



ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL

WHERE FAITH AND KNOWLEDGE MEET

WEEKLY SCHOOL BULLETIN

February 8, 2019

Prayer for the 2018-19 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.



[Click here](#) to reserve your tickets!

Boot Scoot & Boogie Auction
Saturday, March 2, 2019
6:00 PM - 12:00 Midnight
Southfork Ranch

Dress up or dress down ... just come prepared to have a fun-filled evening with friends while we raise money for St. Mark Catholic School. Take a spin on the mechanical bull, bet on the fastest armadillo, try your hand at craps or the roulette wheel, or dance your boots off! There will be a BBQ buffet and a cash bar to quench your thirst!

REMINDERS

TODAY, Friday, February 8:

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

Saturday, February 9:

-10:00 AM, Cafetorium: Talent Show Rehearsal

Sunday, February 10:

-On-Site Open House at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton after the morning Faith Formation classes, Faith Formation Center, Room 130

Wednesday, February 13:

-7:10 AM: Student Council Meeting

-Progress Reports (grades 1-8)

Thursday, February 14:

-“Wear Pink or Red” Dress Down Day (no charge; details below); see page 27 of the [Parent Student Handbook](#) for guidelines

-Valentine's Day Party (Preschool)

Friday, February 15:

-8:30 AM, Church: All School Mass presented by 5th grade. All are welcome.

-Re-registration closes for current families

Sunday, February 17:

-On-Site Open House at St. Jude, after the 10:00 AM and 12:00 PM masses, Formation Room

-6:00 PM, Church: Children's Choir Sings at Mass

Monday, February 18:

-NO SCHOOL: President's Day

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear School Families: As you know, this past week and a half has been a difficult time for the Church. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your unwavering and continuous support of our school throughout this time. I have received



A National School of
Excellence

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[Lunch Menus](#)

[Safe Environment](#)

[Lion's Den Spirit Store](#)

[Work of Heart Nomination](#)

WEAR PINK OR RED ON VALENTINE'S DAY!

All students can celebrate Valentine's Day by wearing pink or red to school on Thursday, February 14! There is no charge for this Dress Down Day. Refer to page 27 of the [Parent Student Handbook](#) for guidelines.



NO YOUTH CENTER 2/15

many positive and uplifting messages from you -- so many, in fact, that I can't even begin to respond to them individually. This simply reaffirms what I already know about the St. Mark community -- that together, we are a strong, supportive family with one goal: to pave the way for college and Heaven for our children. Let us all continue to pray for those affected, and pray that the Holy Spirit continues to bless our wonderful school community.

Patricia Opon

Patricia Opon
Principal

WELCOME NEW STUDENT

A warm St. Mark welcome to our newest student who joined us this week, Samer A. in Mrs. Oliver's PK3 class.



FROM THE NURSE'S OFFICE



Flu season is now in full swing. We have seen a jump in the number of flu cases at school this week. If your child is complaining of feeling sick--particularly chills, body aches, headaches, or sore

throat--please keep them at home until they are feeling better. Students may return to school once they have been fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication. Thank you for your help in keeping our student population healthy!

For your information, the school is undergoing its usual nightly cleanings, plus full wipe-downs of all high-touch surfaces in the classrooms. Over the weekend, we will be conducting a deep cleaning with aerosolized disinfectants in the classrooms.

SMU VISIONEERING POSTPONED UNTIL 2020

VISIONEERING

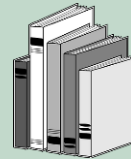
Due to a scheduling conflict, the SMU Lyle School of Engineering will not be hosting their Visioneering

There will be no Open Youth Center on Friday, February 15.



FREE TUTORING WITH ALUMNI

Three St. Mark alumni who are members of the National Honor Society at Bishop Lynch High School are offering free tutoring to students in any subject. They receive NHS service hours in exchange for their services. If your child would like to take advantage of this opportunity, please email [Ms. Steinkirchner](mailto:Ms.Steinkirchner) for the contact information.



Calling all "Dads of Great Students!"

