

THE CRUSADER TIMES

News from The Atonement Academy ----- Vol. 2019-2020. No. 23, January 16, 2020

“Let anyone who comes to you go away feeling better and happier. Everyone should see goodness in your face, in your eyes, in your smile. Joy shows from the eyes. It appears when we speak and walk. It cannot be kept closed inside us. It reacts outside. Joy is very infectious.” -- *St. Teresa of Calcutta*

Seriousness is balanced by some silliness in these seventh graders -- one of our most likely classes to be spreading JOY!



Weekly Letter from Mr. Watson

January 16, 2020

Dear Atonement Families,

Last week's "State of the School Address" culminated in the formal launch of our new Strategic Plan entitled, "Cultivating the Vineyard of the Lord." (Available [here](#).) Drawing on the Scriptures' frequent use, in Old and New Testaments, of the vineyard as an image of God's chosen people, we hope to convey a sense of stewardship and continuity as we look toward the future. As a Catholic school whose "classical" designation announces our embrace of the inheritance of Christian culture rather than educational trends or popular culture, we are convinced that the fundamentals that make for excellent academic and spiritual formation are already in place.

As we begin to rally ourselves to look beyond the "tyranny of the urgent" and work strategically, I will occasionally use this weekly letter to touch on some aspect of our efforts. Today, I would like to direct your attention to the point under the Strategic Plan's "Student Life" heading transcribed below:

Clubs, athletics, other extracurriculars are extensions of curriculum.

What do we mean by this? Sadly, many Catholic schools may schedule a weekly Mass and place crucifixes in every classroom, but, when it comes to their curriculum and pedagogy, they appear indistinguishable from the public school down the street. It is not that these schools are not well meaning; they err, however, in failing to enlist

the means by which the privileged classes of Christendom have been prepared for a life of virtuous leadership for millennia—a classical, liberal arts education. “These arts,” writes Catholic educational philosopher Stratford Caldecott in his book *Beauty in the Word*, “were intended for the cultivation of freedom and the raising of our humanity to its highest possible level” (p. 9).

As a school, our commitment to “the raising of our humanity to its highest possible level” has direct implications for all aspects of our program of formation. Pedagogically, we seek teachers who radiate Christ and who are masters of their disciplines. Curricularly, we select for study the literature, the personalities, the ideas, the music, and the art that have withstood the crucible of time, and have been acknowledged by all generations as sure guides to the True, the Good, and the Beautiful.

When it comes to extracurriculars, the same principle applies. Recently, the nature of Academy dances has enjoyed some robust debate. When the administration met at the beginning of the year, one of the practices of the past that seemed out of step with our school’s Mission and its day-to-day efforts in formation was the use of contemporary music and movement at these dances. By all accounts, this practice perennially entangled teachers and administration in adjudicating families’ differing parenting philosophies, questions of what were “clean” versions of songs, and the policing of sexualized choreography.

As with many Catholic schools that have taken this approach, it ultimately commits the faculty and student body to a debate about what is “not bad” rather than what would *raise our humanity to its highest possible level*.

By focusing on elegant, time-tested forms of dance and music that call the human form to some of its most noble postures, The Atonement Academy will use school dances as the culmination of our community’s attunement to higher things, and not their contradiction.

Your servant,

Matthew David Watson
Head of School

NOTA BENE / NOTE WELL...

Upcoming Events

January 20: Martin Luther King Holiday (no school)

January 23: Friends & Family Shadow Day*

January 24: Evensong: Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul, 2:25 pm

January 28: Academic Showcase, PreK-3 through Grade 1, 6-7 pm

January 30: Academic Showcase, Grade 2 through Grade 6, 6-7 pm

February 1: Father-Daughter "Gala"*

February 8: Annual Gala & Auction*

February 14: Bishop's Holiday (no school)

February 17: Presidents' Day (no school)

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*

Scenes from The Second Quarter Awards Ceremony

Another standing room only event in St. Anthony Hall! Our second quarter awards ceremony was a wonderful event and featured our honor roll winners as well as our library reading awards. Congratulations to all!







