

Volume 10, Issue 6- September 19, 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 families.

This weekend's Gospel reading from Luke is a story about the dishonest steward. Our Lord is using a parable, a story that teaches a lesson, to guide us in to right thinking about the pursuit of material gain...and more importantly of being trustworthy.



At first read, it may seem as if Jesus is suggesting that we His followers should embrace the ways of the secular, God denying world. Or, that we should focus our efforts in material gain.

Not so. Jesus is using the story to highlight that this dishonest man, realizing his thievery and misdeeds had been discovered, then cleverly negotiates agreements with those who are indebted to the rich man the steward serves. Jesus is not suggesting that we His followers should ever be dishonest, rather, that we should be aware of the world's cleverness, and be situationally aware that even those who claim Christ as Lord and Savior may act in dishonest ways contrary to Christ's teaching. We need to be aware of our own human frailty and imperfections when we do the same.

By walking in Faith, but being trustworthy in small matters of Faith (i.e. daily attention to prayer, attendance at Mass, seeking other's true good and wellbeing) we are welcomed into matters of greater trust and significance.

Together We Rise,

"Fadda" John

Letter from our Principal

God is good!

This week was packed with learning, fun, and P.R.I.D.E. Our students truly lived out our values:



- **Perseverance** as we completed our MAP tests,
- **Respect** during our teaching Mass with Father John in the chapel,
- **Integrity** when a student noticed answers to an assignment were visible and immediately notified the teacher,
- **Discipleship** by showing kindness to a brand new student, and
- **Excellence** as we worked together to successfully meet our reading goals.

Today, progress reports were posted in your family portal in FACTS. To view your child's report:

1. Log in to your FamilyPportal.
2. Click the **Students** tab on the left.
3. Select **Grades**.
4. Along the top of the page, click the middle tab labeled **Mid-Term Progress Report**.

If you have more than one child enrolled, use the drop-down menu to select each child. Please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's teachers with any questions or concerns.

How We Rise

A beautiful example of how we live out Together We Rise took place this week as our 6th graders returned from their week-long trip to the McCall Outdoor Science School. This experience was only possible because of the many people who supported it: our Home and School Association and your generosity at the annual dinner auction, Miss Hatfield and Miss Huss for their planning and organization, and our parents who gave up their week to chaperone. What a blessing to rise together in faith, learning, and community!

I look forward to seeing you all at the parish picnic tomorrow evening following the 7th and 8th grade-hosted Mass at 5:00. This is always a wonderful evening of fellowship and fun!

"Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing."
—1 Thessalonians 5:11

Blessings,

Donna Gordon



Policy Highlight - Tardies

The tardy bell rings at 8:05 a.m. Please make every effort to have your child at school on time. Arriving on time is an important life skill, and it also prevents teachers from having to delay or reteach lessons.

So far this year, we have already issued over 300 tardy slips—and we would love to see that number decrease significantly! As a reminder, for every three tardies in a quarter, parents will be asked to choose between a \$10 tardy fee or having their child serve a lunchroom detention.

Thank you for partnering with us to build good habits and keep our classrooms running smoothly.

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](#)



Our 6th graders left for MOSS on Monday morning and arrived back safely today. Ask any 6th grader how their week was and you will learn so much from their experience. Thank you to Home & School for offering this opportunity to our students.

Spirituality Spotlight

Upcoming Dates

9/20- Saturday: Parish Picnic and School hosted Mass @ 5:00pm

9/24- Wednesday: Student Body Mass @ 8:30am hosted by Mrs. Martin's 7th grade

9/24- Wednesday: 2nd grade teaching Mass with Fr. Celestine @ 8:15am



Parent Prayer Group

Wednesday, Sept. 24th

8:10-8:25am

Resurrection Room

St. Mark's parents warmly invite you to join them in prayer prior to our Student Body Masses this school year.
All are welcome!

2nd grade parents, please join us for a Teaching Mass with Fr. Celestine

Where: St. Mark's School Chapel

When: Wednesday, September 24th at 8:15am

Who: Both 2nd grade classes and their families

Fr. Celestine 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.



