



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

Dear Parents,

Relationships. Building relationships. Building positive relationships. Building positive relationships with others. Building positive relationships with others through **CHRIST!**

Love. Love for others. Love for others through our actions. Love for others through our actions through **CHRIST!**

Peace. Creating Peace. Creating Peace in our school. Creating Peace in our church. Creating Peace in our homes. Creating Peace in our community. Creating peace in our world through **CHRIST!**

Relationships, Love, and Peace. We start small with the person sitting next to us at church. With our spouse, with our children. We work our way outward to the person at work, to the parent at school, to the neighbor we pass by on a walk through our neighborhood. It spreads to people that we barely know at a friend's Christmas gathering, to someone that you meet from another school at a CYO game, to a stranger at Walmart. It grows to a person that you may have only heard of on a Facebook story, to a group of people that have lost their homes in a hurricane in the south, to a 2 year old who has lost both her parents to violence, to a group of refugees that have been in a camp for 8 years just waiting to be reunited with their family here in Indianapolis.

Then the Relationships turn to much more than dropping a dollar in a red kettle. The Love that you give to others last longer than the 1 minute it takes you to text GIVE on your phone. The Peace that you have begun to build as a small token of giving will create a ground swell that will multiply with each act of kindness that you do for others. The parables of Christ will begin to, not only make sense, but will start to come to fruition in your own life, in a form that He chooses for you.

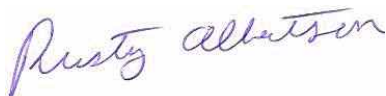
You see, these three words: Relationships, Love, and Peace, can change your life, your home, your workplace, your school, your church, your community, your country, and your world. *Building relationships with love will create peace.* You have all the tools in your toolbox that you need to build relationships. Tools like kindness, compassion, empathy, caring, words, actions, and listening.

The love you build with these tools will create peace. A peace that has no strings attached. A peace that does not need a scoreboard to keep track. A peace that is applicable, sustainable, and

attainable. A peace that is given to you by the Grace of God, through his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

So as we head into the third week of Advent and the last week of school for 2017, let us prepare our hearts for Christ's coming. While we are waiting, let's create our own parables of peace. Don't worry about what is in it for you. *Through Christ, we can build relationships with love that will create peace.* I hope you and your family have a great weekend and we will see you at Mass this weekend!

Thanks and God Bless,



Rusty Albertson
Principal
St. Mark Catholic School

1 Timothy 4:12 "Let no one have contempt for your youth, but set an example for those who believe, in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity"

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Events

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|---|
| December | 21 | Thursday | Grade School Giving Tree Items Due |
| | 18-19 | Mon, Tues | Santa Shop |
| | 21 | Thursday | End of 2nd Quarter |
| | 21 | Thursday | Pre-K Christmas Musical, Church, 11:00 am |
| | 21 | Thursday | Staff Development, Students Dismissed at 1:00 (NO AFTERCARE) |
| December 21 - January 7 | | | Christmas Break - No School |
| January | 8 | Monday | School Resumes, 3rd Quarter Begins |
| | 8 | Monday | Letters of Intent are sent home to current school families |
| | 10 | Wednesday | Report Cards |

| | | | |
|---------|----|----------|---|
| January | 11 | Thursday | Dine Out Night at Carrabbas Italian Grill, 4690 Southport Crossing Drive |
| | 12 | Friday | Staff Development-Students Dismissed at 1:00 (No Aftercare) |
| | 15 | Monday | Martin Luther King Day, No School |
| | 19 | Friday | Letters of Intent and Registration Fee for 2018/2019 due to School Office |
| | 22 | Monday | Parishioners without Children at SMCS may begin registering for 2018/2019 |
| | 27 | Saturday | PTG Spaghetti Supper, Monsignor Schafer Hall, 5:00-7:30 pm. |

St. Mark Parish News

The **St. Mark Men's club** will be meeting Thursday December 21st at 8:00 pm in the Men's Club room next to the cafeteria. This is a great way to get involved and meet other men of the Parish. For any questions please contact Chuck Tucker at SMMCindy@gmail.com"

Parish Office Hours for Christmas and New Year

The parish offices will be closed in observance of Christmas on Monday, December 25, and Tuesday, December 26. The parish offices will also be closed on Monday, January 1, 2018.



Wishing Well Fund Christmas Delivery

The Wishing Well Fund, Inc. needs volunteers again this year for our Christmas Food basket delivery on Saturday, December 23rd at 8:30am.

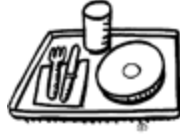
We will be delivering from PRIMO's (**CHANGE OF LOCATION**) The address is 2615 National Avenue.

Please help us to make this Christmas an enjoyable one for many of our less fortunate families (approx. 144) in the Indianapolis area.

Any questions, please contact Dick White at [317-919-3911](tel:317-919-3911).

