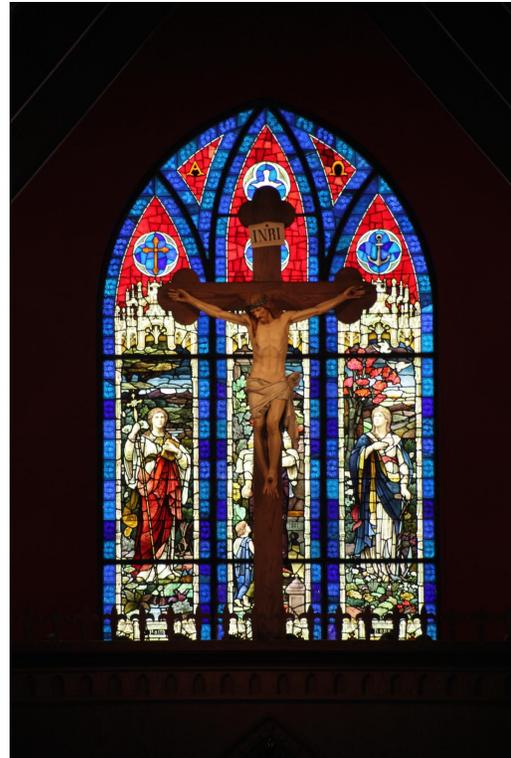


# THE CRUSADER TIMES

News from The Atonement Academy --- Vol. 2019-2020. No. 36, April 30, 2020

"While the world changes, the cross stands firm." — St. Bruno

What a consolation we have that our faith remains a constant in this changing world! With our Catholic faith and with our Catholic school, we are reminded that God is in charge, and as our pastor Father Lewis has said in many of his homilies, "Clearly, our church and school have an important role in building the kingdom of God and bringing others to know Christ. We must continue to look to the future with hope and trust God's will!"



## Weekly Office Hours (via Zoom)

Atonement teachers will continue offering Zoom office hours next week. This is an opportunity for students and their parents to check in with teachers and ask questions about work assigned for the week. Teachers will send a link to each student or family for each week's meeting. Student attendance at these meetings is entirely optional. Teachers' office hours are listed below.

### Monday

1 p.m. - Lozano and Pyle  
1:30 p.m. - Fitzgerald  
2:00 p.m. - M. Kennedy  
2:30 p.m. - Weems  
3:00 p.m. - Garza  
3:30 p.m. - Czech

### Tuesday

### Wednesday

1 p.m. - Taylor  
1:30 p.m. - B. Kennedy  
2:00 p.m. - Oliveros  
2:30 p.m. - Otten  
3:00 p.m. - Szyszkiewicz  
3:30 p.m. - White

### Thursday

1 p.m. - Adian  
1:30 p.m. - Chude  
2:00 p.m. - Gray  
2:30 p.m. - Sister MM  
3:00 p.m. - Markovetz  
3:30 p.m. - Mataya

1 p.m. - Creech  
1:30 p.m. - Lamascus  
2:00 p.m. - Lenahan  
2:30 p.m. - MS Athletics  
3:00 p.m. - US Athletics  
3:30 p.m. - Librarian

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## **GRADUATION 2020**

Seniors and their families will be receiving a letter early next week outlining Graduation's new look for 2020. For now, keep holding on to that special date: June 6.

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## **2020-2021 CALENDAR NOW ONLINE**

Our 2020-2021 Academic Calendar has been approved and is now posted online! Go to [www.theatonementacademy.org](http://www.theatonementacademy.org) and click on the "Forms and Documents" tab to access the calendar and begin your annual planning!

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## **2020-21 BOOK LIST & SUMMER READING**

The 2020-21 course book list and summer reading list are on their way. Please be on the lookout for them in next week's Crusader Times.

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## **PTC PLANS TEACHER APPRECIATION**

Our PTC president, Mrs. Elizabeth Pro, announced that the organization has come up with some creative ideas for the Teacher Appreciation Week! They are planning a "Drive By on Campus" in the middle of Teacher Appreciation Week on Wednesday, May 6 from 6:30-8:00 pm (To break up car congestion, there will be two different time slots, 6:30-7:15 pm for families with last names beginning with letters A-K and 7:15-8:00 pm for surnames beginning with L-Z). The "Drive By" is optional, of course, but provides an opportunity for students and teachers to see each other's faces and to share with each other a much needed wave and smile.

The happy procession of cars will be directed where to drive once on campus. Teachers will be spaced at intervals along the thoroughfare so students may greet teachers from their cars. There will be a mailbox along the route where scholars can drop off any notes to their teachers. Masks must be worn at all times, and families are asked to remain in their vehicles, please.

