



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.

Letter from our Pastor

Dear Families and Friends of St. Mark's,

With all the confusion of the social and political upheavals in the past year, many have seriously wondered if it is the end of the world, or at least the beginning of the end. In faith, we Christians are always preparing for the “end” at the time of our death and/or the Second Coming of Christ in glory, whichever comes first. We desire to participate in the “First Resurrection”, that is, our own conversion so to avoid the “Second Death” in judgment. But nowadays, admittedly, the “end” is on the minds of many, even more than in past years.



As we enter the Holy Season of Advent on this first Sunday of Advent—once again, but in 2023—God's Word reminds us that we should be well prepared and always ready to meet Jesus at all times, either at the end of our lives or at the end of the world, whichever comes first, but without worry. We are invited to meditate on Jesus' first coming in history as a baby in Bethlehem, his daily coming into our lives in mystery through the Sacraments and Sacred Scripture, and finally his *Second Coming* at the end of the world to reward the just and punish the wicked.

The traditional signs of Advent in our Church remind us that just as Jesus is coming to us, we must prepare ourselves to come to Him. Saint Paul exhorts the early Christian communities and the Church's faithful in every age to be ready to meet Jesus by discharging their duties properly and by freeing themselves from their former pagan tendencies. In the Gospels, Jesus warns us of the urgency of vigilant preparation, recalling, for example, how the unrepentant and ill-prepared were caught unawares by Noah's flood and how a thief can plunder the precious belongings of an unprepared house owner. As we prepare for a joyful Christmas—despite a chaotic modern world—the Church gently reminds us once again to “stay alert”, by prayer, works of charity, by self-control in resisting our evil inclinations, and by seeking reconciliation with God and our fellow human beings. Thus will we be well prepared for Jesus' rebirth in our hearts, our families, our world this Christmas.

With prayers and friendship,

Fr. Paul

Letter from our Principal

Dear St. Mark's Families,

Happy Friday and Happy Snow Day! Teachers spent the morning taking a faith formation class from Franciscan University called The Mission of Catholic Schools and the Role of Teachers. We had fruitful conversations and meaningful reflections on improving our students' faith experience and ours. The Diocese has purchased a subscription to Franciscan University that offers hundreds of faith formation classes for teachers and parents. If you are interested in creating an account and learning more about our faith, please get in touch with the office for instructions.



I pray you are enjoying the beautiful snow and staying warm. Speaking of staying warm... please encourage your child(ren) to wear winter coats, hats, and mittens. Students will remain indoors for recess if the weather is below 20 degrees. If it is 20 degrees or higher, we will be outside. At one recess on Thursday, it was 27 degrees, and I counted 12 winter coats being worn out of 135 students. Brrrrr.

The School Advisory Board and Home and School will meet this Monday (12/4) instead of the usual second Monday of the month due to the Christmas concert on the 11th. If you are interested in serving on our Policy Committee or the Tuition and Teacher Benefits Committee, please email me at dgordon@stmarksschoolboise.com. Meetings will be held this month and in January.

Have a blessed weekend, and thank you for choosing St. Mark's Catholic School.

Blessings,
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.

Student Spotlight








Henry's Rush Soccer Team won the fall classic tournament for U10. George's Rush soccer team also won the tournament for U11.


Lion Pride Recognition



LionPRIDE

Practice
MAKES
Saints

	CLASSROOM	HALLWAYS	LUNCH ROOM	PLAYGROUND	BATHROOMS	CHURCH
 PERSEVERANCE <i>Every Day - Every Time</i>	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 <i>Others, Self & Property</i>	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 <i>Honesty in All You Do</i>	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 <i>Following Jesus' Example</i>	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 <i>Strive for Success</i>	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



Congratulations to this week's winners:

Connor D, Amelia M, Lucas L, Patrick T, Luke D, Andrew C, Gabriel F

Weekly Calendar

Saturday, December 2

Feast of St. Nicholas @ St. Mark's Church

- 5:00 p.m. Mass
- 6:00 p.m. Dinner
- 7:00 p.m. Advent Concert featuring St. Mark's School Choir

