



ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL
WHERE FAITH AND KNOWLEDGE MEET

LIFETIME LIONS ALUMNI NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2020



Dear Alumni and Alumni Families: I hope you are having an enjoyable summer and are taking advantage of the slower pace and sunny days.

It's hard to believe we've seen another class graduate from St. Mark. The Class of 2020 did just that in May. Although we were unable to hold our traditional graduation ceremony, they were able to conclude their 8th grade year in a unique way. After receiving their diplomas, the faculty and staff held an outdoor parade in their honor. It was wonderful to have them

back on campus (distant but together) and we congratulate them once again on their accomplishment. We can't wait to hear what they do next!



We are also thrilled to share that Transitional Kindergarten (and former 5th grade) teacher and St. Mark alumna, **Kristen Young '94**, was named a 2020 HALO Distinguished Educator of the Year by the Diocese of Dallas. Ms. Young was one of 29 nominees across the Diocese. She is such a valued member of our faculty and she couldn't be more deserving!



Summer at St. Mark has been busy with preparations for the 2020-21 school year. While, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, this year is going to look different, I take heart in knowing that it's only temporary, that our students will continue to receive an exemplary education, and that our St. Mark community will remain strong together throughout this time.

We've continued to seek feedback from our school families and as a result, St. Mark will offer two learning platforms this year, on-campus and off-campus, which will allow families to choose the option that best suits their needs.

The on-campus experience will involve traditional classroom instruction with added health and safety measures including daily temperature checks, frequent hand washing, social distancing, face masks where appropriate, and more. Students learning off-campus will do so via video conferencing which will enable them to participate in real-time classroom instruction and interactions.

Unfortunately, we are not permitted to have visitors or volunteers on campus this year, so we will miss seeing our alumni for the time being. To learn what's happening on campus, be sure to follow our social media channels.

We hope you'll continue to stay in touch via email and let us know how and what you are doing.

In the meantime, enjoy catching up on all the latest alumni news, and be sure to share your own news with us throughout the year!

Sincerely,

Patricia Opon

Patricia Opon
Principal
patricia.opon@stmcs.net

P.S. Don't see your accomplishment in this newsletter? Please send it to debbie.reed@stmcs.net. We'll include it in the next edition.

ALUMNI UPDATES

The following students received academic awards, as well as other awards and honors, from their high schools at the end of the 2019-20 school year:

BISHOP LYNCH HIGH SCHOOL

Class of 2020

Chelsea A. '16: Spanish National Honors Society; **William G. '16:** National English Honor Society, Rho Kappa National Social Studies Honor Society; **Justin H. '16:** Delta Epsilon Phi German Honor Society); **Annabella M. '16:** National Honor Society, National English Honor Society, Science National Honor Society; **Kevin N. '16:** Top 10%, National Honor Society, National English Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, Science National Honor Society; **Emma Q. '16:** National Honor Society, National English Honor Society, Rho Kappa National Social Studies Honor Society; **Joshua Q. '16:** National English Honor Society, Top 5 Prom King Candidate; **Charlie S. '16:** Top 10%, National Honor Society, National English Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, Rho Kappa National Social Studies Honor Society, Science National Honor Society, David Post Mock Trial Award; **Carissa T. '16:** Valedictorian; Top 10%, National Merit Commended Scholar, National Hispanic Scholar, National Honor Society, National English Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, Rho Kappa National Social Studies Honor Society, Science National Honor Society; **Sharon V. '16:** National Honor Society, Rho Kappa National Social Studies Honor Society, Science National Honor Society; **Rebecca W. '16:** Top 10%, National Honor Society, National English Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, Rho Kappa National Social Studies Honor Society, Science National Honor Society, OP Science Award

JESUIT COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL OF DALLAS



A National School of
Excellence



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

ST. MARK IN THE NEWS

Transitional Kindergarten teacher, Kristen Young, was featured in the May 29, 2020 issue of *The Texas Catholic* as a 2020 Diocese of Dallas HALO Distinguished Educator of the Year.

