FRIDAY FACTS

Volume 6, Issue 17—
December 17, 2021

SAINT MARK'S
—CATHOLIC SCHOOL—
EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE
ESTABLISHED 1967

St. Mark's Catholic School Vision

St Mark's Catholic School is dedicated to educating student disciples in body, mind and spirit, through the collaboration of families, community and the Church.

Our Mission

St. Mark's Catholic School is a ministry of St. Mark's Catholic Community that fosters academic excellence, rooted in the Catholic faith, and Christian values.

Please continue to keep Fr. Ben's recovery in your daily prayers.

Letter from our Principal

Dear St. Mark's Families,

It is hard to believe the first semester of our school year is coming to an end.

Wednesday, December 22nd, marks the end of the second quarter and is our last day of school for the year (noon dismissal). I can't thank you enough for your continued support and for sharing your exceptional children with us.

If you were unable to attend our annual **Christmas Concert,** I encourage you to watch the recording on our website. Mrs. Cooper did a beautiful job working with your talented children to present a truly heartwarming Christmas performance!

Cold Weather Reminder

Please send your child with winter clothing every day during these colder months. Snow boots should be worn outside and replaced with shoes upon entering the classroom. This week we went through our supply of spare socks due to soaking wet sneakers.

Students will be outdoors if the temperature is 20 degrees or higher. We will have students indoors from 7:30 to 7:45 each morning and then send them to the playground until the bell rings at 8:00.

Teachers will return to school on January 6th to work on our accreditation self-study report. **Students will return to school on January 10th, 2022. Report cards** for the second quarter will be posted in your PlusPortal accounts by **Friday, January 14th**. Please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher with any questions or concerns.

As we enter into the final stages of Advent, let us pray with eager hearts for the coming of our Lord. Peace, happiness, health, and joy are my prayers for all of you. I wish you all the very merriest of Christmases.

In Christ,

Donna Gordon

THIS NEWSLETTER CONTAINS A LOT OF INFORMATION, AND THE LENGTH OF THE NEWSLETTER CAUSES IT TO BE TRUNCATED.

LOOK FOR THE LINK AT THE BOTTOM OF THE EMAIL THAT SAYS "VIEW ENTIRE MESSAGE" TO EXPAND THE EMAIL, OR CLICK HERE TO VIEW NEWSLETTER ON OUR WEBSITE.

Revitalization News

REVITALIZING OUR PARISH SCHOOL

Journey with Us

PHASE II

SAINT MARK'S
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

DON'T MISS THIS TAX CREDIT

To Support our Journey with Us Campaign

As an Idaho taxpayer, your donation to St. Mark's School may be eligible for a 50% education tax credit.

A tax credit is a reduction to the actual tax you owe or an increase to your refund.

Example giving benefits:

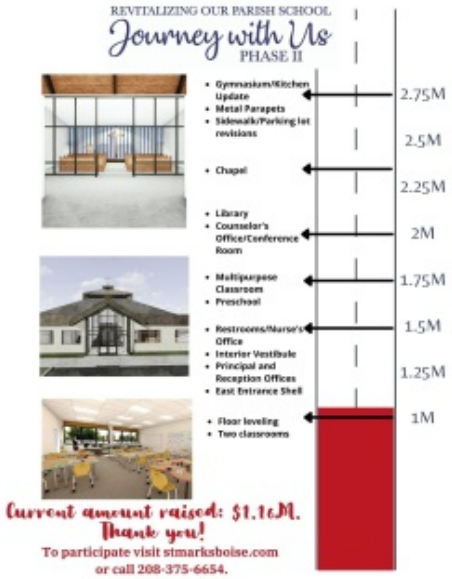
	Gift Amount	Tax Credit
Idaho Individuals	up to $1,000	up to $500
Idaho Married Couples	up to $2,000	up to $1,000
Idaho Corporations	up to $10,000	up to $5,000

REFERENCE: Idaho Statute 63-3029A. Income Tax Credit for Charitable Contributions

This education tax credit is available regardless of whether or not you itemize deductions. For those who do itemize, a donation to St Mark's School allows income tax deductions on both your state and federal returns.

We encourage you to contact your tax advisor for further consultation.

