



ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL

WHERE FAITH AND KNOWLEDGE MEET

WEEKLY SCHOOL BULLETIN

August 18, 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, August 18:

-8th grade received the Vocations Chalice and will be praying for vocations during the upcoming week.

-12:00 NOON: Early Dismissal. The After School Program is available until 6:00 PM.



10:00 AM - 11:00 PM - Half days are Cane's Days at St. Mark! Visit the Raising Cane's across the street from the school. Mention St. Mark when you place your order and a percentage of your purchase will be donated to the Athletics Department.

Monday, August 21:

-6:30 PM, Cafetorium: Parent Information Night for grades 6-8

-School picture order forms sent home with all students.

Tuesday, August 22:

-6:30 PM, Cafetorium: Parent Information Night for grades Preschool-5th



A National School of
Excellence

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Follow us and stay
connected!



QUICK LINKS

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

Wednesday, August 23:

-Student Picture Day: Students should be in complete uniform including the school sweater; picture orders are due to the teacher in the morning.

Thursday, August 24:

-7:30 AM: School Advisory Council Meeting

Friday, August 25:

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

-3:30 PM: HSA membership "opt out" emails and extra directory orders due to Annette.vela@stmcs.net.

WELCOME NEW STUDENTS

A warm St. Mark welcome to the new students who are joining our community this year:

Cade A.	3K	Ms. Robinson
Guru A.	3	Mrs. Ehnis
Mary A.	6	Mrs. Salvia
Chloe B.	1	Ms. Bongiovanni
Deacon B.	3K	Mrs. Oliver
Alexander B.	3K	Ms. Robinson
Andrew B.	TK	Mrs. Young
Crystal C.	6	Mrs. Salvia
Milo C.	TK	Mrs. Young
Zeke C.	3K	Mrs. Oliver
Ynez C.	8	Mrs. Pantuso
Jasper C.	3K	Ms. Robinson
Andrea C.	5	Mrs. Ostermann
Nicolas C.	2	Mrs. Crider
Matthew C.	3K	Mrs. Oliver
Margaret D.	K	Mrs. Blankenship
Sohan D.	K	Mrs. Blankenship
Suhana D.	K	Mrs. Thompson
Jermaine D.	7	Mrs. Pantuso
Kailyn D.	2	Mrs. Brooks
Colton D.	K	Mrs. McCormick
Anna E.	4K	Mrs. Duncan
Noah E.	3K	Mrs. Oliver

[Lion's Den Spirit Store](#)



The Summer 2017 Lifetime Lions Alumni Newsletter is out. [Click here](#) to read about some of our former students' amazing accomplishments.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN LIONLAND



Service From the Heart:

August Project: Welcome cards for new students and staff members will be made during class time.

Catholic Social Teaching: Call to family, community and participation

Who Benefits? St. Mark Catholic School community

Due Date: August 31

2017-18 LIMITED OPENINGS

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

Willow E.	3K	Ms. Robinson
Manaen F.	K	Mrs. McCormick
Elizabeth F.	4K	Mrs. Duncan
Vivian F.	5	Ms. Pennartz
Sienna G.	3	Mrs. Ehnis
Zoe G.	1	Mrs. Helm
Nathaniel G.	K	Mrs. Blankenship
Hannah G.	K	Mrs. McCormick
Samuel G.	3K	Ms. Robinson
Gabriela H.	2	Ms. Eisele
Samuel H.	4	Mrs. Mercado
Nhan H.	3K	Mrs. Oliver
Kristin H.	2	Mrs. Brooks
Sophia I.	4K	Mrs. Coursey
Alexander J.	3K	Ms. Robinson
Anthony J.	4K	Mrs. Coursey
Caleb J.	3K	Mrs. Oliver
Zachary K.	4K	Mrs. Duncan
Lydia K.	1	Ms. Bongiovanni
Brandon L.	3	Mrs. Dansby
Michael L.	K	Mrs. Thompson
Audrey L.	K	Mrs. Blankenship
Jayden L.	4K	Mrs. Coursey
Henry L.	K	Mrs. Thompson
Laura L.	4K	Mrs. Duncan
Russell L.	1	Mrs. Helm
Zoe L.	4K	Mrs. Duncan
Vivian L.	6	Mrs. Salvia
Isabella M.	K	Mrs. Blankenship
Aidan M.	2	Ms. Eisele
Camille M.	3K	Ms. Robinson
Catherine M.	3K	Mrs. Oliver
Genevieve M.	4K	Mrs. Duncan
Mary M.	1	Mrs. Helm
Katelyn M.	K	Mrs. Thompson
Rachel M.	4K	Mrs. Coursey
Daniel M.	1	Ms. Bongiovanni
Zachariah M.	6	Mrs. Rivera
Mark M.	8	Mrs. Mitchell
Christian M.	4K	Mrs. Coursey
Carlos M.	K	Mrs. Blankenship

