

September 19, 2017

Dear Madeleine Parents,



I want to thank you all for the amazing love and support you have provided to the school community during this difficult time. The loss of **Dawn Park**, our beloved teacher, colleague, and friend has deeply affected the staff, students, parents, and community. Your support and gifts of flowers for the school prayer table honoring Mrs. Park, treats for the faculty, bracelets for the teachers, hugs and kind words, and attendance at the picnic and rosary have all been greatly appreciated. The teachers have been extremely compassionate and caring with the students and each other, which has helped us through the beginning process of our grief. I am so blessed to be part of this wonderful, loving community of faith.

Your child is invited to join the **Children's Grief & Support Group**, which will meet on Wednesdays after school on the following dates: September 20, September 27, October 4, and October 11 from 2:50-3:30 pm. In a safe and confidential environment, your child will be able to explore the emotional, social and spiritual aspects of grief and loss. St. Mary Magdalene Pastoral Counselor, Rita McCrerey, LCSW will facilitate the Children's Grief & Support Group. Please see the information attached to this newsletter for more information. A consent form must be returned for your child to participate.

I hope this school year will be one of growth and accomplishment for your child.

There are **four important religious feasts** in the month of **October**: St. Thérèsa of the Child Jesus on October 1; St. Francis of Assisi on October 4; Our Lady of the Rosary on October 7; and St. Paul of the Cross on October 20.

### **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.

### **AVAILABLE STUDENT OPENINGS**

We still have a limited openings in our **kindergarten, first, second, and third grades**. If you know a family who may be interested, please have them call the school office at (619) 276-6545.

### **NOVEMBER OPEN HOUSE FOR 2017-2018**

This year, we are again holding two open houses. The first one will take place on **Monday, November 6** from **9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** and the other will be on **Sunday, January 7** from **11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** I encourage all Madeleine families to invite their friends especially to this first open house. Visitors will be given a tour of the school and will actually see classes in session. Our best referrals come from you, our current families. If you know anyone who has expressed an interest in Catholic schools, **November 6** would be a perfect time for them to visit.

## **SCHOOL COUNSELOR**

We are fortunate again this year to have an on-site counselor 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. The paper work for this service can be downloaded from the Madeleine web page.

Ben will begin seeing students immediately. Please feel free to contact him through the school office. He is available to all students from preschool through eighth grades. Mr. Fishburne can help our students with emotional stress, difficulties with friendships, and organizational or study skills.

## **ALTAR SERVERS FOR COMMISSIONING MASS WITH BISHOP McELROY**



Thank you to **Isabelle Escobar** (8<sup>th</sup> grader), **Delta Graves** (8<sup>th</sup> grader), **Thomas Bacich** (5<sup>th</sup> grader), and **Xavier Escobar** (4<sup>th</sup> grader) who had the honor of altar serving for the Commissioning Mass with **Most Reverend Bishop Robert McElroy** at the Pastoral Center Chapel on Thursday, September 14 at 6:30 pm. I am so proud of these students and how well they represented School of the Madeleine.

## **PROGRESS REPORTS/STAR PARENT REPORTS**

First quarter **progress reports** will be sent home on **Wednesday, September 27**. 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. Please remember that the portal will be closed a week before the progress reports will be sent home to allow teachers time to finalize grades.

With your child's progress report, you will also find your **STAR Parent Report**. You do not need to sign and return these reports. The next testing session will be **January 8-26, 2018**.

## **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 11** and must be returned by **Wednesday, October 18**. You will receive a confirmation of your specific appointment time by **Thursday, October 26**. Report card conferences for this year will be scheduled on Wednesday, November 8 and Thursday, November 9. The last appointments of the day will start at 5:45 p.m.

## **BACK-TO-SCHOOL PICNIC**

Our back-to-school picnic held on Sunday, September 10 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 *Cívita Bardaro, Thu Le*, and the *PSA Board members* for planning this community-building event.

A special thank you to all the parents, Student Council, and junior high students who volunteered to help at the picnic, which made the day more special.

### **Studio 57 – The Year it all began**



Thank you to everyone who helped make the Studio 57 Disco Draw at the picnic a huge success! The raffle raised \$7,045 from the disco sales! Congratulations to the *Conniff Family, Brunton Family, and Lecuna Family* who were the grand prize winners.

A sincere thank you to *Susan Cuttitta, Claire Dahlen, and Janel Divona*; the main event co-chairs, for their hard work and dedication. Please see more information from our co-chairs in this newsletter.

### **MENTORS FOR OUR NEW FAMILIES**

A huge thanks goes to all our volunteer mentors who helped our new families this year! This is a very important service and helps make many new families feel part of our Madeleine community. A special thanks to Paula Cross for coordinating this program.

### **HOT LUNCH PROGRAM**

Every year, there are dedicated individuals who volunteer for our Madeleine hot lunch program. A big thanks goes to *Angela Levy and Diane Williams* for organizing this program during these past years. These two individuals put in countless hours ensuring that our hot lunch program runs smoothly and efficiently! Ladies, “**hats off**” to you. Angela and Diane are **stepping down** from the program after this year and are looking for some new volunteers to mentor for next year. Please call if you are interested in stepping up to volunteer for this program.

