

Volume 10, Issue 10-October 17, 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

In the Gospel reading from this upcoming weekend 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time, we receive our Lord's teaching on the power of prayer. More than the power, it is the daily necessity to be in unity and conversation...aka prayer...with the Triune God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. As Catholics, we also acknowledge the importance and utility of praying to the "great cloud of witnesses" of the many Saints who have gone before us and now rest in God's glory.

Even the most child-like prayer, if offered authentically, is joyously received by our Lord.

Below is a poem by Sarah Louisa Forten that offers a nice reflection on this daily expression of our Faith. Let us pray......

This sacred right none are denied, Which makes the soul to Christ allied; Man bends the heart and bows the knee. And knows in prayer that he is free. Yes, free to ask of Him, whate'er The fainting heart alone can cheer; To worship at that holy shrine, Where beams thy Spirit, Lord, divine. And the world's children they are free, To breathe their vows, their prayers to Thee; With thought of future joy and gain, The sufferer forgets his grief and pain. Forgets a while his bonded fear; Forgets,-the struggles blind him here; And in that sweet communion rest His hopes, his fears,-for he is blest.

Fr. Mosier

Letter from our Principal

Dear St. Mark's Families,

As hard as it is to believe, we have reached the end of the first quarter! Your children should be very proud of their efforts and growth. We sincerely thank you for your continued support and partnership. We truly honor your role as your child's first educator and are grateful that you entrust them to our care each day.

Parent-Teacher Conferences are next week!

- Preschool through 5th Grade: Please sign up for a time slot using the conference link provided.
- Middle School Parents: Conferences will take place in an open format in the gym. Parents may stop by during conference hours to speak with their child's teachers.

Before conferences, please take a moment to review your child's grades in your Family Portal and come prepared with any questions. We look forward to meeting with you and continuing to strengthen our partnership in your child's learning and faith journey.

Virtue of the Quarter: Justice

On Wednesday, we honored 24 recipients of the Virtue of the Quarter certificates. Each quarter we focus on one of the four Cardinal Virtues—Justice, Prudence, Temperance, and Fortitude.

This quarter's virtue, Justice, calls us to give to God and others what is rightly due to them, treating each person with fairness, kindness, and respect. Many other virtues hinge on Justice—such as empathy, courtesy, generosity, gratitude, kindness, loyalty, and obedience.

It was beautiful to see so many parents attend Mass in support of their child. Next quarter, our focus will be on Temperance.

In This Week's Friday Facts

Be sure to review this edition for details on:

- Conference link and schedule
- Book Fair hours
- Student Council's BOO Grams for a little Halloween fun.
- Red Ribbon Week dress-up days for the week of October 27th

Thank you for your continued prayers, encouragement, and partnership.

Together, we rise in faith and excellence.

Mrs. Gordon

School dismisses at noon on Thursday, October 23 for Parent/Teacher Conferences.

Please be prompt picking your students at noon.





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.

Spirituality Spotlight

Upcoming Dates

10/19- Sunday: 6th grade Student Sponsored Mass @ 8:30am

10/19- Sunday: Alternate First Communion Parent Meeting @ 6:30-7:30pm

10/13- Monday: Monday morning prayer @ 8am

10/15- Wednesday: Student Body Mass @ 8:30am hosted by Miss Eaton's 4th grade

10/15- Wednesday: 5th Grade Teaching Mass with Fr. John @ 8:15am

5th grade parents, please join us for a Teaching Mass with Fr. John

Where: St. Mark's School Chapel

When: Wednesday, October 22nd at 815am

Who: Both 5th 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.

Father John surprised Miss Smith's class with a visit during Catechesis of the Good Shepherd this week. The children asked thoughtful questions and had lots to share!



Parent
Prayer Group

October 22nd 8:10-8:25am Resurrection Room >>> LORD, -<--LET THEM SEE YOU IN ME.

Monday Rosary

Every Monday morning at 8am

Join us on the playground every Monday in October as we pray a decade of the Rosary as our morning prayer.

Parents are always
welcome to join for
Monday morning prayer
and announcements on the
school blacktop.

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

All are welcome!

