



CRUSADER NEWS AND VIEWS

The Mission Statement of Holy Cross Catholic School is to educate tomorrow's Christian Leaders by fostering Academic Excellence in a Christian Community.

October 7, 2010

A Word from Jesus

"Stand up and go; your faith has saved you." Luke 17:19

WE'RE IN THE SAME BOAT

After being the principal at Holy Cross for a little over one month, I have been impressed by the dedication, honesty and sincerity of the people I have had the opportunity to meet. The people who make up the Holy Cross community seem to understand what is truly important and are willing to do their part to build up a healthy community at Holy Cross. The key word, here, is **healthy**. In order for any organization or person to thrive, it must be healthy. Healthy does not mean pretending that things are OK when they are not, nor does it mean making something worse than it is. It means dealing with life and others honestly yet kindly.

The Holy Cross Catholic School community has weathered quite a "storm" of discontent that resulted in there not being an eighth grade class this year. Some people chose to get out of the "boat;" others were forced out by circumstances. Those of us who remain in the "boat" called Holy Cross Catholic School are in the same boat together. Together, we will float and add new members to our healthy, spacious ship, or, through gossip, negativity and unhealthy interpersonal interactions, we will punch holes in our own boat causing all of us to go down.

I have every reason to believe that this boat is very strong and seaworthy for many years to come. I know that, in today's society, the need for this vessel is more important than ever. Young parents need to know that we exist and that we are ready to help them raise their child in a sane and safe Christ-centered environment.

The reason I am writing this editorial is to remind each of us that we are personally responsible for the vitality of this precious vessel entrusted to our care. We must all remember to keep in mind what is right and good and healthy about Holy Cross and communicate it to the people who cross our path. We do

not have the luxury to gossip or share our discontent with anyone but the one who can correct the problem, then trust that they will do their best to fix whatever is wrong. When we forget and start complaining in public we start punching holes in our boat: something we cannot afford to do. The faculty and I are here to help you in the education of your child. We will do our very best to assist you as you raise and educate the children God has given you. We are in this together.

Thank you for staying and being part of the solution. **Thank you** for being part of the crew in the boat.

Protecting God's Children Workshops for All Volunteers

The Archdiocese of Detroit's "Protecting God's Children" workshop is held periodically throughout the Archdiocese—to find one that fits your schedule: go to www.virtus.org and select "Registration." You will be directed to a prompt to search for locations. You will need this to do ANY classroom volunteering! Contact Mrs. Smith (810.765.8300) or the "virtus" website for more information.

Remember, you need this workshop completed in order to volunteer for field day or camp or chaperone field trips.

Thank You!

...to **Gary Barr, Teresa Templeton**, the PTO, and everyone who worked at or brought goodies for the bake sale at last Friday's Teacher Appreciation spaghetti dinner!

Accelerated Reader

Students and parents: **all Accelerated Reader books are due the Monday after you check them out** this year.

Thank you to Mrs. Templeton and Mrs. Rogus for supervising our Accelerated Reader program every Monday morning! Thanks, also, to "veteran mom," Mrs. Patty Smith, for her ongoing work in our library (and SCRIP office, too)!

got scrip?

SCRIP office hours:

Mondays and Fridays 7-9am;

Mondays 5-7pm; and

Tuesdays, Wednesdays and

Thursdays 1-3pm

"Peddler" hours: almost 24/7/365!

Peddlers:

Kelly Glowski (Algonac)

Sue Sharpe (Marine City)

Melanie Heitz (St. Clair)

Visa cards are back—as a limited time promotion, and with quite a few restrictions. A full sheet of Visa card information is attached—please be sure you understand it before ordering. Visa cards will NOT be carried as in-stock items—they will be available by special order only. Also, "Trendy Tots and Teens" has joined our SCRIP program, with \$10 and \$25 certificates available at 10% discount.

Progress Reports

Your student should have taken home an envelope today with his first progress report and directions for online access of Engrade reports. We hope you'll follow the directions in the envelope and set up your own connection to Engrade, so you'll be able to have weekly access to information about your child's progress. Updated information will be available to you on **Tuesday** of each week.

We will continue to issue quarterly report cards. We will be holding parent-teacher conferences on November 23rd and, as always, you can contact your child's teacher and set up a one-on-one appointment to discuss your child's progress at school.

Please Mark Your Calendar:

Friday, October 22, there will be **NO SCHOOL** for students (teachers will have an inservice that day).

Also, the next Friday, Oct. 29, we will have a full day of school but there will be **NO EAST CHINA BUSES HOME** that day.

