



February 16, 2022

Dear Families:

Thank you to the many members of our school community who participated in our “Why I Love Saint Mark” survey. It was no easy task to select the top 100 responses; all of your replies were heartfelt and sincere. On behalf of the entire school community, we truly appreciate your kind words! You can see all of the answers on the attached flyer.

Along with celebrating Catholic Schools Week and the 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School, we also celebrate Black History Month during February. Recently, I found this quote from Servant of God, Sister Thea Bowman. The title Servant of God means that Sister Thea is a candidate for sainthood. Sister Thea passed away in 1990, which would make her a modern-day saint and the first Black saint from the United States of America! Sister Thea said:

*“I think the difference between me and some people is that I’m content to do my little bit. Sometimes people think they have to do big things in order to make change. But if each one would light a candle we’d have a tremendous light.”*

This quote from Sister Thea truly encapsulates all that Saint Mark Catholic Academy is all about! Truly, each of us lights our own candle! Our teachers and staff light their candle through their care and support of our students. Our children light their candle through their daily effort toward academic achievement and personal growth, and our families light their candle when they commit themselves to our mission by entrusting their children to us each day. Thank you!

When each member of our school community “lights their candle,” we truly are a “guiding light in Sheepshead Bay.”

Sincerely,

Mr. Mark Wilson  
Principal



# 100 REASONS WE LOVE SAINT MARK CATHOLIC ACADEMY

Student, families, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends of Saint Mark all shared why they love our school. These are 100 of their responses!