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## **St. Gianna Molla Pro-Life Club Plans Zoom Meeting**

The St. Gianna Molla Pro-Life Club will host an online Zoom meeting with the members to wrap up the year and hold elections for 2020-2021. The meeting is scheduled for this coming Monday, May 4th from 4:00-5:00 pm. They will be talking about updates on the club, announcement about elections, and

hosting apologetics lesson. Mr. Chude, the club's faculty advisor, will be moderating. Email Mr. Chude (cchude@atonementonline.com) for the Zoom Meeting link and password.

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## BEING NORMAL IN A FORMAL



Thank you to all who participated in our “Being Normal in a Formal” Prom. We had 10 participants in the contest: Anais Garza, Juan Garza, Maria Garza, David Henriquez, Olivia Kisgen, Katherine Monroe, Lily Moore, Franco Navarrete, Emiliano Sanchez, and Mary Sommer.

The winner of the contest is junior scholar Katherine Monroe. The judges thought her picture was extremely creative and followed the criteria of the contest rules. Mowing the lawn in her formal gown while listening to live music was comical as well. Congratulations, Katherine! Honorable mention goes to senior Juan Pedro Garza. Here are some of the photos we received!







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## **Do you need a Handy Man, Landscaper, Doctor, or Lawyer? An Atonement Business Directory Is Coming Soon.**

We are committed to supporting The Atonement community through this difficult time. The unusual situation we find ourselves in now makes us that much more grateful for the incredible community at the heart of The Atonement Academy/Our Lady of The Atonement Catholic Church.

You are that community. We are in the process of creating a business directory of Atonement families. If you have a business you like to include in this directory, please send me an email Ms. Nieto ([anieto@atonementonline.com](mailto:anieto@atonementonline.com)) with the contact information for your business.

You make this school what it is. Now more than ever, it's important that we continue to support each other.

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## **WESTERN CIVILIZATION: Sophomore Assignment Gets Creative**

This week, Miss Szyszkiewicz contributed a sampling of sophomore class assignments to show what the upper scholars have been up to.

The sophomores just finished studying Napoleon and the Congress of Vienna in Western Civilization. She asked them to write a letter as if they were a member of the Congress. They had to pick a country to represent and then

Isabella McHugh  
Miss Szyszkiewicz  
Western Civ  
Week of April 20-24

Letter Home from the Congress of Vienna

Dear Greta,

My darling, I hope all is well at home, how are the children? Has Hans taken his first steps yet? I hope not because I wish to see him do so. The only good news this letter brings is that I will be home soon. My dear, the Congress has done nothing good for Germany. I've spoken to you about how important it is we be united. It seems I will never get my power back. Those days when my family was powerful are all I want. I used to be a prince, now all I have left is a bit of farmland. Under my family's rule, Germany was great. The Congress of Vienna decided to allow Bavaria, Wurttemberg, and Saxony to keep their crowns. It is such an insult. The only reason they have power is because Napoleon gave it to them! Here we are trying to clean up after Napoleon, trying to erase what he did and yet they still allow these imbeciles to control Germany. The Congress has yet to officially sign the papers, but we are as good as doomed. Germany will remain a land torn apart by power-hungry rulers. We must be united! I cannot stress how important it is. If Germany was united, we would be feared. I suppose that is why we were not united. However, Prussia is gaining power. We must be prepared. Germany ceded almost all our land to the left of the Rhine to Prussia. Prussia is supposed to keep France and Russia under control, but who will keep Prussia under control? Germany could if we were united. Instead we are "joined together" in a confederation. Thirty-nine states are a part of this so-called confederation, and yet almost all of them remain sovereigns. There is no confederation! We must figure out a way to be truly united. There I've let it out, my darling, I'm sorry this letter does not bring glad tidings; however, I will see you soon.

With love,

Your husband

Matthew Petroff  
Miss Szyszkiewicz  
Western Civ  
Week of April 20-24

Letter Home from the Congress of Vienna

Dear Jean,

Ever since, our great empire of France lost the war, our great nation has become weaker and weaker due to the pressure of the other countries. My brother, I know how much you wished for France to eventually take over Britain, but sadly that will not happen in this lifetime. I fear France will never again, rise to the power it once had. I know how much you looked up to the military genius, Napoleon Bonaparte, but he has been shipped away to Elba, and will probably never return again. The other countries are also all in agreement to keep France in a little box. Can you believe the audacity of that? We might as well have no say in this at all. Our country is being kept in check by all the powers around us, such as Spain and England. Now Prussia and Austria keep us in check, too. Prussia has grown even stronger than before and guards Western Germany from invasion, while Austria has not only received Tuscany and Milanese, but also the republic of Venice, guarding Italy! These countries have surrounded us! We shall never again be able to conquer lands beyond our borders if this goes on. France may even end up being consumed and wiped off the face of the world. Do they have no compassion for us? Spain and England have gone to war many times, yet they have never been tied down like us! This is unruly and unjust. My brother, we must gather our strength and prepare for any invasion. We must protect our country from these fiends. Then, maybe one day, we will be able to take advantage of other wars and grow in power, to show these countries that tie us down, that we will always rise back up.

