

Volume 10, Issue 14-November 14, 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 Families and Friends of St. Mark's School

The readings for the coming weekend 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time are given to us from Malachi, Paul's Second Letter to the Thesalonians, and from Luke's Gospel account.

A primary theme that links all three readings is one of **perseverance**. This is the first of our five character traits that we emphasize in our St. Mark's school culture. (P. R. I. D. E.) To persevere in difficult times is the mark of a person of superior character. To continue forward towards a goal when the way is challenging and uncertain....indicates a person of quality. Someone we can rely upon.

Our Lord teaches his disciples and us today that persevering in following His way is the pathway to a life of merit and worth. Its reward is eternal life with Father, Our Savior, the Holy Spirit, and all the hosts of heaven. Those unfamiliar with Him, and those who live in denial of His sovereignty and His mercy may mock us and ridicule us for following Him. But their lives of ignorance and foolishness are to be pitied. We should strive to live the truth of Christ and the teachings of His Church so that all may find their way to Him. Our daily efforts to persevere in living our Faith serve to welcome others to inquire about our confidence and joy. Then, when asked, we are able to point to Jesus, and explain our confidence does not come from worldly attachments or human endeavor. Rather, we are confident in the promises of a loving Father, and His son our Lord Jesus Christ.

Together we Rise,

Fr. John

Letter from our Principal

Dear St. Mark's Families,

What a blessed week we had at St. Mark's. We began on Monday with a visit

from Sister Joachim, who shared beautiful stories about working alongside Mother Teresa and her ministry with Mission of Hope. Her witness was truly inspiring. On Wednesday, we celebrated a wonderful Thanksgiving feast together. We have so much to be grateful for! Thank you to Mrs. Godfrey, Mrs. Cox, our 8th graders, and all of our parent and grandparent volunteers who made it such a special event. We ended the week with Adoration led by Father John, who then visited classrooms.



Today marks the halfway point of the second quarter. Progress reports have been submitted and are now available to view in your Family Portal. If you have any questions or concerns about your child's progress, please don't hesitate to reach out to their teacher.

I am so excited for the community-filled weekend ahead. On Saturday, we have ourRake Up St. Mark's service day, with more than 40 families signed up to help beautify our school and church grounds. On Sunday, we will host the 11:00 a.m. Mass, followed by our annual Fall Carnival from 12:30 - 2:30. It will be a beautiful weekend of community, fellowship, fun, and rising together. God bless,



Thank you to Mrs. Gordon and Mrs. Erin Martin on Catholic Schools Principal/Vice Principal Appreciation Day on Thursday, November 20. We love you and are so thankful for all you do for our students and our school.



Donna

Policy Highlight

Click to learn more about the Idaho Parental Choice Tax Credit

Everyone is encourage to apply. Families meeting income level qualifications will be awarded funds first, then funds will be dispersed to remaining applicants.

TAP accounts must be set up by December 1st in order to apply for the tax credit.



As mentioned at Back-to-School Night, one way we can live out our theme "**Together We Rise**" is through open communication. To support this, we've introduced the Rise & Share Google Form.

Rise & Share Google Form

Here's how it works:

- If you have a question or concern and prefer to share it through the form, Mrs. Gordon will check responses every morning.
- If you'd like a reply, you can include your contact information, and Mrs. Gordon will respond as soon as possible.



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.

Upcoming Dates

11/16- Sunday: Student Sponsored Mass (4th & 5th grades) @ 11:00am

11/19- Wednesday: Student Mass @ 8:30am hosted by Mrs. Pilch's 2nd grade

11/19- Wednesday: 7th Grade Teaching Mass with Fr. John @ 8:15am

12/4- Thursday: School Advent Retreat: Prepare the Way Together

7th grade parents, please join us for a Teaching Mass with Fr. John

Where: St. Mark's School Chapel

When: Wednesday, November 19th at 815am
Who: Both 7th grade classes and their families

Fr. John will walk through the Holy Mass step by step explaining the history and meaning of the gestures and symbols we see. Students are encouraged to ask questions while participating in the Mass.

School Hosted Mass Sunday, Nov. 16th at 11am

School Fall Carnival 12:30pm-2:30pm

Parent Prayer Group

Every Wednesday 8:10-8:25am

Church Resurrection Room
Across from the parish office

St. Mark's parents warmly invite you to join them in prayer prior to our Student Body Mass.

All are welcome!

Volunteers Needed for Advent Retreat



Thursday, December 4th

We are looking for volunteers to help at morning or afternoon shifts.

Can't make it day of? No problem! We also have craft materials that need to be prepared ahead of time that you can take home.

Please click HERE to learn more and sign up.



