

September 25, 2012



Dear Madeleine Parents,

As we complete the first month of the school year, I thank all parents who participated in our new parent meeting, first day school coffee, and back-to-school nights. These are some ways School of the Madeleine can communicate our programs to you and help you become more involved in your child's education. Parent participation and open communication are important ingredients to the success of any school and are at the heart of any Catholic school. As the school year progresses, remember to keep lines of communication open and actively participate in the education of your children. This is a necessary part of building a Christian community! I pray that this school year will be one of growth and accomplishment for your child.

October is the month of Our Lady of the Rosary and a perfect opportunity to re-dedicate our families to the Blessed Mother and remembering her gift of the rosary to our world.

WHAT IS WCEA/WASC?

These two acronyms stand for Western Catholic Education Association (WCEA) and Western Association for Schools and Colleges (WASC). These two organizations certify and accredit Catholic schools. School accreditation is a means used by WCEA and WASC for the purpose of:

1. Fostering excellence in elementary and secondary education.
2. Encourages school improvement through a process of continuous self-study and evaluation.
3. Assuring a school and its public that the school has clearly defined appropriate educational goals and objectives, has established conditions under which their achievements can reasonably be expected, appears to be accomplishing them substantially, and can be expected to continue to do so.

In an effort to continue to communicate our progress in accomplishing our self-study and keeping our shareholders informed, we have **attached a copy of our Mission, Philosophy and SLEs (schoolwide learning expectations)**. Please review these and call me or email Jean Coleman with any feedback, comments, or suggestions.

NEW TEXT ALERT SYSTEM

Please don't forget to sign up for our new **text alert system**. To do this, you must go to the Madeleine website and click on the red alert button on the **top left-hand side** and follow the prompts to add your cell phone number. This alert system will be used for emergency situations and special reminders. I suggest that **both parents** sign up. If you already signed up for this alert last year, you **do not have to do it again**. **We will have a test in September or October.**

EXTRA PROGRAMS AT MADELEINE

School of the Madeleine is very fortunate to have many extra programs as part of our regular school day. These programs are free for our students even though there is an extra expense to the school! Some of the enrichment programs are: Spanish in grades 5-8, music in grades 1-5, advanced math in grades 5-8, a librarian, a challenging computer curriculum for grades first through eighth, Renaissance Reading Program for grades 2-6, 50-mile club for grades 3-5, Everyone a Reader Program for grades 1-3, Arts Attack program for grades 1-8, and a free on-line World Book Encyclopedia program for our students. SumDogs is an on-line program for our students to re-enforce and drill basic math facts. This program was new for our second graders last year.

SCHOOL COUNSELORS

We are fortunate again this year to have two on-site counselors at School of the Madeleine. **Ben Fishburne** will continue to be here on **Mondays**. Mr. Fishburne is a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and has been working with children for nearly 20 years. Please see the attached letter from Mr. Fishburne. The paper work for this service can be downloaded from the Madeleine web page.

Rita McCreary will be returning to School of the Madeleine and will be available to our students on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Rita McCreary is the parish counselor who has also been working with the school for several years. She is also a licensed therapist. We are fortunate to have both counselors here at Madeleine.

Our counselors will begin seeing clients immediately. Please feel free to contact them through the school office. They are available to all students from preschool through eighth grades. Our counselors can help our students with emotional problems, difficulties with friendships, and organizational or study skills.

NEW SCIENCE LAB

Each year a new project is worked on to keep School of the Madeleine on the cutting edge of education. For the past five years, I have recognized that our **science lab needed to be expanded to better meet the needs of all our students**. Therefore, we are proceeding forward with this project. The new lab will be located near the girls' bathroom and water fountain area. This new science lab will allow students from kindergarten through eighth grades to use the facility. It will also allow our seventh and eighth grade advanced math students to use one of the classrooms in the junior high area and not have to travel to the modular building. **To finance this building, we are hoping to go out and approach foundations and science corporations in San Diego. If you work for a science corporation and know the name of an individual that I could contact to interest them in supporting this important project, please call me.**

PSA RESERVED PARKING

Three of our parents have purchased reserved parking spaces in the church parking lot as part of the "Hassle Free" Dinner Dance Package. Please **do not park in these three spaces at any time**.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE ON SCHOOL DAYS

Since School of the Madeleine is a Catholic school, we offer the opportunity for children to participate in daily Mass. Daily Mass starts at 7:45 a.m. and ends approximately at 8:20 a.m. Students should immediately report to the office and inform office personnel that they were at Mass so they are not marked tardy. All students going to Mass should be on time and not interrupt church services by arriving late.

PROGRESS REPORTS

First quarter **progress reports** will be sent home on **Wednesday, October 2**. This report is given to students in first through eighth grades to inform parents of their child's progress. **Progress reports are sent home mid-quarter, four times a year.** If you have any questions concerning your child's progress report, please be sure to make an appointment with the teacher. All progress reports should be signed and returned promptly.

