



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."

August 20, 2021

Parents,

#HateHasNoHomeHere #LoveisWhereweLive. Two hashtags that define who we are at St. Mark Catholic School. Hate has no home here. During each school day, our school is home to 500 students and 50 teachers and staff. And just like your home hate is not welcome in our home. Hate comes in many forms. Unkind words from ignorant people. Hateful actions toward others because of their race, the language they speak, the color of their skin, the amount of money they have, their academic level, their physical characteristics, and much more. Hate of any form is not welcome at St. Mark Catholic School. Your actions need to be free of hatred. Mistakes happen because of ignorance, but with a continuation of these actions, then you are not welcome in our home.

Love is where we live. Christ is the reason for our school. Christ is Love. School is our home. Love is where we live. Love is not tolerance. Love is not part of the time. Love comes in and out of you like breaths from your lungs. Love is a part of the fabric that makes you up. Love is in your words towards others. Love is how you welcome someone who is new, or help someone who is struggling. Love is helping a classmate that has dropped their books in the hallway. Love is saying you're sorry and forgiving others. Love comes from God, and He commands you to share that Love with others. Love is who we are. Love is meant to be shared. Love is where we live.

Being one of the most diverse schools in the country is not enough, but being one of the most welcoming, empowering, and loving schools is. There are many things that go into all of these, but the easiest place to start is just getting to know the other person. Everyone has their own story, and learning their stories will build a rapport of love with each other. Whether it be your child at school, you with your child, or any other relationship, getting to know the person is where love starts and hate ends.

So as a parent you can model this for your children. They can see you putting love into action with others. They hear you say positive things about people that are different from you. They watch as you learn about the cultures of your child's classmates. They smile when you read to them stories from scripture of loving each other like we love ourselves. You are your child's first teacher. Their eyes and ears are on you.

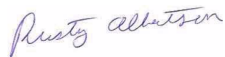
So use the opportunities that you have to teach love to your children. Know what they are watching on their screen, who they are chatting with online, what music they listen to, what friends they have, and make sure that love is present and hate is not. Modeling, teaching, sharing. The conversations you have with your children now about loving all and hating none, will be some of the most important conversations you will ever have. Don't ignore your responsibilities, because if you do not teach them, someone else will.

We are not a perfect school. We have students that say things that are hurtful to others. The issue is two-fold: the first is to stop the hate, educate those that hate. Just like your home, when students willingly make mistakes, there are repercussions. These could be a talk, being sent home, or losing

their privilege to attend St. Mark Catholic School. Hate has no home here. The second is to educate those why Love is where we live. We educate with the words of Christ. We educate with conversations that are straightforward and to the point. We educate with our faith.

So as the world around us shows hate, we must teach our children to love. A simple message that has become very complex at times because of the society we live in. Have a great weekend and we will see you at Mass!

Thanks and God Bless



Rusty Albertson
Principal
St. Mark Catholic School

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| GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS | | | |
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|-------|---------|------|---|
| Mon | Sept 6 | | Labor Day - No School |
| Thurs | Sept 9 | | City BBQ Dine Out Night |
| Mon | Sept 13 | | SW delivered to school - sent home with oldest/only child in family |
| Fri | Sept 17 | 1:00 | 1:00 Dismissal-Teacher Professional Development- NO AFTERCARE |



Please see last page of Bridge for Roncalli shadow information

Parish News



St. Mark will host a COVID vaccination Clinic in partnership with Franciscan Health. We will be administering the Pfizer vaccine which is currently available to anyone ages 12 years and older. This is a 2 dose vaccination series. The FIRST dose clinic is on Sunday, August 29th from 8 am - 12 pm in Schafer Hall Gym. The date for the SECOND dose clinic is Sunday, September 26th from 8 am-12 pm in Schafer Hall Gym.

Pre-registration is required to ensure we have enough doses. Please fill out a registration form and provide a copy of your insurance card and return to Angi Swiezy in the Parish Center office by Thursday, August 26th to reserve your FIRST dose.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns at aswiezy@stmarkindy.org or 787-8246 x104.

Greetings!

It is time for our catechetical year to begin and I am happy to say we will be in person!! We will continue to follow CDC guidance for sanitizing, spacing and masking as is appropriate for the current conditions.

Registration information for all programs is available on the website, in the Narthex and at the parish center. See specific program information below. Please return registration forms and fees as soon as possible to me at the parish center. If you have any questions, contact me at aswiezy@stmarkindy.org or 317-787-8246 x104.

I look forward to reconnecting with everyone! See you at Mass!

Peace and Blessings!