St. Mark's School Altar Server Training

Thursday, October 9th

3:30pm at

St. Mark's Catholic Church

Fr. John will be hosting a second Altar Server training next month for any 4th through 8th grade students who have received their First Communion.

The training is expected to last 30 minutes. Parents are responsible for drop off and pick up. Please register below.



Please RSVP **HERE** for Altar Server training.

Student Spotlight



The last weekend of August, Liam won both the Saturday and Sunday Pokemon tournaments in the Boise Comic Arts Festival

Lion Pride Recognition



LionPRIDE

Practice
MAKES
Saints

	CLASSROOM	HALLWAYS	LUNCH ROOM	PLAYGROUND	BATHROOMS	CHURCH
PERSEVERANCE <i>Every Day - Every Time</i>	Be Prepared Be On Time Be On Task Be Present	Be Timely Be Courteous Model Good Behavior Walk Slowly	Use Your Manners Be Patient Wait to be Excused	Be Safe Obey the Rules Play Fair Share Space & Equipment Be a Good Sport	Throw Away Trash Keep it Clean Flush Toilet Wash Hands	Be Engaged Pray, Not Play Behave Appropriately
RESPECT <i>Others, Self & Property</i>	Be Positive Listen to Others Be Prompt Follow Dress Code Care for School Property	Be Quiet Keep Your Hands to Yourself Keep Clean	Clean up Messes Share Space Eat Only Your Food Keep Voices Low Keep your Hands to Yourself	Use Kind Words Use Equipment as Intended Keep Your Hands to Yourself	Give Others Privacy Use Appropriate Volume	Listen Attentively Enter and Leave Quietly Treat Church Materials with Care
INTEGRITY <i>Honesty in All You Do</i>	Be Honest Be Accountable Do Your Own Work Set & Meet Goals Honor Due Dates	Do the Right Thing Respect Posters & Displays	Use Manners Don't Be Wasteful Pay for Purchases	Notify Staff if Problems Arise Follow Staff Directions	Return to Class Promptly & Quietly Report any Inappropriate Behavior Use at Appropriate Times	Be Kind Be on Time
DISCIPLESHIP <i>Following Jesus' Example</i>	Support Others Cooperate with Others Be Honest Share Christ's Love	Help Others in Need Say Thank You to Our Custodians	Sit by Those Sitting Alone Engage in Appropriate Conversations	Encourage Others to be Kind Be Inclusive Lead by Example Help Others When Needed	Use Only as Needed Report Supply Shortages Clean Up After Yourself	Be Reverent Actively Participate Be Involved Show Appreciation
EXCELLENCE <i>Strive for Success</i>	Do Your Very Best Work Challenge Yourself Learn Beyond the Classroom Ask Questions	Set a Good Example Greet People Politely	Follow Cafeteria Rules Use an Inside Voice	Solve Issues in a Peaceful Manner Line Up on Time Stay in Assigned Areas	Use During Non-Instructional Times Report Problems to an Adult	Be the Best Version of Yourself Follow Dress Code for Mass

SAINT MARK'S
—CATHOLIC SCHOOL—

Congratulations to this week's winners:

Layla R, Abel L, Mateo E, Adalaine C, George P, Lochlan M, Delta M, Aleena D, John W, Jane

N, Roselynn T, Thomas U (2), Ly P, Lily P, Zoe K, Matthew V, Beau S, Rosie R, Emily T, Lydia M, Grant W, Alexa B, CC S (2), Aspen C (2), Georgia B, Sawyer H, Cameron C, Emma J, Layla R, Brynlee B

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, September 21

Catechetical Sunday

Tuesday, September 23

BFD visits 1st grade

Wednesday, September 24

8:30 a.m. Student Body Mass presented by Mrs. Martin's 7th grade - Teacher Blessing at Mass

Friday, September 26

Spirit Day

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, October 1

8:30 a.m. Student Body Mass presented by Mrs. Workman's 5th grade
Ms. Eaton's Birthday

Thursday, October 2

School Custodian Appreciation Day

Friday, October 3

8:30-9:30 a.m. Individual Student Retakes - Free Dress per Dress Code ONLY for students having Retakes and must change back into uniform after picture is taken

Saturday, October 4

BSU Broncos vs. Notre Dame Fighting Irish foot game in South Bend

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.