Library Award Winners: Gabriela Hernandez and Henry Watson

Our librarian, Mrs. Wendtland, presented certificates to the



winners of the second quarter Library Achievement winners. The two students greatly exceeded reading requirements for lower school (Hernandez) and middle school (Watson). Well done!

Great Momentum: We are at 184 Re-Enrolled !

Re-enrollment began January 1st, and we now are at 184 today! Featured in this photo is Angela Aquino with Dean of the Lower School, Mr. Creech. Angela was the 150th student to re-enroll!

To re-enroll, please open your Family Portal in FACTS SIS. Then:

1. On the left side of your screen please click on: **Apply/Enroll**.
2. Then click on **Enrollment/Re-enrollment**.
3. Then click on **Start Packet 2020-2021**.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Mrs. Joiner at yjoiner@atonementonline.com.

Please note that new families are eligible to begin enrolling in February. We have a Friends & Family Shadow Day on January 23rd, so tell your friends and family and share in the great Atonement Academy experience! The deadline to sign up for this Shadow Day is tomorrow, January 17th -- see details below.

Deadline for Friends & Family Shadow Day is Tomorrow!



The Atonement Academy

The Admissions Office invites you to participate in our
“Friends and Family Shadow Day”

Thursday January 23, 2020



Friends and Family Shadow Day will give new families the opportunity to experience what it is like to be a Crusader! The day will start at 8:00 am and end at 12:15 pm for students in K3–5th, and at 3:00 pm for students in 6th–12th.

Please come by the Admission Office by Friday, January 17, 2020 to register for this event.

Please contact Mrs. Yolanda Joiner, Admissions Director
yjoiner@atonementonline.com

Maria Garza Makes All-State Choir!

Mr. Tucker Moore is pleased to report that Atonement Senior Maria Garza made the Texas All-State Choir.

Tens of thousands of Texas' best singers work diligently on music of high difficulty. After several rounds of



successful auditions, Maria has put her name on a very select list. Congratulations, Maria!

**CELEBRATE OUR 25TH!
\$25 EACH
OR 2 FOR \$40
(MIX & MATCH!)**



**NEW MUGS
AND CUPS NOW
AVAILABLE
IN THE BUSINESS OFFICE!**

Academic Showcase is Coming!



You won't want to miss our Lower School's annual Academic Showcase!

Scheduled for January 28 (Grades PreK-3 through 1st grade)

and January 30 (Grades 2nd through 6th), each hour-long evening gives insight into what our younger Crusaders learn in their classrooms!

Bring the grandparents and interested neighbors and friends, too!

Date:
Feb 21st

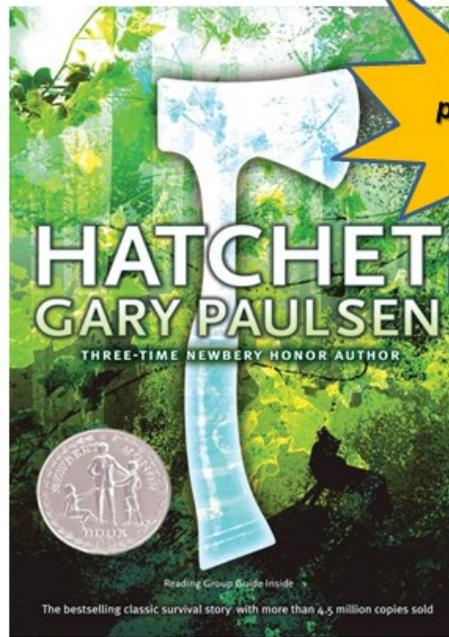
Time:
3:15pm –
5:00pm

BL: 5.7
7pts

Newbery
award
winner!



