



# St. Mark School

A National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence



St. Mark School is a Christ-centered learning environment that teaches Gospel values and fosters academic excellence. Aware of the dignity and uniqueness of all students, we are committed to the spiritual, intellectual, moral, social, and physical development of each child.



June 8, 2017

*Dear Parents,*

*I was reading an article recently that reminded me how the Catholic Church loves to celebrate. We celebrate feast days and solemnities, holy days, sacraments and special seasons in the Church. The Church also encourages private celebrations such as the celebration of one's baptism day. Each month is dedicated to particular devotions. The month of June is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.*

*A beautiful picture of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is hanging in the front of St. Mark Church. Jesus shows us His open heart that radiates love. It*

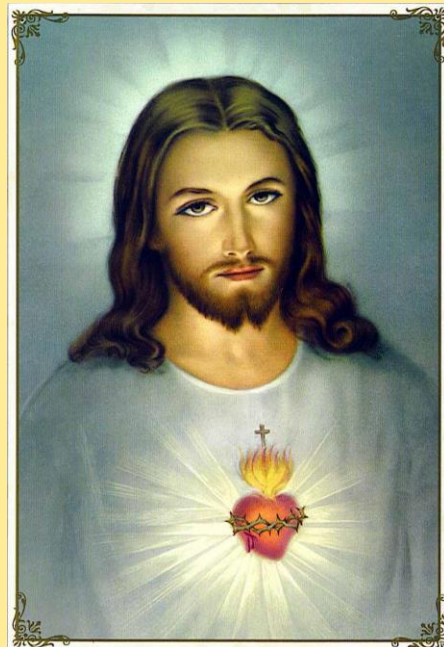
*burns with love for all of us! Let us take time during this special month to pray to the Sacred Heart of Jesus with the simple prayer that is imprinted beneath the picture in the church....Jesus, I trust in you!*

*In Christ,  
Donna Wuhret*

## **The Sacred Heart of Jesus**

### **A simple child's prayer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus**

Jesus,  
I love you so  
much.  
I give my heart to you.  
Help me to love and serve God.  
Help me to love and serve all those  
around me.  
Help me to forgive and show mercy  
especially to those who have hurt me.  
Help me to love myself as a child of God.  
Jesus, help me to place my trust in You!  
Amen.



## **With Gratitude**

- to students in Kindergarten through Grade 8 for serving as wonderful gift bearers, leaders, and readers for First Friday Mass on June 2.
- to all of the people who served as chairpeople for events, activities, and fundraisers (listed below) and the numerous

volunteers who helped them:

Easter Egg Hunt-Kristin Gonzalez & Jen Tayman

Mixed Bags-Amanda Scioscia

Square 1 Art Fundraiser-Jaimie Auten (chairperson) and Ms. Sarah Carrano for coordinating all of the art projects from the students

Mother's Day Plant Sale-Jessica Markland

Grandparents and Special Friend's Day-Eileen Blake, Laura Haley,

&

Jen Tayman

Book Fair-Star Gibson

Box Tops-Wendy Ferik

Variety Show-Dee Grant and Sarah Scalzo

Variety Show Class Performances coordinators:

Kindergarten-Jessica Markland, Hallie Testo, Maria Volpe, and Pam Scioletti

Grade 1-Lucy Gonzalez & Joyce Nagy

Grade 2-Sarah Scalzo, Kristen Johansen, & Danielle Cheeseman

Grade 3-Kelley McKenna, Shannonn Rivera, & Teasha Bivens

Grade 4-Sarah Scalzo, Ken Blinn, Michele Rouse, & Lorraine Lombard

Grade 5-Jen Tayman, Sarah Carrano, & Stacey Zenowich

Grade 6-Dee Grant & Norine Pigliucci

Grade 8-Reuben Barnes

Bottles and Cans Drive-Christine Flaig

Field Day-Ms. Liptak

Zack's Frozen Yogurt Night-Jessica Markland

- to all who supported our school and participated in Panera Night and Zack's Frozen Yogurt Night. We raised approximately \$265!
- to the 7th Grade parents who did a spectacular job with the invitations and decorations for Class Night 2017! A special thanks to Mrs. Nettleton and "her crew" for preparing the delicious buffet! Also, thank you to all of those who volunteered to serve and clean up during Class Night. The Grade 8 students, their parents, families, and friends had a wonderful time! They truly

appreciate all that was done to make Class Night so special!

