

Volume 8, Issue 14 -November 17, 2023



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,

Within a few days, our nation will celebrate Thanksgiving. Gratitude is a powerful virtue. Ultimately, it is the heart's recognition of having received God's greatest gifts. In this sense, I would like to share with you all a little story...



"A young man went to the store to buy some bread. "Thanks for the bread," he said to the clerk.

"Don't thank me," replied the clerk. "All I did was keep the bread on the shelf until you bought it. You should really thank the man who brought it here."

So the young man caught the delivery man going out the door, "Thank you!" he said. "Oh, don't thank me, Sonny, all I did was haul the bread here in my van. You should thank the person who baked it—at the bakery down the street."

The young man, passing that way, went inside the bakery to personally thank the baker, who replied, "Don't thank me, kid, I merely kneaded the flour, threw it in the oven, and took it out. You should be thanking the one who milled the flour."

The young man went directly to thank the miller. "Don't thank me, boy," said the miller, "I only ground up the grains of wheat that someone else furnished."

At that, the young man went on to thank the operator of the local granary who defended himself with: "Don't thank me, I only stored the grain the farmers bring in."

And so, he went to thank the local wheat farmers who in turn begged off, saying, "We only planted and harvested the seed. You must thank the seeds from which the wheat sprouted."

The young man did just that. He tried thanking the seeds but they explained, "Don't thank us but all the things that made us grow." So the young man dutifully thanked the earth and rain and sun. They in turn, responded, "Don't thank us, young fella, but thank the one who made us." In the end, the young man entered the Church where Holy Mass was being celebrated, and prayed, "Thank you, O God, for the earth, the rain, the sun, the seed, the growth, the farmers, the granary, the miller, the baker, the delivery man, and the store clerk. But most of all thank You, O Lord, for this feeling of gratitude that has led me here to receive the bread of angels... Amen."

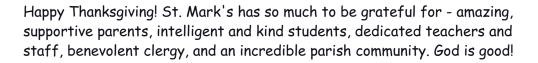
For us—the point is clear—God's highest gifts should awaken our deepest gratitude. Thanksgiving is a duty before it's a feeling. Gratitude is a sign of a healthy heart and is a natural response to faith, which recognizes God's presence and Providence. And so, it is only right and just that we thank God for everything. In thanking each other for things we are, in actuality, only acknowledging HIM for being the Giver of all good gifts.

With prayers and friendship in Jesus,

Fr. Paul

Letter from our Principal

Dear St. Mark's Families,





Parking Lot Safety

We are working to improve the overall safety of our parking lot. We implemented a right-turn-only lane onto Cole Road, and cones were placed at the Northview entrance to help maintain an exit lane.

How can you help?

Please, please, please:

- Use the designated crosswalks.
- Do not exit your vehicle when in drop/off pick up lanes.
- Be alert and avoid being on devices while waiting.
- If a crossing guard is not outside, drop students off at the curb OR park your vehicle and walk them across the crosswalk.
- Do not jaywalk across Northview.
- Avoid having conversations with your child's teacher. They need to attend to the safety of all of their students.

On Sunday, November 26th, our 6th graders are hosting the 11:00 am Mass. It would be wonderful to see you all there. A reminder that the week we return from break will be a four-day week. There will be no school on December 1st due to a teacher in-service.

I wish you the happiest Thanksgiving. May you make memories to last a lifetime.