Class of 2020

Sam D. '16: Ad Astra Award, Chess Club, The Last Roundup Editors in Chief; **Joseph F. '16:** The Last Roundup Editors in Chief; **Antonio M. '16:** AP Statistics; **John N. '16:** Ad Astra Award, Honors English Seminar, AP Macroeconomics, Christian Relationships, Music Appreciation; **Jacob N. '16:** Stagecraft 1; **Cal T. '16:** AP Physics C-Electromagnetism

Underclassmen

Jon N. '17: Debate Team; **Jake R. '18:** Named as a school Ambassador

JOHN PAUL II HIGH SCHOOL

Class of 2020

Travis A. '16: Honor Graduate, Cardinal Scholar, Mu Alpha Theta, National Honor Society, National Speech & Debate Association, National Science Honor Society, Art I/2D, Economics, Health II, Oral Interpretation Honors, Theology IV, US Government & Politics; **Adam B. '16:** Art II/2D, Astronomy, Concert Band Honors, AP Macroeconomics, Theology IV, Christian Service, National Art Honor Society, Tri-M; **Vanessa D. '16:** Honor Graduate, Cardinal Scholar, National Honor Society, Anatomy & Physiology, AP Macroeconomics, Pre-Calculus, Theology IV, AP US Government & Politics; **Rachael D. '16:** Art II/2D, Forensic Science, AP Macroeconomics, Theology IV, National Art Honor Society, TAPPS Academic All State-Swimming; **Lindsey G. '16:** Honor Graduate, Cardinal Scholar, National Honor Society, Anatomy & Physiology, Economics, Personal Finance, AP Statistics, Survey of Calculus, Theology IV, US Government & Politics; **Gabrielle G. '16:** Honor Graduate, National Honor Society, International Thespian Society, Tri-M, Economics, Health I, Musical Theater, Theology IV, US Government & Politics; **Kyanna I. '16:** Honor Graduate, Red Crest Award, Cardinal Scholar, Societe Honoraire de Francais, National Art Honor Society, National Honor Society, Sociedad Honoraria Hispanica, Science National Honor Society, Anatomy & Physiology, AP Studio Art/3D, AP Biology, AP Macroeconomics, Theology IV, AP US Government & Politics; **Samantha I. '16:** Honor Graduate, Cardinal Scholar, Christian Service, Mu Alpha Theta, National Honor Society, Science National Honor Society, AP Biology, AP Calculus AB, AP Macroeconomics, Theology IV, AP US Government & Politics; **Nathan M. '16:** Honor Graduate, Mu Alpha Theta, Cardinal Scholar, National Honor Society, Science National Honor Society,



The St. Mark Catholic School "Mobile Library" was featured in the June 19, 2020 issue of *The Texas Catholic*.



REMEMBER WHEN

We're remembering another graduating class - the Class of 2015. What are your memories from that year at St. Mark?

Post your comments on the school's [Facebook page!](#)

Astronomy, Forensic Science, AP Macroeconomics, AP Statistics, Theology IV, AP US Government & Politics; **Nicholas M. '16:** Art III/3D, Economics, Personal Finance, Technical Theater I; **Matthew M. '16:** Honor Graduate, National Honor Society, Theology IV; **Kevin P. '16:** Honor Graduate, Cardinal Scholar, Christian Service, Mu Alpha Theta, National Honor Society, Science National Honor Society, Astronomy, AP Macroeconomics, AP Statistics, Theology IV, US Government & Politics; **Julianna S. '16:** Honor Graduate, Cardinal Scholar, Christian Service, National Art Honor Society, AP Studio Art/3D, Economics, Theology IV

Underclassmen

Abby A. '18: Cardinal Scholar, Algebra II Honors, Computer Science, Chemistry, Latin II Honors, Theology II; **Jonas A. '19:** Bishop Grahmann Award, Cardinal Scholar, Biology, Concert Band Honors, Freshman Seminar, Geometry Honors, Spanish I, Theology I; **Justus B. '17:** Cardinal Scholar, Red Crest Award, Computer Science, Dual Credit English, Health II, Pre-Calculus, Theology III; **Hannah B. '17:** Cardinal Scholar, National Latin Exam Magna Cum Laude, AP English III, Latin III Honors, Pre-Calculus Honors, Theology, AP US History, TAPPS Academic All State-Volleyball; **Daniela B. '17:** Cardinal Scholar, Algebra II Honors, Health II, Mixed Chorus I Honors; **Natalia B. '19:** Cardinal Scholar, English I Honors, Freshman Seminar, Geometry Honors, Health I, Theology I; **Ansley B. '19:** Cardinal Scholar, Art I/2D, Freshman Seminar; **John B. '17:** Cardinal Scholar, Debate Honors, Theology III; **Catherine B. '19:** Cardinal Scholar, Freshman Seminar, Geometry Honors, Health I, Theater Production, Theology I; **Matthew C. '17:** French II Honors, Strings Orchestra Honors, Theology III, TAPPS Academic All State-Swimming; **Ynez C. '18:** Cardinal Scholar, Societe Honoraire de Francais, Algebra II Honors, Computer Science I Honors, Theology II; **Nicholas C. '17:** Cardinal Scholar, Communication Applications, Theology III; **Skylar D. '19:** Cardinal Scholar, Algebra I Honors, Biology, Freshman Seminar, Health I, Spanish I, Theology I; **Lauren D. '18:** Cardinal Scholar, Algebra II Honors, Art I/2D, Art I/3D, Theology II; **Jacob E. '18:** Art I/2D, Art I/3D, Theology II; **Marti F. '17:** Cardinal Scholar, Pre-Calculus Honors, AP Statistics, AP US History; **Allison G. '18:** Cardinal Scholar, Algebra II Honors, Art I/2D, Art I/3D, English II, Latin II Honors, Theology II; **Lauren G. '19:** Cardinal Scholar, Communication Application, Theology I; **Savannah H. '18:** Cardinal Scholar, Art I/2D, Communication Applications; **Veronica J. '18:** Art I/2D, Art I/3D, Theology II; **Natalie J. '17:** Cardinal Scholar,



