



Grandparents' Club
February 17, 2026
Issue 3
2025-2026 School Year

Together We Rise

We enter this season of Lent with deep gratitude as we watch the first signs of spring begin to bloom around us.

Thanks to the incredible generosity of our St. Mark's community, our annual Dinner Auction was a wonderful success. We are currently at \$162,000 raised, including over \$50,000 toward a greatly needed new playground system! With raffle ticket sales beginning soon, we are hopeful we will reach our goal of \$180,000. We are excited to host our first-ever Jog-a-Thon in April to help raise the remaining funds for the playground.

Thank you for your continued support.

As we journey through Lent, our students will have the opportunity to reflect and grow through our upcoming Lenten Retreat, which will include adoration, a hands-on Stations of the Cross experience, and a meaningful food donation activity as students pass canned goods from our school chapel to St. Mark's Church for the our food bank.

This spring also brings two exciting basketball traditions: the Hallissey Tournament for our 7th and 8th graders and the Idaho Catholic Schools Invitational (ICSI) Tournament for our 3rd through 6th graders. We look forward to cheering on our Lions as they represent St. Mark's with pride.

Finally, two of our wonderful office staff members, **Rena and Bobbi**, will be retiring at the end of this school year after 28 years of service. We are so thankful for all they have given to our school family.

Thank you for the faith, generosity, and community that make St. Mark's such a special place. **Together We Rise**—as one school family in Christ.

God bless you,

Donna Gordon -- Principal, St. Mark's Catholic School

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What's New?

* We launched our brand-new Family System – 18 Saint Families made up of students from K-8th grade. This new structure will allow us to grow in faith and fellowship in joyful ways – sitting together at Mass, celebrating Catholic Schools Week, field day, service projects, and more.

* In the second quarter, we honored 22 recipients of the Virtue of the Quarter certificates – these students consistently exemplify the cardinal virtue of Temperance.

Catholic Schools Week

In January, we celebrated Catholic Schools Week with fun activities to celebrate the gift of a Catholic education and all that makes St. Mark's such a special place.

There were fun dress-up days throughout the week – Western Attire, Pajama Day, Dress Like a Staff Member, and Family Colors Day. Our Saint Families also participated in a Religion Bowl.

Saint Families also participated in the Family Make a Change Challenge, with all funds collected being donated to support the building of schools and housing in Haiti. In six days, our school raised \$1,357.07 for this cause.

Thank you for your continued commitment and support to our mission of fostering excellence rooted in our faith.



Religion Bowl – First Place was the Holy Eucharist Family (pictured above); Second Place was the Blessed Virgin Mary Family (pictured below)



Catholic Schools Week Alumni Breakfast was attended by many of our St. Mark's graduates now attending Bishop Kelly.



St. Mark's also hosted the All-Schools Mass with nearly 1,700 students coming together to sing, pray, and worship as one Catholic community.



Volunteering Requirement - SEW Certified

Before being allowed to volunteer at the school in any capacity, you are required to pass a background check and become SEW-certified. SEW stands for Safe Environment Workshop. This is done by attending a live SEW class one time, and then each year after, you will be required to view a video to keep your status current.

Go to virtusonline.org, create an account, click on register for training, and find a class at St. Mark's and sign up. If there are no upcoming classes available at St. Mark's, please contact the school office. This class may also be taken through another parish in the diocese, if needed.