FROM THE CAFETERIA

Lunch Menu - Week of December 18 thru 21



| | |
|------------------|--|
| Monday | Hot Ham & Cheese on Ciabatta Bread and Baked Beans |
| Tuesday | Chicken & Noodles, Biscuit, Mashed Potatoes and Baked Apples |
| Wednesday | Beef Taco Meat, Tortilla Rounds, Corn and Queso Blanco |
| Thursday | Christmas Shaped Chicken Nuggets, French Fries and Christmas Treat |
| Friday | <i>No School - Christmas Break</i> |



Santa Claus is Comin' to Town...
December 18 and 19th
and he needs Elves



Volunteers are needed to help with the Santa Shop.
If you can volunteer, please email Chrissy Geier at
cmgeiern@yahoo.com dates and times.

(All Volunteers will need to have completed the Safe and Sacred Program, Volunteer Background Check and signed SMCS Volunteer Policy form)

Our 8th grade class hosts a Santa Shop fundraiser to help raise money for their 8th grade class trip. The Santa Shop is set up **during the school day** in Room 11 and has affordable gifts **for students to purchase** for their family. Cost of items could range from .50 cents to \$5.00 per item.. ***If you would like your child to "shop", please send money with them in an envelope that has their name, class, amount enclosed, who they should purchase gifts for and "Santa Shop" written on the outside of the envelope.***

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 boxes in the church narthex or school entrance.



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! Here are some of the brands that can be redeemed for points:

Just turn your coke reward products into Mrs. Leszcynski in the office.



CYO SPORTS

| <u>Event</u> | <u>Day of Week</u> | <u>Opponent</u> | <u>Time, Location</u> |
|-------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| December 15 – 22 | | | |
| 56B Boys BB | Saturday (12/16) | Nativity | 9:00, Nativity |
| 4 Boys BB | Saturday (12/16) | Nativity | 12:00, Nativity |
| 56C Boys BB | Sunday (12/17) | St. Barnabas | 1:00, St. Barnabas |

St. Mark Wrestling Registration

Registration for boy's wrestling is now underway. St. Mark wrestling is open to all Parish boys in grades K-8. The CYO team registration deadline is December 27 and we need to get a team count as soon as possible. All K-8 wrestlers must register using the CYO website no later than December 20. A CYO physical exam is required for grades 5-8 and forms are available in the church narthex, parish office, school office, and the school and parish web site. To register for wrestling, go to www.cyoarchindy.org. Follow the "Register Child" link and complete the information requested. Please contact Patrick Collier at collierfamily8@att.net for more information.

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.

RONCALLI REBEL NEWS



Reminder: Roncalli High School Application

Roncalli is excited to welcome the Class of 2022 next fall!

As a reminder, the Application for Admission is now available online at www.roncalli.org. To access the registration site, please click the text that reads "Complete Admission Application Online" underneath the scrolling photos. Once the application is complete and the \$100 registration fee is received, you may continue the registration process. For those who have not been in a South Deanery Catholic grade school for grades seven and eight, those next steps will include scheduling an admissions interview for Saturday, January 20 (limited space available). For all others, it will be scheduling your appointment to meet with your student's counselor to create their freshman year schedule.

Please contact Director of Admissions Allie Ross at aross@roncalli.org or (317) 787-8277, ext. 243 with any questions.

RONCALLI WRESTLING: CYO WINTER BREAK CLINIC

Rebel Wrestling Foundation is hosting it's 2nd Annual CYO Winter Break Wrestling Clinic at Roncalli High School Wrestling Facility. RHS Head Coach Wade McClurg, the RHS wrestling staff, and RHS wrestling team, will be teaching the wrestling techniques that are taught in the RHS workouts. These are the skills that will build Roncalli Wrestling champions.

- Cost: \$20 cash or check to RWF
- Dates: Tuesday December 26th & Wednesday December 27th
- Time: 12:00pm-1:30pm
- Ages: Grades K-8

Lady Rebel Volleyball Skills Clinic

- When: December 27, 2017
- Time: 4th grade - 4:00-5:30 pm
5th and 6th - 5:30-7:00 pm
7th and 8th - 7:00-8:30 pm
- Where: Roncalli Main Gym
- Cost: \$20.00-Please make checks payable to Roncalli High School. Please pay at the Door.

RONCALLI REBEL SOFTBALL

IHSAA State Champions
1999, 2001, 2011

Marion County Champions
2009, 2013, 2015

Winter Skills Camp—December 27 & 28

Grades 1-4, 9am-10:30am

Grades 5-8, 11am-12:30pm

Location: RHS Bubble Gym

Cost: \$40

Workout items: tennis shoes, glove, bat (if you own one)

Skills: Throwing, fielding, communication, hitting, conditioning

Please detach and send \$40 to:

Roncalli High School

Attn: David Lauck

3300 Prague Rd.

Indianapolis, IN 46227

Please return by Friday, December 22—**may also register at the door**

Contact me if you have questions: dlauck@roncalli.org or 317-513-1567

Student-athlete information sheet

Name:

Grade:

Shirt size: (youth S-M-L—adult S-M-L)

Grade School:

Phone Number:

Contact Email: