



St. Monica Covenant



*A dynamic
scriptural
expression
which
interprets the
sacredness of
relationships*

Covenants convey the relationship between God and God's people. Scripture reveals numerous accounts of God taking the initiative, calling and forming a people and establishing a covenant as the principle of unity.

All covenants act in love. God calls forth a people out of love, and the people respond to that special calling through a life of worship, fidelity and love.

A covenant such as this invites our Family, School, and Parish communities to “**be-as-one**” in meeting the spiritual, intellectual, emotional and physical needs of our children. Responsibilities are spelled-out so that everyone has a clear understanding of expectations upon which trust is secured.

This document, therefore, is designed to educate, renew and strengthen the already unwritten covenant between our Family, School, and Parish communities; united in the love of Christ and sharing a hope-filled vision of God's kingdom on earth, where:

- ✠ **Parents communicate God's love and presence among us through their role as the primary educators of their children.**
- ✠ **The School community uniquely enacts the Church's educational mission.**
- ✠ **The Parish gathers as the Body of Christ to offer worship and praise to God through Jesus in celebration of Word and Sacrament.**

With these callings from God before us, this covenant is designed to bring us closer together in our identity, purpose, and mission within the larger membership of God's faithful people.

Family

As Parents we will communicate God's love and presence among us as the primary educators of our children through:

- ✠ **fulfilling** the responsibility we accepted at the baptism of our child, to train him/her in the practice of the faith. We recognize that it is our duty to bring him/her up to keep God's commandments as Christ taught us, by loving God and our neighbor.
- ✠ **participating** as a family in what the Church teaches to be the necessary minimum of prayer and moral effort to grow in love of God and neighbor (i.e., attending Mass every Sunday and Holy Day of Obligation; confessing our sins at least once a year; receiving the sacrament of the Eucharist at least during the Easter season; observing the days of fasting and abstinence; providing for the needs of the parish and wider Church).
- ✠ **creating** a nurturing home environment for positive growth, study and family prayer.
- ✠ **cooperating** and **communicating** with our Pastor, Principal, Faculty and Staff.

School

As a School community, we are called to be a unique expression of the Church's educational mission, through:

- ✠ **preserving and transmitting** the faith and tradition of Catholic Christianity through religious education with an integrated curriculum rooted in Gospel values, including opportunities for witness and service.
- ✠ **creating** a supportive and challenging climate which affirms the dignity of all persons within the school.
- ✠ **working** cooperatively with the parish in the formation of a true Catholic identity.
- ✠ **supporting** parish formation and education programs.
- ✠ **supporting** parents in their role as primary educators through parent education programs and ongoing communication.
- ✠ **maintaining** a program of educational excellence utilizing a professionally trained staff and competent leadership.
- ✠ **fostering** healthy and interactive parent-teacher relationships.

Parish


Gathered as God's Holy People, we will renew our call to celebrate Jesus' New Covenant in Word and Sacrament through:

- ✠ **uniting** the entire community of faith to the death and resurrection of Jesus through prayer and worship.
- ✠ **fostering** a communal commitment to grow in a life of Christ.
- ✠ **welcoming** families into an active role of parish life.
- ✠ **guiding** the school community in the life-long catechetical mission of the Church.
- ✠ **supporting** parents in their role as the primary educators of their children;
- ✠ **awakening** in the community the Gospel call to service and justice;
- ✠ **supporting** our parish families and school with the gift of time, talent, and treasure.

United in this covenant, we rely on God's many graces to help us strengthen the place of family, parish, and school in the larger community. Together, we can meet the physical, spiritual, intellectual and emotional needs of our children.

Family Members _____ Date _____

Principal _____ Date _____


Pastor _____ Date May 31, 2010

Covenant Prayer

God calls us as family, parish and school to be a holy people, united in love,
steadfast and faithful to the promises
we keep in this covenant.

Together, we pray:

Blessed be God who created and called us out of darkness into light to be a
people uniquely God's own.

Blessed be Jesus, a model of prayer, love and faithfulness
to God's call, who gathers us to himself binding us
with cords of love.

Blessed be the Holy Spirit, giver of life, through whom
our lives as God's people are animated,
guided and sanctified.

Hear us as we pray and renew our promises of
faithfulness in keeping this covenant:

As family Lord, bind us in peace and love for each other. Guide us in making our home
a place of learning, growth, hospitality, and comfort. Allow your presence to come
alive in our hearts making our family a sign of Christ's love.

Lord God, you have honored us with the dignity of being called a parish. Continue to
gather us in unity and protect us from harm. May our parish family be filled with the
sacraments of your new everlasting covenant. Give us the strength which comes from
your gospel so we can witness Christ to others.

Make our school, Lord, a center of prayer and learning focused on searching for
wisdom which is your own. Let your Spirit form our students and teachers into
disciples of your kingdom. Open our hearts to hear the questions you are asking and to
welcome all with your trust and truth.

Lord, we thank you for the gift of your calling. Help us live our promises as family,
parish and school. Continue to renew us bringing clarity to our mission enabling us to
accomplish what is right and good.

Amen.