

Volume 4, Issue 30— April 24, 2020



Letter from the Pastor

Happy Feast of St. Mark!

We celebrate our feast day as a parish and school, April 25th, tomorrow! Let's not make this feast just one day to celebrate in the year, but an attitude of who we are: the living body of Christ (1 Cor 12.27). We each have our part to play!

The feast of St. Mark will look very different than it has in past years. Instead of potluck luncheons and school carnivals, we will be celebrating in our domestic churches – our homes. As we reflect on the work of **St. Mark** as an Evangelist and how he shared the joy of the Gospel with those he encountered, we might reflect on how we personally share the Good News.

It has become more important than ever for us to BE the Church, since we have been unable to GO to our Church. How have we been sharing the light of Christ with the world during our time at home? It may be through the Bible and the Church Fathers study many of us embarked on together, the reaching out to one another, bringing food to the food bank or simply praying with and for one another.

<u>Please print the attached St. Mark prayer</u> for your homes. I invite you to hang it near your entrances and ask for St. Mark's intercession as you go out to the world, sharing the Faith. Thank you St. Mark's, for being evangelists, today and always.

Stay tuned for an upcoming announcement regarding the reopening of the church for Masses!

May the light of Christ shine into the future through our children.

Father Ben

Letter from the Principal

Dear St. Mark's Families.

4-Peat

We did it! Thanks to your never-ending support for St. Mark's, our highly dedicated faculty and staff, and the love we all share for our school, St. Mark's has been voted the best private elementary school in the state of Idaho for the FOURTH year in a row! The <u>Idaho Business Review</u> announced the rankings this morning, and I can't think of a better way to celebrate the Feast of St. Mark. God is good....all of the time!

Grading Policy for Remote Learning

After much collaboration with our teachers and input from other Idaho Catholic schools, I have included a link <u>HERE</u> outlining how we will assess students during the fourth quarter. I have also posted it on our website under the Remote Learning

Plan tab. We believe this is the most equitable way to assign grades for the fourth quarter. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me.

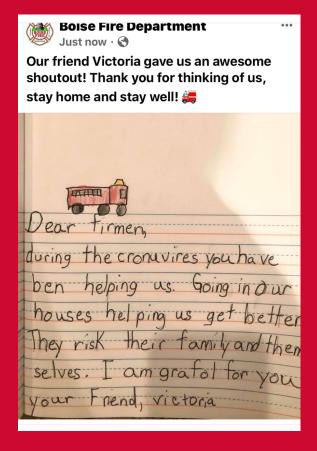
Free Computers

A generous St. Mark's parent has three PCs that have been set up for Chrome and Zoom. If you are in need of a PC let me know, and we can arrange a time for you to pick it up. These PCs will be available on a first-come-first serve basis. Also, if you have any old PCs you would like to donate, this parent can "wipe" them clean and set them up to be used as a Chromebook. Finally, if you need to borrow a Chromebook from the school, please reach out to our IT person, Greg Gilman, to coordinate a pickup time - ggilman@stmarksschoolboise.com

Have a blessed weekend. I miss you all! Mrs. Gordon



Student Spotlight



Victoria from Mrs. Boesiger's class got a shout out from Boise Fire Department for a letter she sent them for a class assignment. Well done Victoria.



Eliana, 2nd grade, has spent the past two weeks painting and auctioning paintings online to raise money for the food bank. She dropped off 3 bags of food and a whopping \$155!