Student Spotlight

Virtue of the 1st Quarter - Justice (Empathy)

Courtesy, Generosity, Gratitude, Kindness, Loyalty, Obedience, Patriotism, Prayerfulness, Respect, Responsibility, Sincerity, Trustworthiness

JUSTICE DEFINITION: Giving to each, beginning with God, what is due him

PRAYER FOR JUSTICE: Dear Jesus, You are the Author of all life, and I give You praise. Help me see and serve You in everyone I meet today.



Congratulations to this quarter's winners: Isla Aldecoa, Macy Karangwa, Adalaine Corcoran, Sutton Huttash, Rosie Reneau, Jackson Marshall, Adalaide Brown, Mariana Furphy, Maika Peko, Sawyer Huttash, Sawyer Crawford, Michael Figearo, Noah Molina, Mary Callihan, Aubrianna Smith, Raquel Callejas-Rodriguez, Faith Hankel, Max Bauer, Genevieve Scott, Joe Joe Baca, Otto Speck, Micah Bradley, Walter Cook, Colin Kirkham

Lion Pride Recognition

THE STATE OF THE S	The second second second	PRI	IDE		F	Practice SMAKES OAINTS
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	PLAYGROUND Be Safe Obey the Rules Play Fair Share Space & Equipment Be a Good Sport	BATHROOMS 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 Cooporate 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 Strine 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



Congratulations to this week's winners:

Connor L, Sutton H, Emery Y, Catalina C, Quincy S, Marshall B, Marley N, Maddie B, Bennett L, Grant W, Georgia B, Hank W, Jo G, Alexei B, Sybil B, Hank W, Grant W, Cailyn J, Kinsley P, Aven R, Amaia W, Jensen S, Evelyn W, Vince A, Richard H, Joseph F, George W, Lucas L, Amelia M, Katherine B, Micah B, Makenzie C, Penny G

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, October 19

8:30 a.m. Student Sponsored Mass hosted by 6th grade 12:30 p.m. Alternate First Communion Parent Meeting

Monday, October 20

School Bus Safety Week Book Fair

Tuesday, October 21

Book Fair

Wednesday, October 22

8:30 a.m. Student Body Mass presented by Ms. Eaton's 4th grade Book Fair 5th grade Teaching Mass

Thursday, October 23

3:00-7:00 p.m. Parent/Teacher Conferences - Noon Dismissal Book Fair

Friday, October 24

8:00 a.m.-Noon Parent/Teacher Conferences - No School Book Fair

Upcoming Events

Monday, October 27

Red Ribbon Week

Wednesday, October 29

8:30 a.m. Student Body Mass presented by Ms. Murray's 3rd grade Saints Dress Up Day for Halloween/All Saints Day (no Halloween costumes allowed)

Thursday, October 30

St. John Henry Newman Conference—No School

Friday, October 31

Happy Halloween

St. John Henry Newman Conference—No School

Home & School

This year's Dinner Auction "Buffalo, Boots and Blessings" takes place on Saturday, February 7, 2026. It will be held in Donoghue Hall (at the church). Money raised from Paddles Up will go towards a new playground.



Volunteer Opportunities

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



St. Mark's Book Fair runs Monday, October 20 - Friday, October 24 (yes, during Parent/Teacher Conferences). Volunteers are needed to help set up on Friday, October 17, through the week to sell books, then tear down on Friday, October 24. Click here to sign up to help. A great way to get those Volunteer Hours!

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.

Library Helpers (Parent Volunteers) are needed during the following times:

Tuesdays @ 1:30-3:00 p.m. Wednesdays @ 11:15 am.-1:15 p.m. and 1:15-2:45 p.m. Thursdays @ 9:00-11:15 a.m.

Contact Mrs. Rosania at brosania@stmarksschoolboise.com.



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.

Lunch Room Volunteers

NEXT WEEK'S LUNCH HELPERS

Monday (20)—Perez, Carroll, Glasgow Tuesday (21)—Antonoplos Wednesday (22)—LaMott, McDonald, Aldecoa, Chavier

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.

<u>News</u>



It's Parent/Teacher Conference time. For parents of students in grades PK-5, you can sign up for your conference times through our PTCFast link. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet with your child's teacher and discuss their progress.

Note for Middle School Parents:

Conferences will be held in an open forum in the gymnasium during conference hours. There is no need to sign up, and you will be able to meet with teachers at your convenience during the scheduled times. Thursday, October 23 and Friday, October 24.