LIFETIME LIONS



LIFETIME LIONS

St. Mark alumni are invited to join Lifetime Lions, our official alumni network. Keep up with former classmates, become a mentor to current students, and learn about opportunities to earn high school service hours. [Click here to register.](#)

FAVORITE ST. MARK MEMORY



When

registering for Lifetime Lions,

National Latin Exam Maxima Cum Laude, Dance I, English III, Latin III Honors, Theology III, AP US History; **Aaron K. '18:** Cardinal Scholar, Art I/2D, Art I/3D, Theology II, World History; **Kendall K. '18:** Cardinal Scholar, Algebra II Honors, Chemistry, Latin II Honors, Mixed Chorus Honors, Theology II; **Jason L. '19:** Cardinal Scholar, Biology, Concert Band Honors, English I Honors, Freshman Seminar, Technical Theater I, Theology I; **Jamieson M. '17:** Art III/2D, Astronomy, Forensic Science; **Kyle M. '19:** Cardinal Scholar, Art I/2D, Biology Honors, Freshman Seminar, Geometry Honors, Theology I; **Madeleine M. '18:** Cardinal Scholar, Red Crest Award, National Art Honor Society, Art II/2D; **Mary Kate M. '17:** Red Crest Award, International Thespian Society, Musical Theater; **Kaitlyn M. '19:** Cardinal Scholar, Art I/2D, Freshman Seminar, Theology I; **Lanie M. '18:** Cardinal Scholar, Art I/2D, Art I/3D, Chemistry Honors, Latin II Honors, Mixed Chorus Honors; **Jeremy M. '19:** President Scholar, Red Crest Award, Academic Octathlon Honors, Biology Honors, English I Honors, Freshman Seminar, Geometry Honors, Spanish I, Theology I, World Cultures & Geography Honors; **Alex M. '18:** Cardinal Scholar, National Latin Exam Maxima Cum Laude, Academic Octathlon Honors, Algebra II Honors, Chemistry Honors, English II Honors, Latin I, Theology II; **Quynh N. '18:** National Art Honor Society, Art II/2D, Computer Science I, Theology II; **Clare O. '19:** Cardinal Scholar, National Latin Exam Magna Cum Laude, Art I/3D, Freshman Seminar, Theology I; **Aoife P. '19:** Cardinal Scholar, Art I/2D, Biology Honors, Freshman Seminar, Geometry Honors, Spanish I, Theology I; **Ella P. '17:** Cardinal Scholar, Anatomy & Physiology, Pre-Calculus, Theology III; **Zach P. '19:** Cardinal Scholar, Academic Octathlon Honors, Biology, Freshman Seminar, Health I, Theology I; **Mia R. '19:** Cardinal Scholar, Communication Applications, English I Honors, Freshman Seminar, Geometry Honors, Theology I; **Alex R. '19:** Red Crest Award, Biology, Communication Applications, Freshman Seminar; **Daniela S. '19:** Cardinal Scholar, Freshman Seminar, Technical Theater I, Theology I; **Olivia S. '17:** TAPPS Academic All State-Tennis; **Sawyer S. '19:** Freshman Seminar, Health I, Musical Theater; **Maggie S. '18:** Cardinal Scholar, Art I/2D, Art I/3D; **Christian T. '18:** Algebra II Honors, Art I/2D, Art I/3D, Theology II; **Delanie V. '17:** Cardinal Scholar, National Art Honor Society, Art I/2D, Dual Credit US History; **Zach V. '17:** Cardinal Scholar, Algebra II Honors, Latin III Honors, Theology III; **Declan W. '17:** Cardinal Scholar, International Thespian Society, Concert Band Honors, Musical Theater, Theology III

you are asked to share your favorite St. Mark memories.

Ariadna G. '15 has fond memories of The Pines, spending time with friends, and all of the interesting class field trips.