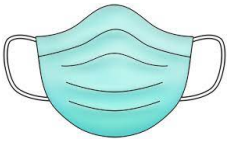
Please make a donation to St Mark's School by Dec 31, 2021 in order to take advantage of this tax credit on your 2021 taxes.
Checks may be made out to St. Mark's School.
Please write **"JWU"** on the memo line.
Our mailing address is 7503 W Northview St, Boise, ID 83704.
If you have any questions, please contact Kathleen Brinegar in the St. Mark's School office at 208-375-6654 or kbrinegar@stmarksschoolboise.com. Thank you!



COVID News

Let's all continue to practice the 3 W's

wash your hands, watch your distance, and wear your mask



Please make sure that your student brings a couple of masks to school each day in case the elastic breaks or one gets dirty. The extra mask should be in a ziploc bag and placed in their backpack.

If your child is wearing a fabric mask, please make sure that you are washing it at least a couple of times per week to kill bacteria and germs that may be present.

We are partnering with the Central District Health to provide free COVID-19 testing for all of our students, faculty and staff. The COVID-19 test is comprised of a saliva based PCR test supplied by VAULT. If you have questions about this test, please contact the School Office @ 208-375-6654 or email schooloffice@stmarksschoolboise.com.

We have created a spreadsheet with weekly updates of COVID information for St. Mark's School, which will be updated automatically with new information. Click here to view the spreadsheet. It is also available for viewing on our website under the COVID Updates/Resources tab.

Please check your children for COVID symptoms before bringing them to school in the morning. **Click here for Checklist**.

Staying home when sick or awaiting COVID-19 test results - Please keep your child home should they exhibit any symptoms - cough, sore throat, fever, stuffiness, etc. Wait 24 hours to see if the symptoms persist and then have them tested for COVID-19 if your medical provider recommends it. We have convenient FREE Vault PCR Covid tests available to all who wish them in the School Office. Turn around time is 48-72 hours, shorter than many local testing sites today. If your child has been tested and is awaiting results, keep them home AND NOTIFY THE SCHOOL OFFICE THAT YOUR CHILD HAS BEEN TESTED.

Decision Making Trees - What if I'm Exposed to COVID

Parents please read and become familiar with the links below to evaluate if you should send your child to school:

1. **Guidance on COVID Exposure** - NEWLY UPDATED for schools
2. **Illness Decision Tree for Students** - NEW UPDATED for Schools

Student Spotlight

Elleyna B receiving her certificate for winning the Patriot's Pen essay competition.

Thank you to Gabe Lamey, St. Mark's graduate and BK senior, who came to Homework Club and taught students how to play chess.

Lion Pride Recognition

LionPRIDE

Practice MAKES Saints

	CLASSROOM	HALLWAYS	LUNCH ROOM	PLAYGROUND	BATHROOMS	CHURCH
PERSEVERANCE *Every Day - Every Time*	Be Prepared Be On Time Be On Task 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 Toilet Wash Hands	Be Engaged Pray, Not Play Behave Appropriately
RESPECT *Others, Self & Property*	Be Positive Listen to Others Be Prompt Follow 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	Listen Attentively Enter and Leave Quietly Treat Church Materials with Care
INTEGRITY *Honesty in All You Do*	Be Honest Be Accountable Do Your Own Work Set & Meet Goals 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	Return to Class Promptly & Quietly Report any Inappropriate Behavior Use at Appropriate Times	Be Kind Be on Time
DISCIPLESHIP *Following Jesus' Example*	Support Others Cooperate with Others Be Honest Share Christ's Love	Help Others in Need Say Thank You to Our Custodians	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 Reverent Actively Participate Be Involved Show Appreciation
EXCELLENCE *Strive 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 CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Congratulations to this week's winners:

Teddy Z, Layton S, Finn F

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, December 19
4th Sunday of Advent

Monday, December 20
5:30 p.m. Rescheduled School Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 22
8:30 a.m. Student Body Mass - 7Groninger
12:00 p.m. Noon Dismissal

Thursday, December 23 - Sunday, January 9
Christmas/New Year's Break

Sunday, December 26
Mrs. Jankowski's Birthday

Wednesday, December 29
Mrs. Fuch's Birthday

Upcoming Events

Monday, January 10
School Resumes After Christmas Break

Home & School

We added more items! Be sure to check out the new classroom projects and start bidding on reserved seating for the Christmas Eve Mass PLUS a reserved parking spot!

