



# ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL

WHERE FAITH AND KNOWLEDGE MEET

## WEEKLY SCHOOL BULLETIN

March 23, 2018

### 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, March 23:

-8th grade received the Vocations Chalice at Mass today and will be praying for vocations during the upcoming weeks.

-3rd quarter ends

### Saturday, March 24:

-Private Schools Interscholastic Association academic meet (PSIA): Participants have been provided with details.

### Sunday, March 25:

-Palm Sunday

-10:30 AM, Church: Children's Choir Sings at Mass

### Monday, March 26:

-4th quarter begins

-Students may now wear the optional uniform walking shorts to school except for Fridays (see page 29 of the [Parent Student Handbook](#) for details)



A National School of  
Excellence

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)

Follow us and stay  
connected!



Like what you see?

"Like" and "share" on your  
social media and help us  
spread the word about our  
wonderful school!

**Tuesday, March 27:**

-8:00 AM, Library: Open House for Prospective Families (details below)

**Wednesday, March 28:**

-March Service Project Baby Shower Donations Due (morning)

-Report Cards (grades TK-8)

-6:30 PM, Cafetorium: Spring Talent Show. All are invited!

**Thursday, March 29 - HOLY THURSDAY:**

-8:30 AM, Church: Living Stations of the Cross presented by 8th grade. All are welcome (details below).

-9:30 AM, Cafetorium: International Tasting Faire (details below)



10:00 AM - 11:00 PM: 1/2 days are Cane's Days at St. Mark! Visit the Raising Cane's across the street from the school, mention St. Mark as you place your order, and a percentage of the proceeds benefits the Athletics Dept.

-12:00 NOON Early Dismissal. The After School Program will be available until 3:00 PM. Please send a lunch with all ASP students.

**Friday, March 30 - GOOD FRIDAY:**

-No School

**Sunday, April 1:**

-Financial Aid Form Deadline

**Monday, April 2:**

-No School (unused inclement weather day)

**BABY SHOWER COLLECTION DEADLINE EXTENDED**

We have extended the deadline to drop-off the March service project baby shower items to the morning of Wednesday, March 28. If you are dropping-off items directly to the school office, be sure that your student lets his/her teacher know.

**SPOTLIGHT ON STAFF**

It is with both joy and sadness that we announce the retirements of three long-time, esteemed St. Mark faculty members: **Phyllis Carver**, **Anne Hollenbeck** and **Patti Orchowski**.

**QUICK LINKS**

[Calendar](#)

[Lifetime Lions Alumni](#)

[Admissions](#)

[Lunch Menus](#)

[Safe Environment](#)

[Lion's Den Spirit Store](#)

[Work of Heart Nomination](#)



Congratulations to not one but two faculty members who received the Work of Heart Award today: **Erica Rivera** and **Liliana Benavides!**

7th/8th grade Math teacher, Mrs. Rivera, puts her heart and soul into everything she does and it shows. Her firm commitment to her students and her ability to weave faith into each day (even in Math class!) truly make her shine as an outstanding educator.

Preschool-5th grade Spanish teacher, Mrs. Benavides, is a most beloved fixture at St. Mark. Her dedication to her students is always evident. Students, parents and staff alike know her as a wonderful

Mrs. Carver has been a Computer Literacy teacher at St. Mark for 19 years and has seen it all from desktops to iPads. Throughout the years, she has insured that all students have a firm grasp of basic keyboarding skills as well as an understanding of the latest hardware and software. Our graduates continue to tell us how much they appreciate the many typing drills they were required to do in her classes, as so many of their high school peers did not receive quality typing instruction and it really shows. Mrs. Carver's warm presence, sense of humor, and "Louisiana" charm will certainly be missed in our halls.