Angi Swiezy

Director of Faith Formation

First Sacramental Prep (Reconciliation and Eucharist): The session will be Jan 6- Feb 27, for children preparing to receive their First Sacraments. Your child must have received the Sacrament of Baptism to participate in this program. If your child needs baptized and is older than 7 years please contact me for the next steps in preparing your child for their First Sacraments.

Children's Catechesis: Classes begin Sunday, September 12 and will be held in the Atrium in the Parish Center. Ages 3 years - Kindergarten meet at 9:30am and 1st thru 8th grade meet at 10:30am. Fees: 1 child \$50, 2 children \$80, 3+children \$100.

Confirmation: Our first meeting is Sunday, September 12th at 2pm in the church. Confirmation is open to students 8th grade thru 12th grade.

LUNCH MENU

August 23 thru 27



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|-------------------------|--|
| <u>Monday</u> | Daily Choice or Spicy or Reg Chickem Patty, Sweet Potato Fries |
| <u>Tuesday</u> | Daily Choice or Macho Nachos and Fiesta Corn |
| <u>Wednesday</u> | Daily Choice or Hot Dog and Baked Beans |
| <u>Thursday</u> | Daily Choice or Sausage and egg on English Muffin and Glazed Carrots |
| <u>Friday</u> | Daily Choice or Pepperoni or Cheese Pizza, Roasted Cauliflower |

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 Catholic School". Our organization number is: XM409. The web site is:

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



Coca-Cola Rewards Program

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)





CYO SPORTS

For CYO athletic questions, please contact one of the following on the St. Mark Athletic Commission Board:

- SMAC President ~ Michelle Goss at the following email: gossteach@yahoo.com
- SMAC Athletic Director ~ Frank Litz at the following email: SMAC@stmarkindy.org

| Event | Day of Week | Opponent | Time, Location |
|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| 56 Girls Kickball | Friday 8/20 | Holy Name | 5:00pm, Holy Name |
| 34 Girls Kickball | Friday 8/20 | OL Lourdes | 6:00pm, OL Lourdes |
| 34 Girls Kickball | Tuesday 8/24 | Central Catholic | 6:00pm, Central Catholic |
| 56 Girls Kickball | Wednesday 8/25 | Holy Spirit Indy | 6:00pm, Holy Spirit Indy |
| 34 Girls Kickball | Thursday 8/26 | Holy Name | 6:00pm, Holy Name |
| 56 Girls Kickball | Friday 8/27 | Nativity | 5:00pm, St. Mark |

Football Cheerleading

Any St. Mark student or parishioner in grades 3-8 who is interested in cheerleading is invited to our open practices on Tuesday, Sept. 14th and Wed., Sept. 15th from 5-6:30 in the Courtyard at St. Mark.

All students should wear comfy clothes and tennis shoes. Students need to also bring water bottles or drinks. If you need more information or have questions, please contact Megan Davis at [\(317\)748-6234](tel:3177486234), via text or call. We look forward to seeing everyone! Go Lions!!

Roncalli Youth Girls Basketball Registration

Who: Girls in grades 3-8

What: Indy Girls Hoops League sign-ups

When: Online through **August 21st**

*Click on the following link for more information and to sign up:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdXFn6FjnLi8glWdnTu4BAN-p_WJj75PjdfgXzLV0_vELh6-Q/viewform?usp=sf_link



Roncalli Shadow Program

Roncalli is excited to welcome future Royals to campus for the Royal for a Day Program! Because of its success last year, all shadows will be on an individual basis, with 8 students being able to join us each day. All visits will be on a first-come, first-serve basis.

If you are interested in getting your 8th grader signed up, please email Allie Ross at aross@roncalli.org for all available dates. Go, Royals!

RONCALLI CIRCLE OF FAITH DISTINCTION DINNER

Celebrate together at the Roncalli High School Circle of Faith Distinction Dinner on September 23, 2021 at Roncalli High School in the Ascension St. Vincent Gymnasium beginning at 5:30 PM.

Join us as we honor individuals from the Roncalli community with awards recognizing contributions to our school, our church and our world. Guests will celebrate all that makes Roncalli what it is today while hearing more about what comes next for our school.

5:30 PM Social Hour, 6:30 PM Program and Dinner (complimentary). For more information visit <https://giving.roncalli.org/>

HOMEcoming POST GAME EVENT TICKETS

HOMEcoming

The Homecoming party is back at Roncalli! Join us on Friday, September 24... the fun starts immediately after the halftime presentations.

We will have snacks, a cash bar and music by Train Wreck! Get your \$10 ticket today in the Roncalli Advancement Office. Questions can be directed to Fran Davey at fdavey@roncalli.org.