

BLESSINGS

Blessings

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BLESSINGS FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR



Backpacks – full of work to be done, books to be studied, and tools to be used to complete work. On Sunday, August 24, 2014, The Rev. Bert Baetz blessed the backpacks of St. Mark's students as they committed themselves to learning in the school year ahead. As our students carry these backpacks, may they always be reminded of the love and care of our congregation that surrounds them each school day.



Monday, August 25 was the first day of St. Mark's new

school. Tracey McMahon Little, Head of School, said: "It was exciting the day the first 54 boxes of furniture arrived. It was exciting as we researched each learning center activity and ordered the new materials. It was exciting each time we added a new professional to our team. But the most exciting day was when our first students entered our school into an environment that offers them the opportunity to explore, create, learn, and succeed!"

BLESS THOSE SEARCHING FOR A CURE

St. Mark's Saints for a Cure Juvenile Diabetes walk team has been busy making plans for the IDRF walk at NRG stadium on Saturday, October 25, 2014. Support our walk team either by participating that day or making a contribution to JDRF. "To the children who suffer from Type One diabetes, the walk demonstrates the support and love of family and friends on their special day," said Chris Abbott, JDRF avid volunteer. "The children know that money raised not only helps to fund the research to find a cure, but also provides hope to them for better day-to-day treatment to lessen the burden of managing their disease." Please contact Chris at 281~545~8859 for additional information.

WANT SHOPPING GALORE? COME TO THE FALL CRAFT SHOW!

Jump-start the holiday season with a delightful day of unique shopping, crafts, and food. St. Mark's 3rd annual Fall Craft Show is scheduled for Saturday, October 25, 2014 from 10:00a.m. to 3:00p.m. The Craft Show will feature a showcase of home and small business vendors. There will be a silent auc-

tion and all proceeds will go to the Youth Scholarship Fund. Admission is FREE! Bring your friends and come join in the fun!



Bless our youth by supporting the giving of scholarships!

WELCOME "GRADUATES" OF THE NEWCOMERS CLASS!

Mary Diehm Chris, Shan, Hannah, & Cole Harris Darryl, Suzanne, Brett & Cole Mottin The Oluwakemi family: Ani Oluwakemi, Precious Ani, Joy Ani, Juliet Ani & Kingsley Ani Arlene Rivenes Carolyn Williams & Dennis Grivette

GOD BLESS THESE CHURCH MEMBERS!



P.O. Box 1627 Richmond, TX 77406 7615 FM 762, Richmond TX 77469

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS: BRING YOUR LOYAL COMPANIONS



Each year a procession of animals - everything from dogs and cats to guinea pigs and even cattle - is led to St. Mark's for a special ceremony called the Blessing of the Animals. On Friday, October 3 at 9:00a.m., blessings will be given at the Church and School. A second Blessing of the Animals will take place on Sunday, October 5 at 4:00p.m. at the Church. This annual event is conducted in remembrance of the love St. Francis of Assisi had for all creatures. St. Francis wrote: "All praise to you, oh Lord, for all these brother and sister creatures."



"Blessed are you, Lord God, maker of all living creatures. You called forth fish in the sea, birds in the air and animals on the land. You inspired St. Francis to call all of them his brothers and sisters. We ask you to bless this pet. By the power of your love, enable it to live according to your plan. May we always praise you for all your beauty in creation. Blessed are you, Lord our God, in all your creatures! Amen." (Blessing of Animals at Franciscan churches)