

THE CRUSADER TIMES

News from The Atonement Academy ----- Vol. 2019-2020. No. 15, October 31, 2019

The Atonement Academy has an annual All Saints' Day celebration for our LS children and families, sometimes assisted by the older students. The day traditionally is also our "Grandparents' Day" observance. Our younger scholars may put together a



song or short presentation or dress up and relate the story of a favorite saint. (Recognize a couple of upper scholars below--when they were in Kinder / 1st grade?)







Weekly Letter from Mr. Watson: Topic Here

October 31, 2019

Dear Atonement Families,

As I sit down to write, I have just returned from a visit to the Kindergarten and First Grade P.E. class, ably led by Coaches Miranda and Skeens. On one end of the gym, a dodgeball battle raged. On the other, half-court soccer. I had meant to be discrete, but immediately upon showing myself I was surrounded by little people, offering hugs, commenting on my hair, and assuring me the Astros would do better next year. As I walked back to my office, I knew I had received a grace.

I have enjoyed many such graces since coming to Atonement. Some, like today's, have been icons of God's unconditional love. Others have taken the form of wise counsel, or of assistance unlooked for. What a testament to God's presence in our community!

So—Enjoy this edition of *The Crusader Times*, and let us continue to pray for one another.

Your servant,

NOTA BENE / NOTE WELL...

Upcoming Events

November 1: Coffee with Mr. Watson, 8 am

November 1: All Saints' Day (Grandparents' Day Celebration) in St. Anthony Hall at

2:15 pm (Lower School only)*

November 2: All Souls' Day Mass, 10 am, Fauré's Requiem in D Minor*

November 2: Upper School Fall Swing Dance, St. Anthony Hall

November 3: Anniversary of The Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of St. Peter*

November 3: Daylight Savings Time ends--we gain an hour!

November 6: Health Screenings*

November 9: Capture the Flag, 3:00-5:15 pm (MS/US Only)

November 9: Family BINGO Night, St. Anthony Hall*

November 25-29: Fall Break--Return to classes December 2

December 2: Chores for Charity initiative begins

December 6: Coffee with Mr. Watson, 8 am

December 6: St. Nicholas Day

December 13: La Posada

December 18: End of Second Quarter

December 23-January 3: Christmas Break--Return to classes January 6

"LOST & FOUND" ABOUNDS!

Missing books, sweaters, lunchboxes and more are in St. Anthony Hall!

Every Wednesday at 3:00 pm in The Sacred Heart Chapel:

Join us in praying a weekly rosary for our school — and if you can't join us, set your phone for 3:00 pm to remind you to join us and pray the rosary together!

*More information may be found in this issue of the newsletter



"All Saints' Day, November 1, is a solemn holy day of the Catholic Church. The day is dedicated to the saints of the Church, that is, all those who have attained heaven. Although millions, or even billions of people may already be saints, All Saints' Day observances tend to focus on known saints --that is those recognized in the canon of the saints by the Catholic Church. All Saints' Day is a Catholic Holy Day of Obligation, meaning all Catholics are required to attend Mass on that day, unless they have an excellent excuse, such as serious illness.

"All Souls Day, November 2, is a holy day set aside for honoring the dead. The day is primarily celebrated in the Catholic Church, but it is also celebrated in the Eastern Orthodox Church and a few other denominations of Christianity. The Anglican church is the largest Protestant church to celebrate the holy day.

"According to Catholic belief, the soul of a person who dies can go to one of three places. The first is heaven, where a person who dies in a state of perfect grace and communion with God goes. The second is hell, where those who die in a state of mortal sin are naturally condemned by their choice. The intermediate option is purgatory, which is thought to be where most people, free of mortal sin, but still in a state of lesser (venial) sin, must go.

"Purgatory is necessary so that souls can be cleansed and perfected before they enter into heaven. There is scriptural basis for this belief. The primary reference is in 2 Maccabees, 12:26 and 12:32. "Turning to supplication, they prayed that the sinful deed might be fully blotted out... Thus made atonement for the dead that they might be free from sin." Additional references are found in Zechariah, Sirach, and the Gospel of Matthew. Jewish tradition also reinforces this belief as well as the tradition and teaching of the Church, which has been affirmed throughout history.