Blessings, Donna Gordon







Thanksgiving Break is
Monday, November 20 - Friday, November 24

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

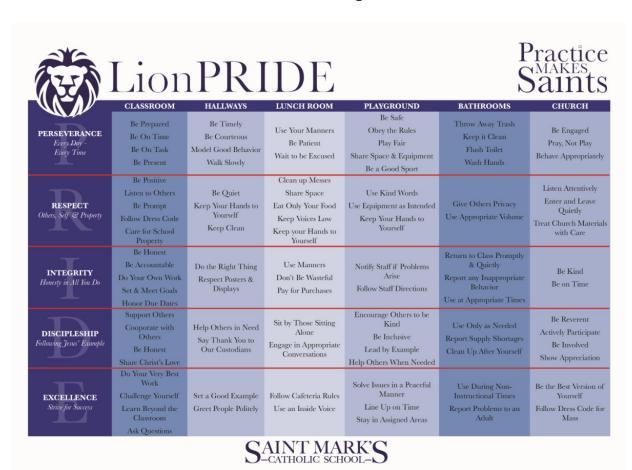
LOOK FOR THE LINK AT THE BOTTOM OF THE EMAIL THAT SAYS "VIEW ENTIRE MESSAGE" TO EXPAND THE EMAIL, OR CLICK HERE TO VIEW NEWSLETTER ON OUR WEBSITE.

Student Spotlight



Five of our students gathered last Sunday to learn how to make a french seam pillow case to donate to St. Luke's Children's Hospital, Pediatric ICU unit, in Boise for Christmas presents for patients. Great Community Service project from our school.

Lion Pride Recognition



Congratulations to this week's winners:

Benedict N, Maddie B, Chloe C, George W, Ashley H, Paisley H, Ander L, Ella W, Michael W, Henry C, Cosette W, Aurora G, Wyatt M, Patrick T, Declan L

Weekly Calendar

Thanksgiving Break

Upcoming Events

Sunday, November 26

11:00 a.m. Student Hosted Mass hosted by 6th grade

Tuesday, November 28th

Ms. Hatfield's Birthday Giving Tuesday

Wednesday, November 29

8:30 a.m. Student Body Mass presented by Mrs. Dabelich's 2nd grade Holiday Feast for Parents of students in PS-2nd grade

Thursday, November 30

Mrs. Czarniecki's Birthday

Home & School

Thank you to the 60 volunteers who signed up to paint a soup bowl for the Idaho Foodbank at Ceramica last weekend. It was a fun and worthwhile event to help our neighbors in need!

Ceramica will deliver our bowls to the Idaho Foodbank. The Idaho Foodbank then sells the bowls online Nov 23-Dec 1 at: **Empty Bowls**



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 Fagerson at almondmk@yahoo.com with any questions



Help support us!

ST. MARK'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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

25%
OF SALES
WILL BE
DONATED

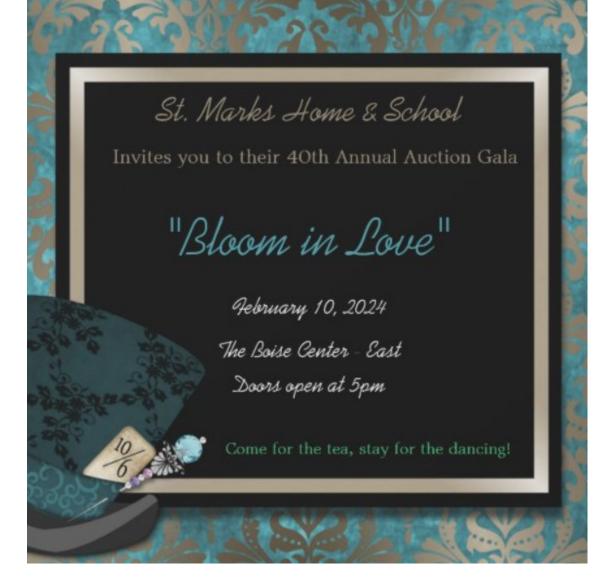
Panera Bread 8401 W Franklin Rd, Boise, ID

Use code <u>FUND4U</u> at online checkout, in the Panera App, or at the kiosk in-cafe.*

Bring this flyer or show a digital copy to your cashier when ordering at the cafe 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-contitions/. **Services vary by café.

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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**.







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

 $2^{\rm ND}$ 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/

It's Raffle Ticket time. Click here to print your tickets.





Mrs. Gordon checked off an item on her Bucket List on Friday with a helicopter ride offered by Kevin Sielaff of Alpine Aviation. This was an auction item at last year's Dinner Auction. The Wayne family were also riders on the trip. Thank you to Kevin and Mrs. Rivas for putting the

package together.