### **WEB PAGE**

Thank you, **Tyler Ives**, 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](http://www.schoolofthemadeleine.com)

### **PARKING LOT AND PICK-UP DIFFICULTIES**

Overall, the parking lot and dismissal procedures are going well. There are a few areas that I need your help. First, there are **four reserved parking spots** that parents paid a lot of money for at last year’s Main Event to ensure that a parking space is always available for them. **Please do not park in these spots.** If you would like one next year, please come to this year’s Main Event and bid on one.

In the parking lot, if you are coming down the **first lane closest to the street**, you may **only turn left or north on Illion Street**. The second and third lanes are merging to turn right or south.

Also, if you are walking on the sidewalk on the parking lot side of the street, you need to walk into the parking lot and cross at the crosswalk there. Please do not cross in front of the driveway where cars are exiting. The parking lot has **two walkways**, which are safer for you and lead directly to the crosswalk where there is a teacher to assist students to cross safely.

If you are picking up your children in front of school at dismissal, you **may not block the drive through lane going north up the hill** while you wait for a spot to open at the curb for passenger pick up. This causes a terrible back up down the hill. Those cars are parents trying to go up to the parking lot or are our neighbors. In their frustration, they try to go around you by going into the lane coming south down the hill. Because of the steep grade of the hill, this is a very dangerous situation for all concerned. It would be better to wait at the bottom of the hill until you see that the passenger zone is moving.

Lastly, please **be respectful to the teachers on duty** trying to help you and keep everyone safe. You would be shocked, as I am, when teachers tell me how disrespectfully they are treated when they are doing their best to keep students safe. I know it can be a time of stress, but please be respectful and grateful to the teachers.

### **NEWLY REVISED MISSION, PHILOSOPHY AND SCHOOLWIDE LEARNING EXPECTATIONS**

Our school's Mission and Philosophy Statements, as well as our Schoolwide Learning Expectations have been simplified and rewritten by the faculty and staff and various groups in our school community over the last three years. This completes another step of our action plan written by the faculty and shareholders in preparation for our 2020 WCEA/WASC accreditation. These newly revised documents are included in this newsletter for all our parents to review. Any input or questions you may have would be welcomed.

### **STUDENT RELEASE AFTER WATER MAIN BREAK**

I want to again thank all our parents for the peaceful and calm pick-up of your children last Thursday when we had to close school after we lost water. Even though the pick-up went smoothly, there were a few things the school staff and I noticed that would help in the future.

First, if you are new to our school or returning families who have not yet signed up to receive the **Emergency Text Alerts**; please do so as soon as possible. The directions are repeated in the following section. We learned that some parents, who have received alerts in the past, did not receive them this time. After investigating as to why that may have happened, we found out that most likely you have changed types of phones, carriers, or phone numbers. I ask you to please go back into the system and delete the number(s) that did not work this time and to add your phone again.

In addition, we learned that many of the **yellow earthquake/disaster release records** are not as complete as they could be. We can only legally release the students to the people listed on the form. Please list as many people as you can who may be available to pick up your child(ren). It was discovered that sometimes your carpool driver, neighbor, and your nanny were missing from this list. If you discovered that you need to add more individuals to your list, you may ask for a new yellow form from the office to replace the one your child's teacher has at this time. Please send the completed form back to school as quickly as possible with a note to your child's teacher that this needs to replace your original form.

## **INFORMATION DURING AN EMERGENCY**

In any emergency situation, the school will keep the Madeleine community informed in three ways: with our Madeleine emergency alert text system, through room parent emails, and on our website. The most effective of these three systems is the emergency text alert system. These messages come straight to you from me and do not rely on the room parent coordinators to contact each room parent who then contacts each family in their child's classroom.

To **sign up for our Madeleine text alert system**, all you have to do is go to our Madeleine webpage and click on the red alert button on the top left hand corner and follow the prompts. Please make sure that you complete the entire process by finding the "**Communication Tab**", clicking on "**managing phones**", and entering your cell phone number. Verify that your status states that your **phone is active!** Then, go to "**text alerts**" to check the box where it says "**Madeleine families**". Please remember to click on the save button to complete the process.

In a few weeks, we will have a test of the emergency text system to help you know that you have completed the process and are properly activated.

## **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 for the evacuation, the students will be gathered at either 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 Boulevard.

**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.

## **LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS**

Attached to this newsletter, is a welcome letter from John Galvan. John Galvan is the Director of Schools in the San Diego Diocese.

## **INTERNET, INSTAGRAM, TEXTING USAGE**

It is important that all Madeleine parents supervise their child's use of computers and cell phones. Computers and cell phones offer technology, social media, communication, and information instantaneously for our students' use. However, it can be misused so easily if a child does not have maturity or good judgment. Nothing that has been **written or looked up on the computer ever goes away** and it is so easy for adults or the police department to trace messages sent or Internet sites that have been used. To avoid all problems, please have a talk with your child concerning the ethical use of technology. It could not only avoid disciplinary actions from the school but also a visit to your home from the police department!

