



THE ATONEMENT ACADEMY  
October 24, 2011

# Crusader *bulletin*

## Upper School Scholarships Awarded

The Atonement Academy awarded \$213,000 in scholarships to 25 members of the current 8th grade class. The scholarships were awarded based on academic achievement and standardized test scores as well as good conduct and leadership. All middle school students attended the ceremony in the courtyard after Mass on October 19, and members of the Class of 2016 received t-shirts and were allowed to join in the refreshments. Congratulations to our scholars!

## Nota Bene / Note Well

- **THE ANNUAL GALA, this year honoring Susana Trevino, was a great success!** Our results will be in the next issue of the bulletin. Thanks to the Co-Chairs, Yvonne Gomez-Gonzales and Yoli Flores and all the members of the Gala Committee and the hard-working room mothers for their efforts on this event!
- **KING'S FAIR IS COMING!** Work is underway to make this a day of fun-filled medieval frolic for Atonement families and friends! Cake decorating competitions, costume competitions, and food booths as well as game booths make it a day of fun for the entire family.
- **UPCOMING "NO SCHOOL" DAYS!** See calendar at the right as well as the master online calendar and get the dates on your family schedule.
- **ANNUAL COLLEGE NIGHT:** Upper scholars should plan to attend the college fair for private schools this Thursday evening at St. Mary's University Greehey Center. The free event will feature representatives from more than 150 national colleges and universities.
- **Questions or Concerns?** Contact [info@atonementonline.com](mailto:info@atonementonline.com)

### Mr. Johnston Needs Your Prayers!

In your charity, please remember our headmaster, Ralph Johnston, in your prayers. Join our Atonement community for a rosary prayed for his intention every Monday through Thursday at 7:45 in the Sacred Heart Chapel (between the main church and the school). See p.4 for a special letter from Mr. Johnston's wife, Cecily Johnston.

## Upcoming...

- **Oct. 26:** Academic Awards Assembly (after 9:20 Mass)
- **Oct. 27:** Annual College Fair for Private Schools, Greehey Gym at St. Mary's University, 6 pm
- **Oct. 28:** NO SCHOOL: Archdiocesan Teacher In-Service
- **Oct. 30:** Third Grade Guest Choir at 9:00 Sunday Mass
- **Nov. 2:** Requiem and Evensong at 7 pm featuring Upper School Choir and the Festival Choir
- **Nov. 5-13:** Fall Break. Classes resume November 14.
- **Nov. 19:** King's Fair — School and Parish Festival.



*Fides et Ratio*  
Faith & Reason

## Guest Choir at the 9:00 Mass: Third Grade on October 30

The 9:00 Mass this Sunday, October 30, will feature a choir composed of our third grade students.

This will be an opportunity for those families who do not regularly worship here at Our Lady of the Atonement to come and experience the beautiful liturgy and hear the angelic voices of our third graders.

It is also an opportunity for our students to give something in return to the parish. The Atonement Academy would not exist without the support and prayers of the parishioners of Our Lady of the Atonement Parish.

There is a strong bond between our church and school, a bond which is visible in the physical structure of our facility. We hope that by providing these monthly opportunities for our students and their families, we may strengthen that bond.

*Please report to the music room by 8:30. Dress is "Sunday best:" No t-shirts, jeans, sneakers, or immodest necklines or lengths.*

The Mass will be followed by coffee and treats in the Courtyard. *If you can help contribute donuts or other baked goods for the coffee hour, please contact [strevino@atonementonline.com](mailto:strevino@atonementonline.com) (Mrs. Trevino).*

## COACH MORETTA'S CORNER

Attention all Atonement Academy community and sports fans: The past week and this week are big in the sports world for The Atonement Academy. Please note the following updates:

1. **High school volleyball** finished its best season ever in school history. Our young women were very solid in all aspects of the game and we have three All-District players this year; Britny Vale on the first team and Monica King and Veronica Prochko second team. Also Monica King and Marissa Rosa made All-State Academic team. Congrats to our girls for their wonderful commitment to the community through sports!
2. This week in **varsity football** we have the "Big Game". Yes, if we beat Castle Hills Academy we go to the playoffs. Last year we did not win a game and this year we are on the verge of being a playoff contender. Way to go Crusaders! All fans please note that this Friday's game is a Black Out game, so wear black. Also we will have t-shirts on sale each day after school in the parking lot to commemorate the second season and the continued progress being made. Game starts at 5:00 pm with family festivities starting at 4:00 with sack races, balloon toss and other food and fun.
3. **Cross country** state finals were a major plus for The Atonement Academy. Bridget Kennedy and Annie Kennedy placed 11th and 12th respectfully, with Annie Kennedy making all state academic for TAPPS. This is another first for our school and we are excited about the upcoming track season as we add more young athletes to the team. Conditioning is Monday, Wednesday, and Friday after school from 3:30-4:45. Let's get ready now so we represent when the season is here.
4. Our **flag football** team is in the playoffs! Our boys will be playing this Thursday at Holy Name for the first round. If we win, we go to the championship game next week. The turnout was great by the entire school last week and our boys appreciated the spirit and love of the fans. Make it happen, young Crusader football!
5. **The varsity Letterman's Service Organization** will be hosting their second service project of the year this Saturday from 11-2 at the school, when they create "Food for the Homeless" lunches. All varsity sports members should attend so they can make this event a true community project by our young men and women of charity. See Coach Moretta if you have any questions or concerns.

