



ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL

WHERE FAITH AND KNOWLEDGE MEET

WEEKLY SCHOOL BULLETIN November 15, 2019

Prayer for the 2019-20 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, November 15:

-1st grade received the Vocations Chalice at the All School Mass and will be praying for vocations during the upcoming week.

Saturday, November 16:

-Quiz Bowl Tournament

Tuesday, November 19:

-8th grade visits Jesuit and Ursuline

Tuesday, November 19 - Friday, November 22:

-5th grade to The Pines

Wednesday, November 20:

-Dress Down Day (details below); see page 27 of the [Parent Student Handbook](#) for guidelines

-Teacher Luncheon hosted by 1st and 7th grades

Thursday, November 21:

-7:30 AM: School Advisory Council Meeting

-Thanksgiving Feast - Early Childhood



A National School of
Excellence



Named 1 of the top 3
Catholic schools in the nation for
technology integration

MIDDLE SCHOOL
FALL PLAY

Friday, November 22:

-8:30 AM, Church: "Giving Tree" All School Mass presented by 1st grade. All are welcome.

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

-10:00 AM-11:00 PM: Half days are Cane's Days at St. Mark! Visit the location across the street from the school, mention St. Mark when you place your order, and a percentage will go to the Athletics Dept.

Monday, November 25-Friday, November 29:

NO SCHOOL: Thanksgiving Holiday

Monday, December 2:

-St. Mark Spirit Day! See page 27 of the [Parent Student Handbook](#) for guidelines.

Wednesday, December 4:

-7:10 AM: Student Council Meeting

-Progress Reports (grades 1-8)

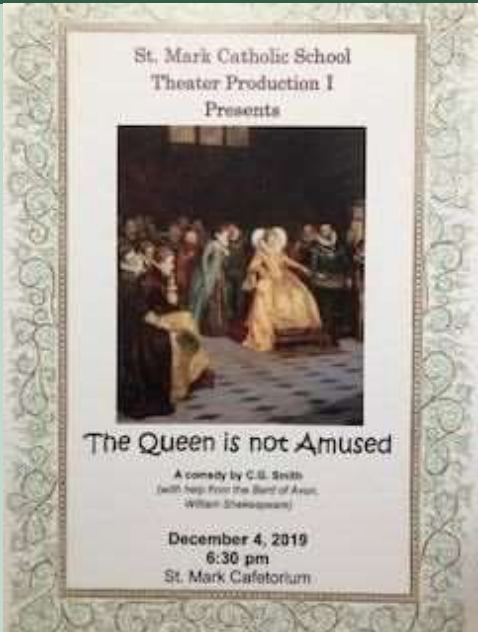
-6:30 PM, Cafetorium: Middle School Fall Play (details at right)

Friday, December 6:

-7:55 AM, Cross by Narthex: Community Prayer Walk

Saturday, December 7:

-Diocesan Speech Tournament



WATCH D.O.G.S.



Calling all "Dads of Great Students!" [Click here](#) to learn more about our Watch D.O.G.S. volunteer program for dads (and grandfathers, uncles), and to reserve your spot during the month of December. Sign-ups are due today. Half days and full days are available. Please remember, you must be [Safe Environment trained](#) to serve.

YEARBOOK ORDERS

The 2019-20 St. Mark yearbooks are on sale now! The yearbook is a wonderful keepsake that chronicles the entire school year and includes all students from Preschool through

WELCOME NEW STUDENT



A warm St. Mark welcome to the new student who joined us this week: Robert Bruzina in PK4.

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY PLANS

If you will be leaving early for the Thanksgiving holidays or returning after December 2, please be sure to email your child's teacher and [Mrs. O'Connor](#).

JV FLAG FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS!



Come out and support your JV Flag Football team at their first playoff game on Sunday, November 17 at 1:15 PM at Bishop Lynch High School! We need all of our LIONS fans in the stands to cheer them on to a V-I-C-T-O-R-Y!

SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT ST. MARK!



SPREAD THE WORD!