3rd Qtr Book Club



Max
participants
15

Who is invited? 6th-8th Grades **Discussion, Virtue Talk, Movie & Popcorn**

Parents need to know that Gary Paulsen's *Hatchet* is an intense, fast, exciting read. The main character is a 13-year-old boy whose parents are divorced. The boy survives a plane crash in the Canadian wilderness en route to visit his father and must use the hatchet his mother once gave him to stay alive. Many kids report that this is the first school-assigned book they fell in love with.
– *commonsensemedia.org*

Permission Slip

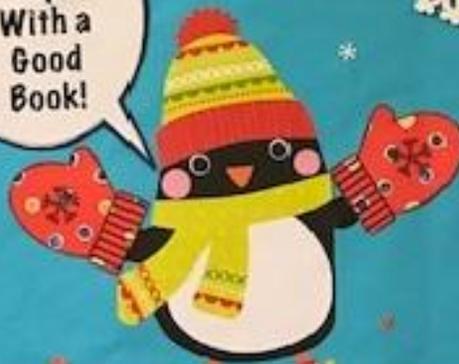
I give my child _____ permission
to attend the 3rd Qtr book club on Feb. 21st 3:15pm – 5:00pm.
(no after care charges will be assessed until after 5:15pm)

Parent Signature _____

LIBRARY
CHALLENGE:
READ ^(at least) 20 BOOKS
IN

2 0 2 0 !

Warm
up
With a
Good
Book!



UPCOMING EVENTS

ATTENTION 4TH, 5TH & 6TH GRADERS

Could you survive
in the wilderness
by yourself?

Join us for our
Next Book Club

Featuring the book
"HATCHET" by Gary Paulsen

after school on Feb. 20th/21st



JANUARY 20th

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. HOLIDAY

EVERYBODY WILL BE
SOMEONE ANYBODY
MAY BE YOUR
HEART full of
love, kindness
and LOVE.

FOLLOW HIS DREAM!



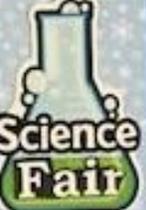
THE ATONEMENT ACADEMY
ACADEMIC SHOWCASE

JAN. 28th & 30th
6:00 P.M.



Science Fair

February 22nd



THE GALA IS COMING....and it's really getting exciting!

The Atonement Academy



Gala

February 8, 2020 | 6:00 pm | Éilan Hotel

<https://www.accelevents.com/e/AtonementGala2020>



Don't miss out! We have almost 200 participants ready to enjoy our 25th Anniversary Gala! Have you bought your ticket (or table!) yet? Have you donated an auction item? Have you bought an ad in the program? Did you know that friends and family can join in the auction bidding that night from the comfort of their own home? Stay tuned for options to help underwrite specific items. Opportunities for your participation abound!

Check our school website for 25th Anniversary Gala forms, including secure online ticket or table purchases: <https://theatonementacademy.org/gala>.



25th Anniversary Atonement Academy Gala – 2020

All tables and tickets purchased before December 20, 2019 will receive an Early Bird Limited Edition 25th Anniversary Christmas Ornament!

Please make your table or ticket selection below. This form is for purchase by check only. If you are interested in purchasing a ticket using your credit card, please go to the following website: <https://www.accelevents.com/e/AtonementGala2020>

Count	Table or Ticket Selection	Cost	Total Cost
_____	Bishop's Table	\$5,000	<u>\$ 0</u>
_____	Silver and Red Table	\$3,000	<u>\$ 0</u>
_____	Friends of the Academy Table	\$1,300	<u>\$ 0</u>
_____	Romantic Getaway	\$650	<u>\$ 0</u>
_____	Individual Ticket	\$150	<u>\$ 0</u>
	Total Cost to be paid by Check		<u>\$ 0</u>

Contact Name

Contact Cell Number

Contact Email

THE ATONEMENT ACADEMY GALA

Éilan Hotel / Saturday, February 8, 2020

18603 La Cantera Terrace

San Antonio, TX 78256

210-695-2240

info@atonementonline.com



PROGRAM ADVERTISING CONTRACT

Sponsor/Firm Name	Contact	Phone
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Name (as you wish for it to appear in the program)
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Address	City	State
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Gala Program Advertising opportunities:

- Outside Back Cover \$ 600.00
- Inside Back Cover: \$ 500.00
- Inside Front Cover: \$ 500.00
- Full Page: \$ 400.00
- Half Page: \$ 200.00
- Quarter Page: \$ 100.00
- Business card size (1/8th page): \$ 50.00

NOTES

ART WORK INFORMATION

- Camera-Ready Art Work** to be sent (We will print your ad exactly as you provide it.)