In addition, parents with children in second through eighth grades can check their progress by opening the "**Parent Portal**". Letters were distributed at **Back-to-School nights**. These letters give instructions on how to preview your child's grades through this application.

REPORT CARD CONFERENCE APPOINTMENTS

For the first quarter, all parents will be asked to make an appointment for a conference with their child's teacher to receive their report card. The school will be sending home a form requesting your choices of the **time frame** that will be most convenient for you for this conference. This slip will be sent home **by email** on or before **Wednesday, October 9 and must be returned by Wednesday, October 16**. You will receive a confirmation of your specific appointment time by **Thursday, October 24**.

EARLY MORNING DROP OFF

Please remember that the **campus is not open until 7:45 a.m. in the morning**. No child can be on campus before this time unless they are supervised by a teacher in their classroom or checked into day care. Free day care does not start **until 7:45 a.m.** Students who are dropped off early will be charged a fee and requested to sign up for the YMCA day care program. Thank you for your cooperation.

AFTER SCHOOL PICK-UP PROBLEMS

When picking up your child(ren) at the end of the school day, it is important that you keep the **area at the top of the stairs leading to the kindergarten and preschool play areas clear**. We ask parents not to wait for their child(ren) at the top of these stairs. With too many parents gathered in this area, it becomes chaotic, congested, and unsafe for our kindergarten and preschool students. Because of this problem, many kindergarteners are separated from their teachers or from extended care personnel. Therefore, for student's safety, we ask that you wait in the parking lot convent area.

If you are waiting for your child in the parking lot, please wait in the holding area between the east and west steps of the convent area. Many parents and students are waiting in the area near the parking lot cross walk along the black chain-link fence. This area becomes overly congested creating a bottleneck where parents and students cannot move into the parking lot crosswalk to safely go to their cars. Please always follow the directions of teachers on duty! In addition, please remember that if you are driving down the isle closest to Illion Street, you **must turn left onto Illion Street**.

The passenger zone in front of school is for picking up students only. Please do **not park and leave your car** for any reason. If there is not a space for you to pull over, you will need to circle or park in the church parking lot. **Never stop and block the through traffic lane!** *If your child(ren) have not come to the car by the time you reach the top of the passenger zone, you will need to circle so as to not block a space for others.*

PARKING PROBLEMS IN FRONT OF SCHOOL

There have been many days when the school custodian could not enter or leave the school grounds because of cars blocking the driveway. **Parking** in the **white passenger zone** in front of the school is not allowed. This zone is for picking up or dropping off your child(ren). When people park in this area, it creates a traffic jam and causes a hazard to the safety of the students. Tickets have been issued by the San Diego Police for parents who park in this area! When picking up or dropping off, the driver should not get out of their car.

SAFETY OF STUDENTS

Safety of our students is a primary concern at School of the Madeleine. Please remember to follow these simple rules:

- Please do not ask your **child(ren) to meet you at the bottom of Illion Street or in front of the parish church/hall at dismissal time**. These are unsupervised areas and very unsafe. **Students**, whose parents park down at the bottom of Illion Street, **must wait at the crest of the hill**. These parents may call their child(ren) to let them know if they are parked on Gardena Street and then the child(ren) can proceed down the hill and immediately get in their parent's car. Many parents have called us and have complained that our Madeleine students are misbehaving and even playing in the streets. The rectory has also called us and informed us that the students who are waiting in front of the church or hall have done damage to plants and bushes.
- Remember, there is no charge for the use of the extended care program beginning at 7:45 a.m. **Please do not wait outside of the classroom with your child**. Other students will join you creating supervision problems. If you wish to stay with your child and wait for the 8:00 a.m. bell, do so in your car or at the lunch tables at the back of the main building.
- Parents of **kindergarten students should wait at the tables** in the kindergarten/preschool courtyard. **Please do not allow your child to use the swings or the play structure**. Thank you for your cooperation in our efforts to keep all students safe!
- **Please use the crosswalk in the parking lot. Do not cross at the driveway.**
- Please **use the designated walkways in the church parking lot** to get to your vehicle. This area provides a safe passageway for students and adults. Please do not stand and talk in the walkway.
- Please **pull all the way forward in the designated parking spaces** in the church parking lot. This will avoid the traffic lanes from being blocked. Thank you for your cooperation!
- Please follow the teacher's directions before **entering the passenger zone area in front of the school**. You may have to circle and then try again if this lane is full.
- Please **do not park** your vehicle in the rectory or hall driveways at anytime. In addition, parents should **not park in front of the school driveway**.

