

THE CRUSADER TIMES

News from The Atonement Academy ----- Vol. 2019-2020. No. 9, September 19, 2019

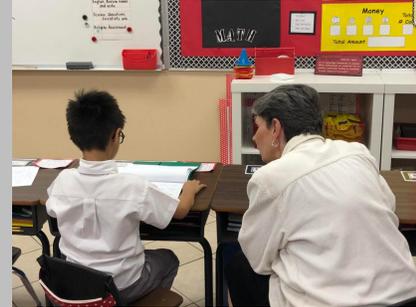
It is by the path of love, which is charity, that God draws near to man, and man to God. But where charity is not found, God cannot dwell. If, then, we possess charity, we possess God, for "God is Charity" (1 John 4:8)

-- St. Albert the Great

Have you ever considered volunteering at our school during the school day? Some of our parents work full time and it's not an option, and others use their lunch break to swing by and help where they can. Other parents work from home and have a more flexible schedule. Here's an idea of some ways where we can use your help:

- Lunchroom monitor
- Library assistance
- Assist library aides with students who are AR testing
- Assist with before and/or after school care

Contact Mrs. Johnston (cjohnston@atonementonline.com or 210-695-2240) if you would like to be of service to our great school!



Weekly Letter from Mr. Watson: *An insightful, humorous reading suggestion*



The Atonement Academy
CATHOLIC + CLASSICAL

September 19, 2019

Dear Atonement Families,

I hope this finds you well. This week I have a book recommendation for your consideration.

One of the ways we as a faculty and staff continually reorient ourselves to the “permanent things” that inform our approach to education is through a commitment to *study*. Among the many ways we live out this commitment in community is by dedicating one of our weekly meetings each month to working through a book that illuminates our practice of Catholic classical education.

This year, we will be reading Anthony Esolen’s satiric critique of contemporary educational and child-rearing practices entitled *Ten Ways to Destroy the Imagination of Your Child* (2010). In it, Esolen places the liberal arts educational tradition and historic Catholic culture in often humorous contrast to their modern counterparts. As his argument unfolds, Esolen treats us to a wide-ranging exploration of many of the best, most humanizing artifacts of the Western intellectual and artistic traditions. I encourage any of you seeking to deepen your understanding of schooling or parenting to consider reading along with us.

On another note, beginning this week, you will see what is referred to around here as my “weekly family letter” in the *Crusader Times* only. Our hope is to streamline your inbox. If you are like me, such efforts are always appreciated!

I also would like to call your attention to Coach Vidal’s “Crusader Sports Update” below. I appreciate his work to keep parents informed and his leadership in building our athletics program.

Meanwhile, let us continue to pray for one another.

Your servant,

Matthew David Watson
Head of School

CLASS SPONSORS--A Role for Our MS/US Parents

Many thanks to all you who attended last night's kick-off of the Class Sponsors Organization. Each grade level was assigned one or two activities to plan and execute. We are looking forward to partnering more closely with parents as we help students plan events and grow in virtuous leadership.

We are also pleased to announce this year's lead Class Sponsors:

7th Grade - Mrs. Nelson

8th Grade - Mrs. Jones

9th Grade - Mrs. Vale

10th Grade - Mr. Weems

11th Grade - Mrs. Henriquez

12th Grade - Mr. Nyberg

You will be hearing from your child's/children's grade-level Class Sponsor(s) in the coming days. Please be generous with your time and support as we work to enliven our Middle and Upper School student life program.

CRUSADER SPORTS UPDATE FROM MR. VIDAL

A look at the last week:

Tuesday - Lady Cru MS Volleyball opened up their district schedule vs. Concordia in Crusader Gym and lost 2 games to 1. They fought hard against an all 8th grade team. Coach Alvarado is doing a great job of making sure the girls have fun and are competitive day in and day out.

Thursday - MS Football lost to Winston on Crusader Field 26-25. Was a great game that saw Gabriel Wendtland score two rushing touchdowns and had over 100 yards of rushing on 9 attempts.

Michael Cantu had great runs that set up a Crusader touchdown. Defensively, Hunter Van Delden had an interception that was caused by Jayke Garza rushing the Quarterback. Jayke Garza ended with 10 solo tackles, with 5 assists. Each week they are getting better. The excitement is building with this group of young men, they are going to win many ball games in the future.



