, January 29 at the 5:30 PM Mass, followed by dinner at 6:30 PM in the Parish Center. Share memories while enjoying appetizers, gourmet fire-oven pizzas and other Italian fare, wine, beer and desserts. [Click here](#) for further details.



HOLY TRINITY SEMINARY

St. Mark Catholic School has formed a special relationship with [Holy Trinity Seminary](#) and takes great pride in supporting our future priests. Following are upcoming opportunities to become involved:

***Join Us for Public Masses at Holy Trinity Seminary @ 9:15 AM:**

January - 31st

February - 7th, 14th, 28th

April - 3rd, 17th, 24th

Address: 3131 Vince Hagan Drive, Irving, TX 75062

Questions about the Public Masses? Call or text Agnes Denvir, VP of Vocations, President-Elect, Serra Club of North Central Dallas. Cell: 214-607-2391, agnes.denvir@stmcs.net or agnesdenvir@gmail.com.

THERESE: THE STORY OF A SOUL, BENEFITTING BIRTH CHOICE

St. Luke Productions presents "*Therese: The Story of a Soul*," a fundraiser benefitting the Birth Choice Catholic pregnancy resource center. Be inspired by this amazing live drama about one of the world's most beloved saints. The performance takes place on Saturday, March 5. Choose to attend a 2:00 PM matinee, a 5:30 PM dinner and show, or an 8:00 PM show-only performance at the Eisemann Center. Purchase tickets at www.eisemanncenter.com.

IN ALUMNI NEWS ...

Alums Participate in Theater Production: A few of our 2014 graduates are showcasing their talents in the upcoming Ursuline Academy of Dallas production of *Annie Get Your Gun*. **Celine M.** and **Uyen L.** are both members of the vocal ensemble, while **Valeria M.** serves as Prop Master for the production. The musical runs February 25-27. Tickets go on sale Monday, February 15. Contact [Jane Chambers](#) (469-232-1820) for reservations.

www.stmcs.net | (972) 578-0610