Please help us get the word out in our community about the great things going on in our school by going to **Google** and **Facebook** to leave us a rating and review!



Share why you and your children love being part of our school family to help future families find us online.

PLEASE DRESS STUDENTS FOR THE COLD WEATHER

8th grade. The cost is \$30 each. [Please click here to purchase your yearbook by December 20 before the price goes up.](#)

NOTE: 8th graders are provided with a complimentary yearbook, so it is not necessary to purchase one for your 8th grade student.

Yearbook ads are available to non-school teams & activities:

If you would like your non-school team or organization (i.e. Girl Scouts/Boy Scouts/PSA sports teams, etc.) recognized in the yearbook, you may purchase an ad between now and November 22 by [clicking here](#). Pictures and ad copy are due December 13.

Ads options:

- \$75 for 1/4 page (3.25" x 4.5")
- \$100 for 1/2 page (6.75" x 4.5")
- \$150 for full page (6.75" x 9.25")

COMMUNITY PRAYER TEAM



Welcome to the St. Mark Community Prayer Team! It is our goal to bring the St. Mark community closer to Christ and each other.

There will be many opportunities for you to get involved this school year. Even if you are unable to participate in person, please pray for St. Mark from wherever you are.

***Prayer Walks:** We will conduct Prayer Walks on the first Friday of each month and hope you can join us. [The next one will take place December 6.](#)

As the temperatures begin to drop, please be sure your child is properly dressed for the cold weather, including coats/hats/gloves. Classes can potentially walk outside between buildings during transition times, emergency drills can take students outside, students are outside during dismissal, and daily recess takes place outside as long as the temperature is above 32 degrees (reference page 46 of the [Parent Student Handbook](#)).

School uniform options include long sleeve shirts and sweaters for all students, as well as tights and knee socks for girls. Please keep in mind that uniform pieces must adhere to the guidelines that start on page 28 of the [Parent Student Handbook](#). Non-uniform shirts, fleeces, jackets, etc. are not permitted during the school day.

ST. MARK IN THE NEWS

Read all about it! St. Mark Catholic School received some wonderful coverage on the October service project, Blankets of Love, in the special [Veterans Day issue](#) of *The Texas Catholic* (November 1, 2019).



DRESS DOWN DAY

As a thank you for collecting Box Tops, students may have a **"Dress Down Day" on Wednesday, November 20** at no charge. Please see page 27 of the [Parent Student Handbook](#) for guidelines.

***Prayer Requests:** Everyone is welcome to place prayer requests in the box on the prayer table located in the hallway between the Admin. offices and the Cafetorium. The intentions will be taken to Mass on Fridays as part of the offering.

***Pope Francis' Monthly Prayer**

Intention: In addition to your prayers for our St. Mark community, we hope you will also remember Pope Francis' monthly intentions:

November: Dialog and Reconciliation in the Near East - That a spirit of dialogue, encounter, and reconciliation emerge in the Near East, where diverse religious communities share their lives together.

AROUND THE PARISH



It's that time of year again! Need a delicious Honey Baked ham or turkey for Thanksgiving? Avoid the lines and support a great cause!

Purchase yours from the John Paul II High School Cardinal Cheerleaders by [clicking here](#). Order by November 15 and pick up at JPII on Friday, November 22 from 2:00-4:00 PM. [Complete details and pricing can be found here.](#)



HOLY TRINITY SEMINARY

HTS invites you to public mass. Each mass is followed by a reception hosted by the local Serran clubs where you can get to know the HTS seminarians.

THANK YOU TO OUR RETREAT PARTICIPANTS



Thank you to everyone who attended the "Church of the Home" parent retreat last Saturday. We spent the morning learning how to slow down, how to appreciate and celebrate our family members, and how to bring God into our homes. Special thanks to our guest speakers: Judy Clark from St. Mark Family & Adult Ministry, middle school

Literature teacher, Greg Michniak and his wife Amy, and Deacon Henry Weichman, for the meaningful discussions and prayer service. And thanks to our wonderful teachers who contributed the comforting, homemade food. It was a special and extremely worthwhile morning.