Lion Pride Recognition





	CLASSROOM	HALLWAYS	LUNCH ROOM	PLAYGROUND	BATHROOMS	CHURCH
PERSEVERANCE Every Day - Every Time	Be Prepared Be On Time Be On Tink Be Present	Be Timely Be Courteous Model Good Behavior Walk Slowly	Use Your Manners Be Patient Wait to be Excused	Be Safe Obey the Rules Play Fair Share Space & Equipment Be a Good Sport	Throw Away Trash Keep it Clean Flush Toiler Wash Hands	Be Engaged Pray, Not Play Behave Appropriately
RESPECT Others, Self & Property	Be Positive Listen to Others Be Prompt Iollow Dress Code Care for School Property	Be Quiet Keep Your Hands to Yourself Keep Clean	Clean up Messes Share Space Eat Only Your Food Keep Voices Low Keep your Hands to Yourself	Use Kind Words Use Equipment as Intended Keep Your Hands to Yourself	Give Others Privacy Use Appropriate Volume	Lästen Attentively Enter and Leave Quietly Treat Clurch Mascriab with Gare
INTEGRITY Henesty in All You Do	Be Honest Be Accountable Do Your Own Work Set & Meet Guals Honor Due Dates	Do the Right Thing Respect Posters & Displays	Use Manners Don't Be Wasteful Pay for Purchases	Notify Staff if Problems Arise Follow Staff Directions	Renuri to Class Prorripily & Quietly Report any Inappropriate Behavior Use at Appropriate Times	Be Kind Be on Time
DISCIPLESHIP	Support Others Cooporate with Others Be Honest Share Christ's Love	Help Others in Need Say Thank You to Our Gustodians	Sit by Those Sitting Alone Engage in Appropriate Conversations	Encourage Others to be Kind Be Inclusive Lead by Example Help Others When Needed	Use Only as Needed Report Supply Shortages Clean Up After Yourself	Be Revenut Actively Participate Be Involved Show Appreciation
ENCELLENCE Strine for Success	Do Your Very Best Work Challenge Yourself Learn Beyond the Classroom Ask Questions	Set a Good Example Greet People Politely	Follow Cafeteria Rules Use an Inside Voice	Solve Issues in a Peaceful Manner Line Up on Time Stay in Assigned Areas	Use During Non- Instructional Times Report Problems to an Adult	Be the Best Version of Yourself Follow Dress Code for Mass

SAINT MARK'S

Congratulations to Amaya Paz, a preschooler, who correctly guessed the Office Ladies artwork. She wins a pizza dinner for her family. Thank you to all the students who emailed their guesses to the office.



Mrs. Rivas



Mrs. Brinegar



Mrs. Van



Mrs. Gordon

Weekly Calendar

Upcoming Events

St. Mark's Home & School Association Iker Larrazabal Scholarship to Bishop Kelly High School

The St. Mark's Home & School Association will be awarding three (3) \$1,000.00 scholarships to current St. Mark's 8th grade students who will be entering Bishop Kelly High School in the fall of 2020. To apply for a scholarship, students are required to submit the following:

- A resume detailing your academic, extra-curricular, and charitable activities.
- An essay of no more than 500 words regarding the topic: What a Bishop Kelly
- education means to me in terms of spiritual growth, academic preparation,
- stewardship preparation and future goals.
- The essay must include an opening and closing paragraph.
- Application submissions are due by Friday, May 1, 2020 at 5:00p.m.
- Submissions should be emailed to Kelly Thiel at kthiel12@gmail.com.

Applications will be reviewed in a confidential manner. Scholarship selection will be based on the following rubric:

- 50% on essay content
- 25% on resume detailing school, philanthropic and extracurricular activities
- 25% on essay and resume organization, structure, spelling and grammar.

Scholarship recipients will be announced in late May

Iker Larrazabal was a student of St. Mark' in the earlier years of the school. During 4 th grade he was diagnosed with Leukemia. He battled it and was in remission for 5 th grade, but sadly it returned and he passed away during his 6 th grade year, in 1982. He was one of Mrs. Baker's best friends and she had this to say about him, "Iker was a sweet boy who loved his family, especially his little sister. He was a great friend and enjoyed playing sports, when he was healthy, and hanging out with his friends. He loved St. Mark's School." Upon his passing, Mrs. Baker and friends formed a committee to establish this scholarship in his memory. It was originally funded by school parents until the Home & School Association wanted to continue this special honor. His parents moved back to Spain after his passing, but came to visit St. Mark's school a few years ago. His mother was delighted to see their son's dear friend teaching here at St. Mark's. You can stop by the plaque near the school office to honor this special student who came before us and departed far too soon.

Volunteer Opportunities

As you know, each family at St. Mark's is required to complete 24 hours of volunteer time each year. Many families either completed these hours or were very close to doing so before the school was closed in March. Since we began remote learning, I can only imagine the hours you have spent guiding your children through this process. Your patience and support have been incredible and greatly appreciated. I think you all will far surpass the volunteer requirement this year, so there is no need to continue to log hours. Your commitment to Catholic education and St. Mark's is what makes our community so blessed.

Lunch Room Volunteers



st. Mark's Catholic School has been recognized as the BEST PRIVATE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL by Idaho Business Review Readers!
Congratulations to our administrators, teachers and staff who go above and beyond on a daily basis to provide an environment that develops our student disciples academically, spiritually and socially. Congratulations to our sister schools: Bishop Kelly was recognized as the

Best Private High School and Sacred Heart was recognized as a top private elementary school. Thank you to all who voted to give us this honor for the 4th year in a row!

