



# ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL

WHERE FAITH AND KNOWLEDGE MEET

## WEEKLY SCHOOL BULLETIN

October 6, 2017

### Prayer for the 2017-18 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.

## REMINDERS

### Today, Friday, October 6:

-4th grade received the Vocations Chalice and will be praying for vocations during the upcoming week.

### Saturday, October 7:

-11:00 AM, outside Cafetorium entrance: St. Francis Blessing of Animals by Father Cliff. Bring your pets to receive a special blessing as we remember St. Francis and his love for all creatures. All animals must be on a leash or in a cage.

### Monday, October 9 - Friday, October 13:

-Standardized Testing Week (grades 1-8) - details below

-Vocations Awareness Week (grades 6-8)

### Tuesday, October 10:

-5:30 PM, McGivney Hall @ St. Mark Parish Center: Parish Meet & Greet for New School Families

### Wednesday, October 11:

-7:15 AM, Cafetorium: Rosary (details below)

-3:30 PM: Student Council Meeting



A National School of  
Excellence

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Follow us and stay  
connected!



## QUICK LINKS

[Calendar](#)  
[Lifetime Lions Alumni](#)  
[Admissions](#)  
[Lunch Menus](#)  
[Safe Environment](#)

**Friday, October 13:**

-7:50 AM, Cross outside Narthex: Community Prayer Walk (details below)

-8:30 AM, Church: All School Mass presented by the 4th grade. All are welcome.

-1st Quarter Ends; Students may not wear walking shorts to school again until the start of the 4th quarter.

**Monday, October 16:**

-2nd Quarter Begins

**WELCOME NEW STUDENT**

A warm St. Mark welcome to our newest student, Zoefei L., who is in Mrs. Helm's first grade class.

**STANDARDIZED TESTING WEEK REMINDERS**

Next week, students in grades 1-8 will take the Iowa Assessment Test and the CogAT (Cognitive Abilities Test). It is recommended that students go to bed early and eat a healthy breakfast each day. Students are also permitted to bring a nutritious, nut-free snack each day. Please avoid scheduling appointments during this week. Also, students must be in their seats, ready for testing, no later than 8:00 AM. Tardy students will not be permitted to enter the classroom until the next session begins, and will not be scored on missed test sessions. The only exception to this rule is if a child is absent due to illness. In that case, a doctor's note should be presented to the school receptionist, and make-up testing will be arranged. Thank you for your cooperation.

**4th ANNUAL ALL SOULS REMEMBRANCE  
1K "COFFEE WALK" & 5K RUN!**

Make family memories at this traditional fall event! Run/walk in memory of a loved one while supporting our Athletics Department. Everyone is welcome -- students, parents, friends, family, strollers, wheelchairs. New this year is our FAMILY PACK option for a family of 3-8 runners. Receive 20% off your total registration fee by using the comp code "FAMILY!" Save even more by taking advantage of our Early Bird rates and register by October 20. [Click here](#) for full details.

**ST. MARK "TRUNK OR TREAT" - OCTOBER 28**

[Lion's Den Spirit Store](#)  
[Work of Heart Nomination](#)

**FOLLOW US ON  
INSTAGRAM**

NEW -- Follow St. Mark Catholic School on Instagram! Click the link above for even more great pics from around campus!

**USED UNIFORMS**

We are not currently accepting used uniform donations in the school office. Please hold onto them until further notice. Collection will resume later in the semester.

**ADVANCE  
NOTICE: JANUARY  
SERVICE & 2017-18  
PROJECT LIST**

Over the past several weeks, we've asked a lot of our community due to the recent hurricanes, and you've risen to the challenge by providing food and supplies to those in need. We thank you again for your generous donations.

We promise, we're not asking for additional donations at this time! However, we do want to provide you with some advance notice about January's All School Service Project. Students will create "Bags of Blessings" for the homeless in January. As you travel between now and then, especially around the holidays, we encourage you to start collecting travel-size toiletries, which will be included in these

Dress up in your costumes and enjoy some fall fun and a little candy on Saturday, October 28 from 4:30-5:30 PM in the St. Mark school parking lot between the playground and the field. The Girl Scout troops of St. Mark are proud to organize and sponsor this event for the fourth year in a row. If you'd like to donate candy for the event or decorate your car trunk or truck bed for the event, please contact Elena Mappus at [emappus@yahoo.com](mailto:emappus@yahoo.com).



