

# Statements from our 2010 Confirmation Class

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*Please take the time to read these inspiring statements from two members of this year's Confirmation class.*

## AIMEE PATTERSON

WHEN IT COMES TO DECIDING how I want to live my life, I think about the most important lessons and values that I have learned from my parents. These lessons have helped me through the last sixteen years and will hopefully help me in the future.

My dad would like me to live my life trying new things and not putting off for tomorrow the memory I can make today. I have learned this lesson from watching my dad as he plans all kinds of trips and activities for our family. If he had always waited to plan vacations until it was the ideal time, my family and I would not have experienced some of the amazing things we have done. From my dad I have also learned to always take a chance and try new things even if I don't succeed at them. One of my dad's favorite quotes is "You miss 100% of the shots you never take." This quote has helped me in all aspects of my life, especially sports. Whether it was risking taking a shot in soccer from far out or trying out for the badminton team, if I had never tried these things, I never would have had the chance to succeed. He also taught me to always set high goals and not be afraid to fail and to maximize my potential. With both of these lessons in mind, I have been successful in school, sports and meeting many of my goals. I have also learned from my dad that "winners are made, not born." This lesson has taught me that no matter what, if I set my mind to something, I can achieve it. Lastly, my dad has taught me to be trustworthy and to never lie, that people can never take away your integrity.

My mom would like me to live my life knowing that things happen for a reason and to take the time to find that reason. She has also taught me to always take care of my family. At the end of the day when everyone else is gone, my family will always be there for me. My mom has also taught me time heals all wounds and to remember the words, "This too shall pass." These lessons have helped me get through hard times in my life and will help me through those in the future. Another important lesson my mom has taught me is to be someone else's "angel" on earth. This means taking the time to give to others, to hold a door for someone or to simply be nice and ask how someone else's day went. Sometimes it is the little things we do that make the biggest difference. Lastly, and one of the most important lessons I was taught, is that all things are hard before they are easy and all things are new before they are old. This lesson helped me get through my first day of kindergarten, the first time going to overnight camp and it will help me when I go away to college.

The combination of these lessons, and many others I have learned, have shaped the way I live my life. They have had an impact on my life on a regular basis. I choose to be trustworthy and kind, to take the time to help others, whether it is a big task or small and to be humble about doing nice things for others. I try to always do my best and set high goals in all aspects of my life. I cherish and appreciate the relationships I have with my family and friends. I choose to try new things and not be afraid of failing at them. I try to set a good example for others to follow and I choose to stand up for what I know to be right. In my sports I play to win, but I also try to be a good loser. I try to live my life being happy with what I have because there will always be someone with more and someone with less. I choose to live my life taking responsibility for my actions and mistakes. I choose to live my life by filling it with as many memories as I can. Whether they are good or bad memories and experiences, they shape who I am. Many of the great memories I have will stay with me forever.

(see other side)

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*(continued)*

## THAUMATURGY BY ANINE SUS

How could I be so  
Blessed by a life without  
Struggle?

I've seen pain and  
Endless suffering in  
Many a form, but not so  
Close to me as to let me  
Burn.

What can be so  
Unbelievable  
Implausible  
Farfetched or even  
Unnatural  
That it can only occur  
at a specific time?

The truth is dripping with  
Ambiguity:  
Miracles can happen  
But it's not  
Because she smiled,  
Because he granted a compliment,  
Because they put aside their differences;  
No.

It's because  
She and he passed the  
Room at the same exact  
Moment; met each other;  
Connected and fell in love.

It's because  
He left his apartment  
At half past one in the  
Afternoon and found  
The fallen hundred  
Dollar bill on the sidewalk.

It's because  
She came back after  
Forgetting her keys to  
Find him unconscious  
On the floor and was able  
To revive him, save him  
From burial.

So, miracles?  
They can happen to  
Anyone, anywhere,  
But it's all wound  
In the fabrication of  
Time if you want the answer.