Sunday, December 3

1st Sunday of Advent

Mrs. Bachmeier's Birthday

Monday, December 4

5:30 p.m. School Board Meeting (NOTE change from 2nd Monday)

7:00 p.m. Home & School Meeting (NOTE change from 2nd Monday)

Wednesday, December 6

8:30 a.m. Student Body Mass (Feast of St. Nicholas) presented by Mrs. Brady's 1st grade

9:45 a.m. Student Penance Service @ Church

12:40-3:00 p.m. Student Advent Retreat

Thursday, December 7

4:00-8:00 p.m. St Mark's School Community Night at Panera on Franklin

Friday, December 8

8:30 a.m. Student Body Mass (Feast of the Immaculate Conception) presents by Mrs. (Newman) Lenier's 1st grade

Mrs. Behrend's Birthday

Upcoming Events

Sunday, December 10

Mrs. Van's Birthday

Monday, December 11

6:30 p.m. Christmas Music Program @ St. Mark's Church featuring K-5, Orchestra and St. Mark's School Choir

Tuesday December 12

6:30 p.m. Education Foundation Annual Meeting

Wednesday, December 13

8:30 a.m. Student Body Mass presented by Mrs. Curtis' Kindergarten

Thursday, December 14

Mrs. Rivas' Birthday

Friday, December 15

Spirit Day

7:00-9:00 p.m. 7th & 8th Grade TVCS Dance @ Sacred Heart

Home & School

St. Mark's Catholic School Foundation presents

WINTER SPIRIT STORE!

Get your holiday shopping wrapped up (hehe) ASAP!
Scan or click the QR code below or forward this email to
friends and family to add to your wish list!

SCAN OR CLICK THE CODE!



» SPIRIT STORE CLOSING »
Sunday, December 3, 2023
AT 11:59PM



Click on the link to enter the store - <https://isg-print-embroidery.printavo.com/merch/stmarksholiday2023>

**Deadline is Monday,
December 4—Order
this weekend**



Earn More With Holiday 2023

Every gift card you buy gives back to the cause you care about most

November 25-December 4

Dazzle Days Holiday Bonuses - Special 2-week bonuses and 1-day surprise bonuses on popular gifting brands

Shop holiday gifts for everyone on your list while earning for your cause at the same time—fundraising doesn't get easier than that! Whether you buy gift cards for presents or use them to buy gifts, you immediately earn on every order.

Find Giftspiration With the 2023 Holiday Gift Guide

Find great gifting brands, use the holiday shopping list, and much more.

Get the guide at

RaiseRight.com/Resources/HolidayGuide



Shop Limited-Time \$5 & \$10 Cards

The perfect small gift or stocking stuffer for that special someone. Shop the \$10 & Under Gift Cards category.

eGift Cards Make Great Gifts Too

Running out of time or no physical gift card option available? Print an eGift card or send via email with a personalized message for convenient delivery.

Get started with a RaiseRight account



Follow the easy steps to get started at RaiseRight.com/m/StartEarning. Check with your program coordinator to get your organization's unique enrollment code.

Shop 750+ brands on the RaiseRight mobile app or at RaiseRight.com.



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Home & School will be placing a Christmas RaiseRight physical gift card order again this year.

- Place your order beginning Saturday, November 25.
- **Deadline to submit your order is Monday, December 4 in order for gift cards to arrive before Christmas Break.**
- Click on the flyer above or scan the QR code to begin your order and to see all of the specials and gift cards that are offered.
- If you have questions please contact the School Office.

