



St. Mark's Catholic School Vision

St Mark's Catholic School is dedicated to educating student disciples in body, mind and spirit, through the collaboration of families, community and the Church.

Our Mission

St. Mark's Catholic School is a ministry of St. Mark's Catholic Community that fosters academic excellence, rooted in the Catholic faith, and Christian values.

Letter from our Pastor

Dear families and friends of St. Mark's School,

This weekend we will celebrate Palm Sunday...and then enter into Holy Week. The peak of Holy Week begins on Holy Thursday, and extends through Sunday evening. Known as the Triduum (Latin for "the three days") it is actually one contiguous liturgy divided into a series of integrated events.



What is the triduum?

The triduum is a period that begins on Holy Thursday and ends at the conclusion of Easter Sunday. It encompasses the evening of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter Sunday. The term "triduum" means "three days" and refers to any three-day observance. Technically, the triduum during Holy Week is known as the "paschal triduum" or "Easter triduum."

The word "paschal," which is used to refer to Easter, comes from the Greek word "pascha," which comes from the Hebrew word "pesach," which means Passover. Jesus' passion, death, and resurrection, which is connected theologically to the Passover feast, is referred to as the paschal mystery.

What happens on Holy Thursday?

On the evening of Holy Thursday, the Church celebrates the Mass of the Lord's Supper, which commemorates Christ's Passover meal with his apostles the night before he died. The Mass of the Lord's Supper most especially remembers the institution of the Eucharist — the sacramental gift to the Church of Christ's body and blood, given in the transformation of bread and wine.

Often, at the Mass of the Lord's Supper, the priest washes the feet of some members of the congregation, recalling Christ's washing of feet at the Last Supper. "If I, therefore, the master and teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash one another's feet. I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do," Christ told his apostles.

Is there Mass on Good Friday?

No, there's no Mass on Good Friday.

In fact, after Mass on Holy Thursday, the altar is stripped of its cloth. Crosses are removed from the Church or covered. No candles burn in the church.

The Blessed Sacrament is not reposed in the church's tabernacle but in another small chapel.

On Good Friday, the church is empty of many of its symbols. It is adorned like a church in mourning. At St. Marks...we will offer the following

12:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

3:00 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet

6:30 p.m. Veneration of the Cross

Holy Saturday and the Easter Vigil?

The Easter Vigil is one of the most beautiful liturgies in the Church's calendar. It is spectacular and full of beautiful Catholic symbolism. (All other Masses during the liturgical year have their origin and rubrics derived from the Easter vigil Mass.

The vigil begins at night. (8:00 p.m.) It starts with a fire, which is blessed, and from which is lit the paschal candle. The whole of salvation history is proclaimed during the readings.

A beautiful Easter proclamation, called the Exsultet, is sung, usually by a Deacon. Men and women catechumens who have been preparing since last year are welcomed into the Church.

Easter Sunday

Celebration of the Lord's resurrection.

7:00 a.m. Sunrise Communion Service

8:30 a.m. Holy Mass (followed by Easter Egg hunt)

11:00 a.m. Holy Mass (followed by Easter Egg hunt)

Together we Rise,

Fr. John, Fr. Celestine, and Fr. Paul

Letter from our Principal

Dear St. Mark's Families,

God is good! What a beautiful fifth week of Lent we have shared at St. Mark's. From our teaching Mass with first grade to the moving performance of our eighth graders in the Stations of the Cross, it has been a grace-filled week. Tonight is the final performance of The Stations at 6:30 p.m. in the church. I can't think of a better way to enter into Holy Week than by attending this powerful reflection. I hope you will join us.



Congratulations to our ICSI basketball tournament athletes! Before Spring Break, we hosted our 5th Annual Idaho Catholic Schools Invitational, which raised close to \$15,000 for our school! Congratulations to our fourth-grade girls (junior champions) and our sixth-grade girls (senior champions), and to our sixth-grade boys for taking second place. All of our teams represented St. Mark's with excellence, sportsmanship, and great Lions' pride.

A heartfelt thank you to our incredible basketball committee for their countless volunteer hours in making this tournament such a success: Bobby Rivas, Melissa Sharone, Sarah Speck, Dan Hawkins, Cheryl Hutchinson, Todd Callahan, and Jay Craig.