## **CELL PHONE AND APPLE WATCH POLICY**

Please remember that **no child should use or have their cell phone on them during the school day**. All cell phones **must be turned off and left in the student's backpack**.

After school, cell phones cannot be used or answered until 3:00 p.m. After 3:00 p.m., if a student needs to use their cell phone, they may do so with the permission of the teacher on duty. Texting and taking photos are never allowed on campus.

**Apple watches** should **not be brought to school**. This is because students could take other students' photos and make phone calls with them. In addition, they could use calculators or the Internet during classroom instruction.

## **LOST LUNCH BOXES**

Please clearly label your child's **lunch box** with their name and grade level. If your child forgets their lunch box, we will always return it to your child's classroom. However, if there is no name on the lunch box, we will place it in the lost and found area to be held for a short while.

## **HELP NEEDED**

I am still in need of individuals who can help me open car doors and greet our students in the morning. I would like the individual to be here by 7:50 a.m. and most likely, you would be finished by 8:10 a.m. If you could help on one day or two days of the week, I would be most appreciative.

## **SERVICE OPPORTUNITY FOR SCHOOL AND CHURCH**

Since we are a parish school of St. Mary Magdalene Parish, we are asked to help out approximately once a month with coffee and doughnuts after Mass. PSA has the responsibility of organizing two volunteers per Mass for this service. This is an easy way to earn service points for the school especially if you are a parishioner or want to establish parishioner status for the future. The next three dates the school is assigned to cover are: October 8, at the 9:00 am Mass; October 22, at the 7:00 am Mass; and December 10 at the 9:00 am Mass. Please call or email, **Erica Morton** at (619) 787-7576 or [en1242@yahoo.com](mailto:en1242@yahoo.com) Thank you for your service!

## **PRAYERS REQUESTED**

Please continue to pray for healing for **Noel Park** and for the **Park Family** during this time of sorrow.

God Bless,

*Jean*

Jean Coleman

## **Thank you to:**

*Liza and Lou Mitchell*, grandparents to Hailey and Diesel Dahlen—for donating a beautiful American flag to display in the parish hall for school and parish assemblies.

*John White*—for continuing to volunteer to help me on Thursday mornings in opening car doors and greeting students.

*Paula Cross*—for helping me in the mornings to open car doors and greet students when she is able.

*John O'Beirne*—for helping me set up cones in the parking lot two mornings a week.

*John O'Neil*, grandfather to Ava and Oliver Bayne—for a large monetary donation to the school, gift cards to Jamba Juice for the office staff to enjoy during the hot days, and for a beautiful flower arrangement for the prayer table to honor Mrs. Park.

*Katie Bayne*—for treats and candy for the faculty and office staff to enjoy, as well as two beautiful orchid plants for the office and prayer table.

*Gaby Sanders*—for doughnuts for the faculty during this difficult week.

*Linda Lugo*—for the beautiful flower arrangement for the prayer table to honor Mrs. Park and for the special, white-beaded charm bracelets for the faculty and staff to wear in remembrance of Mrs. Park.

*Angela Levy*—for taking special photos of the rosary for Mrs. Park so the school and Park family can remember this special day.

*Katy Sanford*—for the Animals of the World Map.

*Megan Eacret* and *Jennifer Klaus*—for the beautiful bangle bracelets and pins with charms for the faculty and staff to wear to remember Mrs. Park.



# School News

## VIRTUE FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

The virtue for the month of October is **Honesty**. Honesty is the ability to be fair, truthful, and to act with integrity. Qualities of honesty also include candor and sincerity. Practicing honesty means to tell the truth and to do what you know is right. It also includes not taking advantage of others or gossiping about others. It is such an important virtue that the Seventh and Eighth Commandments forbid dishonesty ("Thou shall not steal," and "Thou shall not bear false witness"). As a school community, it is important to help our children to understand and model this important virtue.

## A NEW LOOK FOR THE MADELEINE WHITE PAGES

This year our Madeleine White Pages family directory has a new look. Families will be in alphabetical order by student's last name and will include student's names, their grade, a main phone number, parent's names, home address, and for the first time, will include parent's email addresses. The directory is exclusively for the use of current Madeleine families and for school business only. We expect all families to keep this information private and confidential. Parent's emails should be used appropriately and not for any kind of solicitations. Copying, distribution, or misuse of any information in the Madeleine White Pages is strictly forbidden.

The purple school records update and white pages order forms (back to back) were sent home with the eldest students on the second week of school. This form is sent to families every year so that we can keep our records up to date. There is also a permission to publish section for our white pages family directory. Your response is requested by October 7 with any changes to your contact information, your permission to publish or not to publish in the phone book, and your payment for a phone book if you wish to purchase one. The phone books will be sent home with your eldest by the end of October.