Mrs. Hollenbeck has served as St. Mark's Librarian since 1993 and in recent years also took on the responsibility of Technology Director. She has shared her love of reading with every St. Mark student during her tenure, expertly guiding them to find their own favorite books. As Technology Director, she has helped keep St. Mark's systems current and running smoothly. She has also contributed her talents to various electives including the Diocesan Speech League. We are pleased that although Mrs. Hollenbeck is retiring, she will return to St. Mark as a part-time Technology Coordinator, and it is our hope that her beloved storybook Christmas tree will continue to make its annual appearance as well!

Mrs. Orchowski has been our 7th/8th grade Literature teacher since 1996 (with a one year stint as a 4th grade teacher during the 1992-93 school year). Throughout her tenure, she has instilled an appreciation of books and poetry in all of our middle school students. It can be a challenge to keep a love of reading going, especially among this age group. Mrs. Orchowski has constantly added new ways to engage students including literary circles where students call upon their own talents to contribute to a book discussion, and "speed reading" where students quickly engage with books and choose favorites to pursue. As the long-time faculty adviser for the Student Council, she has also inspired many a leader within our student body. Her kindness, dedication, and her quick wit will be missed by both students and staff alike.

Joining us as our new school Librarian is **Alison Hughes**. Alison received her BA degree from Austin College and her Education Certification from Texas A&M Commerce. She comes to us with more than 20 years of experience teaching English Language Arts and serving as a reading coordinator for the Dallas Independent School District. Most recently, she served at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic School in Dallas as a 5th grade English and Literature teacher. Her enthusiasm, love of students, and in depth knowledge of maintaining school

teacher whose kindness, compassion and faith are unwavering.

Awarded by the Catholic Foundation, the Work of Heart honors those in the community who go above and beyond the call of duty for Catholic education. If you would like to nominate a faculty or staff member, please [click here](#).

### 2018-19 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

The [2018-19 Academic Calendar](#) has been approved by the Diocese and is now posted on the homepage of the school website.

### CALENDAR REMINDERS

**Thursday, March 29** (Holy Thursday) - students will be dismissed at 12:00 NOON. The After School Program will be available until 3:00 PM. Please send a lunch with all ASP students.

**Friday, March 30** (Good Friday) - school holiday

**Monday, April 2** - school holiday. Please note that the Spirit Day and Prayer Team meeting scheduled for April 2 have been moved to April 9.

**Friday, April 20** - school holiday

### 8TH GRADE POPCORN SALES FOR MAKE-A-WISH

resources will make for a wonderful addition to St. Mark and we look forward to welcoming her to our staff in the fall.

In addition, we are announcing that 2nd grade teacher, **Vicki Crider**, will begin a job share arrangement in the fall with **Claire Moxley**. Mrs. Crider will teach class Monday through Thursday and Mrs. Moxley will teach on Friday each week. Mrs. Moxley attended Catholic school all her life. She graduated from Louisiana Tech University with a BS degree in Forestry, and is currently working on her teaching certification. It is interesting to note that before moving to Texas in 2010, she served as a City Forester and is a certified Arborist through the International Society of Arboriculture. She has also been a long term substitute teacher at St. Mark since 2015. She and her husband, Jason, have two children at St. Mark in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades. We look forward to welcoming her as a part-time staff member!

**2018-19 Employment Opportunities:**

- 7th/8th grade Literature teacher
- Computer Literacy Teacher
- Early Childhood Aides

If you know of anyone who is qualified for these positions, please have resumes and letters of intent sent directly to Patricia Opon.

**LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS - MARCH 29**

Everyone is invited to the annual 8th grade presentation of the Living Stations of the Cross on Thursday, March 29 at 8:30 AM in the church. Don't miss this moving interpretation of Jesus' crucifixion.

**INTERNATIONAL TASTING FAIRE - MARCH 29**

The International Tasting Faire was rescheduled from Catholic Schools Week to Thursday, March 29.

**How It Works:** Middle School students work in groups to present booths at the International Tasting Faire featuring foods from different countries. At the event, all students have an opportunity to visit the booths and taste these foods.