## 8TH GRADE THANKS BISHOP LYNCH HIGH SCHOOL

Special thanks to Bishop Lynch High School for donating two buses to transport our 8th grade class to the Make A Wish Foundation today. Students are volunteering their time and making gift bags for children.



## PARTNERSHIP WITH EXPLORE HORIZONS

St. Mark is partnering with Explore Horizons in Plano, a center that provides tutoring and enrichment for students in Preschool through 8th grade.



They were a participant in the 2017 St. Mark S.T.E.M. Fair, and will be taking their involvement with our students even further by conducting a Math Detective Workshop with our 4th, 5th and 6th grade classes starting later this month. If you are interested in their services, including a free trial, please visit their [website](#).

## ST. MARK SPAGHETTI DINNER, DANCE & CARNIVAL FOR A WORTHY CAUSE

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and the St. Mark community is coming together in support of Jonathan's Place, a shelter where Child Protective Services can bring neglected or abused children. Join the St. Mark Knights of Columbus Council 6065, Family & Adult Ministry, Youth Ministry, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Troops of St. George, and American Heritage Girls for a family event on October 28 from 4:30-8:00 PM in the Cafetorium. Enjoy a spaghetti dinner, family dance and carnival while supporting this worthy cause! Please [click here](#) for complete details. Questions? Contact Randy LeGrand at [randy.legrand@yahoo.com](mailto:randy.legrand@yahoo.com).

bags. If we all start now, we should be able to collect an ample supply by the time we return from the Christmas holidays.

We'd also like to share the list of [2017-18 Monthly Virtues and Service Projects](#) so that you and your children can be prepared each month.

Thank you for your continued support in our ongoing effort to instill our Catholic value of community service in our students so that giving to others becomes second nature.

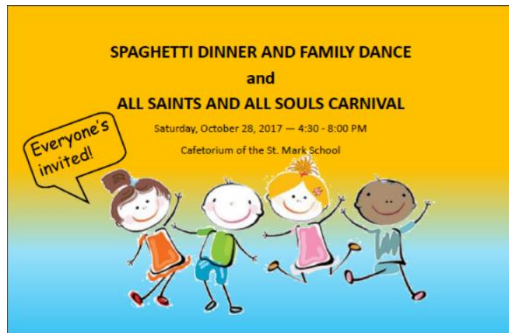
## OCTOBER SUPPER OF EXCELLENCE

Special thanks to our faculty and staff members who are contributing to October's "Supper of Excellence!" One lucky family was the highest bidder at the 2017 Auction and is receiving monthly themed dinners for eight. Thanks to Caroline Townsend, Cathy Pantuso, Carole Mitchell, Carolyn Eisele, and Sarah Samples, they will be enjoying a "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" spread this month!

## LOWDOWN FROM THE LION'S LAIR

Presented by the  
News Broadcast Club:





## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OFFICE FOOD DRIVE

The Diocese of Dallas Catholic Schools Office is conducting a canned food drive for the victims of Hurricane Harvey. Donations can be dropped off at the school office between October 1-15. The CSO will take them to the North Texas Food Bank which is currently running very short on food supplies.



## Buy Tickets and Access Early Bidding Now

**"On Sale Now" bidding ends next week!  
Don't miss out on these great packages:**

- \*Pumpkin Patch class party
- \*First Choice Electives for your Middle Schooler
- \*Reserved seats at the Middle School Play
- \*Reserved parking or front circle pick-up

You can bid on items between now and 10/15/17 at 9:00 PM.

## Week of 10/2/17



**Calling All "Dads of Great Students":** [Click here](#) to learn more about our Watch D.O.G.S. volunteer program for Dads only, and to reserve your spot during the month of November. Sign-ups are due October 15. Half days and full days are available. Please remember, you must be Safe Environment trained to volunteer.