ST MARK'S H&S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CARD ART CONTEST



The home and school association needs help creating their christmas card. three winning pieces of art will be featured on the home and school Christmas cards to be sent to school patrons this Christmas. Please join in! create your masterpiece and have a chance to see your artwork in print

**DUE:
DECEMBER 4, 2023**

- Artwork must be 8.5"x11" and must be original (no tracing, copying, or adult help)
- Artwork should be religious in theme
- All flat artwork accepted, including crayons, markers, pencil, and paints. (Hint: bold colors or pictures with lots of contrast copy onto cards the best)
- Include the artist's name and grade **on the back**
- Each student may submit only one entry
- Artwork must be turned into the school office by 3pm on Monday December 4, 2023.
- Entries will be judged on content and artistry by the Home & School Board.
- A winner will be chosen from each of the following three age groups: K-2nd, 3rd-5th, 6th-8th.
- Contest winners will be announced in December
- All artwork submitted will be displayed at school during the month of December
- The three winners will receive 12 Christmas cards with their own artwork on it to send to their families.

Contact April Fageron at almondmk@yahoo.com
with any questions

Panera
FUNDRAISING

Help support us!

ST. MARK'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

**Thursday, December 7
4:00 pm to 8:00 pm**

**25%
OF SALES
WILL BE
DONATED**

**Panera Bread
8401 W Franklin Rd, Boise, ID**

**Use code FUND4U at online checkout, in the Panera App, or at
the kiosk in-café.***

Bring this flyer or show a digital copy to your cashier when ordering at the café or enter the promo code FUND4U at checkout on Panerabread.com or the Panera App to ensure your organization gets a portion of the proceeds.** Learn more at fundraising.panerabread.com

*Gift card and catering order placed on Panerabread.com, and delivery orders placed through third-party sites are excluded and will not count towards the event. Other restrictions apply. For complete details, visit: <http://fundraising.panerabread.com/terms-conditions/>. **Services vary by café.

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BLOOM IN LOVE

RAFFLE TICKETS



\$ 6.00 EACH OR \$25.00 FOR 5 TICKETS*

*5 TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED BY SAME PARTY TO QUALIFY FOR DISCOUNTED PER TICKET PRICE

DRAWING TO BE HELD FEBURARY 10, 2024

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING ST. MARKS SCHOOL BY PURCHASING A RAFFLE TICKET

RAFFLE GRAND PRIZE: ESPRESSO MAKER

2ND PLACE – \$200 GIFT CARD TO RUTH'S CHRIS STEAKHOUSE

3RD PLACE- \$100 AMAZON GIFT CARD

STUDENTS THAT SELL THE MOST TICKETS:

1ST PLACE – APPLE AIRPODS GENERATION 3

2ND PLACE – \$100 AMAZON GIFT CARD

3RD PLACE – 2 TICKETS TO JUMPTIME

CLASS THAT SELLS THE MOST TICKETS:

1ST PLACE – PIZZA PARTY FOR THE ENTIRE CLASS

ANY STUDENT WHO SELLS **\$100** OR MORE IN RAFFLE TICKETS WILL EARN A CAN OF SILLY STRING TO SPRAY PRINCIPAL GORDON.

ALL SALES ARE FINAL. WINNER WILL BE NOTIFIED AFTER THE 2-10-2024 DRAWING. WINNER DOES NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT TO WIN. PLEASE SUBMMIT COMPLETED TICKETS AND MONEY TO THE FRONT OFFICE. IF YOU NEED ADDITIONAL TICKETS, PLEASE MAKE COPIES OF THE FOLLOWING SHEET. MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE RAFFLE MAY BE FOUND AT [HTTPS://STMARKSSCHOOL.SCHOOLAUCTION.NET/BLOOM/](https://stmarksschool.schoolauction.net/bloom/)

It's Raffle Ticket time. [Click here](#) to print your tickets.



Click on the link below to sign up to help at this year's Dinner Auction. We have immediate needs for a Tea Cup Team Lead, Procurement Helpers and Reservation Team Lead.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0449A8A62EA2FD0-dinner#> or email Jenny Baxter at Stmarksschoolauction@gmail.com

The Dinner Auction team is looking for photos and videos to be included in the event slideshow. We want to see our St. Mark's School Community. Pictures and videos can be emailed to StMarksSchoolAuction@gmail.com Use Slideshow 2023-2024 as the subject.

We are looking for pictures from the last 40 years of Dinner Auctions. If you have any or know someone who does, please have them email the photos to StMarksSchoolAuction@gmail.com.

[Volunteer Opportunities](#)

Need Volunteer Hours?



We could use your help for a couple of hours preparing items for St. Nicholas Day for our Student Body Advent Retreat--December 6th. Please contact Angela Paz at apaz@stmarksschoolboise.com

Lunch Room Volunteers

NEXT WEEK'S LUNCH HELPERS

Monday (4)—Bauer

Tuesday (5)—Bauer, Chavier

Wednesday (6)—LaMott, Gorney, Binns, Bauer

Thursday (7)—Storli

Friday (8)—Antonoplos, Gorney, Binns, Paz

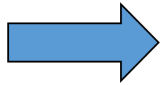
St. Mark's offers a healthy, delicious hot lunch to students and staff EVERY FULL DAY OF SCHOOL!

4 LUNCHROOM HELPERS ARE NEEDED EACH DAY from 10:45-12:45 to serve lunches and clean tables in the lunchroom. 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



Next week we will attend 2 Student Body Masses. Wednesday, December 6 is the Feast of St. Nicholas (our regular Wednesday Mass) and Friday, December 8 is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, a Holy Day of Obligation. Please make sure that students are in Mass Dress both days.



It's cold outside during recesses. Please make sure to send your student(s) to school with a coat, hat and gloves to keep them warm. We will be going outside when the temperature is 20 or higher, so our students need to bundle up.

Save the Date--School Advent Retreat--Wednesday, December 6th, 12:45-3:00 p.m.

It's hard to believe that Advent (the holy season of preparing for Jesus' birth at Christmas) starts on Sunday, December 3rd. In the afternoon of Wednesday, December 6th, our students in Kindergarten through 8th grades will be learning about Advent through prayers, songs, crafts and service. Please make sure to ask your child(ren) about what they learn that day and look for resources that your family can use during Advent.



Elementary School Students–Kinder–5th Grades–Service

For our School Advent Retreat on 12/6, some of our Elementary School Students (K–5th) will be making gift bags for Ronald McDonald House and others will be doing class-specific service projects. Please look for more information coming from your child's teacher about what they're collecting. **Please plan to bring these by Tuesday, December 5th.**

Middle School Students-Sandwich Making for Corpus Christi Shelter/ Interfaith Sanctuary

For our School Advent Retreat on 12/6, middle school students will be making sack lunches for Corpus Christi Shelter and Interfaith Sanctuary. **We are asking each student to bring food items on Tuesday, December 5th to make these sack lunches**

Please see below for your homeroom assignment.

6th Hatfield - each student bring bag of cuties or apples

6th Newton - each student bring package or two of cookies

7th Groninger - each student bring bag/box of assorted individual bags of chips

7th Paz - each student bring one loaf of sliced sandwich bread

8th Schuette - each student bring packages of sliced cheese

8th Behrend - each student bring 2 packages of sliced deli meat (variety of ham, turkey, roast beef)

St. Mark's Christmas Program

Monday, December 11th

6:30pm

(call time 6:15, please deliver your students to the Church by then)

St. Mark's Church



Kindergarten - Christmas Trees. Costume provided by school. Please no bulky or thick clothing as they may get hot.

1st Grade - Nice Christmas Attire

2nd Grade - Angels. Costume provided by school. Please no bulky or thick clothing as they may get hot.

3rd, 4th, 5th & Choir - Nice Christmas Attire. 5th grade can bring in a wig, sunglasses or "quick change" article of clothing for our final number Jingle Bell Rock. Students will bring it with them to the dress rehearsal to practice that quick change.

Adv. Orchestra (6th-8th) - White long sleeve dress shirt, black pants or skirt with leggings. Boy's Christmas ties. Dress shoes.

Dress rehearsal is 12/11 at 1pm in the church.

Don't forget to log into your FamilyPortal and log your Volunteer Hours. Each family, except Preschool, must submit 6 Dinner Auction hours and 18 hours dedicated to school volunteering for the 23-24 school year.

BK Music Department's Winter Concert

The Bishop Kelly High School Band, Choir, Orchestra, and Guitar ensembles are having their winter concert on Wednesday, December 13 at 7:00pm in the REG at BK (the gym located in the main school building just past the fountain at the front entrance). Admission is only \$5 for adults, \$3 for HS students, \$2 for younger students and senior citizens, and kids age 5 or younger are free. The award-winning BK ensembles will be performing a wide variety of music sure to get you into the holiday spirit! Doors will open to the public at about 6:30pm. Please contact Mark Peters (mpeters@bk.org) with any questions and we hope to see you there!

TVCS Events/Sports



[Click here](#) for the TVCS athletic schedule.

TVCS 7th & 8th grade Dance at Sacred Heart has been moved to Friday, December 15



SACRED HEART
CATHOLIC SCHOOL TVCS
CHRISTMAS
Dance

7-9 PM | 15 DEC | DOORS OPEN AT 6:50PM

WEAR ANYTHING CHRISTMAS!

Held at Sacred Heart Catholic School Gym. Please enter through the front doors. \$5 cash and 2 cans of food for entry w/ student ID.

Preschool Happenings



Scarecrow name crafts, corn sensory table, sunflower seed fine motor activities, pumpkin alphabet and counting, and many other Fall/Thanksgiving themed learning activities were fun to introduce this month. It is hard to believe how fast time flies when we are busy learning and playing in preschool.



Church Connection

If you would like to receive the Parish Newsletter [text](text:BOISESTMARKSNEWS) BOISESTMARKSNEWS to 42828 to sign up **OR** [Click here](#) to sign up.



ADVENT CONCERT

December 2, 2023 at 7pm

**CAN YOU HELP
WITH THE
ST. NICHOLAS
DINNER THIS
SATURDAY?**



Can you help in one of
these two ways (12/2)?

**1) Serve the ham to our
community?**

(beginning at 5:45pm)

2) Help with clean up?

(beginning at 6:45pm)

**Please contact Brooke Smith
at bsmith@stmarksboise.org or
208-375-6651**

Feast of St. Nicholas

Join us for
5pm-Mass
6pm-Dinner
7pm-Advent
concert



Dinner- Ham is provided by the church, the rest is potluck- if your last name begins with these letters, please bring the listed item:

A-J- Salad

K-P- Side Dish

Q-Z- Dessert

FOOD | FELLOWSHIP | FUN

December 2, 2023



4TH SUNDAY OF
ADVENT

12/23-5PM

12/24-9AM

THESE TWO MASSES FULFILL YOUR
OBLIGATION FOR THE 4TH SUNDAY
OF ADVENT

CHRISTMAS MASSES

12/24-4PM

12/24-7PM

12/24-11PM

AKA MIDNIGHT MASS-

NEW TIME,

12/25-10AM

THESE FOUR MASSES FULFILL YOUR
CHRISTMAS OBLIGATION



ST. MARK'S CCW

CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE

DECEMBER
16TH & 17TH

AFTER THE 5PM SATURDAY
MASS AND SUNDAY
MORNING MASSES

BAKED GOODS NEEDED

QUESTIONS?
ANNIE.BOROFF@GMAIL.COM

Notes from the Nurse



Through the St. Alphonus School Health Program, **Mrs. Bostenero**, RN, BSN, is at St. Mark's on Mondays and Wednesdays, **Mrs. Fuchs**, RN, BSN, is at St. Mark's on Thursdays and **Mrs. Placido**, CNA, SASHP Assistant is here on Tuesdays.

Notes from the Counselor

Sarah Lynch, St. Mark's School Counselor
Joe Lipetzky Psy.D.

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

Sarah Lynch, our school counselor, is at St. Mark's on Mondays, Tuesday, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

St. Mark's School | 7503 W. Northview St., Boise, ID 83704

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