



ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL

WHERE FAITH AND KNOWLEDGE MEET

WEEKLY SCHOOL BULLETIN

February 19, 2016

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REMINDERS

Sunday, February 21:

-6:00 PM, Church: St. Mark Children's Choir sings at Mass

Wednesday, February 24:



**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!

-7:45 AM, Cafetorium: 8th Grade Graduation/
Confirmation Parent Meeting

Thursday, February 25:

-7:30 AM: School Advisory Council Meeting

-Progress Reports Sent Home

Friday, February 26:

-8:30 AM, Church: All School Mass. The Mass is planned by the 7th grade. They will offer the Call to Worship, the Mass readings, and present the Communion gifts. All are welcome.

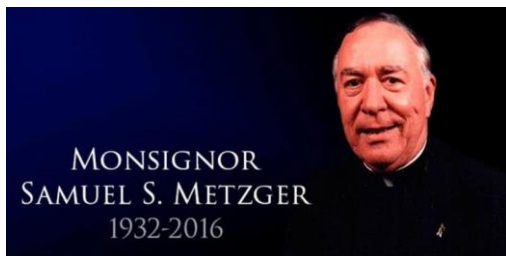
Saturday, February 27:

-St. Pius X Catholic School: Private Schools Interscholastic Association (PSIA) Competition

RE-ENROLLMENT FOR 2016-17: DEADLINE IS TODAY!

Re-registration for the 2016-17 school year is due today, February 19. Details are available on the [school website](#).

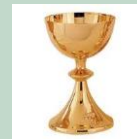
FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR MONSIGNOR METZGER



We are asking our school community to continue praying for Monsignor Sam Metzger, who passed away earlier this week. He had become a big part of our St. Mark family, helping out with daily Masses over the years. His funeral Mass will be held on Saturday, February 20 at 10:30 AM, with burial at Calvary Hill cemetery. May he rest in



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN LIONLAND



Vocations

Chalice: 7th 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.



Honesty:

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 "Honesty" 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.**

BECAUSE OUR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY PROJECTS WILL

peace. Read more about Monsignor Metzger's life [here](#).

ST. MARK S.T.E.M. NIGHT SPONSORSHIPS

St. Mark will host our first annual S.T.E.M. Fair (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) on April 8, 2016 from 6:00-8:00 PM on the St. Mark campus. Our entire St. Mark community is invited to participate. We are honored to have Allison N. '14 serve as one of the event Co-Chairs.

Can you help? We are looking for LION parents who work for companies that incorporate an aspect of S.T.E.M. into their business to sponsor booths at the event. Nearly all industries incorporate technology in some way, so think about how your company might apply Science, Technology, Engineering or Math, and how that information could be shared with our community. The possibilities are endless! In addition, if your company has a Human Resources or Community Outreach department, please consider sharing that contact information with us. We will follow-up directly to see if any opportunities exist.

Important Notes:

1. There is no charge to sponsor a booth.
2. Booths need to be kid-friendly and have a hands-on activity to engage our students.
3. You or a representative from your company would need to be present at the booth on the night of the event.
4. Your company will benefit from exposure to our students and their families.

If you can share your company's S.T.E.M. expertise at this event, please contact Pam Steinkirchner by February 26 at pam.steinkirchner@stmcs.net.

OVERLAP SLIGHTLY, WE'RE INCLUDING DETAILS ABOUT BOTH BELOW:

January Project: Laps for Leukemia

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.

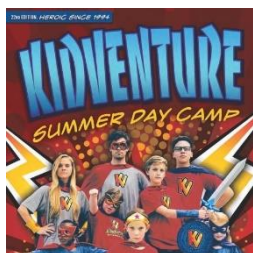
Catholic Social Teaching: Life and dignity of the human person

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 today, February 19.

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

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.

General registration for Kidventure's Summer Quest 2016 Day Camp is now available at <http://kidventure.com/register>. Click to select your child's Summer Quest adventures.

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

FALL FESTIVAL PROCEEDS

We are pleased to report that the school received proceeds of \$10,000 from the St. Mark Parish Fall Festival held in October. We thank everyone from our school community who volunteered and attended this fun event! Plans are already underway for the 2016 festival. If you'd like to help, please contact Darrel.sharpe@gmail.com.



HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

HELP NEEDED:

[Check out the new LLS poster that features our own survivor, Jacob N., by clicking here.](#)

February Project: Book Drive

St. Mark students are asked to bring in a gently used book to share with a fellow Catholic school working to build a library. Books should be turned in to classroom teachers.

Catholic Social Teaching: Call to family, community and participation.