WEB PAGE

Thank you, **Gretchen Grunburg**, for keeping School of the Madeleine's web page updated with all the latest information. You can find our web page at www.schoolofthemadeleine.com

NATIONAL TESTING

Students in second through eighth grades will be taking the **Iowa Assessments (IA)**. These tests were formerly known as the **Iowa Tests of Basic Skills (ITBS)**. **This test will be given during the week of October 14.** In addition, **third, fifth, and seventh grades** will be taking the **Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT)** on October 21 and 22. By giving the *IA* battery of tests/CogAT at this time of the year, teachers will be able to analyze the scores of each child to develop an educational program to better meet students' needs. Make sure your child(ren) have plenty of rest and has a nutritious snack for each day. If possible, please avoid scheduling doctor or dentist's appointments during *IA* testing. Please be aware that if a child misses four or more tests during this week, no make-ups will be given.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION/ eSCRIPT/ TARGET

The first Box Top coupons collection week will be **September 30-October 4**. Box Tops can be dropped off in the collection container located outside of the office. Thank you for your continued support with this valuable program.

Did you know that you could help raise money for our school by registering your **Von's club card** and your debit/credit card?

Target is offering a wonderful program for schools. If you go on line and sign up for a credit card or debit card, Target will give back 1% of your purchase to the school that you designated.

More information and directions for all three programs appear in this newsletter. Please help us out by participating.

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY TALENT SEARCH

We are pleased to inform you that School of the Madeleine will be participating in the Johns Hopkins University Institute for the **Academic Advancement of Youth**. Johns Hopkins University sponsors Talent Search 2013-2014 for qualifying students in seventh and eighth grades. The purpose of the Talent Search is to identify, assess, and recognize the academic abilities of highly able students. To qualify for the Talent Search, a student must have scored in the 95% percentile or higher in a single area (mathematics, verbal, or composite scores) on a nationally normed, standard aptitude or achievement test. We have researched and assessed our seventh and eighth grade students and have found **45 students who qualify!** If your child qualified for this special honor, you will be receiving a letter, an application, and a brochure. We are very proud to be participating in this prestigious program. In the past, many of our students have received high distinctions on these tests.

MADELEINE'S MAIN EVENT

Our Madeleine main event is scheduled for **Saturday, March 29**. The theme of the evening will be **"Madeleine, The Sky's The Limit"**. This is our school's biggest fundraising event and a great opportunity to build community. This wonderful affair not only earns money for our school, but also provides you with an opportunity to have a great time out on the town. Please watch for more information in our monthly newsletters. Our main event promises to be a fun night in which we can celebrate community and our successes! See you there! A big thank you goes to **Michelle Basnight** and **Gabby Sanders** who are coordinating this year's event!

BACK TO SCHOOL PICNIC

Our back-to-school picnic held on Sunday, September 8 was a huge success! It was nice to see returning and new families mingling and getting to know one another. Everyone had a great time as a school community. I would like to thank *Laura Latham* and the *PSA Board members* for planning this community-building event. A special thanks to *Jim and Amy McCoy* at **SAN DIEGO HELICOPTER TOURS** for donating their time for the Helicopter Ball Drop! Special kudos goes to *Susan Scheper* for coordinating the games at our back-to-school picnic. A huge thank you to all the parent and student helpers: *Laura, Chris, Kate, and Claire Latham; Michelle Basnight; Gabby Sanders; Lisa and Jessica Pendergast; Chris, Julie and Juliet Finlay; Dave, Julie, Ian, and Enya Grooms; Dave, Paula and Trevor Cross; Daniel Gabriel; Sophia Karam; Marti Brentnall; Marilyn Licht (Latham grandmother); Julie and Bridget Hilton; Jenny Bingham; Heather Wolff; Cindy Bayless; Debby Ferrante; Deneen and Angelique DuBois; Susan Scheper; Amy McCoy, Annie and Anthony Frusti; Gabrielle Vanderham; Mike Norton; Matt Kalla; Josh DeGano; Bill Dant; Damian McLoud; Mike Fornes; Steve Hine; Andrew Tran; Jack Bacich, and Jonathon Truong*. Thanks also to the *MadDads* for their grilling expertise!

Congratulations to the winners of the helicopter ball drop: Winner of \$500.00—*Nicolas Rodriguez and family*; \$100.00 Skin Authority Spa gift card—*Eric Gilbert and family*; \$50.00 AMC movie passes—*Carrie Engleman and family*; and \$50.00 Cheesecake Factory gift card—*Yvonne Oden and family*.

EMERGENCY PLAN

As part of the emergency procedures already in place at School of the Madeleine, we want to inform parents of our **evacuation plan**. These procedures would be put into effect for any reason we need to leave the buildings on campus. Depending on the specific reason evacuation is necessary and the safety of each of these areas, the students will be gathered and held on the school's field, the lower church parking lot, parish hall or church. If these areas are not considered safe, the students will be walked down to **TECOLOTE PARK**. Tecolote Park is located at the end of Sea World Drive/ Tecolote Road, east of Morena Blvd.

