



Dear Parents,

As we begin a new school year, I want to thank you for your partnership with us to help continue to lay the foundation of faith in your child. We are very excited to start our 70th year as a leader of Catholic education on the Southside of Indianapolis. While our building, our staff, and our students have changed over the years, our mission to "teach as Jesus taught" has remained the same. We share the good news of God each day in our lessons, with prayer, by our actions to others. We use God's word by quoting and discussing scripture. We lay that foundation of faith within each student, and our self, each day by practicing our Catholic faith through sacraments and giving to others.

In 70 years our world has seen many changes. In the fall of 1948, when the doors to St. Mark Catholic School were opened for the first time, Harry Truman was the President of the United States, gasoline was 16 cents a gallon, and the Cleveland Indians were the baseball World Series Champions. In 70 years our student population has had an ebb and flow look as the enrollment numbers usually reflected the culture and climate of our community. Over the last five years, our student population has risen from 200 students in 2012-2013 to 400 students currently. Our diversity is the greatest it has ever been. Our parish support is strong. Our mission is clear.

We saw the increase in student population several years ago and planned for our current enrollment by making changes and additions to our building, our grounds, our staff, and our curriculum. Our students get the support of 2 ELL teachers, 2 Special Needs teachers, 25 classroom teachers, 12 Instructional Assistants, and 4 administrators. Our building has been updated in the last five years with new HVAC, windows, lighting, carpet, ceilings, technology infrastructure, a new roof, remodeled bathrooms, a new main office and a new main entrance. We have planned for our increase in enrollment so that our students will get the best, Christ-centered education possible.

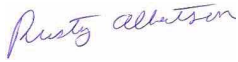
But what makes our school great, is the students, staff and parents that are inside. We are a private, Catholic School. We do not get funding from the State of Indiana. We do not have public school bus use for our students. We are not a financial burden on the taxpayers of Indiana. We are supported by the tuition we charge and by the generosity of our parishioners with their givings each week at Mass. Our parents and staff "give-up" to be here at St. Mark Catholic School. This is a vocation for our teachers, not a job. Our parents trust us to be their children's parents while they are here at St. Mark Catholic School, and we value that trust, we reciprocate that trust, we earn that trust.

St. Mark Catholic School is not a perfect fit for all families. Our expectations of you, the parents, is very high. And I hope your expectations of us is as equally lofty. Our main goal is for your child to grow closer to God. To learn about Jesus Christ. To participate in prayer, in service to others, in reading scripture and reflecting on it's meaning. We prepare each child for what is to come in their lives by laying the foundation of faith, by instilling strong values, by challenging them with academic rigor, and by loving them like they are our own children.

So this year I invite you to become very involved with your children's Catholic education. Partner with their teachers to build a strong relationship for your child's growth. Take them to Mass on the weekend or the church of your choice. Read scripture to them each day. Pray without ceasing. Take them to do service, as a family, for others that need it. Hold them accountable for their mistakes. Be consistent with them. Hug them. Talk with them. Enjoy them. Love them. That is what we do.

Have a great weekend and we will see you at Mass with your children!

Thanks and God Bless,



Rusty Albertson
Principal
St. Mark Catholic School

"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them" -**Matthew 18:20**

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Events



August	15	9:00 am	All School Mass-Feast of the Assumption of Mary-Church
	31		Teacher In-Service Day, No School
September	3		Labor Day, No School
	5		Picture Retakes
	7		1st Quarter Progress Reports
	24-28		Fall Spirit Week
	27-28		6th Grade Camp Tecumseh Trip

FROM THE CAFETERIA

Lunch Menu - August 13 thru 17

Monday	Country Fried Steak, Breaded Beef Patty, Biscuit, Mashed Potatoes and Country Gravy
Tuesday	PK-1 Beef Mini Hot Dogs with Mini Bun; 2-8 Beef Hot Dogs and Bun; All-Baked Beans
Wednesday	Pork Sausage, French Toast Bites and Sweet Cooked Carrots
Thursday	Hot and Spicy or Golden Chicken Tenders, Rotini Pasta Noodles, Broccoli, Marinara Sauce and Mozzarella Cheese
Friday	Chicken and Beef Pepperoni Pizza Ripper and Green Beans

CONTINUING FUNDRAISERS



KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM

Register online at krogercommunityrewards.com. You will need your Kroger Plus Card Number.



Box Tops

Please place Box Tops in the collection box in the church narthex or turn in to the school office.



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 office.



CYO SPORTS

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

- SMAC President ~ Andy Swiezy at the following email:
andyswiezy83@gmail.com
- SMAC Athletic Director ~ Kris Able at the following email:
kable@stmarkindy.org.

Southside Flag Football League

The St. Mark Athletic Committee is accepting flag football registration for 2018. Boys and girls entering grades K-2 are eligible to play and the registration fee is \$60.00. This season we are using a web-based registration process. All information and fees will be collected at our new website located at <http://tshq.bluesombrero.com/southsideflagfb>. Registration deadline is August 10, practices will begin on August 13, and the first games scheduled for August 25. The season ends on September 29. Practices are normally once per week and are scheduled by the coaches. Games are held on Saturday mornings at St. Mark. For more information, contact Patrick Collier at collierfamily8@att.net.

RONCALLI REBEL NEWS



Jr. Rebels is a girls basketball developmental and competitive program that participates in travel ball leagues. Registration will be Aug. 19th for 7th and 8th grade girls. Evaluations will take place from 1:00-2:45 PM in the Roncalli High School Bubble Gym. Cost is \$50 per player (\$60 if you need a jersey). Winter Registration for 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th grade girls will be on Saturday, Nov. 17th from 1:00-4:15 PM. Contact Coach Denise MMcClanahan if you have questions a 317-371-4010 or email at dfmclanahan@sbcglobal.net.