



February 15, 2023

Dear Families:

Although it's the shortest month on the calendar, February is nonetheless a busy time! We just finished celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school and Valentine's Day. Catholic Schools Week wrapped up a few days ago, and we look forward to the upcoming Mid-Winter Recess in just a few days!

Along with these many celebrations, February is also Black History Month. Today marks 12 years since poet, author, actress, filmmaker, educator and civil rights activist Maya Angelou was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Barack Obama on February 15, 2011.

When I was the middle school ELA teacher, I would often teach Maya Angelou's poems, and her quotes and life-lessons are limitless. There is one that is only just a few words, but nevertheless powerful: "Be a rainbow in somebody else's cloud."

I don't think this quotation requires my interpretation, but one aspect I'd like to point out is that it is an imperative sentence or a command, really. Maya Angelou doesn't suggest we do this or make a recommendation, but rather it is her instruction; her request of all of us.

It my sincere hope that our students, in their studies and daily interactions with classmates, friends, teachers, and staff, work toward being that "rainbow in somebody else's cloud," just as our school is a "guiding light" for them.

Sincerely,

Mr. Mark Wilson  
Principal

# March 2023 Saint Mark Catholic Academy

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	1	2	3	4
		SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR 	SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR  <b>Re-registration fee increases to \$200</b>	Math Bee for Grades 3, 4, and 5		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
					Middle School Trimester Exams	National Preschool Day 
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Middle School Trimester Exams	Middle School Trimester Exams	Middle School Trimester Exams		<b>Early Dismissal Day</b> for Kindergarten through Grade 8 (Full day for 3K and Pre-K)  <b>HAPPY SAINT PATRICK'S DAY!</b> <b>FREE DRESS GREEN DAY</b>	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	<b>St. Joseph's Day Dress Down Fundraiser (\$5)</b> supporting the Joseph Lewinger '00 Scholarship for Future Educators at St. Joseph's University 			Tomorrow is the deadline for families who received a Futures in Education Award to <b>reapply</b> for the 2023-2024 school year.	<b>SCHOOL CLOSED:</b> Professional Day  Report Cards Issued	
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
					<b>Pizza &amp; Dress Down (\$5)</b>	

St. Mark & St. Margaret Mary Parish  
Presents



# Mardi Gras Party



*We are only 4 Days away!*



**Date: February 18<sup>th</sup>**  
**Time: 6 pm to 9pm**  
**Location: Saint Mark Catholic Academy Gymnasium & Cafeteria**

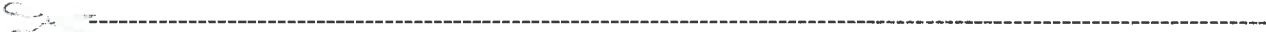
Prices  
**\$15 for adults**  
**\$10 for (Children 10-17 years old)**  
**\$5 for (Children 9 years old and under)**  
**Family & Friends are also Welcome**

*We will have a Potluck Dinner with Chicken Nuggets, Pigs in a Blanket, Mozzarella Sticks, Chicken Wings, a DJ, Photo Booth, Virtual Reality Games and so much more!*



## RSVP now or at the door the night of the event

Please cut below and return this Reservation/Ticket Order Form to the Rectory or to the School



Mardi Gras Reservation/Ticket Order Tear off Form:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

#Adults \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$15 = \_\_\_\_\_ #Children (Age 10-17) \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$10 = \_\_\_\_\_

#Children (Age 9 and under) \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$5 = \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

**We accept both Cash and Checks in advance or at the door the night of the event.**

*(Checks are Payable to Saint Mark Church)*

To ensure a variety, please specify what you are bringing for the potluck dinner:

Please Circle an Option and write your selected option(s) on the line below:

- Option 1 – Rice/Pasta    Option 2 – Meat    Option 3 – Salad    Option 4 – Desert
- Option 5 – Beverage (Water, Juice, or Soda)

\_\_\_\_\_

-You can also RSVP with: Michael Davis at 347-574-1828 or call the Rectory at 718-891-3100.

# SAINT MARK CATHOLIC ACADEMY

## IT'S TIME TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID!

*Tuition assistance is available for students in kindergarten through grade 8 who meet certain eligibility requirements.*

### TO APPLY...

- Families must be enrolled for the 2023-2024 school year, including all paperwork and re/registration fee.
- Contact **Assistant Principal Mrs. Lisa Rizzo**.
  - (718) 332-9304, extension #4
  - [lrizzo@smsonthebay.com](mailto:lrizzo@smsonthebay.com)
  - Office Hours: Monday to Friday 8:30am to 2:30pm
- Have 2022 W2 and 1040 Federal Tax Forms ready.
- There is a \$40 application fee.

### DEADLINES...

- Application process begins **Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>**.
- **March 24, 2023** for families who received an award last year.
- **April 23, 2023** for families applying for the first time.

### FREE SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE...

- If you are interested in applying, please contact Mrs. Rizzo. Funding is limited, so we **highly recommend** that families work with Mrs. Rizzo during this process to ensure the best possibility of receiving an award.

