



The Royal Pride

January 2017

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Dear Mission Prep families and partners,

Sixty one years ago this month, John Kennedy's Pulitzer Prize winning book on leadership, Profiles in Courage, exalted the lives of eight American statesmen who in the course of the prior two centuries had exhibited the ultimate hallmark of leadership-selflessness. Two generations later we are still struggling with many of the same challenges. Often the obstacles we face, as individuals and as institutions, are not so much in the discernment of the proper path but in summoning the courage to walk the perilous journey. Kennedy's book does not chronicle eight happy endings. Nearly every one of those eight individuals made choices that ultimately came at the cost of their careers. They broke with party, with tradition, with popular sentiment, and even with family and peers to pursue the option that they believed correct for their country in the long term. I will leave greater minds than my own to further dissect those choices but judgment and courage are qualities whose value is equalled (and perhaps enhanced) by their relative rarity. The Mission College Prep commitment to the finest in Catholic education is a commitment to sending forth the ethical and courageous leaders of the next generation; women and men of Scholarship, Inspiration, and Leadership who will move the world. While a significant portion of the institutional costs are covered by tuition, the Annual Fund Drive remains one of the most impactful sources of additional revenue for the school. I cannot adequately express the gratitude and humility inspired by the sacrifices each member of this community makes to ensure that MCP can continue to offer this ministry to our community. Thank you for your generosity and please know how much we are inspired by your gifts.

As the second semester at MCP kicks off we pause at the end of this month to participate in Catholic Schools Week. This is a nationwide celebration of the ministry of Catholic education that has been celebrated for over forty years. MCP will be hosting events, masses, and assemblies throughout the week from January 30-Feb 3 leading up to the Winter Formal Dance on Saturday February 4th. Details for each event can be found on the handbook calendar but I want to draw special attention the mass planned for Tuesday, January 31. In addition to being our annual Grandparents' Day mass and celebration, Bishop Richard Garcia, D.D. of the Diocese of Monterey will be visiting the MCP campus, celebrating mass in the Old Mission church with our students, staff, and grandparents, and then remaining on campus to tour classrooms and enjoy the tremendous example of the ministry of Catholic education being witnessed every day by this community. Parents, please be sure to spread the word to grandparents and ask them to consider making plans to join us at mass that day. Please contact Mrs. Stephanie Buresh, our Director of Campus Ministry for further details.

Speaking of spreading the word, I am still encouraged by the opportunity for the growth that exists for MCP as we try to extend our reach in offering the finest high school experience in the entire county. Our families, students and parents together, remain the single most effective marketing agents we could ever engage. I would ask all of you to consider reaching out to a family that might be (or should be) contemplating an MCP education for their young student and offer your experience and that of your daughters and sons, in helping your neighbors make this choice. Please extend my personal invitation to these families for them to contact my office if they have any questions about how we can make an MCP education available to them. Campus tours and other student experiences are always available through our Director of Enrollment Management, Ms. Mary Cronin at extension 421. I am so privileged to be a part of MCP and the finest team of educators, parents, and students who make it the premier high school experience on the entire coast.

A special word of appreciation for the parents who were available for the first ever 'coffee with the MCP Principal' which took place back in December. It was such a pleasure to get to know parents just a little better and to hear about the successes and challenges you are facing in partnering with the school to raise these young women and men, and to the parent who left the comment card about the "Computer class for next year" I am pleased to announce that a new elective course of "AP Computer Science" is already in the works and will be an option for your students in this next Academic Year. Counselors will be leading the course registration process beginning this month. The next opportunity for 'coffee with the MCP principal' will be in the spring but please do not wait to contact me if there is any question, comment or concern.

Yours in Christ,

Michael Susank
Principal



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Office of Enrollment . . . Mary Cronin

Application season is well under way for Mission Prep as we prepare for the 2017/18 school year. Let your friends, family and neighbors know that now is the time to submit their application for MCP. Both freshman and transfer applications are available online at www.missionprep.org/admissions. If finances are an issue, Mission Prep continues to offer a robust Tuition Assistance program for families with financial needs and this year, we will be introducing merit-based assistance for outstanding students from our partner schools. Interviews will officially begin in January and I hope to have all applications and interviews complete by the end of February so families will be ready for early online registration in March. If there are any questions about our application process, Tuition Assistance, arranging a shadow visit or general MCP questions, I am available in our Enrollment office.

