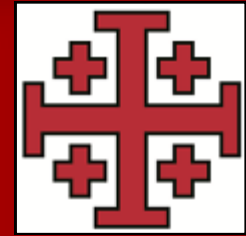


The Crusader Times



WEEKLY NEWS FROM THE ATONEMENT ACADEMY

Week 32: March 2, 2015



CATHOLIC EDUCATION MATTERS

*“Do not be afraid to be saints.
Follow Jesus Christ who is the
source of freedom and light. Be
open to the Lord so that He may
lighten all your ways.”—Saint
Pope John Paul II*

Catholic schools provide good things for students and families: high expectations and daily experience of faith. In these challenging times, we should be mindful of the dividends of a Catholic school education: students prepared in faith, knowledge, morals and discipline. There is no better way to invest in a child's future or the future of our world. (NCEA)

Upcoming...

- * MAR. 3: Deadline for third quarter AR
- * MAR. 6: Third Quarter Ends
- * MAR. 7: SAT/ACT Practice Test for Upper Scholars, 8 am
- * MAR. 11: National Latin Exam
- * MAR.18: Academic Awards Assembly after 9:20 Mass
- * MAR. 22: MS Changed Voice Choir, Sunday 9:00 Mass
- * MAR 24: ITBS Testing Begins

Nota Bene / Note Well:

- **STATIONS OF THE CROSS** take place every Friday at 2:15. Students will then return to their classes until regular dismissal time. In addition, your families and friends are invited to our Friday evening devotions — at 7 pm, the parish offers Evensong, Stations of the Cross and Benediction.
- **OPEN REGISTRATION** : Don't delay — enrollments are ahead of where we were at this time last year! If you must make special arrangements to complete your registration, please contact the office manager, Mr. Ott at rott@atonementonline.com.
- **YOUR SHOPPING CAN HELP OUR SCHOOL!** Consider making your online purchases through www.ShopForAtonementAcademy.com. We receive a portion back from your purchases. Please use this link when shopping on Amazon.
- **SWEATERS** are now required only on chilly days. We usually have cooler days through March, so plan to keep bringing those sweaters to school!



CRUSADER ATHLETICS

GAME SCHEDULES

Upcoming game schedules are on our sports website:
www.AtonementSports.com

Scholarship for Incoming Freshmen

St. Joseph's Society, with the help of Hope for the Future, will award three \$1,000 scholarships to incoming freshmen at each of the eight San Antonio Catholic high schools. These non-renewing scholarships will be awarded based on grades, class attendance, extracurricular activities, community service, Church service, family income, and other criteria.

THE SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE IS APPROACHING! The deadline to register online for the St. Joseph's Society 2015 Catholic High School Scholarship is **March 10**.

Scholarships are available to incoming freshmen at San Antonio Catholic (Bexar County) high schools only. Students must register online at <http://eepurl.com/bc852j> prior to March 10 to be considered for a scholarship.

As of Friday, February 27, only one application packet had been picked up for Atonement, Holy Cross, and Providence. **There are 3 scholarships (\$1,000 each) available for each school. What an opportunity!**

For more information, visit: www.stjosephshall.com/scholarship. Online registration for the packet is March 10, an application packets will be available through March 20. Completed applications must be received by April 4. The office is open Monday through Friday from 3:30 pm to 7:00 pm.

Students must register online at <http://eepurl.com/bc852j> prior to March 10. This year's scholarship recipients will be selected on April 20 and an awards banquet will be held on May 31.

A Message from Our Headmaster

Recently, the Upper Scholars met for the first of many upcoming assemblies in the Common Room. These assemblies are designed to provide discussion on relevant US issues, provide messages and reminders from the faculty, and acknowledge and celebrate accolades that our students receive. At the end of each meeting (I do this for faculty meetings as well) I try to impart a message that has importance to us as a school community. This past Thursday I spoke about "sacrifice" during this season of Lent.

I told the story of a young cross country runner I once coached. Katrina was a disciplined and determined 8th grader whose goal was to finish first at the district championship meet. In all of her previous races that season, she had earned a place in the top three, but she had never crossed the finish line in first place. For her last Middle School meet, however, she was determined to win.

The day of the race was wet and cold. The terrain was perfect for cross country – hills and dales, but littered with large boulders slightly protruding from the ground. In dry conditions the course would be tricky, but in wet weather, it had the potential to wreak havoc for the runners.

