



# ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL

WHERE FAITH AND KNOWLEDGE MEET

**WEEKLY SCHOOL BULLETIN**

**April 21, 2016**

## IN THIS ISSUE

Reminders

What's Happening in Lionland

Spotlight on Staff

20th Anniversary of Fr. Cliff's Ordination

You're Invited: Preschool Performance

Field Day 2016

Don't Forget: This Weekend is a 4-Day Weekend!

Confirmation Prayer for 8th Graders

St. Mark Barnes & Noble Book Fair

Work of Heart Nominations

From the Nurse's Office ...

Start Planning Summer with Kidventure!

Limited Spots Still Available for 2016-17

New "Referral Thank You Program"

Order Your St. Mark Legacy Brick Today

Home and School Association (HSA) News

News from the Athletics Department

Middle School Lock-In

St. Mark Parish 50th Anniversary

Holy Trinity Seminary

French Masses at Cistercian

From the NET Team

Catholic High School Summer Programs

Jesuit Summer Basketball Opportunities

Jesuit 'Lil Rangerette Summer Camp

JPII Belles Junior Clinic

Soles 4 Souls Shoe Collection

In Alumni News...

Seen and Heard Around St. Mark

LION PRIDE!



**A NATIONAL SCHOOL  
OF EXCELLENCE**

St. Mark Catholic School  
is a two time recipient of the  
U.S. Department of Education  
"National Blue Ribbon Award." This  
means that our students  
consistently score in the top 15% in  
the nation on standardized tests.

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)

Follow us and stay connected!

## REMINDERS

### **Now Through Saturday, April 23:**

-St. Mark/Barnes & Noble Book Fair  
(details below)

### **Friday, April 22:**

-No School for Students

### **Saturday, April 23:**

-10:00 AM, Church: Sacrament of  
Confirmation (8th Grade); Children's  
Choir Sings at Mass

### **Monday, April 25:**

-No School for Students

-St. Mark Feast Day (details below)

### **Wednesday, April 27:**

-4:30-6:30 PM, ECE Bldg.: ECE  
Open House (details below)

-6:30 PM, Cafetorium: JV/Varsity  
Cheerleading Meeting (details below)

### **Thursday, April 28:**

-7:30 AM, School Advisory Council  
Meeting

-Progress reports sent home

-Free Dress Day for class Box Tops  
winner (see page 25 of [Parent Student  
Handbook](#) for guidelines)

### **Friday, April 29:**

-8:30 AM, Church, All School Mass: The  
mass will be presented by the 6th grade.  
They will offer the Call to Worship, the  
Mass readings, and present the  
Communion gifts. All are welcome.

## **DON'T FORGET: THIS WEEKEND IS A 4-DAY WEEKEND!**

Because we did not use the  
inclement weather days that are  
built into our school calendar, this  
weekend is a 4-day weekend. Friday,  
April 22 and Monday, April 25 are  
now school holidays. Enjoy!

## **CONFIRMATION PRAYER FOR OUR 8TH GRADERS**

**Please pray for our 8th graders as  
they receive the Sacrament of  
Confirmation on Saturday.**

Holy Spirit, strengthen our  
students with your gifts of Wisdom,  
Understanding,  
Counsel, Fortitude, Knowledge,  
Piety, and Fear of the Lord, and with  
the desire to serve as disciples of  
Christ.

Grant that they may grow into the  
fullness of the stature of Christ.

Fill them with the joy  
of your presence. Increase in them  
the fruit of your Spirit. Help them to  
experience and trust  
your dwelling within, so that  
they can count on your guidance  
today and every day.

Show us the way to help one another  
become better disciples of Jesus  
Christ, sharing your  
love with our world and with each  
person we meet.

Come, Holy Spirit! Come.