## STUDENT PICTURES ON FACEBOOK, ETC.

A reminder to all parents not to post pictures of students in uniform or identify School of the Madeleine as the school that they attend on Facebook, Instagram, or any other blogs. Posting of such pictures endanger the safety of **ALL** our students.

## **BACK-TO-SCHOOL PICNIC**

Thank you Madeleine families for coming out to our Back to School Picnic on Sunday, September 10th. It was so nice to see everyone come together in support of the school as well as come together in prayer for the recent loss of our beloved Mrs. Park. We want to especially thank Mrs. Vargas for helping us organize the 7th and 8th grade volunteers and all the families who donated games and waters for the event - The Morris family, the O'Neil family, the Brownson family, the Patenaude family, the Hickey family, the Arca family, the Tuskan family, the Blancato family, the Truong family and the Perry family. We couldn't have done it without you.

Civita Bardaro and Thu Le Leon  
Community Events Coordinators

## **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.

## **PARKING IN THE 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.

## **RESERVED PARKING SPACES**

Please be attentive of the 9 reserved parking signs posted in the church parking lot. There are four PAID spaces reserved for parents as part of the "Hassle Free" Dinner Dance Package, and one space reserved for the Main Event chairpersons. **DO NOT PARK IN THESE SPACES FOR ANY LENGTH OF TIME ON SCHOOL DAYS!** In addition, there are four spaces allocated for the convent residents and Directors of Religious Education and Youth Ministry. They are reserved 7 days a week.

## **AFTER SCHOOL PICK-UP**

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.

## **SAFETY OF STUDENTS - BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL**

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.

## **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.

## **BOOKFAIR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

We are in need of volunteers for the school's Bookfair November 6<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>. All volunteers must have a cleared Live Scan and have seen the Safe School's video or have clearance through the CMG Connect process. Please contact the school librarian, Cindy Bayless at cbayless@schoolofthemadeleine.com Thank You.

## **The Nurse's Office**

### **PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU HAVE TURNED IN THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:**

- GREEN Emergency Cards
- YELLOW Earthquake Release Card
- Earthquake Comfort Bags

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 any medications 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 important 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.

**WE ARE IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS** to help in the Nurses office between 11:30 am and 1:00 pm each day. No experience is necessary. You must have a cleared Live Scan and have seen the Safe School's video or have clearance through the CMG Connect process. Please see the following link for available days to sign up.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0544aca22a31-school1>



## **MILK VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Volunteers are needed to distribute milk to students during the lunch hour from 11:45 to 12:15 Mon - Fri. We need volunteers from October until June. You may sign up for one, two or three times a week.

**We are especially needy of volunteers to begin in October that have been cleared through Live Scan and have seen the "Safe School's Video" or have clearance through the CMG Connect process.**

If you are interested in earning service points by helping with milk, please call **Cindy Lugo at (858) 272-1825.**

### **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 at 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 or every other 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, all parents, grandparents, and parish members 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. There will be a brief (1 hour) training session before tutoring begins in late September or the beginning of October.

We will have a sign up sheet at the Back-to-School coffee on the first day of school, or you can contact Carrie directly.

Carrie Engelman - [cengelman@hotmail.com](mailto:cengelman@hotmail.com) / 619 204 5107

Volunteers need to be Live Scanned and must have viewed the Safe Schools video or be cleared through the CMG Connect process.

Thank you for your support.

## SCHOOL PICTURES

Lyons Photography will be at School of the Madeleine to take student photos beginning next week. Pink order form envelopes will be sent home with students on **Friday, September 22**. Please see the Lyon Photography flyer attached to this newsletter for more information including Picture Day dates and make-up day if your child is absent.

## St. Mary Magdalene Parish Electronic Giving

With the arrival of autumn, I'd like to invite you to join *FaithDirect*, our parish's electronic giving program. Our to-do lists can get lengthy during this season, but *FaithDirect*'s eGiving program will give you one less thing to remember each week. You can support St. Mary Magdalene Parish on the go. To enroll, just go to [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net) and use our church code: CA840. Make sure to sign up to receive Offertory Cards which are ideal to place in the collection basket when you attend Mass. Contact Katie Moreno in the Parish Office, (619) 276-1041, with your questions.

## 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 Wednesday 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 for our first meeting on **October 4th** - all are welcome. We'll see you there. For more information, contact Jessica McCarthy at [youthministry@stmarymagonline.org](mailto:youthministry@stmarymagonline.org) or (619) 276-6814.

## COLLECTION FOR CCSA COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN SERVICE AGENCY

The CCSA assists those who are unable to obtain for themselves the basic necessities of life in addition to resource counseling to move people toward greater independence and self sufficiency. During the month of October, St. Mary Magdalene Parish is collecting donations of sunscreen, sunglasses, hats and lipbalm for the Community Christian Service Agency. 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.



## **Classroom News**

### **KINDERGARTEN**

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!