More exciting news! Last night, St. Joseph's Catholic School hosted the second annual speech contest for the Treasure Valley Catholic Schools. Middle school students prepared speeches on their favorite saints, with each school sending two finalists to compete. Georgia and Joe Joe represented St. Mark's beautifully. Congratulations to Joe Joe for earning first place with his heartfelt speech on Saint José Sánchez del Río—"¡Viva Cristo Rey!"

Report cards for the third quarter are now available in your FACTS Family Portal. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher.

As we prepare to enter into **Holy Week**, I pray that you can make this sacred time meaningful as a family. Holy Week invites us to slow down, to be present, and to walk closely with Christ. In doing so, we prepare our hearts for the great joy of Easter.

Wishing you a blessed and prayerful Holy Week.

Together We Rise,
(1 Thessalonians 5:11)

Donna Gordon

8th Grade Living Stations of the Cross





Together We Rise



SAINT MARK'S
-CATHOLIC SCHOOL-S

As mentioned at Back-to-School Night, one way we can live out our theme "**Together We Rise**" is through open communication. To support this, we've introduced the Rise & Share Google Form.

Rise & Share Google Form

Here's how it works:

- If you have a question or concern and prefer to share it through the form, Mrs. Gordon will check responses every morning.
- If you'd like a reply, you can include your contact information, and Mrs. Gordon will respond as soon as possible.

THIS NEWSLETTER CONTAINS A LOT OF INFORMATION, AND THE LENGTH OF THE NEWSLETTER CAUSES IT TO BE TRUNCATED.

LOOK FOR THE LINK AT THE BOTTOM OF THE EMAIL THAT SAYS "VIEW ENTIRE MESSAGE" TO EXPAND THE EMAIL, OR **CLICK HERE** TO VIEW NEWSLETTER ON OUR WEBSITE.

Spirituality Spotlight

Upcoming Dates

3/27- Friday: 8th Grade Living Stations of the Cross @ 6pm

3/29 Sunday: Palm Sunday

4/1- Wednesday: Student Body Mass @ 8:30am hosted by Miss Murray's 3rd grade

4/3- Friday: Good Friday- NO SCHOOL

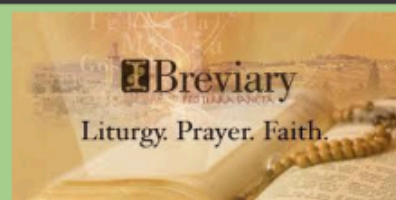
Thank you, Father John, for another beautiful teaching Mass. Both first grade classes had thoughtful questions and learned so much!



Parents, grandparents, aunt and uncles! Please join us for prayer group held in the Resurrection Room at 8:15am every Wednesday prior to the Student Body Mass. It is a great opportunity to connect, pray for one another and build community.

Parent volunteers are leading prayer using the iBreviary and Divine Office apps. Both are available for free.

ALL ARE WELCOME!






Finalists in the middle school speech contest.