District Volleyball for our Lady CRU varsity begins next Tuesday with an Away game at St. Gerard across town, and they will have their first District game at home on October 1. I would like for the gym to be packed. We will have the Student Section marked off. Game is at 6:30 pm.

I would like for all of our District home games to be packed and loud. Let's use our Home advantage!

Schedule for home district volleyball games:

October 1 - Faith Academy - 6:30pm - Doors open at 5:50 pm

October 3 - Bracken - 6:00 pm - Doors open at 5:10 pm

October 10 - St. Gerard - 7:00 pm - Doors open at 6:10 pm

October 15 - Shiner St. Paul - 6:30 pm - Doors open at 5:50 pm

This from XC Coach, Miss Jenni Gray:

"WOW WOW WOW! That is all I can say as I swell with pride over how our high school cross country team performed last Saturday at their meet hosted by University of the Incarnate Word. Both of our ladies, Madelyn Landry and Madison Vale beat their previous seasons best by over 2 minutes! Madelyn came in at 18:10 and Madison came in at 20:09. Additionally, Matthew Petroff was 50 seconds faster than his previous week at the FEAST race. Matthew also showed great character as he spent the last bit of his race practically walking to encourage a fellow runner who was having trouble breathing. The high school cross country team will have the next two weekends off and looks forward to their next meet on September 30th in Waco; the middle school team has a meet next Saturday September 21st at Comfort High School and would love some support!"

LOWER SCHOOL SPORTS INFORMATION

Our Athletic Director also announces that the Lower School (K-5th) will be part of the SOA (Standard of Athletics) League.

Fall registration through our new league, Standard of Athletics (SOA), will offer Fall Volleyball and Basketball for grades K-5th grade. Registration includes:

- 8-game guarantee
- Reversible Jersey
- Games played on Weekends
- No admissions fees
- Professional UIL referees

Basketball games will be played at The Atonement Academy on Saturday. Volleyball games will be played at the SOA gym. Volleyball and Basketball practices will be at The Atonement Academy in the evenings, twice a week for both. Practices will start on September 25th, and run on a Wednesday/Friday schedule with times from 7:00-8:00 pm for Basketball and 6:00-7:00 pm for Volleyball. *Due to our Middle and Upper School volleyball teams having their games and practices, this is the only available time for practice for the Lower School.*

To register all you have to do is create an account on www.soasatx.com, and register your athlete. SOA has provided a discount code (ATONEMENTP) for Atonement Families.

In the "team request" field, please enter the team your student would like to be a part of. In the "coach request" field, enter the name of the individual who would like to coach.

Nota Bene / Note Well...

Every Wednesday at 3 pm in The Sacred Heart Chapel:

Join us in praying a rosary for our school! If you can't join us, set your smart phone for 3 pm to remind you to join us and pray together!

Upcoming Events

September 20: Half-day Dismissal, Parent-Teacher Conferences

September 21-22: American Heritage Girls Day of Service (Greeters at all weekend Masses)

September 25: American Heritage Girls Meeting (Library - 6:00 pm)

September 30 -October 4: Book Fair (St. Pope John Paul II Library)

October 3: Book Fair Family Night (John Paul II Library - 3:30 pm)

October 4: Coffee with Mr. Watson (Common Room, 8:00 am)

October 6 - November 2: American Heritage Girls Pumpkin Patch (Athletic Field)

October 8: First Quarter AR Deadline

October 10: Annual Crusader Golf Classic, Cedar Creek Course (Shotgun start at 8 am)

October 11: End of 1st Quarter

October 16: National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test

October 18: Half-day Dismissal, King's Fair Preparations

October 19: King's Fair (Start working on your costume!)

THE GREAT PUMPKIN PATCH IS COMING!

Are you ready to enjoy the upcoming fall season with bright new pumpkins? Pumpkins arrive on **October 5th at 8am** and we need **YOUR** help to unload them.

This is a parish community event and so we welcome any parishioners, neighbors, friends, homeschooling groups, etc. Are you able to assist by providing wagons, wheel barrows or small trailers to haul pumpkins into place? Please sign up in the parish narthex on the printed signup sheet. Volunteers may have first pick of these prized pumpkins on arrival day!