**Price:** Students pay one price and enjoy unlimited food tastings. The money raised will go towards Student Council events and projects.

**The majority of students have already paid, however if your student did not, they may do so during the week of March 26.** Simply send the following amount in an envelope to your

The St. Mark 8th grade class of 2018 has been participating in "Kids for Wish Kids" through the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Their goal is to raise \$10,000 to sponsor a child's wish. The students will be selling popcorn after Mass during the weekend of April 7-8. Popcorn is \$2.00 and comes in a variety of flavors. Please plan to stop by and help the students reach their goal!

**LOWDOWN FROM THE LION'S LAIR**

Direct from the SmartLab, the News Broadcast Club presents "[Lowdown from the Lion's Lair](#)" for the week of March 19, 2018.

ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL



NEWS FROM ATHLETICS

**LIONS DEN**

The Lion's Den Spirit Store is open every Friday morning that school is in session from 7:30-8:15 AM in the Cafeteria. Can't make it in person? Shop online at [www.stmcs.net/spirit-gear](http://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.

**Gift Certificates Now Available:**

The Lion's Den Spirit Store is now offering gift certificates! There is a \$10.00 minimum

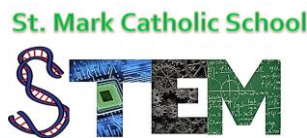
child's homeroom/homebase teacher no later than Wednesday, March 28. Please label it with "Tasting Faire," the child's name, grade, teacher, and amount enclosed.

PreK-K: \$3.00; Grades 1-8: \$4.00 -- **CASH OR CHECK ONLY**

**Payment will not be accepted on Thursday, March 29.** Students who have not paid will go to the Library during the time that their class is visiting the International Tasting Faire.

### GET READY FOR THE 2018 S.T.E.M. FAIR!

Save the Date! The 3rd Annual St. Mark Catholic School STEM Fair takes place on Friday, April 27. Food trucks will be available starting at 4:30 PM, with the STEM Fair lasting until 8:00 PM!



**Drones. Virtual Reality. Star Wars Characters. Robots. Food Trucks. Prize Drawings. Goody Bags. And Much More!** Don't miss this family event featuring STEM-related, interactive booths sponsored by corporations, non-profit organizations, universities, and more. Kids and grown-ups alike have fun learning about the many ways that science, technology, engineering and math are used in today's businesses and in our society.

**Sponsor a Booth. It's Free!** Does your company utilize science, technology, engineering or math? Do you have a STEM-related hobby? If so, please consider sponsoring an interactive booth at the STEM Fair. Booth sponsorships are free, and provide a great opportunity to share your career or hobby with hundreds of people in the St. Mark community. If you're interested, please contact Pam Steinkirchner at [pam.steinkirchner@stmcs.net](mailto:pam.steinkirchner@stmcs.net).

**T-Shirt Orders:** Get your 2018 S.T.E.M. Fair t-shirt! Don't miss your chance to commemorate this awesome event. Shirts will be pink with black lettering, and are \$8.00 each. Orders will be taken through April 6. Be sure to place your order to ensure you and your student get the correct sizes. Print the [order form](#) and follow the payment instructions. Your order form must be submitted to the school office regardless of how you pay. **After the event, students may continue to wear these shirts during P.E. classes and on school Spirit Days.**

**HELP SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT ST. MARK!**

but no maximum amount. This is a great gift idea for birthdays, holidays, First Communion, Prayer Partners, and more. The store offers a variety of St. Mark merchandise appealing to all ages, children to adults. To place an order, click the link above, choose "gift certificate" on the online order form, and specify the amount where indicated.

