



# ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL

WHERE FAITH AND KNOWLEDGE MEET

**WEEKLY SCHOOL BULLETIN**

**May 29, 2015**

## IN THIS ISSUE

Reminders

What's Happening in Lionland

Sewers Needed For Student Chair Packs

2015-16 School Supply Preorder Deadline  
Extended

Summer Office Hours

From The Nurse's Office

Today's After School Program

Catholic High School Summer Camps

Register Now - 2015-16 "Respect Life Club"

Home and School Association (HSA) News

News from the Athletics Department

Upcoming CRHP Retreat

Kidventure Full Day Summer Camps

Don't Wait: Participate!

At St. Mark, We Serve.

In Alumni News ...

Seen and Heard Around St. Mark

LION PRIDE!

## REMINDERS

**TODAY - Friday, May 29 - Last Day of School**

-12:00 PM: Early Dismissal for Students

-3:00 PM: After School Program Dismisses (see  
details below)



**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,  
and has been nominated to  
apply for a rare third award  
in 2015.

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)



10:00 AM - 11:00 PM -

Raising Cane's Fundraiser - Mention St. Mark and a percentage is donated to our Athletics Dept.!

## HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (HSA) NEWS

**Graduation Thanks:** The HSA, and especially the Graduation Committee, would like to thank all of the 7th grade parents who contributed their time, talent and treasure towards a fabulous graduation celebration for our 8th grade students and their families. Without their generosity and hard work, we could have never pulled-off such a fantastic event! We were truly honored and humbled to work with such talented and generous volunteers.

Many thanks to our Graduation/Confirmation Committee Co-Chairs, Veronica Marques and Chandra Garvey, who worked tirelessly to make this such a special day for our graduates.

**Committee Chairs & Volunteers:** To all who gave of their time this school year, the HSA Executive Board would like to extend a whole-hearted "thank-you!" Your patience, creativity, cooperation and selflessness gave St. Mark students a fun-filled year.

Are you interested in helping out next year? Our 2015-16 HSA is almost complete, however, we do still have a few spots that need filling:

Scripts Coordinator  
Auction Co-Chair (2 slots)  
Auction Class Crafts Coordinator  
Auction Basket Coordinator

Follow us and stay connected!



## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN LIONLAND

### Virtue of the Month - Acceptance

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 "Acceptance" this month.

### Calling all alumni ... Join Lifetime Lions!

St. Mark alumni are invited to 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.

## TODAY'S AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

### ATTENTION AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM FAMILIES:

The After School Program will be available until 3:00 PM today. A pizza lunch will be served.

## 2015-16 SCHOOL SUPPLY PREORDER DEADLINE EXTENDED

Please see the full committee chair descriptions [here](#).

If you are interested in volunteering as a committee chair, please contact Ashley Ternan at [ashleyternan@gmail.com](mailto:ashleyternan@gmail.com).

**Merchant Programs:** Even though it's summer, you can still be making money for our school. If you haven't done so already, please link your Tom Thumb, Kroger, and Target shopping cards to St. Mark. Each time you shop, we earn funds. Instructions can be found [here](#).

**Box Tops:** Please continue to collect Box Tops for the school over the summer months.

**Newcomer Committee Volunteers Needed:** **St. Mark wants all of our new families to feel like part of our community right away! Can you help?** The Newcomer Committee is looking for volunteers to help welcome new families to our school. This could be as simple as a phone call and an email to reach out and be available for questions, or making plans to meet up with the new family for coffee or lunch over the summer. If you are interested in helping, or have any questions, please contact Holly Lewis or Jennifer Pike. Please let them know the grades of your children for the 2015-2016 school year, so we can pair you with a similar family.

Holly Lewis: 214-264-8635;  
[anglophilefootballfanatic@gmail.com](mailto:anglophilefootballfanatic@gmail.com)

Jennifer Pike: 972-839-5042;  
[timothyandjennifer@verizon.net](mailto:timothyandjennifer@verizon.net)

**IN ALUMNI NEWS ...**



If you have not yet placed your preorder for prepackaged 2015-16 school supplies, you still have time. **The deadline has been extended to Thursday, June 18.** Simply [click here](#) for the order form. Print and complete the form, and return it to the school office during our summer office hours: June 1-25, Monday through Thursday, 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

Payment can be made by cash or check to the school office, or by [online payment](#).

School supply lists for each grade level are also posted on our school website at the link above. Use these lists if you will be purchasing your own school supplies.

\*Please note: Each grade level has required **St. Mark supplies** that must be purchased directly from the school. Use the order form at the link above to order those items, even if you will be purchasing your own school supplies.

**Alumni Named Ursuline Valedictorian & Bishop Lynch Salutatorian:** Emily P. (2011) has been named the 2015 Valedictorian at Ursuline Academy of Dallas. Amanda E. (2011) has been named the 2015 Salutatorian at Bishop Lynch High School. **We are so proud of what these exemplary students have accomplished, and are honored to call them St. Mark Lions!** Both girls will attend The University of Notre Dame in the fall.