CATHOLIC MATH LEAGUE TEST DATES

Attention Catholic Math League Participants: Please mark your calendars. The remaining 2019-20 Catholic Math League testing dates are as follows: **December 4, February 5, and March 4**. All test dates fall on a **Wednesday**. On the test dates, qualified participants will enter through the Cafetorium between 6:45 and 6:55 AM. Testing starts at 7:00 AM. No students will be admitted after 7:00 AM. Only students taking the test will be admitted. Thank you for your support. (NOTE: Students who qualified to participate have been notified.)

HELP SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT ST. MARK!

Do you know someone interested in a St. Mark education for their PK-8th grade child? We have limited 2019-20 openings in select grade levels.

2020-21 applications are open.
[Online applications are available here.](#)



Encourage prospective families to schedule a private tour at www.stmcs.net/open-house-tours. If they attend, you'll

Upcoming Mass Dates:

11/17 & 12/8

Time: 9:15 AM

Location: 3131 Vince Hagan Drive, Irving, TX



Mrs. Denvir invites all students and their families to attend the monthly French masses held at Our Lady of Cistercian Abbey. There is an opportunity to do the readings and to sample French snacks after each mass.

Upcoming Mass Date: 12/15

Time: 10:30 AM

Location: 3550 Cistercian Road, Irving, TX

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES



From December 6-8 and 12-14, come and see our own second grader, Jillian B., in the North Texas Performing Arts Center production of *Elf Jr.* For details and ticket information,

please [click here](#).

receive a \$10 gift certificate for the Lion's Den Spirit Store, and if they enroll, you could receive a [\\$500 tuition credit!](#)

NEWS FROM ATHLETICS

Shop the Lion's Den Spirit Store for all of your spirit wear needs! It is open every Friday morning that school is in session from 7:30- 8:15 AM in the Cafetorium. 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.



AUCTION & GALA



Get ready to celebrate our biggest fundraiser of the year, the "Boots & Ballgowns Auction & Gala," on Saturday, February 29, 2020 at Southfork Ranch! This year's proceeds will help to fund a rosary garden in the school courtyard as well as boost the school technology

fund.

Because this is our only school-wide fundraiser, and because many hands make light work, we ask that everyone contribute towards the Auction's success. Please consider joining the host committee for the Boots & Ballgowns Auction & Gala. Whether you can give a little time or a lot, there is a place for you! In particular, we need everyone's assistance with sponsorships. If you have connections to local businesses or know of potential sponsors, please reach out to caseyhendrix@gmail.com.

We hope you will volunteer your time and talents, and equally as important, we hope you plan to attend the Auction & Gala. It's a wonderful community event, and one that truly benefits us all. Let's work together to make this year's event the best one ever!



Chamberlain Performing Arts presents their annual production of the *Nutcracker* during Thanksgiving weekend. Our own fifth graders, Carter D. and Catalina M., and second graders, Valencia M. and Sophia D., are among the cast members. Please [click here](#) for details and ticket information.

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!

Veteran's Day:



Book Fair:

HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION



WANT TO VOLUNTEER? REMEMBER THAT YOUR SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING MUST BE CURRENT.



We are in need of volunteers for Junior Achievement! This is a great opportunity to be in the classroom and teach our kids some basic business and economic principles. JA classes are taught once a week for five weeks for a total of five classes. 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. Training will be held on January 29 at 2:30 PM in the Cafetorium. [Please click here](#) to sign up. If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please email [Polly Chesler](#).

2019-20 HSA Volunteer Opportunities: The Home & School Association cannot be successful without amazing volunteers to help in our school. There are many ways you can share your time and talents. Below are the links to the 2019-20 HSA Committee and Room Parent Sign-Up Geniuses. All positions are available on a first come, first serve basis. Please consider lending your time and talents to these positions:

[Committee Sign-Up](#)
[Room Parent Sign-Up](#)

Preschool-2nd Grade Classroom Helpers Needed: Please sign-up to help our teachers in the classroom with reading, paper pulling, and craft prep. All of the teachers have Sign-Up Geniuses with specific classroom needs. [Click here](#) to access the Sign-Up Geniuses for each teacher on the school website. Questions? Contact [Liz Delaney](#) or [Brandy Pazora](#).

