



August 4, 2023

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. We 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. We 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. *Nazareth School, "A school with a Mission," develops faith-filled learners who are guided by the Core Values of the Sisters of Nazareth, providing academic excellence rooted in Catholic tradition.*

As a school community, we will be celebrating together the theme from Colossians 23:3 *"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord..."* Our mission is to educate children in the Nazareth Way. As a community devoted to the health and growth of our children, we practice the core values of respect, hospitality, love, justice, compassion, and patience. The Nazareth Way encapsulates these values and influences how children learn and grow.

We are very excited to welcome our new Nazareth Families with a New Family Orientation on Friday, August 18 at 6:30pm in the auditorium. This orientation will be for families with students going into kindergarten through 8th grade. On Saturday, August 19th 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.

Also on Saturday, August 19th, from 10:00am to 11:30am, we are very fortunate to have a special "Meet and Greet" sessions for kindergarten students and parents to see their new classroom. This will provide the children and their parents with an opportunity to find their cubbies and seats, plus a chance to say "hello" to Miss Kelchner before school starts. At 11:30am, I will provide a tour of the "Big School" for any parents who are unfamiliar with the elementary school facilities.

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. 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, school supplies, and grooming are in order, please no extreme haircuts or dyed hair. You may find the grooming requirements in our Nazareth School Family Handbook on our website, nazarethschool.org, under Helpful Resources/Parent Student Handbook on page 28. Regarding supplies, it is not necessary to buy all new supplies if your child has unused materials from last year. If you have questions about school preparation, please contact the school office.

On the first day of school, Monday, August 21st, 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 24th 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 share how you may become more involved in our many fun school events. Also, please see the Nazareth School News for details about the Used Uniform Sales on August 24th beginning at 5pm.

Please welcome our new third grade teacher, Mrs. Victoria McGlinchey. She comes to us with 22 years of teaching experience and a devotion to the Catholic faith. Mrs. McGlinchey was most recently teaching third and fifth grade for the North Kansas City School district. The McGlinchey family moved to San Diego this month, when her husband was hired by the University of San Diego (USD) as their new Football Assistant Coach. We will be having

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a 3rd grade “Meet and Greet” on Saturday, August 19th at 2:30pm in the third-grade classroom. It will be a wonderful opportunity for parents and students to meet Mrs. McGlinchey, see their new classroom, and drop off supplies.

We are also happy to welcome our new Learning Support Director, Mrs. Niki Bobzien. She has a background in Elementary Education and reading intervention. Mrs. Bobzien is experienced in developing and managing small working groups for children focused on best practices and science-based research for reading, writing, and phonetics. We are excited to welcome both Mrs. McGlinchey and Mrs. Bobzien to the Nazareth family and please keep them in your prayers.

The PTG Board is looking for parents to help with our many Nazareth School functions. 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. In addition, we welcome all parents and family members to join us for our weekly all school Masses, in St. Frances Chapel, at 8:30am. Our first Mass will be led by the faculty on Friday, August 25th. We are looking forward to beginning the year

We are working hard this summer to ensure Nazareth School is ready for a great year full of learning, faith and fun. A significant part of preparation for the new school year has included participation in the San Diego County Office of Education Diamond Safety Team Training. The Diocese of San Diego and all Catholic elementary school are being prepared for emergency response, Threat Assessment and Management, plus Bullying Prevention and Intervention. The yearlong training is being conducted by SDUSD security experts, clinical and forensic psychologists, Homeland Security, FBI, and first responders. As we continue the process of improving our safety protocols, Nazareth School will continue to communicate with you these safety improvements.

COVID-19 Protocols: We highly recommend if you child has any of the following possible COVID-19 symptoms including fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and/or diarrhea, you please test your child for COVID-19. Parents, please notify the office if your child is ill or tests positive for COVID-19.

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 few days of summer! On Monday, August 21st, a new school year will begin and we are looking forward to seeing you then!

God Bless,

Mrs. René Coons
Principal

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