



ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL

WHERE FAITH AND KNOWLEDGE MEET

WEEKLY SCHOOL BULLETIN

September 1, 2017

Prayer for the 2017-18 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 treat Jesus Christ, with all our heart, mind and soul.

REMINDERS

Today, Friday, September 1:

-6th grade received the Vocations Chalice and will be praying for vocations during the upcoming week.

Monday, September 4:

-No School: Labor Day

Wednesday, September 6-Friday, September 8:

-8th Grade to the Pines Leadership Retreat

Friday, September 8:

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

PARENT STUDENT HANDBOOK UPDATES

Updates have been made to the Withdrawal (page 15) and Homework (page 20) policies in the [Parent Student Handbook](#) and are effective immediately. A current copy of the handbook is always available to you on the school website.

HURRICANE HARVEY



A National School of
Excellence

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connected!



QUICK LINKS

[Calendar](#)
[Lifetime Lions Alumni](#)
[Admissions](#)
[Lunch Menus](#)
[Safe Environment](#)

Thanks to your generosity, St. Mark collected loads of diapers, socks and underwear for children this week. Donations are being taken to Trusted World benefitting victims of Hurricane Harvey.

Throughout the week, our students have been discussing this tragedy with their teachers. We are encouraging them to look for all of the helpers as they see the news stories, and to think of ways they can be helpers themselves, including praying for the victims. Each day, we are saying a special prayer for them during our morning prayer/announcements.

You might also consider praying at home as a family. Bishop Burns suggests a [special prayer](#) for hurricane victims.

Another great opportunity to donate involves a current Box Tops/Lysol promotion. Can you imagine the cleaning supplies that will be needed? See details in the HSA section below.

Still want to get involved? Contact the local [Red Cross](#) to learn about additional ways you can help.

UNIFORM LABELERS -- WE THANK YOU, TOO!

To all of our parents who heeded the call to label your child's uniform pieces, a big thank you! We cannot tell you how much easier it is to return missing sweaters, etc. when a legible name label is inside. Still need to label uniforms? We highly recommend ordering name labels from [Inch Bug](#) or [Mabel's Labels](#).

LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER FOR DRAMA KIDS

Last chance to register for Drama Kids this fall -- classes begin next week! Come explore your dramatic side and learn drama basics. Kids will enjoy fun dress up days and a variety of activities. Grades K-5. Please [click here](#) for more details. Register at www.dramakids.com/tx3.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: LION'S DEN SPIRIT STORE

The Lion's Den Spirit Store is looking for four parents to volunteer during the Friday morning sales on a rotating schedule. Volunteer hours are 7:25 until 8:15 AM each Friday. During that time, volunteers are asked to help with spirit merchandise sales, organize merchandise, and tag inventory. It's a great way to get involved, raise money for the Athletics

[Lion's Den Spirit Store](#)

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN LIONLAND



The September Virtue is **Hope**. St. Mark encourages students to live out our monthly virtues in many ways.



Service From the Heart

September Project:

Gently used book collection. Students in grades 3-8 will write a bible verse and PK-2 students will color a picture to be placed in their book as a reminder of the love we seek to share.

Catholic Social Teaching:

Option for the poor and vulnerable

Who Benefits?

Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program/McKinney & McKinney Juvenile Detention Facility Library (grades 3-8); Samaritan Inn/McKinney (grades PK-2)

Due Date: Books are due by September 22.

2017-18 LIMITED OPENINGS

Department, and meet lots of other parents. If you can help, please contact marlene.ehring@stmcs.net.

MIDDLE SCHOOL "MATH COUNTS" REGISTRATION

Dear Middle School Parents: Math Counts is about to begin! Does your child love math? Is your child interested in furthering his/her math skills and competing in local math competitions? St. Mark middle school students have the opportunity, as in years past, to participate in Math Counts. Topics ranging from introductory high school geometry to the characteristics of mathematical proof will be covered. A heavy emphasis is placed upon the application of simple concepts to challenging problems. Students apply their skills in four nationally-ranked competitions that take place throughout the school year. Meetings will be conducted by Ursuline Academy Senior, Ivanka Perez, a 2014 St. Mark graduate. She will need a Safe Environment cleared parent to attend as well. Math Counts will start on a Sunday in September from 3:00-4:00 PM on the school campus. If interested, please contact Erica.rivera@stmcs.net.

GIRL SCOUTS

Make friends, learn new skills, enjoy STEM projects and have fun in Girl Scouts. Contact Elena Mappus at elenamappus@gmail.com or 404-213-4122 to register your daughter. All ages are welcome with a specific focus on kindergarten girls to join our Daisy Girl Scout troop led by Stacie Cuvi at mrs.cuvi@gmail.com or 214-874-8233.