**Saturday, April 30:**

3:00 PM, McGivney Hall, St. Mark Parish Center: Dominican Sisters "Learn to Pray as a Family" Workshop

**Sunday, May 1:**

10:15 AM, McGivney Hall, St. Mark Parish Center: Dominican Sisters "Learn to Pray as a Family" Workshop

**SPOTLIGHT ON STAFF**

**PK-4:** A warm St. Mark welcome to Mrs. Rosemary Coursey, who will be joining our PK-4 staff in the fall. Mrs. Coursey comes to us from a public school background, most notably Highland Park ISD, where she taught PreK-3, PreK-4, and PPCD (preschool program for students with disabilities). She and her husband, Corey, have two daughters, and joined our parish in 2012. Mrs. Coursey stays involved at St. Mark through CRHP, Worldwide Marriage Encounter, and the Girl Scout/Daisy troop.

**1st Grade:** It is with sadness that we announce that Mrs. Sue Hazzard will be leaving St. Mark after this school year to pursue other opportunities. Mrs. Hazzard began her career at St. Mark 13 years ago, teaching Preschool and serving as a Kindergarten Aide. She has spent the last 10 years teaching first grade. While she is sad to leave the St. Mark family, she is looking forward to a new adventure. Mrs. Hazzard will truly be missed. We wish her the very best of luck in her new endeavors.



**Nominate Someone for a Work of Heart Award:** Do you know a St. Mark teacher or staff member who goes "above and beyond" for our school community? If so, consider nominating him or her for a Work of Heart Award. Presented by The Catholic Foundation, these awards honor those who "go the extra mile" in serving our educational community. For more information about the Work of Heart award, or to submit a nomination, [click here](#). 37 St. Mark staffers have received this award since its inception in 2005.

**WHAT'S HAPPENING IN LIONLAND**

**Justice:** Teachers discuss the Virtue of the Month with students by using stories and activities to engage them into seeing the virtue in action. Ask your child what he/she is learning about "Justice" this month. [Click here](#) for the full list of monthly virtues for 2015-16.

Mrs. Patty Helm will be assuming the first grade teaching position. She began her career at St. Mark in 2002 as a Kindergarten Aide, eventually becoming a Kindergarten teacher in 2008, and a Preschool teacher in 2015. She and her husband, Mark, have three sons (one currently attends St. Mark, and two have graduated from St. Mark). Mrs. Helm is very excited about the transition to first grade, and will be a warm, familiar face to our students who are making that same transition from ECE to elementary school.

**3rd Grade:** A new face will be joining the 3rd grade team this fall, Mrs. Mary-Jan Paulson. Mrs. Paulson comes to us from Garland with nearly 30 years of teaching experience, first at Good Shepherd, then at Garland ISD in grades 3 and 5. She originally hails from Louisiana and has two grown children. She made an instant connection with our current 3rd grade team, already sharing many of the same classroom activities. We look forward to welcoming her to our staff.

**7th/8th Grade Math:** We are pleased to announce that Mrs. Erica Rivera will assume the 7th/8th grade Math teacher position that will be vacated by Mrs. Gerwer. Mrs. Rivera is an experienced middle school math teacher who brings with her a strong background in education. She began her teaching career in the Ft. Worth ISD before continuing in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. Her family joined St. Mark in 2008. She and her husband, Alfredo,



### **All-School Service**

**Project:** Service is an integral part of the mission of the Church. To help students understand that by serving others, they are serving God, they will participate in a required all-school service project each month.

**Students will receive a homework grade in Religion class for each month's assignment.**

**April Project:** The April service project is the annual Catholic Charities of Dallas Food Round-Up. Students will donate food by grade level. Please see the list of needed items below\*:

PreK - Dried beans, rice or pasta  
TK & K - Cereal or oatmeal  
1st grade - Jam or jelly  
2nd grade - Peanut butter  
3rd grade - Canned meat  
4th grade - Canned fruit  
5th grade - Cooking oil  
6th grade - Canned soup (15 oz.)  
7th grade - Canned beans  
8th grade - Canned vegetables

\*Please note: Students should check the expiration dates on any donated foods to make sure they are still good. Items with past expiration dates cannot be given to food pantries.