**2015 High School Awards and Accolades:** Speaking of high school graduation, stay tuned to our Facebook page for more news on our alumni who graduated high school this year, including awards and scholarship information.

**JPII Awards:** Congratulations to Mary H. (2011) who received the John Paul II High School Bishop Grahmann Award. This award recognizes a student who exemplifies the John Paul II mission statement. Mary is the third St. Mark alum to receive this award during the 2014-15 school year. Congratulations to Kelly S. (2011) who received the John Paul II Cardinal Women's Auxiliary Scholarship which recognizes a senior with an exceptional record of service.

**Alum Receives Bishop Lynch Award:** Joseph G. (2011) was honored with the John Adamcik Memorial Award at the recent BL Honors Convocation. This award honors a student who excels in community service, maintains a high grade point average, and reflects good citizenship.

**Art Installation:** Nick M., a 2005 St. Mark graduate and 2009 Jesuit graduate, just received his Masters Degree in landscape architecture from Kansas State University. His masters report: A Framework for Site Informed Light Art

## SEWERS NEEDED FOR STUDENT CHAIR PACKS

Can you sew? Our elementary students use "chair packs" to store their books and school supplies during the day. We need your talents to make more. All supplies are provided. Please contact [rene.oconnor@stmcs.net](mailto:rene.oconnor@stmcs.net) if you are interested.

## NEWS FROM THE ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT

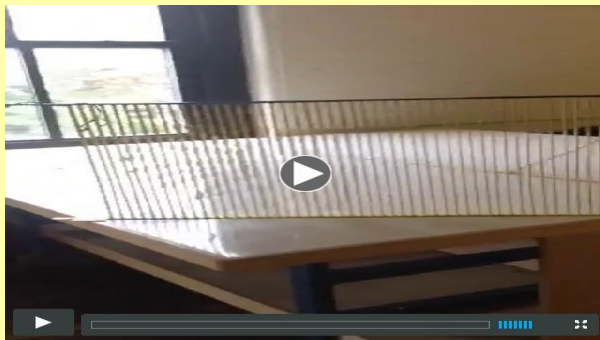
ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL



**JV Softball:** Come out and cheer on your St. Mark JV Girls Softball team as they take on POP in the league semi-finals on Sunday, May 31 at 12:00 NOON at Oran Good Field.

**DPL Sports Physical Forms:** If your child (incoming grades 5-8) plans to participate in the Diocesan Parochial League (DPL) during the 2015-16 school year, an annual physical form must be completed and returned to the school office before the start of school. Those participating in football, volleyball, or cheerleading must return the forms before summer camps and practices. This is a

Installations involved the design and build of multiple prototypes. After a series of prototypes, the sunflower design moved into further design development. As a result, the Wichita Downtown Development Corporation expressed interest in the light art installation and commissioned his work for a pop-up park that is being implemented in the downtown section of the city. It will be made of steel and will weigh approximately 3,600 pounds. Click below to see a video of the prototype.



Alumni Nick M., Public Art Prototype

**Once A Lion, Always A Lion!** So many of our alumni have remained friends after leaving our halls. Check out the 2015 JPII grads shown below, all 2011 graduates of St. Mark: From the top row, left to right, Martin A., Matt A., Sam B., Matt V., Jacob R., Patrick M., Mary H., Leah D., Megan M., Claire F., Fernanda B., and Sophia R.

(photo removed)

**Honorary Senate Pages:** Congratulations to alumna Emily W., and brother CJ, who recently served as State Senate Honorary Pages for the day at the State Capitol.

(photo removed)

#### SEEN & HEARD AROUND ST. MARK

mandatory requirement for all DPL athletics at St. Mark. The form can be found [here](#). We suggest you make your physical appointments now, since pediatricians tend to get busy as we get closer to August.

## GO LIONS!

### FROM THE NURSE'S OFFICE

**ATTENTION PARENTS:** If your student is currently keeping a medication in the school nurse's office (including, but not limited to, EpiPens, inhalers, prescriptions, or over-the-counter medications), please arrange to pick up the medication by the last day of school (May 29). Any medication that is left at school over the summer will be disposed of--NO EXCEPTIONS.

### DON'T WAIT, PARTICIPATE!

**Parish Fall Festival Planning Meeting:** It is time to begin planning the 2015 Parish Fall Festival & Raffle. Help is needed in all areas including: Graphics, Solicitations, Raffle, Food, Games, Entertainment, Volunteers, Safe Environment, and Set-Up. All are welcome to participate!

**8th Grade Graduation:** Our 8th graders participated in their graduation Mass and ceremony last Friday evening. The proceedings kicked-off with class photos. Then family and friends gathered in the church for Mass, followed by the graduation ceremony. Because Father Cliff could not be there to officiate, he sent a special message to the students, which Mrs. Opon read to them. His presence was greatly missed, but it meant so much to have his sentiments read to the graduates. Each student received their diploma, and then high school scholarships were announced. Click here for the full list of scholarships that our students received. In addition, the Suzanne Bacot Award For Service was presented to Dana Gilbert who has selflessly given of her time and talent through all of her years at St. Mark. This award is given to a parent who has continually given back to St. Mark, and who's last child is graduating. The evening continued with a beautiful reception in the Cafetorium for family and friends, followed by the traditional graduate-only dance. It was truly a special evening, and one that we hope all of our graduates will never forget.