We are still in need of pictures for the yearbook for choir, orchestra and field trips from all grades. Please email your scanned photos to schooloffice@stmarksboise.org.



Attention 8th graders and parents - The Spanish Department at Bishop Kelly has cancelled the Spanish placement testing. They have decided to have students sign up for the level they think is most appropriate. They will test in August. The dates will be on the BK website.

This week is National Library Week. Thank you to Mrs. Kasper for all the work she does in our library and for continuing to encourage our students to develop a lifelong love of reading.

Friday, May 1 is Spirit Day. Show your school some love by wearing your St. Mark's Spirit Shirt. The weather is supposed to be nice so you can even wear shorts

Did you do yard work, plant flowers or work on another project on Earth Day? Send your pictures to share at schooloffice@stmarksboise.org.

Join us for our weekly Wednesday Student Body Mass @ 8:30 a.m. Click here to view the link.







The Office Ladies would like to thank everyone including staff and H&S for the wonderful surprises left on our doorsteps on Wednesday in celebration of Administrative Professionals Day. Also the FB post was priceless. We miss seeing all our friends everyday so these all brightened our day!



St. Mark's Council of Catholic Women (CCW) Scholarship to Bishop Kelly High School – 2020

St. Mark's CCW will be awarding two (2) \$1,000.00 scholarships to current 8th grade students who are members of St. Mark's Parish and will be entering Bishop Kelly High School in the fall semester of 2020.

To apply for a scholarship, students are required to submit the following:

- A resume detailing the student's academic, parish and charitable involvement, and extracurricular activities. Please use standard resume format.
- An essay of no more than 500 words answering the following:
- 1. What a Bishop Kelly education means to me in terms of spiritual growth, academic preparation, stewardship preparation, and future goals.
- 2. The essay must include an opening and a closing paragraph.
- 3. Application submissions are due by Friday May 1, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.
- 4. Submissions should be emailed to Brooke Smith at bsmith@stmarksboise.org.

Applications will be reviewed in a confidential manner. Scholarship selection will be based on the following rubric:

- 50% on essay content
- 25% on resume detailing school, parish, philanthropic, and extracurricular activities
- 25% on essay and resume organization, structure, spelling and grammar

Scholarship recipients will be announced in late May

SERVE with Us

St. Mark's is embarking on a 30 day food drive with the Knights of Columbus to meet the increased need our community will see as a result of the COVID-19 crisis.



- When you shop, please consider including the list of items below in a separate bag.
- Place them on your porch by Tuesday of each week, emailwill Rainford your home address and the Knights of Columbus will pick the food up without even knocking on your door.
- OR you can still drop them in the Food Box located outside the double, north facing doors (near the Faith Formation room).
- OR make a donation to the St. Jude Fund by clicking HERE. All donations made to the St. Jude Fund will be used to support the Food Bank.
- WE NEED YOUR HELP to feed the hungry in our community.

Items needed:

- Canned Spaghetti Sauce
- Tuna Fish
- Canned Chicken
- Jam/Jelly
- Cereal
- Canned Chili
- Canned Vegetables
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Canned Soup
- Canned Fruit
- Ramen Noodles
- Oatmeal

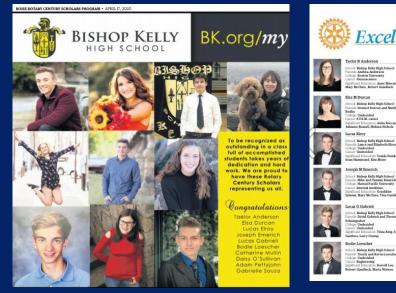


BKsSophomore - Dr. Paz's 4th Period Theology II has started an online fundraising campaign for Saint Vincent de Paul, which feeds many families in need every day. These students have gone above and beyond by volunteering to create special content for the custom fundraising website that our community can donate through. If anyone would like to contribute to the good work SVDP does, visit www.svdpid.org/bk.

Alex Bloom, St. Mark's graduate and current BK sophomore - Generosity - Alex volunteered to edit classmate-submitted "thank you" videos into one awesome video for Medical Workers. He did it quickly and really went above and beyond!



Congratulations to Catherine Mullins, BK senior and daughter of our own Mrs. Mullins and Gabrielle Souza, BK senior and niece of Mrs. Souza, who were selected as 2020 Rotary Century Scholars. Mentioned by students in this article are current and past St. Mark's School teachers who influenced their lives: Mrs. Symms, Mrs. Neznanski and Mrs. Souza.





