

Volume 10, Issue 2- August 22, 2025



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 St. Mark's Lions

Last Friday as we gathered for our first School Mass of the 2025-2026 Academic Year, we celebrated the Feast of the Assumption of Mary. This Friday, one week later, we celebrate the Queenship of Mary. This beautiful liturgical day was formally established by Pope Pius the XII in 1954 through his encyclical *Ad Caeli Reginam*. These two consecutive feast days are also recognized as the 4th and 5th decades of the Glorious Mysteries when we pray the Rosary.



Jesus gave us his mother as our own mother as he hung upon the cross (John 19.26). We look to Mary as the model of the perfect human life. Her yes in obedience to God's plan for her life sets the example that should guide our own lives. Our goal in life is to know the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and to serve God and each other in all we do and say....or don't do or don't say. We can look to Mary who is only human, and not devine, as the ideal example of serving God through perfect obedience to His will.

Our Mother Mary now resides, mind, body, soul in Heaven. She intercedes for us and prays with us as we joyfully approach her son our Lord with our daily thanksgiving and prayer. Mary is Queen of heaven and earth. Through the Rite of Baptism, we are adopted into the sovereignty of our Father's Kingdom. Mary, our Queen Mother, watches over us, and continually intercedes for us. As the children of God, and the spiritual children of Mary, we can return to her each day in prayer and petition.

Holy Mary, Mother of God. Pray for Us!!

Together we Rise,

Fr. John

Letter from our Principal



Dear St. Mark's Families,

We did it! We have completed our first full week of the school year. Your children are amazing! They have settled into their routines and are already digging into learning. Our teachers and staff are dedicated to building relationships with you and your children to build a strong foundation for the year ahead.

We are very excited to invite you to Back to School Night on Tuesday, August 26, from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Here's how the evening will flow:

- PreK-5th Grade: Two sessions will be offered in classrooms — 6:00-6:20 p.m. and 6:25-6:45 p.m.
- All Families: At 6:45 p.m., we will gather in the gym for introductions to our teachers, staff, and school boards, followed by a message from Mrs. Gordon about our theme for this year: Together We Rise.
- Middle School Parents: At 7:05 p.m., parents will meet in their child's homeroom class and then follow their child's daily schedule to meet each teacher.

This evening is your opportunity to meet your child's teachers and learn more about what the year will look like for your family. We kindly ask that children not attend so the evening can remain focused and informative for parents.

And don't forget! Tomorrow night, after the 5:00 p.m. Mass, the St. Mark's Education Foundation is hosting its annual Car Show. There will be dozens of classic cars, remote-control cars for the kids, and food trucks for the whole family to enjoy. Come join us for an evening of fun, food, and fellowship. It's the perfect way to "fuel" our community spirit!

We are so excited for the 2025-2026 school year and look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday night!

Blessings,

Donna Gordon



Policy Highlight

Each week in Friday Facts, we'll spotlight a St. Mark's School policy as a gentle reminder and to ask for your support in keeping things consistent for all of our students.

This week's highlight: **Hair Policy**✂

We know summer is a fun time to try out new looks, but as we return to school, we ask families to help students follow our guidelines so everyone comes to class ready to learn:

- No artificial hair coloring – including bleaching, highlighting, or dyed colors.
- No extreme haircuts – such as mullets, mohawks, or similar styles.
- No wraps or beading.
- Bows & Accessories – should be navy, white, or school plaid.
- Boys' hair – above the ear, off the collar, and clean-shaven (no facial hair).

Thank you for helping us keep our school environment simple, respectful, and focused on what matters most — learning, faith, and community.

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.



New Family Orientation slideshow

(click on the above link to view)

Spirituality Spotlight

Heavenly Father- We praise you for the gift of our students, teachers and staff as we begin this new school year. Be with them, Lord, to strengthen their bodies and their spirits and to fill them with knowledge, compassion and your everlasting love. Amen.



Join the St. Mark's Spirituality Committee today!

Are you interested in being involved with school retreats, Feast Days and other special events throughout the school year? If so please consider joining the Spirituality Committee.

Who are we? A group that supports the spiritual growth of our students, staff and school

Who can join? YOU! We have a team made of teachers, parents and parish staff.

When do we meet? The first Thursday of the month at 3:15 in the conference room.

Next Meeting: Thursday, September 4th @ 3:15

Spirituality Committee FAQs

Do I need any special training to be involved? Yes and no- You will need to have your Safe Environment Workshop training complete prior to any volunteering at school events, but that's it!