[Click here](#) to learn more about our Watch D.O.G.S. volunteer program for Dads only, and to reserve your spot during the month of March. Sign-ups are due February 15. Half days and full days are available. Please remember, you must be [Safe Environment](#) trained to serve.

ST. MARK SUMMER PROGRAM

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN: www.kidventure.com/dallas-summer-camp!

competition in 2019. They will be back in 2020 with a new Visioneering event and St. Mark plans to once again send a team.

YOU'RE INVITED TO A SPECIAL EVENT!

Thanks to the very successful In-N-Out Burger fundraiser during CSW/Family Day last week, St. Mark is pleased to invite our families to a special community event:



**Nick Scott from Wheelchair Body Building
Tuesday, February 19, 2019**

**1:00-1:30 PM: Kindergarten-4th grade presentation
2:00-3:00 PM: 5th-8th grade presentation
Bacot Gym**

Mr. Scott will present a "Kindness/BE GOLDEN" assembly in keeping with our #BEGOLDEN school year theme. At 16, he was in a near fatal car accident and right before impact, he prayed to Jesus to help him. He survived the crash and has dedicated his life to inspiring others to live their best lives. He has become a professional wheelchair body builder, ballroom dancer, speaker, author and entrepreneur. He will speak to our Kindergarten-4th graders about the fact that everyone is beautiful just the way they are, and to our 5th-8th graders about rising above challenges, setting goals, overcoming obstacles, and accepting others as they are - all examples of "being golden." For more information about Mr. Scott, please [click here](#). We hope you can join us for this very special event!

STOCK THE SVDP FOOD PANTRY SHELVES

The Archangels of Catholic Charities have made a special request for food donations during the month of February in an effort to stock the St. Vincent de Paul food pantry shelves. Donations will be matched by North Texas Food Bank. St. Mark has agreed to help, and has assigned each grade level a specific food item to donate (see below). If you would like to participate, please send in your donation to your child's teacher by February 28.

Canned tuna - PK3
Canned chicken - PK4

Kidventure Summer Camp will be at St. Mark Catholic School for the summer of 2019. Called "Camp St. Mark," Kidventure will offer 9 weeks of active and rewarding summer camp for all children (ages 3-12). The theme is "Summer Bash." Families have the opportunity to register for any of the camp weeks, but each is designed to be a unique adventure, providing your child with outstanding opportunities for athletic, educational and personal growth.



Kidventure's "Camp St. Mark"

***Discovers:** Ages 3-5
***Explorers:** Entering 1st Grade-Age 12

*Dates: June 3-August 2, 2019
*Each week is Monday-Friday
*9:00 AM-3:30 PM (options for 7:00 AM-6:00 PM)
*All Adult Camp Team; Low Ratios
*Flexible Registration and Payment Plans

Learn more by visiting Kidventure's [website](#) or watching their [video](#).

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 to each other. There will be numerous opportunities for you to get involved this school year. Even if you are unable to participate in person, we invite you to join in from where you are. For more information about the Community Prayer Team, please [click here](#).



Pasta - K
Canned fruit - 1st
Canned soup - 2nd
Canned pasta (Spaghetti O's) - 3rd
Pasta sauce - 4th
Instant potatoes - 5th
Pop Tarts - 6th
Canned tuna or chicken - 7th & 8th

HELP SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT ST. MARK!

The 2019-20 admissions season is here! Do you know someone interested in a St. Mark education for their PK-8th grade child? Here are a few ways you can help us get the word out about St. Mark:

1. NEIGHBORING PARISH OPEN HOUSES: New this year, we're hosting "On-Site Open House" events at neighboring parishes. Stop by and say hello, and refer your friends who belong to these churches:

*Sunday, February 10: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Plano, after the morning Faith Formation classes, Seton Faith Formation Center, Room 130

*Sunday, February 17: St. Jude in Allen, after the 10:00 AM and 12:00 PM masses, Formation Room

*Wednesday, February 20: Ark Adventure Preschool at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Plano, 9:00 AM

*Sunday, February 24: Our Lady of Angels in Allen, after the 9:00 AM and 11:30 AM masses, upstairs in Rooms 202-203