From the Office of Campus Ministry . . . Stephanie Buresh & Gina Pierucci

Happy New Year everyone! May 2017 be a year blessed with the richness of faith, hope, and charity. We are hopeful that your Christmas holidays were memorable and your families had a restful break.

We are not quite finished with Christmas, however! The end of the liturgical celebration of the Christmas season officially ends with the Baptism of the Lord on Sunday, January 8th—which just so happens to also be the celebration of the Feast of the Epiphany this year as well.

For most of us the upcoming new year is a time for reflection in areas of our lives in which we would like to make changes: mostly improvements to our everyday lives. What about our spiritual lives? What “resolutions” would we hope to make for a deeper and richer spiritual life? We hope to be more intentional in these areas this year in our lives and encourage you to join us. We will continue to keep your intentions and resolutions in our prayers throughout 2017.

UPCOMING EVENTS - CAMPUS MINISTRY

Weekly Mass on Thursdays at the start of lunch in the school chapel. All faculty/staff/students are invited to join.

Weekly Recitation of the Rosary on Fridays at the start of lunch in the school chapel. All faculty/staff/students are invited to join.

First Friday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament- All are welcome to join at the Mission

Saturday, January 14th – People’s Kitchen (Sophomores providing and serving this month)

Below are the sophomores who are scheduled to serve:

If a student is not able to attend, they must find a replacement. There have been a few months where not many servers have shown up. Please have a conversation with your student if they are on the list below. Thank you!

Julia Carney	Grace Cegelski	Amy Morris	Elizabeth Najera-Flores
Olivia Ray	Jared Salas	Chris Smith	Connor Torell

Tuesday 1/17 (and Wed 1/18) Sophomore Retreat

Our full-day optional sophomore retreat this year is designed as an impact project for justice education. The centerpiece will include a day of service to our brothers and sisters in need in San Francisco at St. Anthony’s Dining Room. We have entitled our retreat: Being the Eyes, Ears, and Hands of Christ. This is a retreat experience in which other Catholic high schools participate and our campus ministry staff have supervised in the past.

Students spend the day putting the gospel values into action by serving the homeless. The program is both educational and hands-on. We will have an introductory talk from a person from St. Anthony’s before our service begins, as well as a visit to St. Boniface Church for a prayer before lunch. Students learn about the demographics of the marginalized in our society and then head off to serve those in need. Students will break off into MCP chaperoned groups to attend to the elderly that live in the Tenderloin by interacting with them at a senior center, and many serve right at St. Anthony’s Dining Room preparing plates for the guests. All students join the St. Anthony’s community for lunch and then hear from one of the clients that are in the rehabilitation program. This witnessing of a life caught in the turmoil of addiction is a poignant reminder to the teens on why one should make healthy choices. A visit to the beautiful St. Boniface Church and a reflection and journaling back on campus allows for a deeper retrospective of the day. This is a full day of deeply personal, reflective, and moving experiences. We will have a gathering before

the retreat to orient our retreatants and afterwards for reflection and sharing of experiences.

We are excited for those students who have signed up to attend this special opportunity. If your student decided not to attend, we hope to see them at the next retreat.

Thursday, January 19th - Gospel Assembly

Lois Gall, Advancement Associate, will proclaim the gospel this month and give a short, personal reflection on the reading. We will also celebrate some of our students' accomplishments.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

This year we celebrate our schools during the last days of January and first of February.