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!

CAMPUS SECURITY REMINDER

For the protection of our students and staff, visitors to the St. Mark campus must enter through the main entrance, check in with the receptionist, and obtain a yellow visitor sticker. Visitors who are not wearing a yellow sticker will be stopped and escorted to the receptionist desk for check in. Thank you for your cooperation in making St. Mark safe for our entire community. If you have any questions about campus security, please contact [Mrs. Opon](#).



Calling all "Dads of Great Students!" Watch D.O.G.S. will be hosting its annual "Pizza Night" on Wednesday, September

Mary N.	K	Mrs. McCormick
Anaiah O.	1	Mrs. Helm
Joel O.	3K	Mrs. Oliver
David O.	5	Ms. Pennartz
Grace O.	2	Ms. Eisele
Johnathan O.	7	Mrs. Maw
Colten O.	3K	Ms. Robinson
Nicolas P.	K	Mrs. Blankenship
Avery P.	3	Mrs. Paulson
Hannah P.	K	Mrs. McCormick
Ronald P.	2	Mrs. Brooks
Kaili P.	4	Mrs. Samples
Pratosh R.	4	Mrs. Samples
Chenrui R.	6	Mrs. Salvia
Jack R.	3K	Ms. Robinson
Kyle R.	6	Mrs. Noel
Chase R.	8	Mrs. Oliver
Camilla S.	3K	Mrs. Oliver
Jaslyne S.	4	Mrs. Mercado
Maira S.	3	Mrs. Ehnis
Lorenzo S.	3K	Mrs. Oliver
Oksana S.	6	Mrs. Mitchell
Solomon S.	3	Mrs. Dansby
Lauren T.	5	Mrs. Ferri
Sean T.	6	Mrs. Maw
Stella T.	3	Mrs. Paulson
Taylor T.	K	Mrs. McCormick
Huxley T.	3K	Ms. Robinson
Cameron T.	1	Ms. Bongiovanni
Julia T.	4K	Mrs. Coursey
Tyler Y.	4	Mrs. Samples

ORDER YOUR 2017-18 MEMORY BOOK NOW

This year, we have joined the two memory books into one. 2017-18 will be the first all school yearbook! Don't delay...order yours today!

Early Bird Special: \$20. (Price will increase to \$25 after August 27.)

Payment may be submitted in one of two ways:

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](#).

2017-18 AUCTION: A NIGHT AT THE OSCARS

SAVE THE DATE: The St. Mark Catholic School



Auction, "A Night At The Oscars," will be held on Saturday, April 7, 2018 at the Renaissance @ Shops Of Legacy West in Plano! Tickets will go on sale in just a few short weeks. Stay tuned for more details on the "red carpet" event you WON'T want to miss! For more information contact Rebecca Battles at rbattles@patronspirits.com or Cat Williamson at catmwilliamson@yahoo.com.

ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL



NEWS FROM
ATHLETICS

1. To pay online, [click here](#). Select the "Party/Activity" option, and indicate "Memory Book" plus your child's name and homeroom in the "Comments" section.

