



ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL

WHERE FAITH AND KNOWLEDGE MEET

WEEKLY SCHOOL BULLETIN

March 31, 2017

Prayer for the 2016-17 School Year

Lord, help us to come together as a community to support one another, encourage one another and show each other kindness. Amen.

St. Mark Mantra

Every day we treat others as we would Jesus Christ with all our hearts, mind and soul.

REMINDERS

TODAY, Friday, March 31:

-6th grade received the Vocations Chalice at today's All School Mass and will be praying for vocations during the upcoming week.

-New 2017-18 Registration Paperwork/Fees Due

-Join us TODAY for an afternoon of praise, worship and fellowship with the St. Mark community!

3:30-4:15 PM, Church - Family Adoration

The St. Mark NET Team will present praise and worship music, adoration instruction, a brief witness, and there will be a time for private adoration. Come and go. Email your child's teacher if you want to skip the carpool line and meet in the church.

4:30 PM, Church - Children's Stations of the Cross

5:00-7:00 PM, Cafetorium - Lenten Fish Fry

Hosted by the Knights of Columbus Council 6065. Eat in or take out. Cheese pizza also available.



A National School of
Excellence

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connected!



QUICK LINKS

[Calendar](#)

[Lifetime Lions Alumni](#)

[Admissions](#)

[Lunch Menus](#)

[Safe Environment](#)

Saturday, April 1:

-PSIA Academic Competition (participants previously notified)

Monday, April 3:

-St. Mark Spirit Day (see page 26 of the [Parent Student Handbook](#) for guidelines)

-8:00 AM - Community Prayer Team Meeting

Tuesday, April 4:

-Diocesan Robotics Competition

-Sister Maria Kim Visits 7th Grade

Wednesday, April 5:

-3rd Grade Field Trip

Friday, April 7:

-8:30 AM, Church - All School Mass planned by 6th grade. All are welcome.

-4th Grade Field Trip

-Middle School "Change For Life" Due

-Lion Safari Slumber Party (for auction winner)

Sunday, April 9:

-10:30 AM - Children's Choir Sings at Mass

Monday, April 10-Thursday, April 13:

-Popcorn Sale Benefitting Middle School Yearbook

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents: As we anticipate the Resurrection, I thought it would be an appropriate time to talk to you about the many ways we at St. Mark encourage our students to develop a deep relationship with Jesus Christ. As you know, our school mission is to "educate each student in a spirit of faith, gospel values and academic excellence according to Roman Catholic principles." As you can see, the words "faith," "gospel values," and "Roman Catholic principles" comprise the majority of our mission, words we take very seriously. In fact, they inform everything that we do. I like to say that St. Mark provides students with a "package" that contains exemplary academics, S.T.E.M., fine arts, extra-curricular and athletic opportunities, and that our faith is the "bow" that ties it all together. Following is a sampling of the many ways we incorporate faith into our day. Take a moment the next time you're on campus to look at the April "Spotlight"

[Lion's Den Spirit Store](#)



**MARCH ALL-SCHOOL
SERVICE PROJECT
UPDATES**

1. **The beneficiaries of the Baby Shower have expanded to include Project Gabriel**, in addition to White Rose and Birth Choice crisis pregnancy centers.

2. **The middle school "Change For Life" deadline has been extended until April 7. A middle school Pro-Life Rally will be held on April 12.** The middle school class (grades 6-8) that fills their change container first wins a "free dress day" and ice cream at lunch on April 12 (other classes that fill their change containers will also enjoy ice cream at lunch).

Keep that change coming...there are many moms and babies in our community who need our help!

ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL



**NEWS FROM
ATHLETICS**

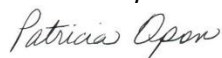
display in the front lobby and see some of these programs in action.