We are partnering with St. Vincent de Paul to help collect new winter hats, scarves and gloves for those in need in our community. Please consider donating this winter season if you are able. A collection

box will be available near the school entrance.

Teen Gifts



We are also collecting stocking stuffers for teens. Please see the list of suggestions below.

- . Jewelry
- Makeup
- . Cologne
- Keychains
- . Portable speaker
- Fidgets
- . Card games
- . Scrunchies
- Wallets
- Pens
- . Ear buds
- Markers

Student Spotlight













In the tradition of our school, our 8th graders helped serve food to parents and students during our Thanksgiving Feast.

Lion Pride Recognition



SAINT MARK'S

Congratulations to this week's winners:

Declan L (2), Grant W (2), Sutton H, Connor D, Sybil B, Hank W, Charlotte S, Henry R, Brynlee B, Emma B, Quan P, Lincoln R-P, Nora B, Beauden D, Jane N, Eleanor A, Charlotte S

Weekly Calendar

Saturday, November 15

Rake Up St. Mark's

Sunday, November 16

11:00 a.m. Student Sponsored Mass by 4th & 5th grades 12:30 p.m. Alternate First Communion Parent Meeting 12:30-2:30 p.m. School Fall Carnival

Wednesday, November 19

8:30 a.m. Student Body Mass presented by Mrs. Pilch's 2nd grade 7th grade Teaching Mass in School Chapel

Thursday, November 20

Catholic Schools Principal/Vice Principal Appreciation Day 8th grade Legacy Wreath pickup at Donoghue Hall

Friday, November 21

Spirit Day

Saturday, November 22

Church Thanksgiving Basket Collection

Sunday, November 23

Church Thanksgiving Basket Collection

Upcoming Events

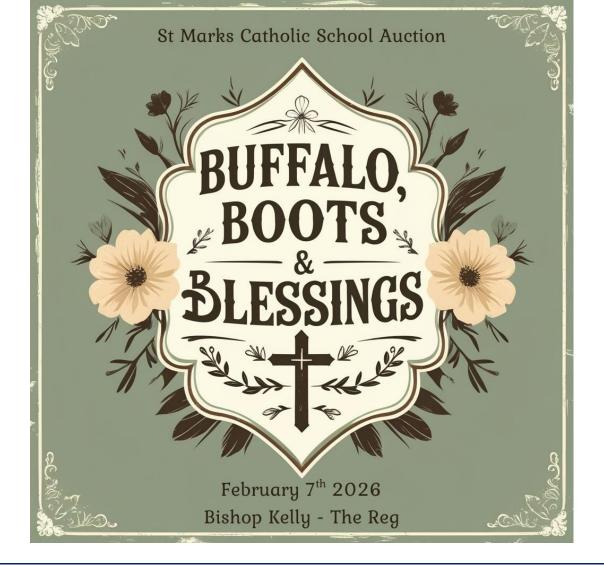
Monday, November 24 - Friday, November 28

Thanksgiving Break

Thursday, December 4 - School-Wide Advent Retreat. Square One Art orders are due.



Home & School



St. Mark's Home & School Annual CHRISTMAS CARD ART CONTEST





DUE: DECEMBER 1



The Home & School association needs help creating their Christmas card!

Three winning pieces of art will be featured on the H&S cards which will be sent to school patrons this holiday season.

EVERY STUDENT WHO ENTERS WILL GET (1) FREE DRESS PASS!

CONTEST RULES:

- Students K-8 are eligible to participate
- Artwork must be 8.5"x 11"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 patterns with lots of contrast copy the best onto cards)
- Include the artist's name and grade on the back
- Each student may submit only one (1) entry

- Artwork must be turned into the school office by 3pm on Monday, December 1, 2025
- Entries will be judged on content and artistry by the H&S Board
- One (1) winner will be chosen from each of the following three age groups: K-2nd, 3rd-5th, 6th-8th
- Contest winners will be announced by December 15
- All artwork submitted will be displayed at school during the month of December
- The three (3) winners will receive 12 Christmas cards with their own artwork on it to send to their families

Questions? Contact Brett Packard at brettonpackard@gmall.com

Every student who enters gets a free dress pass, 1 entry per student.



ST. MARK'S SCHOOL

25% OF EVENT SALES GET DONATED TO THE CAUSE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10TH | 5-9PM 205 N MILWAUKEE ST, BOISE, ID, 83704

ORDER ONLINE FOR PICKUP USING CODE YMPZ2Y9
OR SHOW THIS FLYER IN RESTAURANT



For online orders to count towards the fundraiser, they must be placed for pickup only from the restaurant location of, and during the hours of, the fundraiser. Delivery orders and gift cards do not qualify. \$150 minimum event sales required to receive any donation.