With great sorrow,  
Henry

write home explaining the outcome of the Congress and how it affected their country.

Some of them expressed joy because their country was restored to its former glory. Some expressed disappointment because their country lost its power.

These three different letters from Jack Moore, Isabella McHugh, and Matthew Petroff represent different countries and express different emotions. (You will need to click to expand each of them -- it's worth the effort!)

Jack Moore  
Miss Szyszkiewicz  
Western Civ  
Week of April 20-24

Letter Home from the Congress of Vienna

Dear George,

I hope you and your family are doing well. I am delighted to inform you that our hometown was restored during the Congress of Vienna. What used to be our Dutch Republic was revived and brought back as a kingdom of the Netherlands. We have combined with Belgium to discourage the French drive into the Low Countries. Our hereditary monarch has become the house of Orange and I remain a representative. Some places did not get what they wanted, such as Germany, whose pleas were unheeded, and the Congress did not recognize them as a unified nation. Our republic, however, was resurrected and I am overjoyed. It was devastating when our Dutch Republic ended in 1795, but now we are back and stronger than ever. I cannot wait to see you again and celebrate this over a drink. Also, a kingdom in north Italy, our favorite vacation spot, was restored. Now there will be places for us to stay and more things to do while we are there because we can frolic around the kingdom. Since you had your conversion to Catholicism and I was raised Catholic, I am happy to say that the Pope's restoration and guidance of the papal states was recognized by the Congress. The Congress of Vienna brought good things for us and our kingdom, George, and I'm excited to re-start our resurrected kingdom. Let us be thankful of what we got and feel pity for the kingdoms who did not get what they wanted. Although some of the outcomes of the Congress are confusing, we must embrace the good that came of it. Say hello to the wife for me and God bless!

Your representative and friend,

Phillip

# COFFEE WITH MR. WATSON



*Friday, May 8th  
at 8:30 am via Zoom*

*Please RSVP to Mrs. Johnston  
([cjohnston@atonementonline.com](mailto:cjohnston@atonementonline.com)) by noon  
on Thursday, May 7 and she will supply  
you with a link and password that will  
enable you to attend. Note: in a departure  
from our typical practice, attendees will  
need to supply their own coffee!*

## SENIOR SPOTLIGHTS

### **Emiliano Sanchez**

#### ***Valedictorian***

*Headed to Texas A & M University,  
College of Engineering*

Favorite Scripture:

James 2:17-- "So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead."

Favorite Memory:

The Men's Varsity Soccer team LOUDLY singing "Betelehemu" in Whataburger after our last TAPPS soccer game in Houston (we have video), and the bus ride back where we also sang sacred music we've learned. We all lost our voices."



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### **Franco Navarrete**

#### ***Salutatorian***

*Headed to The University of Texas  
at San Antonio*

Favorite Scripture:

John 6:54-56 -- "Whoso eateth my flesh and drinketh my blood hath eternal life...for my flesh is meet indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He that eateth my flesh and drinketh my blood dwelleth in me, and I in him."

Favorite Memory:

Preparing for the 2018 Spring Concert my sophomore year when I was part of Mrs. Zuberbueler's Men's Chorale.



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## **FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: Ms. Sandra Czech**

We have a great faculty: knowledgeable, talented, and dedicated--both to our Catholic faith as well as to the education of our Crusaders. We began last week spotlighting a faculty member in the Crusader Times. We asked them a few questions and here are their responses.



--*What do you teach?* I am the teacher of a self-contained classroom for boys and girls in fourth grade.

--*What do you appreciate about The Atonement Academy?* I enjoy teaching in an intimate and impressionable community. I feel encouraged in my active role engaging the students while nurturing a dynamic partnership with parents. I enjoy the freedom of teaching the spiritual, moral, as well as academic aspects of a complete education. I appreciate an environment that allows the freedom to teach Catholic values, helping students to recognize the presence of Christ in themselves and others, which is **"the"** ultimate

responsibility! Being able to teach and model the self-discipline piece is crucial in today's secular world. Teaching and inspiring students to accept responsibility for their actions, to respect others, and make good decisions based on their faith is part of what teaching at The Atonement Academy (TAA) represents. These strongholds are what draws me to this community.