TVCS Events/Sports

Preschool Happenings



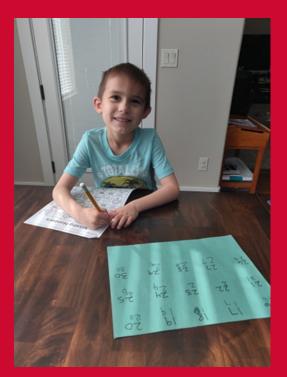
We sure enjoy our weekly Zoom class meetings! It sure helps to see your smiling faces. While we are apart, know that we are praying for you. We love to hear from you and to get photos of you working on your writing skills, crafts, play and science projects!

Preschoolers hard at work at remote learning









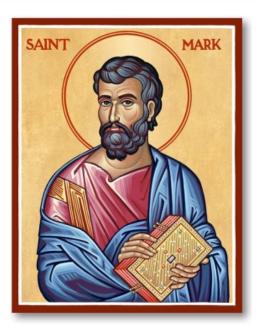


If you would like to receive the Parish Newsletter text BOISESTMARKSNEWS to 42828 to sign up

OR

Click here to sign up for Parish Newsletter

Click here to upload the Parish Bulletin for April 26



Feast of St. Mark, April 25

O God, grant, we pray, that as we come and go from this house we may call upon the intercession of St. Mark, your Evangelist, to endow us with the ability to preach the Gospel and follow faithfully in the footsteps of Christ.

May a spirit of humility, goodness, mildness and gratitude prevail here.

We ask this in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

St. Mark, pray for us!

Notes from the Nurse

Saint Alphonsus School Health Program

April is Alcohol Awareness Month. It is an opportunity for us all to raise awareness about alcohol abuse and



prevention, whether through a face to face conversation or even an instagram post. Too much alcohol can lead to a greater risk of injuries, drowning, and even cancer. We can encourage friends and family to keep track of their drinking and set limits.

Saint Alphonsus has set up a non-urgent COVID-19 nurse hotline between 8 am and 8 pm. You can call and ask questions related to COVID-19.

208-302-2683 (208-302-COVD)

Saint Alphonsus also has a Coronavirus page with links to more information as it is updated:

https://www.saintalphonsus.org/coronavirus/

Through the St. Alphonsus School Health Program, Mrs. Miller, our school nurse, is at St. Mark's on Thursdays and Mrs. Placido, CNA, SASHP Assistant is here on Tuesdays.

Notes from the Counselor

Dealing with Arguing, (from Love and Logic),

Amanda's mom couldn't believe the incredibly hurtful words pouring out of her 13-year old daughter's mouth.

"Mom, you're so lame! You know almost NOTHING about contemporary American architecture!"

Mom could not resist the temptation to defend her delicate ego against such a hurtful accusation: "Amanda!" she gasped, "How could you say such a thing?! You know I have the Frank Lloyd Wright books on my nightstand! You know I study them carefully every night!"

Sound far-fetched? That's because it is. The truth is that kids won't accuse us of things we wouldn't care to defend. When they want to argue, they tend to accuse adults of things that would be hurtful - if they were true:

"You don't love me! You don't care!"

"You're not fair! You love more than me!"

"You're not nice (or cool) like [other adult]!" "You want to ruin my life!"

And so on. Wise parents recognize these manipulative words for what they are – tantalizing bait. They also realize the last thing they want to do is bite – and get hooked.

Many parents have had success with these tips for neutralizing kids' attempts to start manipulative arguments:

Recognize the hook. Instead of being genuine, manipulative bait often sounds like an accusation and can begin with

'You always...' 'You NEVER ...' 'Other kids...' 'Other parents don't...' 'How come you always...' 'How come I always have to...'

You get the idea.

Once you recognize what is happening, go 'brain dead' (don't listen). Lest you be tempted to defend, refute or justify.

Repeat a one-liner that implies 'Nice try. I love you too much to fall for this.' More and more parents are telling us they like to use a simple noise like "Mmm."

After a few repetitions (and often going for the most enticing bait statements such as 'I hate you'), most kids will realize it's not working and move on to something else.

Thankfully, we can have a calm and productive discussion later. Next time a kid tries to hook you with an accusation, experiment with these ideas to resist the bait and remain a strong authority figure. Remember, Love and Logic adults save discussions for when they are calm, productive and bait-free.

Have a good weekend,

Dr. Joe

Dr. Joe Lipetzky, our school psychologist, is at St. Mark's on Monday and Friday mornings.

Mrs. Jen Boehm, our school counselor, is at St. Mark's on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays