

ST. MARK FAITH FORMATION

October 2020

We have begun!!

- All students should have begun the home weekly lessons. If you have not, please begin this week on the October 4th edition.
- Virtual gatherings have begun for Kindergarten-Grade 3 and High School. I am very pleased with how things are going.
- Grades 4-8 will have their first gathered session this Wednesday.

Once per month we will have **virtual family activities**. These are for parents and students (Kindergarten-Grade 10) together. You can be on the same device, but out of respect the same rules apply as far as sharing your screen and showing faces. Here is the connection information for these events (the same connection will be used each month):

- Connection Information - contact Brenda Strayer
- **On October 14** we will be praying the rosary together. *Please be sure each family member has a rosary to follow along.*

Since our Lenten collection for **Mary's Meals** was disrupted, we decided that October (a month dedicated to Mary) would be a great time to focus again on this wonderful cause. *Mary's Meals provides life-changing meals to some of the world's poorest children every day they attend school. Just \$21 feeds a child for an entire year! Will you join our challenge?*

- Attached to this email is a calendar of activities for the month of October. Encourage your kids to reflect on these daily and take time to thank God for blessing them with regular access to education and food. Set up a jar or other object in a common area (the dining room table or kitchen counter works great) to place their collection.
- Adults are encouraged to join in on the calendar activities, or spend some time praying with our Holy Mother with the rosary. *For each Hail Mary you pray, pay 1¢ during the month. For each Rosary your donation would be 53¢ a day. If you pray a rosary every day that would be a donation of \$16.43.*

Registration: If you haven't already done so, please register your family ASAP.

- RE registration is online again this year.
- Here is the link to register: <https://www.myschoolsystems.com/ArchDBQ/DBQ108/registration.php?who=student>

- Use your username and password from previous years. If you cannot remember your username, contact me and I can give it to you.
- If you have any difficulties, please let me know. *All students, regardless of if they are attending our sessions or home-schooling, need to be registered for our records.*
- It will soon be possible to pay RE fees online. Watch for more information coming soon.

Kindergarten – Grade 3:

- Continue to do weekly home lessons using the Pflaum Gospel Weeklies that you picked up. These should take about 20 minutes per week.
- Thank you to all that joined us for class last month. I think it went very well.
- Please review the Zooming policies with your student prior to class beginning each time.
- For the Virtual RE connection information, contact Brenda Strayer
- We encourage you Once a month we will hold virtual family activities. All students and at least one parent is expected to attend these events. In October we will be praying the rosary together. Please be sure each family member has a rosary to follow along. *If you cannot find enough rosaries, no problem. I have purchased extras and they will be available in the chapel entrance beginning on October 6.*
- We encourage you to check out the Wanderlight game if you have not done so yet. (Links were sent out last month, but let me know if you need the information again.) If they have a device available, it is a great way to pass the time while traveling or waiting for appointments. As administrator I can see how students are progressing, so if you ever have any questions, let me know.

Grades 4-6:

- Continue to do weekly home lessons using the Pflaum Gospel Weeklies that you picked up. These should take about 20 minutes per week.
- For the Virtual RE connection information, contact Brenda Strayer
- Once a month we will hold virtual family activities. All students and at least one parent is expected to attend these events. In October we will be praying the rosary together. Please be sure each family member has a rosary to follow along. *If you cannot find enough rosaries, no problem. I have purchased extras and they will be available in the chapel entrance beginning on October 6.*
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information again.) If they have a device available, it is a great way to pass the time while traveling or waiting for appointments. As administrator I can see how students are progressing, so if you ever have any questions, let me know.

Grades 7-8:

- Continue to do weekly home lessons using the Pflaum Gospel Weeklies that you picked up. These should take about 20 minutes per week.
- For the Virtual RE connection information, contact Brenda Strayer
- Once a month we will hold virtual family activities. All students and at least one parent is expected to attend these events. In October we will be praying the rosary together. Please be sure each family member has a rosary to follow along. *If you cannot find enough rosaries, no problem. I have purchased extras and they will be available in the chapel entrance beginning on October 6.*
- Youth Ministry virtual gatherings will be held once per month. Our next gathering will be Sunday, October 11 (6:45-8:00pm). Join us for fun fellowship (maybe with prizes) and to pray. For the Virtual RE connection information, contact Brenda Strayer
- **NCYC...** I have received some questions in regard to NCYC 2021. Here is what I can tell you... we do not know anything at this point. If your child is thinking of possibly attending, I encourage you to begin putting away \$25-\$50/month if possible. Lack of fundraisers may hurt us some if we go next November. Our plan is to make a decision in February.