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 (27)—Bauer, Cavazos, Speck, Berry Tuesday (28)—Anderson, Bauer, Cavazos Wednesday (29)—Gorney, Binns, Antonoplos, Speck, Storli Thursday (30)—Storli, Cavazos

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 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)

<u>News</u>



Come support our Undefeated, District Champion, Bishop Kelly Knights in the STATE CHAMPIONSHIP against Hillcrest this Friday, November 17, at 7:00 at Albertson Stadium (BSU campus).

We hope to see all of you there!
GO KNIGHTS!!

Your undefeated BK Knights take on Hillcrest High School for the State Championship this Friday night! Help pack the stands at BSU and give our boys the home field advantage!

Click here to buy game tickets on GoFan - https://gofan.co/event/1237358?schoolld=IDHSAA

• Tickets are ONLY being sold on GoFan. You must purchase your tickets in advance and show the ticket on your phone to the ticket takers for admittance.

- Gates will open at 5:30 PM
- Bishop Kelly fans enter through the East Gate at Albertsons Stadium. (Closest to Broadway Ave.)
- Boise State University has a clear bag policy. Fans may bring one CLEAR plastic or vinyl bag, package or container that does not exceed 12 x 6 x 12 inches; a one-gallon clear plastic freezer bag; or a purse, bag or clutch no larger than 4.5 x 6.5 inches. Prohibited bags include but are not limited to large purses, coolers, briefcases, backpacks, luggage of any kind, computer bags or any bag larger than the permissible size.
- No heaters or umbrellas are allowed in the stadium.
- There is a NO readmission policy. If fans leave Albertsons Stadium they will not be allowed to reenter without purchasing a new ticket.
- Watch the live stream on NFHS Network. (minimum 1 month subscription required)
- Listen to the live stream on IdahoSports.com or Salt and Light Radio (1140 am).

Dear St. Mark's Families,

Thank you so much for the outpouring of love, support, and generosity on Vice Principal Appreciation Day! I've been so blessed by all of you over the last 4 years as a teacher, and now as an administrator. I hope to continue to be a part of this wonderful community for many years to come! Have a relaxing Thanksgiving Break!

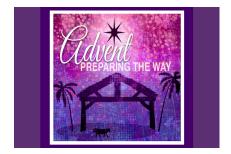
□Erin Martin

The December Lunch Menu is ready for viewing, **click here**.

Click here to view the December calendar.

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)



If you take any photos during the school year of activities, parties, field trips, sports, etc. please email them to **schooloffice@stmarksschoolboise.com**.

Mark your busy holiday calendar for Monday, December 11 @ 6:30 p.m. at the Church for the St. Mark's School Christmas Program, featuring K-5, Orchestra and St. Mark's School Choir.



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.

Congratulations to this week's Knights of the Week!



Reagan Lankford - St. Mark's Graduate and BK Sophomore - Academic Excellence

Reagan is such a delight to have in class. She is kind to everyone, helpful, hardworking and raises the level of learning in the classroom.

TVCS Events/Sports



Click here for the TVCS athletic schedule.

Preschool Happenings



Educating the whole child from evacuation drills to snack-time prayers! Mrs. Katie, Mrs. B. and I are so thankful for our preschool group. Happy Thanksgiving to you all.



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Church Connection

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





December 2, 2023

JR HI RALLY 6th - 8th grade Bishop Kelly High School

One-day event aimed to energize, form, and build community for our Jr. High/Middle School students.

Your child wont want to miss!!

JR HI RALLY Registration is OPEN

\$70.00

...includes a full day of praise and worship, guest speakers, Reconciliation, Adoration, Mass, tee shirt, snacks, lunch & dinner

Registration

Fundraising opportunity November 12th

If your child needs a scholarship or wants to volunteer their time to help those who need funding assistance, please signup below.