Joe Joe B, Peter B, Chloe S, Mary C, Georgia B, Pilar M


Lion Pride Recognition



LionPRIDE

Practice
MAKES
Saints

	CLASSROOM	HALLWAYS	LUNCH ROOM	PLAYGROUND	BATHROOMS	CHURCH
PERSEVERANCE <i>Every Day - Every Time</i>	Be Prepared Be On Time Be On Task Be Present	Be Timely Be Courteous Model Good Behavior Walk Slowly	Use Your Manners Be Patient Wait to be Excused	Be Safe Obey the Rules Play Fair Share Space & Equipment Be a Good Sport	Throw Away Trash Keep it Clean Flush Toilet Wash Hands	Be Engaged Pray, Not Play Behave Appropriately
RESPECT <i>Others, Self, & Property</i>	Be Positive Listen to Others Be Prompt Follow Dress Code Care for School Property	Be Quiet Keep Your Hands to Yourself Keep Clean	Clean up Messes Share Space Eat Only Your Food Keep Voices Low Keep your Hands to Yourself	Use Kind Words Use Equipment as Intended Keep Your Hands to Yourself	Give Others Privacy Use Appropriate Volume	Listen Attentively Enter and Leave Quietly Treat Church Materials with Care
INTEGRITY <i>Honesty in All You Do</i>	Be Honest Be Accountable Do Your Own Work Set & Meet Goals Honor Due Dates	Do the Right Thing Respect Posters & Displays	Use Manners Don't Be Wasteful Pay for Purchases	Notify Staff if Problems Arise Follow Staff Directions	Return to Class Promptly & Quietly Report any Inappropriate Behavior Use at Appropriate Times	Be Kind Be on Time
DISCIPLESHIP <i>Following Jesus' Example</i>	Support Others Cooperate with Others Be Honest Share Christ's Love	Help Others in Need Say Thank You to Our Custodians	Sit by Those Sitting Alone Engage in Appropriate Conversations	Encourage Others to be Kind Be Inclusive Lead by Example Help Others When Needed	Use Only as Needed Report Supply Shortages Clean Up After Yourself	Be Reverent Actively Participate Be Involved Show Appreciation
EXCELLENCE <i>Strive for Success</i>	Do Your Very Best Work Challenge Yourself Learn Beyond the Classroom Ask Questions	Set a Good Example Greet People Politely	Follow Cafeteria Rules Use an Inside Voice	Solve Issues in a Peaceful Manner Line Up on Time Stay in Assigned Areas	Use During Non-Instructional Times Report Problems to an Adult	Be the Best Version of Yourself Follow Dress Code for Mass



Congratulations to this week's winners:

Logan L (2), Willa H, Grant W, Sawyer H, Gabriella C, Blair K, Marley N, Tatyana B, Sybil B, Ember K, Alianna V, Adalaine C, George P (2), Graham L, Hendrix M, Andrew F, Aleena D, Maika P (2), Audrey P, Catalina C, Gaby P, Alexa B, Willa H, Maddie B, Mary B, Saoirse C, John B, William D, Henry C, Joey T, Bennett L, Zachary H, Tyler C, Blake P, Alexei B, Evelyn W, Mabel F, Anna D, Chloe S

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, March 29

Palm Sunday

Wednesday, April 1

8:30 a.m. Student Body Mass presented by Ms. Murray's 3rd grade
8th grade graduation photos

Thursday, April 2

Holy Thursday

Friday, April 3

Good Friday - No School

Saturday, April 4

Holy Saturday

Sunday, April 5

Easter Sunday

Upcoming Events

Monday, April 6

Easter Monday - No School

Tuesday, April 7

6:30 p.m. Foundation Meeting

Wednesday, April 8

8:30 a.m. Student Body Mass presented by Mrs. Westmark's 3rd grade
8B & 8S Ditch Day
6:30 p.m. SEW Class @ St. Mark's School

Thursday, April 9

Kindergarten Screenings @ Donoghue Hall by appointment

Friday, April 10

Spirit Day
School Adoration

Saturday, April 11

6:30 p.m. Daddy/Daughter Dance @ St. Mark's School Gym

Home & School

Dinner Auction RAFFLE WINNERS ANNOUNCEMENT

Thank you to all of our students and families for your incredible participation and support! We are excited to recognize our top sellers and winning class for this year's raffle.

CLASS AWARD WINNER

1st Place Class: 8-Behrend - This class sold the most tickets per student and has earned a Chick-fil-A or Pizza class lunch at school, PLUS a \$250 classroom shopping spree for their teacher!

TOP 3 STUDENT SELLERS (Most \$ Sold)

- 1st Place: Evan Barber (5-Workman) — \$1,244 - Wins a \$150 Amazon Gift Card
- 2nd Place: Marshall Borgna (8-Behrend) — \$1,156 - Wins a \$100 Amazon Gift Card
- 3rd Place: Vivian Wiley (PK3-Johnson) — \$980 - Wins a \$50 Urban Air Gift Card

Congratulations to all of our winners, and thank you again to everyone who helped make this raffle a success!

All prizes will be available for Pick up Monday 3/30/26 in the School Office after 9:00am

Schoolwide incentives: *Goals not met.* (Prizes awarded only if goals are met)

- 50% Tickets Sold → Jeans Day
- 75% Tickets Sold → Free Dress Day
- 100% Tickets Sold → Candy Bars After School

Great job, everyone!