What kind of time commitment does it require? There's no set number of hours required. You can come to meetings when you're available and sign up to help at events as you'd like. All time served counts toward yearly volunteer hours.

Why me? Because we bet you have some great ideas and talents to share! No amount of time or talent shared is too small.

"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace." 1 Peter 4:10

Questions? Please contact Trina Hauck at thauck@stmarksschoolboise.com

Student Spotlight



The first week of June, Sawyer and Sutton went to Kemmerer, Wyoming with PaPa (former St. Mark's teacher Mr. A) to the fossil fields. They learned to use tools to explore limestone slabs and found 50 million year old fossils. After the fossil fields, they traveled to Yellowstone to explore and see Old Faithful.

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
DISCIPLINESHIP <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

SAINT MARK'S
-CATHOLIC SCHOOLS-

Congratulations to this week's winners:

Quan P, Jo G, Lincoln R, Abel L, Marshall B, Max B, Sawyer C, Jennica C, Patrick N, Dominic S, Emma B (2), Adalaine C, Blair K (2), Athena N, Pilar M, George P, Hendrix M, Kaysen T, Sam A, Logan L (2), Thomas U, Fabryce K, Bri S, Alex C, Gaby C, Sybil B, John W, Nathan A, Lochlan M, Adam P, Genevieve A, Alianna V, Sybil B, Connor D, Graham L, Sawyer H, Layla R, Brynn K (2), Frances C, Olivia F, Adrean D, Austin C, Lucia F, Cameron C, Noah M

Weekly Calendar

Saturday, August 23

6:00-9:00 p.m. St. Mark's School Foundation Hot August Nights Car Show in Church Parking Lot

Tuesday, August 26

6:00-8:00 p.m. Back to School Night (parents only please, no students)
Mrs. Anderson's birthday

Wednesday, August 27

8:30 a.m. Student Body Mass presented by Mrs. Schuette's 8th grade

Thursday, August 28

Mrs. Gordon's birthday

Friday, August 29

Spirit Day

Saturday, August 30

Mrs. Kenworthy's birthday

Upcoming Events

Monday, September 1

Labor Day - No School

Tuesday, September 2

6:30 p.m. Foundation Meeting

Wednesday, September 3

8:30 a.m. Student Body Mass presented by Ms. Hatfield's 6th grade

Friday, September 5

Teacher Inservice - No School

Saturday, September 6

Idaho Women's Conference

Home & School

St. Marks Home & School



**DISCOVER THE EXCITING YEAR WE HAVE
PLANNED FOR OUR FAMILIES AND STUDENTS!**

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH, 2025

Social Hour: 6:30 pm

Meeting Begins: 7:00 pm

Location: St. Marks Middle School

Food & Beverages: Free Babysitting: Raffle and Prizes

Contact: Kate Stanley at kate.dirocco@yahoo.com

Volunteer Opportunities

THE LUNCHROOM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS! Parents, grandparents...are all welcome to volunteer weekly, monthly, occasionally (must be SEW trained). Contact schooloffice@stmarksschoolboise.com with the dates you can volunteer to get signed up. Time volunteered counts toward your Volunteer Hours.

The lunchroom is looking for a consistent volunteer who can work in the lunchroom each day, between 11:00-12:30, to collect and enter lunches into the computer. Training will



be provided. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Mrs. Rivas at brivas@stmarksschoolboise.com.

Lunch Room Volunteers

NEXT WEEK'S LUNCH HELPERS

Monday (25)—Perez, Carroll, Corcoran

Tuesday (26)—

Wednesday (27)—LaMott, Martin

Thursday (28)—

Friday (29)—Antonoplos (2)

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 come into the School Office and sign up in the black "lunch" binder, call (208) 375-6654 or **email** to volunteer.

Daily Lunch Schedule: 11:15 a.m. (PS-2); 11:35 a.m. (3-5); 12:05 p.m. (6-8)

News



Back to School Night **Tuesday, August 26** **6:00-8:00 p.m.**

(Parents only please, no students)

6:00 - 6:20 p.m. - First Session - PreK - 5th

6:25 - 6:45 p.m. - Second Session - PreK - 5th

6:45 - 7:05 p.m. - Meet in gymnasium for introductions (school board, foundation, HSA, parish staff)

7:10 - 8:00 p.m. - Middle School parents meet in their child's homeroom class



Join us this weekend for this free, family-friendly event!