- *Daily religious instruction
- *Prayer Table containing religious articles in every classroom encouraging prayer and reflection
- *2nd and 8th grade Sacrament preparation incorporated into the school day
- *Scheduled Reconciliation
- *Spiritual adoption of seminarians from Holy Trinity Seminary
- *Monthly All School service projects encouraging the spirit of giving within the community, one of our duties as Catholics
- *All School Mass every Friday, on Holy Days of Obligation, and other special liturgies
- *Grade levels prepare and participate in Mass each week.
- *"Our Time" every Friday morning that reinforces the school's monthly virtues
- *Prayer Partner program
- *Vocations Chalice encouraging prayer for vocations each week
- *Father Cliff and Deacon Federico serve as guest teachers.
- *Prayer Box taken to All School Mass each week
- *Prayer before/after school, lunch periods, and before DPL sporting events
- *Altar Server program
- *Special presentations such as saint reports, Christmas Nativity pageant, Living Stations of the Cross, Living Saints Museum, and Living Rosary

While all of these programs are designed to instill our Catholic values within our students, the real reward that we see (and we hope you see at home), is when students take what they've learned and put it into action. What a joy it is to hear our students talking in the hallways about being kind; or hearing them singing hymns to themselves; or seeing them actively living our monthly virtues and the pride on their faces when they share their accomplishments with the teacher and myself; or witnessing them in prayer at Mass.

Faith formation is a joint effort between home and school. We hope the formation that is taking place during the school day is making its way into your home. Thoughts or suggestions? My door (and email) are always open to you.

In His Name,



Patricia Opon, Principal
patricia.opon@stmcs.net

FIELD DAY T-SHIRT ORDERS



Monsignor Smyth Golf Classic - Registration Now Available:

This annual event, hosted by the Class of 2002, is scheduled for May 19, 2017. [Click here](#) for information, registration, and sponsorship opportunities. Please email [Marlene Ehring](#) for more information.

Download Game Photos:

Check out the [Dallas Parochial League Smug Mug photo site](#). View and purchase photos from recent events.

Coach Safe Environment Training:

All volunteer coaches for Baseball, Softball, and Track must submit their [Safe Environment](#) certification to [Marlene Ehring](#) as soon as possible.

ST. MARK YOUTH MINISTRY

Middle School Lock-In at

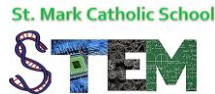
Amazing Jakes: April 7-8; Cost \$40.00; Open to St. Mark members in grades 6, 7 and 8 (members can bring a friend); registration and payment deadline: Sunday, April 2. Go to www.stmarkplanoyouth.org for details and registration.

It's time to place your order for your child(ren)'s Field Day t-shirts. The deadline is April 24. Please [click here](#) for the online order form. Note: Volunteer t-shirt orders will be taken separately at a later date.



2017 S.T.E.M. FAIR SHIRTS AVAILABLE SOON

The 2nd Annual S.T.E.M. Fair is fast approaching -- Friday, May 5 -- and you won't want to miss the opportunity to commemorate this awesome event with a 2017 S.T.E.M. Fair t-shirt! Shirts will be available for purchase for \$8.00 each from April 10-21. They will be lime green with royal blue imprinting. After the event, students may continue to wear these shirts during P.E. classes and on school Spirit Days. An order form will be available in the April 7 *Weekly School Bulletin*. Plan to place your order by April 21 to ensure you and your student get the correct sizes (only a very limited quantity of shirts in select sizes will be available the night of the event).



BE SURE YOUR PARISH DATABASE INFO. IS CURRENT

St. Mark Catholic Church is updating the parish database and they need each member to confirm their family contact information.

****THIS MUST BE DONE IN ORDER TO CONTINUE RECEIVING THE PARISHIONER DISCOUNT ON SCHOOL TUITION, SO PLEASE BE SURE YOUR FAMILY'S INFORMATION IS CURRENT.****

Click the following link to submit your update: <https://stmarkplano.org/2017-parish-update-form>. It only takes a minute.

