

*Mission Dolores Catholic School*  
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San Francisco, CA 94114  
www.missiondoloresschool.org

November 2010

Dear Friend of Mission Dolores School:

At this time of year we are especially mindful of all the blessings we enjoy. Mission Dolores School has certainly been blessed with the support of many generous people who share our commitment to providing quality Catholic education. Since fall 2003 we have reached out to parishioners, alumni, and friends for support. Every year we are grateful for the number of generous people who have donated to our Fall Challenge Drive. In past years we have received helpful contributions that have totaled as much as \$30,000. Therefore, this year we are again reaching out to our supporters asking for you to partner with us to achieve this year's goal of \$30,000.

Keeping tuition affordable for our families becomes more difficult each year. Currently 67% of our students receive substantial financial assistance. Each year we see more middle-income families requesting tuition assistance. We face the risk of becoming private schools whose tuition costs make it impossible for the middle-income family to even consider. In today's economy, my working class parents could not have afforded to send four children through Catholic schools.

Despite not having the financial resources to expand programs, we are blessed with highly qualified and dedicated staff members who use the resources available to help students expand their world. We have been able to add to our curriculum due to the dedication of our teachers and staff who give of their time and talents. Individual teachers have willingly taken on additional planning in order to provide foreign language classes. They have researched and taken advantage of the vast community resources that the San Francisco Bay Area has to offer. Through the generosity of CYO and the initiative of our Grade Six teacher, our sixth grade class spends a week at CYO's Camp Armstrong participating in their outdoor education program. The Good Tiding Foundation provides our middle school students a studio art class once a month. The San Francisco Opera Guild offers educational programs that teach our students about music and drama. This year our third, fourth and fifth grade students will again participate in a special music program offered by the San Francisco Symphony. All these programs enrich our already strong academic program. Knowing that we could not afford the cost of these amazing enrichment opportunities, teachers and parents sought out the foundations and organizations that could help us. Furthermore, the BASIC Fund, the Guardsmen, Making Waves and a few private foundations continue to provide scholarships for many of our families.

We are committed to maintaining the vision of the founders of American Catholic schools, and that is to provide a Catholic education for any family who wants it for their children no matter what their income level may be. Please help us keep this vision alive.

Mission Dolores has been educating children in San Francisco for over 150 years. Your support will help continue our tradition of educating tomorrow's leaders. If you unable to help with a monetary donation at this time we hope you will keep Mission Dolores School in mind for the future. I thank you for your consideration and wish you a very joyful holiday season.

Sincerely,

Andreina Gualco, NDE'65/ NDHS'69  
Principal

