WEEKLY SCHOOL BULLETIN  March 22, 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.

AUCTION UPDATE

We are thrilled to announce that the 2019 "Boot Scoot & Boogie" Auction raised $100,000! As a result, all of the projects on our 2019 wish list will be implemented between now and the end of the summer.

Your Auction Dollars are Already at Work! We took advantage of the Spring Break vacation to install brand new flooring throughout the school -- a big surprise for our students when they returned last Monday! Be sure to take notice of the brighter and more modern look throughout our halls the next time you’re on campus. Stay tuned for some new playground equipment, a staff restroom on the second floor, and the completion of the School Library updates during the coming months.

Special thanks to our Auction Committee Chairs, Andy and Vicki Crider, and to everyone who assisted them with this incredible event. Of course, we also couldn't have done it without our St. Mark community members. Thanks to everyone for your generosity and participation. The annual Auction not only brings our community together for an evening of
celebration and fellowship, but also raises funds that truly make an impact on our campus. Soon, we will all be enjoying the fruits of our labor!

REMINDERS

TODAY, Friday, March 22:
- 2nd grade received the Vocations Chalice at All School Mass and will be praying for vocations during the upcoming week.

- 3rd Quarter Ends

Saturday, March 23:
- 2:30 PM, Cafetorium: Talent Show Rehearsal

Monday, March 25:
- 4th Quarter Begins

- The optional uniform walking shorts may be worn by students in PK-5th grades throughout the 4th quarter. Complete uniform guidelines can be found beginning on page 28 of the Parent Student Handbook.

Tuesday, March 26:
- 8:00 AM, Library: Open House for Prospective Families (details below)

Wednesday, March 27:
- 9:30 AM, Church: School Reconciliation

- Teacher Luncheon hosted by PK3, PK4, and 5th grades

- Report Cards Sent Home

Thursday, March 28:
- Dress Down Day: Students may pay $2.00 for a Dress Down Day benefiting Yearbook. See page 27 of the Parent Student Handbook for guidelines.

Friday, March 29:
- 8:30 AM, Church: All School Mass presented by 2nd grade. All are welcome.

Saturday, March 30:
- Private Schools Interscholastic Association (PSIA) Academic Competition (qualifying students have been notified)

ORDER YOUR STEM FAIR T-SHIRTS
The 2019 S.T.E.M. Fair is coming up on April 26 -- don't miss your chance to commemorate this awesome event -- order your 2019 t-shirt today! Shirts will be turquoise blue, and are $8.00 each. Orders will be taken through Friday, March 28. Be sure to place your order to ensure you and your student get the correct sizes (YS-AXXL). Print the order form and follow the payment instructions. Your order form must be submitted to the school office regardless of how you pay. After the event, students may continue to wear these shirts during P.E. classes and on school Spirit Days.

POP CORN SALE BENEFITING YEARBOOK

The Yearbook will be selling popcorn to all students (PK3-8th grade) next week to raise money to cover the cost of printing the yearbook. Popcorn orders will be taken during class time between Monday, March 25-Thursday March 28. Popcorn bags are $2.00 each. Choose from Butter, White Cheddar, Salsa, or Vanilla. Exact change is appreciated. Payment must be made during the order process. If your child would like to enjoy a bag of popcorn, be sure that he/she preorders. Please help support the yearbook and enjoy a tasty treat!

GET READY FOR FIELD DAY!

Field Day T-Shirts:
Place your order now for your child's Field Day t-shirt by clicking here. Shirts are provided to everyone at no charge. Orders are due April 19.

Want to volunteer on Field Day? The Sign-Up Genius for parent volunteers will be sent via email on Monday, April 2. Remember, you must have paid your HSA dues and be Safe Environment trained in order to volunteer on Field Day. If you opted out of your HSA dues at the beginning of the school year but would like to volunteer on Field Day, please click here to pay your dues. Choose the "miscellaneous" option and reference "HSA dues" in the "comments" section.

SPOTLIGHT ON STAFF

We are pleased to announce that Mrs. Amy Anders will be joining our staff as a part-time School Nurse next year. Mrs. Townsend will still be with us, but she and Mrs. Anders will now share the position. Each will work two days a week and alternate Fridays. This will allow Mrs. Townsend to spend more time with her growing family and still keep the job she loves. Mrs. Anders graduated from Texas Tech University's BSN program and has worked in NICU since 2012. She has two children (10-months-old and two-years-old), and loves cooking, baking and traveling. Mrs. Anders is a very experienced nurse and we are so fortunate to gain her as a staff member.

ST. MARK IN THE NEWS

The Make-A-Wish send-off event held on March 8 was covered by CBS/Channel 11. In case you missed the broadcast, click here.

THANK YOU FROM CATHOLIC CHARITIES & ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Catholic Charities Dallas and St. Vincent de Paul send a huge thank you to the St. Mark community for the food donated during the month of February which was collected by the Archangels of Catholic Charities. We donated a total of 854 pounds of
NOTE: Field Day t-shirts will be provided to volunteers at no charge. Simply indicate your size preference on the Sign-Up Genius mentioned above.

THX FOR COMING TO SPRING CREEK BBQ!

Thanks to everyone who came to Tuesday's Spring Creek BBQ Spirit Night. We had a HUGE turnout! Great food, great friends, and great teachers serving us bread -- what else could we ask for? To top it all off, we raised funds to purchase classroom "Stop the Bleed" kits. We'll soon find out just how much.

