



The Atonement Academy
CATHOLIC + CLASSICAL

September 24, 2020

Dear Upper School Families,

On Wednesday, October 14th, freshmen, sophomores, and juniors will be taking the PSAT (preliminary SAT). This is an important test for all students, allowing underclassmen to practice for the SAT, to gauge their preparedness for that test, identify growth opportunities, and make a plan for growth. Therefore, we would like to have all remote students present for the PSAT test. *For juniors, this test is of paramount importance, as it determines qualification for the National Merit Scholar Program; students qualifying for this program are eligible for some of the most prestigious scholarship awards in the nation.* Scoring well on the PSAT also attracts the attention of colleges and universities, who seek out well-performing students. Finally, many companies and corporations offer scholarships and grants based on PSAT results. For all of these reasons, performing well on the PSAT is of great benefit to students and parents who are looking to prepare the way for an affordable college education.

To assist students in preparing for this test, the Academy will distribute to each student a ***Study Guide and Practice Question Booklet***. This booklet introduces students to the four part test, its primary subject areas, format, and content. Additionally, students will complete two of the four practice tests in classes. This provides them practice with the types of questions they will encounter on the PSAT. We encourage students to make time to prepare for this test at home as well; parents can support these efforts at home by reading the test preparation booklet and helping their student(s) to identify the best ways to prepare for the test.

Online resources for PSAT preparation can be found at The Study Guide Zone <http://www.studyguidezone.com> and The College Board <http://sat.collegeboard.org>. For more information, please visit <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10>

On PSAT Day, students will be testing from 7:45 AM until noon. After a short break, they will have lunch at the regular time, followed by the celebration of daily Mass at 12:50. Afternoon classes will resume at about 1:30 PM.

Please help your students to perform well by encouraging them to get a good night's sleep and eat a hearty breakfast.

Thank you for your help in supporting student success on the PSAT!

Sister Mary Margaret,
Director of Testing
The Atonement Academy