STEM SCOUTS

STEM Scouts is coming to St. Mark for girls and boys in 3rd through 8th grades! Lower school activities include *Archaeology, Astronomy, Robotics, Physics of Light & Colors, Magnetism, All About Sound, and All About Matter*. Middle school activities include *Crazy Robot Machines, Mobile Apps, How Does Light Work, Mission to the International Space Station, and War of the Drones*.



Meetings will be held weekly after school at St. Mark. An information and registration meeting will occur on **Tuesday, September 12 at 6:00 PM in the Cafetorium**. The cost is \$200 per student which includes activity supplies. Payment options are available. To register for 3rd-5th grade:

There are limited openings in select grade levels for the 2017-18 school year. Take advantage of our referral opportunities:

***School Tour Referral Incentive:** Simply send someone you know to 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!

***Referral Thank You Program:** Refer a new family to St. Mark and you could receive a \$500 tuition credit. [Click here](#) for details.

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

9.14.17 - NORTH TEXAS GIVING DAY

Mark your calendar! Get up and give to St. Mark Catholic School on North Texas Giving Day and watch your donation multiply. [Click here](#) for details.



Calling all "Dads of Great Students!" Watch D.O.G.S.

<https://stemscouts.org/signup-night/6915/>. To register for 6th-8th grade: <https://stemscouts.org/signup-night/5420/>. Questions? Contact Maribeth.hughes@scouting.org or 214-918-4010.

ENDOW

ENDOW (Educating on the Nature and Dignity of Women) is a Catholic study program that engages the intellect of women to help them understand their God-given dignity and respond to our culture's desperate need for an authentic feminine presence to transform every aspect of life and society. More information can be found [here](#). St. Mark's new fall ENDOW study begins September 13. *St. Thomas Aquinas Part 1* is what we will be studying and we will explore what Aquinas has to teach us about the virtues and theory and the essential purpose of living the moral life as Catholic women. Meetings take place on Wednesdays from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM in the Upper Room of the Smyth Pastoral Center and child care is available upon request. [Click here](#) to register. Questions? Contact [Chris Keith](#) or [Liz Quarles](#).



THE HIGHLANDS SCHOOL VISIT DAYS

Attention 8th grade families: The Highlands School invites you to gain a glimpse into a day as a "Blazer" by attending one of their upcoming visit days: October 25 or November 8. Sessions take place from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Lunch will be provided. [Click here](#) for details.



Every piece of jewelry tells a story.

Join St. Mark Catholic School and jump start your holiday shopping with our "Kendra Gives Back" event. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the 2018 St. Mark Auction and Gala.

Thursday, October 5, 2017

will be hosting its annual "Pizza Night" on Wednesday, September 6 from 7:00-9:00 PM in the school Cafetorium. This is a great opportunity to meet new dads, get your questions answered, choose dates to serve, win some door prizes, and enjoy a free meal. Please RSVP to Aaron Baldwin at ab3163@att.net by September 1. For more information about St. Mark's Watch D.O.G.S. program just for dads, [click here](#).

ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL



NEWS FROM ATHLETICS

LIONS DEN

The Lion's Den Spirit Store is open every Friday morning from 7:30-8:15 AM in the Cafeteria hallway. Can't make it in person? Shop online at www.stmcs.net/spirit-gear. Once an order has been submitted it will be bundled and ready for pick up on Friday. Note: Not all items available are offered online.

Mark your calendar:



4th Annual All Souls Run:
Saturday,
October 28,
2017. For details
and run registration, please
[click here](#).

6:00 to 8:00 PM
Kendra Scott Store at The Shops of Legacy Plano

Champagne & Sweet Treats Provided

The Need to Know Details:

1. You must shop in-person or by phone at (214) 299-5227 for proceeds to benefit the St. Mark Catholic School Auction.
2. The event is not limited to St. Mark families. Invite your friends and family!
3. Children are welcome to attend with you while you shop.
4. Ladies can make a wish-list in the store prior to the event.
5. Shipping fees will be waived if you shop during the event times and indicate the purchase is for St. Mark Catholic School.

Questions? Please contact [Sherry Mehring](#) or [Rebecca Battles](#).

Stay tuned! The 2018 Auction website and ticket sales will open shortly.



HOME & SCHOOL
ASSOCIATION

2017-18 General Meetings:

***September 20, 6:30 PM, Cafetorium:** The very first HSA meeting for this school year is coming up! This meeting will begin with an overview of this year's plans, which include some exciting, NEW, fun events, and will feature a special guest speaker immediately following the business portion of the meeting. The speaker is a local police officer who will be speaking about internet safety for our children. Attendance at the meeting will renew your Safe Environment training for this school year.

