



SAINT MARK CATHOLIC ACADEMY

A Guiding Light in Sheepshead Bay

November 1, 2023

Dear Families:

Even though yesterday was Halloween, some of our students were dressed up again today! It is Saint Mark tradition that each class adopts a saint. One student from the class dresses like the saint, and another student reads some interesting facts about the saint their class has chosen.

During today's All Saints Day Mass, one of the hymns we sang together was "Be Not Afraid." Isn't Halloween all about scaring people and being scared? How appropriate then that this song was chosen for All Saints Day, the day after Halloween...if Halloween is a day of being scared, then All Saints Day is a day for reassurance and faith.

The refrain of "Be Not Afraid" is "Be not afraid / I go before you always / Come follow me / And I will give you rest." It's the ideal hymn for All Saints Day because it sums up the lives of the saints so well. Many saints faced challenges and hardships in their lives, yet they persevered. What's more, they chose to follow Jesus, and because of that, we know they are at "rest" in heaven. They have gone before us, and we follow their example.

Of the many saints our classes chose to adopt this year, I have a special connection to two of them: St. Bernadette (adopted by grade 1A) and St. Joseph (adopted by grade 7). These two saints are special to me because I went to Saint Bernadette School and then St. Joseph's College. All Saints Day reminds us that St. Bernadette, St. Joseph, and St. Mark are more than just names on buildings. The saints were ordinary people who did extraordinary things.

My daughter had a special All Saints Day Mass at her school today, too. Today, she dressed as St. Elizabeth of Hungary, a princess of the Kingdom of Hungary. Yesterday, she dressed like Anna, princess of Arendelle. Just as we "dress up" on Halloween, we also dress up on All Saints Day, but not to scare or "trick," but rather to honor the example these saints have set for all of us.

Sincerely,

Mr. Mark Wilson
Principal

Continuing the tradition of faith, service, and education.

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SAINT MARK'S ANNUAL THANKSGIVING FEAST IS BACK AGAIN!

For many years, it has been tradition at Saint Mark Catholic Academy for the entire school community to gather for a Thanksgiving dinner the Wednesday before Thanksgiving.

From 3K all the way through 8th grade, classes sit together in the gym Wednesday morning to share a meal. It truly exemplifies what Thanksgiving is all about!

TAKE A LOOK AT THANKSGIVING DINNER FROM 2016:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t6kk2k4pTCw>

As you can imagine, we need a lot of food since we're feeding over 345 students, plus faculty, staff, and family and friends.



That is why we rely on donations from our families to supply the food for our Thanksgiving celebration.

Please visit the link below to donate. Keep in mind that part of your "donation" includes cooking the food and bringing it to school. We appreciate your help and look forward to celebrating Thanksgiving together!



Please complete the survey by **Monday, November 13th**. Families who volunteer to contribute will be contacted separately.

THANK YOU!

DONATION LINK:

<https://forms.gle/KjfgQ78ccVAp2Gvr9>



Youth Ministry Pasta Movie Night

in the Academy Cafeteria

November 3rd at 6:30pm

The costs will be: \$20.00 for Adults and \$10.00 for Kids

We will be serving:

Penne alla Vodka Pasta.

Light Refreshments will also be available to purchase for the movie.

DINNER IS AT 6:30PM
MOVIE IS AT 8PM



To RSVP, please contact Michael Davis @ (347) 574-1828
Send Money in an envelope labeled PASTA NIGHT