Sunday, Jan 29: Kick off to the week: Drama Dept production of Sarah Hart's Bernadette of Lourdes open to the public

Monday, Jan 30: School Rally; Bernadette of Lourdes presentation for Catholic grammar schools

Tuesday, Jan 31: Grandparents Day Mass with Bishop Richard Garcia

Wednesday, Feb 1: Frosh classes see Bernadette of Lourdes

Thursday, Feb 2: National speaker DOMINICK ALBANO speaks at MCP school assembly on the topic of character

NATIVITY SCENE THANKS

Once again, our MCP community thanks parent Iva Svitek for our inspirational Nativity scenes that graced both our Mosaic lobby and chapel for all of the Christmas season. We are so grateful.

Mission College Prep Drama Club Presents

BERNADETTE of LOURDES

*A new musical by Sarah Hart
and Brian Hull based on the true
story of Bernadette Soubirous*

Friday & Saturday
JANUARY 27TH | 28TH
7:00pm

Sunday
JANUARY 29TH
2:00pm

Tickets Sold at the Door \$5
Mission College Prep | Performing Arts Center | 682 Palm Street



From the Office of Academics . . . Noha Kolkailah and Ken Mendonca

2017 Advanced Placement (AP) Course Exam

NOTE: All Students taking AP courses are expected to take the AP exams. Exam fees are to be paid by Monday, March 6, 2017. There will be a \$7 late charge for each exam for payments received after March 6, 2017. Dates and times for specific AP exams may be found in the school calendar section of the Mission College Prep Parent and Student Handbook 2016-2017 and also in the calendar section of the Mission College Prep website.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE SCHOOL CALENDAR 2017-2018

Most of the important dates for next year have been set. Additionally teacher training days resulting in school being closed for students will be added when they are determined later in the Spring. We hope that these dates will help you in planning for travel as to minimize the need for students to miss instructional days. Thank you.

Mission College Prep School Calendar 2017-2018

OFFICIAL SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Sept 4 – Monday – Labor Day Holiday No School
 Nov 10 – Friday – Veterans Day Holiday Celebrated
 Nov 22, 23, 24 – Wednesday – No School, Thursday – Thanksgiving Day, Friday – No School
 Dec 21 – (Thursday) through January 5 (Friday) - Christmas Break
 Jan 15 – Monday – MLK Holiday
 Feb 19 – Monday – No School – Presidents Day Holiday
 March 29 – Holy Thursday – No School
 March 30 – Good Friday – No School
 April 2 – (Monday) through April 6 (Friday) – Easter Break
 May 28, Monday – No School – Memorial Day Holiday

Fall Semester -- Aug 11, 2017 to Dec 20, 2017

Aug 8, 9 10 – Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday – Teacher Workdays
 Aug 11 – Friday – Freshman and New Student Orientation
 Aug 14 – Monday – All students return
 Aug 15 – Tuesday – Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Holy Day Mass
 Aug 16 – Wednesday – School Pictures – Formal Dress for all Students and Staff (7 period Day)
 Aug 21 – Monday through Aug 24, Thursday -- KAIROS Senior Retreat
 Aug 25 – Friday – No School for Students and Staff
 Aug 29 – Tuesday – Back to School Night
 Sept 4 – Monday – Labor Day Holiday No School
 Nov 1 – Wednesday – All Saints Day – Holy Day Mass
 Nov 10 – Friday – Veterans Day Holiday
 Nov 22 – Wednesday – No School
 Nov 23 – Thursday – Thanksgiving Day
 Nov 24 – Friday – No School
 Dec 8 – Friday – Feast of the Immaculate Conception – Holy Day Mass
 Dec 21 – (Thursday) through January 5 (Friday) - Christmas Break for Students
 Dec 21 – (Thursday) through January 3 (Wednesday) - Christmas Break for Faculty and Staff
 School Closure for Professional Development Days are yet to be determined.

Spring Semester -- January 8, 2018 to June 1, 2018

Jan 4 and 5 – Thursday and Friday – Teacher Work Days
 Jan 8 – Monday – Spring Semester Begins for Students
 Jan 15 – Monday – No School – MLK Holiday
 Feb 14 – Wednesday – Ash Wednesday – Mass
 Feb 19 – Monday – No School – Presidents Day Holiday

March 29 – Holy Thursday – No School
 March 30 – Good Friday – No School
 April 2 – (Monday) through April 6 (Friday) – Easter Break
 May 28, Monday – No School – Memorial Day Holiday
 June 1 – Friday – Graduation at Mission Plaza at 6:30 pm
 June 4 – Monday – Teacher Workday
 School Closure for Professional Development Days are yet to be determined.