If it is necessary for parents to pick up their child(ren) from school because of an emergency situation, it is imperative that parents remain calm and follow the directions and procedures given by the staff! Procedures for emergencies are practiced often with the students to ease their fear in case of a real disaster. Children will become more frightened if parents are hysterical!

It is also important **for your child(ren) to know a phone number**, other than their home number, where they can reach you during any emergency.

LUNCH DUTY SUBSTITUTES NEEDED

We are looking for more individuals who could substitute for **lunch duty** between 12:00-1:00 p.m. for the first semester. In addition, we need individuals trained in first aide who could assist in the **nurse's office** during our lunch hours, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

STUDENT PICTURES ON FACE BOOK, ETC.

I remind all parents not to post pictures of students in uniform on Face Book, My Space, or any other blogs. Posting of such pictures endanger the safety of **ALL** our students.

ADVISORY AND PSA MEETINGS

All Advisory and PSA board meetings are open to parents. Please look on the school monthly calendar for dates and time. Sometimes **there are unexpected changes in meeting times so please call the day before if you intend to come to a meeting**. Please check September's newsletter for the PSA yearly budget. Periodically notes from both boards are printed in the newsletter to keep parents informed.

MENTORS FOR OUR NEW FAMILIES

A huge thanks goes to all our volunteer mentors that helped our new families this year! This is a very important service and helps make many new families feel part of our Madeleine community. I also want to thank ***Marti Brentnall*** for coordinating this program and arranging summer get-togethers for our new families. Our mentors are: *Letty Muttera, Juliet Conniff, Calli Eggleston, Maureen Olsker, Kriston Gallipeau, Elaine Seegmiller, Amy Brutto, Marsi Santos, Rachel Brunton, Sarah Conley, Johanna Carew, Kelli Cruz, Amy McCoy, Paula Cross, and Cindy Bayless*. A special thanks goes to the *Olsker Family* for hosting the new family mixer at their pizza restaurant.

SCHOOL EMAIL POLICY

Each teacher at School of the Madeleine should have given out their email address to all their students' parents. Please remember the following rules for email use:

1. Teachers' emails are for school business and for parents only.
2. Teachers will answer or reply to emails within a 24 hour period.
3. Teachers will not pick up their emails during the weekend or non-school days.
4. Be concise with your emails. This is not the best means of communication for long explanations.

OPEN COMMUNICATION

Open communication is essential at any Catholic school. Most of the time I am available during the school day and I have an open door policy to parents who need to see me unexpectedly for a few minutes. However, I expect all written correspondence to me to be signed by the individual who is writing it. It is very difficult to take seriously any unsigned written communication or to give it any merit.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Pope Francis has asked all Catholics to pray for peace in the Middle East. He asked us to pray especially that the violence and devastation in Syria may cease.

Yours in Christ,

Donna 

Donna Wittouck

THANK YOU

Mario Estrada

For having contacted an individual from his work and arranging for that individual to call me concerning our new science lab.

Gina Spears

For sharing grant information with us to help us build our new science lab.

Kristi Cullum

For providing homemade desserts for the faculty end-of-the-year luncheon.

NEWS FROM THE OFFICE

NURSE'S OFFICE

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU HAVE TURNED IN THE FOLLOWING ITEMS: Blue Emergency Cards, Earthquake Comfort Bags, and YELLOW Earthquake Release Cards. These items should be sent to your child's classroom immediately if you have not already done so.

Dear Parents:

We have several students that are allergic to bee stings, have food allergies or asthma and require an Epi-Pen, inhaler, or medication such as Benadryl or Tylenol. If the latter is true for your child(ren), the Epi-Pen or inhaler must be in the nurse's office or with your child's teacher. In no instance can this medication be solely in your child's backpack.

If your child requires an Epi-Pen, inhaler, or medication such as Benadryl or Tylenol to be kept at school on an ongoing basis throughout the year, the California Education Code requires the school to have a "Physician's Recommendations for Medication" form completed and signed by the student's physician and signed by a parent. The information required on this form is necessary to comply with the law and to insure adequate protection for our students.

We do not have a full time registered nurse on staff. Our nurse's office is staffed only part-time by volunteer parents, so this form is very helpful for the school to have on file in the event of an emergency. Please contact the school office if you have any questions regarding this matter.

MADELEINE ADVERTISEMENT PAGES

Dear Madeleine Parents,

We've all had clogged drains, nasty computer viruses, household repairs – and have maybe even needed a little legal advice. Wouldn't it be nice to have a list of respected, professional services at your fingertips? People with great integrity, experience, and adorable kids to boot!

School of the Madeleine parents may span the gamut of services, from plumbers to computer techs to lawyers and restaurant owners, and much, much more. They are an incredible resource, and we are now making it easier for all of us to find them.