In Religion we are learning God's gift of family and friends to us. In Practical Life we have worked on colors, apples, and autumn. We will soon be working on bats and cats, spiders, pumpkins, and skeletons! Thanks to all the Kindergarten families who attended Back-to-School Night! We are going to have a great year together!

### **1A & 1B**

First Graders have been amazing! Everything is so new to them on this side of the street, but they have met the challenges with brave little hearts, and a smile! We have been working on our handwriting; perfecting the formation, of our letters. In Reading, we are reviewing the three step process for sounding out words, which includes blending our vowels, and consonants. We are learning sentence structure, and its two parts in forming complete thoughts. In Math we are counting on, and counting back, using a number line. In Religion we are learning about our Church Community, and that Jesus is our Good Shepherd. They are enjoying being a part of our school Mass community. We are discussing Bullying, and how to change a Bullies heart. Thank you parents for your support, and Trust, as we join with you in the education, and formation of your precious child!

### **2A & 2B**

Our new second graders have been very busy! In math, we have been reviewing addition and subtraction facts. In religion, we have been learning more about our church community and Baptism. In science, we have been studying different kinds of plants and animals. Each week in reading, we have been learning different reading strategies to make us stronger readers. We enjoyed meeting all of our second grade families at Back to School Night. This is going to be a fun-filled year in second grade!

### **3A & 3B**

The beginning of the new school year has started out great! At the beginning of the day we do D.O.L and read silently. We start our day with religion. Then our teacher checks our homework.

So far third grade has been challenging, but also fun. We pray for the Park family everyday.

Francesca Balistreri  
Kailey Davidson

### **4A & 4B**

Summer has ended and we are now fourth graders. We are off to an exciting start. It was great to meet all the 4<sup>th</sup> grade parents at Back to School Night. We would like to welcome Mrs. Kalleberg to 4A. We are learning many new things already and are excited about this new year! We are learning about writing good sentences in English, place value, money and rounding in math, maps and geography in social studies and plant structures in science. In religion, we are learning about the parts of the Mass and the Ten Commandments. We are looking forward to a fun year!

### **5A & 5B**

Welcome back incoming 5th graders! We are excited to start off a new year with old friends and a few new ones. Fifth grade is a busy year with lots of expectations that have to be met. We are now on the "big" side of the school. That means that lunch is later. Be sure to pack a sufficient snack and a large lunch. We have Spanish class once a week as well. We have celebrated Mass with the school and our 5th grade class did a prayerful adoration in the chapel. Our goal in 5th grade is to keep kindness as our center and treat our classmates with respect. Please keep your children close as we help them through these sad times with the passing of our beloved Mrs. Park. God bless all of your children and family members.

### **6A & 6B**

Welcome back! We've had a great summer, but now it's back to school. We've been learning many things and here are some examples. In science we've been learning about the Earth's core, and also about the time when all the continents formed one continent, Pangaea. In social studies we've been learning about early human civilization. In English we've focused on subjects and predicates and are working on writing descriptive narratives. Right now in art we are learning to draw tropical birds and using many bright colors to paint them. In literature we are studying plot, making predictions, and noticing differences between fiction and nonfiction. For religion we are studying about our ancestors in faith and prepared our school mass for Our Lady of Sorrows. Finally, in Spanish we are saying the days of the week, months of the year, seasons, and numbers. This year started out great. We've learned so much already and can't wait to learn more this year!

Written by Elliott DeGano and Kelly Rickwa



**OUR LADY OF SORROWS  
PRAY FOR US**

# *Junior High*

## **7A & 7B**

Junior High has been a big adjustment! However, we have mastered many new things—the lockers, our schedules, and getting the correct supplies for our classes! We are busy and leaning a lot. In social studies we are studying the Byzantine Empire. We are reading short stories in Literature. In science class we have examined cells under a microscope and are studying many details of cell transport. We are learning about the truth revealed by God in the Scripture in Religion. Next subject is our study of the Blessed Trinity. We were honored to lead the school in the Rosary for our dear Mrs. Park. We thank you parents for driving on our field trip to the food bank on October 5<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to helping people in our San Diego community as we walk in the footsteps of Jesus.

Progress reports are coming soon.

Bye for now.....

## **8A & 8B**

We have had an excellent first month in 8<sup>th</sup> grade! In science class, we are learning about motion, force, and the effects of gravity, and we are preparing for science fair. Advanced Math is learning about equations, and Regular Math is studying rational numbers and least common multiple. In Spanish, we are focusing on learning time, numbers and months of the year. Our conscience and how to make good moral choices are topics we've discussed and studied in religion. Our first and second Masses went very well especially since we had the new ushers and church set-up to help. We've learned about the European explorations and the Thirteen Colonies in social studies. We've been reading short stories such as "Sherlock Holmes and the Speckled Band," and we have been reviewing our summer reading book, Animal Farm. We are starting to read Fahrenheit 451 in literature. In English, we are writing opinion essays and reviewing from last year. We are looking forward to the high school presentations by St. Augustine, Our Lady of Peace, and Cathedral. We'll be touring the schools on October 4th and 30th. Sadly, we are mourning the loss of Mrs. Park, a great teacher, catechist, and friend.

