



SAINT MARK CATHOLIC ACADEMY

A Guiding Light in Sheepshead Bay

May 3, 2023

Dear Families:

This past Friday, our eighth graders received their class rings, the first step on their journey to graduation and high school. We also had the special privilege of being joined by Deacon Kevin McCormack, Superintendent of Schools, who preached at the Mass.

For today's letter, I'd like to share with you the remarks I made during the ceremony. I enjoyed sharing this with our students, so I'd like to share it with all of you!

Sincerely,

Mr. Mark Wilson
Principal

I know it sounds funny, but today's Ring Day reminds me of my first dog.

Let me explain...

The father of one of my friends is a deacon. One of his responsibilities is to prepare couples for marriages. The first step in the process is to interview the man and woman. The first question he always asks is: "Can you name the three rings of marriage?"

The couples usually look at him puzzled. They always get the first two, but they can never figure out the third. It works every time. When they inevitably give up, he tells them the answer: "First, there's the engagement ring. Then there's the wedding ring, and after that comes the suffering. Get it? The suffer-ring.

Did I mention he's a dad, so this is very much a dad joke, and it's meant as a joke, an icebreaker to break the tension these nervous couples are experiencing.

But, now that I think about it, there's some truth to it. I know this Mass is being live-streamed and will forever be accessible on Facebook, so let me say now that I love my wife and am very happily married. However, marriage does involve some suffering.

The wedding ring is not a symbol of the wedding day alone. It's a symbol of the commitment that the man and woman have to each other. It's a reminder of the good times and the bad times. The happiness and the suffering.

The couple's ring is a reminder that their love endures. The good times are easy; it's the turbulent times where their relationship is truly tested.

Think about it this way. When a sports team wins a championship, the players are all given rings. Those rings don't just represent them winning a championship. No... it's a representation of the entire season. It commemorates both the wins and the losses. The good times and, yes, the suffering.

The rings you receive today are not just to remember this moment. They're not meant to memorialize just your graduation or even just your eighth-grade year. They are reminders of your entire careers at Saint Mark Catholic Academy. When you wear these rings, let them serve as a reminder of the good times you've had, but don't forget the struggles. Remember the suffering.

So, I bet you're wondering what any of this has to do with my first dog.

When I was in first grade, I pestered my parents for a dog, and they finally relented. Jessie was a Doberman-Shepherd mix puppy. She drove me crazy. She had tiny little teeth and she loved to nip at me, especially my socks. Along with biting, she loved eating... and not just dog food. She gnawed on our TV stand, table legs, even the rocks in my grandma's backyard!

One day, Jessie ate something that caused quite a bit of turmoil in the Wilson household. When my mom left the room, Jessie stood on the edge of the bed so she could reach the dresser, leaned over, snatched up my mom's engagement ring, and swallowed. Down it went!

My mom freaked out. Inside the belly of my puppy was her ring. As the old saying goes, what goes in, must come out.

Every day, my dad took Jessie for a walk. He would take a bag with him, scoop up her "business" and take it back home with him. He would then rifle through it, searching for the ring. This went on for days. Then one day, like a prospector sifting through dirt, he struck gold.

Although a little corroded from stomach acid, the ring had made it through its journey unscathed.

Indeed, sifting through dog poop truly epitomizes the suffering component of marriage. Nothing tests a couple's commitment like rifling puppy poopie.

Each time you wear your class ring—just like my mom slips on her engagement ring—let them serve as a reminder of the good times and the bad. Let them serve as a reminder that you have been through some suffering, and there's going to be more to come. In fact, there's going to be plenty of poop to get through in life, but don't worry, you'll get through it. Just ask my dad.

Continuing the tradition of faith, service, and education.

2602 East 19th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11235 | (718) 332-9304 | smcaonthebay.org

SAINT MARK

ANNUAL

WALK-A-THON

JUNE 2, 2023



PRIZES: PLAYSTATION 5
APPLE IPAD
NINTENDO SWITCH



**PROCEEDS WILL BE USED TO
EQUIP ALL CLASSROOMS WITH
AIR-CONDITIONING/HEATING UNITS.**





ST. MARK CATHOLIC ACADEMY Summer 2023

June 28th - August 11th 2023

Academic

Monday - Friday 8:30 AM - 12 PM



Extended Day Program

Monday - Friday 12 PM - 6 PM

ABOUT OUR PROGRAM

Our Summer Academic and Extended Day programs are focused on creating an engaging and fun learning culture.

Our Academic program focuses on Math and ELA and Educational Enrichment opportunities for our Summer Program participants.

Our Extended Day Program participants will have the opportunity to participate in outdoor activities as well as a wide variety of physical education classes and fun activities.

Our students will have educational and fun experiences in a summer to remember!