Students bring your remote-controlled car to race on the racetracks!

If your child has a medical appointment during the day, please make sure to get a school excuse to turn into the school office to document their time away from school.

Parents, if your child is absent from school, please either call the school at 208-375-6654 or e-mail the school office at schooloffice@stmarksschoolboise.com by 8:30 a.m. If we don't hear from you and your child is marked absent, you will receive an email to call the school office.



Advanced Orchestra and Choir Start September 2nd

Advanced Orchestra meets Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:20am–8:00am. This is open to 6th–8th graders who have some experience with a violin, viola, cello or bass.

Choir meets Mondays and Tuesdays from 3:00pm–3:45pm. This is open to any and all 5th–8th graders.

Any questions, please contact Lisa Cooper at lcooper@stmarksschoolboise.com

SNACK SHACK

Grab and go snacks are sold
every Monday at recess.

All items are \$1.00!



BEGINS MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8th



ART CLUB 2025–2026*



QUARTER 1

What is Art Club?

Art club is for students who wish to spend additional time on art through independent studies, team projects, new projects, or increased time to complete art class work. Possible projects include making an art journal and portfolio, making t-shirts, working with new techniques, and CERAMICS!!! A wide range of talents and abilities are welcome in art club. However, it is important for potential art club members to have a strong interest in art. They must also be able to work well with other members, follow instructions, and behave in a mature and appropriate manner. Students will have the opportunity to grow in their art skills and participate in a variety of projects using new skills and mediums.

Who: Students 5th grade and up

When: Thursdays during the school year unless otherwise noted (quarter 3&4 dates are subject to change)

Where: Ms. Hatfield's classroom

Time: 3:05-4:15 pm

Cost: \$110/quarter OR \$400 for entire year (nonrefundable)

We never want the cost to discourage students to participate. Scholarships are available if needed - Please contact the office for further information

Pickup Policy: Pickup is at 4:15 outside the middle school and students will be sent to homework club after 4:30



ART CLUB DATES*



Quarter 1	Quarter 2
August 28 September 4 September 11 September 25 October 2 October 9 October 16	Monday, November 3 November 6 November 13 November 20 December 4 December 11 December 18
Quarter 3	Quarter 4
January 15 January 22 January 29 February 5 February 12 February 19 February 26 March 5	March 26 April 2 April 9 April 16 April 23 April 30 May 7 May 14 (subject to change depending on end of year schedule)

**Should a class need to be cancelled, a makeup class will be offered on a Monday or Friday.*

*Application on back of page.



[Click here](#) to download the Art Club application.

Interested in Girl Scouts?

We are starting a
Daisy Troop for
Kindergarten and 1st
grade girls this fall.

Email bsperbeckl@gmail.com for more info.



Click here to email Mrs. Galas for more information.



Greetings Parents and Young Musicians!

I'm looking forward to directing
our young singers again for St. Mark's school Mass choir! Our rehearsals

will be on Wednesday mornings at 7:25 am in the school Chapel prior to Mass. It's important that students attend rehearsals if they would like to participate in the choir at Mass. Could you please let me know if your student would like to sing? I'll update our roster so that we can communicate any changes or reminders. Thank you!

The choir will be singing

*for the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass on **Friday** August 15th, so this will be our first Mass of the school year. We will meet at 7:25 in the school chapel prior to the 8:30 am Mass. Our Wednesday morning rehearsals will then begin the following week on August 20th.*

In Christ's Love,

Kris Foster
Director of Liturgy & Music
St. Mark's Catholic Community
kfoster@stmarksboise.org
208.375.6511
208.608.9769



Calling our adults!! Are you looking for a chance to be a part of the St. Mark's community? Do you like playing basketball in a low stress environment? Do you want to give back to St. Mark's school? We have a great opportunity. Starting August 31st, we will be running recreational "pick up" basketball games to anyone affiliated with St. Mark's school or the parish. For a \$5 drop in fee, you can come play "pick up" basketball, get some exercise and meet others in our community. 100% of proceeds will go back to St. Mark's school. Come join us from 12:30-2:30 on 8/31 after mass! For more information, please reach out to jamescjower@yahoo.com. More drop in basketball games will be scheduled in the near future!!

TVCS Events/Sports



Click here for the TVCS athletic schedule.