If you can help sell pumpkins during the week after school daily (3:00 – 6:00) or weekends (10am – 6pm), please sign up in a time slot [here](#).

(<https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/2939124/false#/invitation>)

Or use the sign-up sheet in the church narthex.

Questions? Please contact Dr. Veronica Tovar at ahgtroop0814@gmail.com.

National Merit Commended Students Kisgen & Nyberg

Two of our seniors have been named "commended students" in the 2020 National Merit® Scholarship Program. Nicholas Nyberg and Olivia Kisgen received certificates recognizing their outstanding scores on the PSAT/NMSQT®. Both placed among the top 50,000 scorers of more than 1.5 million students who entered the competition.

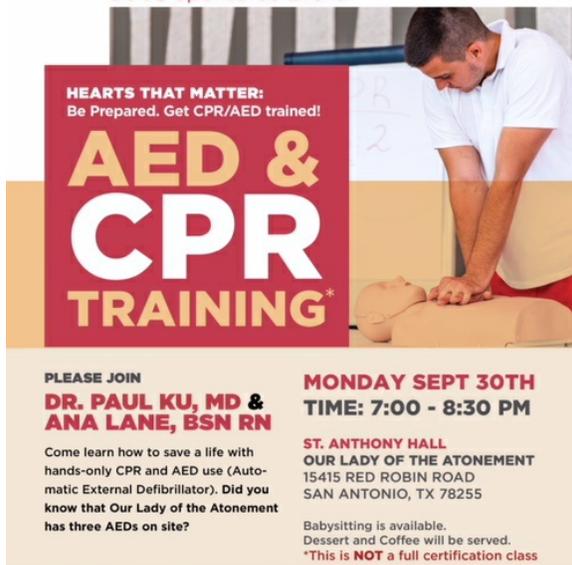
According to a spokesperson with the organization, "Commended Students have demonstrated outstanding potential for academic success." Congratulations to both these students for their hard work and to Atonement staff for their dedication to education!



Plan to attend the PTC's first sponsored event is a great opportunity to learn basic AED and CPR techniques.

It's scheduled for Monday, September 30, from 7-8:30 pm, and it is presented by two of our Crusader parents, ER

a PTC Sponsored Event.



HEARTS THAT MATTER:
Be Prepared. Get CPR/AED trained!

AED & CPR TRAINING*

PLEASE JOIN
DR. PAUL KU, MD & ANA LANE, BSN RN

Come learn how to save a life with hands-only CPR and AED use (Automatic External Defibrillator). Did you know that Our Lady of the Atonement has three AEDs on site?

MONDAY SEPT 30TH
TIME: 7:00 - 8:30 PM

ST. ANTHONY HALL
OUR LADY OF THE ATONEMENT
15415 RED ROBIN ROAD
SAN ANTONIO, TX 78255

Babysitting is available.
Dessert and Coffee will be served.
*This is **NOT** a full certification class

physician **Dr. Paul Ku** and registered nurse, **Mrs. Ana Lane**.

Questions? Call Gina Barron at 850-398-7390 or ginasbarron@gmail.com

Questions call 850-398-7390 or email ginasbarron@gmail.com

A 25th Anniversary Logo and A New QR



We greatly appreciate the work of our OLA parishioner and Crusader parent, professional artist Mr. Tony Pro! He designed a wonderful commemorative logo for us to use this year as The Atonement Academy celebrates its Silver Anniversary: 25 years of exemplary education! Thank you, Mr. Pro!

St. Mary's University COLLEGE NIGHT

On October 8, 2019 at 6:30 pm, St. Mary's University Assistant Director of Admission, Marc Morales, and Associate Director of Financial Aid, Leandra Garcia will discuss financial aid options for incoming college freshmen. The meeting is geared toward ALL Upper School students and will take place in the Common Room. Please bring your questions to the

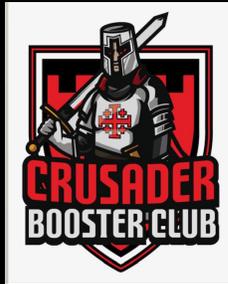


King's Fair is Coming: October 19th

Save the Date!

Our parish festival is a full day of merriment, food, drinks, and festivities! We will need help with our booths and concessions, so stay tuned for our special King's Fair flyer early next week.