We are proud to present Santa's Workshop - an early kick off to our 2022 St. Mark's School Dinner Auction!! Since you have all been patiently waiting for our in-person event, February 26th, we thought we would increase your excitement by running a Limited Time Only Silent Auction on items that will expire in the Spring of 2022, as well as, provide a chance for more families to win a class project!!

How to bid:

1. Go to this link - **https://stmarksboise.afrogs.org/#/browse/onlineItems**
2. Register by creating your account
3. Submit your bid to your favorite items
4. Check back throughout the week to increase your bid to make sure you win the items you want!
5. Win!
6. Auction team will coordinate with you to make sure you receive your item

If you have any questions, please call, text or email - **Jay Noller** and **Emily Stech**, Dinner Auction Co-Chairs

Thank you for supporting our school and we are excited to see you all on February 26th for our in-person Mardi Gras Soiree 2022 Auction

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Saturday, February 26
St. Mark's Dinner Auction

Volunteer Opportunities

Lunch Room Volunteers

NEXT WEEK'S LUNCH HELPERS
Monday (20)—Fagerson

Tuesday (21)—Webster, Dunlap, Hudspeth

St. Mark's offers a healthy, delicious hot lunch to students and staff EVERY FULL DAY OF SCHOOL!

4 LUNCHROOM HELPERS ARE NEEDED EACH DAY from 10:45-12:30 to load lunches on to trays and deliver the trays to the classrooms. Volunteers are given a free lunch.

Please call (208) 375-6654 or email the School Office to volunteer.

Daily Lunch Schedule: 11:15 a.m. (PS-2); 11:35 a.m. (3-5); 12:00 p.m. (6-8)

News

Thank you to Mrs. Cooper and all the students and staff in grades K-5, Orchestra and Choir for presenting a wonderful Christmas program. Thank you for getting us in the holiday spirit by working so hard and giving the best gift of yourself to our community.

Students in grades K-7 made Christmas ornaments in art class which are for sale for $5. Proceeds go to our art program.

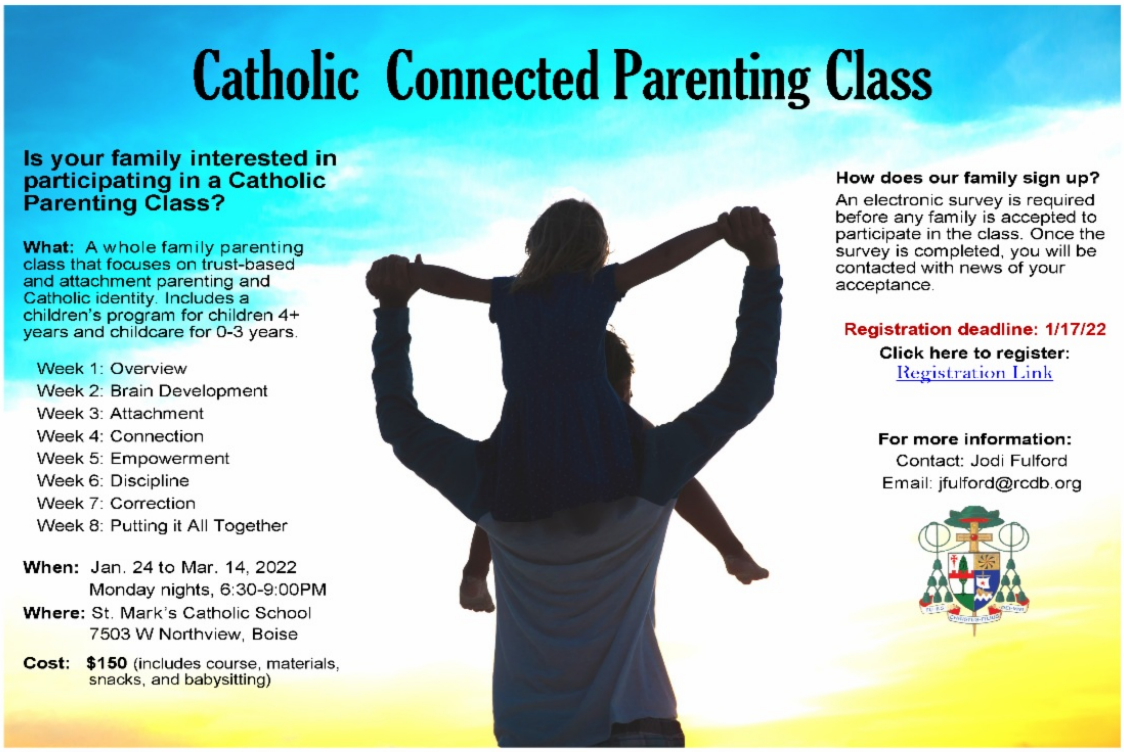
Please send your payment to the office to purchase your child's ornament. We can send the ornament home with your student or you can stop by the office to pick it up.