## UPCOMING HIGH SCHOOL EVENTS

**BISHOP LYNCH HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS**  
**FUTURE FRIAR NIGHT**  
 KINDERGARTEN - 8TH GRADE STUDENTS

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**VOLLEYBALL**  
 OCTOBER 12, 6:00 PM | BISHOP LYNCH VS. URSULINE ACADEMY

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**FOOTBALL**  
 OCTOBER 27, 7:00 PM | BISHOP LYNCH VS. LIBERTY CHRISTIAN

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FREE TSHIRT      FREE ADMISSION FOR ALL FUTURE FRIARS      GAMES & PRIZES  
**AND MUCH MORE!**

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BRING A FRIEND AND JOIN US BOTH NIGHTS!  
[WWW.BISHOPLYNCH.ORG](http://WWW.BISHOPLYNCH.ORG)

4700 PREGUION ROAD | DALLAS, TX 75228 | 214.324.3607 | WWW.BISHOPLYNCH.ORG

Ursuline Academy of Dallas invites all prospective families to attend the following events:



**"Meet the Administrators"**  
 Coffee, October 12 &  
 November 29, 7:30-9:00  
 AM: Meet school administration, learn more

## Upcoming Auction Events:

**Pre-Auction Mixers:** As each mixer date approaches, email invitations will be sent to families via Renweb. You will receive an invitation to your grade-level mixer. However, please keep in mind that you are welcome to attend any or all of the mixers -- we simply ask that you RSVP to each one. If you don't receive an email invitation to the mixer you wish to attend, please reach out to [Sherry Mehring](#).

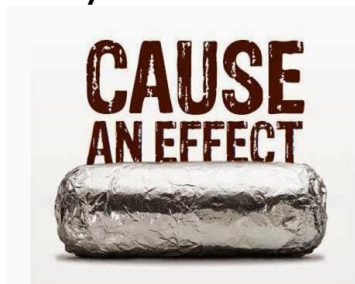
### Early Childhood Education Pre-Auction Mixer:



Ternan's Spooky Spectacular Home  
1708 Carmel Drive  
Plano, Texas 75075  
October 29, 2017  
2:00-5:00 PM

\*This is the only pre-auction mixer where children are invited.  
Costumes are welcome, but not required!

### Family Fun Fundraiser:



Eat at Chipotle and raise money for the 2018 Auction!  
November 14, 2017  
4:00-8:00 PM  
1009 N. Central Expressway, Plano, TX 75075

about UA, and have your questions answered.

**Open House, October 29, 2:00-4:00 PM:** Tour the campus, meet teachers and students, and immerse yourself in the Ursuline experience.

Registration is available through [Ravenna](#) or at [www.ursulinedallas.org](http://www.ursulinedallas.org).

**Middle School Volleyball Night, October 10, 5:00 PM (Freshmen/JV Game), 6:00 PM (Varsity Game):** All 8th graders welcome. Free admission. Food trucks will be on site. [Click here](#) for complete details.

\*Coaches and representatives from other UA sports will also be there to answer your questions.

John Paul II  
High  
School will  
host a special  
"St. Mark



**Information Night"** on their campus on Tuesday, October 17 from 6:30-9:00 PM. This session is for St. Mark families only.

**"Future Cardinals Night," Tuesday, October 10 at 6:00 PM.** Join the Lady Cardinals Volleyball team for a game. 6th, 7th and 8th graders can wear a St. Mark spirit t-shirt for free admission.



HOME & SCHOOL  
ASSOCIATION



Announcing the St. Mark Talent Show, presented by HSA:



#### 2017-18 HSA General Meetings:

##### \*December 6, 8:15 AM, Cafetorium: HSA 2nd General Meeting

This meeting will take place during the morning hours, following drop-off. We will have our business portion of the meeting beginning at 8:15 AM, followed by a service project opportunity. Local volunteer-guru, Michelle Chase of WeeVolunteer, will be setting up a service project that is family-friendly for the Advent season. She will be reaching out to the The Samaritan Inn to see how our families can serve these patrons best. This is a child-friendly meeting and children are encouraged to come and help with the service project.