--*What do you look forward to in the 2020-2021 academic year?* I look forward to teaching in a classroom environment! The greatest daily joy for me is the sheer interaction of teacher and student. The intertwining of their energy combined with mine, makes for a day of success! Great expectations and achievements are a direct result of nourishing "that connection, that bond", with my students. I'm definitely a visual person. *Seeing* and learning of the many gifts and talents my students possess and demonstrate inspire me to give back what they give me, ten-fold!

--*What do you appreciate about The Atonement Academy?* My parents set a great example of the importance of family. Growing up we certainly didn't have much monetarily, but we had each other and our faith. Being raised in a Christ-centered home and being taught to love and forgive were paramount. Being the fifth daughter of five girls, sibling rivalry can be challenging at times. Learning how to lovingly resolve issues has become an integral part of my DNA. How I conduct myself and interact with my students in the classroom is representative of what I learned growing up. Passing on "all that is good" is my contribution and honor.

--*How do you spend your leisure time?* I love working outside "in the dirt"--second calling could be landscaper!

--*Something you wish we would ask: "What about your life is important to you?"* Well, prior to coming to TAA, I was in dual-career mode. I was in the Air Force Reserves (retiree, 20 years) and worked in a prominent financial institution for 23 years. Also, I've been married for 30 years. My husband and I met while both active duty in Air Force, based in Oahu, Hawaii. Our daughter Chloe, graduated from TAA ('17), and I credit the school for her academic rigor, time management, and organizational skills, as well as the strengthening of her faith. She currently is a junior at TCU, majoring in Pre-Health, and she'll be applying to PA school this fall. My favorite Scripture is "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (Phil 4:13), and my favorite quote is, "Promise me you'll always

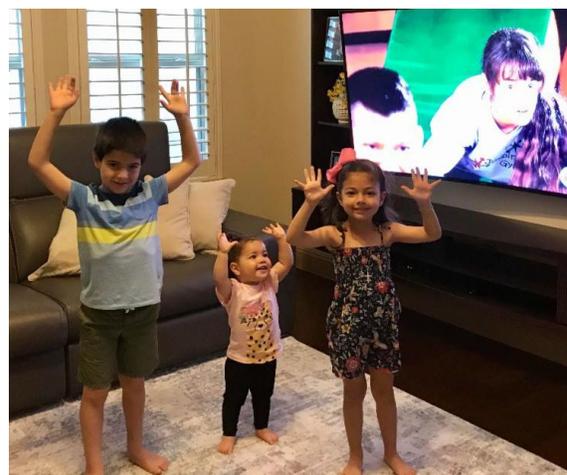
remember: You are braver than you believe, stronger than you think, and more loved than you will ever know" (Christopher Robin in *Winnie the Pooh* by A.A. Milne).

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## SCENES FROM YOUR HOME CAMPUS



Send in your photos (and observations) of your "Stay at Home" life these days so that we can share them with each other! We will post them in the weekly newsletter to keep faces and places familiar sights until we are together again on campus! Please send your observations and images to Mrs. Havel at [mhavel@atonementonline.com](mailto:mhavel@atonementonline.com). (We will share these with Mrs. Powell and the yearbook staff to be sure that, in every way, 2019-2020 is a year to remember!)





So much activity this week -- it is great to see our scholars and their families learning and working and playing together!

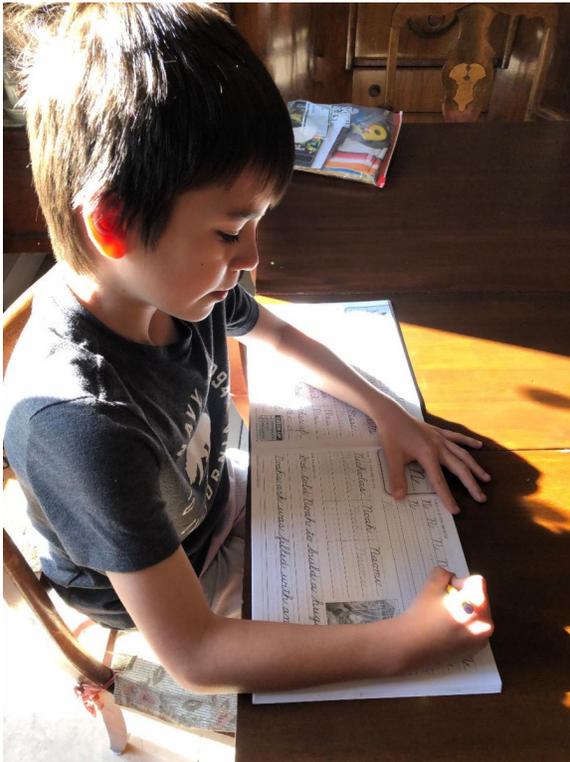
The Lanes are busy: Dr. Lane and Emma conducting an experiment, Mark enjoying the piano, and Mariana working on her art activities. Ben Garza (with his sister, Briony, not pictured) spent several nights camping out in the backyard, and the DeHoyos kids loved following a video workout provided by