"Consistent with these teachings and traditions, Catholics believe that through the prayers of the faithful on Earth, the dead are cleansed of their sins so they may enter into heaven."

[...]

"Many cultures also mark the day differently. In North America, Americans may say extra prayers or light candles for the departed. In parts of Europe and Latin America, families visit the graves of their ancestors and sometimes leave food offerings for the departed."

--from CatholicOnline.com



Above: Mrs. Trevino puts the finishing touches on our first Altar of Remembrance.

ALL SAINTS' PROGRAM NOTES



The Lower School's All Saints' Day Program honoring grandparents will be Friday, November 1St at 2:15 p.m. in St. Anthony Hall.

As the event honors grandparents, we encourage them to attend, and special seating for grandparents will be available.

Parking for the event is available in the church parking lot. After the program, Lower School students may be signed out from their classrooms to enjoy the rest of the afternoon with their families.



When one of our parents volunteered to help Mrs. Kennedy with decorations for All Saints' Day, her workload was lightened considerably when Alfredo Santillan and Isabella McHugh stepped in along with one of their teachers, Miss Szyszkiewicz.

Wreaths Across America

The American Heritage Girls Troop TX0814 will honor our veterans by laying Remembrance Wreaths on the gravestones of our country's fallen heroes at Fort Sam Houston, on December 14th.

AHG will be selling wreaths after each mass November 3rd and 10th

at Our Lady of The Atonement Catholic Church 15415 Red Robin Road, 78255

Wreath sponsorships can also be made online at www.wreathsacrossamerica.org/pages/153060



AHG will leave forms in the school foyer, church narthex or sponsors can go online using our link, www.wreathsacrossamerica.org/pages/153060. Grave specific requests must be submitted in writing on the printed form.

First Graders and Venn Diagrams

First graders at The Atonement Academy keep developing concepts they've been introduced to in Kindergarten, such as Venn Diagramming. The tile floors, string, and paper labels made for a dynamic spot to tangibly manipulate the components of a diagram for each child's family unit and learn by doing!



Seeking Special Substitutes and Volunteers

The Atonement is looking for a few great, dedicated, service-oriented substitutes as well as volunteers! From time to time, one of our world-class teachers needs to get to the doctor or report for jury duty or stay home because she is running a fever! Or a volunteer might be needed for an hour in the lunchroom or playground. If you think you might have some time to be an occasional sub or a volunteer for the classroom, lunchroom, library, or playground, please contact Mrs. Johnston: cjohnston@atonementonline.com.

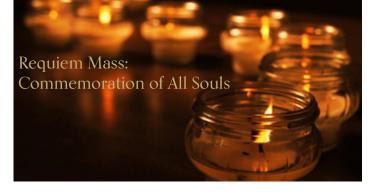
We appreciate our volunteers, and we thank those of you who have been volunteering. Please call Mrs. Johnston to sign up for the month of November. The Lower School teachers especially appreciate your volunteer service. Your support enables them to not only prepare lesson plans, but collaborate with other teachers in planning their classroom activities.

Sweaters Now Required for PreK-3 through Grade 8

You will recall that our handbook notes that sweaters are a uniform requirement between November 1 and March 1. We are in Texas, and we are likely to have some warm days between a number of cold ones; regardless of the temperature, please be sure your sons and daughters in grades PreK-3 through 8 bring their sweaters to school each day.

THIS SATURDAY! Requiem Mass in D Minor

Plan to attend our parish All Souls' Day Requiem Mass on Saturday, November 2 from 10:00-11:45 am. This Mass will



be offered for the faithful departed and feature Gabriel Fauré's Requiem in D Minor, op. 48, performed by the Atonement Academy Honors' Choir, the OLA Parish Adult Choir, and a chamber orchestra. Remembrance gifts (which were received by 10/27) will appear in the All Souls

program and in each Music Series program throughout the coming year. To see a complete list of Parish Music Series events, or to give a gift in memory of a loved one, please visit the link on our website: https://ourladyoftheatonement.org/music-series.