Volunteer Opportunities

TO VOLUNTEER IN ANY CAPACITY AT ST. MARK'S SCHOOL,
YOU MUST TAKE A LIVE SEW CLASS AND PASS A BACKGROUND CHECK.

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.



On Wednesdays walking to and from Student Body Mass, we can always use volunteers to walk with our classes. Please stop by the School Office on any Wednesday morning that you can help and you will be given instructions.

Do you have a marketing background? We are looking for help on our school's marketing committee. Please email Donna Gordon if you are willing to share your expertise with our school community. dgordon@stmarksschoolboise.com.

Lunch Room Volunteers

NEXT WEEK'S LUNCH HELPERS

Monday (17)—Carroll, Perez, Antonoplos, Berkoff Tuesday (18)—
Wednesday (19)—LaMott, Chavier, Hudspeth Thursday (20)—
Friday (21)—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 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



St. Mark's School Carnival

is on Sunday, November 16 from 12:30-2:30 p.m. in the elementary hall. Cost is \$20 per family, all activities included. \$3 hot dog meal, \$4 hamburger meal, \$1 popcorn or cotton candy.









Thank you to Mrs. Godfrey, Mrs. Cox, Mrs. Rivas, the 8th graders and all the volunteers who helped put on our Thanksgiving Feast. We are grateful to all the parents who attended and brightened the day of our students.

Thanksgiving Break is Monday, November 24-Friday, November 28.

Rake Up St. Mark's

is coming on Saturday, November 15 from 9:00 a.m.-Noon.

- Click here to sign up.
- This is a family fun event students earn Community Service Hours and Parents earn Volunteer Hours.
- Bring your rakes, gloves, blowers and other yard equipment.





Dear Saint Mark's Parents.

Each fall, students Kinder - 7th grades create an original work of art for our annual Square 1 Art fundraiser. The funds generated from this event go directly toward supplies for our amazing art program at Saint Mark's! Every little bit helps, and your participation is greatly appreciated.

Coming home to you today or Monday will be your child's custom catalog for the Square 1 Art fundraiser. Square 1 Art has provided your student with a digitized version of their artwork with a personalized QR code.

Free stickers included!

Follow the QR code to the online store where you can find everything from Christmas ornaments to pillowcases, quilt squares to mousepads and everything in between. The products this company delivers are always high quality. Showcasing your child's artwork in your home is a very rewarding experience for you and your child.

Orders due by: 12/4/2025

Please consider ordering soon to insure items will arrive before the holidays!

*Ship to Home FREE. (*Customer pays a small processing fee at checkout and order ships to home.)

If needed, simply search for your child's art using **Art Search**, and enter state, school name, and your student's name. Your student's art and code will appear, and you may order!

You can upload additional art, using **Art Upload!** Be sure to add this to our fundraiser!

If you have questions, or need anything at all, please contact me at karentz@stmarksschoolboise.com

Thank you for supporting Saint Mark's Catholic School!

Katie Arentz, Saint Mark's Art Teacher (K - 7th)

square1art.com/shop



Mrs. Cooper's Christmas Orchestra and Choir Concerts

Orchestra only

Dec 10th 6:30call - 7pm Performance @ BK - Performs with the BK Orchestra

Attire: White long sleeve shirt, black pants or skirt with black leggings and black shoes. Black bow ties for boys

Choir only

Dec 5th 6:30pm @ St. Mark's Church - Advent Concert rehearsal

Dec 6th 6:30pm @ St. Mark's Church - Advent Concert performance

Attire: White long sleeve shirt, black pants or skirt with black leggings and black shoes. Black bow ties for boys

Both Orchestra and Choir with K-5th

Dec 15th 1:00pm Dress Rehearsal - St. Mark's Church

Dec 15th 6:15pm call, 6:30pm Christmas Concert - St. Mark's Church

Attire: White long sleeve shirt, black pants or skirt with black leggings and black shoes. Red, green or black bow ties for boys. Christmas accessories - vests, ties, hats, scarves, hair/headbands, jewelry.

This year's Christmas Program, featuring K-5, Advanced Orchestra and School Choir, is set for Monday, December 15 @ 6:30 p.m. at St. Mark's Church.





Ms. Hatfield, MS and Art Club teacher, is asking for donations of rolling pins and 12" pvc pipes for art projects. Please deliver the items to the School Office.

Art Website

featuring art from Mrs. Arentz's and Ms. Hatfield's art classes Click on this link weekly to view student works of art

https://sites.google.com/stmarksschoolboise.com/smk8thart/saint-marks-school-art





Kindergarten and 7th grade pumpkin drawings.

office. In order to submit an entry, parents must complete and return the **Consent Form**. Deadline is November 17.



TVCS Events/Sports



Click here for the TVCS athletic schedule.