FALL SEMESTER REPORT CARDS

The Fall Semester Report Cards will be e-mailed on Friday, January 6th. The final semester grade is what will be seen by colleges on your son's or daughter's transcript. Report Cards will be e-mailed at substantial time and postal money savings to the school. Please keep us updated with your current e-mail address by advising the Attendance office of any changes. You can email your new e-mail address to Lori Wooldridge at lwooldridge@missionprep.org.

From the Office of Guidance and College Counseling . . . Mr. Vegher, Ms. Housinger, Ms. Ocegüera, & Mr. Ferriera

Seniors

To Do List:

- Continue checking emails and portals
- Notify each college if you change your reported senior year courses
- Scholarship opportunities are posted in Mrs. Hamm's room and with the counselors
- FAFSA and CSS Profile- please file the appropriate financial aid forms for your colleges
- Plan college visits before May 1st
- Compare cost of attendance at different schools

Juniors

Junior parents should plan to attend the "Kick It Off" College Planning Workshop. This will be held Tuesday January 10th at 6:30pm in the MCP Café. At that time, we will go over the timelines, PSAT results, and pertinent tasks that your student can be doing now in order to be best prepared for their college application process next fall.

Sophomores

Sophomores and their parents should plan to attend the 10th Grade "Jump Start" College Planning Workshop on Monday February 13th at 6:30pm in the MCP Café. At this time the results of the PSAT will be distributed and explained.

Academics

The counselors will be meeting individually with each student to review the following; academic progress, course selections, and post high school plans.

SAT Dates

1. January 21, 2017
2. March 11, 2017
3. June 3, 2017

ACT Dates

1. February 11, 2017
2. April 8, 2017
3. June 10, 2017



PARENTS ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

Join us for our next
Parents Association Meeting with Student Council
Monday, January 23rd, 8:30 am
in the Café Royale

All parents are encouraged to attend this meeting between the Parents Association and the Student Council. This is a great opportunity for some face-time with students as we assist them in the planning of second semester activities. Coffee and refreshments are provided. Birthday gifts given to all parents with January birthdays.

SECOND SEMESTER PARENTS ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

Mark your calendars and please plan to join us for the second semester Parent Association meetings.

Jan	23	Mon	8:30am	Parents Assn Meeting w/Student Council
Feb	10	Fri	7:30am	Parents Assn Meeting
Mar	9	Thurs	8:00am	Parents Assn Meeting with Faculty/Staff
Apr	7	Fri	7:30am	Parents Assn Meeting
May	12	Fri	7:30am	Parents Assn Meeting

PARENT SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Greetings MCP Parents! Check out this section to see how you can get involved in your child's school. There are still plenty of new and ongoing activities that could use your help. To sign up click on the activity links below, or contact the Parents Association Leaders (PAL) listed.

Many Hands Make Light Work!

Jan 10 Staff Welcome Back Breakfast, hosted by Sophomores

Sophomore parents are hosting a welcome back breakfast for our staff. Refreshments and school supplies are needed. Please sign up at [Jan 10 Staff Welcome Back Breakfast](#) For questions, contact PAL Wendy Ferdinandi at 888-7558 or wendyferd@me.com

Jan Staff Appreciation

Hosted by Sophomore Class. Contact PALs Wendy Ferdinandi at 888-7558 or wendyferd@me.com

Jan 17-18 Sophomore Overnight Retreat

To donate items or help, contact PALs Robin Daou at 975-6061 or rdaou63@outlook.com

Jan 23 PA Meeting (8:30a)

Because our Parents Assn. meetings are working meetings, attendance may be counted as parent service hours.