Meet Mr. Martin Scott, Business Manager

Our new business manager, Martin Scott, comes to us from the Dallas/Ft. Worth area where he spent a number of years in city government as well as working at Saint Gabriel the Archangel Catholic Church in McKinney, St. Bernard of Clairvaux Catholic Church and School, and the Cavanaugh Flight Museum in Addison. Mr. Scott also worked at the Diocese of Beaumont (Texas), and St. Anthony Cathedral and School in the Beaumont area, so he has a wide range of experience with organizations similar to our own. Capital campaigns, renovation projects, business office personnel management, budgeting, and financial statements are all familiar ground for Scott, who has a BA in Accounting from Lamar University.



He has been married since 2006, and he and his wife (Rayni) are proud parents of Bertie, a 3rd grader at The Atonement Academy. In fact, Mr. Scott is most proud of the two years he managed to be a stay-at-home dad to his son, who spent 2 months in a neonatal unit in Cook's Hospital in Fort Worth. You will find Mr. Scott to be approachable and caring; he is happy to be at our parish and looks forward to helping with all business matters for the church and school.

Crusader Sports Update from Mr. Vidal

After attending the meeting for TAPPS 2A All-District selections for Volleyball, we are pleased to announce these Crusader athletes who made state teams:

- Katherine Monroe- 2nd Team All-District (Also nominated for Academic All-State)
- Katherine Cerda- 2nd Team All-District
- AnnMarie Groh- Honorable Mention
- Isabella McHugh- Honorable Mention

Congratulations to the athletes listed above. If you see them in the hallway, please congratulate them! They have worked hard all season long.

Men's Varsity Soccer has a game today at home at 4:00 pm, and Lady Crusaders

Varsity Soccer have a game Friday at 5:00 pm at St. Mary's Hall.

On Tuesday, October 5th, both Varsity soccer teams will be playing at St. Mary's Hall at 5:00 pm.

On Wednesday, October 6th, middle school basketball have their home opener vs. Concordia. MS Girls at 4:00 pm and MS Boys at 5:00 pm, and the Lady Crusader Varsity Basketball plays at 6:00 pm vs. YWLA

On Thursday, October 7th, Lady Crusaders Varsity Soccer play at home at 4:00 pm. **Spurs Game**

The Varsity Men's Basketball team will be playing in the AT&T center this year on December 3rd at 1:45 pm vs.The Winston School.

Here is the link to purchase tickets: https://groupmatics.events/event/Atonementacademy

Your ticket will give you access to courtside seats for our game at 1:45 pm, and then the assigned seat printed on the ticket for the night game between the Spurs and Rockets. If we sell 150 tickets, the Men's basketball team will have free entry into the game that night. December 3rd is a school day, so you can still support and purchase a ticket for that night. The Spurs vs. Rockets match-up is going to be a great!

Winter Basketball and Volleyball

Winter Basketball and Volleyball: Please register with <u>SOA</u>. When you register you will select your age group and click on the Western Division-A. Dates will range from January 18 – March 25 for Basketball, and January 25 – March 8 for Volleyball.

Sibling Shadow Day, November 13th

The Atonement Academy Admissions Office invites you to our 1st Annual "Sibling Shadow Day" on Wednesday November 13, 2019.

Sibling Shadow day is designed for our current students' siblings to have the opportunity to experience what it is like to be a Crusader. Their half day experience will consist of:

- 8:00 am arrival in front office
- 9:55 am Mass
- Lunch varies with class schedule (we will provide pizza and a Capri Sun drink)
- 12:00 pm pick up from front office

We ask the following dress code be followed on sibling shadow day:

- Boys: slacks, button down shirt, and black shoes or non- print tennis shoes.
- Girls: knee length dress or skirt and blouse, with modesty shorts underneath, black shoes or non-print tennis shoes.

It is important to participate in this event to facilitate the admission process for you in the 2020-2021 academic year. Please come by the Admissions office to register for this event and bring your "Prospective Crusader's" birth certificate and immunization records.