This year we will be adding Advertisement Pages (Yellow Pages) to our school White Pages (phone book). It will be included in the regular \$5 fee and offer us all a wealth of professional services – and the chance to support a Madeleine family.

If you would like to advertise your business in the Advertisement Pages (Yellow Pages) section, please contact Debby Ferrante at debbyferrante@hotmail.com or 619-838-1673.

The cost for a business card size Ad is \$100. You can submit your actual business card or simply write 3 lines about your business. You will send your ad info, business card, and check made out to School of the Madeleine, in an envelope marked Attn: Debby Ferrante, to the school office. Deadline for submission is: **September 30th.**

3 SIMPLE WAYS YOU CAN HELP OUR SCHOOL

Box Tops For Education

We hope you have been collecting your Box Tops all summer and are ready to turn in your full bags! Our first collection period is coming up **September 30th – October 4th**. Box Tops can be dropped off in the collection container located outside of the office. For Kindergarten parents, there will be a container located in the courtyard for your convenience.

eScrip

Did you know that you can help raise money for our school just by registering your Von's club card and your debit/credit cards with eScrip? It is that easy and we would like to get everyone's participation.

Registration is available online.

1. Go to www.eScrip.com to register. Madeleine's group number is 136556207.
2. Click on "Sign up"
3. Follow the instructions to register your Von's card and your existing credit/debit cards. If you just use your phone number at Von's and do not have your Von's club card number, please call Safeway @ 877-723-3929 to get your number.

It's free, easy, and secure and once you have signed up a percentage of EVERY purchase is donated to School of the Madeleine!

Target

Go online to www.target.com/redcard and sign up for a credit card or debit card to get 5% back for you and 1 % for our school. Then don't forget to go online and assign our school for the 1% (use 92110 zip code to find School of the Madeleine).

COLLECTION FOR CCSA COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN SERVICE AGENCY

During the month of October, St. Mary Magdalene Parish is asking for donations of Spaghetti and Spaghetti Sauce. We ask that Madeleine families take their donations to the rectory office, or to the vestibule of the Church between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm. You may also bring donations to the school office.

JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY

Attention 7th and 8th graders: You're invited to join the awesome Junior High youth ministry at St. Mary Magdalene. We meet every 1st and 3rd Tuesday in the St. Francis Room from 7 - 8 PM for an evening of fun, faith and fellowship with your friends! You don't want to miss out on these super cool nights! Come and check us out on October 1st - all are welcome. We'll see you there. For more information, call Jenny: 619-276-6814.

Kindergarten News

Hello and welcome to all Madeleine families! This first month of kindergarten is an exciting time as we all get to know each other and become accustomed to new routines. We have introduced the students to our Reading Room, and they are busy learning consonant sounds as well as blending sounds together to make words. A big part of student progress in our Madeleine reading program is volunteer participation. Volunteers who have been cleared by the LiveScan process may sign up to volunteer in the Reading Room!

Please do! Volunteer participation is essential to steady reading progress for your children. A sign up sheet is available outside of the KF classroom. Remember to sign up ahead of time so teachers can ensure that all parents have been LiveScanned. We want to ensure the safety of your children. Thank you now for your cooperation.

In Religion we are learning God's gift of family and friends to us. In Practical Life we have worked on letters, colors, and autumn. We will soon be working on bats and cats, spiders, pumpkins, and skeletons! In Math we have worked on position words and patterns as well as counting. Next, we will work on sorting by size, color, and shape.

Thanks to all the new Kindergarten families who attended Back-to-School Night! We are going to have a great year together!

1A/1B

Welcome to a new school year. The children are gradually learning and following the first grade academic and behavior expectations. They are learning how to transition from subject to subject which can be quite a challenge these first few weeks of school. A new experience for the children this year is attending the school Masses. They are coming to understand more deeply the sacredness and the meaning of the Mass. It is gratifying to see in the children the desire to participate through prayer and song in the cornerstone of their faith formation.

Second Grade News

Our new second graders have been very busy! In math, we are reviewing the number line, reading and writing numbers, ordering numbers, comparing numbers, estimating how many, and problem solving using reasonable answers. In religion, we are learning more about our church community and the sacraments of initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. In science, we are studying plants. We are really enjoying learning about different kinds of plants! Each week in reading, we read two different stories and learn a different reading strategy. We are also working on how to pick good fit books for independent reading. We enjoyed meeting all our second grade families at Back to School Night! We are looking forward to a fun-filled year in second grade!

3rd Grade News

In the first three weeks of school third grade has been great! In math, we are learning about place value and rounding. In English, we've been learning about punctuation marks. We just started Renaissance Reading! We have a new music teacher, Mrs. Beckenbach. In art, we're doing a fall landscape using crayons and watercolors. We're also having fun in the library. In computers, we typed five goals for the school year. In Religion, we're learning to be a good friend to one another. The stories in our reading book are fabulous. Third grade is off to a great start!

