



# SAIN<sup>+</sup> MARK CATHOLIC ACADEMY

*A guiding light for children today.*

March 24, 2021

Dear Families:

According to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, “during Lent, we are asked to focus more intently on ‘*almsgiving*,’ which means donating money or goods to the poor and performing other acts of charity.”

It is appropriate then, that I share this with you...Thanks to your generous support of our Saint Joseph’s Day dress down fundraiser, Saint Mark Catholic Academy was able to contribute \$877 to St. Joseph’s College for the Joseph M. Lewinger ’00 Endowed Scholarship for Future Educators. The College even commented on our Facebook page: “This is so wonderful! Thank you, Saint Mark Catholic Academy community!”

I am especially proud of our SMCA community. We can always count on your charitable giving, not only during Lent, but throughout the year. Since September, you have supported our veterans, those with breast cancer, our essential workers, and now future educators. Thank you!

Almsgiving isn’t only about money, though. You do need to write a check or give a huge sum to be generous. We can also be generous with our time and our talents and in the ways we support and care for each other. Please keep this in mind as we enter the last few days of Lent.

Speaking of Lent, there is only one week of school before the Easter Recess begins. **The last day of school for students is Tuesday, March 30<sup>th</sup>.** School resumes on Monday, April 12<sup>th</sup>! Please see the important travel reminders in today’s folder from the Office of the Superintendent. If you must travel, please follow these protocols. Those who do not adhere to these guidelines, may not be able to resume classes on the twelfth.










Before we all take a well-deserved break, we must first distribute report cards and hold parent-teacher conferences. Report cards will be distributed through OptionC for kindergarten through grade eight. (Nursery and pre-k will receive their reports through either email or Class Dojo.) Report card conferences will be held via phone call or Zoom meeting. Time slots will be available from 1pm to 3pm and then from 5pm to 7pm. Links to sign up for your time will be going home today. Please check your email.

As always, thank you for your support and cooperation!

Sincerely,

Mr. Mark Wilson  
Principal

# April 2021

| Sunday  | Monday  | Tuesday   | Wednesday   | Thursday   | Friday   | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|--|--|----------|
| 28  | 29<br>Dress Down Day<br> | 30<br>Dress Down Day<br> | 31<br>Professional Day<br>School Closed<br>Easter Break Begins<br> | 1<br>Holy Thursday<br>School Closed<br> | 2<br>Good Friday<br>School Closed<br> | 3        |
| 4<br>Easter Sunday<br><i>9/11 is Never Forgotten</i><br> | 5<br>Easter Recess<br>School Closed   | 6<br>Easter Recess<br>School Closed   | 7<br>Easter Recess<br>School Closed   | 8<br>Easter Recess<br>School Closed  | 9<br>Easter Recess<br>School Closed  | 10       |
| 11  | 12<br>Classes Resume<br> | 13  | 14  | 15   | 16   | 17       |
| 18  | 19  | 20  | 21  | 22<br>Lung Force<br>Dress Down<br>    | 23<br>Lung Force<br>Dress Down<br>  | 24       |
| 25  | 26  | 27  | 28  | 29   | 30<br>½ Day Dismissal<br>Nursery &<br>Kindergarten -- 8<br>Pre-K for All<br>Full Day                                   | 1        |



## Easter Recess Travel

As we look forward to the Easter Holiday Recess many of us are making plans for the Easter Holiday Recess. Whether you're visiting family members one state over or across the globe, travel makes up a huge part of the Easter Holiday Recess. There's always a risk of getting sick while traveling because of the inherent stress of traveling, interacting with frequently touched surfaces in public places, and changes in climate and environment. But this year continues to bring different considerations because of the Coronavirus Pandemic and the New York State Travel Advisory.

Things to consider as we enjoy this time with family.

### NYS COVID-19 Travel Advisory

The NYS COVID-19 travel advisory requires individuals who have traveled out of New York State to non-contiguous states for more than 24 hours to either quarantine for 10 days upon return to New York State or "Test to Exit" quarantine.