FUN & ACTIVITIES

- ✓ Critical Thinking Games
- ✓ Sports - Basketball, Soccer
- ✓ Table Tennis, Volleyball,
- ✓ Dodge-ball
- ✓ Movies
- ✓ Games



BOYS AND GIRLS

3-K TO 8th GRADE Scan CODE



TO REGISTER

✓ Early morning drop off!

For Details:

718-332-9304

SAINT MARK CATHOLIC ACADEMY

SUMMER ACADEMIC AND EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM 2023

June 28th – August 11th 2023

REGISTER HERE: <https://forms.gle/yLa5h1rDhBufJtrQA>



Academic Program: St. Mark Catholic Academy is currently planning for the *School Summer Academic Program* and the *Summer Extended Day Program*. The Academic Program provides our students with the essential or enriched coursework for greater success next school year. *If you have questions about the summer academic program and/or its importance for your child, please contact Mr. Mark Wilson (Principal) or Mrs. Lisa Rizzo (Assistant Principal) (718)-332-9304.*

Extended Day Program: Once again, this summer, we are offering an “extended day “ program after morning classes five days a week. Enrichment and recreational activities, as well as breakfast, lunch, and an afternoon snack/beverage, are included. *Mr. Michael Davis is coordinating this Extended Day program. To learn more about the program, please contact Mr. Michael Davis (347)-574-1828.*

REGISTRATION FEE:	EARLY MORNING DROP OFF:
\$200 EARLY REGISTRATION FEE ENDS MAY 22 nd , 2023	(7:30 AM - 8:30 AM) Includes Breakfast
-AFTER MAY 22 nd 2023 REGISTRATION FEE IS \$250- NON-REFUNDABLE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Child=\$200 2 Children=\$350 3 Children=\$500

TUITION & PAYMENT SCHEDULE					
SUMMER ACADEMIC PROGRAM [mornings] Mon – Fri 8:30am – 12:00pm		SUMMER ACADEMIC PROGRAM AND EXTENDED DAY Mon – Fri 8:30 am – 6:00 pm		EXTENDED DAY ONLY Mon – Fri 12:00 pm – 6:00 pm	
TUITION COST 1 CHILD	\$1,000	TUITION COST 1 CHILD	\$2,650	TUITION COST 1 CHILD	\$2,200
Payment Due dates: June 7 th & July 7 th 2023		Payment Due dates: June 7 th & July 7 th 2023		Payment Due dates: June 7 th & July 7 th 2023	
Tuition Cost 2 CHILDREN	\$1,800	TUITION COST 2 CHILDREN	\$4,770	TUITION COST 2 CHILDREN	\$3,960
Installment Payment Due dates: June 7 th & July 7 th 2023		Installment Payment Due dates: June 7 th & July 7 th 2023		Installment Payment Due dates: June 7 th & July 7 th 2023	
Tuition Cost 3 CHILDREN	\$2,550	TUITION COST 3 CHILDREN	\$6,760	TUITION COST 3 CHILDREN	\$5,610
Installment Payment Due dates: June 7 th & July 7 th 2023		Installment Payment Due dates: June 7 th & July 7 th 2023		Installment Payment Due dates: June 7 th & July 7 th 2023	

SUMMER ACADEMIC AND EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM: MON – FRI 8:30 AM – 6:00 PM

- INDIVIDUAL WEEKS:** \$500 per week must be prepaid at the beginning of each week. (8:30 AM - 6:00 PM)
- DAY RATE:** \$125 Per/Day-Full Day Session only (8:30 AM - 6:00 PM)

CONTACT:	Mrs. Lori Ryan	(718)-332-9304	SUMMER PROGRAM	SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER
CONTACT:	Mr. Michael Davis	(347)-574-1828	EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM	
CONTACT:	Mr. Mark Wilson	(718)-332-9304	ACADEMIC PROGRAM	

SCHOOL (SUMMER PROGRAM) CLOSED JULY 3RD AND 4TH 2023

ADS FOR YEARBOOK 2023

Our school yearbook is a work in progress. Please consider placing an ad to congratulate your child on their accomplishments: graduation, sacraments, stepping up or just a great school year!

To submit your yearbook ad, please write out your message carefully and add images as you wish. Please email the text and images to Mrs. Kane.

Photos must fit the size selection you have chosen.

$\frac{1}{4}$ page \$50

$\frac{1}{2}$ page \$70

Full page \$100

Deadline for Payment and Ad: May 10, 2023

You will receive a complimentary copy of the yearbook with your advertisement purchase.

Please email Mrs. Kane, jkane@smsonthebay.com, with any questions.

Name _____ Student Name & Grade _____

I would like to place an ad in the 2022-2023 Saint Mark Catholic Academy Yearbook.

I have enclosed \$50 _____

\$70 _____

\$100 _____

I will email the ad to Mrs. Kane using this email address:

Mother's Day Sale

Thursday, May 11th

The Sale Will Be in The Gymnasium

Gifts for sale will cost from \$5.00 and up



Parents are welcome to shop with their children
at dismissal from 2:30pm to 3:30pm