Jan-Feb Basketball Season Concessions

Volunteer to work in the gym concession stand during home basketball games. Sign up at [2016-17 Basketball Concessions](#). Volunteers may contact PAL Chantel Stanberry at 540-1916 or cham6713@gmail.com.

Jan-Feb Soccer Admission Gate

Work admission gate for home soccer games. Click on link to sign up [2016-17 Soccer Admission Gate](#). For questions contact PAL Scott Beavers at harveyplumbing@sbcglobal.net, or 610-4705

Jan-Feb Basketball Admission Gate

Work admission gate for home basketball games. Click on link to sign up [2016-17 Basketball Admission Gate](#) . For questions contact PAL Scott Beavers at harveyplumbing@sbcglobal.net, or 610-4705

Jan-May Transport Freshmen students to Food Bank

A driver/chaperone is needed each Wednesday of the school year, 7:45-10:25am, to transport 3-4 freshman students to help at the Food Bank. Please sign up by clicking on [Freshman Transportation to Food Bank](#). The sign up document also lists which freshmen students are assigned each Wednesday. It is not necessary to be a freshman parent to drive, but drivers must have completed Driver Clearance.

Anytime Volunteer Clearance -- Shield the Vulnerable

You may receive 1 parent service hour for completing the Shield the Vulnerable online training needed for volunteer clearance. All parents are encouraged to get cleared to volunteer. To complete **Shield the Vulnerable** go to <http://www.shieldthevulnerable.org> . Select: Catholic Dioceses, >Monterey Diocese, >Volunteer. **Please Remember:** You must be cleared to volunteer as well as completed the driving clearance before you can volunteer as a driver.

All **sign-up sheets** can also be accessed from the Parents Association webpage on the MCP website. or click on this link. [Parent Volunteer Sign-ups](#)

To volunteer for any activity where students may be present, you must have completed your volunteer clearance. You can sign up to supply requested items without volunteer clearance.

CONNECT WITH COORDINATORS TO GET INVOLVED

Our vision is for every parent to be involved with at least one Parents Association Committee. By spreading the work among us, we can get a lot accomplished for our students without overloading individual parents. If you are not already working on a committee, please call a Parents Assn. Leader to offer your help (found on pages I2-I6 in the Directory.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS**Submit Hours**

As you do parent service hours, remember to complete a form, and turn into the MCP Business Office via email, FAX or drop off. Service hour forms may be found on the MCP website. Click on Parent, then Service Hour Forms. Or they may be picked up at the Business Office or the Parents Assn. Meetings. Once completed, please turn them into Gwenn Krossa in the Business Office.

Family School Partnership

"Acceptance of a student to Mission College Prep means that the family of the student is also accepted into the school. By partnering in the fulfillment of the mission together, we can enact a greater sense of community while at the same time enhancing the success of our students." (MCP Handbook, p. I3) Many forms of this partnership even earn you parent service hours. Refer to the Parent Service Opportunities section of the Royal Pride or the monthly Parent Service Opportunities email.

Dishes

Remember to put your name on your dishes before you bring them to school. It makes them easy to return. If you are missing a dish, please check the Parents Assn. pantry in the Café Royale and the Royal Keep (faculty lounge). Thank you to all who have donated food for various events.

Target School Program

If you have a Target card, please be sure you designate MCP for the school program. Call 1(800) 316-6142 to quickly sign up. MCP will then automatically receive 1% of your charges. You never have to do anything else. How easy. If you have questions or need help signing up, contact Gwenn Krossa in the Business Office at gkrossa@missionprep.org or 543-2131 x 402.

Sign up for eScrip to help MCP

While it is no longer a requirement, you can still help MCP substantially by participating in the eScrip program. It's easy to do. You only have to sign up once. Simply go to www.escrip.com to sign up. You will enter your credit, debit and/or reward cards, and can view the list of participating merchants. A percentage of your purchases will be automatically donated to MCP. It's a great way to help the school without costing you anything extra. If you have questions or need help signing up, contact Gwenn Krossa in the Business Office at gkrossa@missionprep.org or 543-2131 x 402.