The course was three laps, and Katrina started really well. By the second lap she was covered in mud, soaked from the rain but in a position to finish first. She disappeared from sight on her final lap, and her mom and I were confident that she would reappear in the lead. Minutes later, we saw the first runner emerge from the tree line, but it wasn't Katrina. I was disappointed for her, but I knew she'd at least finish in second place. The next runner appeared and still no Katrina. Then the next, and the next, and the next... no Katrina. I worried that she'd fallen and was injured, so I headed back to the tree line to investigate. Before I arrived, Katrina appeared but she was no longer running; instead, I found her assisting another runner who had suffered a fall and a badly scraped leg and was now limping toward what would have likely been Katrina's first place finish.

We helped the injured runner to the aid station and, without mentioning Katrina's loss of the district title, I commended her for helping another runner in need. She simply smiled and said "She was hurt, and I wanted to help."

God calls us to imitate his son, Jesus Christ, and to look for sacrificial ways to be of service to others. Katrina sacrificed recognition, reward and her goal to win the race. However, **what** she sacrificed wasn't nearly as important as **why** she sacrificed. Because she gave up the accolade for winning, because she cared, she grew to be more of what she is supposed to be – closer to God.

Let us seek out sacrificial ways to be of service during this season of Lent, confident in God's ultimate reward for us on Easter morning.

—Mr. Spencer



**The Atonement Academy Penny War
Starts Ash Wednesday
Ends Friday before Holy Week**

Please bring your pennies to help your class win. **Every penny you place in your container will be a point for your class.**

Bring your nickels, dimes, quarters and dollars to sabotage the other classes. For example, if you bring a quarter and put it in a container, then that class, administrator, or coach will have 25 pennies deducted from their weekly count.

1st place class receives a pizza and ice-cream party, 2nd place class receives a pizza party and 3rd place class receives and ice cream party.

Proceeds from the Penny War will go to our sister Catholic school in the Holy Land. We will be **selling pennies in St. Anthony Hall most Wednesdays and all week March 23-27.**

Be sure to visit the front office to *support* or *sabotage* the school administrators.

Returning this year.....Weekly Battles!

Week of March 2-6

*Lower School VS Middle School
Music Dept., Athletics Dept. Library & Administration VS Upper School*

Week of March 9-13

*Boys 3rd Grade - 8th Grade VS Girls 3rd Grade - 8th Grade
Freshmen & Sophomore VS Junior & Senior
Fr. Phillips, Fr. Moore, Mr. Spencer, Dn. Orr VS Sister Mary Margaret, Mrs. Kennedy & Mrs. Havel*

Week of March 16 - 20

SABOTAGE WEEK, selling *only sabotage* Wednesday March 18. Bring your nickels, dimes, quarters and dollars to sabotage the other classes.

Week of March 23-27

Every class for themselves!

The WINNERS of the battles will have 50% of their sabotage from that week's count converted to pennies.

Varsity Track Season Begins!





SAVE *the* DATE

THE ATONEMENT ACADEMY'S 7TH ANNUAL

Gala and Live Auction

DATE: SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2015

PLACE: PEDROTTI'S RANCH, HELOTES

Gala Auction Item Donations Needed

We are in need of auction items for our silent and live auctions. You may already have access to auction-worthy items and not even realize it! Please look through this list of ideas and contact Veronica Rabey at 210-288-7352 or Devemi@gmail.com with questions or to donate items. Donating items can be a great tax write-off!

- Do you have a timeshare? Airline tickets or miles? Connections for travel or vacation spots?
- Do you have tickets to local/regional sporting events? Do you have connections to tickets or sports memorabilia?
- Do you have connections with the San Antonio Symphony, Ballet San Antonio?
- Do you have connections to local restaurants, wineries, bed and breakfast, hotels?
- Do you know someone who would donate services such as house cleaning, lawn care, hanging Christmas lights, babysitting (by an Academy student), car wash (eg., Wash Tub)?
- Do you have connections with services such as computer technology, home entertainment, interior design, professional photography?
- Do you have connections with a local gym, personal trainer, dietician, dance studio?
- Do you have connections with HEB or Whole Foods?
- Do you have connections with a spa, nail salon, hair studio, or make up artist?
- Do you have connections at a local/regional golf club or resort?
- Do you have connections or access to a hunting lease, camping supplies or spots, or adventure outings (hot air balloon rides, zip lining, guided hikes)
- Do you have connections at local museums (Witte), theaters (Majestic, Majik, movie), or attractions (Fiesta Texas, SeaWorld, San Antonio Zoo, etc.)?
- Do you have connections at attractions in the state of Texas or elsewhere (Disney)?
- Do you teach or have connections with music, art, scrapbooking, cooking, photography classes?
- Do you have connections with a person or a group of interest with whom dinner or lunch could be arranged?
- Do you have items that could be donated: clothing, purses, jewelry, luggage, gift cards, wine/liquor, book collections, cookware, quilts, religious items, toys, art, games?