FUNDRAISER NIGHT

St. Marks School

Monday, October 6, 2025

6:30PM Kiss the Pig

*Lowe Family Farmstead
2500 S. Eagle Rd. - Kuna, ID*

***ARRIVE anytime after 4PM
to start having FUN!***

The cost is \$12.00 (+tax) per person and includes:

- Idaho's Original Corn Maze
- Hayrides
- Corn Poppers
- Cow Train Ride
- Huge Slides
- Farmyard Games
- Bee Line Ziplines
- Grain Train Ride
- Farm Animals
- and much more!!

*Tell admissions which school you're with to receive the discount...
\$1 per admission will be donated back to your school!*

WWW.LOWEFAMILYFARMSTEAD.COM   **#farmsteadfun**

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, 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 brovania@stmarksschoolboise.com.

In light of recent events, we are looking for more parents to help walk us to and from Mass on Wednesdays. We are also welcoming crossing guards to help students cross safely across Northview. Please email schooloffice@stmarksschoolboise.com if you would like to volunteer. Time counts toward Volunteer Hours.

Join the St. Mark's School Foundation Board!

The St. Mark's School Foundation is seeking new board members – no prior experience required, just a love for our school and community! Serving on the board helps secure the future of St. Mark's and can fulfill your family's annual volunteer hour requirement. Learn more and submit an interest form by clicking below!

Submit by October 1: [Foundation Board Interest Form](#)

Our uniform closet is in need of a clean up. If you have a couple of hours to dedicate and are in need of Volunteer Hours, please email schooloffice@stmarksschoolboise.com to volunteer.

Lunch Room Volunteers

NEXT WEEK'S LUNCH HELPERS

Monday (22)—Perez, Carroll
Tuesday (23)—Antonoplos
Wednesday (24)—LaMott, McDonald
Thursday (25)—
Friday (26)—Cavazos, Antonoplos

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)

Today we have a miscommunication about our Spirit Days. In past years, we have had 1 free Spirit Day and 1 \$1 Spirit Day per month. Last year and this year, through a generous donation, our \$1 Spirit Days have been covered. We will be having 1-2 Spirit Days each month, depending on our calendar. Watch the newsletter each week and the Monthly Calendar for dates of Spirit Day.



Next Friday, September 26 is Spirit Day, as well as Friday, October 10 and Friday, October 17.

On Friday, October 3, we will have a **\$1.00 BSU/Notre Dame** Dress Up Day. For a \$1.00 donation, students may wear jeans and a BSU or Notre Dame shirt or a shirt with the colors of their favorite team, either BSU or Notre Dame. Students may not wear jeggings, leggings, yoga pants, sweatpants, athletic pants or athletic shorts. The \$1 may be brought to school before or on the Dress Up Day.



We are in need of substitute teachers. If you or someone you know have a higher ed degree, associates or higher and have classroom experience (we can work with you on this), we would love to have you fill out an application. **Click here** to complete the fillable application, print and turn it in to Mrs. Anderson in the school office.

On Monday, September 29, there will be a change in the menu for lunch. Instead of BBQ beef sandwiches, we will be serving BBQ pork

If you were absent on picture day or didn't like your photos, **Retake Day is Friday, October 3 from 8:30-9:30.** If you have a picture packet that you want to exchange for retakes, please return them to the School Office before Retake Day. Students having retakes may wear Free Dress to school then must change back into uniform after their photo is taken.



Attached is the October Lunch Calendar. **Click here** to view.

The October Monthly is ready for downloading. **Click here** to view.

