



St. Mark Catholic School

Weekly Bulletin

May 2, 2014

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Reminders for Next Week

Saturday, May 3

6:30 PM Theology of the Body Dinner & Dance, St. Mark Parish Center

Monday, May 5

3:45 PM Respect Life Club Meeting

Friday, May 9

8:30 AM School Mass and May Crowning

Students may wear **free dress** for May Crowning, Please be sure it is Sunday best for this special day. Each student is asked to bring a **single flower** to place at the altar in front of the statue of Our Blessed Mother.

Saturday, May 10

10:00 AM First Communion, St. Mark Catholic Church

Our thoughts and prayers are with our second grade students in both the school and the parish as they receive the Holy Eucharist through the Sacrament of First Communion.

Virtue of the Month - ACCEPTANCE

Each month, our students are asked to focus on a virtue. For the month of May, it is acceptance. Teachers incorporate the Virtue of the Month into their classrooms through stories and activities that enable students to see the virtue in action.

Pre-Order School Supplies Now for 2014-15

St. Mark school families can now pre-order/pre-pay for school supplies for the 2014-15 school year. There will be ONE order form (attached) for all required supplies. Pre-orders will be accepted through **June 13, 2014**. If you will be purchasing your school supplies elsewhere you **must still use this form to order the mandatory St. Mark Specialty Supplies**. 2014-15 [school supply lists](#) by grade are now posted on the St. Mark School website under the "Parents" tab.

All pre-ordered supplies will be available for pickup on **Sunday, August 3rd from 9:00 AM – 12:00 NOON in the OLD GYM**. We will have a limited stock of supplies available for sale on a first come/first serve basis.

Pre-ordered supplies require pre-payment. For your convenience, payments can be made via cash or check to the school office, or electronically through the school website via credit/debit card.

7th Grade Confirmation Meeting

Attention 7th grade parents and students: There will be an important meeting on Monday, May 12, 2014 from 7:00 to 8:30 PM in the St. Mark Parish Center Great Room for school and parish teens who are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in the spring of 2015. Please mark your calendars. Another meeting will be scheduled in the fall, date and time to be announced.

Respect Life Club (RLC)

Our last meeting of the year is Monday, May 5th. We will be celebrating with a pizza party for our spiritually adopted baby, as well as have guest speakers from the CPLC—welcome to Patty Sherod and the GEMS moms who will be joining us!

SIGNUPS FOR 2014-15 WILL BEGIN ON FRIDAY, MAY 9TH—MAY CROWNING!

Current members must re-register by [clicking here](#). Information regarding new officers and next year's calendar and topics can be found here. Membership is open to children in grades 1-8.

Parents, please join us in the Narthex after the May Crowning Mass on May 9th, where the parish pro-life committee and RLC will provide a reception with refreshments. Meet current and new RLC officers, find out more about the club, and sign up your children!

Thank you to all, especially Mrs. Bacot and Father Cliff, for helping to make our first year a big success, with over 90 members!

School Picture Orders

A friendly reminder that spring school pictures were recently sent home. Please return order forms and payments to the school office by May 9.

St. Mark Community Carnival

Learn how you can get involved in the St. Mark Community Carnival, which will be held October 10-12. Check out the [St. Mark website](#) or our Facebook page to learn how you can become a sponsor or a volunteer.

2014 DCYC - Dallas Catholic Youth Conference

Attention teens entering high school this fall! The Dallas Catholic Youth Conference will be held August 1-3, 2014 at the Embassy Suites/Frisco Convention Center (required overnight stay on Friday and Saturday). Cost: St. Mark attendee \$70.00 "Early Bird" price due on May 28, 2014 by 12:00pm. Includes: Registration, Hotel, Meals and Transportation to and from. For more information call the Youth Office at 972-578-9583, or visit their [website](#).

Did you know...?

Did you know that, as a sign of respect, our Middle School students are required to stand when an adult enters their classroom?

Seen & Heard Around St. Mark

8th Grade Confirmation

Congratulations, 8th graders! This past weekend, our 8th grade students received the gifts of the Holy Spirit through the Sacrament of Confirmation. Candidates, sponsors, family, and friends gathered in the church for a beautiful ceremony led by Auxillary Bishop J. Douglas Deshotel, and our pastor Father Cliff. Bishop Deshotel gave a wonderful homily, speaking directly to the 8th graders about their growing responsibilities as young adults, and as Catholics. Much to the parents' delight, he informed our students that they should no longer need to be told to clean their rooms! The ceremony was followed by photos with the Bishop, and a lovely reception in the Cafetorium hosted by the St. Mark 7th grade class, and Youth & Young Adult Ministry.

St. Mark Celebrates Earth Day

Kindergarten's Museum of Junk: In honor of Earth Day, our kindergartners read a story called "Aunt Ippy's Museum of Junk" and were then asked to collect recyclable trash in order to create pieces of art for their classroom "museums." Our students made some amazing creations such as space ships, robots, and cleaning machines, and they were brimming with excitement as they explained all of the details about their artwork. Nice work, Kindergarten!

1st Grade Visited the Rainforest: Last Wednesday, our 1st graders took a trip the rainforest! A biologist from “Science Made Fun,” an organization that provides hands-on science workshops, visited each classroom and helped the children to learn about the importance of rainforests on Earth. Each student built their very own “rainforest” that they took home, and used items found in nature to make “medicine,” just like a real tribal shaman! As the biologist walked around the classroom giving his lesson, he used his water spritzer to make sure the students understood just how wet it is in the rainforest, which was of course, a big hit!