1. ...of the Catholic identity, and great learning environment. 2. I get and teachers. 3. ...Of its diversity, and it's a family not team! 4. They have become my second family. 5. It has been a very family oriented. 7. At St. Mark CA it feels like I am going to my principal to the teachers and students. St. Mark is my happy place, and I enjoy team and all the support we give each other. 8. Mark's staff is a true family, and I willing to change and adapt to the times. Being a member of the faculty for quite a while, I have experienced quite a lot of changes and challenges, but we always seem to adapt. "Keep roaring Saint Mark Catholic Academy" as you adapt to the times and circumstances. 13. The students feel safe in this community, and their personalities shine through inside and outside of the classroom. 14. My teachers are great! 15. It has lots of love, good friends, and great teachers! 16. I have met many nice people and made many good friends. 17. ...of the friendly teachers and great classmates. 18. Saint Mark is a great place for learning and meeting new people. When I first came to Saint Mark, I was shy and nervous until I found there was no reason to be. 19. ...because there are so many fun events. 20. It's my big family! 21. We have fun while learning. 22. St. Mark is my family. 23. The teachers are nice, and they help us if we need it. 24. It is a nice school, and I have learned a lot of new things here. 25. I learned so much. St. Mark Catholic Academy is a wonderful school. 26. I get to participate in a lot of fun educational events. There are good teachers and fun and interesting subjects to learn. 27. It has some special days that remind me that we should be happy with who we are. 28. I make new friends. 29. This is where I met all my friends. 30. We get to have tar beach and have an amazing principal and teachers. 31. We're part of a great team. 32. It has amazing things happening every week. My favorite days of the week are Dress Down and Pizza Day. 33. I have a lot of friends here. 34. The teachers are nice and it just a wonderful school. 35. Everyone is nice there, it is really amazing, especially the teachers. 36. It teaches me about God and other subjects. 37. I get to learn about different things, and I made lots of friends. 38. I like how there are events on the calendar like dress down and breaks. 39. I get to spend time with my friends. 40. The assignments and projects are fun. 41. I get to learn and make new friends. 42. The teachers are very supportive and help students get work done. The students are very kind and easy to make friends with. 43. It symbolizes God. 44. It has all of my friends and has very good teachers. 45. It has a well-organized educational system and helps students become successful at their studies. The school gives everybody a chance and allows students to engage in fun, interesting, and educational activities. 46. The teachers are helpful, and the students are caring. Because of Saint Mark, I am encouraged to do the best I can do. 47. I have amazing teachers who are always trying to help the students learn and have fun while learning. 48. This school excels in a variety of ways...spiritually, academically, socially. The students grow and become the best they can be. St. Mark is home and family to all who attend. Faculty and staff are excellent, and the principal is outstanding. My 38 years there were the happiest ones a teacher could ever ask for...friends for life and that includes former students. 49. St. Mark provides a positive and safe environment for children. In this institution, the learning process is fun and comes with a strong value system. 50. I feel they have a family relationship with the child. 51. It is family-oriented. Their main focus is on improving education and making school fun for the children. 52. My kids love to be able to attend St. Mark Catholic Academy. Thank you for all your efforts to help the kids to grow smart, respectful, happy, and safe. It is an honor for us to be a part of St. Mark's Family! 53. All staff are well educated, and they treat the students equally. 54. It is a good school, with kind people who provide a good education. 55. Children are the priority. 56. My children love it! 57. My son feels safe and comfortable with the staff. I know if there is a problem, it gets addressed immediately. He is learning more than he was at his previous school, and the teachers are professional and respect him. 58. Very nice school and staff! Highly satisfied that my son attends this school. 59. They care about its community, and it's clean. 60. It gives us a feeling of community and love. 61. ...because the school is very organized. 62. It is a safe place. 63. It's home. 64. The staff are genuinely seeking to support our kiddos social and emotional growth. My children feel excited to go to school and there's a love for growing too! 65. First reason is diversity! And second reason, the teachers are amazing, very grateful for them!! 66. It's a very safe environment. I feel like we are all family, and my kids love the school. 67. ...of the religious formation for my kid. 68. It gives a good family vibe and feeling! It is very safe as well. 69. St. Mark's feels like a home away from home. It is a huge part of our family. 70. It is a caring school. 71. It provides a safe place for my son to grow. 72. It is the best school that fosters religiosity and decency in children, gives good knowledge. 73. Of the staff who are kind, compassionate, and make me and my daughter feel like we're part of the Saint Mark's family. I also love the style of teaching that is offered to my daughter day to day, so thank you for that. 74. I see my child academically improving, and she is happy when she goes to school. 75. It's our second home! 76. It's so family-oriented, and my daughter enjoys going to school because all her classmates are respectful. 77. It is a great school! My daughter likes the teachers and staff! 78. Our son enrolled in kindergarten, and it was the best academic and social decision we have ever made. The entire staff and teachers are very welcoming, kind, and supportive. All of us as a family feel blessed to be a part of Saint Mark Catholic Academy. 79. My daughter feels safe, understood, accepted, and happy. She has overcome her fear of math because of her teachers. 80. High quality education, strong moral values, religious foundations, very nice staff and teachers. 81. Teachers teach students, care about students. They are educators, not politicians at work. 82. The academics are top notch. The teachers are great, and the class size is perfect. They do lots of things my children find fun and keep the school spirit going. 83. All of personnel are responsible, respectful, and helpful. My kids love this school. 84. I love the way you teach the kids and make them believe in God. 85. In this school my children get a good education, study religion, and are safe. 86. You are taking care and giving the best discipline and education for our children. Thank you for helping us raise our kids! 87. In everything that they do; they uphold the importance of love, charity, community, and diversity. Most importantly, they know each of their students by name. 88. It is a great school for my children to learn and grow to get a head start for their education. 89. ... friendly staff and convenient location. 90. It feels like a family! 91. We love Saint Mark Catholic Academy because of the people who work there. People who work at Saint Mark are heroes in the truest sense of the word. They are caring, decent, honest, and the most dedicated teachers in this country. They give our children knowledge and teach them proper values. 92. They are very nice and professional. 93. It has good education and professional teachers. 94. Learning is not only great but also fun at St. Mark! 95. St. Mark Catholic Academy is a caring faith-filled family community, where students and families can learn and grow together. 96. The teachers were always diligent and fair. They always gave their extra time to help out a student that was struggling and that itself is why St. Mark Catholic Academy excels. 97. It gives a sense of family. 98. It teaches children maturity and integrity that will help them when they get older. 99. It has a great and welcoming environment like no other school. The teachers are amazing and really love the students they teach.

100. Saint Mark Catholic Academy is a very special place. It has a strong sense of family through a bond of faith. I love Saint Mark Catholic Academy because there are so many smiling faces, from children to adults. I know this is because everyone feels welcomed and important. All involved are part of a school community that is like a family; a second home, where the whole learning experience is driven by faith.

# **EXTRA! EXTRA!**

## **READ ALL ABOUT IT...*ONLINE!***



Starting in March, we will transition from many different papers going home in the Wednesday Folder to an email blast that will include an attachment with a “virtual folder” that will contain important flyers and documents. Of course, the Wednesday Folder will still go home, but it will be used to send home any tests or forms that need to be returned to school. Thank you for your patience as we attempt to **“GO GREEN”** and reduce the amount of paper that goes home.

