



# The Lion

## Volume 2

*St. Mark Catholic School*

### A Message from Father Hecktor

A great benefit of our Catholic School is the faith formation the students receive. Not only are our teachers preparing them for high school and the world, but through prayer and religion classes, they help the students live more virtuous and disciplined lives. They also help them increase their knowledge and love of Jesus Christ, who loves us to the point of offering His life for us.

Our Catholic Faith contains profound truths that stir our souls and elevate our hearts to something higher than what we see around us. These profound truths help us maintain hope through the challenges of loss and illness. They help us give praise and glory to God at all times! Truths such as the Immaculate Conception of Mary or the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist give us volumes on which we can meditate. In doing so, we are brought closer to Christ and the hope and light only He can give.

Thank you, parents and teachers, for the many sacrifices you make to help our students be filled with knowledge and faith. Thank you, students, for raising your hearts and minds to Christ through your hard work in study and prayer. And we thank Almighty God for our School and the opportunities it gives to express our faith and trust in Him!



### A note from Mrs. Bingham

Welcome 2022! We are so excited to kick off this New Year. The teachers and staff are thankful for all the opportunities to impact the lives of our students. They are the reason we're here. As students returned from Christmas break on January 3rd, we were happy to welcome them back to school and enjoyed hearing all about their Christmas activities and joys of being off of school for two weeks.

As we enter the second semester, the teachers and I will encourage our students to continue to focus on success. We want all of them to be successful through good, consistent attendance, perseverance, utilizing help from our faculty, and working diligently. We want this because these traits will build good habits that will carry them throughout their lives.

The New Year has continued to challenge us as we navigate living through a pandemic. As a community of faith we believe that God will guide us through this new curve in our long pandemic journey. Let us let God be our anchor of hope and source of love as we march on in faith.

St. Mark, Pray for Us.



## Giving Tuesday

Our first #GivingTuesday/#IGiveCatholic/ campaign was a success. A big "Thank You" to everyone who donated. We had a fun-filled week of activities for the staff and students: Mystery Monday, pig races, principal for a day, Turkey Trot, and a pie eating contest just to name a few. The faculty and staff got involved by giving something up and donating the cost to the campaign. We ended our two week campaign with a "Take Out Tuesday" at Social Bar and Grill. For our first year participating, we set modest goal of \$5,000. YOUR generosity allowed us to exceed that goal with a total of \$7525. THANK YOU!



## High School Helpers

From January 3 until January 14 we had six seniors from Bishop Du Bourg completing their senior service project. Five of the students, Christian Newcombe, Abby Thompson, Julia Gamble, Justin Nguyen, and Conner Gagen, graduated from St. Mark. The sixth student, Aaron Sitner, attended Holy Cross. For two weeks these students, cleaned, painted, worked with small groups and did anything and everything asked of them.

Our younger students could not believe some of these kids actually went to this school AND were taught by the teachers here. We are proud of the wonderful young men and women our graduates have become and we are grateful for everything they did for us during their weeks of service.



## Catapult Grant

In November we submitted a grant to the Innovative Technology Education Fund (ITEF). This grant gives educators the opportunity to innovate their teaching and student learning, with new technology and equipment. St. Mark was awarded \$13,000. We used these funds to purchase 45 new tablets for the primary classrooms and three new view boards for the third and fifth grade classrooms and the science lab. Thank you ITEF!

## Herb Society of America Grant

In addition to the Catapult Grant, St. Mark was awarded a \$300 grant from the Herb Society of America. The funds will be used to purchase an indoor hydroponic garden, an outdoor herb garden tower and seeds. Students will tend to the gardens and record their observations as the garden grows.

## Veteran's Day

This year, St. Mark was able to continue our tradition of honoring our Veterans.

The event began with a mass followed by a ceremony in the gym. An Honor Guard presented the colors and a short musical program followed. A light breakfast and beverages were provided and each veteran was given a packet with a prayer and a soldier.

We are grateful to ALL policemen, firemen, EMTs, and service members.

We pray for your safety and your families.



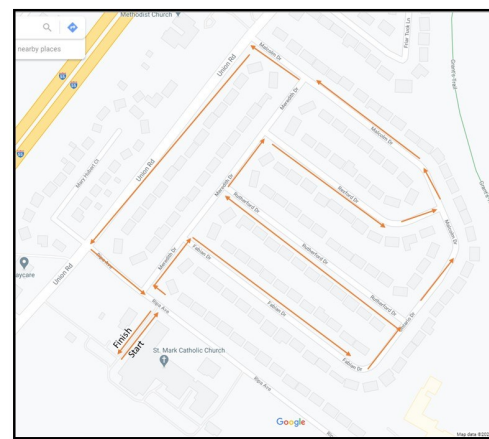
## March for Life

Once again, our eighth grade students are unable to travel to Washington, DC for the annual March for Life. But that will not stop us from supporting this important cause.

On Friday, January 21st, our entire school will participate in a march through our surrounding neighborhood. We will begin with the eighth grade class walking to Union Road holding signs and banners showing our support for all lives.

They will then come back down St. Mark drive and lead the entire school for a march through the neighborhood. We have asked our neighbors to support us by coming outside while we walk through. The event will conclude in church with the Rosary.

You can stand along our march route or you can come to church for the Rosary. We would love for you to join us.



March Route

## Open House—Sunday, January 30, 2022

Open House is Sunday, January 30, 2022 from 10:00am-12:30pm. This is a great opportunity to visit your child's classroom, see art work, and invite your friends, family, neighbors, and colleagues to see our school. We would love to show others our school that we are so proud of!





## Creative Art

This quarter, the Art students worked on a gratitude project. They were challenged to write a letter of gratitude and draw a portrait of a faculty or staff member of their choice. They looked at pictures from the yearbooks and went to work! We think they did an excellent job!