Written by: Brynn Watson

4A and 4B

Summer has ended and we are now fourth graders. We are learning many new things already and are excited about this new year! We are learning about subjects and predicates in English, place value and rounding in math, maps and geography in social studies and animals in science. We are looking forward to a fun year!

FIFTH GRADE NEWS

It's difficult to believe we've already been back in school almost a month! Though it's been hotter than usual, our students jumped right back into the routine and have been working very hard. We're studying the Beatitudes in Religion, and have been talking about how to live the way Jesus taught us. In Science, we covered the cell and learned about classification of plants and animals. We're going over place value in Math, including decimals. In English, we're learning about different kinds of sentences and subjects/predicates.

Thanks to all the parents who came out on Back-to-School Night! It was great to see familiar faces and to meet our new families!

News From The Sixth Grade

So far this has been an amazing year! For social studies, we are learning all about ancient times with archaeologists finding prehistoric artifacts. Social studies is a great subject! In science we are learning about Wegener's theory about drifting continents. The seven continents used to be connected and formed a big continent called Pangea. Religion has taught us so much about our faith. So far we have learned how many religious people put all their trust and faith in God. We are looking forward to this year with Mrs. Brennan and Mrs. Moseley!

- Written by Kenna Aardena, Malia Acol, Matt Alvarez, Ryan Blacker

Greetings from 7A & 7B

We are adjusting to all the many things going on in 7th grade such as lockers and our class schedule. We are very busy and loving it! In Social Studies we are learning about the Roman Empire. Using the iPads we explored the many contributions the Roman civilization has given to the world such as progressive ideas in architecture and government. In Literature, we completed our first vocabulary unit. We are enjoying reading our new Literature magazine called Scope. The articles are interesting, current and fun to read! In Science we completed our study of photosynthesis and are now exploring the cell cycle. We have mastered the microscopes for examining plant and animal cells. In Religion we are learning about God, the Source of life and how God loves us so very much. We are also reviewing our Student Learning Expectations and discussing strategies on how to prevent Bullying in our school. In Computer lab we have started our research for an interesting Science Fair Project. We met our little first grade buddies and enjoyed working with them. Our teachers are very proud of us and compliment us on how well we are following the uniform policy and school rules

Bye for now from 7A & 7B.....

EIGHTH GRADE NEWS

In 8th grade it's been a great first month. We're getting used to being the leaders on campus and finding that it's a pretty cool role. We've been praying for our teacher, Mrs. Friedman, as she recovers from back surgery.

Admissions directors from Saint Augustine, Our Lady of Peace, and Cathedral Catholic High School visited our classes this month, and we heard about the benefits of each high school and why we should go there. We'll be visiting Saint Augustine and Our Lady of Peace on October 3 and Cathedral Catholic High School on November 5. Can you believe we're already thinking about high school? Most of us have been here since kindergarten.

In science we've learned about motion, force, and the effects of gravity. In math we're reviewing what we've learned from last year and preparing for algebra and pre-algebra. In religion we've learned about our conscience and how to make good moral decisions and choices. We've learned about the signing of The Declaration of Independence, and we've done a project on the signers in Social Studies. In literature we've read the short story, "The 11:59," and we're getting ready to start a book report on *The Outsiders*. We're looking forward to a great final year at School of the Madeleine!

Hannah Derenthal, Jennifer Vargas, and Katie Stehly

SCHOOL OF THE MADELEINE

Philosophy

Each student at School of the Madeleine is a unique creation of God actively involved in the process of his or her own spiritual, intellectual, social, emotional, and physical growth. The administration, teachers, staff, and parents, as the primary educators, are committed to the development of each child by providing loving support, inspiration, and quality instruction, while integrating Catholic values, traditions, and worship throughout the school environment.

Revised 3/06

SCHOOL OF THE MADELEINE

Mission Statement

The mission of School of the Madeleine:

**“Our love is not to be just words or mere talk,
but something real and active.”**

1 John: 3:18

Students at School of the Madeleine are empowered to be committed to their Catholic faith, to become aware of their personal potential, and to mature spiritually, intellectually, socially, emotionally, and physically.