Preschool Happenings



Preschool has had a great first week! We are learning about school routines, rules, and how to be caring friends! Our preschoolers are especially enjoying the fun new playground equipment!



Church Connection

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

**Help us clean
the Church!**

**Fridays
3:15pm**

Light work, training provided

Students are welcome and time may count toward Community Service hours. Parents are responsible for transportation to the Church and students must be picked up by 3:45. and

Coffee Hour Lead needed

St. Mark's School parents have historically run one coffee hour a month, on the fourth Sunday morning, at St. Mark's church (throughout the school year- excluding December and May). Children are welcome to help. Training will be provided. Sunday mornings 8:30am-1pm.

Begins September 28th.

**If you are interested in volunteering please call
208-375-6654.**

The time spent qualifies as parish ministry hours toward Active Parishioner status. Time can also be claimed as volunteer hours.



Notes from the Nurse



The Saint Alphonsus School Health program will offer Vision Screenings the week of August 25th for **kindergarten, 1st, 3rd, 5th, and 7th grade students.**

This screening is performed by the school nurse with a Plusoptix Vision Screener from Envision. Your child will simply stand still and focus on the happy face printed on the front of the machine while it performs the reading.

IMPORTANT: The vision screening will **not** provide a diagnosis. The screening will provide a PASS or REFER result. You will receive a paper referral if your child received a REFER result.

Screenings are designed to determine if irregularities exist or are detected in the participants vision that should be referred for professional evaluation and further diagnostic consideration.

Screening Measurements:

Vision:

- Sphere- checking the participant for Hyperopia (farsighted), Myopia (nearsighted).
- Cylinder- checking the participant for astigmatism (corneal irregularity).
- Corneal reflex- checking the participant for symmetric reflexes (do the eyes work together).
- Pupil diameter- when the pupil in the right and left eye differ (inherited or symptom of eye disease may be present).

Vaccine clinic

10% off groceries with every immunization*

SKIP THE LINE!
SCAN TO MAKE
AN APPOINTMENT



Date: 10/09/2025

Time: 7:30am-9:30am

Location: St. Mark's

Additional Information:

- Pharmacist can administer age 6 mos and older
- Please provide a copy of insurance card(s)
- Wear a short sleeve shirt

Shots administered by the Pharmacy Team from your neighborhood



* Restrictions apply. Visit pharmacy for details.

ALBOM201079_Rx_FuGnc_ClinPier_V27_Vaccine_ORcode_10off_Bus_B3BOnly

Click on this link to download and complete the flu shot consent. The cost of the vaccine is free, but please attach a copy of your insurance card **Students not having consents will not be given a vaccine.**

Saint Alphonsus School Health Program

Through the St. Alphonsus School Health Program, Mrs. Lewchenko-Colin, our school nurse, is at St. Mark's on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Mrs. Placido, CNA, SASHP Assistant is here on Tuesdays.



Saint Alphonsus
SCHOOL HEALTH PROGRAM

Hello St. Mark's Families -

Welcome to the 2025 - 2026 school year!

I am very excited to be back as the School Counselor for St. Mark's and am excited to start this school year with all of the students! I am looking forward to working with you and your child(ren).

I began at St. Mark's three years ago and had previously been a teacher in the classroom for 11 years, having taught various grades. My husband and I have four daughters. Our oldest is a junior at the University of Miami, our second daughter just started as a freshman at TCU and our other two daughters attend Bishop Kelly.

My goal at St. Mark's is to help our students feel safe, welcome, connected and cared for while at school. I've found this is the best way to help students grow both academically and socially.

Our school counseling program provides services to help students learn and develop to their highest potential. Some of these services include:

- Classroom lessons to help students develop empathy, communication, problem solving and decision making skills
 - I will be using the Second Step curriculum and the Circle of Grace curriculum, as well as other Social Emotional Learning resources.
- Individual, short term counseling sessions to help students with academics, adjusting to school, social/emotional issues or dealing with specific problems they are experiencing
- Advocating for student needs and teaching students how to advocate for themselves
- Working collaboratively with teachers, parents and students to boost student success
- Providing support to teachers and faculty
- Providing community resources for children and families in need of support outside of our school

I encourage you to visit me at St. Mark's on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays. I can also be reached by email at slynch@stmarksschoolboise.com.

Sarah Lynch
School Counselor
St. Mark's Catholic School

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

Sarah Lynch, our school counselor, is at St. Mark's on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

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

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