



# ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL

WHERE FAITH AND KNOWLEDGE MEET

## WEEKLY SCHOOL BULLETIN

November 18, 2016

### 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, November 18:

-5th grade received the Vocations Chalice at today's All School Mass. They will be praying for vocations during the upcoming week.

-12:00 PM: Early Dismissal. The After School Program will be available until 3:00 PM.



10:00 AM-11:00 PM: Raising Cane's Fundraiser. Mention St. Mark when you place your order and a percentage is donated to our Athletics Dept.

### Saturday, November 19:

-6:00 PM, St. Mark Field: St. Mark Parish Family Picnic & Movie

### Sunday, November 20:

-5:00 PM, Bishop Lynch High School: DPL 8th Grade All Star Football Game



Monday, November 21-Friday, November 25:



A National School of Excellence

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Follow us and stay connected!



## QUICK LINKS

[Calendar](#)  
[Limited Openings for 2016-17](#)  
[Lifetime Lions Alumni Network](#)

-No School: HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

**Wednesday, November 30:**

-Progress Reports Emailed (grades 1-8)

-8:15 AM, Cafetorium: HSA General Meeting

**Friday, December 2:**

-SCRIP Gift Card Orders Due

**Saturday, December 3:**

-7:00 PM: Pre-Auction Mixer - Grades K-2

**Monday, December 5:**

-St. Mark Spirit Day! (refer to page 26 of the [Parent Student Handbook](#) for dress code details)

-8:00 AM, Rm. 142: Community Prayer Team meeting

-December 5-9: Popcorn Sale, benefitting Middle School Yearbook (details to come)

**ABSENCES BEFORE/AFTER THANKSGIVING**

**IF YOU ARE RETURNING LATE AFTER THANKSGIVING BREAK, PLEASE SEND AN EMAIL TO RENE O'CONNOR AT [RENE.OCONNOR@STMCS.NET](mailto:RENE.OCONNOR@STMCS.NET).**

**SAFETY ALERT AS WE GO INTO THE HOLIDAY SEASON**

It has been brought to our attention that predators are using technology as a tactic to start a conversation with their potential victims. They are being shown a phone and being asked, "Excuse me, is this your phone?" Then the conversation potentially continues. Please be extra vigilant in protecting yourselves and your children.

**WELCOME NEW STUDENT**

A warm St. Mark welcome to our newest student, 6th grader Carmen L. She is in Mrs. Rivera's home base.

**DONATE TO CATHOLIC CHARITIES THROUGH ST. MARK GIRL SCOUTS**

The St. Mark 4th and 5th grade Girl Scout Troops (3360 and 3380) are collecting items for children who visit the Catholic Charities' Immigration Legal Services office in Dallas. They are requesting the following brand new items: small blankets, stuffed animals, toy cars, crayons, coloring books, small games, toothbrushes,

[Lunch Menus](#)  
[Safe Environment Training](#)

**ST. MARK  
COMMUNITY PRAYER  
TEAM**

**Upcoming  
Events:**



\*Join us every Monday at 2:30 PM to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet for our school and country. We will meet in the church Cry Room.

\*Our next meeting will be on Monday, December 5 at 8:00 AM, Room 142 near the Music Room. It will last approximately 30 minutes. Please join us in praying for our school. All are welcome. Praying out loud is not required.



**Tennis Honors:**

Our Tennis Team participated in the DPL Tennis Tournament this past weekend. Congratulations to: Katie S.-2016 Varsity Girls Singles Champion-Recreation League; Olivia S.-2nd Place Varsity Girls-Competition League; Nataly M.-5th place Consolation JV Girls-Competition League; Jonas

toothpaste and dental floss. Small cash donations are also being accepted. This service project is part of the girls' Girl Scout Bronze Award, which is the highest recognition a Junior Girl Scout can earn. The girls will be collecting items before and after most Mass times for the next two weekends, and there will also be a collection box available in the school office through December 16.



## HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

**From the HSA President:** Dear HSA Members/Parents: If any of you have ever flown before, I am sure you can recall safety instructions from the flight attendant that in case the cabin loses pressure, that you should place the oxygen mask on yourself before assisting children or other passengers. In other words, sometimes you have to make sure your needs are taken care of, before being able to tend to the needs of others.

Similarly, the HSA Executive Board believes that all volunteers must place their families first. We know all too well that practicing what we preach is a challenge. We are passionate about volunteering, but more importantly, we consider St. Mark our home, and you our family. After careful consideration and much discernment, our Secretary, Pamela Bond, is putting into practice "family first." We have accepted her resignation as Secretary, and we cannot thank her enough for serving on the Executive Board. More importantly, we respect her resignation, as it allows her to better serve not just her family, but our family. Thank you, Pamela!

We would also like to announce that Mireya Cowen will begin her role as HSA Secretary starting in December.