INCLEMENT WEATHER DAYS

Attention Parents: Since we did not use our inclement weather days this year, please make note of the following calendar changes:

***Monday, April 17 will be a school holiday.**

***Thursday, June 1 will be the last day of school, and we will have 12:00 NOON dismissal on that day. The After School**

2017 Steubenville Lone Star - Life Teen: June 23, 24, 25; Cost \$280.00; High School Conference; Registration is open to current 8th graders and seniors. [Click here](#) for details and registration.

SUMMER CAMPS AT AREA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOLS

Click the links to learn more:



[Bishop Lynch High School](#) offers a variety of sports and recreational camps for K-12 students.



[Cistercian Preparatory School](#) offers academic, recreational, and sports camps for boys in grades 3-12.



[Jesuit College Preparatory School](#) offers [Sports Camps](#) for boys and girls in grades PK3-12, and a co-ed [Summer Theater Program](#) for middle school and high school students.



[John Paul II High School](#) offers [Athletic Camps](#) for middle school and high school students.

Program will be available until 3:00 PM. Please send a lunch with all ASP students. There will be no school on June 2.

APRIL 10 - KIDS TAKE OVER THE SCHOOL

On Monday, April 10, kids take over St. Mark! Thanks to parents who were the highest bidders at our recent Gala & Auction, many students will be spending the day teaching in the classrooms, and a few more will be serving as "Principal For the Day" and "Assistant Principal for the Day." We can't wait to see what they have planned!

Important notes for participating students: Students should wear their best business attire and report to their regular 1st period class for attendance purposes by 7:55 AM. After morning announcements, students will be dispersed to the classrooms where they will be teaching for the day. Any participating students who have scheduled tests on April 10 will still take those tests. They will also participate in their specials classes, attend recess, and PE. A special lunch will be provided to participating students in the Teacher's Lounge. Please advise the school nurse of any food allergies.

2017 AUCTION SURVEY

We want your feedback on this year's Gala & Auction, whether or not you attended. Please take a moment to [click here](#) and give us your thoughts so we can continue to make our annual fundraiser the best it can be. Thank you for your help!



HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Meeting Minutes: Minutes from the 11/30/16 HSA General Meeting are available by [clicking here](#).

Important Field Day Volunteer Information: Parents who have paid their HSA dues will receive a link to a Sign-Up Genius to volunteer for Field Day on **Friday, April 7 around 10:00 AM**. The deadline for volunteer sign-ups is May 3.

If you would like to volunteer on Field Day, there is still time pay your HSA dues and become Safe Environment cleared. Please contact [Jill Dourty](#).

***If you already signed-up to volunteer for Field Day at "Back to School Night," or have contacted Tara Roman or Ashley Ternan about volunteering, please note that you will still need to go through the Sign-Up Genius to secure your volunteer spot and submit your t-shirt size.

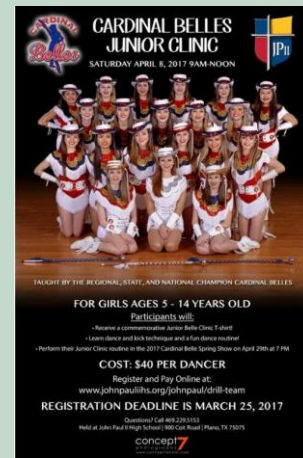


Ursuline Academy of Dallas offers [Athletic Camps](#) for students in grades 1-12.

JESUIT RANGERETTES TRYOUTS



JPII BELLES JUNIOR CLINIC



You're invited to attend an upcoming Public Mass with

On the Sign-Up Genius, you can choose the game you would like to volunteer for (if spots are available). If all of the volunteer slots for that game are filled, please place your name in the "to be placed" area. You will then be assigned to a game or area that needs extra help. You will also be asked to give your t-shirt size -- please be sure this section is completed.

HSA dues payments, Safe Environment clearance, and volunteer sign-ups must all be completed by May 3.

Box Tops: Please continue to collect Box Tops! Be sure to write the grade level on the baggies when you turn them in to the school office.