Please help us reach out to all alumni (former students) to join our festivities that weekend, too! (ALUMNI includes graduates as well as those who attended The Atonement Academy in Lower, Middle, or Upper Schools.)



DOLLAR NIGHT @ THE GYM: This Coming Monday!

Come out and support the MS & Varsity
Volleyball teams as they spike the competition!

Dollar Hot Dogs! Dollar Paletas!

Buy a raffle ticket for chance to win a Cooler/BBQ combo! You won't want to miss out on all the fun!

Monday: September 23rd

Where: Crusader Gym

Time: MS @ 5:00 vs. Great Hearts Monte Vista

Varsity @ 7:00 vs. Gateway Christian Academy

Come out in your favorite Crusader T-shirt and support these hard-working young ladies.

Be Loud! Be Proud! Go Crusaders!

At Leisure on Campus

And sometimes, it is good to play...



The PSAT/NMSQT is just around the corner!

Crusader freshmen, sophomores, and juniors will take the PSAT on Wednesday, October 16th. For juniors, this is also the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (NMSQT), conducted by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC). This is an annual academic competition for recognition and college scholarships that is open to all students who meet entry requirements. Each year, about 1.6 million high school students enter the competition; 50,000 are recognized for their academic accomplishments and potential; and 8,700 win Merit[®] Scholarship awards or Special Scholarships for college undergraduate study. (Special scholarships are provided by corporate sponsors for students who meet their criteria and are high performers in the competition, but not Finalists.) Students who qualify for recognition in the National Merit Scholarship Program are notified through their schools.

From the College Board 2019-2020 Educator Guide

ANNUAL CRUSADER GOLF CLASSIC: October 10th

The Athletic Department is hosting their **Annual Crusader Golf Classic** at Cedar Creek Golf Course on October 10, 2019. Funds raised will be used to purchase a new scoreboard for Crusader Field.

The golf tournament will begin with a 7:00 am check-in and an 8:00 am shotgun start. The format will be a 4-person scramble. Registration deadline is October 1, 2019 at 12:00 pm.

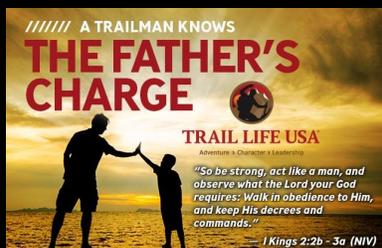
You can register via the online link at: [Register for Crusader Golf Classic](#) The cost is \$125 for an individual, and \$400 for a team. We will also have mulligans you can purchase the day of the event.

Registration will include:

- Green & Golf Cart Fee

- Hamburger Lunch Buffet
- \$5 gift card for each player
- Two drink tickets per player
- Bounce back coupon for discounted round for each player

Plan on participating and helping our Athletics Department get that new scoreboard! Contact Mr. Vidal for more information: dvidal@atonementonline.com.



Trail Life USA Troop TX0814 is chartered by Our Lady of the Atonement Parish. It is a scout program open to boys in grades K-12. We have been a very active group in terms of camping, hiking, outdoor skills, etc. The troop would like to further develop our program for both the younger and older boys alike.

We need parent volunteers to help develop these programs. Troop 0814 relies currently on a small handful of volunteers to plan these events. For the younger boys we would like volunteers to step up and help with things like zoo, fire station, police station visits. The younger boys have in the past enjoyed things like a pinewood derby (we own the track) and doing smaller campouts in St. Nicholas Field.

The older boys would like to plan larger trips to Colorado or Big Bend. We would also like to take some of the older boys to witness the beauty of the Ordination of men to the Priesthood. To also serve the parish and community through service projects.

Did you know our troop owns a trailer with tents, stoves, cast iron, fishing poles, etc? We are equipped for adventure, we just need YOU! Bring your son for a night and create a memory for a lifetime.

Trail Life Scouts gives the troop flexibility to design a troop to conform with the lifestyles of the scouts involved. There can be weekly or monthly meetings. Over the years we have grown into more of a camping club. What we are missing is involvement by parents in the lower school.