## Today and Tomorrow Scholarship Opportunity

The Today and Tomorrow Scholarship portal opens January 18. Don't forget to log on and apply for the 2022-23 school year.

If you have any questions, or have trouble logging in, call the office at 314-743-8641



**SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE**  
STARTING JANUARY 18, 2022

Looking for a scholarship for the 2022-2023 school year?

- All elementary schools in the Archdiocese of St. Louis
- All Catholic high schools
- Any private elementary school in the City of St. Louis

Apply online at TTEF-STL.ORG

**Deadline is February 28th, 2022.**

Go to: [ttof-stl.org](http://ttof-stl.org)  
or call Laura George, Senior Director of TTEF Scholarships at 314-743-7777

Free Online Application

TODAY & TOMORROW  
CHANGING THE FUTURE — ONE CHILD AT A TIME

ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS  
Office of Catholic Education and Formation

Roman Catholic Foundation  
EASTERN MISSOURI  
2020-2021 School Year

Ready to Attend Your Favorite Catholic School?

**Apply Now!**

[ttof-stl.org](http://ttof-stl.org)

Scholarship Applications Open Online January 18, 2022

**Did You Know?**

- ✓ TTEF provides scholarships to all Catholic elementary schools in the Archdiocese of St. Louis.
- 1 in 5 Catholic elementary students receive a TTEF scholarship.

Contact Laura George, Senior Director of Scholarships with questions at: 314.743.7777 or [laurageorge@archdiocese.org](mailto:laurageorge@archdiocese.org)

TODAY & TOMORROW  
CHANGING THE FUTURE — ONE CHILD AT A TIME

## Confirmed in Christ

On November 22, 2021 our eighth grade and PSR students received the Sacrament of Confirmation. Let us pray for them as they continue their journey in their Catholic faith.



### ST. MARK PIZZA FUNDRAISER FEBRUARY 7 - 18

ORDER FORMS WILL BE SENT HOME WITH  
THE STUDENTS

PICK-UP DATE: SATURDAY, MARCH 5  
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM IN THE CAFETERIA

Order forms will be sent  
home with students on  
Thursday, February 3.

Each family is asked to sell  
a minimum  
of ten (10) pizzas.



## St. Mark Catholic School



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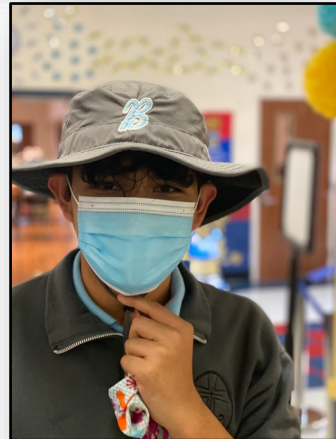
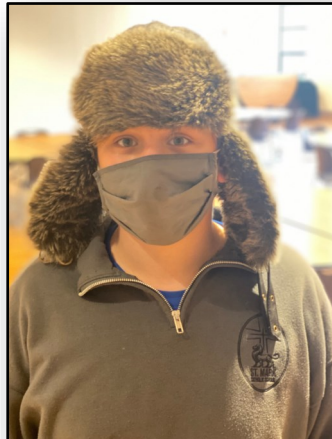
Fax: 314-743-8690

Website: [www.stmarkstl.com](http://www.stmarkstl.com)

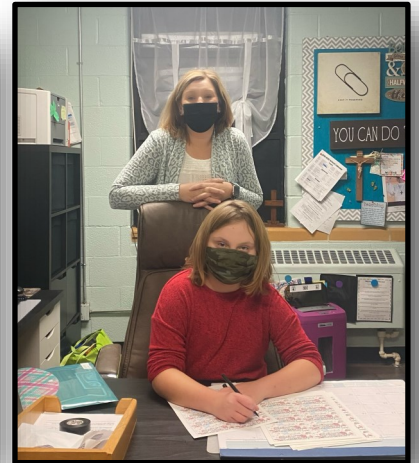
### Save the Date:

- ♦ January 17—No school—Martin Luther King, Jr.
- ♦ January 18—Today and Tomorrow Scholarship applications open
- ♦ January 21—March for Life/Rosary
- ♦ January 30—Open House
- ♦ January 30—February 4—Catholic Schools week
- ♦ February 7-18th Pizza Sale fundraiser
- ♦ February 18—Day of service/Noon dismissal
- ♦ February 21—No School, Presidents' Day

## #GivingTuesday/#IGiveCatholic Fun

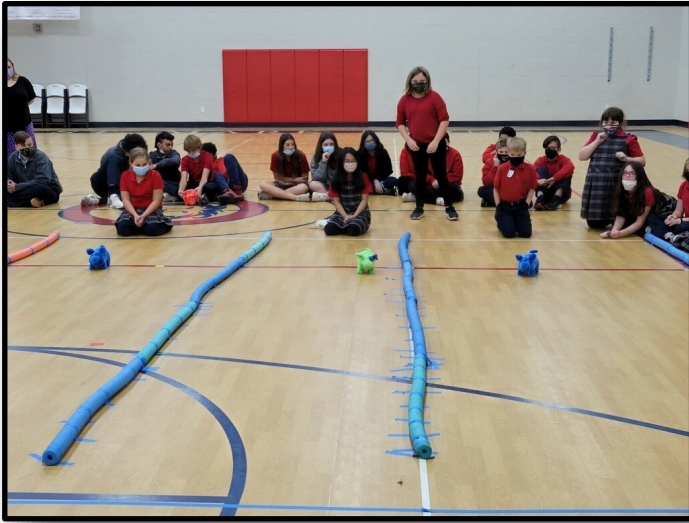


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