



MBS Sunday Message – August 30, 2026

You Are God's Masterpiece – Created for Purpose Ephesians 2:10



From the Principal's Desk

This week, the world lost a beautiful soul with the death of Dolly Parton. I don't think it is happenstance that the day after her death, Tropical Storm Dolly formed in the Atlantic. Like storms, Dolly Parton took on the world— but rather than sharing devastation, Dolly shared her talents, her treasure, her joy, and her humanitarian spirit with all of us.

I'm not sure about you, but my inbox and social media feeds have been filled with Dolly tributes: calls for a "Dolly Day" on 9/25, much like "May the Force Be With You Day" on 5/4; jokes about her wigs; celebrations of her love for the Smoky Mountains and Pigeon Forge; and, of course, tributes to her beloved Imagination Library.

I learned this week that Dolly was one of twelve children, growing up in a small cabin in the foothills of the Great Smokey Mountains. Her parents married when her mother was only 15 and her father was 17. Her father worked as a sharecropper and later in construction to provide for the family, and he could not read or write. Dolly often spoke about how little they had materially, but how much love filled their home. One story Dolly shared was about when she was a child and tried to give her mother a Christmas present she had received. As a mother would, she turned it down but told Dolly that her favorite gift was Dolly's kind heart.

That interaction with her mother fueled her humanitarian spirit throughout her life. Her father's inability to read inspired the creation of her Imagination Library, which began in Appalachia and has since grown into a worldwide program providing free books to young children. What Dolly knew firsthand was that a lack of material things does not have to mean a lack of love, hope, education, opportunity, or dignity and experiences like these left a lasting impression on Dolly and helped shape the woman she would become.

Dolly never forgot where she came from. As she became successful, she used what she had been given—her talent, her wealth, her influence, and her joy to give to others. She continually reminded people that success is not simply about what we accumulate, but about what we do with what we have been given. Perhaps that is why so many people feel that Dolly's greatest gift was not her voice, her songwriting, her business success, or even her fame. Her greatest gift was her heart.

And that is where Dolly's story speaks to us as Catholics. We believe that everything we have is ultimately a gift from God—our talents, our treasure, our time, and even the people God places in our lives. The question is not simply, "What gifts have I been given?" but, "What am I doing with those gifts for others?" Dolly Parton understood something that our Catholic faith teaches us as well: a gift becomes even greater when it is shared. Perhaps that is the lesson we can carry with us from Dolly's life. Every one of us has something to give. And perhaps the greatest gift we can give is a generous heart.

May we honor Dolly's memory not simply by listening to her music or remembering her larger-than-life personality, but by following the example she left behind: taking what we have been given and using it to make someone else's life a little brighter, a little easier, and a little more hopeful.

[Pelican Express Newsletter – August 27](#) - Visit the Pelican Express for upcoming events and information.

Announcements

- Please take time out of your week to read the Pelican Express Newsletter. It contains important and time-sensitive information that pertains to all children and families. We work hard to keep it current and accurate. If you cannot find it in your email, it is ALWAYS posted to the MBSBR.ORG website under the News Tab – Newsletter link.
- **Extended Care Craft Items** – Do you have any craft items you are looking to part with? Extended Care is looking for the following: Beads, Sequins, Fabric Scraps, Buttons, Collage items, pipe cleaners, pom poms, sticker sheets/rolls, craft sticks, yarn, felt, paper bags, craft noodles, pony beads, feathers, wooden shapes, etc. Items can be sent to school to the attention of Mrs. Jeanne Hebert.
- **Lunch Visitors** - Parents and family members may begin having lunch with students the Tuesday after Labor Day. Please sign in at the office. The cafeteria is now cashless. Parent meals can be charged to your child's lunch account.
- **Carpool**
 - *Morning Carpool starts at 7:20am and ends at 7:45am - Students are considered tardy after 7:45am. (5 Tardies equals one absence)*

- *Afternoon Carpool starts at 2:45pm and ends by 3:15pm (After 3:15pm students will be sent to Extended Care and will be charged a drop-in fee).*
- **Car Seats**
 - Morning - Please have the younger student unbuckled before stopping for them to exit.
 - Afternoon - If you have child who still needs a car seat, we ask that once your child is in your car and park in a parking spot or pull up the gravel area parallel to Baringer to buckle them in. This allows our carpool to run efficiently.
- **Carpool Tags**
 - **Please only have one carpool tag in your car.** If you have two tags the carpool reader picks up your car twice and interferes with the queue which slows down carpool
 - For security purposes, please have your carpool tag hanging from your review mirror.
 - You must have a carpool tag. If you do not have a carpool tag, you will be asked to park and will need to wait for you child.

Save the Date

- MBS Family Movie Night Celebrity Theatre – September 20
- Middle School Dance – October 16
- MBS Fair – October 23-25
- MBS Gala – February 20, 2027