2. Submit cash or check to the school office (make checks out to St. Mark Catholic School and indicate "Memory Book" on the memo line).

Note: Each 8th grader will be given a memory book free of charge. Please note that this only includes 8th graders, and is a change from last year.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING

Parents: Want to volunteer at school this year? If you haven't updated your Safe Environment Training, please do so now. Simply [click here](#) for details. This will insure you are cleared to volunteer at all of our wonderful school activities. **Note: The first General HSA Meeting takes place on September 20 at 6:30 PM in the Cafetorium. The guest speaker presentation will count as Safe Environment Training renewal.**

HELP WANTED: AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

We are in need of After School Program workers. The pay is \$15 per hour. Workers must be Safe Environment trained and must be available to work at the following times: Regular School Days-3:00 PM until 5:15-6:00 PM; Early Dismissal Days-11:30 AM until 5:15-6:00 PM (or until 3:00 PM on some major holidays). Please contact Toni Jobses at toni.jobses@stmcs.net if you are interested.

ST. MARK BAND & STRINGS PROGRAM

Join the St. Mark Catholic School Band & Strings Ensemble, our wonderful instrumental music program for all 2nd-8th grade students.

Band Program: Students in grades 4-8 can join the band program. Choose a traditional band instrument such as a clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, drums, and more. To learn more, [click here](#). **The Music Learning Band will present a Band Parent Information and Instrument Rental Meeting on Thursday, August 24, at 6:30 PM in the Cafetorium.**

Strings Program: Students in grades 2-8 can join the strings program. If your child already has experience playing the violin or viola, they can continue to play that instrument. If your child is new to the strings program, he/she will get to play the violin. To learn more, [click here](#). **The Music Learning Band will present**

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](#).



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

NO RESCUE

a Strings Parent Information and Instrument Fitting/Rental Meeting on Thursday, August 24, at 6:00 PM in the Cafetorium.

Parents: Please plan to attend to learn about the instrumental music programs, rehearsals, concerts, time commitment, and cost. Students are also welcome to attend. At the conclusion of the meeting, parents will have an opportunity to rent an instrument and sign up for an ensemble. For more information, visit <http://musiclearningband.com/stmarkcatholic/>, or contact Band Director, Katrina Chiuminatto, at kchiuminatto@musiclearningband.com or 972-499-0831 ext. 114, or Strings Conductor, Robert Gonzalez, at rgonzalez@musiclearningband.com or 972-499-0831, ext. 129.

Elective rehearsals begin on August 22. After school rehearsals begin on September 5.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Registration is now available for the St. Mark Children's Choir for grades 2-8 (and is also open to high school students). Rehearsals take place on Wednesdays after school. Please [click here](#) for complete details and the registration form. The first day of Choir is Wednesday, September 6.

CUB SCOUTS

The first Cub Scout Pack 285 meeting of the 2017-18 school year will be August 24 from 6:00-7:00 PM in the St. Mark Cafetorium. Boys currently in grades 1-5 are welcome to join. We will have fun activities for the kids and information for the adults. Refreshments will be provided. Come and see what fun adventures are awaiting your family in Pack 285. Please contact [Colin Delaney](#) or [Rob Wampner](#) with any questions.



STEM SCOUTS

Is your student interested in science, technology, engineering and math? The STEM Scouts program, for boys and girls in grades 3-8, focuses on interaction with STEM professionals and hands-on activities to improve skills, explore careers, and increase interest in STEM-related fields. As you may recall, the STEM Scouts brought their mobile lab to the 2017 St. Mark STEM Fair. Many of our students were interested in learning more, and as a result, STEM



Children take great pride in showing all of us that they are responsible individuals ready to fully participate in a successful school experience. We discourage parents from rescuing students who tend to forget assignments or school supplies at home. Truly, it can be a learning experience if they are given the chance to deal with the natural consequences. A forgotten lunch can be an exception, but we ask that you work with us to help students leave home fully prepared. If items (other than lunches) are brought to the school office, we will not be able to deliver them.