We achieve this by:

- encouraging an atmosphere of respect, dignity, faith, love, forgiveness, and stewardship to the school, parish, and global community
- providing an instructional climate which fosters academic success
- presenting opportunities for our students to practice ethical and moral decision-making
- supporting the development of good habits of physical activity and wholesome attitudes toward personal health

Revised 3/06

SCHOOLWIDE LEARNING EXPECTATIONS

A graduate of the School of the Madeleine is:

1. A compassionate Catholic/Christian who:

- knows Scripture and Catholic doctrine
- understands the meaning of a personal relationship with God
- understands and models Christian values and has a spirit of service within the school and community
- has an awareness of God's presence in others and has a respect for life
- unites with others as God's children in the liturgical and sacramental life of the Church

2. An independent learner who:

- has a foundation in the fundamentals of all subjects
- is able to use technology appropriately
- is able to use critical thinking and problem solving skills
- is aware of his or her own academic strengths and weaknesses
- understands the importance of being organized, following directions, and setting personal goals

3. A responsible individual who:

- understands how to establish personal and group goals
- is aware of the importance of a healthy lifestyle
- understands the importance of respecting authority, self, and others
- accepts consequences for his or her actions
- has an ability to stand up for beliefs in the face of peer pressure
- is aware of how his or her decisions will affect himself or herself and others

4. An effective communicator who:

- can articulate ideas effectively and appropriately
- expresses written thoughts clearly by using proper writing techniques
- is able to deliver opinions and information
- is an active listener of others' thoughts and ideas
- recognizes the importance of evaluating information objectively

5. A globally aware citizen who:

- follows the decisions of authority
- has a sense of responsibility for social justice
- is cognizant of current events and their effect on his or her life
- recognizes others' cultural diversity



**The School of The Madeleine
Everyone A Reader
Volunteers Needed!**

Everyone A Reader is a program designed to help students develop confidence and fluency in reading - specifically targeted for grade levels 1 - 3. It's a wonderful volunteer opportunity for parents who would love to share time reading with a child and earn service points. Reading tutors receive a brief training and then work 1 hour per week with "their" students supporting them through the process of learning to read.

Everyone A Reader is a program designed and overseen by the San Diego County Office of Education and has been implemented here at The School of The Madeleine for several years. While we are hoping to continue its success - without your support we don't have the tools necessary to do so. We are hoping you will consider this 1 hour/per week commitment to help enhance the reading fluency in our school. Your child does not need to be in grades 1 - 3 to volunteer for this program, parents from every grade are welcome.

Our mission is to fill the present need for additional tutors, and we are inviting you to consider becoming part of our wonderful team of moms, dads, grandparents and members of our community who are all supporting the program by reading with a child.

Please contact Shelly Sutphen - shellysutphen@cox.net or 619 436 7444 if you are interested.

Thanks for your support.

**ST. MARY MAGDALENE - JUNIOR HIGH MINISTRY
STUDENT REGISTRATION FORM 2013 - 2014**

Student Name: _____

(first)

(middle)

(last)

Student Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Student's Cell: _____

Birth Date: _____ School: _____ Grade: _____ Sex : M F

Student Email: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

Father Name: _____ Father Phone: _____

Mother Name: _____ Mother Phone: _____

Father Email: _____ Mother Email: _____

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Contact should not be parent or guardian in the same household.

Name: _____

Relationship to Student: _____

Phone Number: _____

JUNIOR HIGH REGISTRATION FEE

\$40.00

(Fees include class materials & snacks)

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Church of Saint Mary Magdalene Mom's Bible Study and Support Group



Mother Teresa once said “To keep a lamp burning we have to keep putting oil in it.” As moms, we often don't take the time to keep our lamps burning because of the many daily commitments. Our faith ends up on the back burner, but not because it isn't important to us.

Over twenty years, Saint Mary Magdalene Church has provided a ministry of moms' bible study. Through this ministry, moms have found support, fellowship, and growth in their faith. It has allowed us to pencil in time for faith nourishment and prayer--- each and every week.

When: Every Wednesday, starting September 18, 2013

From 10 am to noon

Where: Rotating member's home

This year we will be reading *Men, Women, and the Mystery of Love (Practical Insights from John Paul II's Love and Responsibility)* by Edward Sri. The book discusses John Paul II's vision for love and it will cover very practical, real-life topics surrounding relationships.

Please consider joining us and together we can keep our oil lamps burning!

For more detail, please contact Gerry Barlow at gerryb1126@sbcglobal.net.



October Gospels and Questions
for home reflection:

Gospel October 6, 2013

Luke 17:5-10

And the apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith." The Lord replied, "If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you would say to (this) mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you. "Who among you would say to your servant who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here immediately and take your place at table'? Would he not rather say to him, 'Prepare something for me to eat. Put on your apron and wait on me while I eat and drink. You may eat and drink when I am finished'? Is he grateful to that servant because he did what was commanded? So should it be with you. When you have done all you have been commanded, say, 'We are unprofitable servants; we have done what we were obliged to do.'"

Questions for Adults:

When was your faith challenged or questioned by another person or situation? What are some ways you can "increase your faith"?

Questions for Children:

What are some ways you can show God that you have faith in Him? Think about the small size of a mustard seed. Jesus says that even faith as small as a this can do great things. What are some examples of things we can do for God, that seem little, but are really big?