**Catholic Social Teaching:** Option for the poor and vulnerable

have two children. Mrs. Rivera has been very involved at St. Mark, serving on the HSA Executive Board, as a Room Parent, Junior Achievement teacher, and Respect Life Club Director. We look forward to her full-time presence on our campus.

### **CELEBRATE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF FR. CLIFF'S ORDINATION**

Please join us at a special All School Mass on Wednesday, May 18 at 8:30 AM in honor of the 20th anniversary of Father Cliff's ordination into the priesthood. HSA will be hosting a small reception immediately following Mass in the Narthex for parents (students will not attend the reception).

### **YOU'RE INVITED: PRESCHOOL PERFORMANCE**

**Attention all PK<sub>3</sub> and PK<sub>4</sub> parents:**  
You are invited to attend our first big Preschool performance!

"Marching Through the Seasons"  
Thursday, March 5, 2016  
6:00 PM - drop off in the Cafetorium  
6:15-7:00 PM - performance

The children have been practicing and can't wait to share their performance with you!

(Preschool parents were notified this week regarding attire and other details.)

### **FIELD DAY 2016**

**Student Shirt Orders:** Place your student's Field Day t-shirt order by

**Who Benefits?** Catholic Charities of Dallas

**Due Date:** Tuesday, April 26, 2016



## **LIFETIME LIONS**

**Calling all alumni ... join Lifetime Lions, our official alumni network!**

Keep up with former classmates, learn about mentoring opportunities, and volunteer for service hours. Click [here](#) for more information.



## **LION'S DEN**

**Get your official LION gear here!**

Check in at the school office on Fridays from 7:30-8:15 AM and shop 'til you drop at the Lion's Den Spirit Store located in the Cafetorium.

Can't visit in person? Place your order online anytime!

This is a great place to stock up on St. Mark shirts for our Spirit Days, which are held on the first Monday of each month!

### **ST. MARK/BARNES & NOBLE BOOK FAIR**

Online sales for the St. Mark/Barnes & Noble Book Fair continue through Saturday, April 23.

[clicking here](#). The deadline to order is May 2.

**Volunteer Shirt Orders:** Once student shirts are ordered, we will announce the timeframe for ordering volunteer shirts.

**Attention Field Day Volunteers:**  
All Field Day volunteers need to have their Safe Environment Training completed or renewed/cleared by May 10 (see HSA section below). This includes signing the Volunteer Pledge Form (see HSA section below) and returning it to Mrs. O'Connor.

**Anyone who does not have their training completed or renewed/cleared by May 10 will not be able to volunteer at Field Day.**



**HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**

**IMPORTANT HSA DATES:**

Barnes and Noble Book Fair: Online sales only through Friday April 23

Monday, May 2: Administrator Thank You Luncheon

Wednesday, May 4, 6:30 PM,  
Cafetorium: HSA General Meeting

**THANK YOU:**

Thank you to the Book Fair Committee for putting together the Barnes and Noble Book Fair this past week. Thank you to Ms. Steinkirchner and Mrs. Opon

To place an online order, visit [www.barnesandnoble.com/bookfairs](http://www.barnesandnoble.com/bookfairs). The St. Mark book fair ID # is 11846631.

**Don't Forget Your Student's Required Reading:** Click for a sneak peek at the [2016-17 required summer and classroom reading by grade level](#). The book fair provides a great opportunity to pick up these books now!

**SPOTS ARE STILL AVAILABLE FOR THE 2016-17 SCHOOL YEAR**

**Do you know anyone interested in a Catholic education for their child?** St. Mark has limited availability at various grade levels. For more information or to schedule a school tour, please call the school office at (972) 578-0610, or visit the school website at [www.stmcs.net](http://www.stmcs.net).

**St. Mark Info. Cards:** We also have "information cards" available at the church and school that contain general school information and Open House dates. Feel free to stop by and pick some up. Pass them along to anyone who is interested in St. Mark Catholic School. [Click here](#) to see a sample.



for reading to all those who attended. And thank you to the Cat in the Hat who also made an appearance at the book fair!