*Thank you for your support of Crusader athletics!*

*—Michael Moretta, Athletic Director*

## PRE-GAME FAMILY FESTIVITIES

**Friday, October 28, from 4-5 pm**

*Food and Fun, including*

*Sack Races – Balloon Toss  
Kick-Off: 5 pm*

**Atonement Crusaders  
vs.**

**Castle Hills First Baptist Eagles**

***"Black Out" – Special t-shirts available  
or just wear black!***

The Church of Our Lady of the Atonement  
invites you to  
Solemn Choral Evensong  
In Commemoration of the Faithful Departed  
With a presentation of



## REQUIEM

by John Rutter

Featuring  
The Parish Festival Choir  
Upper School Honor Choir  
Soloists and Instrumentalists

All Souls' Day  
Wednesday, November 2, 2011  
7 o'clock in the evening

## Congratulations All-District Volleyball

Recently several Lady Crusaders were named to the All-District volleyball teams. Sophomore Britny Vale earned a spot on the First Team All-District, and two Lady Crusaders, Monica King (senior) and Veronika "Nikki" Prochko (freshman) claimed slots on the Second Team All-District.



*At their last regular season volleyball game, Atonement senior Monica King was presented with a bouquet of flowers from one of her former teachers, Mrs. Trevino.*

## TMEA Choir Audition Success

Please join in congratulating our middle scholars on their recent performance at the TMEA choir auditions. As the results appeared, voices could be heard saying again and again, "who's 'Atonement'?" Our kids took two **1<sup>st</sup> places**, two **2<sup>nd</sup> places**, two **4<sup>th</sup> places**, an **8<sup>th</sup> place**, and three other winning placements. All of our students made us proud this weekend and everyone in the area knows who "Atonement" is!

—Mrs. Murray

Intermediate Choir: Soprano (top 30/100 advance to Region Choir)

**1<sup>st</sup> chair:** **Chloe Daring – Atonement;** also 2<sup>nd</sup> chair: Sarah Henriquez; 4<sup>th</sup> chair: Isabella King; 8<sup>th</sup> chair: Kathy Bacuta

Intermediate Choir: Alto (top 30/76 advance to Region Choir)

**1<sup>st</sup> chair:** **Mary Henriquez – Atonement;** also 4<sup>th</sup> chair: Brielle Divis ; 23<sup>rd</sup> chair: Isabelle Christianson (6<sup>th</sup> grade, competing against 7/8 grades!)

Men's Choir: Tenor (top 30/49 advance to Region Choir)

**2<sup>nd</sup> chair:** **Bobby Voorhees – Atonement;** also 11<sup>th</sup> chair: BJ Garza; 8<sup>th</sup> chair: John McHugh

October 20, 2011

Dear Friends,

Here is the update on my husband, Ralph Johnston. Last week he transferred to the ICU at an LTAC (Long Term Acute Care) facility, which has both medical and rehabilitation support. His vitals need decreasing amounts of support, and his movements suggest the early stages of waking up from a coma although he is still not responding to questions or commands. His neurosurgeon said it might take months for him to “wake up,” but the momentum is in the right direction and there is cause for gratitude and hope. And patience.

My public medical reports have been minimal primarily to protect Ralph’s fierce privacy but also because the course of recovery from stroke is unpredictable and inconsistent. For example, some reflexes he showed last week were not present yesterday, while other improvements continue in small, irregular increments. So please understand that if you ask how he is doing, the reply will probably be very general, but the caring behind your question is deeply appreciated. Knowing others are thinking of him is enormously comforting.

There are no adequate words to convey our appreciation for the outpouring of concern and the abundance of prayer. Our family has shown unexpected strength that I am sure has been fueled by prayer. We welcome your ongoing prayers, especially for Ralph’s continued healing, the wisdom of his caregivers, strength for his colleagues, friends and family, and patience for all who are eager for his recovery.

My own prayers include gratitude for his progress, the healthcare he is receiving, the wonderful food, yard work, plants, flowers and operational help for our household, and the prayers and notes from a very wide circle of concerned people of all ages, both near and far. The cards and emails from faculty, staff, parents, and far-flung friends and relatives have been wonderful. I especially want to thank the students of The Atonement Academy for their encouraging, funny, sweet, faith-filled, beautiful, and personalized notes. I have read all the cards and letters to him once already, and will start reading them aloud again soon. Every single one makes a difference, and I thank each of you from the bottom of my heart.

May God bless you,  
Cecily Johnston