Gospel October 13, 2013

Luke 17:11-19

As he continued his journey to Jerusalem, he traveled through Samaria and Galilee. As he was entering a village, ten lepers met (him). They stood at a distance from him and raised their voice, saying, "Jesus, Master! Have pity on us!" And when he saw them, he said, "Go show yourselves to the priests." ⁵ As they were going they were cleansed. And one of them, realizing he had been healed, returned, glorifying God in a loud voice; and he fell at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. He was a Samaritan. Jesus said in reply, "Ten were cleansed, were they not? Where are the other nine? Has none but this foreigner returned to give thanks to God?" Then he said to him, "Stand up and go; your faith has saved you."

Questions for Adults:

What kind of prayer comes most naturally to you: praise and thanksgiving or want and need (petition)?

How can you learn to make your prayers a better balance of praise, thanksgiving and petition?

Do you find it easy to focus on all the things you want rather than being thankful for the things you have? How can you use your prayer life to try to change this?

Questions for Children:

Think of all the things that God has blessed you with. Take a minute to make a list of these things. Do you ever forget to thank Jesus for them? What do you want to thank God for this week?

Gospel October 20, 2013

Luke 18:1-8

Then he told them a parable about the necessity for them to pray always without becoming weary. He said, "There was a judge in a certain town who neither feared God nor respected any human being. And a widow in that town used to come to him and say, 'Render a just decision for me against my adversary.' For a long time the judge was unwilling, but eventually he thought, 'While it is true that I neither fear God nor respect any human being, because this widow keeps bothering me I shall deliver a just decision for her lest she finally come and strike me.'" The Lord said, "Pay attention to what the dishonest judge says. Will not God then secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him day and night? Will he be slow to answer them? I tell you, he will see to it that justice is done for them speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

Questions for Adults:

Is it appropriate to keep petitioning God in prayer for your needs? Why is it so important to understand that God will always answer your prayers, but the answer may not always be what you want or expected to hear?

Questions for Children:

What did Jesus say God would do for you when you pray to him without giving up? Does He always answer your prayers the way you think He should?

Gospel October 27, 2013

Luke 18:9-14

He then addressed this parable to those who were convinced of their own righteousness and despised everyone else. "Two people went up to the temple area to pray; one was a Pharisee and the other was a tax collector. The Pharisee took up his position and spoke this prayer to himself, 'O God, I thank you that I am not like the rest of humanity--greedy, dishonest, adulterous--or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, and I pay tithes on my whole income.' But the tax collector stood off at a distance and would not even raise his eyes to heaven but beat his breast and prayed, 'O God, be merciful to me a sinner.' I tell you, the latter went home justified, not the former; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

Questions for Adults:

For what did the Pharisee say he was thankful, who did he say he was not like, and what did he say he did? What is this prayer lacking? Why is the tax collector's prayer given as an example for us to model?

How are humility and forgiveness related? Can you think of an example?

Questions for Children:

What is the difference between these two prayers? Which one does God prefer? Why?

How can you practice humility in your family? With your friends? At school?

October 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		Box Top Collection Week				
		Group Pictures Gr. 1-4 8:30 am 6th Gr. Cookie Dough Fundraiser Begins JR High Youth Group 7:00-8:00pm (SFR)	Progress Reports Gr. 1-8 Group Pictures Gr. 5-8 8:30 am 1st Reconciliation Parent Mtg. (Hall) 7:00-8:15 pm	Group Pictures Preschool 8:30 am Children's Choir Begins 3:00-3:45 pm Band Begins	Mass 11:00 am Minimum Day <i>Saint Francis of Assisi</i>	
		1	2	3	4	5
1st Reconciliation Parent Mtg. (Hall) 10:15-11:30 am	Preschool Pictures (SFR) 8:15 am Children's Handbell Choir Begins 3:00-3:45 pm	Preschool Pictures (SFR) 8:15 a.m.	Hot Lunch Report Card Conference Slips Sent Out by E-mail	Student Holiday No School No Preschool (WCEA/WASC Professional Growth)	Singing Pract. 11:20 am	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	IOWA Assessments					
	Columbus Day Observed School in Session	PSA Raffle Sale Begins 6th Gr. Cookie Dough Fundraiser Ends PSA Board Mtg. 1:30 pm	Report Card Conference Slips Returned	<i>Saint Ignatius of Antioch</i>	Mass 11:00 am Minimum Day Students Only WCEA/WASC Professional Growth	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	IOWA Assessments			Red Ribbon Week		
	Report Card Conferences Scheduled	Newsletter	Hot Lunch Kindergarten to Pumpkin Patch Advisory Board Mtg. 5:30 pm	Report Card Conference Appointments Sent Home Missions Assembly Sr. Eva 9:00-11:30 am	Singing Pract. 11:20 am Gift Wrap Delivered	CCHS Open House
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	Red Ribbon Week					
			End of 1st Quarter	Halloween Carnival 9:15-11:30 am Minimum Day		
27	28	29	30	31		