### **CANDIDATES FOR 2016-17 HSA**

#### **BOARD:**

President: Ashley Ternan

Vice President: Jill Dourty

Secretary: Pamela Bond

Treasurer: Paola Colon

If you are interested in running for the above positions, please contact Ashley Ternan at [ashleyternan@gmail.com](mailto:ashleyternan@gmail.com) by today, Thursday, April 21.

#### **REMINDERS:**

##### **Helping Hands Committee:**

If you know any St. Mark families that are in need of help due to a birth, sickness, death or any life changing event, please [click here](#) to contact the Helping Hands Committee.

**Attention Volunteers:** All volunteers must sign and return a "Volunteer Pledge Form" before the first day of volunteering. This form can be found in the [Volunteer Handbook](#). Also, volunteers must be Safe Environment trained. [Click here](#) for more details.

##### **Link Your Shopper Cards & Earn**

**Money for St. Mark:** Remember to link your Kroger, Tom Thumb and Target cards to St. Mark. Kroger cards need to be re-linked every year. [Click here](#) for more details.

### **Upcoming Open House for PreK-3, PreK-4, PreK-5/Transitional Kindergarten & Kindergarten**

#### **Family Picnic & Open House**

Wednesday, April 27, 2016

Come & go between 4:30-6:30 PM

Early Childhood Education Bldg.

[Click here](#) to pre-register.

### **NEW "REFERRAL THANK YOU PROGRAM"**

Each year, St. Mark is honored to welcome new families to our school community, many of whom were referred by our current school families. We think you should be rewarded for bringing new families to our school! Through our new "Referral Thank You Program," your family can receive a \$500 tuition credit for referring one new family to St. Mark. Please [click here](#) for details!

### **ORDER YOUR ST. MARK LEGACY BRICK TODAY**



**Order your St. Mark Legacy Brick Today!** This is a wonderful opportunity to leave your own personal and permanent impression at St. Mark for generations to come. For \$100, purchase a custom designed engraved brick with your family name, ministry, organization, your child's name and graduating class, or to honor a loved one, mother, father, brother, sister, friend... the





**Box Tops:** Keep sending in those Box Tops. 3rd grade is leading the competition and 4th grade is in second place. The deadline for the competition is today, Thursday, April 21. The class with the most Box Tops will win a free dress day on Thursday, April 28!

### ST. MARK PARISH 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS



**ST. MARK**  
THE EVANGELIST  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

1966 + 50 YEARS + 2016

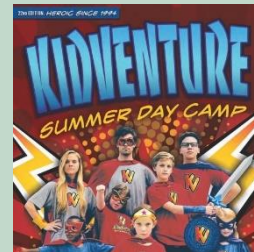
Join us at the following events as we continue to celebrate the 50th anniversary of our parish...

### FELLOWSHIP WEEKEND - APRIL 23-24, 2016

Mark your calendars for St. Marks' **50th Anniversary Fellowship Weekend**. A breakfast of pancakes and sausage with beverages is available after the 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, and 10:30 AM Masses. A lunch/dinner of hamburgers, hot hogs, chips and beverages will be served after the Saturday 5:30 PM and 7:00 PM, and the Sunday 12:00 PM, 1:30 PM, 3:00 PM, 4:30 PM and 6:00 PM Masses. **Meal tickets must be purchased in advance.** Cost for all meals is \$6.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children. There will also be scheduled entertainment by many of our own St. Mark parishioners throughout the weekend. **You may purchase your meal tickets for the Fellowship Weekend during the weekends of April**

possibilities are endless. There are many ways to personalize your brick, with logos for all kinds of interests including religious symbols, sports, cheerleading, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, band, choir, and music, just to name a few. These special custom engraved bricks will become part of the entryway to St. Mark Catholic School. **Simply [click here](#) to place your order.**

### START PLANNING SUMMER WITH KIDVENTURE!



**St. Mark Summer**

**Camps With Kidventure:** We are pleased to once again offer full-time summer camps on the St. Mark campus with Kidventure. Kidventure is in its 22nd season of summer camp. This year's theme is **Summer Quest 2016**, a comic book come to life. Each week provides a new and unique adventure.

