



ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL

WHERE FAITH AND KNOWLEDGE MEET

LIFETIME LIONS ALUMNI NEWSLETTER - SPRING 2021

Dear Alumni and Alumni Families:

Happy Spring! I hope you and your families had a very Happy Easter and are enjoying this season of rejuvenation and renewal.

It was a little over a year ago that our school families left for Spring Break and were not able to return to campus in person for the remainder of the school year due to the pandemic. What a difference a year makes!

After returning from the break this year, 8th grade was able to participate in Living Stations of the Cross and Confirmation, we held a safe, socially distanced Scholastic Book Fair where students could shop in person, the annual Service From the Heart ceremony, and we are looking forward to May Crowning, First Communion, the Class of 2021 Graduation, Field Day, and spring service projects in the coming weeks. Students are enjoying lots of outdoor class time, and even picnic lunches on our campus and in area parks. Of course, we continue to follow COVID protocols, so while things still look a little different, the spirit of these traditions remains the same, and for that, we are most grateful.

You may be wondering what the 2021-22 school year will look like at St. Mark. We continue to work closely with the Diocese of Dallas Catholic Schools Office in conjunction with federal, state and local health officials.



Health and safety continue to be our #1 priorities and inform every decision we make. That being said, we anticipate returning to a normal school year in the fall in terms of classes and activities, with certain protocols in place. We foresee a year where students will be able to mingle, participate in academic contests, school sports, and other extra-curriculars, and we can once again welcome volunteers (and alumni) to campus. Enhanced cleaning/sanitizing and some form of social distancing will likely remain in place, and we are awaiting guidance on the need for face masks, which will likely come in July. We look forward to getting back to a sense of normalcy and we know our students and families do as well.

As usual, our alumni have racked up some amazing accomplishments over the past few months. Read all about them below, and stay tuned for our summer newsletter that recaps all of the high school awards and recognitions from the last semester of the school year.

Until then ...

Peace and prayers,



Pam Steinkirchner
Principal
pam.steinkirchner@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.

Limited openings available in select grade levels for the 2021-22 school year.

The road to college and Heaven begins here.



- 🎓 Academic Excellence
- 📖 Faith in Action
- 👤 Character Development
- 🐾 Physical Fitness



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ANNOUNCING A NEW WAY TO CONNECT WITH THE ST. MARK ALUMNI COMMUNITY ...

Watch for information about the new St. Mark Catholic School Alumni Facebook Group and get connected to friends, references, internships, job opportunities, and more.

COMING MAY 14, 2021!

ALUMNI UPDATES



Aenghus D. '17 (pictured right), a senior at The Highlands School, was announced as the school's Valedictorian for the Class of 2021. Aenghus will give the valedictory address at the graduation ceremony on May 22, and plans to study Chemistry at Texas A&M University.

Courtney B. '17, a senior at Ursuline Academy of Dallas, has received the following honors: National French Exam Silver Medalist, National Society for High School Scholars, National Honors Society, National French Honor Society, National Spanish Honor Society, National Math Honor Society, First Honor Roll for 3 consecutive years, and Academic Awards in Spanish I, Algebra II and Theology II.



A National School of Excellence



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

Alonso T. '18 is a junior at Bishop Lynch High School. He was recently recognized as a National Merit Scholar, placed 4th in Advanced Math and 5th in Calculator Applications at the 2020-21 TAPPS State Academic Meet, was elected President of the BL Mu Alpha Theta chapter and President of the BL Robotics Club, was elected Secretary of the BL branch of the National English Honor Society, was chosen as a Team Lead for the BL Ambassador Program, was elected as the Co-Captain for his BL Mentor Group, and was selected as a member of the 2021 Fall Student Leadership Group. Alonso is a member of the National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, National English Honor Society, Rho Kappa (Social Studies Honor Society), and Science National Honor Society.

Austin G. '19 is playing quarterback at Plano Senior High School and received his first FBS scholarship offer from The University of Southern Mississippi.

Congratulations to the following alumni who placed in their events at the 2021 Texas State Junior Classical League Latin competitions:

Area C Regionals: **Marti F. '17/JPII**: Reading Comprehension Advanced-Prose Level IV-8th Place; **Ava F. '19/JPII**: Mythology Level II-5th Place, Roman History Level II-3rd Place; **Kyle M. '19/JPII**: Vocabulary Level II-9th Place; **Alex M. '18/JPII**: Greek Life & Literature Level III-3rd Place; **Jake R. '18/Jesuit**: Monochromatic Drawing-1st Place, Mythology Level III-2nd Place, Roman History Level III-1st Place; **Camille S. '19/JPII**: Roman History Level II-1st Place, Latin Derivatives Level II-4th Place, Sight Recitation Level II-1st Place; **Zach V. '17/JPII**: Reading Comprehension Advanced-Prose Level IV-5th Place

REMEMBER WHEN



Remember when the Class of 2011 took this photo on the playground?

It's hard to believe it was 10 years ago, and now the Class of 2021's Graduation is on the horizon.

Be sure to like and comment on our social media pages!