Catherine Paczocha, Auction Chair
St Mark's Fundraising Gala



Daddy Daughter Dance

CANDY LAND

Date: Saturday, April 11th
Time: 6:30pm
Theme: Candyland
Location: St. Mark's Gym

The graphic includes a large, colorful swirl in the background. There are illustrations of a lollipop with a red and white striped center, a pink candy, and a blue base with several colorful lollipops.

It's time to sign up for the Daddy Daughter Dance, \$20 for one dad and one daughter, \$5 for an additional daughter, \$5 for an additional photo. This evening will have a DJ, professional photographer taking photos, light finger foods, and a fun evening!

Register here:

Daddy Daughter dance volunteers needed:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F044BAEA92AABFC1-55156122-daddydaughter#/>

For every \$20 you donate, you may take 1 hour towards your Volunteer Hours



Please Join Us

St. Mark's Catholic School

Grandparent Spring Reception

We would like to welcome and celebrate our grandparents at the School Mass with a reception to follow at the school.

Wednesday, May 6th at 8:30 AM

St. Mark's Catholic Church

7960 W. Northview St. Boise, Idaho 83704

Reception to follow

9:45 AM in the St. Mark's Catholic School gym

You are invited to sit with your grandchildren during Mass. Immediately after Mass, students will walk back to the school with their class. You are invited to join them in the school gym for light refreshments and drinks. Bring a camera to take a photo with our spring-themed backdrop.

We kindly request your RSVP by May 1st – emily.cainguitan@gmail.com.

St. Mark's Annual Mom & Son Hangout!

Mark your Calendars for a great day out
celebrating Moms & Sons!



Save the Date:
Sun May 17th

More information to follow!

Volunteer Opportunities

**TO VOLUNTEER IN ANY CAPACITY AT ST. MARK'S SCHOOL,
YOU MUST TAKE A LIVE SEW CLASS AND PASS A BACKGROUND CHECK.**

Get your Volunteer Hours by helping in the lunchroom. We need help to be able to serve HOT LUNCH every day to our students. Come into the office and sign up on the hot lunch calendar.

The Church is seeking help and donations for the Easter Vigil on Saturday, April 4. Mrs. Gordon is allowing

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094BA5AE22ABFCC43-62880938-2026#/>

Lunch Room Volunteers

NEXT WEEK'S LUNCH HELPERS

Monday (30)—

Tuesday (31)—

Wednesday (1)—LaMott

Thursday (2)—

St. Mark's offers a healthy, delicious hot lunch to students and staff EVERY FULL DAY OF SCHOOL!

4 LUNCHROOM HELPERS ARE NEEDED EACH DAY from 10:45-12:45 to serve lunches and clean tables in the lunchroom. Volunteers are given a free lunch.

Please come into the School Office and sign up in the black "lunch" binder, call (208) 375-6654 or **email** to volunteer.

Daily Lunch Schedule: 11:15 a.m. (PS-2); 11:35 a.m. (3-5); 12:05 p.m. (6-8)

News



The next LIVE SEW class will be held on Wednesday, April 8 @ 6:30 p.m. at St. Mark's School. THIS LIVE CLASS IS REQUIRED 1 TIME. You are also required to view the video

"Protecting God's Children Online Awareness Session 4.0", which will be available after you register. Go to virtusonline.org, create an account, click on register for training, find the class at St. Mark's on April 8 and sign up.



The Spring program is right around the corner Monday, April 27th

1:00 Rehearsal & 6:30 Concert in Donoghue hall

Performers:
3-5th, Choir, Orchestra

Attire:

3rd grade will need a head band from the movie Rocky and dressed in all black

4th grade Either all white, or all black or their favorite Star Wars character

5th grade will need a head band from the movie Rocky. Attire can either be of the Rocky theme or from Mary Poppins - i.e. knickers, vests, berets

Orchestra - Either concert attire - white on top, black on bottom, or their favorite movie character from either How to Train Your Dragon, Pirates of the Caribbean or Jurassic Park.

Choir - All Black. Different characters can be worn appropriately. Students will know what their character is. All must dress in all black to begin with.

Click here to view the April lunch menu.
"Current Families" password is \$tMarks26.