General registration for Kidventure's Summer Quest 2016 Day Camp is now available at <http://kidventure.com/register>. Click to select your child's Summer Quest adventures.

For more information, please visit <http://kidventure.com/plano-summercamp/>, or call [214.303.9789](tel:214.303.9789).



2-3, 9-10, and 16-17 (cash or check only).

**FEAST OF ST. MARK -  
50th CELEBRATION MASS - April 25,  
2016**

Our celebration will wrap-up on Monday, April 25 with our "Feast of St. Mark 50th Anniversary Mass" on April 25, 2016 at 6:30 PM, followed by a reception in our Bethany Narthex. The concelebrants for this Mass will be Fr. Cliff Smith, our current priests, as well as our homegrown priests, Fr. Jason Cargo, Fr. James Yamauchi, and Fr. John Szatkowski.

Father Cliff said it perfectly: "We come together this month to celebrate who we are and what our faith community means: what it was, what it is now, and what it will become."

**Please mark your calendars and join us  
for our special Golden Anniversary  
Celebration.**

**SEEN & HEARD AROUND ST. MARK**

**STEM Fair Press:** In case you missed it, check out a great [article and video](#) about our recent S.T.E.M. Fair that appeared in the April 15, 2016 issue of *The Texas Catholic* newspaper.

**Art History Makes Matisse Bowls:** The middle school Art History elective is making Matisse bowls. Students replicated paper cut-outs that Matisse created when he was going blind. They glued the cut-outs onto a balloon. Once dry, the balloon will be

**FROM THE NURSE'S OFFICE ...**

**IMPACT Testing:** The IMPACT test provides baseline concussion testing for students. Students must be at least 11-years-old to qualify. If you'd like your child to participate, please make an appointment by [clicking here](#).



**NEWS FROM THE  
ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT**

**Track & Field:** Come out and cheer on your LIONS teams! Upcoming meets:

Varsity Track

Saturday, April 23, JP II

Saturday, April 30, Jesuit

Saturday, May 7, JP II

Saturday, May 14, Bishop Lynch (City Meet)

**Baseball:** Come out and cheer on your LIONS team! Upcoming games:

JV vs. St. Thomas, April 24, 5:15 PM, @St. Thomas

**Softball:** Come out and cheer on your LIONS team! Upcoming games:

JV vs. St. Joseph/SPX, April 24, 5:30 PM @ St. Joseph

**Fall 2016 Sports Registration:**  
Registration for the following 2016

popped and they'll be left with a unique bowl.

(photo removed)

**Kindergarten Learns Math Facts:** Our Kindergarten students are using the Osmo Numbers app to learn their math facts. They have so much fun playing the adding game, they don't even realize how much they are learning!

(photo removed)

**Kindergarten Museum of Art:** 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. One student exclaimed, "Look, I made a gummy bear factory!" Great job, kindergarten!

(photo removed)

**1st Grade National Parks:** To extend their unit on landforms and bodies of water, 1st grade participated in a STEM challenge to design and create a National Park using clay.

(photo removed)

**2nd Grade Landmarks:** Our 2nd graders made their own replicas of famous landmarks from around the world, which are now on display in the school library. They are amazing!

fall sports is now open. Registration fees for each sport are indicated. Please click the links below for more information about each sport.

[Volleyball \(\\$115\)](#) - Registration deadline: May 13, 2016

[Football \(\\$115\)](#) - Registration deadline: May 27, 2016

[Cheerleading \(\\$30\)](#) - Registration deadline: May 6, 2016

\*Please note that registration for 2016 Cross Country has been moved back to August. The Cross Country registration fee will be \$70. More details will be provided at that time.

#### **2016-17 Volleyball Open Gyms & Team Evaluations:**

Open Gyms will be held the Sunday, Monday and Tuesday prior to Team Evaluations on Wednesday. Open Gym sessions are two hours long and include one hour of skills review and one hour of live game drills. Students may attend any or all of the Open Gym sessions, and pre-registration is NOT necessary.