LIFETIME LIONS

State Convention: **Jake R. '18/Jesuit:** Monochromatic Drawing-6th Place

Crystal C. '20, a freshman at Ursuline Academy of Dallas, attended the "Yalla Shabab (Let's go, youth!) 2021: Adaptive Thinking, Changing Reality," virtual conference. Hosted by Ursuline's sister school, The Ahliyyah School for Girls, in Amman, Jordan, the event was a tremendous learning and cultural experience that explored integral approaches to well-being, science and technology, and future skills shaping the economies of tomorrow.

The John Paul II High School Boys Soccer Team is the 2021 TAPPS D1-2 District Champion and D1 State Finalist. Team members include **Diego L. '18, Fitch T. '18, Kyle M. '19** and **Chase R. '18**. **Diego** was named TAPPS 1st Team All District and TAPPS 2nd Team All State. **Fitch** was named TAPPS 1st Team All District, TAPPS 1st Team All State, TAPPS D1-2 Defensive MVP, TAPPS Academic All State, and TAPPS D1 All Tournament Team. **Kyle** was named TAPPS 2nd Team All District.

Alex J. '20, a freshman at Ursuline Academy of Dallas, is a member of Ursuline's African American Awareness Club. The club gathered virtually during Black History Month to listen to Richard Miles speak about his wrongful conviction that sentenced him to 60 years in prison for a crime he did not commit. Serving 15 of those 60 years, he helped exonerate himself by working his own case.

Thomas W. '18, a junior at Jesuit College Preparatory School of Dallas, is a member of the Jesuit Track & Field team. His 4 x 200 relay team members were recently recognized as Jesuit "Athletes of the Week." They also placed 5th overall at the UIL Region I-6A Track & Field meet.



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

Justin K. '05 fondly remembers football season, Teacher Switch Days, and Field Day.

Emily J. '18, Kendell K. '18 and Mia R. '19 are members of the TAPPS District Champion John Paul II High School Varsity Softball team.

Jacob E. '18 and Brenden V. '18 are members of the TAPPS D1-2 District Champion John Paul II High School Varsity Baseball team.

Alex H. '96, LCSW, OSW-C, Support Services Manager at UT Southwestern, is a recipient of the 40 Under 40 in Cancer Award. This award recognizes contributions being made in the field by rising stars and emerging leaders. She was selected by a panel of reviewers from across diverse roles in oncology. Alex is a graduate of Ursuline Academy of Dallas.

Kennedy G. '17 was among the top 11 candidates for Homecoming Queen and **Ian P. '17** was among the top 10 candidates for Homecoming King at Bishop Lynch High School where they are both currently seniors.

Kathrina M. '06, a graduate of Ursuline Academy of Dallas, is featured in a permanent exhibit in the Engineering and Innovation Hall of the Perot Museum of Nature and Science. She is the highlight of the Electrical Engineering Exhibit which is interactive and inspires kids to pursue a career in STEM.

Jonas A. '19, Aaron K. '18, Lindsay K. '20, Nataly M. '20 and Olivia S. '17 are members of the John Paul II High School Varsity Boys and Girls Tennis teams. The Boys took 1st Place in the TAPPS District Championships and the Girls took 2nd. Both teams placed 4th in State. **Olivia** placed 2nd in District Girls Singles, **Nataly** placed 2nd in District Girls Doubles and 3rd in State. **Jonas** placed 3rd in District Boys Singles and **Aaron** placed 3rd in District Boys Doubles.

We're excited to bring Field Day back this year after a one year "pandemic hiatus!"

WHAT CAN I DO FOR S T. MARK?

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

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

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

*[Gap Fund](#) - Helps St. Mark bridge the gap between the tuition amount our families pay, and the actual cost to educate

Janice R. '15, a graduate of Ursuline Academy of Dallas, was sworn in as a Senator-At-Large representing students at The University of Cincinnati where she is currently a sophomore.

In John Paul II High School Girls Soccer Team news: **Veronica J. '18** was named TAPPS 1st Team All District, TAPPS 1st Team All State, and TAPPS Academic All State; **Maggie S. '18** was named TAPPS Honorable Mention All District.

Elena V. '18, a junior at Ursuline Academy of Dallas, recently played "Mrs. Smith" in the Jesuit Stage & Film livestream theater production of "The Bald Soprano."

Lanie M. '18 is a member of the John Paul II High School Track & Field team. She recently set two school records in the 400M and 800M.

The John Paul II High School Varsity Boys Swimming Team earned 3rd Place in the TAPPS D1 State Championship. **Justin B. '19** placed 3rd in the 50 Freestyle. **Matthew C. '17** and his 200 Freestyle Relay team won 1st Place. **Justin and Matthew's** 400 Freestyle Relay team placed 1st, and **Matthew** earned TAPPS Academic All-State.

Casie P. '20, a freshman at Centennial High School, earned 6th Place in the Computer Applications event at the Academic UIL 5A Regional Tournament.

ONCE A LION, ALWAYS A LION!

each student. For 2020-21, that cost is \$1,167 per student.

*[Technology 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.

*[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.

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 us an email](#).

QUICK LINKS

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