Thank you, and please contact me if you have any questions,

Ashley Ternan, HSA President  
[ashleyternan@gmail.com](mailto:ashleyternan@gmail.com)

**Book Fair Poster Contest Winners:** Thank you to everyone who entered the Book Fair Poster Contest this year, and congratulations to our winners:

**Preschool:** 1st Place-Claire N.; 2nd Place-Elizabeth C.

**TK/Kindergarten:** 1st Place-Addison S.; 2nd Place-Sophia C.; 3rd Place-Bridgette F.

**1st Grade:** 1st Place-Ali N.; 2nd Place-Jacob N.; 3rd Place-Roxton M.; 4th Place-Michael S.

A.-2nd Place JV Boys-  
Competition League;  
Alonso T.-3rd Place Varsity  
Boys Singles-Recreation  
League; and Alejandro D.-  
5th Place JV Boys-  
Competition League!

### **Basketball Team**

**Evaluations:** Evaluations will take place on November 28 and 30 in the Bacot Gym as follows:

#### Monday, November 28:

- 5:30-7:00 PM-5th girls  
-7:00-8:15 PM-6th boys  
-8:15-9:30 PM- 7th girls

#### Wednesday, November 30:

-5:30-7:00 PM-5th boys  
-7:00-8:30 PM-6th girls

(There will be no evaluations for 7th boys, 8th boys, or 8th girls.)

#### Important Notes:

-All basketball evaluations are closed to spectators.

-Drop-off: Drop-off your athlete at the double-windowed entrance in front of the Athletic Director's Office (southwest parking lot on the campus). The door will be locked, so please wait until someone opens the door for your athlete prior to driving away.

-Pick-up: Athletes will exit through the same doors. Please be prompt, as the evaluation session will run on time.

**2nd Grade:** 1st Place-Julia Z.; 2nd Place-Isabelle F.; 3rd Place-Jayden C.

**3rd Grade:** 1st Place-Diya C.; 2nd Place-Leah D.

**4th Grade:** 1st Place-Dairien P.; 2nd Place-Braden G.; 3rd Place-Adrienne F.; 4th Place-Sofia Z.

**5th Grade:** 1st Place-Sofia M.

**6th Grade:** 1st Place-Biya C.; 2nd Place-Isabella Z.

**7th Grade:** 1st Place-Elena V.

**Ms. Tammy's Super Art:** 1st Place-Reese K.; 2nd Place-Olivia G.; 3rd Place-Camila Q.; 4th Place-Collin B.

**HSA Movie Night:** Due to the busy Christmas season, the annual HSA Movie Night will be rescheduled for the second semester of school. Date TBD -- stay tuned!



Don't forget -- as you begin your holiday shopping (as well as your everyday shopping), click the Amazon link on the [St. Mark homepage](#). This easy step earns money for our school.

**We've made it even easier for you by adding the Amazon "a" logo at the very top of the homepage, next to the social media links:**



We have received questions about topics such as order privacy, how you know your order is linked to St. Mark, and what the difference is between the Amazon School Rewards Program and Amazon Smile. Please [click here](#) for "Frequently Asked Questions."

The percentage of sales that St. Mark earns varies by how much traffic we generate. Currently, we're making about 6.5% of purchases, which is fantastic! Let's keep up the momentum and make easy money for St. Mark!

**Earn Money for St. Mark by Grocery Shopping:** Christmas, the Season of Giving, is just around the corner, just like your neighborhood Tom Thumb and Kroger. And guess what? Tom Thumb and Kroger celebrate the Season of Giving year round. Link your shopper cards today by [clicking here](#) and earn money for our school simply by shopping for groceries.



**Scrip Gift Cards:** Giving gift cards this year? Support St. Mark by purchasing them for the holidays and beyond through our

**Sports Physicals:** All DPL athletes must have a current [Sports Physical](#) on file. To assist you, Plano Urgent Care, adjacent to St. Mark, is offering \$25.00 school and sports physicals. See below for information.



**Download Game Photos:**

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

**Dallas Parochial League**

**Scholarships:** The DPL will offer 4-6 separate \$500 scholarships to worthy 6th, 7th and 8th grade students in the 2016-17 school year. Additional details, eligibility, and the application can be found on the [DPL website](#). The deadline to apply is December 9, 2016.

**Coach Safe Environment**

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

SCRIP program. Our school receives a percentage back from every sale. You should have received a hard copy of the SCRIP order form last week. You may also [click here](#) to print your own form. **Orders are due Friday, December 2.** For any questions, please contact [Joan Ternan](#).

**Safe Environment:** A reminder that you must be [Safe Environment](#) cleared to volunteer in any capacity at school. Contact [Toni Jobes](#) with questions.

## 30TH ANNUAL GALA & AUCTION

**Tickets:** The 2017 Gala & Auction is scheduled for February 18, 2017 at Marriott Legacy Center. As a reminder, discount tickets are only on sale through **TODAY, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18!**

Purchase your discounted 30th Anniversary Gala & Auction Tickets for \$65 now by [clicking here](#). We nearly reached capacity prior to Christmas last year, so buy your tickets early to ensure you get to enjoy the festivities. If you have questions, please reach out to [Eric Librea](#).