Team Evaluation sessions take place on Wednesdays, and last for two hours. They are conducted by outside staff and are closed to spectators.

[Varsity \(Rising 7th/8th Graders\)](#)



### **5th Grade Wins Field Trip to TI:**

Congratulations to the 5th grade class. They had the most students in attendance at our recent S.T.E.M. Fair, and have earned the privilege of taking a field trip to the Texas Instruments facility in Richardson on April 29 (the world's most advanced facility for analog chip manufacturing). Special thanks to Texas Instruments, one of our S.T.E.M. Fair sponsors, for bringing S.T.E.M. full circle and showing our students how it pertains to real life.

**7th Grade Visits Dallas Zoo:** Today, 7th grade spent the day at the zoo. While it was a fun trip, students also had some work to accomplish. The class brought along a list of questions they needed to answer, as well as items they needed to find examples of such as a biome, a food chain, and a population of plants. They worked in groups and used class iPads, which allowed them to take photos and record data on their observations. Students will soon be challenged to create presentations on their findings using the Popplet and Adobe Voice apps.

(photo removed)

**IN ALUMNI NEWS...**

**Open Gym:** May 15-17, 4:00-6:00 PM, Bacot Gym

### **Team Evaluations: May 18, Bacot Gym**

-Rising 7th graders: 4:00-6:00 PM

-Rising 8th graders: 6:15-8:15 PM

### **Junior Varsity (Rising 5th/6th Graders)**

**Open Gym:** May 22-24, 4:00-6:00 PM, Bacot Gym

### **Team Evaluations: May 25, Bacot Gym**

-Rising 5th graders: 4:00-6:00 PM

-Rising 6th graders: 6:15-8:15 PM

### **2016-17 Cheer Team Meeting:**

Wednesday, April 27, 6:30-8:00 PM, in the Cafetorium. This meeting is for all JV and Varsity cheerleaders/parents (5th-8th grades) and will include a uniform fitting.



### **Upcoming Raising Cane's Fundraisers Benefitting the Athletics Department:**

-May 6, 2016

-May 19, 2016 (8th grade finals)

-June 3, 2016

**FROM THE NET TEAM**

Congratulations to the following Ursuline Academy of Dallas students who were recently inducted into various honor societies:

**Casey B. '13** - National Honor Society

**Jenny D. '13** - Societe Honoraire de Francais (French Honor Society)

**Rachael G. '13** - National Honor Society

**Uyen L. '14** - National Honor Society;  
National English Honor Society

**Celine M. '14** - National Honor Society

**Valeria M. '14** - National Honor Society

**Jordan P. '14** - National Honor Society

**Ivanka P. '14** - National Honor Society;  
National English Honor Society

**Elizabeth R. '14** - National Honor Society; Societe Honoraire de Francais (French Honor Society); National English Honor Society

Congratulations to **Roberto O. '12**, current senior at John Paul II High School, who recently signed to play soccer for Austin College!



**LION PRIDE!**

**JV City Track Meet:** Our Lions did an amazing job at the JV City Track Meet

## Let Us Adore

7:30-9:30pm @ St. Mark's Church



Let us Adore is a evening of Eucharistic Adoration, led by the NET Team, that is full of charismatic praise and worship as well as silence. Young and old are invited to pray together as a parish community.

Feb 12th • March 10th • March 31st  
April 14th • May 6th



### Middle School

**Open Youth House:** This popular weekly get-together for 6th-8th graders takes place every Friday from 3:30-6:00 PM at the St. Mark Youth House, located behind the church. It is an opportunity to hang out with the NET Team and other students from the community. Notify Patricia Opon by Thursday of each week if your student wishes to attend. St. Mark students are escorted to the Youth House by NET Team members immediately following dismissal. A [Youth Ministry Enrollment Form](#) must be submitted for each participant on an annual basis.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL LOCK-IN**

held last weekend at John Paul II High School! Click here to see the results (hyperlink disabled). Many thanks to the following for dedicating their time and talents to our JV Track Team:

Head Coach - Dave Henderson  
Shot Put & Discus Coach - Rick Leal  
Long Jump Coach - John Wheeler  
High Jump Coach - Marlene Ehring  
Athlete Event Coordinators - Tina Wolfson, Ana Pott, Angela Meeks

Special thanks to all of our St. Mark parent volunteers who graciously assisted as official track meet timers, long jump attendants, and high jump attendants.