**If you haven't been getting our emails and text message blasts, please contact Mrs. Ryan as soon as possible!**  
**Thank you!**

# SAINT MARK CATHOLIC ACADEMY SUPPORTS THE NYPD

As part of an ongoing fundraiser, we will be selling **BLUE BOWS** in support of the New York City Police Department and all law enforcement agencies.

For a **\$5 donation**, a family will have a bow placed on our fence on East 19<sup>th</sup> Street. Also, each child will be entitled to a **BLUE DRESS DOWN** on the day of their choice.

The fundraiser will begin **February 10<sup>th</sup>** and end on **April 13<sup>th</sup>**.

All funds will support the **NYC PBA Widows and Children's Fund**.



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**Saint Mark Catholic Academy • BLUE BOW SALE**  
**\$5 Donation for each bow**

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_  
Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_
















Number of bows to purchase: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_



# March 2022

# SAINT MARK CATHOLIC ACADEMY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	1	2	3	4	5
	<p>Classes Resume</p> <p><b>Scholastic Book Fair</b></p>  <p>Last day reregistration fee is \$150.</p>	<p><b>Scholastic Book Fair</b></p>  <p>Reregistration fee is now \$200.</p>	<p><b>Scholastic Book Fair</b></p> <p>Ash Wednesday</p>  <p><b>Pizza and Dress Down (\$5)</b></p>			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
					<p>National Preschoolers Day!</p> 	<p>First Penance</p> 
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	<p>Trimester Exams (Grades 5-8)</p> 	<p>Trimester Exams (Grades 5-8)</p> 	<p>Trimester Exams (Grades 5-8)</p> 	<p>End of Trimester 2</p>  <p><b>FREE Dress Green Day</b></p> <p>Trimester Exams (Grades 5-8)</p>	<p>St. Joseph's Day Fundraiser Dress Down (\$5) supporting the Joseph M. Lewinger Scholarship at St. Joseph's College</p> <p><b>NO SCHOOL FOR 3K &amp; PREK ONLY (K-8 FULL DAY)</b></p>	<p>St. Joseph's Day</p> 
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
			<p>Last day to apply for financial aid for those <b>reapplying</b> for a grant. Please contact Mr. Bunch <b>before today</b> to make an appointment. (Deadline for first-time applicants is April 23.)</p> 	<p>Trimester Exams (Grades 5-8)</p>	<p><b>Report Cards Distributed</b></p>  <p>Early Dismissal Day for ALL GRADES</p>	
27	28	29	30	31	April 1	
					<p><b>Pizza and Dress Down (\$5)</b></p> 	<p><b>REMINDER:</b></p> <p>Easter Recess is Thursday, April 14 through Sunday, April 24.</p>

# PIZZA & DRESS DOWN DAY!

Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>

\$5

for one slice of pizza and dress down



- All money must be paid in advance by Monday, February 28th.  
**Late payments WILL NOT be accepted.**
- No pizza may be purchased on Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- The Free Lunch Program WILL NOT be available Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, so students not participating MUST bring lunch from home.
- Students participating should bring in a drink from home. (No soda.)  
No drinks will be available.
- There is no fee for 3K and PreK students, but donations are accepted. Thank you!

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.

## PIZZA DAY ORDER FORM

Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

**If you would like to order any additional slices of pizza, one additional slice is \$3.**

One slice of pizza and dress down: \$5

Additional slices: \_\_\_ @ \$3 each: + \$\_\_\_

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$\_\_\_

# SAINT MARK CATHOLIC ACADEMY'S FRIDAY PIZZA DINNER RAFFLE



ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT SAINT MARK CATHOLIC ACADEMY!

*Sponsored by*

## V&S PIZZA

1723 Emmons Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11235



For \$20, your family has  
SIX (6) chances to win a family pizza dinner  
package from **V&S Pizza!**

The family pizza package includes...

- A large cheese pizza
- Two orders of garlic knots
- A 1.5-liter bottle of soda



Drawings will be held on:

March 4<sup>th</sup> • March 11<sup>th</sup> • March 18<sup>th</sup> • March 25<sup>th</sup> • April 1<sup>st</sup> • April 8<sup>th</sup>

Raffles can be bought throughout the six weeks. • Winners will not be removed.  
Multiple opportunities to win!

### FRIDAY PIZZA DINNER RAFFLE

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Raffles: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$20 each = Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Winners will get a voucher to bring to V&S. No deliveries.