Mark your calendar:

**Monsignor Smyth Golf Classic:**

Friday, May 4, 2018



### HIGH SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES

**High School Scholarship Opportunity:** The Catholic Daughters Court #2100 is offering their annual \$500 Josephine Ames Scholarship for an 8th grade student entering Catholic high school in the fall of 2018. Please [click here](#) for information and the application. Students may also obtain hard copies from Mrs. O'Connor and Mrs. Oliver. The deadline is May 1, 2018.

**Young Men's Service League (YMSL):** The YMSL offers a wonderful way for mothers and their high school age sons to spend time together serving the community (and earning high school service hours). The Cardinal YMSL chapter is home to many of

Do you know someone interested in a St. Mark education for their PK-8th grade child? Limited openings are available in select grade levels. Here are some ways you can help us spread the word about St. Mark:



**1. REFERRALS:** Encourage prospective families to register for an upcoming **Open House**, our new **Come and Play Days**, or a **private tour** at [www.stmcs.net/open-house-tours](http://www.stmcs.net/open-house-tours). If they attend, you'll receive a \$10 gift certificate for the Lion's Den Spirit Store, and if they enroll, you could receive a [\\$500 tuition credit!](#)

**2018 Open Houses:**

Tuesday, March 27, 8:00-9:00 AM, School Library  
Tuesday, April 24, 5:30-7:00 PM, Early Childhood Bldg. (for PK/K families)

**2018 Come and Play Day:**

Families with preschool/kindergarten children are encouraged to play on our playground, enjoy a snack, and get a sneak peek inside our ECE classrooms. Open to individual families and playgroups.

Wednesday, April 11, 9:00-10:30 AM

**2. NEIGHBORHOOD BLOG/WEBSITE:** Do you participate in a neighborhood blog or website such as [www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com), or a neighborhood Facebook page? If so, please take a moment to post our Open House and "Come and Play Day" dates (see above). If there is room for a detailed description, simply email [Debbie Reed](mailto:Debbie.Reed@stmcs.net) and she'll send the information to you for posting.



**Only 1 week remains to purchase your  
2018 "A Night at the Oscars" Gala & Auction  
tickets!**

our St. Mark alumni families, and they are looking for new members. For any 8th grade boy interested in joining, now is the time. Boys do not need to attend JP11 to become a member. Enrollment runs from March 5-April 15, 2018. For more information about the organization, [click here](#). Those interested in joining may contact [Maria Ligad](#) (mother of **Nicholas Ligad '15**).



**Calling all new Ursuline Academy freshmen and current students:** 2018-19 Jesuit Rangerettes drill team tryout practices, formal auditions, and informational meetings will take place April 16-18. [Click here](#) for full details. For registration information, [click here](#).

We are halfway to our ice cream goal -- if we sell 50 more tickets before March 30, the Auction Committee will provide ice cream for the entire school!

[2018 Auction Tickets Are On Sale Now - Click Here!](#)

Ticket sales will close March 30, 2018.  
Hotel room prebooking ends March 26, 2018.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:**

If you purchased a hotel room on the Auction website, you were sent an email today requesting additional information. If you did not receive this email, we do not have records of you purchasing a hotel room. If you have questions, please contact [Rebecca Battles](#).

*Tuition Raffle*

**How to Play:**

**March 19, 2018 - April 5, 2018**

- \*Raffle ticket sales will be open from March 19 until April 5 at 11:59 PM.
- \*Parents will receive one pre-printed raffle ticket with the purchase of their child's cross art via the [Auction website](#).
- \*The price of the cross art with a raffle ticket is \$25.
- \*Raffle ticket will be delivered via take-home folder/backpack on April 6.
- \*If you have multiple children, each cross purchased has 1 raffle ticket.
- \*This is the only way to obtain a raffle ticket prior to the event.

**April 7, 2018 (at the Auction)**

- \*All Auction attendees will have the option of purchasing a lapel pin with a pre-printed raffle ticket(s) attached. Payment will be via BidPal.
- \*There will be a published cut-off time for purchases at the event.
- \*Silver lapel pin (1 raffle ticket attached) can be purchased for \$25.
- \*Gold lapel pin (5 raffle tickets attached) can be purchased for \$100.
- \*You can purchase as many silver or gold lapel pins as you like.
- \*This is the only way to obtain raffle ticket(s) at the event.

**Drawing**



Interested in becoming a 2018-19 Cardinal Belle? The



John Paul II High School Cardinal Belles drill team will be hosting a mandatory Student & Parent Meeting on April 3 from 6:00-7:00 PM for any JPII student or future student entering grades 9-12. Please [click here](#) for complete details.

**Cardinal Belles Junior**

**Clinic:** Calling all girls ages 5-14 -- The John Paul II Cardinal Belles will host a Junior Clinic on Saturday, April 21 from 9:00 AM-12:00 PM. The cost is \$40. Participants receive a t-shirt and will perform at the Belles' Spring Show on April 28 at 7:00 PM. The deadline to register is April 6. Please [click here](#) for more information and registration.

\*All raffle ticket stubs will be placed in a bin and a drawing will be held at the Auction.

\*The winner does not have to be present to win.

\*The winner must provide the following information: name, address, social security number (which will need to be verified against the actual social security card).

#### **Prize**

\*St. Mark Catholic School tuition voucher valued at \$3,000 towards the 2018-19 school year tuition.

\*IRS reportable winnings and income tax withholdings will be done in accordance with IRS regulations.

**Questions?** Please contact [auktion@stmcs.net](mailto:auktion@stmcs.net).



**1. What is the Gala and Auction?** The annual Gala and Auction is the largest fundraiser at St. Mark Catholic School. Monies raised go towards various improvements such as the SmartLab, playground equipment, and the

school gymnasiums, just to name a few recent examples.

Specific Gala and Auction details will be sent via email to attendees closer to the event on April 7.

**2. What is the VIP Reception?** The VIP reception is new this year, and begins at 5:00 PM (one hour prior to general admission). Those in attendance will receive complimentary wine and beer, as well as a chance to talk with the Principal and Assistant Principal. Attendees will also enjoy an extra hour to view the Silent Auction tables, place bids, and add items to their "watch lists." Simply add the VIP experience to your evening when prompted during the ticket sale process on the [Auction website](#). If you have already purchased your tickets and want to add a VIP experience, please email [auktion@stmcs.net](mailto:auktion@stmcs.net) and the Auction Committee will assist you.

**3. What is for sale at the Auction?** The Auction items/packages are divided into two categories: Live Auction and Silent Auction. The Live Auction is held the night of the event in the ballroom following dinner and includes items such as sky diving experiences, large trips, and other packages/experiences. The Silent Auction is held 100% through online bidding. Silent Auction items include the class baskets (that all school families donate to), teacher experiences, and various items donated by local or national



Join us for Mass with the seminarians on Sunday, March 25 at 9:15 AM at Holy Trinity Seminary, 3131 Vince Hagan Drive, Irving, Mass is followed by a reception with the seminarians.



**LION PRIDE!**



The 2018 7th/8th grade St. Mark Science Fair took place this week. It was judged by 25 John Paul II honors students including St. Mark alumni, as well as a faculty member. Congratulations to our winners:

#### **7th Grade:**

1st place: Color and Heat Retention-Biya C., Laura M.

2nd place: Hot Chocolate-Michelle B., Riannah M.

3rd place: Router Roadblocks-Renil G., Preston P., Isaiah T.

Honorable Mention: The Nose Knows or Does It?-Charlie H., Alex R., Luke G.



businesses. Bidding on both Silent and Live Auction items is only open to those who attend the event. You must purchase a ticket to be given access to the online bidding site.

#### 4. Should I attend the event even if I prefer not to spend a lot of money?

Your ticket purchase alone will help the Auction Committee reach its financial goal. New this year, we have included low-price items, many of which were created by the sweet hands of our children. Our goal is that everyone can walk away with a purchase from the Auction.