\*March 28, 6:30 PM, Cafetorium: HSA 3rd General Meeting

\*May 2, 8:15 AM, Cafetorium: HSA 4th General Meeting



**Volunteer Opportunities:** Looking to volunteer? Check out the master [Sign-Up Genius](#) link and all the ways you can help out.

#### JOIN US!

### 8th Grade Visit Days

OCTOBER 25  
9 AM - 1 PM

NOVEMBER 8  
9 AM - 1 PM

- VISIT CLASSROOMS
- LEARN ABOUT CLUBS/ATHLETICS
- CAMPUS TOURS
- MEET STUDENTS & FACULTY
- LUNCH PROVIDED

RSVP: [ADMISSIONS@THEHIGHLANDSSCHOOL.ORG](mailto:ADMISSIONS@THEHIGHLANDSSCHOOL.ORG)



THE HIGHLANDS SCHOOL

1451 E. NORTHGATE DR., IRVING  
214.614.2942  
[WWW.THEHIGHLANDSSCHOOL.ORG](http://WWW.THEHIGHLANDSSCHOOL.ORG)



#### ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL



#### NEWS FROM ATHLETICS

##### Middle School Tennis

##### Tournament Registration

**Now Open:** The 2017 Middle School Tennis Tournament, hosted by Bishop Dunne, will be held November 10-11. 5th/6th and 7th/8th boys and girls may register. [Click here](#) for complete details. The registration deadline is October 20.

##### Click for the current [Football](#) and [Volleyball](#)

**schedules.** Come out and cheer on your St. Mark LIONS!

##### Concession Stand

**Volunteers:** Need service hours? Volunteer at the St. Mark concession stand during home games. Contact [Marlene Ehrling](#) to sign-up.



The Lion's Den Spirit Store is open every Friday morning

In addition, Mrs. Schell needs help with the PK3 classes as students learn basic movement and music skills. Be ready to dance, skip and play instruments! The volunteer position is open to ALL volunteers, not just PK3 parents. You must be current on your Safe Environment certification to participate. [Click here](#) to sign-up.

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**Are you ready for some Football??** Come tailgate with the rest of the PRIDE as we cheer on your roaring St. Mark LIONS at the Homecoming games on Sunday, October 29 against the Wildcats of St. Thomas Aquinas. The JV squad takes the field at John Paul II High School at 12:00 NOON and the Varsity game starts immediately afterwards at 2:00 PM.

As a new addition to the Homecoming festivities this year, we are kicking off our inaugural **Homecoming Tailgate Chili Cookoff!**

The competition will start at 1:00 PM and will be judged by a panel of three including members of the HSA Executive Board and St. Mark Catholic School staff. Awards, and most importantly, bragging rights, will be given for the **Spiciest Chili, Most Unique Chili, and Best Overall Chili**. So get your beans a burnin', your cornbread a cookin', and those bottles of Pepto ready!

Tailgating at JPII is on a first-come, first-serve basis and is subject to their [tailgating policies](#).

So come early, stay late, and be loud as we celebrate Homecoming 2017 and cheer on your LIONS to victory!!

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**Box Tops:** Earn additional funds for St. Mark Catholic School by clipping Box Tops For Education from a variety of products, AND earning bonus Box Tops via the Box Tops app. Each Box Top submitted earns \$.10 for St. Mark. [Click here](#) for details.

from 7:30-8:15 AM in the Cafeteria hallway. Can't make it in person? Shop online at [www.stmcs.net/spirit-gear](http://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.

#### Mark your calendar:

**Fall Pep Rally:** Thursday, October 26, 10:40-11:45 AM, Bacot Gym. Families welcome!

**Spring Pep Rally:** January 31, 2018. Families welcome!



**Monsignor Smyth**

**Golf Classic:** Friday, May 4, 2018



Join us for upcoming Public Masses on October 8 and 15 at 9:15 AM at Holy Trinity Seminary, 3131 Vince Hagan Drive, Irving. A brief reception with the seminarians follows.