- to Vicki Fitzsimmons for all of the effort, time, and creativity given to take school pictures this year and create our fabulous yearbook! We are very grateful for all of your hard work!
  - to all of the lunchroom parents who volunteered week after week to come to school and serve our students this year. A special thanks is sent to Stacy Aloï for coordinating the volunteers/schedules and Linda McDonald for offering training. We could not offer a lunch program without all the volunteers and their help!
  - to our HSA board for all of the time, talent, and energy given to our school through the Home School Association meetings and activities
- |               |                  |         |
|---------------|------------------|---------|
| President     | Jennifer Tayman- | Alicia  |
| Formato-      |                  |         |
| Secretary     |                  | Jeanine |
| May-Secretary |                  |         |

## Diocesan Awards

The Office of the Superintendent of Schools of the Diocese of Bridgeport hosted a Breakfast of Champions on May 24, 2017, to honor select students in Catholic schools throughout the diocese. Students who are graduating from their schools in Grade 5, Grade 8 or Grade 12 are chosen to receive awards.

Julia Dabrowski was the 2017 recipient of the St. Thomas Aquinas Award from St. Mark School. She was selected for this award because of her academic performance as well as exemplifying the Catholic Faith through community service and Christ-like behavior. The award is named after St. Thomas Aquinas who was outstanding in the practice of virtue and in the area of academics. St. Thomas was one of the greatest and most influential theologians of all time. He was canonized in 1323 and

declared Doctor of the Church by Pope Pius V. Congratulations, Julia!



The St. Augustine Medal of Service was instituted in the Diocese of Bridgeport in 2005 to recognize the "unsung heroes" who unselfishly give of their time and talents to build up parish communities. This year diocesan schools were also asked to recognize people who exemplify this spirit in their school communities. A St. Augustine Medal of Service is given to each recipient. On one side of the medal is an image of St. Augustine of Hippo, Patron Saint of the Diocese of Bridgeport. The reverse side features the coat of arms of the diocese.

The St. Augustine Medal prayer service and awards ceremony was held at St. Augustine Cathedral. Bishop Frank J. Caggiano lead the prayer service and presented medals to over 150 recipients from parishes, schools, and ministries across the diocese.

St. Mark School nominated Mrs. Christine Feliciano to receive the St. Augustine Medal this year. Mrs. Feliciano has been a St. Mark parent for 10 years. Throughout these years, she has been involved in numerous school activities and committees giving of her time and talent wherever needed such as fundraisers, field day, class trips, and Class Night. She is a faith-filled wife and mother of two who uses the gifts God has given her to help and lend support St. Mark. Congratulations, Mrs. Feliciano!

## Class of 2017



May God's blessing follow you all as you find new journeys to travel.  
May you walk safely along the pathways of your dreams.  
May God's gentle hand guide the decisions you will make  
and the passions that you follow.

May your hearts and lives always reflect God's love and truth.  
And may hope be a light within you that you carry into each new day.  
Amen.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Congratulations Class of 2017**

Jonathan Bushka  
Julia Dabrowski  
Annika DelRosario  
Kaitlyn Feliciano  
Kayleigh Ferik  
Christian Garry  
Kaitlyn Grassia  
Alexa Jarrett  
Jenna Koonitsky  
Cristian Lino  
Evelyn McDonald  
Liam Millott  
Matthew Morales  
Erin Parchinski  
Evan Quesada  
Rebecca Richards  
Kimberly Wu

### **Calendar Contest Winner**

Lucas Auten (blue shirt/striped tie), a student in Grade 4, won First Place in his age category in the *Long Island Sound and It's Watershed Drawing Contest*. The contest was sponsored by the New England Science and Sailing Foundation. His drawing will be used in a special calendar highlighting Long Island Sound. Congratulations, Lucas!