ECE Front Desk Volunteers Needed: Early Childhood needs volunteers to man the front desk each day, answering the door, the phone, and doing occasional craft prep. Volunteers may bring a book/work, and the desktop computer is available if needed. Hours



Church of the Home Retreat:



Volleyball All Stars:



Author Visit:

are Monday-Thursday, 8:30AM-2:00 PM, and Friday, 9:30AM-2:00 PM. Any amount of time is appreciated. Please [click here](#) for the Sign-Up Genius, and be sure to include the hours you can volunteer in the "comments." Questions? Contact [Liz Delaney](#)

Library volunteers are needed for Kindergarten-8th Grade! Please visit the Library [Sign-Up Genius](#) to see the schedule of available times. There are plenty of opportunities!



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 contact the [Helping Hands Committee](#).



Hooray for Box Tops! October brought in \$64.70 for St. Mark (\$53.90 in clipped Box Tops and \$10.80 online in the month of October)! Our total so far is now \$231.80. **As a thank you, we will have a school-wide dress down day (no charge) on Wednesday, November 20!**

In order to win another dress down day for the school, we need to collect a lot more Box Tops before our March submission – so please start collecting for November! Box Tops must be submitted by **November 21**. Also, don't forget to download the Box Tops app and scan your receipt with eligible products within 14 days of purchase. For physical Box Tops, please carefully cut out unexpired Box Tops from participating brands (expiration date must be visible); place in a Ziploc (which conveniently has Box Tops!) or envelope; clearly write your child's grade/teacher on it; and turn them in to your child's teacher by **November 21**. Each Box Top submitted earns \$.10 for St. Mark. [Click here for details](#). For more information, contact [Melissa King](#) or [Sharon Mattis](#).



Shop at Kroger and Earn Money for St.

Mark: Enroll in the Kroger Community Rewards program and a percentage of your purchases will go to the St. Mark Home & School Association. [Click here](#) for complete instructions. Kroger cards must be re-linked to St. Mark every 12 months.



8th Grade Feast of Sharing:



November Service:



Spelling Bee:

FUN FACTS ABOUT THE STAFF



Did you know? 6th grade teacher, Mrs. Noel, was born and raised in New Orleans, Louisiana. She attended Catholic schools from kindergarten through college and has a lifelong commitment to Catholic education as a student, teacher, and parent. She graduated from Loyola University New Orleans. She and her husband have four children. Before moving to Texas, Mrs. Noel lived in Orlando, Florida and loved visiting Disney World, Sea World, the Kennedy Space Center and Universal Studios.

HIGH SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES

Join the entire John Paul II High School Cardinal Family for Open House on Wednesday, November 20 from 6:00-8:30 PM. This exciting evening features JP II faculty, staff, administration, and students. Attendees will be entered into a drawing for a \$1,000 credit toward 2020-21 tuition. Stop by the sponsored food trucks on your way in or out of campus, and spend the evening getting the full JP II experience. [Click here to register.](#)



8th graders are invited to be a "Friar For a Day" on Tuesday, December 3 from 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Bus service is available. Please pre-register on [Ravenna](#) or RSVP to admissions@bishoplynch.org.

BL Open House will take place on Sunday, December 8 at 1:00 PM at Bishop Lynch High School and is open to prospective students of all ages. The opening ceremony will take place in the Competition Gym, followed by open classrooms, information sessions, club fair, and more. Every faculty member, along with all coaches and many



PK4 Makes Applesauce:



2nd Grade Reconciliation:



students, will be on campus to answer questions and provide more information about Bishop Lynch. [Click here](#) for complete details.

QUICK LINKS

[Calendar](#)
[Lifetime Lions Alumni](#)
[Admissions](#)
[Lunch Menus](#)
[Safe Environment](#)
[Lion's Den Spirit Store](#)
[Work of Heart Nomination](#)

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