



SAINT MARK CATHOLIC ACADEMY

A Guiding Light in Sheepshead Bay

December 22, 2021

Dear Families:

Since Reconciliation Monday was just the other day, I have a confession to make...I'm not a huge fan of *The Muppet Christmas Carol*. That wouldn't be so bad except my wife loves the movie...so each Christmas I have to endure it at least one or two times. (To be honest, sometimes I fall asleep before it's over.)

I apologize to those of you who are fans of *The Muppet Christmas Carol*; however, I believe I can redeem myself with all of you (...and my wife, too) by saying that the film's soundtrack is growing on me. The songs aren't that bad. In fact, they're catchy, the kind of songs that get stuck in your head. One in particular is "Thankful Heart," which is sung by Ebenezer Scrooge at the end of the movie after he sees the error of his ways and becomes a loving, caring, and generous man. The songs goes...

*With a thankful heart, with a endless joy
With a growing family, every girl and boy
Will be nephew and niece to me
Nephew and niece to me
Will bring love, hope and peace to me
Love hope and peace to me
Yes, every night will end and every day will start
With a grateful prayer and a thankful heart*

*With an open smile and with open doors
I will bid welcome, and what's mine is yours
With a glass raised to toast your health
With a glass raised to toast your health
And a promise to share the wealth
Promise to share the wealth
I will sail a friendly course, file a friendly chart
On a sea of love and a thankful heart*

*Life is like a journey
Who knows when it ends?
Yes, and if you need to know the measure of a man
you simply count his friends
Stop and look around you
The glory that you see
Is born again each day, don't let it slip away
How precious life can be*

*With a thankful heart that is wide awake
I do make this promise with every breath I take
Will be used now to sing your praise
Used now to sing your praise
And beg you to share my days
With a loving guarantee
That even if we part
I will hold you close in a thankful heart
I will hold you close in a thankful heart
In a thankful heart*

To me, the song "says it all" and has a wonderful message—a message I'd like to share with all of you this Christmas...

... I certainly have a "thankful heart" this Christmas. We are living in difficult times, so I truly appreciate the hard work and dedication of our staff, the support of our families, and the commitment of our students. We should all begin our day with a "grateful prayer" and "a thankful heart."

... This Christmas, more than ever, we should "toast the health" of our friends and families!

... Sometimes, life can be stressful, especially around the holidays, take a moment to "stop and look around you" at "the glory that you see."

... Certainly, during this holiday season, my Saint Mark family will be among those I "hold close in a thankful heart"!

Fittingly, the symbol of Saint Mark Catholic Academy is the lighthouse, and as our motto states we are a "guiding light" for our students. I'd like to think that that very lighthouse helps our students *sail a friendly course, file a friendly chart on a sea of love and a thankful heart.* **Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**

Sincerely,

Mr. Mark Wilson
Principal

Continuing the tradition of faith, service, and education.

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Ms. Louis
Laron Guglielmo

Ella Sicurelli

Richard Staley

Rogelio

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND

Happy New Year!

Olson
Ryan

Larone James

Father Bob

Luciano Val

William Smith

Alona Kantor

"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)

Mrs. Albert

Mrs. Kern

Mrs. Vella

Mrs. Bizzo

Mrs. Hurley

Mrs. White

Refino

Mrs. DeLoe

Mrs. Brown

Mrs. Ryan

Mrs. Clauette

Mrs. Daly

Michael Parvati

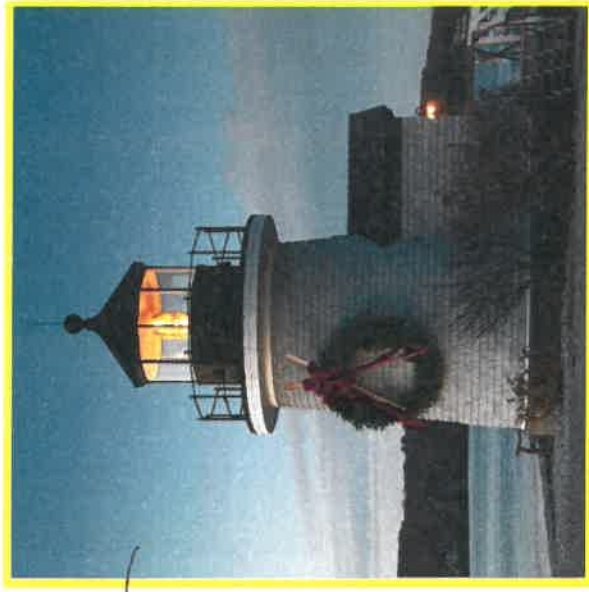
-from the Saint Mark Catholic Academy Family

Mrs. Colleen Fahy - Ennetta Alena Clemente

Mrs. Sam

John J. Swan

Colleen



Mrs. Rosado

Norma Walker

Shirley

James

Henry Wickham

Mark

Robert

John J. Swan

Colleen

JANUARY 2022 CALENDAR REMINDERS & UPDATES



Happy New Year!

- Wednesday, December 22 Last day of school before Christmas Recess
- Thursday, December 23 – Sunday, January 2: SCHOOL CLOSED
- Monday, January 3 School resumes for all students.
- Friday, January 7 Early Dismissal for K-8 / Full day for 3K & PreK
- Thursday, January 13 \$5 Pizza and Dress Down Day
- Friday, January 14 **SCHOOL CLOSED: Professional Day (All classes)**
- Monday, January 17 **SCHOOL CLOSED: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**