THANK YOU

...so much for your help with our annual Pumpkin Patch! You have supported us in so many ways from helping to donate equipment, unload



pumpkins, sell pumpkins; you have attended movie night and encouraged friends and family to attend our event. We also thank Elite Printing for donating the nice new banner and the directional signs for the Pumpkin Patch.

We want to let you know our girl members of AHG voted to donate 50% of the raised funds to The Atonement Academy to improve the recess play space. The donation will be used to pay for

supplies and labor needed to paint the playground asphalt with games such as Hopscotch, Tic-Tac-Toe and Four Square along with donating balls for the children to play with.

Though we are sad to see the Pumpkin Patch go away for another year, we also want you to know that the pumpkins have a new home. The American Heritage Girls has donated the remaining pumpkins to the Childsafe organization with the help of Mrs. Nieto. This organization specializes in helping abused children and families in the San Antonio area. Because of your support, we were able to help make the Thanksgiving holiday season just a little bit better for families in difficult situations.

Again, we thank you for your support of AHG--please note that the last day for the Pumpkin Patch will be Friday, November 1st!



Our free movies were a hit with everyone who braved the cold night. Of course, hot cocoa sure made a difference! In addition, many of our AHG girls also camped that night and showed up to help greet at Mass the next morning. We thank you so much



This is a Very Special Weekend for Prayer: Tenth Anniversary of the Ordinariate AND an Opportunity to Obtain a Special Plenary Indulgence

Join us at Our Lady of The Atonement this Sunday! Pope Francis has granted a plenary indulgence to all Catholics who join an Ordinariate Mass on Nov. 3rd, and you may do this at Our Lady of The Atonement at 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, or 6 pm.

Pope Francis recently announced a special plenary indulgence to mark the Ordinariate's jubilee year celebrating 10 years of its founding by Benedict XVI and extends to pilgrims to the Walsingham shrine in Houston.

For details of Pope Francis's announcement and full details regarding the indulgence, click <u>here</u>.

Interested in learning more about the Ordinariate? Download an easy to understand Fact Sheet here:

Our pastor emeritus, Father Phillips, also mentions this in a recent social media post:

"In addition to having the opportunity of gaining the Ordinariate plenary indulgence this Sunday, you can also help the Poor Souls in Purgatory this Saturday with the plenary indulgence assigned to this season, outlined in the *Enchiridion*.

- 1. A plenary indulgence, applicable ONLY to the souls in purgatory, may be obtained by those who, on All Souls Day, piously visit a church, public oratory, or for those entitled to use it, a semi-public oratory. It may be acquired either on the day designated as All Souls Day or, with the consent of the bishop, on the preceding or following Sunday or the feast of All Saints. On visiting the church or oratory it is required that one Our Father and the Creed be recited.
- 2. You may make a visit to a Cemetery or Columbarium. A plenary indulgence is applicable to the souls in Purgatory when one devoutly visits and prays for the departed. Note that this work may be done each day between November 1 and November 8.

To obtain a Plenary Indulgence, one must fulfill the following requirements:

- 1. Make a Sacramental Confession,
- 2. Receive Holy Communion,
- 3. Offer prayer for the intentions of the Holy Father.

All these are to be performed within days of each other, if not at the same time."

FOURTH GRADE SCIENCE EXPERIMENT FUN

Fourth graders enjoyed physical science experiments in the lab this week.









LOVE & LOGIC PARENT FORMATION SEMINAR



Our seminar for parents on the Love & Logic discipline method was a successful evening for all participants. From the great wine and charcuterie boards to the excellent information and discussion, all aspects of the evening program went well and encouraged additional seminars and parent formation. Thank you to all who attended and participated.







ATONEMENT FAMILY BINGO



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

FAMILY BINGO IS ONE OF OUR FUNDRAISERS AT THE ATONEMENT ACADEMY. WE NEED YOUR HELP WITH SPONSORSHIP TO COVER SOME OF OUR COST. IF YOU CAN DONATE MONEY TO PURCHASE ANY OF THE ITEMS BELOW OR BINGO PRIZES, PLEASE SEND YOUR DONATIONS MARKED "PTC FAMILY BINGO" TO THE SCHOOL WITH YOUR CHILD BY MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH.