*Dawn Park*



*In Loving Memory*



## Children's Grief and Support Program

Your child is invited to join us for a Grief & Support Program specifically for Madeleine Students. In a safe and confidential environment, we'll explore the emotional, social, and spiritual aspects of loss as well as coping strategies. Children may participate as much or as little as they choose, according to their level of comfort.

### **Four Wednesdays after School**

Wednesday, September 20

Wednesday, September 27

Wednesday, October 4

Wednesday, October 11

(attend 1, 2, 3 or all 4)

2:50 PM – 3:30 pm

School of the Madeleine: Math Room next to the library

Facilitator: Rita McCrerey, MSW, MA, LCSW\*

It is our hope that, through these services, your child may come to know and experience the support of this community and that s/he may never find the need to suffer a loss in isolation. For more information, contact Rita at (619) 922-6059 or (619) 276-6805 (M,W, F)

**Attached Parent Permission Slip required. Please complete and return to the school office prior to meeting.**

Rita McCrerey is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Pastoral Counselor and Grief Counselor. She has a private psychotherapy practice in Mission Valley and has worked at The Church of St. Mary Magdalene for 15 years providing counseling, program development and social work to St. Mary Magdalene Parishioners School of the Madeleine Families, and the community at large.

## Agreement to Attend School of the Madeleine Grief & Support Group

### Informed Consent

Your child is invited to attend one or all four Children's Grief & Support Group Meetings which will be held on Wednesdays after school on the following dates: September 20, September 27, October 4, and October 11 from 2:50-3:30 pm. The meetings will be held in the math room next to the library.

In a safe and confidential environment, we will explore the emotional, social and spiritual aspects of grief and loss. Your child is welcome to participate as little or as much as s/he prefers, according to his/her level of comfort. Your child should be picked up no later than 3:35 pm in front of the school.

The Children's Grief & Support Group will be facilitated by St. Mary Magdalene Pastoral Counselor, Rita McCrerey, LCSW. If you would like to discuss this group process in more detail, or if you would like individual, one-on-one counseling for yourself, your child or other family members, please contact Rita at (619) 922-6059 or (619) 276-6805 (on M, W, F).

Your signature indicates that you understand and accept these conditions and give permission for your child to participate in the above mentioned Children's Grief & Support Group.

Child's  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Child's  
Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to  
Child \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# **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 learn and practice their Roman Catholic faith, discover their strengths, and grow in mind, body, and spirit.

The School of the Madeleine community:

- encourages faith, respect, love, and service in our school, parish, local, and world community
- creates a learning experience focused on success
- promotes Christ-centered decision making
- supports a healthy lifestyle

Revised 1/16

## **Philosophy**

Each student at School of the Madeleine is a unique creation of God, actively involved in the growth of his or her own mind, body, and spirit. 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. Our faith community promotes Roman Catholic values, traditions, worship, and service throughout our school, parish, local, and world community.

Revised 1/16

# **SCHOOL OF THE MADELEINE**

## **Schoolwide Learning Expectations**

A graduate of School of the Madeleine is a compassionate Catholic/Christian who:

### **Lives faithfully by:**

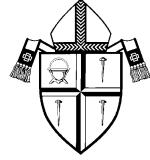
- Developing a personal relationship with God
- Modeling Christian values
- Honoring creation
- Participating in Catholic liturgies, sacraments, and prayers
- Understanding Catholic tradition, doctrine, and scripture

### **Learns responsibly by:**

- Developing critical thinking skills
- Listening actively and expressing ideas clearly
- Striving to achieve personal goals
- Demonstrating knowledge in all subjects
- Utilizing technology ethically and effectively

### **Leads respectfully by:**

- Demonstrating tolerance, respect and compassion towards others
- Respecting all life
- Taking responsibility for his/her actions
- Understanding the importance of current events and global issues
- Working for social justice



Office for Schools

September 5, 2017

Dear Catholic School Parents,

Like so many of you, my wife and I were giving our daughter a little pep talk the night before she began 1<sup>st</sup> grade this 2017-2018 school year. She was both nervous and excited. Just as I do every night, I put my hand on her forehead, and recited my same “dad” prayer that has become so familiar to her:

*May the Holy Spirit fill you with faith, hope, love, gentleness, peace, joy, wisdom and compassion. May God’s holy communion of angels and saints bless you and protect you this night and forever. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen*

She slept like a champ. The next morning she was up early (maybe too early) and ready to go.