### For travelers who were out-of-state for more than 24 hours:

- Travelers must obtain a test within three days of departure, before arrival in New York.
- The traveler must, upon arrival in New York, quarantine for three days.
- On day 4 of their quarantine, the traveler must obtain another COVID test. If both tests come back negative, the traveler may exit quarantine early upon receipt of the second negative diagnostic test.

### Further, domestic travelers to New York may be exempt from quarantine if they satisfy the following criteria.

- Consistent with [recent CDC guidance](#), **asymptomatic** individuals who have been vaccinated against COVID-19 do not need to quarantine during the first 3 months after full vaccination if such travelers:
  - Are fully vaccinated (i.e.,  $\geq 2$  weeks following receipt of the second dose in a 2-dose series, or  $\geq 2$  weeks following receipt of one dose of a single-dose vaccine); **AND**
  - Are within 3 months following receipt of the last dose in the series; **AND**
  - Have remained asymptomatic since the last COVID-19 exposure.
- Consistent with CDC guidance from February 13, 2021, asymptomatic individuals who have previously been diagnosed with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 and have since recovered, are not required to retest and quarantine within 3 months after the date of symptom onset from the initial COVID-19 infection or date of the first positive diagnostic test if asymptomatic during illness.

- Travelers from a state that are contiguous with New York (Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont) are exempt from the travel advisory.
- Travelers from Canada crossing at land borders subject to the agreement between the governments of the United States and Canada are permitted to travel in accordance with said agreement and do not need to quarantine.
- Exceptions to the travel advisory are permitted for essential workers traveling from non-contiguous U.S. states or territories and are limited based on the duration of time in New York and subject to more specific industry guidance for a particular industry.

The Office of the Superintendent of Schools for the Diocese of Brooklyn has expanded the International Travel Advisory to include **all** International Travel.

Full Information on the NYS COVID-19 Travel Advisory can be found at <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-travel-advisory>

**Please Note:** As per the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (NYC DOHMH) schools can implement safety and health protocols that go above the NYS DOHMH and NYC DOHMH required safety and health protocols.

# EASTER DRESS DOWN "EGG" STRAVAGANZA

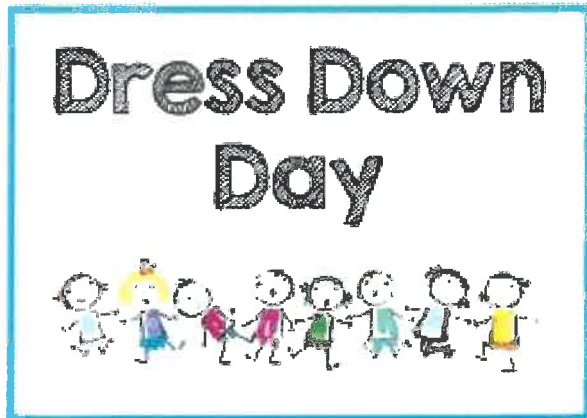
MONDAY, MARCH 29<sup>TH</sup> & TUESDAY, MARCH 30<sup>TH</sup>

## \$5

**TWO DAYS OF DRESS DOWN DAYS FOR ONLY \$5!**

Please send in dress down money in a clearly labeled envelope with your child's name and grade.

Please submit \$5 in advance by Friday, March 26<sup>th</sup>.



Although it is a dress down day, students are reminded to dress with modesty. Students should adhere to the following attire as described in the Parent-Student Handbook:

- Appropriate length skirt, shorts or dress – no shorter than 3" above the knees
- No torn or tight jeans or pants
- No spaghetti strap tanks, midriffs, tube tops, etc.
- No logo type T-shirts
- No hats (unless specifically designated)
- No loose/baggy pants or shorts
- No make-up or nail polish (including gels/French manicures)
- No hoop earrings or excessive jewelry
- No jeggings, leggings or skinny jeans

**Parents will be called to bring a change of clothes for students who do not adhere to these regulations.**