**Robotics Competition:** The annual Diocesan Robotics competition was held at St. Monica Catholic School on Tuesday. To say that St. Mark dominated the competition is an understatement! Our teams won 1st, 2nd and 3rd places in both the Invention Division, AND the Arena Division (out of 32 teams)!

#### Invention Division

1st place team: Adam B., Jason L., Anish K., Bobby V., Paul S., Renil G.

2nd place team: Evan V., Loe C., Peter K., Dominic H., Sebastian R.

3rd place team: Amelia M., Nataly M., Corina H., Eliana G., Gabby L., Gabriela M.

#### Arena Division

#### **Attention 6th, 7th & 8th Graders:**

Join the St. Mark Youth Ministry for their annual Amazing Jake's Lock-In:

**Cost:** \$38.00

**Who:** 6th, 7th, and 8th graders

**When:** April 29-30, 2016

**What:** Unlimited games, pizza buffet (12:00-2:00 AM), and drinks

**Where:** St. Mark Cafetorium/  
Amazing Jake's Plano (meet Friday night at St. Mark Cafetorium @ 10:00 PM; pick-up Saturday morning at St. Mark Cafetorium @ 6:30 AM

Paperwork deadline is today, April 21, 2016 (make checks payable to St. Mark Youth Ministry).

#### **Paperwork and information:**

[www.stmarkplanoyouth.org](http://www.stmarkplanoyouth.org),  
or contact Cristina Ochoa: 972-578-9583 or [cochoa@stmarkplano.org](mailto:cochoa@stmarkplano.org)

**Questions?** Contact Mario Beltran, Middle School Coordinator, Youth & Young Adult Ministry, 972-578-9583, or email him at [mbeltran@stmarkplano.org](mailto:mbeltran@stmarkplano.org).



HOLY TRINITY SEMINARY

St. Mark Catholic School has formed a special relationship with [Holy Trinity Seminary](http://HolyTrinitySeminary.org) and takes great pride in supporting our future priests.

**Join Us for Public Masses at Holy Trinity Seminary @ 9:15 AM:**  
April 24th; May 1st

1st place team: Jonas A., Alex M., Biya C., Alejandro D.

2nd place team: Mihn-Khan P., Jonathan D., Dylan N., Ly H.

3rd place team: George L., Daniel A., Drew A., Louis T.

"Everybody was amazing and they accomplished so much. In my heart, everybody is a winner. The dedication and love of the amazing parents and coaches that we have at St. Mark is overwhelming. It makes me feel so proud to be a part of our awesome school," said Mrs. Benavides, St. Mark Robotics Sponsor. Congratulations to everyone who contributed to these amazing successes!

(photo removed)

#### **Academic Outfitters Scholarship**

**Contest:** Congratulations to the following St. Mark students who have advanced to the national level in the scholarship contest sponsored by Academic Outfitters. This year's theme is Faith, Hope and Love:

Nathan C. (Poems: My Heart is for You); Theresa T. (Essay: Faith, Hope, and Love); Megan W. (Essay: What If ...?). Each of the students will be notified by mail regarding their advancement to the national level and will receive a \$25 gift certificate. The national winner, which will be announced on May 20, will receive a \$500 donation towards their tuition in the fall.

Address: 3131 Vince Hagan Drive, Irving, TX 75062

**Questions about the Public Masses?** Call or text Agnes Denvir, VP of Vocations, President-Elect, Serra Club of North Central Dallas. Cell: 214-607-2391, [agnes.denvir@stmcs.net](mailto:agnes.denvir@stmcs.net) or [agnesdenvir@gmail.com](mailto:agnesdenvir@gmail.com).

#### **FRENCH MASSES AT CISTERCIAN**

Mrs. Denvir extends an invitation to St. Mark French students, and any students/families who are interested, to attend the French Masses at Cistercian. There is an opportunity to do the readings, and to sample some French snacks at the end of every Mass. Masses take place at Our Lady of Dallas Cistercian Abbey in Irving every 3rd Sunday of the month at 10:30 AM. Upcoming date: May 15.

#### **CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER PROGRAMS**

Our local Catholic high schools offer summer camps for kids of all ages. As we receive their brochures, we will make them available in the school lobby, or you can click below to learn more:

[Bishop Lynch High School](#)  
[Cistercian Preparatory School](#)  
[Jesuit College Preparatory School](#)  
[John Paul II High School](#)



**Junior Achievement Honor:**

Congratulations to 7th grader, Mason T., who represented the Dallas area for the Junior Achievement middle schoolers at the 2016 Junior Achievement of Dallas Business Hall of Fame Black Tie Gala held April 8 at the Hyatt Regency Dallas. He had the honor of saying the opening prayer and also told the audience what he has been learning in his JA class.

**Teachers In Training:** During the Teacher In Training elective, Ethan K., created and taught a lesson to a 1st grade class on the importance of the 3 Rs - Reducing, Reusing and Recycling. As you can tell by the picture, the students were listening to every word!

(photo removed)

**Student Succeeds at Dressage**

**Competition:** Congratulations to Celeste T., who recently rode her horse in the Texas Dressage Classic. She placed 1st place in each of her five rides and will compete again in May!

(photo removed)

**[Ursuline Academy of Dallas](#)****JESUIT SUMMER BASKETBALL OPPORTUNITIES**

Jesuit College Preparatory School is offering two unique summer basketball programs, in addition to the Jesuit basketball summer camps offered via the link above:

\*Breakfast Club - A twice per week basketball skills session from 7:00-8:00 AM

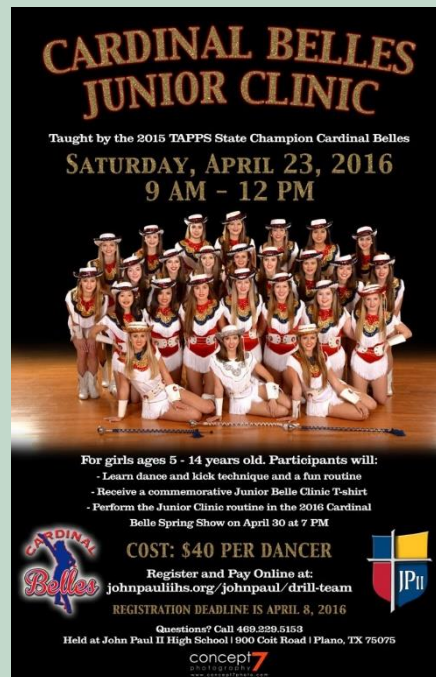
\*Summer Teams - Boys or girls (2nd - 8th grades). Practices at Jesuit. Games at Sportsplex or PSA. Weekend tournaments for select teams.

If you are interested in either of these opportunities, please contact Jonathan Alexander, Jesuit Varsity Basketball Assistant, at [jalexander@jesuitcp.org](mailto:jalexander@jesuitcp.org).

**JESUIT 'LIL RANGERETTE SUMMER CAMP**

The Jesuit Rangerettes drill team offers a summer camp for girls in preschool-6th grade. The camp will take place June 20-24 from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM at Jesuit. Please [click here](#) for more information and registration.

**JPII CARDINAL BELLES JUNIOR CLINIC**



## SOLES 4 SOULS SHOE COLLECTION

Isabella, a 13-year-old St. Mark parishioner, is hosting a shoe drive for the needy. Her goal is to collect 1,000 pairs of gently used shoes of any kind and size during the period of March 20-April 24, which will be donated to the non-profit organization [Soles4souls](#). As you do your spring cleaning and clear out your closets, please consider bringing your unwanted shoes to Mrs. O'Connor's office during this time period.

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