Grades 9-10:

- Classes have begun! We will continue to gather (virtually) typically twice per month for three hours each (we will include breaks). These classes are a combination of Religious Education and Sacramental Prep. ***Please review the Zooming policies with your student prior to class beginning.***
- For the Virtual RE connection information, contact Brenda Strayer
- **NCYC...** I have received some questions in regard to NCYC 2021. Here is what I can tell you... we do not know anything at this point. If your child is thinking of possibly attending, I encourage you to begin putting away \$25-\$50/month if possible. Lack of fundraisers may hurt us some if we go next November. Our plan is to make a decision in February.

Family (and Adult) Faith Formation:

We will continue to offer some fun opportunities throughout the year for all of our families to enjoy together. We hope you will be able to join us occasionally for these events.

- **Spend time with our Holy Mother in prayer**

The rosary will be prayed live on Facebook each Monday at 9:00am. If you cannot join us live, you can watch the video when it is convenient for you.

- **Mary's Meals**

In addition to the activities listed above, there is another way to help these precious little ones. You can go to <https://www.heartlandforkids.com/merch> to purchase Mary's Meals merchandise. These t-shirts, long-sleeves, sweatshirts, and hoodies are incredibly soft. Available in both adult and youth sizes. And the best part... the purchase of each item will feed a hungry child for an entire year! I am honored to say I am now an ambassador for this wonderful organization so let me know if you ever have any ideas to help spread the word!

- **Mass**

While the dispensation of Mass attendance has not been lifted we do still encourage you to participate in Mass each week. We are now live-streaming Mass from St. Mark every weekend (currently Sunday at 8:00am). The connection to watch live or watch it later can be found on our linkage website: <http://franklinhardincatholic.org> or linkage Facebook page: Mark Mary

Hopefully I got everything covered and this helps answer any questions. Do not hesitate to reach out if you would like more information or have any questions. While this year will look quite different than it has in the past I am still looking forward to another great year!!

Brenda Strayer
St. Mark Director of Faith Formation

Faith Formation Calendar of Events at St. Mark

October

- **Sunday, October 4**
High RE & Confirmation Prep (5:30-8:30pm)
- **Wednesday, October 7**
RE- Group B (6:30-7:30pm)
- **Sunday, October 11**
Middle School YM (6:45- Class 8:00pm)
- **Wednesday, October 14**
RE Class – Family Activity (6:30-7:30pm)
- **Sunday, October 18**
High RE & Confirmation Prep (5:30-8:30pm)
- **Wednesday, October 21**
RE Class – Group A (6:30-7:30pm)
- **Wednesday, October 28**
RE Class – Group B (6:30-7:30pm)



Mary's Meals

Mary's Meals provides life-changing meals to some of the world's poorest children every day they attend school.

Since our Lenten collection was disrupted, we decided to use October (a month dedicated to Mary) to focus again on this wonderful cause. We ask your family to participate this month and keep in mind the kids we will be able to help.

\$21 is all it costs to feed a child for a whole school year!

October 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 Give 5¢ for each light switch in your house.	2 Give 5¢ for each item of clothing on the floor.	3 Give 10¢ for each year you have gotten to go to school.
4 Give 50¢ and pray for the student you will feed for a week.	5 Give 10¢ for each sibling you have.	6 Give 5¢ for everything you own with a screen on it.	7 Give 1¢ per prayer you need to memorize in your RE prayer book.	8 Give 5¢ for each dish you dirtied today (home and school).	9 Give 5¢ for each blue shirt you have.	10 Give 10¢ for each sport you participate in during the year.
11 Give 50¢ and pray for the student you will feed for a week.	12 Give 10¢ for each good friend you have.	13 Give 5¢ for each game you own.	14 Give 1¢ for each Hail Mary you prayed today (include the Rosary).	15 Give 5¢ for each time you opened your refrigerator today.	16 Give 5¢ for each hanger in your closet.	17 Give 10¢ for each teacher you had this week (include RE).
18 Give 50¢ and pray for the student you will feed for a week.	19 Give 10¢ for each parent you have.	20 Give 5¢ for every room of your house.	21 Give 1¢ per minute it took to do your RE home lesson this week.	22 Give 5¢ for each meal you ate today.	23 Give 5¢ for each pair of jeans you have.	24 Give 10¢ for each time you helped someone this week.
25 Give 50¢ and pray for the student you will feed for a week.	26 Give 10¢ for each grandparent you have.	27 Give 5¢ for each bed in your house.	28 Give 1¢ per minute you were online for your RE class this month.	29 Give 5¢ for each time you ate out this month.	30 Give 5¢ for each pair of shoes you have.	31 Give 10¢ for each thing you own that you would not want to part with.