



August, 2021

Dear Wonderful Nazareth Parents,

Our summer is passing quickly and it won't be long before we are embracing the beginning of a new school year. I hope this letter finds you and your families enjoying a relaxing summer filled with many special activities that will create fond family memories. As we prepare for a new year, and all of the opportunities it will bring, know that all of us at Nazareth School have made a heartfelt commitment to provide the best experiences possible for all of our students and their families. The teachers, staff members and I look forward to working in partnership with you to celebrate the gifts of Nazareth School, our Mission and all of the members of its community.

“It is the mission of Nazareth School to teach and guide students from various backgrounds in their spiritual, academic, physical, and social development. As a Catholic institution, Nazareth School community members integrate the charism and core values of the Sisters of Nazareth into the educational experience. It is the school's aim to nurture mind, body, and spirit in an atmosphere of mutual respect and trust in God and to contribute to the larger community through service, worship, and spreading the Gospel message.”

We are very excited to welcome our new Nazareth Families with a New Family Orientation on Wednesday, August 11 at 6:30pm in the auditorium. This orientation will be for families with students going into kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. On Saturday, August 14 at 9am, Nazareth Preschool will be welcoming all preschool parents to an informative Parent's Only orientation with their respective Sunflower or Buzzy Bee Teacher. We can't wait to welcome all of the new students to our wonderful campus.

On Saturday, August 14, we are very fortunate to have three special “Meet and Greet” sessions for kindergarten, first grade and sixth grade, for students and parents to see their new classroom, and welcome their new teacher to Nazareth School. This will provide the children and their parents with an opportunity to find their cubbies and their seats, and a chance to say “hello” before school starts. At 11:00am, I will provide a tour of the “Big School” for parents who are unfamiliar with the elementary school facilities.

Kindergarten Classroom: Mrs. Debby Rosenberger 10-11am  
First Grade Classroom: Mrs. Cammie Ochoa 10-11am  
Sixth Grade Classroom: Mrs. Bethanny McGuire 10:30-11:30am

As a reminder, all students in grades kindergarten through eighth grade have required summer homework packets. We are happy to provide you with an extra packet, please drop by the office to pick one up. We also have extra copies of the classroom and art supply lists, for your convenience or you may go to: [nazarethschool.org/academics](http://nazarethschool.org/academics). As we prepare for the upcoming new school year, please make sure that your children have completed their summer reading and math review activities, and that their uniforms, grooming (no extreme haircuts or unnatural colors, please) and supplies are in order. Regarding supplies, it is not necessary to buy all new supplies if your child has unused materials from last year. Please see the Nazareth School News for details about Used Uniform Sales on August 14<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. If you have questions about school preparation, please contact the school office.

On the first day of school, Wednesday, August 18<sup>st</sup>, the PTG will be hosting a Welcome Back Meet-and-Greet at the lower field picnic tables. Coffee and morning treats will be provided. Back-to-School Night will be held on Thursday, August 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. Our annual Back-to-School Night is a wonderful introduction to the school year which allows you the opportunity to meet with your children's teachers. The PTG will host information tables on the Courtyard for you to meet with parent leaders who will elaborate on how you may become more involved in our many fun school events.

The PTG Board will hold its first planning meeting on Thursday, August 12<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in working with the Board to help organize school events, please contact the office for more information. Our successful PTG fundraisers make a significant contribution to the enhancement of the school's environment and resources, please plan to participate actively in the PTG events and programs.

Please know the entire faculty and staff at Nazareth School are here to support all of our students and families. In that light, we will be offering Extended Care beginning the first day of school, opening at 7am, and closing promptly at 6pm. We know the extended hours are a welcomed change from last year.

We are working hard this summer to ensure Nazareth School is ready for a great year full of learning, faith and fun. The third, fourth, fifth, seventh and eighth grade classrooms have been relocated back to Upper Campus and we are excited that Nazareth will be able to return to a normal in-person school schedule and routine. The new California COVID-19 Public Health Guidance's for K-12 were released in July, and we are working to update our Nazareth School Reopening Plan for the 2021-2022 academic year. Below is a list of a few of the safety measures ALL accredited schools are required to implement:

- Students are required to mask indoors, with exemptions per CDPH face mask guidance. Adults in Preschool-12 schools settings are required to mask when sharing indoor spaces with students.
- "Masks are optional outdoors for all K-12 school setting."
- "Persons exempted from wearing a face covering due to a medical condition, must wear a non-restrictive alternative, such as a face shield with drape on the bottom edge, as long as their condition permits it."
- Physical distancing: "Recent evidence indicates that in-person instruction can occur safely without minimum physical distancing requirements when other mitigation strategies (e.g., masking) are implemented. This is consistent with CDC K-12 School Guidance."
- "Maximize physical distance as much as possible while eating (especially indoors). Using additional spaces outside of the cafeteria for mealtime seating such as classrooms or the gymnasium can help facilitate distancing. Arrange for eating outdoors as much as feasible."

Once the Nazareth Reopening Plan is updated with the new guidance's, we will be posting them to our website. The COVID-19 Decision Tree was also updated on 06/22/2021, and is available on our website at nazarethschool.org. Simply click on the COVID-19 button located in the upper right-hand corner and you will have all of the latest updates and guidance's for Covid-19. Attached is a letter from the Diocese of San Diego Office of Schools outlining diocesan policy for the upcoming school year in compliance with the most recent public health guidance for K-12 schools. This guidance has been reviewed and approved by Bishop McElroy and the Diocese Administrative Curia. May God watch over us this year and keep all of our Nazareth community safe.

As we prepare for the beginning of the school year, let us come together and pray our beautiful Nazareth School Prayer:

Lord Jesus,  
You were once a child in the Holy Family of Nazareth.  
We are gathered as a family at Nazareth School.  
Bless San Diego, our city.  
Preserve it from violence and hatred.  
Bless our school and all who come here.  
Guide and strengthen the teachers and all who work here.  
Help us to be kind to one another and cheerful each day.  
Fill us with your Holy Spirit, so that we may grow in your  
love, and learn to love one another.  
Amen

Holy Family of Nazareth,  
Watch over us and protect us.

Enjoy these last days of summer! On Wednesday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, a new school year will begin and we are looking forward to seeing you then!

God watch over our students,  
God watch over our parents and families,  
God watch over our teachers and staff!

God Bless,

*Mrs. René Coons*  
Principal