What is it about Catholic schools that keeps 15,000 of us in the Diocese of San Diego coming back? I can speak from both research and direct experience. Based on our local qualitative studies, parents choose Catholic schools for a faith-filled education, an academically excellent focus, and a familial sense of community. This is also supported by findings from the National Catholic Education Association (NCEA). Across the United States, Catholic schools offer an education that combines Catholic faith and teachings with academic excellence. We partner with parents in the faith formation of their children. We set high standards for student achievement and help students succeed. We provide a balanced academic curriculum that integrates faith, culture and life. We use technology effectively to enhance education. We instill in students the value of service to others. We teach students respect of self and others. We emphasize moral development and self-discipline. We prepare students to be productive citizens and future leaders. We have a 99.9% high school graduation rate. We cultivate a faculty and staff of people who are dedicated, caring and effective. We provide a safe and welcoming environment for all.

At the end of the day, I look at my daughter and I see a happy, caring, creative and inspired young learner. This doesn’t happen on its own. It happens in a Catholic school, a place where kids are known and loved. It happens because our Catholic school mission to *educate in the image of Christ for our church and for our world* is alive and well in the Diocese of San Diego.

May this new school year bless you and your family richly. I pray that *faith, hope, love, gentleness, peace, joy, wisdom and compassion* remain your family’s constant companion on the journey.

In Mission,

John Galvan  
Director, Office for Schools



A graduate of the School of the Madeleine is:

A compassionate Catholic / Christian  
An independent learner  
A responsible individual  
An effective communicator and  
A globally aware citizen



# MAIN EVENT NEWS!

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Dear SOM Parents,

Thank you to everyone who helped make the Studio 57 Disco Draw a huge success! It was such a pleasure meeting everyone who participated. We are happy to announce that we raised \$7,045 from the disco sales! Congratulations to the Conniff Family, Brunton Family, and Lecuna family - our grand prize winners.

We have a couple of exciting updates for Studio 57. First, we would like to thank *San Diego Galvanizing* and *ITAV Solutions* for signing on as our first sponsors. Thank you! Second, we would like to announce that much of the planning is underway.

We also want to thank all who have signed up to help with the main event. Our first step is procurement. We will be reaching out to all of our procurement volunteers very soon to set up our first meeting. Our procurement team is the most ESSENTIAL team of Studio 57. If you would like to join this team and have not signed up yet please feel free to reach out to us at [studio57me@gmail.com](mailto:studio57me@gmail.com) or call Janel at 619-871-4657. We would love to hear from you. Remember, all of your work translates into service hours!

Additionally, if you have a business or know of a business that would like to sponsor our event financially or with any kind donation – please let us know! Most companies and corporations will match your donation! More information can be found on the main event website [www.madeleinemainevent.com/sponsors](http://www.madeleinemainevent.com/sponsors).

Please remember to join our Facebook. We update this page often and also provide several items to bid on throughout the year as we lead up to our main event.

Thank you to everyone for your support. We are excited to work with you all in making School of the Madeleine's founding year a very special one!

Susan Cuttitta, Claire Dahlen, and Janel Divona

Main Event Co-Chairs

**LYONS**  
**PHOTOGRAPHY**

**School of the Madeleine Portraits**

3756 Dupont St. San Diego Ca. 92106-3226 619-988-7664  
Jonlyonsphotography.net Email: lyonsphoto@hotmail.com

Dear Parents,

Lyons Photography will be on campus offering our onsite portrait photography for the school yearbook. We strive to present your family with the best possible school portrait of your children. Please take a moment to review the schedule of dates and package arrangements that are offered on the order envelope. Please fill in the order envelope with your choice of package or a la carte order.\*\* Each student will need an individual envelope with your choice of package, a la carte, or yearbook only designated for identification purposes.

**Grades 5-8 portraits for yearbook and (7<sup>th</sup>,8<sup>th</sup>, ID cards) - September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**Grades Kindergarten K – 4th - September 27<sup>th</sup>.**

**Madeleine Pre-school portraits October 3rd.**

**Madeleine Pre-school portraits October 4th.**

**October 3<sup>rd</sup> is a missed picture day for any K-8<sup>th</sup> who may have been absent.**

**Class Group photo dates for Madeleine:**

**Class group photos taken on October 5<sup>th</sup> for grades 1-4.**

**Class group photos taken on October 6<sup>th</sup> for grades 5-8.**

**Class group photos taken for pre-school and Kindergarten on October 9th, 10th.**

Please help us deliver your package promptly and accurately. Packages are pre-paid at time of photography. **One envelope is needed for each individual student.** Parents wishing to pay with one check for multiple children may do so. Please indicate on envelope who your student is and teacher, grade, or advisor that you wish to include. Orders received after November 1<sup>st</sup> will have an additional \$15.00 service fee for image preparation, shipping and handling. Returned checks are subject to \$25.00 bank fee.



# PAUL EFFMAN MUSIC

PO Box 19 • Syosset, NY 11791  
P: 516.921.4543 • F: 516.433.0007

pemusic.com • info@pemusic.com

PO Box 332 • Lagrangeville, NY 12540  
P: 845.452.8528 • F: 845.337.3874

## JOIN THE INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM

### IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN!

Our first lesson is right around the corner...

Playing in a band teaches us to participate in society...



Music is more than a hobby - it is a part of education...



Music is a universal language...



Learning an instrument helps young people with math and reading...



