



## ST. MARTIN OF TOURS ACADEMY

### CELEBRATING 60 YEARS!

#### ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2011

#### Celebrate With Us!

All SMA Alums are Invited



#### Save the Dates!

##### • Saturday, September 17, 2011

Picnic from 11am– 3pm

(Father Sproul Memorial Track and Field)

##### • Sunday, September 18, 2011

♦ SMA 60th Anniversary Mass

9am (Parish Church)

♦ School Open House & Tours

10am-noon

There will be a brunch, following the 9am Mass, for the Classes of 1952, (first graduating class), and 1961, (50th anniversary). Invitations will be sent to members of those classes.

#### From the Principal:

*As I am completing my fourth year as principal at SMA, I remain ever so grateful that I am on the staff of such an outstanding school. I have always realized the advantage for students because of a challenging curriculum, excellent teachers, an emphasis on Christian teaching and values, and a system of education which ties everything together in a unique way.*



*We stand apart from other Catholic elementary schools in that we are a Workshop Way® school, the title of a system of human growth for education which is designed to emphasize both life skills and academics. Our students thrive with this approach which challenges them academically while also emphasizing responsibility, confidence, and a love of learning.*

*I remember when this system was introduced here in 1991. For many years I had been teaching according to traditional methodology. After learning and teaching Workshop Way® I knew that I could never go back. I could see how this integrated and highly organized system made so much sense. The prescribed teaching strategies were effective in reaching all students.*

*With the Workshop Way® system we continue to accomplish great things with our students. We are proud of what the school has become. Our students are well grounded in academics, morals, and in skills which they need throughout their lives. We are making a difference thanks, in part, to a highly qualified and dedicated staff.*

*You are always welcome at the Academy. We want you to know that our alums are very special to all of us. We hope that you will visit us, especially during this year of our 60th Anniversary.*

*Toni Dimuzio, Principal*

#### Contact Information:

##### All Classes:

Kathy (Simanello) Connors  
(Alum Coordinator)  
619.593.2580  
cconnkconn@aol.com

##### Class of 1961:

Marie (Ashby) Nunley  
619.733.5029  
mnunley876@gmail.com

##### Class of 1952

Kathleen Cunningham Veinbergs  
kathleenveinbergs@hotmail.com



School Website  
[stmartinacademy.org](http://stmartinacademy.org)

#### Remembering the Beginning

It was in September 1951 when SMA opened its doors for the first time. The School Sisters of Notre Dame staffed the school and Father Dennis Barry was pastor. The academy started with Grades K-8. The sisters taught all grades and a lay teacher, Mrs. Cathy Sable, opened the kindergarten. (She is still an active member of the parish.) A preschool for children ages 3-5 was opened in 1993. Today we have a third generation of children attending the school. We see a number of alums at "Grandparents' Day" each year!

#### St. Martin of Tours Celebrating 90 Years 11/11/11!

Yes, the anniversary of the founding of our parish is the Feast of St. Martin of Tours, November 11, which is also Veteran's Day. There will be a special liturgy and celebrations that weekend, including a dinner on Friday the 11th in the parish hall. We would love to have alums participate. Tickets for the dinner will go on sale in September.

Please check the parish website for additional information.  
[stmartinoftoursparish.org](http://stmartinoftoursparish.org)



#### Barry Hall Remodeled

The hall, which was the original parish church, has been recently renovated and now more closely resembles the way it looked in the early days. The stained glass window and original communion rail have been refurbished, the choir loft restored, and original beams uncovered. We hope that you will come by to see Barry Hall and also the graduation pictures for every class, 1952-2010, which are newly framed and displayed in the hallway that connects the two parish halls.



## Providing for Students a Lifetime Advantage: A System of Education that sets SMA apart

ST. MARTIN OF TOURS ACADEMY has successfully implemented a system of human growth for education, titled WORKSHOP WAY®, since 1991. A major goal of the system is to create a sense of dignity, intelligence, confidence and the power of management in all students. It is a way to teach, a way to learn, and a way to live.

WORKSHOP WAY® is a unified and comprehensive system of instruction designed to meet the educational and developmental needs of all students. The prescribed Diocesan and California State Curriculum Standards are addressed and delivered in such a way that the human growth of each child is nourished in the learning process. The school's philosophy and goals are fully integrated in the instructional techniques and strategies and in all teacher-student interactions. There is a clear purpose and structure to all classroom activities. Nothing is left to chance. Challenge, motivation for lifetime learning, and differentiated instructional methods are built into the system so as to meet the needs of both high and low academic achieving students.

## Helping Families Afford a Catholic School Education

Catholic elementary schools continue to operate significantly below the cost per child of public or private schools. This is due, in part, to the fact that the teacher salaries are not comparable with those in the public sector. Nevertheless, the operating costs rise each year and so tuition must increase. Each year the need to help families with the cost of tuition also increases.

Especially given the current economic conditions, the cost of a Catholic School education is a problem for many families who would otherwise want to enroll their children at St. Martin of Tours Academy. If there is a proven financial need, we provide families with a subsidy to partially cover the total tuition amount which is based on the cost per child at \$4,908.

The amount needed for tuition assistance for the next 2011-2012 school year is \$74,000. Raising the money for tuition subsidy grants is an ongoing endeavor. Sponsoring a child is a wonderful way to help. Donations, in any amount, to the tuition assistance fund are appreciated. If interested in making a donation, please contact the school office. (619.466.3241)



### Memorial, Commemorative, Tribute Bricks

Personalized bricks are an opportunity to secure a lasting place in SMA history. Within the last seven years four decorative walls of inscribed bricks have been constructed at the Peace Garden which is located behind the rectory and overlooking the sports field. There currently are bricks for some SMA classes, alums, staff, longtime bingo workers, volunteers, former pastors, families connected with the school and/or parish, parents of alums who have died. Bricks are still being placed on the most recent wall and so are available as follows: 4"x8" - (3 line inscription) - donation: \$100.00, 8"x8" (6 line inscription)- donation: \$175.00. (20 characters per line, including spaces and punctuation.) The donations pay for the inscription and help to offset the costs of constructing the walls. When on campus or at Mass, be sure to check out the bricks. You will recognize many of the names and classes. Orders forms are available on the school website: [smartinacademy.org/alumni](http://smartinacademy.org/alumni). For more information call the school office@ 619.466.3241.



### Resurfaced Track New Lunch Area

This year a new lunch area was created, near the day care building, for the junior high students. Moving their lunch area allowed us to expand the existing track and install a rubberized surface. Track is now a regular part of the P.E.. curriculum. In addition, students are invited to a morning "Fun Run" before school begins.



*There is a form on the website to register alum names, addresses, etc. We use the lists only for reunions and newsletters. We do not use the information for solicitations of any kind. We need your assistance! Please send us your updated information, including e-mail addresses.*