



November 30, 2022

Dear Families:

Now that Thanksgiving is behind us, we enter the Christmas season. Often, Christmas can be stressful. There's so much to do in such a short amount of time—it can be overwhelming! One of the biggest causes for angst is buying gifts. More often than not, it's a challenge to figure out what to get someone, especially when we can get whatever we want for ourselves shipped directly to our homes pretty much overnight.

Last night, I watched *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*. It's been a television tradition since 1964! Although the animation and graphics are outdated, what hasn't seemed to age is the message behind Rudolph's story: You are born with God-given gifts and talents. Initially, Rudolph believes his red nose is an embarrassing burden, but of course, by the end, it's that same nose that helps guide Santa and ultimately saves Christmas!

In a few days, we celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. More than just a day off, it is a holy day that recognizes how Mary was conceived without original sin so she could be mother of Jesus. Even before Mary was born, God had a plan for her that required a special gift.

God grants all of us special gifts and talents; sometimes, it takes a while for us to discover them. That's where we at SMCA come in. Although we teach the "core subjects," our true goal is to help our students begin to uncover and discover their God-given gifts and talents. That's why we do what we do! By the time they graduate, it is our hope that our students leave with a greater sense of what their unique gifts and talents are. Often, it's right under their nose!

Sincerely,

Mr. Mark Wilson
Principal



**Policies and Procedures for
Report Card Distribution on Friday, December 9, 2022**

November 30, 2022

Dear Families:

Believe it or not, we have reached the end of the first trimester! Since we're closing out this marking period, your child will soon receive his or her first report card. Students in kindergarten through grade eight will receive their child's report card via email on Friday, December 9th. Students in 3K and Pre-K will get paper report cards sent home with their child on Friday, December 9th.

The purpose of this letter is to serve as a reminder that report card meetings are not mandatory because you already met with your child's teacher for progress reports back in October. We will still have conferences, but these will be at the teacher's request and discretion. A teacher may require a meeting for a variety of reasons including but not limited to a student's academic progress, conduct, or social-emotional growth. Any request a teacher makes for a meeting is mandatory.

For students in grades five through eight, it has been customary for teachers to meet with just the homeroom teacher for parent-teacher conferences. Since meetings are now at the teachers' discretion, teachers may request meetings with the parents of students *outside* of their homeroom, if they feel it is necessary.

Parents will be notified of a required meeting in multiple ways. The teacher will make a notation in the comment section of the report card. A letter will go home on Wednesday, December 7th, and an email blast will also be sent on the seventh, too.

The teacher and parent will work together to come up an appropriate date and time to meet. **There is no set time frame, but we ask that all required parent-teacher conferences occur before the Christmas recess begins.** Friday, December 9 is a professional day, so students in kindergarten through grade eight will not be school. Teachers will be participating in meetings throughout the morning and early afternoon, but we will allocate some time later in the day for parent conferences, too. Again, there is no set time for meetings; they will be scheduled between the teacher and the student's family.

If you have any questions about report card conferences procedures, please reach out!

Sincerely,

Mr. Mark Wilson
Principal

Mrs. Lisa Rizzo
Assistant 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 ONLINE ONLY at
<https://tinyurl.com/p5r2k3vf>



SCAN ME

CHRISTMAS SHOW ATTIRE

Monday, December 19

Grade 1 – Nativity info from Mrs. Baran

Grade 2 – Hawaiian / black & brown robes

Grade 3 – Christmas Best

Grade 4 – All Black

Grade 5 – Red top, black bottoms

Grade 6 – Christmas Best

Grade 7 – Christmas Best

Grade 8 – Boys: red tops, ivory/white bottoms
Girls: ivory/white tops, red bottoms





SAINT MARK CATHOLIC ACADEMY



Christmas Bow Sale



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 19th 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 <https://tinyurl.com/x54n2pa7> 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.

SAINT MARK CATHOLIC ACADEMY

presents



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: <https://tinyurl.com/39d9jfes>**



SCAN ME

STUDENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Readers, performers, and singers are needed for Saint Mark-Saint Margaret Mary Parish's Performance of *Journey to the Inn* on Sunday, December 11.



Journey to the Inn is an Advent celebration that tells the story of the birth of Christ through readings, songs, and characters presentations.

Father Bob is need of volunteers from grades 3 through 8 to serve as readers, performers, and singers.

WHAT'S REQUIRED?

- Rehearsal on Wednesday, December 7 at 3pm in church.
- Arrive at church at 2:30pm on Sunday, December 11. Event should end at 6pm.

If you would like to volunteer,

please email Mr. Wilson by Tuesday, December 6 (mwilson@smsontheday.com).

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.**

December 2022 Saint Mark Catholic Academy

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 First Sunday of Advent 	28	29	30	1	2	3
4 Second Sunday of Advent 	5	6	7	8 SCHOOL CLOSED: Feast of the Immaculate Conception 	9 Professional Day: NO SCHOOL for K-8 Regular Day of School for 3K and Pre-K Report Cards Issued	10
11 Journey to the Inn and Light the Bay Saint Mark Church 	12	13	14	15 	16 Pizza and Dress Down Day (\$5) 	17
18 Third Sunday of Advent	19 Christmas Show Grades 1-8 6:15pm in gym 	20	21 Early Childhood Winter Extravaganza Show 3K, PreK, and Kindergarten 10am in gym 	22 Students' Christmas Sale	23 Students' Christmas Sale	24 SCHOOL CLOSED: Christmas Eve 
25 SCHOOL CLOSED: Christmas 	26 SCHOOL CLOSED: Christmas Recess	27 SCHOOL CLOSED: Christmas Recess	28 SCHOOL CLOSED: Christmas Recess	29 SCHOOL CLOSED: Christmas Recess	30 SCHOOL CLOSED: Christmas Recess	31 SCHOOL CLOSED: New Year's Eve School Resumes Tuesday, January 3

Covenant Ballet Theater Holiday Performance!

SATURDAY, DEC 10
Time: 3:00 to 4:00pm
Sheepshead Bay Library

Covenant Ballet Theater's
CBP-2 Youth Company
presents:



Window Wonderland!

This holiday themed performance - described as the "**Mini-Nutcracker**" - will be coming to the Sheepshead Bay Library on the afternoon of Saturday December 10th!

Join us for fun and excitement!

Performed by Covenant Ballet's youth company and apprentices.

Free admission!

Bklyn
Public Library

Sheepshead Bay Library Branch
2636 E. 14th St. at, Avenue Z
Brooklyn, NY 11235
Bklynlibrary.org