HOT DOGS \$150

NACHOS \$75

CHIPS \$75

POPCORN \$50

CHILI/FRITO PIE \$75

PIZZA \$15

DRINKS \$200

CUPCAKES \$150

BINGO PRIZES \$50

SPECIAL BINGO PRIZES \$100

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

FOR QUESTIONS CONTACT LUDDY NELSON AT PALAU0609@HOTMAIL.COM



ATONEMENT FAMILY BINGO \$150 VIP TABLE FORM

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2019 TIME: 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM DOORS OPEN 5:30 PM

Each table comes with 8 chairs, 8 regular bingo cards, 8 hotdogs or one large pizza, 8 chips, 8 desserts, 8 sodas and water, and 1 pitcher of beer or a bottle of wine. **Check in** at the front when you arrive for your table location and tickets. Please print this form and turn it into the school front office attention to "**PTC FAMILY BINGO**". For any questions please contact **Luddy Nelson:** palau0609@hotmail.com.

Name:							
Phone Number:							
Email:							
Payment:	Cash:	Check Number:					
Would you like a pitcher of beer or a bottle of wine (White/Red)? Select Below							
-	_1. Pitcher of Beer	2. white wine	3. Ked Wine				

DEADLINE TO RSVP A VIP TABLE IS WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2019



The 7th and 8th Grade will be hosting a Capture the Flag event at The Atonement Academy. Listed below are the details for the event.

Date: Saturday, November 9, 2019

Location: The Piazza

Time: 3:00 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.

Admission: \$5.00 for participants (incl. team bandana, drink & pizza)

Event - Military Theme: Each participant will be randomly assigned to one of 4

teams:

Buffalo (Navy) Fox (Air Force)
Bear (Marines) Turtle (Army)

Notes:

- Registration must be turned in by Tuesday, November 5th.
- · Payments must be accompanied by completed registration.
- Payments must be cash or check and turned into the school's business office (your school account **cannot** be billed for this event).

CAPTURE THE FLAG: November 9, 2019

STUDENT NAME:			
GRADE:	\$5.00 CASH	CHECK	(circle one)
Volunteers / Parents can buy pizza and drin buy pizza at the event, please let us know h slices @ \$3/slice for total of	ow many slices so	we can pl	
Parent Name/Contact Number:			

HEALTH SCREENINGS ARE COMING: 11.6.19

This is a friendly reminder that next week the nursing students from UTHSCSA will be helping us to conduct the required screenings on Wednesday, November 6th.

Poor vision and hearing in children can interfere with coordination, acquisition of skills, achievement of developmental milestones, and the ability to learn properly. That is why Texas mandates that students in the grades below be tested every year.

Please make sure your child brings his or her glasses on that day for the vision screening.

Also, if your child will be participating in the spinal screening, please make sure he/she wears shorts, a sports bra or a two piece bathing suit under the uniform.

- Vision Screening for students in Grades: Pre K, K, 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, and any new students.
- Hearing Screening for students in Grades: Pre K, K, 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, and any new students.
- Acanthosis Nigricans Screening for students in Grades: 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, and any new students.
- Scoliosis for students 5th and 7th for Girls, 8th for Boys and any new students.

If you do not wish to have your child screened for religious reasons, you must submit an exemption to the school no later than <u>November 4, 2019</u>. If your child has had a recent vision/ hearing screening, your child receives yearly examinations by an optometrist or ophthalmologist, and/or you do not wish for your child to be screened at school, please notify the school in writing by e-mailing me (health@atonementonline.com).

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Veronica Tovar Sepulveda, Ph.D. Health Coordinator

<u>Website</u>	About Us	<u>Academics</u>	<u>Admissions</u>	<u>Resources</u>
			15415 Red Robi San Antonio, TX Contact	(78255