CHOIR NEWS!!

**Choir practice on 9/22 & 9/23 only
will end at 3:30.**

Choir will resume it's normal time from 3:00-3:45 on 9/29

The next LIVE SEW class will be held on Thursday, September 25 @ 6:30 p.m. in the Middle School. THIS LIVE CLASS IS REQUIRED 1 TIME. You are also required to view the video "**Protecting God's Children Online Awareness Session 4.0**", which will be available after you register. Go to virtusonline.org, create an account, click on register for training, find the class at St. Mark's on September 25 and sign up.

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

St. Mark's will be featured on Wednesday, October 15 from 3-6 PM on 102.3 FM or 1140 AM. Salt & Light Catholic Radio's Fall Pledge Drive is October 15-17, daily from 7 AM to 6 PM. The theme, "Memories" highlights inspiring testimonies from fellow parishioners about the history of our parish. Listen on the radio, the Salt & Light Radio App, or online. Pledge by 10/14 to be entered into a drawing for a weekend stay at the new Jubilee House at Marymount, plus another drawing to win a pilgrimage to Poland! For the full parish schedule or to pledge, visit saltandlightradio.com/pledge-drive or call 208-344-4774.



TVCS Events/Sports



Click here for the TVCS athletic schedule.

Preschool Happenings



In Preschool this week, we learned about Apples (and the letter A)! We did apple investigations, tastings, art, read apple stories, and learned about Johnny Appleseed!

Oh, the Lord is good to me
And so I thank the Lord
For giving me the things I need: the sun and the rain and the appleseed.
The Lord is good to me!



Church Connection

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

Coffee Hour Treats needed

St. Mark's school hosts coffee hour at St. Mark's church once a month.

We are in need of treats to serve!

Can you please donate sweet items, to the school, by Friday, Sept. 26th

Ideas for what to donate:

Dozens of donuts

Dozens of cookies

Sliced fruit

Whole fruit (that could be sliced later, like bananas and apples)



**If you have any questions, please reach out to Sabrina
at **Sabrinacook08@gmail.com**.**

**For every \$20 of items donated,
you may count 1 hour towards your Volunteer Hours.**

Notes from the Nurse

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_B33Only

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



Saint Alphonsus
SCHOOL HEALTH PROGRAM

A Tale of Two Children

Once Upon time, two babies were born on the same day in the same hospital. Moments later they both went to work in an attempt to satisfy one of their lifelong needs: feeling accepted and being noticed in a positive way.

Neither of these babies could understand the words their parents spoke. Each had yet to translate the language used by their loved ones. But both used a far more powerful tool. They watched their parents closely and learned to read nonverbal language. Soon they were able to notice even the most minute changes in facial expression, body tone, and tone of voice.

Over the next five years, one of these children, Sam, picked up all kinds of messages that said he was capable, lovable, and valued. The signals from his parents said, "We love you the way you are, because you are you."

Sam was also given many opportunities to make decisions about his own life. His parents often asked him questions such as, "Do you want to wear your coat today or carry it?" They did this because they loved him and wanted the best for him.

The other child, George, picked up many signals that told him he did not measure up to his parents expectations. His parents messages said, "We could give you a lot more love if you would just do better." His parents also often ordered him around: "You get that coat on. You're not going out without it!" They did this because they loved him and wanted the best for him. The big day and these two children's lives finally arrived - the first day of school. Each had different thoughts. Sam had few doubts about his ability while George had many questions in his mind about how well he would do.

We now add a third character to our story. Miss Hush, a loving, caring, and dedicated teacher. Like all of us, miss hush grew up with the same need to be recognized and accepted. She also spent her early years learning to read nonverbal messages of those around her. She is an expert, but like Sam and George, she gives little conscious thought to these nonverbal messages.

Miss Hush now prepares an assignment for the class. It is passed out and all the students are told what to do. Sam, who believes himself to be capable, is quick to start the assignment and give it his best shot. George, not so sure of himself, is more tentative. He holds back. He stalls. He needs encouragement. A little voice in his head says, "You may not do as well as others. Watch out! You are going to be hurt."