We have also partnered with BJ's restaurant and they will be providing dinner to attendees. For this reason we kindly ask that you click to RSVP to the [Facebook event page](#) so that we order enough food. You can also send your RSVP to Jolea Broome at 469-774-7799.



Monsignor Smyth

Golf Classic: Friday, May 4, 2018

First Football Game:

September 10; location TBA.
JV plays at 12:00 Noon;
Varsity plays at 2:00 PM

First Volleyball Match:

September 9; schedule TBA

Fall Pep Rally: October (date TBD)

Spring Pep Rally: January 31, 2018

**ST. MARK NET TEAM
NEEDS HOST
FAMILIES**



The NET Team is coming! We are so fortunate to have these young adults at St. Mark once again this year working with our parish youth and our students. The NET missionaries arrive on September 16. How can you help NET Ministries succeed at St. Mark? We are looking for host families for these missionaries. Please contact Matthew Cantrell, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries, at mcantrell@stmarkplano.org if you can serve as a host.



We are working hard to procure childcare to alleviate the most common obstacle to parent attendance. More details regarding childcare are forthcoming.

***December 6, 8:15 AM, Cafetorium: HSA 2nd General Meeting**

***March 28, 6:30 PM, Cafetorium: HSA 3rd General Meeting**

***May 2, 8:15 AM, Cafetorium: HSA 4th General Meeting**

Volunteer Opportunities: Looking to volunteer? Check out the [Sign-Up Genius](#) link and all the ways you can help out.

Box Tops: Earn additional funds for St. Mark Catholic School by clipping Box Tops For Education from a variety of products, AND earning bonus Box Tops via the Box Tops app. Each Box Top submitted earns \$.10 for St. Mark. [Click here](#) for details.

Right now, Sam's Club is running a "buy 3 get 100" (\$10) promotion through the end of September. Purchase any 3 Box Top products and scan your receipt using the Box Tops app by 9/30/17 (limit 4).

Donation Opportunity for Hurricane Harvey Victims
Earn 100 Box Tops on Lysol when you purchase any 5 products. Limit 4.

Hurricane Harvey victims will need to clean up an entire city. Please consider buying 5 Lysol products to donate, and on top of the good deed, the school will make \$10 once you scan your receipt using the Box Tops app.

ST. MARK COMMUNITY PRAYER TEAM

The mission of the Community Prayer Team is to provide ways that we, as a community, can come together and pray throughout the year. For more information about our Prayer Team, [click here](#).



September's prayer intention for our school: For our teachers, our students, and the safety of our school.

This Week's Prayer: Please pray for a successful retreat for the 8th grade students, teachers, and chaperones who are leaving for The Pines next week: *Loving God, we pray for our 8th graders, their teachers, and chaperones. Give them the knowledge, courage and a willing heart to be the disciples of today. Guide them to learn Your will, to share Your message and to know, to love and to serve You with youthful zeal. Bless them with happiness, friendship, love, laughter, peace, hope, faith, achievement and direction. We dedicate and entrust them to your care. Amen.*

Join us for an upcoming Public Mass on September 10 at 9:15 AM at Holy Trinity Seminary, 3131 Vince Hagan Drive, Irving. A brief reception with the seminarians follows.

THANKS FOR DINNER, TEACHERS!

One of the 2017 Auction & Gala packages that went to the highest bidder was a "Monthly Dinner for 8" catered by the faculty/staff. One lucky family starts receiving dinners this month -- BBQ ribs and all the fixins! Special thanks to this month's cooks: Ms. Bongiovanni, Mrs. Crider, Mrs. Jobes, Mrs. Kyle, Ms. Pennartz, and Ms. Steinkirchner. Someone else does the cooking, and you still get to enjoy a homemade dinner made with love? You just can't beat that!



SEEN & HEARD AROUND ST. MARK

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

Hurricane Harvey Donations:

Meetings: Mark your calendars. The first meeting is September 11 at 8:00 AM in Room 116. If you have a prayer request concerning our school, or another intention you would like us to pray over during this meeting, please send an email to kathleenfrye@yahoo.com or lizquarles97@hotmail.com. Please indicate if you would like your prayer to be shared, or submitted in the Prayer Box to remain confidential.

If you are unable to make the meeting, but would like to be part of this team, contact KathleenFrye@yahoo.com; 214- 551- 8887. There will be many ways to participate this year, no matter what your schedule is.

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Calligraphy:



3rd Grade Living/Non-Living Things:



Soccer Success:



PK4 Fine Motor Skills:



8th grade Trinity Project:



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