Bishop Kelly Scholarships

Parents of current 8th graders at St. Mark's, graduation is fast approaching, and with that comes preparation for high school. St. Mark's Home & School and the Council of Catholic Women (CCW) at St. Mark's Catholic Church are again awarding \$1,000 scholarships to current 8th grade students planning on attending Bishop Kelly in the fall. Attached are the instructions for both scholarships. If your child is interested in applying, just follow the instructions in the attached documents. They can submit applications for both the Home and School Scholarship and the CCW Scholarship – just be sure to have cover letters that reflect which organization they are requesting the scholarship from.

St. Mark's Home and School will be giving three scholarships to current St. Mark's 8th grade students who will be attending Bishop Kelly High School in the fall semester of 2025. The CCW will be awarding two scholarships.

To apply for a scholarship, students are required to submit the following:

- A resume detailing information about yourself, including your academic, extracurricular, and charitable activities. Please use a standard resume format.
- An essay of no more than 500 words regarding the topic: What a Bishop Kelly education means to me in terms of spiritual growth, academic preparation, stewardship preparation, and future goals. Include an opening and a closing paragraph.

Applications must be submitted to the school office no later than 3:30 pm Friday, April 17, 2026.

Applications will be reviewed anonymously – reviewers will not know the names of applicants.

Applications are judged on: submission by deadline and submission of required materials.



It's that time of the year for our students ages 4-7 to sign up for the Boise Catholic School T-Ball league.

St. Mark's School's new T-Ball coach is Dylan Wheeler.

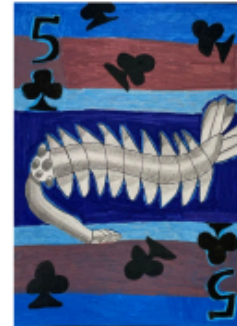
[Click here](#) to download the Registration Form.

8th Grade Art Playing Card Fundraiser

8th grade students are each designing and creating artwork for 1-3 cards to be a part of a complete set of playing cards that are available for purchase to support the art program.

The back of the cards will be the collaborative "Together we rise" artwork that 8th grade worked on for the yearbook cover.

Featured are a few early finisher examples - use the QR code at the bottom to see others as they are added to our art website!



Order form on the back! *Please return order form to the office no later than April 10.*

[Click here](#) for order form.



Library Bookmark Contest

It's that time of the year again--time for all our young artists to create Library bookmarks. Here are the rules for our contest:

1. Bookmarks should have a book/reading theme.
2. Students must use the provided entry form and colored pencils or markers.
3. Entries are due to Mrs. Rosania no later than 3pm on Wednesday, April 22.
4. No joint entries.
5. Only original work, no copies of published work.
6. Only one entry per student.

7. [Click here](#) to download Entry Form.

There will be one winner and one runner-up chosen per age range: K-2, 3-5, 6-8. Winning entries will be announced on Wednesday, April 29. These bookmarks will be reproduced for distribution to all our students, plus several will be laminated for our winners to give to family and friends. Winners and runners-up will also receive a gift card.

Entry forms for designs are available now in the Library and the file has also been attached to this email. **If you make copies for students be sure to copy them on white cardstock.**

Art Website

featuring art from Mrs. Arentz's and Ms. Hatfield's art classes

Click on this link weekly to view student works of art

<https://sites.google.com/stmarksschoolboise.com/smk8thart/saint-marks-school-art>

TVCS Events/Sports



[Click here](#) for the TVCS athletic schedule.

ICSI Basketball Tournament



4th Grade Girls Junior Champions



6th Grade Girls Senior Champions



6th Grade Boys Senior Champions

Preschool Happenings



K is for Koala! We learned to make a K with our bodies, about being Kind, about kangaroos, koalas, kings, and kites!



Church Connection

If you would like to receive the Parish Newsletter [text](#) BOISESTMARKSNEWS [to](#) 42828 to sign up **OR** [Click here](#) to sign up.