*Monday, February 25: Sunshine & Rainbows Preschool at St. Jude in Allen, 9:00 AM, Education Building

*Tuesday, February 26: Sunshine & Rainbows Preschool at St. Jude in Allen, 9:00 AM, Education Building

*Wednesday, February 27: Little Saints & Scholars Preschool at St. Anthony in Wylie, 9:00 AM

2. REFERRALS: Encourage prospective families to register for an upcoming **Open House**, the **ECE Come and Play Day**, or a **private tour** at

Prayer Walks: Community Prayer Walks are held on the first Friday of each month at 7:55 AM at the cross outside the St. Mark Catholic Church Narthex: March 1, April 5 and May 3. After the Prayer Walk, join us for the All School Mass at 8:30 AM in the church.

Prayer Requests: The school has a Prayer Table available to anyone visiting campus (family members, etc.) which is located in the hallway between the Administration offices and the Cafetorium. Everyone is welcome to place prayer requests in the box on the table. These 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 of students, families, teachers, staff and religious, we hope you will also remember Pope Francis' monthly intentions:

February: Universal-Victims: For a generous welcome to the victims of human trafficking, enforced prostitution, and violence.

AROUND THE PARISH



St. Mark Catholic Church presents

Celebration of Love --
An Evening of Love & Laughter,
Dinner & Dancing

Saturday February 16, 2019
Doors open at 6:45 PM

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!](#)

2019 Open Houses:

Tuesday, March 26, 8:00-9:00 AM

Tuesday, April 23, 5:30-7:00 PM (for prospective PK/K families)

2019 Come and Play Day:

Tuesday, April 9, 9:00-10:30 AM

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.

3. NEIGHBORHOOD BLOG/WEBSITE: Do you participate in a neighborhood blog or website such as 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](#) and she'll send the information to you for posting.



Registration for the 2019 St. Mark Baseball and Softball teams is now available. Please [click here](#) for details. The deadline to register has been extended through March 1.

Registration is also open for JV and Varsity Track. The deadline to register is February 28. Please [click here](#) for details.

24TH ANNUAL MONSIGNOR SMYTH GOLF CLASSIC

Register now for this event benefiting the St. Mark Athletics Program!

St. Mark Parish Center Great Room
\$40 per couple

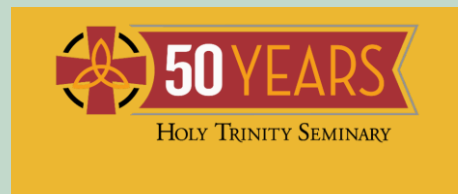
[Click here](#) to register by 2/11/19.

Marriage enrichment presented by Deacon Henry and Donelle Wiechman, as well as Arnold and Vicky Picon. There will be a special blessing for the couples. Consider attending 5:30 PM Mass before the celebration.

Make it your Valentine's date night!

PARISH BULLETIN ADS

Have a business you'd like St. Mark parishioners to know about? Consider advertising in the St. Mark Catholic Church bulletin. Reach thousands of parishioners weekly. For more information, contact Bill Strait at Trinity Publications: (972) 743-3864.



Join us for public mass at Holy Trinity Seminary on Sunday, February 17 and 24 at 9:15 AM at 3131 Vince Hagan Drive in Irving. A reception sponsored by the local Serran Clubs follows each mass. This is an excellent opportunity to learn about HTS and to meet the seminarians.

FRENCH MASS AT CISTERCIAN

Mrs. Denvir extends an invitation to all students and their families to attend the monthly French Masses at Our Lady of Dallas Cistercian Abbey, 3550 Cistercian Road, Irving. There is an opportunity to do the readings and to sample French snacks at the end of

Friday, May 3, 2019
The Courses at Watters Creek
7201 Chase Oaks, Plano, Texas



Shotgun Start at 1:00 PM; Reception Follows

Format and Cost:

- *4 Person Scramble
- *\$125 Per Person (includes dinner, beverage tickets, gift bags, door prizes and a raffle)

For registration and sponsorship information, please [click here](#). All registration forms must be submitted by May 1, 2019.