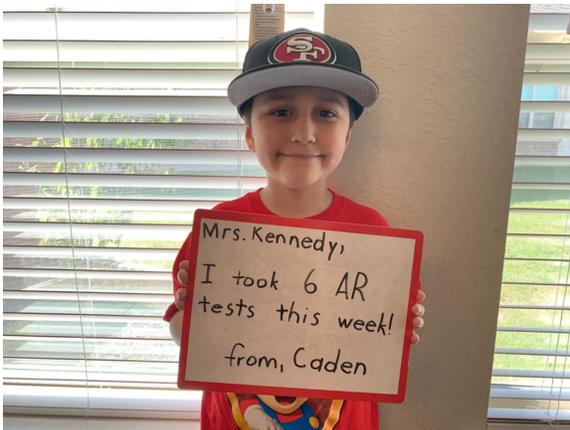
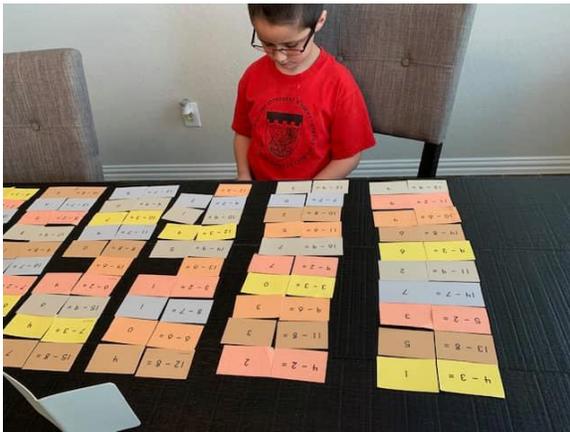


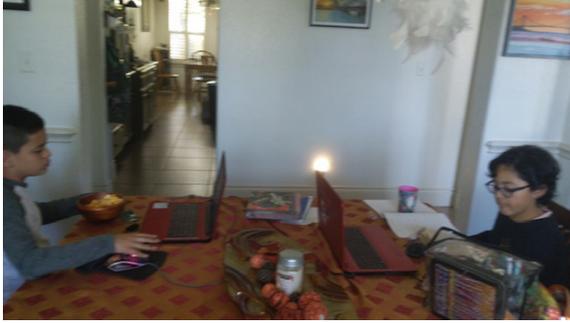
Coach Miranda! The Halpin kids all participated in Zoom meetings with their teachers (Hank--Ms. Czech, Elisse--Mrs. Garza, and Charlie--Mrs. Kennedy). Dr. Najera sent in photos of her PreK-3 daughter Paula Gonzales working on her remote learning assignments and even having her little sister doing "homework," too!

In addition, Lucas and Santiago Sanchez were little waiters for their big brother Emi's prom dinner at home, and Mr. Schott posted a great little video of a number of creative fifth graders sending greetings to Mrs. Taylor.

Mrs. Weems' scholars sent in photos of their Fiesta Day headgear (Louise Picha, Ava Sanchez, and Quinn Monaghan), and Ty and Ryann Slayden as well as Caden Padilla provided photos of their activities: penmanship practice, caterpillar sightings, and Math practice and AR progress. The Tovar family shared photos of Adrian and Alejandra--they made slime, decorated a "Cirio Pascual," and worked on their remote learning together.







# STAY HOME

**COVID-19**  
CORONAVIRUS DISEASE

## STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.

Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.

Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

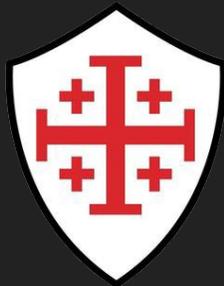
Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.



For more information: [dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus](https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus)

# STAY HOME



15415 Red Robin Road  
San Antonio, TX 78255

[Contact Us](#)