TVCS Ski and Snowboarding Club

TVCS is excited to offer a Ski and Snowboarding Club to our students this winter. The program is run through Bogus Basin School Race Program.

Kelli Jeffress will be our TVCS middle school moderator.

The TVCS Ski and Snowboarding Club will partner with the Bishop Kelly Ski and Snowboarding Club.

The race program is held six (6) consecutive Saturdays beginning January 10, 2026. Students that compete in three (3) of six (6) race days are eligible to compete in the annual Dotty Clark Memorial Races. Race schedule is below:

- Race #1 | January 10th
- Race #2 (Snow Dance Party) | January 17th
- Race #3 | January 24th
- Race #4 | January 31st
- Race #5 (St. Luke's Helmet Decorating Contest) | February 7th
- Race #6 | February 14th
- Dotty Clark Championship | February 20th
- Dotty Clark Championship | February 21st

Students are able to race in a variety of events against participants of the same ability. Events include Nordic, Slalom and Freestyle. You do not have to be an expert skier to join the club. Registration levels include beginner, intermediate and expert. Students are responsible for their own transportation.

To join the club, please register through the <u>TVCS website</u> as well as enroll in the <u>Bogus Basin School Race Program</u>. Please select "middle school registration". To search for our school, please look under "C" to find Catholic Schools Middle School.

While the TVCS Ski and Snowboarding Club is not an officially sanctioned activity through IHSAA, all policies and expectations found in the TVCS Handbook apply.

https://bbsrp.com/registrationTutorial - How to Register

Every year is a huge undertaking to have everyone register on BOTH websites!!

You can reach out Coach Kelli at **Kelli.jeffress@gmail.com** email.

Below is a message from Bogus Basin High School Race Program. Some of the information may be redundant.

Advisers,

Thanks to Jerod Hatley the student registration for the 2026 Season is now open. Parents can go to **bbsrp.com** or the Bogus Basin website to register their students or this

link: Home page - Bogus Basin School Race Program

- A parent or guardian must register their student unless the student is 18 years of age or older.
- Path on the Bogus Basin website: Across the top look for Your Mountain then go to About Bogus the to Competitive Education and scroll down Bogus Basin School Race Program

Thanks to the Bogus Basin Marketing Department, Ty Schmidt and Dan Drlik we will have a link on our website describing how Freestyle is scored and a great video of what Freestyle is about.

Let's get this snowball rolling! John Foley Race Coordinator Bogus Basin School Race Program 208 870-4488

Preschool Happenings



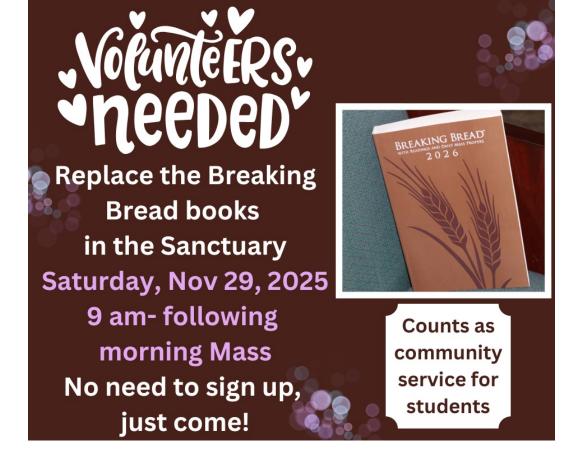


We were blessed to have Adoration with our precious Lord. Fr. John lovingly brought Jesus to each of our students and gently told them that Jesus loved them. Grateful & Blessed!



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.



Notes from the Nurse

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, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and Mrs. Placido, CNA, SASHP Assistant is here on Thursdays.



Notes from the Counselor





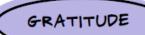
Chances are, you are breathing very shallow in your chest right now. Stop yourself and take some deep belly breaths. Watch your stomach rise and fall. Fill it up like a balloon. This signals to your limbic system that you are safe and everything is ok.



Nothing lasts forever. This feeling you are having right now will not last. This bad day you are having won't last. Remember, you will feel better soon and this bad day will be a distant memory. Think back to another time when you had a bad day and remind yourself how you got through it.



Repeat to yourself "I will accept the things I cannot change". There is a sense of relief when we admit that no matter how hard we try, we can't control most of life's conditions.



Remind yourself about the things that <u>are</u> going well in your life. List things that you are grateful for. Keeping your brain focused on the positive will shift your mood.



Plan something to look forward to such as hanging out with friends, visiting relatives, going somewhere. Or plan some self-care activities such as painting your nails, taking a bubble bath, watching your favorite movie and eating your favorite snack.

© School Counseling Essentials

Sarah Lynch, St. Mark's School Counselor

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.



Try email marketing for free today!