#### Upcoming Auction Events:

\*May 11: Metroplex Spirit Night (rescheduled)



HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

THE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION IS PROUD TO PRESENT AN EVENING OF EXTRAORDINARY ABILITY, FLAIR & PURE GENIUS ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL TALENT SHOW WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28TH SHOW BEGINS PROMPTLY AT 6:30PM FOOD TRUCK WILL BE ONSITE



Oh Snap!-Marie D., Ava F.

#### 8th Grade:

1st place: Pencil Resistors- Jake R., Brayden W.

2nd place: Burn Baby Burn- Lauren D., Maggie S., Katie K.

3rd place (tie): Does the Splatter Matter?-Alonso T., Greyson P.

Hey Sugar, We Got Your Yeast-Quynh N., Maria I.

Honorable Mention: Get a Grip-Katie S., Elena V., Becca L.

Does the Air in a Ball Affect How it Bounces?-Aaron K., Ryan L., Logan W.

Myth or Fact: The Five Second Rule-London C., Savannah H.

#### SEEN & HEARD AROUND ST. MARK

A few scenes from this week.

To learn the stories behind these photos, visit our [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) pages!

3rd, 5th and 6th Grade Compliments Projects:



## Field Day:

T-Shirts: Place your order now for your child's Field Day t-shirt by [clicking here](#). Field Day t-shirts are provided to everyone at no charge. The deadline to place your order is April 23.



Volunteer Sign-Ups: On Tuesday, March 27, the link for the Field Day Volunteer Sign-Up Genius will be emailed to all HSA members. Please remember that anyone who wishes to volunteer must be Safe Environment cleared by May 1.



### 2018 HSA General Meetings:

\*Please note that the March HSA meeting is being replaced by the Talent Show.

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



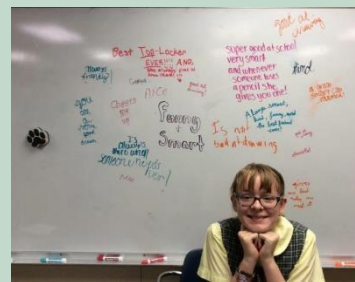
**Looking to volunteer?** Check out the master Sign Up Genius link and all the ways you can help out.

**ECE Music Help:** Mrs. Schell needs help with the PK3 classes as students learn basic movement and music skills. Be ready to dance, skip and play instruments! The volunteer position is open to ALL volunteers, not just PK3 parents. You must be current on your Safe Environment certification to participate. [Click here](#) to sign-up.

**St. Mark Scrip Program:** Purchase gift cards for gifts, or stock up for stores and restaurants that you frequent. Use the gift cards as you would your own cash or credit cards. Tell family and friends - anyone can order and St. Mark receives a percentage from every sale! Orders are accepted year round.



**ST. MARK COMMUNITY PRAYER TEAM**



### **6th Grade Greek Myths:**



### **8th Grade Launches Shuttles:**



**Join Our Mailing List**

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](#).



**March's prayer intention for our school:** For our Parish and its members

**Please join our students in praying our school prayer:** Lord, help us to come together as a community to support one another, encourage one another, and show each other kindness. Amen.

**Upcoming Event:**

\*Community Prayer Team Meeting: Monday, April 9, 8:00 AM in room 116. Please send prayer requests to [kathleenfrye@yahoo.com](mailto:kathleenfrye@yahoo.com) and indicate if your prayer can be shared, or should be kept confidential. You can also place a prayer request in the Prayer Box on our school Prayer Table (located in the hallway between the Administration offices and the cafeteria). We will pray over these intentions during our meeting.

**Forward To A Friend**

**St. Mark Catholic School | 1201 Alma Drive, Plano, TX 75075**  
[www.stmcs.net](http://www.stmcs.net) | (972) 578-0610

Copyright © 2018. All Rights Reserved.