Who Benefits? Santa Clara of Assisi Catholic Community

Due Date: Friday, February 26



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!](#)

Parent Readers Needed: Readers are needed for Mrs. Helm's PK4 class. Do you have 20 minutes on Tuesdays and/or Thursdays? It doesn't have to be every week or both days...whatever works for your schedule! Consider reading to Ms. Helm's PK4 class at 12:00 PM for 20 minutes. Please contact Erica Rivera for more information and/or to be added to the schedule: ebakerhrw@yahoo.com.

PK-5th Grade Memory Book Pictures: Preschool-5th grade Memory Book pictures are needed. If you have pictures of Preschool-5th grade students, please download them directly to the memory book website (school activities, band, music, plays, spirit day, sports and candid). Please make sure the photos that are downloaded are not blurry, and are from a high resolution camera. A lot of pictures are taken with smartphones these days and unfortunately, the resolution isn't high enough, so those photos cannot be used in the memory book. Here's how to download the pictures:

Go to www.yearbookforever.com.

Type: St Mark (for the name, capital "S," no period after "St").

Click on "St Mark lower school"

Click on "Community upload" button

Access code: stmarklions

THANK YOU

Thank you to the Preschool and 5th grade parents for the wonderful BBQ-style Teacher Luncheon this month! The faculty and staff loved it!

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!

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.

***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.**

NEW "REFERRAL THANK YOU PROGRAM"

Each year, St. Mark is honored to welcome new families to our school community, many of whom were referred by our current school families. We think you should be rewarded for bringing new families to our school! Through our new "Referral Thank You Program," your family can receive a \$500 tuition credit for referring one new family to St. Mark. Please [click here](#) for details!

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.

FROM THE NET TEAM

DADDY-DAUGHTER SWEETHEART DINNER & DANCE

The St. Mark Girl Scouts invite all dads and daughters (scouts and non-scouts) to attend their annual Daddy-Daughter Sweetheart Dinner & Dance on Friday, February 19 from 7:00-9:00 PM in the St. Mark Cafetorium. Enjoy dinner from Olive Garden, a dance and dance contest, a raffle for an American Girl doll of the year, and more. [Click here](#) for more details.

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!

ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL



NEWS FROM ATHLETICS

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.

Let Us Adore

7:30-9:30pm @ St. Mark's Church



Let us Adore is a evening of Eucharistic Adoration, led by the NET Team, that is full of charismatic praise and worship as well as silence. Young and old are invited to pray together as a parish community.

Feb 12th • March 10th • March 31st
April 14th • May 6th

Middle School Youth Open House: This popular weekly get-together for 6th-8th graders takes place every Friday from 3:30-6:00 PM at the St. Mark Youth House, located behind the church. It is an opportunity to hang out with the NET Team and other students from the community. Notify Patricia Opon by Thursday of each week if your student wishes to attend. St. Mark students are escorted to the Youth House by NET Team members immediately following dismissal.

SEEN & HEARD AROUND ST. MARK



Boy Scouts: Congratulations to St. Mark Troop 285. 27 scouts and adults, including current and alumni St. Mark students, logged 100 hours of service participating in the national "Scouting for Food" drive last weekend. They collected 1,079 cans of food and \$80 in cash donations, all benefitting the Plano Food Pantry.

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

5th grade girls Green vs. CKS @ St. Mark, 2/20, 9:00 AM

5th grade girls Gold vs. All Saints @ All Saints, 2/20, 10:00 AM

5th grade boys Green vs. CKS @ CKS, 2/20, 9:00 AM

5th grade boys Gold vs. St. Joseph @ St. Joseph, 2/20, 11:00 AM

6th grade girls Green vs. St. Cecilia @ St. Cecilia, 2/20, 9:00 AM

6th grade girls Gold vs. St. Patrick @ St. Mark, 2/20, 10:00 AM

6th grade boys D2 vs. St. Joseph @ St. Joseph, 2/20, 12:00 PM

7th grade girls vs. St. Rita @ St. Mark, 2/20, 11:00 AM

7th grade boys vs. St. Philip/Augustine @ St. Philip/Augustine, 2/20, 10:00 AM

7th grade boys vs. St. Monica @ St. Monica, 2/21, 4:00 PM

They also held a Court of Honor ceremony on Sunday where scouts received rank advancements and merit badges. 6th graders Luke H., Jake R. and C.J. W. all advanced to their First Class ranks.

