



SAINT MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL

# The Bridge

POSITIVE ATTITUDES

COURAGE

PATIENCE

WISDOM

PEACEFUL WAYS

**"Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love."**

April 10, 2020

Parents,

With the events of the last four weeks, it makes this Holy Week so much more important to each of us. We rely on scriptures in times that are good and times of trouble. Psalm 23:4 reads: *"Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff comfort me."* Some of you know very well those that have walked through the valley of death. Some of you have heard fear in your child's voice. All of you can be the rod and the staff that comfort your family.

We have all watched the reporting of deaths that are presented to you like numbers on a scoreboard. Real people, that had real lives, with incredible stories, represent those numbers. People that were old, young and all ages in between. They were from all corners of the world. They spoke many languages. They had families that loved them. They were more than just numbers, they were all children of God.

A virus does not take into consideration who the person is before it attacks them. It does not care how rich or poor, how smart or unintelligent, how tall or short, or how kind or mean-hearted. It infects the person, and it can kill that person. We know what we need to do to keep our family AND others safe. We practice social distancing, wash our hands, stay at home, and save lives. The virus is not smart, we are. The virus has no feelings, we do. The virus will hopefully be someday eradicated, we hopefully will not.

So this Holy Week which includes Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter Sunday, unite as a family and make this Holy Week one that you will always remember because of the things you do as a family. Have a family Stations of the Cross. Say the Rosary together. Watch the St. Mark Holy Thursday Livestream Mass at 7:00pm on our [YouTube Channel](#). Have a family "washing of the feet" to ask forgiveness. Have a campfire to celebrate the Light of Jesus. On Easter Sunday, watch Easter Mass from St. Mark at 10:00am on our [YouTube Channel](#) dressed up in your nice clothes! Have a Google Meets Easter Dinner with other family members. Pray together. Sing Songs together. Grow in your love for each other and for God.

I can't tell you how much our teachers and I enjoy the positive notes and emails, and messages from you about our eLearning. You understand that many of our teachers have children at home, spouses working from home, family members that may be ill, yet are working very hard to provide your child with faith-filled, academic lessons that will help in the transition from this year to next. Our teachers and Instructional Assistants spend many hours putting the lessons together. Please help keep your child engaged so their learning will continue at home.

I miss seeing your children and you very much. Every time I walk into the darkened school each morning, I have to fight back the emotions of what we are going through. But I find Christ as I walk around the school. I find Him in your child's artwork on the wall. I find Him in the empty classroom where your children will come back to next fall. And I find Him in the pictures I see on my computer and the voices I hear singing in recordings of our All School Masses.

While the words "This too will pass" is not found in the Bible, I feel that God puts them in our heart. He has shown us that as a people we have overcome much with hard work, with intellect, and with prayer. I pray that you and your family have a blessed Holy Week and Easter. I pray that you are healthy and safe. I pray that this pandemic crisis will end soon and that we will become a stronger school, a stronger parish, a stronger community, and a strong world because of it. May the Grace of God come down upon you!

Thanks and God Bless

Rusty Albertson  
Principal  
St. Mark Catholic School

## GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

# Open Enrollment

Registration for St Mark Catholic School 2020-2021 Pre-K - 8th Grade is open! If you know someone that is interested in SMCS for 2020-2021 school year, please have them call the school office for more information (317) 786-4013. You may get more information by emailing Mr. Albertson at [ralbertson@stmarkindy.org](mailto:ralbertson@stmarkindy.org)

## CONTINUING FUNDRAISERS



### **Kroger Community Rewards**

Do you shop at Kroger? Sign up your Kroger's Plus Shopper's Card in the Kroger Community Rewards Program and choose "St. Mark CatholicSchool". Our organization number is: XM409. The web site is:

<https://www.kroger.com/topic/school-programs>



### **Coca-Cola Rewards Program is back this year!**

Caps and boxes that have a "My Official Coke Rewards Code" on them Can be redeemed for money and the money goes back to St. Mark School! Just turn your coke reward products into Mrs. Leszcynski in the school office

### **Box Tops for Education**

- Buy Box Top Products
- Scan your Receipt (use the app to snap a photo of your receipt within 14 days of purchase)
- Earn cash for your school!