#### FRENCH MASS AT CISTERCIAN

Mrs. Denvir extends an invitation to all students and their families to attend the French Masses at Cistercian. There is an opportunity to do the readings and to sample French snacks at the end of every Mass. Masses take place every third Sunday of the month at 10:30 AM at Our

## ST. MARK COMMUNITY PRAYER TEAM

The mission of the Community Prayer Team is to provide ways that we, as a community, can come together and pray throughout the year. For more information about our Prayer Team, [click here](#).



**October's prayer intention for our school:** For our students' parents and/or caregivers.

**This Week's Prayer:** *A Prayer for Exams (as we head into standardized testing week): Father, be with me as I take this exam. Keep my mind alert and my memory sharp. Calm my nerves and help me concentrate. I know that you walk with me, guiding my path and inspiring my heart. I pray that I would feel you with me, and that your friendship would soften the pressure I feel. I pray that I would pass this exam and go on to new things with you. Thank you for your peace and your love in my life. Thank you for your kindness and care for me. Amen. (Source: [www.livingprayers.com](http://www.livingprayers.com))*

**A Request for Help:** October is Rosary month. One of the ways the school celebrates this month is by saying the Rosary every Wednesday morning at 7:15 AM in the Cafeteria. This is open to anyone who would like to attend. **We are in need of parents to help the children follow along with the rosary. If you are able to help during one or more Wednesdays, please sign-up [here](#).**

**Rosary Circle:** Also, in celebration of Rosary month, we would like to launch our Rosary Circle. We had over 40 people participate in this last year and would love to have even more participate this year! What does it involve? Each person says just one decade of the rosary a day. It does not matter when or where the decade is said. This is a way in which the community can come together to say an entire rosary (all 20 mysteries) for the community's intentions every day. **Please sign up to pray a decade a day for our school and families. [Click here](#) for more details and the sign-up.**

### Upcoming Events:

\*Join our school in praying the Rosary during the month of October: Wednesday mornings at 7:15 AM in the Cafetorium.

Lady of Dallas Cistercian Abbey, 3550 Cistercian Road, Irving. **Next French Mass: October 15.**

## SEEN & HEARD AROUND ST. MARK

A few scenes from this week. To learn the stories behind these photos, visit our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages!

### October Service Kick-Off:



### SmartLab:



### Staff Service:



### 6th Grade Tours TI:



\*Our next Community Prayer Walk will be held on Friday, October 13. Meet by the cross in front of the Narthex at 7:50 AM. If you have time after the walk, please attend the All School Mass at 8:30 AM.

### LION PRIDE!

We are proud to announce our students who qualified for the Duke University Talent Identification Program (Duke TIP) 4th-6th Grade Talent Search based on last year's standardized test scores. Duke TIP is a nonprofit organization dedicated to identifying and serving academically gifted and talented youth. Letters were sent home with students this week and contain more information, as well as instructions for registering with Duke TIP. Congratulations to our qualifiers:

4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Karson A., Diya C., Andrew D., Adrian D., Ambrose D., Paolina H., Mason H., Justin M., Nathan P., Pedro R., Sofia S., Ethan S., Quyendi T.

5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Austin A., Benjamin B., Kristine C., Julianna C., Jackson D., Etienne D., Jacob E., Adrienne F., Christian G., Marie H., Reese J., Sophie K., Courtney K., Nicholas K., Kara N., Laura P., Jacob P., Alfredo R., Miley S., Chloe S., Donte T., Sofia Z.

6<sup>th</sup> Grade: Enzo A., John B., Benjamin B., Will B., Gloria E., Eliana G., Anthony G., Dominic H., William I., Sinead I., Sophia L., Gabriela L., Amelia M., Gabriela M., Sofia M., Lana N., Benjamin P., Leah Q., Sebastian R., Nathan S., Alina S., Marc Z.

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PK3 Community Helpers:



8th Grade @ Make A Wish:



Sept. Service Project:



St. Mark Catholic School | 1201 Alma Drive, Plano, TX 75075  
[www.stmcs.net](http://www.stmcs.net) | (972) 578-0610

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