(photo removed)

**Field Day:** The skies parted and the sun came out just in time for Field Day! All of our students had a great time playing indoor and outdoor games including a water balloon toss, tug-of-war, a bounce house/slide, and of course, lots of

**Event Date:** October 31, 2015

Please contact [Claudine Humphries](#) for more information.

Be sure to follow the Parish Fall Festival on [Facebook!](#)

### AT ST. MARK, WE SERVE.

St. Mark is among the top 25 Leukemia & Lymphoma Society fundraising schools in the country! In a recent press release, the LLS highlighted those schools that raised the most money for their organization this year. Congratulations once again to the St. Mark community!

(photo removed)

### REGISTER NOW FOR THE 2015-16 RESPECT LIFE CLUB



The St. Mark "Respect Life Club" is an after-school opportunity for students in grades 1st through 8th to grow in their appreciation of the dignity of all human life. It is unique to St. Mark Catholic School.

sprays with the water hose! It was topped off by a pizza lunch, popsicles, and classroom movies. This day never disappoints, and is one of the "best days of the whole school year," to quote one student! Special thanks to the HSA, our Field Day chairperson, Tara Roman, all of our parent volunteers, and the faculty and staff who joined forces to make it a great day.

(photos removed)

**7th Grade Studies the Titanic:** 7th grade has been working on an interdisciplinary STEM-based unit on the Titanic. They have been working in small groups on several cross-curricular projects. One project involved using an iPad to create a "Chatter Pix," highlighting a possible shipwreck experience.



7th Grade Titanic Project

Click above to view a sample. A special thank you to David Volkmar, school parent, for sharing his in-depth knowledge about the Titanic with our middle school students on Thursday.

(photo removed)

**6th Grade STEM Activity:** 6th grade participated in a STEM activity this week where they were challenged to build towers out of spaghetti and marshmallows. The goal was for

During the 2015-16 school year, The "Respect Life Club" will hold monthly meetings at the school. There will be educational and fun activities for 1st graders-8th graders. We invite you to learn more and to register for the 2015-16 "Respect Life Club" by [clicking here](#).

### UPCOMING CRHP RETREAT

The Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP) women's retreat is June 27-28. It begins at 7:00 AM on Saturday and ends at 4:00 PM on Sunday with that weekend's Mass included. If you feel like your life is all about your children and you are missing your own spiritual connection with God, please consider giving yourself the gift of time (a mere 33 hours) to strengthen your own faith and relationship with God. The retreat provides an atmosphere for individual growth through prayer, inspiring presentations and personal reflection. No testimony from you is required. You will come away feeling uplifted and with a renewed relationship with God and other women in the parish. Ask friends who have been to the retreat and they will tell you what a wonderful gift it was! If you are

them to realize the need for triangles to offset the effect of gravity. They were given very little instruction and did a fantastic job figuring it out! A big thank you to the parents who sent in spaghetti and marshmallows.

(photo removed)

**5th Grade's Last Recess:** Our 5th graders were given some extra time by their teachers to enjoy their last recess on Thursday. Next year, they're moving up to afternoon electives!

(photo removed)

interested, please print a registration, or register online at <http://stmarkplano.org/christ-renews-his-parish-retreats>. If you have individual questions, please feel free to contact [sarah.lynch@yahoo.com](mailto:sarah.lynch@yahoo.com).

### CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER CAMPS

Our local Catholic high schools offer summer sports camps for kids of all ages. Click below to learn more:

[Bishop Lynch](#)  
[Cistercian](#)  
[Jesuit College Prep](#)  
[John Paul II High School](#)  
[Ursuline Academy of Dallas](#)

### KIDVENTURE -- FULL-DAY SUMMER CAMPS

"Camp St. Mark" will take place on the St. Mark campus and will serve three-year-olds through rising 7th graders. It will begin June 8 and run through August 7. Each camp week will take place Monday-Friday from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM, with the option of adding a 7:00 AM drop-off, and a 6:00 PM pick-up. [Click here](#) for more information and registration.

**LION PRIDE!**





Just some of the many reasons we're so proud to be St. Mark Lions

...

**National History Bee:**

Congratulations to 7th grader, Antonio M., who traveled to Kentucky last weekend and competed with 540 middle school students from across the nation in the National History Bee. He was one of only 32 students to make it to the quarter-finals! His family would like to extend special thanks to Mrs. Mitchell for her great support. She was keeping up with the competition and sending encouraging words to Antonio all day Saturday!

(photo removed)

**WE WISH OUR ENTIRE ST. MARK COMMUNITY  
A SAFE, HAPPY AND RELAXING SUMMER!**

Join Our Mailing List

Forward To A Friend

St. Mark Catholic School | 1201 Alma Drive, Plano, TX 75075

[www.stmcs.net](http://www.stmcs.net) | (972) 578-0610



[Forward this email](#)