- Production Required**
(Additional cost to advertiser: \$25.00; we will be sure your artwork fits the size ad you have selected and appropriately reflects your company and our organization.)

Ads must be camera ready to the correct size. The advertiser agrees to pay for any additional charge for half tones, alterations, or typesetting required by printer or the production artist.

Submit camera-ready art and/or any advertising or production inquiries to:
elliemoore@sbcglobal.net

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Total Payment Amount: \$ _____

Check No. _____ Enclosed

*Please make your checks payable to:
The Atonement Academy*

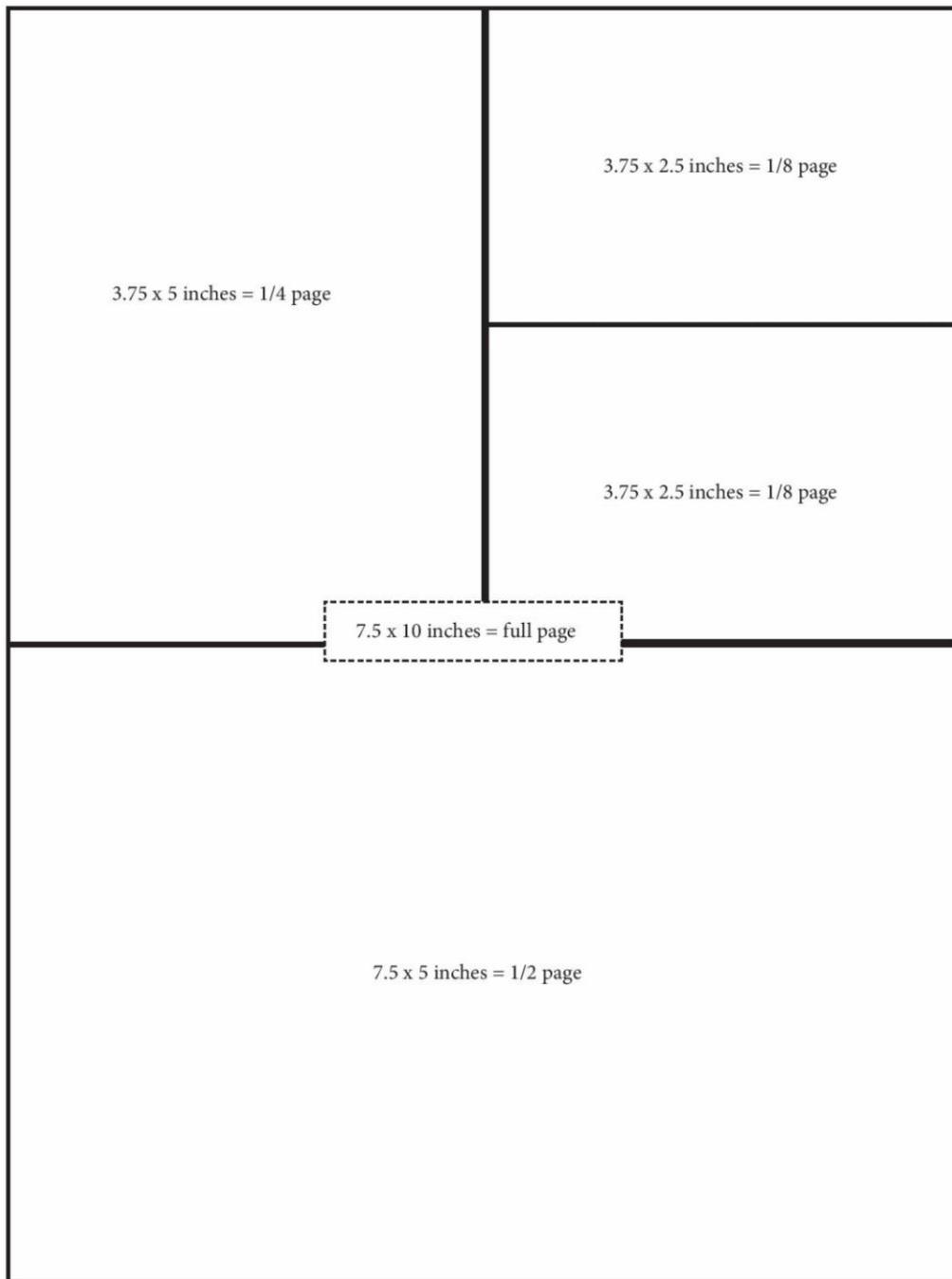
Visa MasterCard American Express

Credit Card No. _____

Exp. Date: _____

Cardholder's Name: _____
(Please Print)

Signature: _____



ATONEMENT SPORTS UPDATE

from Athletic Director Mr. Dakotah Vidal



The Athletic Department at The Atonement Academy is selling car magnets in support of Atonement Athletics. You can also purchase these magnets at the front office or Athletic Director's office.

UPCOMING GAMES

- Boys Varsity Basketball- District Record (0-2)
- Next game at Home at 7:30 pm this Friday
- Lady Crusaders Basketball- District Record (0-2)
- Next game at Home at 6:00 pm this Friday

Lady Crusader Middle School Basketball- District Record (3-2)

- Next games on Thursday (4 pm) and Friday (3:30 pm) at Home

Boys Middle School Basketball- District Record (1-4)

- Next games on Thursday (5 pm) and Friday (4:30 pm) at Home

Boys Middle School Soccer- District Record (0-3)

- Next game Saturday at KIPP at 10:00 am

Boys Varsity Soccer- District Record (2-4)