**Registration forms are located in the school office.**

Please make sure that your child brings home a registration form and returns it to the school office.

It's going to be a fabulous year – let's make music together!

Thank you,

**Dave Pschaida**

Instrumental Music Director, *Paul Effman Music Service*



## CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The St. Mary Magdalene Children's Choir completed its 14th year to rave reviews.

We are hoping to continue to grow in our 15th year and are looking for additional voices to join the choir. **Student in Grades THREE THRU EIGHT are eligible to join the choir!** Rehearsals are held every Thursday afternoon from 3:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. in the church.

**We are also flexible with the time for sport practices and will dismiss children early .**

**\*\*\* Rehearsals are Thursdays from 3:00 to 3:45 pm \*\*\***

**\* \* \* \*FIRST REHEARSAL IS THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5TH \* \* \***

We have an active schedule planned for the new year with the Children's Choir. We will immediately begin rehearsal for Advent and Christmas. The Children's choir will be the principle choir at the **5:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass**.

If your child is interested please complete the attached application and return it to the school/rectory, or have your child bring it to the first rehearsal.

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### **Application for St. Mary Magdalene Children's Choir**

Return to: School of the Madeleine/St. Mary Magdalene Church  
Attn: Mary Kay Evanko, Director of Music

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

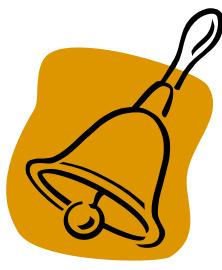
Phone Number: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work/Cell \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

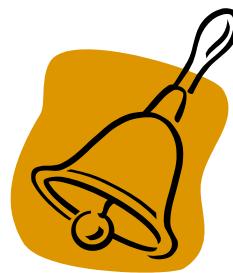
Please Check Appropriate Box:

After rehearsal my child:

will be picked up by parent at church      will go directly to extended care at school



## CHILDREN'S HAND BELL ENSEMBLE



We are starting our ninth year with the School of the Madeleine Hand Bell Ensemble. The ensemble will not only be playing at certain school masses during the year but they will also be playing for the **5:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass!** This choir is for students in grade 4—8. Your child does **not need to know how to read music to be a part of this choir.**

We **need** to have at least **8 students** to continue the choir but would really like to have **10 to make a full sound.**

**\* \* \*Rehearsals are Tuesdays from 3:00 pm to 3:45 pm. \* \* \***

**\* \* \*FIRST REHEARSAL IS TUESDAY, October 10, 2017 \* \* \***

Hand Bells are a beautiful instrument, but must be treated with care. The children are required to wear gloves which we will supply. If you think your child is interested please complete the attached application and return it to the rectory, or have your child bring it to the first rehearsal.

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### Application for School of the Madeleine Hand Bell Choir

Return to: St. Mary Magdalene Church

1945 Illion Street

San Diego, CA 92110

Attn: Mary Kay Evanko, Director of Music

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work/Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please Check Appropriate Box:

After rehearsal my child:

will be picked up by parent at church     will go directly to extended care at school

# October

2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 PSA Raffle Begins  Preschool Pictures  CCHS Visits 8 <sup>th</sup> Gr.	4 8 <sup>th</sup> Gr. to Saints & OLP  Preschool Pictures	5 7 <sup>th</sup> Gr. to Food Bank  Group Pictures Gr. 1-4	6 <b>MINIMUM DAY</b>  <b>MASS</b> <b>11:00 am</b>  Group Pictures Gr. 5-8	7  <i>Our Lady of the Rosary</i>
8  Faith Formation Picnic 10:15-11:30 am	9  <b>Columbus Day</b> <u>SCHOOL IN SESSION</u>  Group Pictures Preschool	10  Group Pictures K & Preschool  Handbell Begins	11  <b>HOT LUNCH</b>  Report Card Conference Slips E-mailed	12  Kindergarten to Bonita Pumpkin Farm	13  Junior High Dance 5:00-7:00 pm (Hall)	14
15	16  PSA Board Mtg. 1:30 pm  <i>St. Ignatius of Antioch</i>	17  1 <sup>st</sup> Reconciliation Parent Mtg. 7-8:15 pm (Hall)	18  <b>Report Card</b> <b>Conference Slips</b> <b>Due</b>  <i>St. Luke, Evangelist</i>	19  Uniform Exchange 2:15-3:00 pm	20  <b>NO SCHOOL</b> Teacher Professional Development  <i>St. Paul of the Cross</i>	21
22  1 <sup>st</sup> Reconciliation Parent Mtg. 10:15-11:30 am (Hall/with Child Care)	23  <b>NEWSLETTER</b>	24	25  <b>HOT LUNCH</b>  Advisory Board Mtg. 5:30 pm  CYT Production 2:00 pm (Hall)	26  Report Card Conference Slips Sent Home	27	28
29	30  8 <sup>th</sup> Gr. to Cathedral Catholic High School	31  <b>MINIMUM DAY</b>  Halloween Carnival				