2nd Grade Creates Litter Bugs: Our second grade class created their own three-dimensional “Litter Bugs” out of recycled materials and wrote paragraphs describing their creations. Stop by the second grade hallway to see the display of their work!

3rd Grade Sees Disney “Bears” Movie: Every year, Disney releases a movie in honor of Earth Day. This year it is Disney “Bears.” Our 3rd grade class got to see it as part of their recognition of Earth Day.

Art Class: Art teacher Tammy Williams assigned several different Earth Day projects to the different grade levels. TK made a recycle bin and were then asked to draw the types of trash that can go into it. Other grades used handprint cutouts to illustrate how we must all “hug” the Earth and take care of it.

3rd Grade Learns About Pioneer Days

To go along with their reading unit on “Sarah Plain and Tall,” the 3rd grade class participated in some fun and educational activities. On Monday, we saw lots of “pioneers” walking our halls, as each student got to wear a cowboy hat or bonnet and bring a stuffed “farm” animal to school. On Tuesday, they took a field trip to the Heritage Farmstead Museum in Plano where they experienced hands-on lessons about life on a farm including a visit to a schoolhouse, feeding chickens, washing clothes, games of the past, plowing/planting a garden, and visiting a farmhouse. St. Mark parent, and Heritage Farmstead Musuem Education Director Victoria James, organized the visit.

“# 31 Years of Greatness!” - Spring Musical

The St. Mark “Spring Musical” is always a wonderful performance put on by our 6th, 7th and 8th grade students who participate in the Spring Musical elective, but this year was truly special, as the students decided to celebrate 31 years of St. Mark musicals, in honor of our Principal Suzanne Bacot, who is retiring at the end of this school year. They came up with the name above, which is “Hashtag 31 Years of Greatness” for those of you non-Twitter folks! They performed excerpts from several past shows, and presented Mrs. Bacot with special props from each. They did two shows for students, followed by an evening performance for families and friends. Special thanks to Music teacher Patty Corsi for coordinating the show and the music, and of course to the students for such a wonderful performance!

In Alumni News ...

Congratulations to Stephen S. who is preparing to graduate next month with his Doctor of Medicine degree from Georgetown University in Washington, D.C.

LION PRIDE!

There is much to ROAR about at St. Mark! Each week, we will feature just some of the many reasons we're so proud to be St. Mark Lions ...

St. Mark Students Participate and Win at the PSIA State Meet! Congratulations to all of our St. Mark Lions who competed at the *Private Schools Interscholastic Association State Meet* held at Texas Christian University in Ft. Worth on April 26! Competitors came from all over the State of Texas for this meet, after winning either 1st or 2nd place at their PSIA District Meets held earlier this year (St. Mark hosted our District Meet on campus for the first time in February). The following students placed in the top six at the state level for their respective events, and are pictured at the top of the bulletin:

1st Grade:

Waverly M. – 6th place in Storytelling

3rd Grade:

Theresa T. – 6th place in Math

6th Grade:

Joel K. – 2nd place in Poetry Interpretation

Joann N. – 2nd place in Maps/Graphs/Charts

7th Grade:

Avery B. – Tied for 4th place in Vocabulary

8th Grade:

Alonso M. – 1st place in Number Sense

Jordan P. – 5th place in Impromptu Speaking

Elizabeth R. – Tied for 1st place in Listening Skills

Mathfax Results

Congratulations to all of our Mathfax participants! The following students were recognized for top honors in their grade level and were treated to a special breakfast held in their honor:

3rd grade - Sean W., Theresa T., and Biya C.

4th grade – Jakob Q.s, Oliver C., and Tiffany T.
5th grade –Anish K., Paul K., and Taylor W.
6th grade – Antonio M., Joel K., and Minh Khanh P.
7th grade – Ian S., Ethan J., and Minh Tuan P.
Pre-Algebra – Marco T., Mary Kate T., and Nate K.
Algebra 1 – Ivanka P., Minh Huy P., and Dylan C.

Divisional Winners were:

Sean W.- Math 3, Division 2 - Third Place
Antonio M. – Math 6, Division 1 - First Place and Division 1 Champion
Joel K. - Math 6, Division 1 - Fourth Place
Ian S. – Math 7, Division 3 - Fourth Place
Ivanka P. – Algebra 1, Division 3 - Second Place
Minh Huy P. – Algebra 1, Division 3 - Third Place

Special congratulations to our National Winner, Antonio M.: Math 6, National - Second Place! St. Mark won Championship Awards for First Place in their Division for Math 6 and Algebra 1!

Lions Earn Invitations to Duke TIP

The Duke University Talent Identification Program (Duke TIP) is a non-profit organization that identifies academically talented and gifted students based on standardized test scores achieved while in elementary and middle school. Students who receive a 95% or above on standardized testing are invited to participate. St. Mark had 20 students receive invitations to participate in the 4th-6th grade program this school year! Congratulations to the following St. Mark Lions ...

Jordan B. – 6th
Nicholas C. – 5th
Aenghus D. – 5th
Anthony E. – 4th
Lindsey G. – 6th
Natalie H. – 4th
Giselle H. – 4th
Alyssa H. – 5th
Luke H. – 4th
Sean J. – 5th
Kate K. – 4th
Alexandra M. – 4th
Jack P. – 4th
Emma Q. – 6th
Jakob Q. – 4th
Joshua Q. – 6th

Jacob R. – 4th
Peyton S. – 4th
Delilah S. – 4th
Ann T. – 4th