Don't forget to add the Box Tops app available for both iPhone and Android devices. It's free and easy to use! Simply load the app, pick from the offers, and scan a copy of your paper receipt. These offers can be repeated. The school is listed as **st mark catholic school** when you create your log-in (note spacing). Or you can search school ID: 184443. In addition, Sam's Club has a special promo via the app for 100 bonus Box Tops (\$10!) when you purchase 3 General Mills products. This offer can also be repeated. If you have any questions, contact [Holly Lewis](#) or [Jennifer Pike](#).



Amazon School Rewards Program: Weddings? Graduations? Be sure to shop at Amazon for all of your gift (and everyday) needs! St. Mark earns money when you shop through the link at the top of our [homepage](#).

Earn Money for St. Mark by Grocery Shopping: Link your Tom Thumb and Kroger shopper cards to St. Mark today by [clicking here](#) and earn money for our school simply by shopping for groceries. Kroger cards must be relinked each year.

Safe Environment: A reminder that you must be [Safe Environment](#) cleared to volunteer in any capacity at school. Contact [Toni Jobes](#) with questions. The next Safe Environment training session will take place on April 6 at 6:00 PM in McGivney Hall in the St. Mark Parish Center.

ST. MARK COMMUNITY PRAYER TEAM

the seminarians at 9:15 AM: April 2, 9, 23, 30. Holy Trinity Seminary is located at 3131 Vince Hagan Drive in Irving.

AT&T STADIUM EGGSTRAVAGANZA

On April 13 from 6:30-9:00 PM, AT&T Stadium is opening its doors for a fun night of games, tours and door prizes for families from all over DFW. [Click here](#) for details and registration. Questions? Contact Nick Ackels, AT&T Stadium Account Executive (and Jesuit alum) at (817) 892-4665.

SEEN & HEARD AROUND ST. MARK

A few scenes from this week. To learn the stories behind these photos, visit our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages!

Science Fair:



8th Grade Theology of the Body:



PK-4 Fairy Tale Week:

April's prayer intention for our school: For our Confirmation candidates.



Lenten Challenge: Keep the challenge going! Haven't started yet? It's not too late! It is very simple. Just reach out to one person in our school community this week and tell them that you would like to pray for him/her and his/her family by name every day for one week and ask them to pray for you and your family by name every day for this week. Next week, you each ask someone different to do the same. Continue the challenge until Easter.

Upcoming Events:

***Our next meeting will be THIS Monday, April 3 at 8:00 AM, Room 142 near the Music Room.** Please send any prayer requests you have to kathleenfrye@yahoo.com. Please indicate if your prayer can be shared, or should be kept confidential. You can also place any prayer requests in the Prayer Box on our school Prayer Table (located in the hallway between the Administration offices and the cafeteria). We will pray over these intentions during our meeting.

*Join us every Monday at 2:30 PM in the Church Cry Room to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet for our school.

KEEP UP THOSE REFERRALS

Next Open House: Early Childhood Education Family Picnic & Open House (PK-K): Wednesday, April 26, 5:30-7:30 PM, ECE Building. [Click here](#) for details and pre-registration.

School Tour Referral Incentive: Simply send someone you know to visit an upcoming Open House or take a school tour. Once they attend in person and indicate you as a referral, we'll send you a \$10.00 gift certificate to the Lion's Den Spirit Store...it's that easy!

Do you participate in a **neighborhood blog or website** such as www.nextdoor.com, or a neighborhood Facebook page? If so, please post our Open House date (see above). If there is room for more details, simply email [Debbie Reed](mailto:DebbieReed) and she'll send them to you for posting.

***And don't forget our Referral Thank You Program:** Refer a new family to St. Mark and you could receive a \$500 tuition credit. [Click here](#) for details.



PK-4 N Week:



4th Grade Puff Mobiles:



[Join Our Mailing List](#)

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THANK YOU FOR HELPING TO SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT
OUR WONDERFUL SCHOOL COMMUNITY!

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