Volunteer Clearance

Just a reminder that all volunteers who are in contact with MCP students must have their paperwork on file in the MCP office. We encourage all parents to be cleared. To be cleared as a volunteer you need to complete the following only once:

1. Shield the Vulnerable (online training: <http://www.shieldthevulnerable.org> . Select: Catholic Dioceses, >Monterey Diocese, >Volunteer) *You may receive 1 parent service hour for completing the online Shield the Vulnerable course.*
2. LiveScan Fingerprinting (get LiveScan form from Lori Wooldridge in MCP office, and a list of LiveScan locations)

Thank you for your continual support of MCP and the safety of our children!

Driver Clearance

To be cleared as a volunteer driver, you also must complete the following (in addition to the above Volunteer Clearance requirements):

1. Copy of Current, Unrestricted CA Driver's License - Update as needed
2. Driver Information Form (Print, complete & sign) - Each academic year
3. Waiver & Release Form (Print, complete & sign) - Each academic year
4. Defensive Driver Training Video (Watch & print certificate) – Once while at MCP

Completed forms/certificates should be brought to Lori Wooldridge in the MCP office. Questions may also be directed to Lori at ext. 200.

Thank you for your continual support of MCP and the safety of our children!

All Parents Are Invited to Stop by the MCP Chapel to Pray

Where: MCP Chapel (located next to the Campus Ministry Office)

When: Anytime during school hours

Purpose: Pray for our MCP School Community

Let us take time from our busy schedules for this gift of prayer. Once a semester, once a month, once a week, whatever you can is appreciated. When you come to pray we invite you to sign and date the small book on the table near the chapel entrance. Bless You.

Jan 31, Grandparents Day Mass

Grandparents are invited to attend Mass starting at 9:30 a.m. Any questions, contact PAL Jim Miller at 441-7025 or jrm2@pge.com.

People's Kitchen, January 14

Sophomores bring food by 11 am; Sophomores are serving. PALs: Brooke Schumacher 305-1815 or bschumachermd@yahoo.com.

Upcoming Royal Pride Submissions

Do you have events for December that you would like to include in the next issue of the Royal Pride? Please submit event information, requests for help, or appreciation notes to Melissa Carney at mlcarney@charter.net or (805) 995-3010 by **January 15th**.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

Thank You!

Royal Spirit Award December

*With much thanks and even more appreciation than anyone can imagine,
the Royal Spirit Award was given to*

Laura Sherlock

for her never-ending fervor, spirit and generosity.

Laura has been so involved over the years, giving the gift of her time and beautiful spirit - -

She is an example for others to follow; her achievements are goals for others to meet.

As Roxanna Mays said "We have never seen anyone do it the way you do!"

Thank you, Laura!

Holiday Season Activities

*Thank you to all our parent volunteers
for all of the support throughout the busy holiday season.*

Special thanks go out to you and especially to our tireless volunteer teams led by

Megan Selby

Christmas Morning Feast

Jim Miller

Immaculate Conception Mass, and all our Masses

Annie McKiernan and Wendy Ferdinandi

Christmas Staff Luncheon

Sue Ricigliano

Christmas Classic Hospitality Suite

Vivian Longacre and Linda Bishop

Christmas Classic Kitchen

Chantel Stanberry

Christmas Classic Concessions

Scott Beavers

Christmas Classic Admissions

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NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

Mission College Preparatory Catholic High School in the Diocese of Monterey, mindful of its primary mission to be a witness to the love of Christ for all, admits students of any race, color, national origin, age, sex, marital status, or disability to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to the students at the school. Mission College Prep does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and/or ethnic origin, age or gender in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic or other school-administered programs. While Mission College Prep does not discriminate against students with special needs, a full range of services may not be available. Likewise, Mission College Prep does not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment on the basis of gender, age, disability, race, color, and national and/or ethnic origin. Mission College Prep reserves the right to be the sole judge of merit competence and qualifications, and can favor Catholic applicants and co-workers in all employment decisions, especially in those positions that have direct bearing upon the pastoral activity of the Church.