Please contact Ginger Mortensen for more details: gmortensen@stmarksboise.org

Sunday, April 5, 2026

**This time will count towards your families
24 volunteer hour requirement**



Holy Week

St. Mark's Catholic Church

March 29- April 5, 2026



Palm Sunday

Masses Saturday vigil at 5pm & Sunday @ 8:30am, 11am & 5pm



Holy Thursday

No morning Mass or confessions
Mass of the Lord's Supper @ 6:30 pm



Good Friday

No morning Mass
Stations @ Noon
Divine Mercy @ 3 pm
Veneration of the Cross @ 6:30 pm



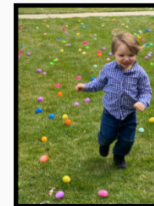
Holy Saturday

No morning Mass or Confession
Easter Basket Blessing @ Noon
Easter Vigil Mass @ 8pm



Easter Sunday

Masses @ 7am, 8:30 am & 11 am
Easter Egg hunt for kids 0-9
after the 8:30am and 11am Masses



Notes from the Nurse

Saint Alphonsus School Health Program

Through the St. Alphonsus School Health Program, Mrs. Lewchenko-Colin, our school nurse, is at St. Mark's on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and Mrs. Placido, CNA, SASHP Assistant is here on Thursdays.



Notes from the Counselor

Consequences + Empathy = A Powerful Message

While Jim Fae was delivering a speech recently on parenting he was heard to say to a woman, "Why are you attending so many of my presentations? You must know everything I'm going to say even before I say it." She frequently attended his speeches and always sat in the front row.

"Well," she said, "Research says that if you want to master something you must hear it at least six times. And since you explained to us how to listen to the love and logic presentations, I have learned to listen for different things each time." When listening to love and logic material we suggest you concentrate on one issue at a time, listen to our treatment of that subject, practice it, and master it before going to the next issue.

"I'm working on giving consequences with empathy," she continued. "You'll be happy to know that I'm getting pretty good at making sure my children always have the control I want them to have. I'm even getting good at making sure they do more thinking than I. But the real reason I'm back is because I'm still having trouble with the part about providing empathy with consequences." This concept of empathy with consequences forces the child to think about his or her mistakes instead of being mad at the parent.

Step #1

Jim congratulated her on taking the first step -- making sure her children had the control she wanted them to have. I encouraged her to keep trying -- providing empathy when you are angry and upset is not easy to do. But it works like magic when you do it right.

"I almost did it last week," she said. "I was so close. My daughter didn't study her spelling. I kept hearing your voice in my head saying this could be a great opportunity. Don't blow it by reminding her."

"You proud of me Jim. I didn't remind her. I also heard your voice saying the school will provide the consequences. Then you can balance it with equal amount of empathy."

I'm so sorry.

"It worked just right. She came home with a 'D' on her test, and I did a great job of feeling sorry for her. I said, 'Wow it must be really embarrassing to get a D. I bet it's hard to face your teacher when you haven't studied. I bet you feel awful.'"

"Great," I said getting excited about seeing one of our love and logic basics work again.

"Jim, it worked just like you said it would. She got real quiet and was thinking hard about what she had done. It was wonderful! Then I heard your voice in my head again saying, 'When you run out of things to say, transfer the problem to the youngster by asking a question.'"

"I did a good job on that too saying, 'Gee, what are you going to do?' That poor child was really thrown by that. I saw her thinking hard!"

"With the saddest little face you've ever seen, she said, 'I don't know what I'm going to do.' I had her owning her own problem and thinking harder than she had in years."

Then... "I blew it"

"And then... I just had to do it. I blew it. I didn't know why but I just blurted out, 'and since you refused to study, you're not going to that party on Friday.'"

"That did it! She stood straight up and started yelling, 'what do you mean I'm not going to the party. It's not my fault I got a 'D'. You should have seen the words that teacher gives! She never gives us any time to study and she never helps me when I raise my hand and... and... and... it's just not fair!"

"Well Jim, that's why I'm back tonight. Isn't it amazing? It took only one misstatement from me to undo all my good work and change my child from a thinker to a fighter. I changed the whole focus of her anger from herself to me in one sentence. I came back to master the art of consequences with empathy."

"If you don't see me for a while you'll know I finally mastered it."

After that night, Jim didn't see that mother for at least 5 or 6 speeches that he gave in the area. I'm guessing she finally mastered how to give her children equal parts of consequences and empathy and that life is smoother at her house these days.

Have a great weekend. (This idea is from Love and Logic Parenting Journal v4.2)

Joe Lipetzky Psy.D.

Dr. Joe Lipetzky, our school psychologist, is at St. Mark's on Monday and Friday morning.

Sarah Lynch, our school counselor, is at St. Mark's on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

St. Mark's School | 7503 W. Northview St. | Boise, ID 83704 US

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