In the meantime, if you did not pick up your child's "free kid's meal" certificate at Spring Creek on Tuesday, please stop by the school office. We have extras.

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.

Encourage prospective families to register for an upcoming Open House, the ECE Come and Play Day, or a private tour at 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 (PK-8th grade)
* Tuesday, April 23, 5:30-7:00 PM (PK-Kindergarten)

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.

food equal to 711 meals for hungry families in the area. The food was split between Catholic Charities and the St. Mark SVDP food pantry. Your generosity continues to make a difference!

ST. MARK SUMMER PROGRAM

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

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"
* Discoverers: 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
NEWS FROM ATHLETICS

Congratulations to the following 8th grade basketball players who represented St. Mark at the DPL All Stars Game held on Tuesday, March 19 at Bishop Lynch High School: Genevieve Boisbrun, Skylar Davis, Kyle Layton, and Sebastian Rubio. We are so proud of you!

TRACK NEWS FROM THE DPL ATHLETIC DIRECTOR:

The JV Track Meet scheduled for this Saturday, March 23 will be postponed. The Bishop Lynch track is still not lined and it is unclear when that might occur. As a result, the schedule for the Track season will change a bit:

- JV Meet #1: March 30
- JV Meet #2: April 6
- JV City Meet: April 13

- Varsity Meet #1: April 27
- Varsity Meet #2: May 4
- Varsity City Meet: May 11

For each division (JV and Varsity), athletes will need to participate in at least one of the preliminary meets in order to qualify for the City Meet. All other qualifying rules remain in place (must participate and finish an event in order to participate in that event for the City Meet).

24TH ANNUAL MONSIGNOR SMYTH GOLF CLASSIC

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

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

Shotgun Start at 1:00 PM; Reception Follows

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.

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: 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:

March: Evangelization-Christian Communities
That Christian communities, especially those that are persecuted, feel that they are close to Christ and have their rights respected.
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.

FUN FACTS ABOUT THE STAFF

Did you know? Preschool Music Teacher, Hana Schell, grew up in the Czech Republic, moved to the USA in 1995 and became a U.S. citizen last year, studied at Charles University in Prague receiving a Bachelor Degree in Elementary Education with a minor in Music, has two children, sings with her husband as part of the St. Bernard music ministry, loves to travel, hike, bicycle, sing, dance, and spend time with family and friends, has sung in choirs since she was seven years old, and is part of the "Don't Tell Mama Band" & the "Czech Folk Band."

AROUND THE PARISH

Attention students in grades 6-12. Do you need service hours? St. Mark Youth Ministry is working with St. Vincent de Paul on the Lenten Food Drive. They need teen volunteers to work the "Bag Distribution" next weekend, March 30-31, after all masses. Click here for details and registration. At least one parent must accompany each teen volunteer.

Volunteer at the Knights of Columbus Lenten Fish Fry (grades 6-12). Click here for the sign-up.

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.

Please continue to collect and submit Box Tops! 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 May 17. 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)!

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 Briggle. They are welcome any time of the month. Stay tuned for the next “Golden Volunteer” to be announced soon!

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 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.

PAW PRIDE!

Congratulations to 8th grader, Theresa T., who placed 6th overall at the Golden Chick Dallas Regional Spelling Bee. She has also qualified for the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C. for the second year in a row.

Congratulations to our students who placed in the 7th and 8th grade Science Fair:

8th Grade
1st Place: Sailor’s Delight - Renil G., Joseph N., Jon N.
2nd Place: Can You Hear Me Now? - Laura M., Ava P.
3rd Place: A Drinking Observation - Genevieve B., Lucy D., Sawyer S.

Let Us Adore is a night of Eucharistic adoration. Join us in the church on March 28 from 7:00-9:00 PM. Want to know more about adoration? Please click here.

Holy Trinity Seminary

Join us for public mass at Holy Trinity Seminary on Sunday, April 7 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

7th Grade
1st Place: Alarm Me Seat - Vivi F., Sasha M., Nataly M.

2nd Place: Automatic Water Dispenser for Pets - Crystal C., Sabrina R., Jordan V.

3rd Place: Happy Planter - Mary A., Gia E., Marli H.


HIGH SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES

High School Scholarship Opportunity
The Catholic Daughters Court #2100 is offering their annual Josephine Ames Scholarship in the amount of $500 to an 8th grade student entering a Catholic high school in the area in the fall of 2019. For more information and the scholarship application, please click here to be taken to the scholarship information page on the school website. Hard copies are also available in the school office.

Join John Paul II High School for their upcoming special events and opportunities:

8th Grade/JPII Shadow Day: Specific days have been set aside for all students with current applications on file to shadow a JPII student for the morning. Applicants will have the opportunity to attend two classes and have lunch. Contact the Office of Admissions at 469-229-5220 to schedule a shadow day.

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.

end of every Mass. Next Mass: Sunday, April 7 at 10:30 AM.

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!

Library Book Tasting:

Class of 2012 Portrait Restoration:

3rd Grade STEM:

6th Grade Ancient Rome/Greece:
HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER CAMPS:

- Bishop Lynch High School
- Cistercian Preparatory School
- Jesuit College Preparatory School of Dallas
- John Paul II High School
- Ursuline Academy of Dallas

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