Child care **WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE** on Thursday, October 23 during Parent/Teacher Conferences because the gym will be used for conferences.



During Parent/Teacher Conferences, please check the piles of items in Lost and Found and claim all the items you didn't know you were missing.

Book Fair

Dates and Times Open for Business

<u>Monday,</u> <u>October 20</u>	<u>Tuesday,</u> October 21	<u>Wednesday,</u> <u>October 22</u>	<u>Thursday,</u> October 23	<u>Friday,</u> <u>October 24</u>
9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	10:00 - 11:30 a.m.	10:00 - 11:50 a.m.	9:15 - 11:30 a.m.	8:00 a.m. – Noon during P/T Conferences
1:00 – 3:30 p.m.	1:30 – 3:30 p.m.	12:30 – 3:30 p.m.	3:00 – 7:00 p.m. during P/T Conferences	



Thank you to the Go Therapy dogs who visited several of our students this week. They will return soon to visit the students who did not get to see them.

Bear, Jazz, Chewbacca, Eli, Ari and Pickett were our visitors















Thank you to Mrs. Godfrey and Mrs. Cox for their work in our lunchroom preparing and serving lunches during National School Lunch Week. We also recognize our volunteers who help out in the lunchroom during the week. Thank you!











BUY YOUR BOO GRAMS BEFORE OR AFTER SCHOOL MONDAY, OCTOBER 20th TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21st



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22nd

GRAMS WILL ALSO BE SOLD DURING PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES



ART CLUB 2025-2026





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 of year (nonrefundable) 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 \$320 for rest

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 5 minutes

ART CLUB DATES*

Quarter 2

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.

Click here to download the Art Club application. Applications are due by Wednesday, October 29!

^{*}Application on back of page.

ST. MARK'S RED RIBBON WEEK 2025

MON. 10/27

RALLY AGAINST DRUGS AND WEAR RED!

WEAR RED SHIRTS, RED SWEATSHIRTS, RED PANTS, RED SHORTS AND RED SWEATS.

JEANS ALSO ALLOWED. ATTIRE MUST BE SCHOOL APPROPRIATE.

LEGGINGS ARE NOT ALLOWED.

TUES. 10/28

TEAM UP AGAINST DRUGS!

REPRESENT HIGH SCHOOL, COLLEGE OR PROFESSIONAL SPORTS TEAMS.

JEANS AND SWEATS ALLOWED. ATTIRE MUST BE SCHOOL APPROPRIATE.

LEGGINGS ARE NOT ALLOWED.

WED. 10/29



DRESS AS YOUR FAVORITE SAINT OR MASS DRESS.

DRESS LIKE A SAINT - NOT WHAT YOUR PATRON SAINT REPRESENTS.





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



We are in search of a Part-Time Middle School Spanish Teacher beginning 2nd semester (January).

Job Requirements:

- · Bachelor's Degree in Education and/or Spanish
- · Current Idaho teaching certificate (or the ability to obtain one) with appropriate endorsements (preferred)

How to Apply:

Please submit to Donna Gordon - dgordon@stmarksschoolboise.com:

- · Resume
- · Completed Diocesan Application

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. Our next adult recreational "pick up" basketball game is open 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 on Sundays (10/12 & 10/19), from 12:30-2:30pm after mass. For more information, please reach out to jamescjower@yahoo.com.

Catholic Charities of Idaho 2025 Christmas Card Contest

Who?

Any student currently enrolled in St. Mark's, St. Paul's, St. Joe's and Holy Spirit Catholic Elementary Schools (Grades K-8)

What?

Catholic Charities of Idaho (CCI) will feature a Catholic School student's original artwork on the cover of our 2025 annual Christmas Card sent to CCI donors, supporters and partners.

When?

We will accept card entries until 12:00pm on Friday, November 14, 2025.

How to Create:

- Artwork must be an original creation of the student.
- Art may be done using colored pencils, crayons, ink, or markers.
- Artwork must be done on 5 x 7 card stock which will be provided by CCI and can be obtained from your school office.
- Please limit the words in the drawing. CCI will add a Christmas message to the interior of the card.
- Artwork should express the Christian meaning of Christmas.

How to Submit:

- Students may submit only one piece of artwork.
- Attach the entry/consent form with a paperclip to the artwork submission.
- Submit the artwork entry and consent form to your school office.
- Rules of Entry: Submissions will become the property of Catholic Charities of Idaho.

