

December 7, 2022

Dear Families:

Other than September and June, December is one of the busiest times of the school year. Teachers are preparing report cards. Students are practicing for their shows. The school office is planning for re-registration in January—and everyone has their own at-home Christmas prep and planning to do!

That's why tomorrow's day off comes at such an opportune time. It provides everyone with an opportunity to calm down, take a breath, and recharge. While we're certainly deserving of a day off, it's important not to lose sight of the *reason* for the day off...Mary, the mother of Jesus.

Schools in the Diocese of Brooklyn are closed because Mary under the title of the Immaculate Conception is the Patroness of the Diocese of Brooklyn—and she is also the Patroness of the United State of America under this title, too!

Since this feast day is in December, many people believe that the Immaculate Conception refers to Jesus, recognizing the time when the Angel Gabriel visited the Virgin Mary to tell her she would be the Mother of God. In actuality, Mary *herself* is the Immaculate Conception.

Mary's "yes" to being the mother of Jesus was an integral part of our salvation, so tomorrow is all about Mary. How appropriate then that we have the day off with the opportunity to take a break from our chaotic schedules. After all, mothers are often there to offer us comfort and relaxation when our lives get too hectic. Author Victor Hugo said it best, "A mother's arms are made of tenderness, and children sleep soundly in them."

So, tomorrow, enjoy the day off. Use the time to take a break from the busy month of December, but also say a "Hail Mary" or two. Thank Mary for the break tomorrow, but more importantly, thank her for her "yes."

Sincerely, ik Wilson

Mr. Mark Wilson Principal WE'VE GOT AN EARLY CHRISTMAS GIFT FOR YOU!

Please join us as we celebrate the return of our...



Grades 1 through 8 will be performing!

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19 at 6:15PM

TICKETS ARE \$5 EACH.

SEATING IS ON FIRST-COME FIRST-SERVED BASIS.

All tickets are purchased <u>ONLINE ONLY</u> at <u>https://tinyurl.com/p5r2k3vf</u>



IMPORTANT CALENDAR REMINDERS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

School is CLOSED in observance of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9

- Students in kindergarten and grades 1 through 8 **DO NOT HAVE SCHOOL**
- **3K and Pre-K students HAVE A REGULAR DAY OF** SCHOOL
- There is NO AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM on FRIDAY. **DECEMBER 9**.

SAINT MARK CATHOLIC ACADEMY Christmas Bow Sale
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This Christmas, Saint Mark Catholic Academy will be holding a Christmas Bow Sale!
These bows will be hung on our fence outside the school on East 19 th Street.
Along with being a festive decoration, these bows will also be a way for you to honor or memorialize a special family member or friend.
Each bow costs \$5.
If you are interested in purchasing a bow, please visit <u>https://tinyurl.com/x54n2pa7</u> or complete the form at bottom of the page.
The sale is ongoing, and bows will be hung as orders come in. Thank you!
Saint Mark Catholic Academy • Christmas Bow Sale
Child's Name:Grade:
Number of bows to purchase:Amount Enclosed: \$
Bow #1 In honor of In memory of Bow #2 In honor of In memory of Bow #3 In honor of In memory of If necessary, please list additional bows on the back of the form.
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Friday, January 27 DOORS OPEN AT 6:30PM

WHAT IS RADIO BINGO?

A mix between the more traditional games of *Name That Tune* and *Bingo*, **Radio Bingo**[™] puts a new spin on some old favorites. Rather than playing with numbered Bingo cards, we give you Radio Bingo[™] cards with songs on them instead. When you hear a song, you make it off of your card...when you get a line of songs marked off you call BINGO! It's as simple as that!

Tickets \$25 ADULTS (AGED 21 and OVER) ONLY

Admission includes game cards, light snacks, non-alcoholic beverages ...and great memories!

(Of course, guests may bring their own food and drink, too.)

For tickets... Contact Lori at (718) 332-9304 or

visit:



Journey to the Inn

"An Advent Celebration"

Sunday, December 11th 4PM at Saint Mark Church

Followed by the Tree Lighting Ceremony

in front of the Church





"Hot Cocoa Refreshments will be served"

Contact Michael Davis for further questions at: 347-574-1828

Christmas Sale 2 Days of Shopping

Tuesday, Dec 13th & Wednesday, Dec 14th

The Sale will be All Day Long During School Hours

Gifts will cost \$5 to \$15