Remember that school dismisses at noon on Wednesday, December 22 to begin Christmas break. Homework Club is not available on this half day.

Senora A's 2nd grade Spanish class journeyed the school during Las Posadas visits on Thursday singing Christmas carols and asking the question "¿hay sitio?" (is there room?) The response is "No, no hay sitio" (no, there is no room). At the end of the journey, the 5th graders offered the travelers a room.

St. Mark's, it's your "knight" at the Bishop Kelly Gym. You are invited to cheer on the BK Knights boys basketball team as they take on Vallivue at 7:30 p.m. on January 20 in the Carley Center. Students, wear your school spirit gear and you

will get into the game free and get a coupon for a free bag of popcorn. We can't wait to see you at the gym! Go Knights!



Click here to register for the Catholic Connected Parenting Class.

Pants and Polos Sale

Date: Jan 20th

Time: 3:00 PM—6:00PM

Location: St. Marks School; common area behind the office (old church space)

Uniforms too small? Pants have holes?
Shirts need to be replaced?

Tops: $2

Bottoms: $4

Come to our Pants and Polos Sale.
No exchanges at this time

QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT:

Debbie Baerlocher 208-602-9659

The Bishop Kelly Parents Association Presents:

PASTA FESTA
Sunday, January 23, 2022
4:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Bishop Kelly High School in "The REG"

Enjoy a delicious Italian Dinner prepared by BK's talented parents!

MENU INCLUDES:
Antipasto- Marinated artichokes, kalamata olives, various cured meats & cheeses

Main course- Bolognese – Meat sauce over Cavatappi * Pesto Alfredo over Cheese Ravioli
Vegetable Marinara over Spaghetti * Garlic Bread * Caesar Salad

Admission at the Door

$50 for Families (up to 6 people)
$10 for Adults
$8 for Students (ages 11-18) & Seniors (age 65+)
$6 for Children (ages 6-10)
Free for Children 5 and Under!

Soft drinks, beer, wine, and dessert available for purchase!

LADIES, there is no better Christmas gift you could give this year to the men in your life than tickets to the Idaho Catholic Men's Conference. Let us solve your Christmas gift anxiety. Give the gift of spiritual rejuvenation Faith. Speakers this year include Fr. Don Calloway the author of the Consecration to St. Joseph, Deacon Adam Curtis former commander of Navy Seal team 3 in Iraq and Afghanistan, and Matt Harte from Ireland now teaching at Ave Maria University in Florida. The conference is in-person in Nampa or online. Learn more and get your tickets at **idahocatholicmen.org** or call 208-484-0898.

TVCS Events/Sports

Congratulation! The 7/8th grade TVCS girls finished 3rd and received the sportsmanship award.

Hallissey Basketball Tournament for 7th and 8th graders will take place this year on the weekend of February 25th - 27th.

Boys Basketball Season will start January 10th.

Registration and season schedule can be found on TVCS website: **TVCSathletics.com**

Here is a direct registration link for both 7th and 8th Boys Basketball:

https://payit.nelnet.net/form/LAg5g0dx

8th will practice at St. Joe's
7th will practice at St. Ignatius
Practice time is to be announced but typically around 4:15 - 6pm.

Coaches are always needed, please contact me if you have any interest in coaching TVCS basketball or any other TVCS sport.