Visit our facebook page Trail Life USA Troop TX0814 *Our troop cannot continue without Volunteers.* If you are the parent of a lower or middle school student and would like to become a scout leader, please contact me please-- call Tom Stallard 210-639-2989 or thomastallard@outlook.com

American Heritage Girls

We are happy to welcome you back to a new year of scouting. The AHG mission is to grow young women of integrity through faith service and fun. Please join us every 2nd and 4th Wednesday on campus for our bi-monthly meetings. Our next meeting will take place on September 25th. We encourage our parishioners, neighbors, homeschooling families and local communities to join us!

Please contact: ahgtroop0814@gmail.com if you have any questions.



PREPARING TO ATTEND MASS TOGETHER

Mrs. Lozano and Mrs. Pyle sent in photos of their



students preparing to attend daily school Mass. Our PreK-3 and PreK-4 students started attending daily Mass with other Crusaders when they returned from the Labor Day holiday. To be sure they were ready, their teachers took them to the Church and practiced a bit before the day arrived. They've been doing an amazing job! We are so proud of our students!

"DANGEROUS CLUB FOR BOYS" 5TH-8TH GRADE FATHER-SON CLUB:

The Dangerous Club for Boys is a club for fathers and their sons in 5th through 8th grade. It teaches the boys to become men of character. They learn to overcome difficulties, to stick to a task until it is finished, to respect others, and to aspire to higher ideals. For the fathers, the club provides tools to help them educate their sons to be this sort of man.

Why? For the Boys: To begin thinking about what kind of men they will be when they grow up. To learn about some fundamental virtues and how they can live them, to engage in fun yet manly activities where they can develop their character. To become friends with other boys who are developing their character. For the Fathers: To have a chance to be with their sons in a fun atmosphere. To better understand and articulate the virtues and see how they can help their sons acquire them. To have more occasions for the conversations they want to have with their sons about deeper subjects.

When? The club typically meets on the 3rd Saturday of the month from 10:00 am. - 12:00 pm. October 19, 2019; November 16, 2019; December TBD; January 18, 2020; February 15, 2020; March TBD; April 18, 2020; and May 16, 2020.

Where? Location will vary depending on the activity.

Register and pay online at <http://www.montevistasc.org> and scroll down to "Dangerous Club", click on "More Information", then click on "Buy Now". For a father and his son: \$50. For each additional son: \$25. Some activities may require additional fees. For more information and about scholarships, contact OLA parishioner and TAA parent Paul Ku at 210-542-0373, mpaulku@yahoo.com.

BRONCO CLUB – A Father-Son Club for Boys in 1st through 4th Grades

Why? The young boys develop basic moral virtues (fortitude, temperance, etc.) through simple talks and fun activities with each other and with their fathers. Talks for the fathers show them the importance of developing virtues and strong characters in their sons and give them practical advice on how to do this. Fathers have an opportunity to spend meaningful time with their sons. **When?** Bimonthly on the first Sunday of the month, 2-4 pm. October 6, 2019, December TBD, February 2, 2020, and April 5, 2020. **Where?** South Field - Phil Hardberger Park, 8400 NW Military Hwy 78230, West entrance at Urban Ecology Center. For a father and his son: \$25. Pay online at <http://www.montevistasc.org>. Contact: Amando Garza: 210-501-7387, adgag97@yahoo.com.



FR. PAUL OF GRAYMOOR KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 16730

3 R D A N N U A L

Spaghetti Dinner

CLERGY AND RELIGIOUS APPRECIATION DINNER
& BENEFIT DRAWING

SATURDAY OCTOBER 12, 2019

OUR LADY OF THE ATONEMENT ST. ANTHONY HALL

6:00- SOCIAL - 6:30- DINNER - 9:30PM- CLOSING



MENU: SPAGHETTI AND CHOICE OF MEAT SAUCE OR PESTO, WITH GARLIC BREAD,
A SIDE SALAD, ICE TEA AND DESSERT
RESERVED SEATING \$100 PER TABLE OF 8 INCLUDES DINNER FOR 8 AND BOTTLE OF WINE
SOFT DRINK FOR MINORS AND ONE DRAWING ENTRY.

**GENERAL SEATING \$10/ADULT
\$5/ CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER**

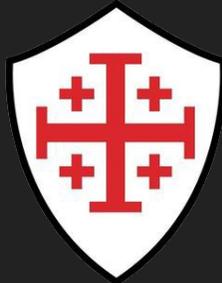
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