



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 16, 2019

Parents,

Our journey partnering to help your child grow closer to God continues. We have been blessed by so many "God moments" over the last few days as we begin our school year and we look forward to what is to come. As parents, God has entrusted us with great responsibilities. We must have a tremendous balance of offering advice, freewill, and oversight for our children. With great responsibility, comes great love.

We intend to increase our sharing of faith with each other this school year. Our staff will be a witness to God's great love for each of us by their actions and by their words with your children. We will pray as individuals, as small groups, as a class, and as a school at times outside the normal prayer times. It may be in the middle of a lesson, in the hallway during the middle school passing period, or at recess. It may be when students are walking into the building or leaving for the day. It may be during times of trouble or in times of joy. Prayer will be a bigger part of our everyday life at St. Mark Catholic School.

We will increase our sharing of faith by telling the story, by giving witness to our own faith. My personal faith path has taken many turns, hit potholes, traveled in the passing lane, and has had roads that were smoother than others. But for me, God has become more prevalent, more personal, and more real as I get older. I find God moments in many things that used to just pass by without notice. I see the miracles that God has given me and it sometimes brings me to tears. I feel the power of God's strength when I do not have the strength of my own. I find God's love for me in the little things that sometimes go unnoticed, and the big things that overwhelm me.

My life with Christ changed when I met my wife 35 years ago. When we married on August 19, 1989, I did not know (and neither did she) how my life would change. I found Christ when I found my wife. I try not to think of what I would have become without Christ in my life. While I sometimes move away from his love, there are moments that pulls me back to his arms.

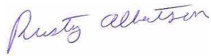
This summer on June 12th I had a life-changing occurrence. With my wife Julie, my daughter Grace, and my friend Ambrose Kap Chin, we headed to Myanmar for a two week trip we called "Mission of Grace". We did not have a strong detailed itinerary once we landed in Myanmar. I guess you could say we were guided by the Holy Spirit. But the next two weeks were like putting on a new set of glasses that allowed me to see the world in a new, clearer way.

I felt God like I have never felt before in my life. The things that I thought were important before, took a back seat to the moments of change that I was encountering some 8,081 miles away from home. I learned first hand that happiness is not based on stature, money, or material things. I learned that faith in God starts in your family and continue to grow in your community. I saw how much clearer people see God with much fewer distractions and noise in their lives. I prayed more than I ever had. I spent time in silence in some of the most remote places on earth with God in his church.

But life-changing is only life-changing if you continue the path. Giving of yourself cannot be only a one-time thing or only when convenient for you. Everyone has their life-changing moments, some are just waiting for you to find them. Everyone has their own Myanmar. God is waiting for you to seek him in prayer, in action, and in silence.

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

Thanks and God Bless,



Rusty Albertson
Principal
St. Mark Catholic School

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Aug	30		Teacher Community Service Day - No School
Sept	2		Labor Day - No School
	6		First Quarter Progress Report
	10		Picture Retakes
	12		Dine Out Night Fundraiser at City BBQ
	19	1:00 pm	1:00 pm Student Dismissal-Teacher Development (<i>No Aftercare</i>)
	23-27		Fall Spirit Week
	26-27		6th Grade Camp Tecumseh Trip

FROM THE CAFETERIA

Lunch Menu - August 19 - 23

Monday	Beef Meatballs in Gravy with Bow Tie Pasta, Green Beans and Goldfish Grahams
Tuesday	Mashed Potato Bowl-Popcorn Chicken over Corn and Mashed Potatoes with Chicken Gravy and Hawaiiin Rolls
Wednesday	Teriyaki Chicken with Asian Noodles, Sugar Snap Peas and Vegetable Egg Rolls
Thursday	Eggo Chocolate Chip French Toast, Pork Sausage and Orange Glazed Carrots
Friday	Stuffed Crust Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza and Kale Salad

Limited Supply of 2019/2020 Spirit Wear t-shirts in the Office



For anyone who missed the first Spirit Wear sale, we have a limited amount of 2019/2020 Spirit Wear t-shirts available in the school office. We have some Youth XS, Youth Small and Youth Large sizes. They are \$13.50 each. If you would like to purchase, please bring a check (payable to St. Mark Catholic School) or cash (if cash, please remit exact amount as we are not able to make change in the office) to the school office. You can also send in with your child in a clearly marked envelope with your child's name, amount enclosed and what size of t-shirt(s) you would like sent back home with them.

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 ~ Michelle Goss at the following email:
gossteach@yahoo.com
- SMAC Athletic Director ~ Kris Able at the following email:
kable@stmarkindy.org



<u>Event</u>	<u>Day of Week</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Time, Location</u>
3 Kickball	Monday (8/19)	St. Pius X	5:00, St. Mark
4 Kickball	Monday (8/19)	St. Jude	6:00, St. Mark
56 Kickball	Tuesday (8/20)	St. Roch	5:00, St. Mark
Cadet Kickball	Tuesday (8/20)	St. Simon	6:00, St. Mark
4 Kickball	Wednesday (8/21)	St. Roch	5:00, St. Roch
56 Kickball	Thursday (8/22)	St. Jude	5:00, St. Mark
Cadet Kickball	Thursday (8/22)	St. Jude	6:00, St. Mark
3 Kickball	Thursday (8/22)	St. Simon	6:00, St. Simon