Volunteer Opportunities

- * **Hallissey Basketball Tournament Volunteers** – Volunteers are needed to help at the basketball tournament at the entrance, running the clock, and keeping the scorebook. Click on this link to sign up: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1P5yGbne5Y_zEdHPY7gVuMTnFmoFqIMUn42FWWuwnYQY/edit?usp=sharing
- * **Lunchroom Helpers** -- Four lunchroom helpers are needed each day from 10:45 AM to 12:15 PM to serve lunches and clean tables in the lunchroom. Volunteers are given a free lunch. All are welcome to volunteer weekly, monthly, or occasionally. Please contact the school office if interested.
- * **Walking to and from Mass on Wednesdays** – Volunteers are needed to accompany students and staff when walking to and from Mass on Wednesdays. We are also welcoming crossing guards to help students safely cross Northview. Please contact the school office if interested.
- * **Foster Grandparents Program** – St. Mark's partners with the [Foster Grandparents Program](http://FosterGrandparentsProgram.org) through AgingStrong.org. Foster Grandparents volunteer in schools to support children with extra attention, encouragement, and care. We are blessed to have one Foster Grandparent already and would love to welcome more! Volunteers also receive a small stipend for their service. If you are interested, please contact **Asia Miller, Lead Director, at (208) 947-4280** for more information.
- * Check out the Friday Facts weekly email or the St. Mark's Facebook page for announcements regarding great upcoming volunteer opportunities to serve around the school.



We're on the Web!

<https://www.stmarksboise.com/>

Find us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/smkschoolboise>



St. Mark's School is in need of Substitute Teachers. If you or someone you know has 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.

Upcoming Events

Save the Date!

- ◆ Ash Wednesday –
Wednesday, February 18, 2026
- ◆ Easter Sunday –
Sunday, April 5, 2026
- ◆ Grandparents' Spring Reception
(at the school) –
Wednesday, May 6, 2026

Lent 2026	
Mardi Gras	February 17 th
Ash Wednesday	February 18 th
Palm Sunday	March 29 th
Holy Thursday	April 2 nd
Good Friday	April 3 rd
Holy Saturday	April 4 th
Easter Sunday	April 5 th



Hallsisey Basketball Tournament

**Friday, February 27
– Sunday, March 1**

Everyday ways to support St. Mark's School

* Link your Fred Meyer/Kroger Card to St. Mark's School



* Sign up to earn money for St. Mark's School with Box Tops for Education



<https://www.boxtops4education.com/>
or through the App Store

Please Join Us

St. Mark's Catholic School

Grandparent Spring Reception

We would like to welcome and celebrate our grandparents at the School Mass with a reception to follow at the school.

Wednesday, May 6th at 8:30 AM

St. Mark's Catholic Church

7960 W. Northview St. Boise, Idaho 83704

Reception to follow

9:45 AM in the St. Mark's Catholic School gym

You are invited to sit with your grandchildren during Mass. Immediately after Mass, students will walk back to the school with their class. You are invited to join them in the school gym for light refreshments and drinks. Bring a camera to take a photo with our spring-themed backdrop.

We kindly request your RSVP by May 1st.

What is Lion PRIDE?

Each week in the Friday Facts email, you will see the names of students who have earned Lion PRIDE Recognition. Lion PRIDE stands for our School-Wide Learning Expectations:

- Perseverance -- Every Day, Every Time
- Respect – Others, Self, and Property
- Integrity – Honesty in All You Do
- Discipleship – Following Jesus’ Example
- Excellence – Strive for Success

If you see your grandchild’s name listed, that means he or she embodied one of these attributes during the week! On the following Monday, all these recognized students are entered into a drawing for a small gift card of choice!

	CLASSROOM	HALLWAYS	LUNCH ROOM	PLAYGROUND	BATHROOMS	CHURCH
 <p>PERSEVERANCE <i>Every Day - Every Time</i></p>	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
<p>RESPECT <i>Others, Self, & Property</i></p>	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 Quickly Treat Church Materials with Care
<p>INTEGRITY <i>Honesty in All You Do</i></p>	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
<p>DISCIPLESHIP <i>Following Jesus' Example</i></p>	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
<p>EXCELLENCE <i>Strive for Success</i></p>	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

Practice
MAKES
Saints

SAINT MARK'S
-CATHOLIC SCHOOL-



Thank you for your commitment to our students’ education. Your support is a blessing that helps us pass our values on to the next generation. Thank you for being such a vital part of our school family.