**Pre-Auction Mixers:** Thank you to all of the 3rd-5th grade parents who attended the Pre-Auction Mixer last week. It was a wonderful time of friendship and fellowship. We saw new families as well as tenured families in attendance, and hope everyone will attend one or more mixers this fall.

If you were unable to attend, we invite you to one of the remaining mixers below. Each mixer will have an Administration staff member present to discuss the Smart Lab announcement Mrs. Opon made earlier this fall, and to answer any questions you might have about the funds raised during this year's Gala & Auction.

All Pre-Auction Mixer invitations have been emailed. Please see the dates and times below to mark your calendars. If you have questions or did not receive your invitation, please contact [Rebecca Battles](#).

**-PK3-TK- December 10, 4-7 PM, at the Cowen's Home:** Everyone is welcome including grandparents, Godparents, aunts/uncles, older/younger siblings, and of course our PK3-TK students.

**-K-2nd Grade - December 3, 7-10 PM at the Herrera's Home:** Adults Only



**Monsignor Smyth Golf Classic:** This annual event is tentatively scheduled for May 19, 2017. We are looking for volunteers to head various committees. Please email [Marlene Ehring](#) if you are interested.

## ST. MARK YOUTH MINISTRY

**You are Invited to the Parish Family Picnic & Movie:** November 19, 6:00 PM, St. Mark Athletic Field (Lion's Lair Gym if raining). Bring your own dinner and a dessert to share. Sponsored by the St. Mark Knights of Columbus and supported by Youth Ministries.

## FRENCH MASS AT CISTERCIAN

Mrs. Denvir invites French students, and anyone interested, to attend a special French Mass on Sunday, November 20 at 10:30 AM at Our Lady of Cistercian Abbey, 3550 Cistercian Road, Irving, TX 75039. English translations are provided so you can follow along, there is an opportunity to do a reading during the service, and French snacks are served immediately following the Mass.

## KEPHA RETREAT FOR FATHERS/SONS

**-6th-8th Grades - December 9, 7-11 PM at the Rossingo's Home: Adults Only**

**Sponsorships:** St. Mark Parents - Do you own a business that would benefit from promotion within the St. Mark community? If so, become a **St. Mark Catholic School 2017 Gala & Auction Sponsor**. Sponsorship packages range from \$500 - \$2,500 and can include ads on the auction website, in the auction program and in the St. Mark school directory. In addition to cash donations, the auction committee would also like your in-kind donations...gift certificates, experiences, etc. For sponsorship opportunities, please contact [Ann Rossigno](#), and for in-kind donations, please contact [Chandi Owen](#).

## SEEN & HEARD AROUND ST. MARK

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

### The Emperor's New Clothes:



1st Grade Mass: *The Giving Tree*



Pre-Auction Mixer:



8th Grade Baby Egg:



KEPHA, a father/son brotherhood, invites men of all ages to join them for the upcoming "Father, Forgive Them" Retreat on November 19-20 at St. Mark Catholic Church. The retreat will focus on forgiveness to close out the Year of Mercy and will include Mass, prayers, food, talks, mortification, games, a nursing home visit, and of course, dodgeball! [Click here](#) for more information and [here](#) for registration.

## JESUIT RANGERETTE WINTER DANCE CLINIC

The Jesuit Rangerette drill team is hosting a Winter Dance Clinic on December 10 from 8:30 AM-1:00 PM at Jesuit for students in Kindergarten through 6th grade. Santa will make an appearance. [Register here](#), or [click here](#) for information.

## JOHN PAUL II CHRISTMAS BAZAAR



## PASSION AND PURPOSE LIVE

**Preschool Thanksgiving Feast:**



**Kindergarten Deer Skins/Teepee:**



**Early Childhood Thanksgiving Art:**



**2nd Grade Students Perform in *The Nutcracker*:**



**1st Grade Soccer:**



**PK-3 Letter "Q":**

Tickets for the March 25, 2017 "Living Every Day with Passion & Purpose" event with Matthew Kelly are now available [here](#). Tickets tend to sell out, so book now. He invites us all to identify God's voice in our lives and the specific purpose for which we've been created.

**PLEASE PATRONIZE  
BUSINESSES THAT  
SUPPORT ST. MARK**

As you're out and about, please consider patronizing the following local businesses that have recently supported St. Mark: Black Walnut Café, Blue Mesa, Café Express, Café Max, Casa Milagro, Chick Fil A, Corner Bakery, Fish City Grill, Hash House, Kendra Scott, L'Occitane, La Madeleine, Maggiano's, Oil & Vinegar, On the Border, Pacuigo, Pei Wei, Raising Cane's, Rockfish, Salsa Tex Mex, Sprouts, Sweet Firefly, The String Bean, Tom+Chee, Trader Joe's

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