Judging and Selection of Winner: All entries will be judged by a panel of judges based on the following criteria:

- Artistic merit
- Creativity
- Message communication and theme
- Expression of the Christian meaning of Christmas.
- · Adherence to the rules

Contest Prizes:

1st Place:

- Artwork featured on front cover of 2024 Catholic Charities of Idaho Christmas Card
- \$75 cash prize
- 20 award-winning Christmas cards featuring his/her artwork.
- Featured on CCI Website and posted on CCI social media pages.
- Featured on article in the Idaho Catholic Register

2nd Place:

- Artwork featured on back cover of 2024 CCI Christmas Card
- \$50 cash prize
- Featured on CCI website and posted on CCI social media pages.

3rd Place:

- Artwork featured on back cover of 2024 CCI Christmas Card
- \$25 cash prize
- Featured on CCI Website and posted on CCI social media pages.

Click on link for consent form - Parent/Legal Guardian Written Consent to participate in the 2025 CCI Christmas Card Contest

RUN FOR GOLD!

FUN RUN FUNDRAISER FOR CAMP RAINBOW GOLD

SUNDAY 19 OCTOBER, 2025

START AT 09:00 AM | CHECK IN STARTS AT 8:15

MEET AT JULIA DAVIS CELEBRATION PAVILLION

TICKETS: FREE!
100% DONATION BASED

2 MILE GREENBELT LOOP!







My daughter has organized a Fun Run to support Camp Rainbow Gold.

We would love for you to join us at this family-friendly event on: Sunday, October 19th @ 9:00am
Julia Davis Celebration Pavilion
Tickets are free!

Please see the attached flyer for details.

Please sign up using this Eventbrite Link.

100% of donations will go directly to Camp Rainbow Gold to help fund programs for patients with pediatric cancer.

Elise Slattery

Looking for a new home - Kawai CN33 digital piano, purchased new about 10 years ago. Free, although you must be able to move it. Click on this link to Contact the donor family.



TVCS Events/Sports



Click here for the TVCS athletic schedule.

Preschool Happenings







Our little ones have learned so much this first quarter of school. Here are a few pictures of us at work!



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.

Breakfast items needed!

St. Mark's School parents,

We are in need of donuts, cookies and pastries!

Please drop them off at the St. Mark's Church office before school gets out next Thursday!

We are hosting Coffee Hour, the morning of October 26th

Want to participate?
Please reach out to Sabrina at 208-789-5622

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







Notes from the Nurse

PREPARING AND RESPONDING TO MEASLES: Checklist for K-12 Schools



WHY SHOULD K-12 SCHOOLS PREPARE FOR MEASLES?

Measles is caused by a highly contagious virus that spreads through the air when an infected person coughs or sneezes. If one person has measles, up to 9 in 10 people nearby will become infected if they are not protected through vaccination or previous infection.

Measles can spread quickly in schools because students and staff spend a lot of time in close contact, and outbreaks can result in time out of school that disrupts learning.

Measles is more than just a rash — it can cause serious health complications and even death. About 1 in 5 people who get measles will be hospitalized. The best protection is the measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine.

The risk for widespread measles in the U.S. remains low. However, measles cases occur in the U.S. every year when unvaccinated travelers get measles while they are in other countries and return to the U.S. Outbreaks also occur when measles spreads in under-vaccinated communities. Anyone without immunity to measles is at risk. 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

5 Calming Strategies That Work in the Moment

When emotions run high, the goal isn't to fix it — it's to help the brain feel safe again. These strategies help calm the amygdala and bring the body back to balance.

BREATHE SLOW AND LONG

Try "in for 4, out for 6."
Long exhales tell the brain: You're safe now.

GROUND THROUGH THE SENSES

Name what you can see, hear, touch, smell, and taste.
It brings attention away from worry and back to the present.

In the Moment

MOVE IT OUT

Gentle rocking, stretching, or walking helps release stress energy stored in the body.

CONNECT AND CO-REGULATE

A calm voice, soft tone, or quiet presence helps the nervous system mirror safety..

REPEAT SOMETHING RHYTHMIC

Drum fingers, tap gently, hum, or doodle. Predictable rhythm steadies the heartbeat and calms the mind.

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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.

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

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