Questions? Contact marlene.ehring@stmcs.net.

LIONS DEN

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.



HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

This is it -- the last official submission of the year is coming up. January brought in 531 Box Tops. That's an additional \$53.10 for St. Mark Catholic School! Our school total is now **\$461.80**. Thank you to all who have submitted. Here are the class standings (Box Tops per student) which includes November, December and January. Collection will continue until the end of February:



- 3rd Grade: 325 Box Tops = Averaging 6.37 Box Tops/Student
- 5th Grade: 254 Box Tops = Averaging 5.08 Box Tops/Student
- 1st Grade: 135 Box Tops = Averaging 2.45 Box Tops/Student

every Mass. Next Mass: Sunday, February 17 at 10:30 AM.

FUN FACTS ABOUT THE STAFF



Did you know? Computer Technology teacher, Mr. Sedge, was born in Missouri and grew up on a dairy farm. He loves to bike, hike, camp, golf, read, eat pizza and ice cream, and loves to follow SMU basketball, the Dallas Cowboys, and college wrestling. He is a 4th degree Knight of Columbus, has been a Grand Knight, and has two children and seven grandchildren. Mr. Sedge won the Missouri State Championship in Wrestling as a senior in high school, ran his first marathon at The Dallas White Rock Marathon, and ran the Boston Marathon when he was 52. During this week's Dress Down Day, he and his grandsons sported t-shirts commemorating 50 years of Wrestling at his high school alma mater.

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!

Math Counts:

4th Grade: 110 Box Tops = Averaging 2.29 Box
Tops/Student
2nd Grade: 75 Box Tops = Averaging 1.74 Box
Tops/Student
TK/K: 96 Box Tops = Averaging 1.52 Box Tops/Student
Preschool: 54 Box Tops = Averaging 1.10 Box
Tops/Student
6/7/8th Grades: 190 Box Tops = Averaging 1.00 Box
Tops/Student

3rd Grade has taken the lead! But it's still a close race and there is still time to submit. Please turn in any Box Tops you have collected by February 21. 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. Box Tops submitted without grade/teacher on them will count towards our overall goal but we will not be able to keep track of them for the competition. Each Box Top submitted earns \$.10 for St. Mark. [Click here for details.](#) For more information, please contact [Melissa King](#) or [Sharon Mattis.](#)

The 2nd Annual St. Mark Talent Show will take place on Saturday, April 6, from 2:00 - 5:30 PM. It's going to be a fun-filled and action-packed afternoon and there are opportunities for everyone to show and share their talents this year (parents & kids)!



The first rehearsal will take place Saturday, February 9 at 10:00 AM.

Please [click here](#) for all information regarding sign-up opportunities, guidelines, and rehearsals.

Please continue to send your "Golden Volunteer" nominations to [Adriana Mora](#) or [Gisella Briggie](#). They are welcome any time of the month. Stay tuned for the next "Golden Volunteer" to be announced soon!

#BEGOLDEN

Earn Money for St. Mark by Simply Shopping at Kroger: Enroll in the Kroger Community Rewards program and a percentage of your purchases will go



Community Prayer Walk:



ASP "Classroom Feud" Game:



"Blind Date" Reading:



PK3 STEM:

directly to the St. Mark Catholic School Home & School Association. [Click here](#) for complete instructions. Kroger cards must be relinked to St. Mark every 12 months.

HIGH SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES

John Paul II High School invites St. Mark basketball players and all students to their remaining home basketball games. Come and enjoy a whole new Cardinal basketball experience!

*February 8- Girls v Parish, 6:00 PM; Boys, 7:30 PM (Senior Night)



*February 12- Girls v Ursuline, 6:00 PM (Ladies Night)

Interested in Cheerleading at John Paul II High School in 2019-20? There will be a Tryout Information Meeting for parents and students on Thursday, March 28 from 6:00-7:00 PM. Clinics will be held April 8-10 from 4:30-6:30 PM. Please [click here](#) for full details.



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PK3 D Week:



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