The difference in performance between these two boys does not go unnoticed by Miss Hush. On the conscious level of thinking, she notices that one of them is not as capable as the other. However, she also picks up another message on the unconscious level: "Sam is going to help satisfy my need to feel like a good teacher. George is not."

Research shows that the behavior of teachers is influenced by messages at an unconscious level. Sam is going to receive more winks, nods, smiles, eye contact, touches, questions, and nonverbal encouragement. If Sam ever has trouble answering a question, Miss Hush will probably think she did not ask a good question and then restate it. In her mind, she believes that Sam knows the answer. Sam will also receive more time and patience because of this.

At the same time, George receives just the opposite treatment. He receives fewer nods, smiles, touches, and less eye contact. When he falters in answering the question, Miss Hush "backs off" giving him less time to answer. She will probably not restate the question. She does not want to embarrass him.

Does Miss Hush's behavior go unnoticed by George? Absolutely not. He is busy reading nonverbal language in his constant attempts to check out his level of acceptance by others. He soon picks up on the message, "I'm not a student. Sam is the student. I'm not accepted by the teacher. Sam is."

George is now hurting. His self-concept is beginning to slip at a faster rate. He has to face the reality for 180 school days this year. He begins to find ways to avoid the pain by refusing to do his assignments. He gets into trouble, so he learns many avoidance techniques.

Several years go by. George has perfected his avoidance skills. He finds other ways to be noticed. He is now labeled a behavior problem. He is considered a child who is unmotivated.

Georgia's 6th grade teacher complains to the principal, "why do I have to have kids like this in my class? He doesn't care about anything. He makes my life miserable and keeps me from teaching the curriculum. Why can't I have more kids like Sam? He's always a good student."

What happened? The dreams of one of our characters have been shattered. Georgia's self-concept has gradually slipped. He has been reinforced on a daily basis that he is not as good as the others. His teachers have constantly picked up messages from him that say, "I'm not the one to help you feel like a good teacher." At the same time, Sam, who already believes in himself, has gone through school constantly receiving cues that bolster his self-concept.

The research of Purkey, Combs, the Pennsylvania Department of Education, and many others supports the premise that many children experience dramatic decline in enthusiasm for school between kindergarten and 6th grade. The problem is directly related to the erosion of self-concept.

It is critical to note that the underlying problem with these children is not one of motivation. Purkey has proven that almost all people are motivated in some area. Motivation is a problem only to a small percentage of students. In the majority of cases, the problem is one of negative self-concept.

George's self-concept is like a dictator who lives in his subconscious mind. It is the ultimate authority in his life. It is constantly talking to him with words such as, "Who do you think you are? You don't do things like that. The other kids do things like that. You will look bad and feel bad. Try to avoid it if you can."

In contrast, Sam self-concept is always saying, "Sure, you can do it. Go for it. You'll feel great when it's over."

In some cases, there is a happier ending to our story. In each one of our schools, there is a teacher who has a special treat waiting for George. She's the teacher who believes that her job is to discover in George something that he did not know was there. She makes sure that he gets the same number of winks, nods, smiles, etcetera, that Sam does. She also places high expectations on him.

This teacher spends much more time noticing what George does right than what he does wrong. She will probably say, "I noticed you're not doing your math, and I hope you'll get with it. But I noticed what beautiful pictures you draw. Will you draw ones especially for me that I can keep at home? I always want to remember you."

George will fall in love with his teacher. He will try just a little harder to do as she asks, and he will be a little more careful about the way he behaves in her class. He will probably draw more than one picture for her as he places a new value on his drawing and looks at himself in a little more positive way.

His problems won't be solved, but he's beginning to discover a new George. He will never forget this teacher. She has done for him what no one else was willing or able to do.

The end... or is it?

From article by Jim Fay in love and logic. V. 1 #3.

Have a good week,

Joe Lipetzky, Psy. D.

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!