## **Last Days of School**

The last day of school is Tuesday, June 20. We will have early dismissal on June 19 AND June 20 at 11:25 a.m. The After School Program will run on June 19. However, there will be NO ASP on the last day of school.

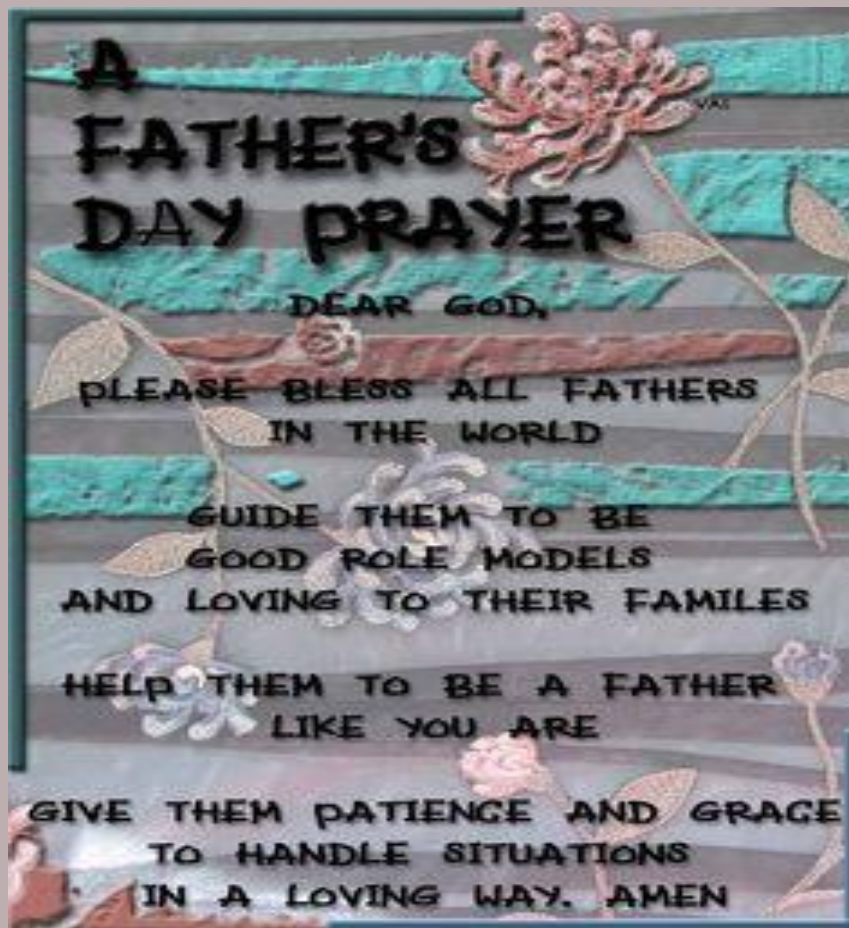
## **Summer Message from Bishop Caggiano**

Bishop Caggiano has prepared a special video message for young people as they begin their summer vacation. Please take a few minutes of your time (approximately 2-1/2 minutes) to watch this video with your child.

<https://formationreimagined.wistia.com/medias/nbhnagjsw3>

## **Happy Father's Day**





## Upcoming Events

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| June 13 | Safety Fair   |
| June 14 | PK4 last day<br>PK4 Celebration at 6:30 p.m. in the gym                                   |
| June 15 | PK3 last day<br>Kindergarten last day<br>Kindergarten Celebration at 6:30 p.m. in the gym |
| June 18 | Happy Father's Day!   |
| June 19 | Early dismissal at 11:25 a.m. Last day for After School                                   |

Program.

June 20

Last day of school. Early dismissal at 11:25 a.m. There will be NO After School Program.

St. Mark School | 203-375-4291 | <http://www.stmarkschool.org>  
500 Wigwam Lane, Stratford, CT 06614

### STAY CONNECTED:



*"My good Mother, I ask of you neither riches, pleasures nor honors for the present life in this house; but I ask only that God may be loved here, served and obeyed." - St. Marguerite Bourgeoys*

St. Mark School, 500 Wigwam Lane, Stratford, CT 06614