Thanks,
Manny Ybarra

(509) 398-2979
Faith. Family. Education. Athletics.
Bishop Kelly High School Head Wrestling Coach
TVCS - AD St. Mark's PE / Health

Preschool Happenings

Hope, Love and Joy! We can't wait to celebrate Jesus' birthday!

Church Connection

If you would like to receive the Parish Newsletter **text** BOISESTMARKSNEWS **to** 42828 to sign up **OR Click here** to sign up.

It's time for the St. Mark's CCW Annual

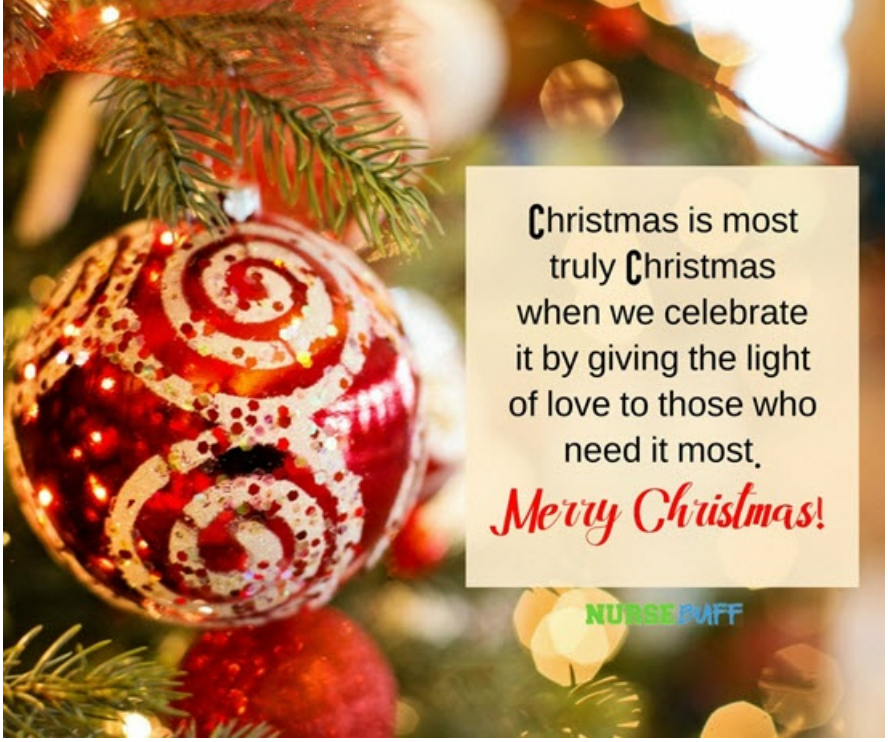
Christmas Bake Sale

December 18 and 19

After the 5pm Saturday Mass and after the 8:30 and 11:00 am Sunday Masses in Donoghue Hall.

****Bakers, Please bring items to sell to the kitchen before the Saturday 5pm Mass or on Sunday morning before the 8:30 Mass. Items should be plated and ready to sell. Thank you!****

Notes from the Nurse



Saint Alphonsus School Health Program

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

Notes from the Counselor

Tell Stories from Literature and Life

Parents and teachers used stories to teach moral lessons long before books were even invented. As you tell the stories of your life and the world around you, you convey lessons in values and ethics to your children. And as you discuss the stories you see around you (on TV, in books, in the media), you reinforce your values. Children's literature abounds with great books that illustrate important values, as in this list from the American Academy of Pediatrics.

When you listen and respond to your children's stories about school and peers, you can help them think through the right thing to do. Be mindful of your children listening to the stories you tell other adults. These anecdotes show your kids how your values guide all aspects of your life.

Provide Opportunities to Practice
Kids must practice what they learn before it comes naturally to them. This applies in learning character, too. Children can learn vicariously when they see character-building in action and learn directly when they hear lessons in values. But they need hands-on experience to know the true meaning of character.

When your child has the opportunity to make a decision (say, having to choose between two friends), help her take ethical action and see the positive results in her daily life. You can also find ways to be involved in social and community action that are accessible to your children.

Joe Lipetzky Psy.D.
Ms. Jen Boehm. LCPC

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.