JR HI RALLY - FUNDRAISER

Sign Up

St. Mark's Youth Ministry will be raising scholarship funds for the upcoming Catholic Jr. High Rally. We will again be partnering with Totally Catholic Fundraising to sell jewelry, rosaries, and crucifixes from with a 50% profit on all sales.

Registration: https://www.jrhievents.com/rally-registration

Fundraiser: https://stmarksboise.flocknote.com/signup/142569?noteID=23619432

Notes from the Nurse





Through the St. Alphonsus 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

Pulling the tooth of wisdom.

Many youngsters lose much of their personal power during the first few years of life. That's just sad, because what they lose has considerable impact on their productivity as well as the quality of their life in later years. I'm referring to their creative abilities and their ability to feel in control of their destiny. Many loving parents, in their zeal to raise good children, start this extraction process by placing their demands in the wrong place. While we have the right to demand responsible behavior from our children, often this demand is for blind obedience. There's a critical difference between the two.

Parents demand responsible behavior by providing their children with advice and a range of choices that carry consequences. This forces their children to think for themselves. It sends the message that whoever owns the problem can solve it and places a high value on creative thought.

Other parents use threats, intimidation and commands to coerce their children into doing as they are told. They indicate that their way is the only acceptable way. This type of parenting conditions children to believe that others have the answers to their problems. Children in these situations are actually penalized when they think for themselves. They soon learn that thinking does not pay. What happens when children are the subject of parental threats and demands?

- 1. Children in these situations focus on the wrong kind of power as they grow up. They soon try to obtain power the same way as their parents.
- 2. Before long, children copy. The ways their parents get power mainly through threats, intimidation and force. But this just makes their parents angry. It is very hard on us as adults when someone mirrors our behaviors, especially that behavior we dislike about ourselves.
- 3. Control is too valuable to a commodity for children to give up without a fight. Unfortunately, the fight for control is not about the ability to think for oneself, but about children stubbornly trying to get their own way.
- 4. Children learn through their parent's actions that they are not capable of thinking for themselves. This concept is often reinforced after they make a mistake. "See, you should have listened to me," the parent says.

What is worse, children are being trained to listen to their peers when they reach adolescence. This training takes place during the child's first eleven years, when he is in the concrete thinking stage.

By the time children learn to think abstractly, they have already been conditioned to listen to the strong voice outside their head that tells them what to do when they reach adolescence. They no longer want to listen to this voice. A teen might say "I can think for myself." That would indeed be nice. But 11 years of conditioning only leaves the child in a position to listen to another voice from the outside, that of his peers.

My job as a parent.

I believe my assignment as a parent is to take the totally dependent little baby and gradually help him develop into a totally independent adult. I'm usually given 18 years to get the job done. I know of no better way to do this than to make my home as much like the real world as possible.

The real world is a place where people are constantly faced with decisions. A child preparing to live in this world needs lots of practice making these decisions and then living with the consequences. It's way too late to wait until a teenager is 18.

Wise parents start this process early by giving their children choices that have fairly simple consequences. They gradually move on to more complex decisions and consequences. These parents teach their children that they have the power to make their lives pleasant or not. This is known as the development of judgment and wisdom.

This approach also builds strength in children by allowing them to struggle. Recent studies indicate that children who have been denied the right to struggle in their early years are at a high risk for suicide and other self-destructive behavior. Children who are given the opportunity to struggle and overcome adversity learn that they are in control of the quality of their lives and destiny.

Parents who practice giving the kids choices and consequences receive a pleasant surprise. They discover that they actually have more control over their children than the parents who bossed their kids around. Children who are constantly trying to make decisions, especially ones that carry consequences, are often too busy thinking to fight with their parents. They also know that their parents are not trying to extract the tooth of wisdom. (This was from Love and Logic volume 2, #2.)

Give a thought to what control you can share and what decisions you can start making with your kids that allow them to make a mistake while the price is little in elementary school or junior high school. They want to do it right and be "big." Letting them struggle with a problem is healthy.

Joe Lipetzky, Psy. D.

Happy Thanksgiving Break to you and your family

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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