STAY CONNECTED

Keep us posted! As we receive alumni



updates, we incorporate them into our social media posts, weekly school bulletins and alumni communications. Tell us about your recent activities and accomplishments -- we'd love to hear from you!

Need to update your contact information? Simply send an email to [Debbie Reed](#) with all of your updates.

WAYS TO GIVE TO ST. MARK

URSULINE ACADEMY OF DALLAS

Class of 2020

Sarah H. '16: National Merit Finalist, Human Anatomy Honors, 2020 National Scholastic Publication Association Honor Roll; **Joann N. '16:** National Merit Commended, AP Literature and Composition, AP Biology, Church History; **Tia T. '16:** AP Calculus BC; **Megan W. '16:** National Merit Commended

Underclassmen

Genevieve B. '19: Visual Art "Calendar" Award (artwork will represent the month of May in an upcoming calendar); **Biya C. '19:** Named as a school Ambassador; **Jingyao G. '18:** Digital Photography, Named as a school Ambassador; **Becca L. '18:** Chinese I, Named as a school Ambassador; **Vivian N. '17:** Ceramics-Functional, Fused Glass, AP Studio Art; **Sona S. '17:** Morality, Spanish III Honors; **Theresa T. '19:** AMC Math 2nd Place, String Ensemble

IN OTHER ALUMNI NEWS

Sarah C. '12 graduated from The University of Texas at Austin in May with a degree in International Relations. She has been accepted to and will be attending Kings College in London, UK in the fall of 2020 to complete her post graduate degree. Her family reports that St. Mark's faculty was fundamental in establishing a solid educational and spiritual foundation for Sarah that she has carried through her successful academic career and will continue to carry into her studies abroad. Once a Lion, Always a Lion!



St. Mark Catholic School appreciates your support. If you would like to donate time, expertise, or financial support, please follow the links below.

*Donate your time or expertise. Simply email [Debbie Reed](mailto:Debbie.Reed@stmarkcatholic.org) and let us know what you are interested in contributing.

*[Financial Assistance Fund](#) - This fund provides immediate financial assistance to qualified school families, helping them to meet their tuition commitments during the coronavirus pandemic.

*[Gap Fund](#) - This fund helps St. Mark bridge the gap between the tuition amount our families pay, and the actual cost to educate each student. For 2019-20, that cost is \$1,111 per student.

*[Technology Fund](#) - This fund assists St. Mark with keeping current on the technology made available to our students.

*[Other Monetary Donations](#) - Make a general donation, or designate funds towards a specific program such as Fine Arts, Athletics, or Robotics.

Alina G. '05 has joined Kids Pediatric Dentistry in Allen, TX. After graduating from Ursuline Academy of Dallas and Stanford University (where she played Division I soccer), she played professional soccer in Germany, and then attended Texas A&M (Baylor) College of Dentistry in Dallas where she became a member of Omicron Kappa Upsilon Honor Dental Society, The Odontological Honors Society, and was awarded the Baylor Oral Health Foundation Centennial award for her professionalism, leadership, clinical and patient management skills, community service, and good academic standing. She was accepted into the Pediatric Dentistry Specialty Program at Texas A&M (Baylor) College of Dentistry. During her two years of residency, she worked at Children's Medical Center and Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for children. There, she developed the skills to care for medically complex and special needs children. Dr. Alina maintains active membership in the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, American Dental Association, Texas Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, North Texas Hispanic Dental Association, and Greater Dallas Pediatric Dental Society. She is honored to be part of the Kids Pediatric Dentistry family and to work with her mother, Dr. Elisabeth Rowold-Garciamendez.

Jacalyn and Andre S., along with their three children **Andre '92**, **Michael '94**, and **Amanda '99**, were honored with the 2020 Lynch Legacy Award at Bishop Lynch High School for establishing the Bishop Lynch Bridges Scholarship which annually provides four-year, full-ride scholarships to one or two incoming freshmen.

Rachele P. '98 is the Director of Teaching and Learning at Bishop Lynch High School. She was instrumental in serving as a teacher resource during the school's transition to eLearning last spring due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

*[Legacy Brick](#) -

Commemorate your time as a LION. Buy a personalized brick for \$100 that will become part of the entryway to St. Mark Catholic School.

*[Merchant Programs](#) - Raise funds for the school simply by linking your shopper card to St. Mark.

**ONCE A LION,
ALWAYS A LION!**



**Correction to the Spring 2020
Alumni Newsletter:**

Austin G. '19, a rising sophomore at Lovejoy High School, served as a quarterback (not the quarterback) on the Varsity Football team during his freshman year. He also lettered in Football, Track and Powerlifting as a freshman.

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