(photos removed)

QR Code Book Trailers Elective: The middle school QR Code Book Trailer elective is making book trailers of picture books, and then making cards with QR codes so that students can quickly watch the book trailer and perhaps decide to check out that book. Mrs. Hollenbeck is hopeful that this will help some of the more hidden books (i.e. bottom shelf) get checked out more often. Shortly they will start making book trailers of chapter books for the older students, sharing books they love with their classmates. Click to see sample book trailers:

[Book Trailer #1](#)

[Book Trailer #2](#)

(photo removed)

5th Grade QR Codes: This week, 5th grade helped 1st grade learn to scan QR codes and listen to stories they had previously recorded for them on the iPads.

(photo removed)



LION PRIDE!

8th grade boys Green vs. All Saints @ St. Mark, 2/20, 12:00 PM

8th grade boys Gold vs. St. Monica @ St. Monica, 2/21, 1:00 PM

8th grade boys D3 vs. Collins @ Collins, 2/20, 12:00 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!



GO LIONS!

ST. ANDREW DINNER FOR HIGH SCHOOL-AGE MALES INTERESTED IN PRIESTHOOD

The annual St. Andrew Dinner will be held on March 14 from 6:00-8:00 PM at St. Cecilia Catholic Church in Dallas. All high school-age males who are interested in the priesthood are encouraged to attend. If interested, please RSVP to the Office of Vocations at (214) 379-2860 or www.dallasvocations.org.



HOLY TRINITY SEMINARY

Basketball All-Stars Named: The following 8th grade basketball athletes were selected to represent St. Mark in the Dallas Parochial League 16th Annual All-Star Basketball Doubleheader:

Matthew N. #43
Megan W. #21
Rachel R. #30

Also selected to the All-Star coaching staff:
Coach Paul Naquin.

The game was held on Wednesday at Bishop Lynch High School. There was also a halftime presentation of all DPL Scholar-Athlete Award winners, including our own Charlie S. Congratulations to all!

Students Support the Military: Following is a note from the grandfather of a seaman on the U.S.S. Truman who is being supported by the St. Michael's Society at St. Mark. In September, our students made cards for military personnel through the St. Michael's Society as part of their All-School Service Project. It's so important to support our military, and we're proud to say that our students do just that!

"THIS IS AN AWARD CEREMONY WHEREIN TYLER WAS AWARDED THE NAVY AND MARINE CORP. ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL. HE WAS ALSO AWARDED THE NAVY AIR WARFARE RIBBON. I SEND THIS TO YOU GUYS TO SHOW HOW MUCH YOUR EFFORTS AND ALL THE ST. MICHAEL'S GUARDIAN ANGELS ARE TAKING CARE OF THE U.S.S. TRUMAN SAILORS ON THIS DEPLOYMENT."

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:**

February - 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.

FRENCH MASSES AT CISTERCIAN

Mrs. Denvir extends an invitation to St. Mark French students, and any students/families who are interested, to attend the French Masses at Cistercian. There is an opportunity to do the readings, and to sample some French snacks at the end of every Mass. Masses take



IN ALUMNI NEWS...

Programming Success: Three St. Mark alumni recently excelled at the Digital Diva Programming Competition at Plano East Senior High School as students of Ursuline Academy of Dallas. **Emily V. '13, Valeria M. '14, and Ivanka P. '14** competed in the all-girls competition which helps grow female interest in a male-dominated field. Competitors solved a set of problems with code. Valeria and Ivanka also recently participated at the Computer Science CodeWars Competition at Plano West High School.

Soccer Stars: Congratulations to the Ursuline Academy of Dallas JV soccer team. They finished the season as TAPPS JV Tournament Champions after a 1-0 win over Bishop Lynch High School. St. Mark alumni **Savannah H. '15** and **Shannon R. '15** are both members of the winning team.

[Join Our Mailing List](#)

[Forward To A Friend](#)

place at Our Lady of Dallas Cistercian Abbey in Irving every 3rd Sunday of the month at 10:30

AM. Upcoming dates: February 21, March 20, April 17, and May 15.

BISHOP LYNCH PRINCESS & KNIGHT PARTY

Calling All Princesses and Knights! The Blackfriars Guild of Bishop Lynch High School invites you and your family to attend a 2:00 PM matinee performance of *Once Upon a Mattress*, the musical rendition of the fairy tale *The Princess and the Pea*, on Sunday, February 28. During intermission, they will host a Princess Party for all guests ages 2-10. Cookies and punch will be served. Guests should come dressed in their royal finest (princess, court jester, knight, king or queen). Following the show, guests will mingle and take photos with cast members. This is a wonderful opportunity for birthday parties, scouting events, or any other small group activity. Tickets are \$10. Group rates are available. Call (214) 324-3607, x131 or email terry.may@bishoplynch.org to make reservations.

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. Click [here](#) or [here](#) for more information. Purchase tickets at www.eisemanncenter.com.

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