



ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL

WHERE FAITH AND KNOWLEDGE MEET

WEEKLY SCHOOL BULLETIN

January 22, 2016

IN THIS ISSUE

Reminders
What's Happening in Lionland
Welcome New Students
2016 Sweethearts Gala & Auction
Catholic Schools Week
Check Out Our New School Video!
Used Uniform Sale
Boy Scout Spring Plant Sale
Start Planning Summer with Kid Venture!
Applications For New Students Available
Ms. Williams Needs Bottle Caps
Holy Trinity Seminary News
Home and School Association (HSA) News
50th Celebration with Past/Present Clergy
Celebration of Love
News From Athletics
In Alumni News...
Seen and Heard Around St. Mark

REMINDERS

Sunday, January 24:
-9:00 AM-12:00 PM, Lion's Lair Gym: Used Uniform Sale (details below)

Wednesday, January 27:
-St. Mark Geography Bee

Thursday, January 28:
-School Advisory Council Meeting



**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!

Friday, January 29:

-8:30 AM, Church: All School Mass. The Mass is planned by the 5th grade. They will offer the Call to Worship, the Mass readings, and present the Communion gifts. All are welcome.

Saturday, January 30:

-Catholic Schools Week Begins (details below)
-Students Represent St. Mark in Uniform at Masses

Sunday, January 31:

-Students Represent St. Mark in Uniform at Masses
-9:00 AM, Church: 5th Grade Choir Sings at Mass
-10:00 AM, Main School Hallway: Class of 2015 Portrait Unveiled



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

When: February 6, 2016

Where: Marriott Hotel at Legacy Town Center in Plano

Tickets: \$75.00

**Click here to buy tickets, view auction items,
and reserve a hotel room:**
www.stmcs.net/auction

*The deadline to request seating arrangements with ticket purchases is January 29, 2016.



WELCOME NEW STUDENTS

A warm St. Mark welcome to the new students who joined us this week:

6th Grade

Lawrence L. - Salvia
Homebase

7th Grade

Emma L. - Orchowski
Homebase

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.

- *The deadline for purchasing tickets online is February 2, 2016.
- *The deadline to book a discounted room at the Marriott is January 25, 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 next 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](#).

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

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

In addition to the activities mentioned above, you and your children have the opportunity to help us get the word out about St. Mark during this special week by volunteering at a local parish Mass on January 30 or 31, and at our upcoming Open Houses on February 2 & 9. This is the single most important recruitment time of the year, and the time when we can maximize visibility of St. Mark within our Catholic community. Our families are our best representatives. We need all hands on deck! Please [click here](#) for the Sign-Up Genius.

CHECK OUT OUR NEW SCHOOL VIDEO!



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

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

St. Mark has a new school video! Thanks to the students in our fall Video Production Elective, Ms. Joyce Burke, and school parent Aaron Baldwin, we now have a way to share the wonderful things about our school in video format at events such as Open Houses, and on our school website. The video is called "Welcome Home to St. Mark." [Click here](#) to watch it, and feel free to pass it on! While you're at it, check out some other videos that our students and teachers have posted on [St. Mark's Vimeo channel](#).

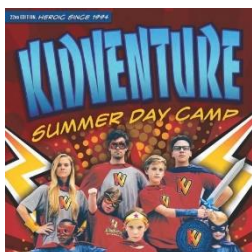
USED UNIFORM SALE

Does your child need some additional school uniform pieces to get through the remainder of the year? The Home & School Association will hold a Used Uniform Sale this Sunday, January 24 from 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM in the Lion's Lair Gym. Volunteer and service hour opportunities are available. [Click here](#) for the Sign-Up Genius.

THANK YOU FOR ALL OF THE USED UNIFORM DONATIONS. WE ARE NOW AT CAPACITY AND CANNOT ACCEPT ANY MORE DONATIONS.

[Click here](#) for a flyer containing more information about this weekend's sale.

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

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](#)



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.



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!

APPLICATIONS FOR NEW STUDENTS NOW AVAILABLE

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

For more information, and to register on February 9, please visit <http://kidventure.com/plano-summer-camp/>, or call [214.303.9789](tel:214-303-9789).



HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

IMPORTANT HSA DATES:

Wednesday, January 13-Friday January 22:

Preschool- 5th Grade Memory Book Drive

Sunday, January 24: Used Uniform Sale- 9:00 AM-12:00 PM, Lion's Lair Gym

Wednesday, February 4: Ice Cream Sandwich Social for all students during Catholic Schools Week

Preschool- 5th Grade Memory Book Drive: The deadline to order Preschool- 5th Grade Memory Books is today, Friday January 22. If you did not receive the flyer with the ordering information, please [click here](#). If you have questions, please

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

***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

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 Bruce Miller Nursery. Proceeds from this sale will help fund troop activities and help individual scouts earn money for scouting camps. Pick-up will be at the St. Mark field on

contact Tiffany Duncan at tlduncan34@yahoo.com.

Used Uniform Sale: Please [click here](#) for more information about the Used Uniform Sale coming up on Sunday, January 24.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Junior Achievement: Help needed! We are in need of volunteers for Junior Achievement for **Mrs. Crider's 2nd grade class**. JA classes span five weeks, and each class is 30 minutes long. All teaching materials are provided. The volunteer works directly with the classroom teacher to schedule sessions that are convenient for both. If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please contact Kathleen Frye at Kathleen.Frye@yahoo.com.



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 TK, K and 6th grade parents who helped and/or donated to the Teacher Luncheon on Wednesday. It was a Super (Souper) yummy meal, and the staff loved the warm soup and chili on a cold day!

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.

April 2 from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM. Please [click here](#) for more details.



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

5th grade girls Green vs. MIS @ St. Mark, 1/23, 3:00 PM

5th grade girls Gold vs. St. Rita @ St. Mark, 1/23, 9:00 AM

5th grade boys Green - BYE

5th grade boys Gold vs. St. Monica @ St. Mark, 1/23, 10:00 AM

6th grade girls Green vs. St. Rita @ St. Mark, 1/23, 11:00 AM

6th grade girls Gold vs. SPX @ St. Mark, 1/23, 11:00 AM

6th grade boys D2 vs. St. Rita @ St. Rita, 1/23, 1:00 PM

6th grade boys D1 vs. St. Monica @ St. Mark, 1/23, 1:00 PM

7th grade girls vs. St. Rita @ St. Mark, 1/23, 2:00 PM

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

March For Life: St. Mark was well-represented at the March For Life in Dallas last weekend, thanks to the Respect Life Club. They joined Bishop Farrell, Auxiliary Bishop Deshotel and thousands of others in support of pro-life efforts.

(photo removed)

Art Gallery: Our gallery wall is filling up again with our students' fabulous artwork. Amazing sketches, collages, "rip art," and replicas of Van Gogh and Picasso masterpieces are currently on display. Next time you're on campus, be sure and take a moment to view our students' work.

7th grade boys vs. St. Rita @ St. Mark, 1/24, 5:00 PM

8th grade girls vs. POP @ POP, 1/23, 2:00 PM & 1/24 vs. St. Rita @ St. Rita, 5:00 PM

8th grade boys Green vs. St. Rita @ St. Rita, 1/23, 4:00 PM

8th grade boys Gold vs. St. Philip/Augustine @ St. Philip/Augustine, 1/23, 2:00 PM & 1/24 vs. St. Thomas @ St. Mark, 3:00 PM

8th grade boys D3 vs. St. Paul @ St. Mark, 1/24, 4:00 PM

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!



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!



1st Grade Learns About Rainforests: On Thursday, 1st grade took a "field trip" to the rainforest, and didn't even have to leave their classroom! They had a visit from Hightouch Hightech, an organization that makes science fun. They built their very own rainforests and learned how medicine is made from rainforest plants.

(photos removed)

Preschool Celebrates MLK Day: Our preschool students recently celebrated Martin Luther King Day in their Music & Movement class. They played drums and took turns dancing with scarves.

(photo removed)

[Join Our Mailing List](#)

[Forward To A Friend](#)

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

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

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.



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 - 24th, 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.

IN ALUMNI NEWS...

Congratulations to **Uyen L.**
'14 who was recently
inducted into the Ursuline
Academy of Dallas chapter of
the Tri M Music Honor
Society, an international
music honor organization
that recognizes students for
their academic and musical
achievements.

St. Mark Catholic School | 1201 Alma Drive, Plano, TX 75075
www.stmcs.net | (972) 578-0610