- Next Game on Saturday at Geneva at 11:00 am

Lady Crusader Varsity Soccer- District Record (0-4)

- Next game next Thursday at St. John Paul II at 5:00 pm

Swimming-Upper School

- Faith Weems will be swimming and representing The Atonement Academy in the TAPPS Regional Swim meet next Wednesday. She will be gone all day competing to qualify for the TAPPS State Championship Meet on February 7th.

Spring Sports:

February 10th will begin the spring sport season at The Atonement Academy. The sports we will have are:

- MS Baseball/Softball
 - MS/US Tennis
 - MS/US Track & Field
 - MS/US Golf
-

Did you sell the
lucky ticket?

ANNUAL RAFFLE TICKET SALE!

THE CATHOLIC LIFE INSURANCE
RAFFLE DEADLINE IS JAN.31ST! TURN IN ALL
TICKETS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, PLEASE!



Father-Daughter Gala

Does your daughter wish she could dress in semi-formal attire and attend the annual Atonement gala? Would father and daughter like to spend an evening together with friends? Well, as a preview for what's to come the following weekend, you are invited to the **Atonement Academy's Father-Daughter Gala!**

Saturday, February 1, 2020
The Atonement Academy
St. Anthony Hall

Grades 1st-4th: 4:30 - 6 pm

Grades 5th-8th: 6:30 - 8 pm

Music and finger foods
provided

Cost: \$15 per
father/daughter
couple. \$5 each
additional child in
the family

QUESTIONS?

Email Kelly Meyering
Meyeringk@aol.com

RSVP by 1/27/2020
submit form below

Name: _____

Number of Guests: _____ Grade 1-4
_____ Grade 5-8

Amount enclosed: _____



A few photos from years past!



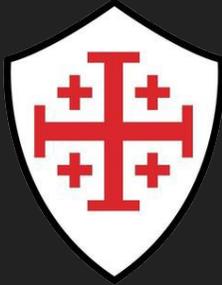
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San Antonio, TX 78255

[Contact Us](#)