SUMMER THANK YOU

Special thanks to those who donated their time and talents to completing some special projects on campus over the summer. Your hard work and dedication to St. Mark are appreciated!

***The entire St. Mark community** for making the SmartLab a reality. There are simply no words to express how appreciative we are for your involvement.

***Everyone** who donated items to the new After School Program facility making it a wonderful space for our students.

***Our many HSA volunteers and Board members** for helping to make all of our

Scouts would like to launch their program at St. Mark. They would meet weekly on campus after school. If you are interested, please contact Maribeth Hughes at Maribeth.hughes@scouting.org or 214-918-4010.

AMERICAN HERITAGE GIRLS

Any girl age 5-18 can be an American Heritage Girl. Girls of all different backgrounds are welcome. Contact Brandy Pazora at brandy76610@yahoo.com or (214) 316-4769 to register, or drop by the AHG table in the Narthex after all English Masses on Saturday, August 26 or Sunday, August 27. Members of our parish American Heritage Girls Troop TX 1022 will be there to share with you about this exciting scouting organization for girls and adults and to answer questions/help you register.



TROOPS OF SAINT GEORGE

Fathers: Would you like to go camping with your son and have some great outdoor adventures? Are you looking for a group where you can both grow in your Catholic faith with other dads and boys in grades 1-12? If so, please join us. We have monthly meetings at the St. Mark Youth House. No previous camping experience necessary. A kick-off picnic will be held September 9. For specific details, check out www.tsg77.org or contact Peter Reisinger at 972-662-8747.



HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Thank You: Thank you to all those who attended the Back-To-School Sunday event and the Back-To-School Breakfast! We had a wonderful turn out for both. Special thanks to the HSA Hospitality team, Natalie Laurent and Maria Bargellini, for setting up the wonderful breakfast event. And welcome to all of our new families!

HSA Membership & Additional School Directories: A reminder that the annual \$25 HSA dues will automatically be charged with your September tuition payment unless a specific request is made in writing not to join. The deadline to opt out is August 25 at 3:30 PM. Emails must be sent to Annette.vela@stmcs.net. Additional school directories must also be ordered via email to Annette Vela by this deadline. They are \$6 each.

2017-18 HSA General Meeting Dates (meets in Cafetorium):

recent events and programs a success: Host Family program, Back To School Sunday, Used Uniform Sale, Back To School Coffee, and much more. We couldn't do it without our fabulous volunteers!

*The amazing St. Mark Facilities staff: **Jose Arteaga, Ruben Mendoza, Juan Sandoval, and Vicky Adams**, for always going above and beyond for the school.

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.



Join us for an upcoming Public Mass on August 27 at 9:15 AM at Holy Trinity

*September 20: HSA 1st General Meeting, 6:30 pm (guest speaker presentation will count as Safe Environment Training renewal)

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

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

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

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 by 9/30/17 (limit 4).

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](#).



Prayer Intention for August: For our new students and families.

Prayer for the new school year: God of wisdom and might, we praise you for the wonder of our being, for mind, body and spirit. Be with our children as they begin a new school year. Bless them and their teachers and staff. Give them strength and grace as their bodies grow; wisdom and knowledge to their minds as they search for understanding; and peace and zeal to their hearts. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *Source: [Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers](#)*

Thank You: Thank you to all who were able to join the Community Prayer Walk today and to those who prayed from where they were. This was our first event of the school year, and we had a wonderful turnout. What a great way to start the year! We welcome all school families to consider using the intentions of today's prayer walk as a way to periodically pray for our school throughout the year.

[Join Our Mailing List](#)

[Forward To A Friend](#)

Seminary, 3131 Vince Hagan Drive, Irving. A brief reception with the seminarians follows.

SEEN & HEARD AROUND ST. MARK

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

First Day of School:



First School Masses of the Year:



7th Grade Outside Prayer:



Prayer Walk:



New After School Facility:



JV Cheer Summer Camp:



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