Basketball

Our girls enjoyed home court advantage one last time on Monday, when St. Augustine's visited. The JV game ended in a 7-14 HC loss; 5 points were scored by **Alexis** and 2 by **Abbey**. The Varsity game was tied at 8-8 at the half, but St A was able to pull away with a 26-15 victory. **Lilly** scored 7 points; **Beki** added 6 and **Rachelle**, 2. Last night we traveled to Richmond to meet St. A on their turf. The games ended much as Monday's, with a JV score of HC 8, St. A 17 and a varsity score of HC 12, St. A 24. **Hannah** scored 4 points for HC; **Alexis** and **Abbey** each added 2. **Lilly** earned 5 of HC's 12 points, with **Rachelle** adding 3 and **Annemarie** and **Beki** each contributing 2.

Thank you to Mrs. Schultz and Mrs. Wolf for keeping our home-game concession stand stocked and our worker schedule coordinated! A special thank you to those kind souls who won 50-50 raffles during games and donated their winnings back. Thanks, too, to everyone who showed up and worked their appointed shifts—all money raised due to your efforts at home games helps keep our sports program free to all student-athletes.

Our girls (and their parents!) will enjoy a well-earned rest on Monday as there will be no game the 11th; the next game day will be Wednesday, Oct. 13, at St. Mary's.

FUTURE TEACHER

Mr. James Phillips, a Cardinal Mooney graduate, is currently beginning a teacher preparation program. As part of his class requirements, he must complete hours of classroom observation in classrooms at the level he is interested in teaching. Beginning next Thursday, October 14th, Mr. Phillips will be at Holy Cross after lunch, observing the middle school classes. He is a very tall and gentle man. All of the regular background checks have been completed to allow him in the school during operating hours. If you are in the building, please welcome Mr. Phillips.

Macy's "Shop for a Cause"

Saturday, October 16, Macy's is partnering with our PTO in their annual "Shop For a Cause" event. Passes (\$5 each) are available at the SCRIP, school and Holy Cross church offices. (For more info, contact Gary Barr c/o school.)

Iowa Testing

Testing is going well. A reminder that the best test preparation you can give your children is being sure they're well fed and hydrated and that they've had a good night's sleep.

Thank you to all who are helping to provide healthy snacks during testing when room parents called for help.

Enthronement to the Sacred Heart

Just before the 9:00 school Mass on Friday, October 15, 2010, Holy Cross pastor, students and teachers will ask Jesus through Mary, his mother, to be the king who rules over us through love as our brother, our friend with his Holy Spirit. Following Mass, a beautiful picture of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary will be hung by the front entrance of the school for everyone to see. Please come to this Mass if you can make it.

SCHOOL UNIFORM UPDATE

So far this school year, the teachers and staff have been monitoring the compliance of the children with regards to the school uniform policy. We want to thank the parents for making sure that they are in the correct clothes. Good job, parents! Please check to see that the socks are the correct color: plain navy, black or white for boys and plain navy or white for girls. Although the length of the sock in the Dress Code reads crew or full length, as long as the sock covers the ankle bone, the child is considered to be in uniform. (People seem to be having a hard time finding crew socks in the stores.) The key here is that the ankle bone must be covered in order for the child to be considered in uniform. Thank you for your continued diligence with regards to this matter. Mrs. Pavlov wanted to make this clarification either to help you be clear on this detail or to use as ammunition when your child tries to convince you otherwise.

HOW'S YOUR STUDENT'S WARDROBE HOLDING UP?

Do those new pants already have holes in the knees? The new white polo took a splash from a juice box? Fear not--the Holy Cross "Thrift Sale" has hundreds of schoolwear items, FREE to school families! Contact Mrs. Wolf or the school office if you're interested in taking a look.

SPEAKING OF CLOTHES...

Do you like "yard sale"-ing? Are you disappointed that the season is over? That makes the Holy Cross Thrift Sale the only game in town! The Thrift Sale will be open to the public October 14 & 15 from 9am-3pm, and on October 16 ("bag day") from 9am-1pm. Thank you to Mrs. Wolf for organizing donations all year and supervising the sale during sale dates. New this year: Friday will be half-off day!—come early for the best bargains.

Dress Down Day

The first dress down day of the school year will be held next **Thursday, October 14, 2010**. This day was chosen to honor the memory of Dennis and Barbara Love. Many of you will recall how dedicated Mr. and Mrs. Love were to Holy Cross, especially the Thrift Sale. It will cost your child \$1.00 to be out of uniform that day. Have your child bring the dollar to their teacher on October 14th. Money collected will be used to purchase one square for the 200² Club in the Loves' memory, so if you can afford to send more than \$1.00, you can do that too.

Holy Cross Harvest Dinner

The Harvest Dinner is this weekend--on Sunday, October 10. Lots of help is needed--signup sheets are available in church, or contact Mrs. Smith (810.765.8300) for more info.

There will be an inflatable "jumping house" for children. Mrs. Pavlov is looking for volunteers to supervise for the following 1 hour shifts: 2:00-3:00, 3:00-4:00, 4:00-5:00 and 5:00-6:00 pm. Thank you to the McConnell women for supervising the 12:00-2:00 shift.

Vision and Hearing Screening

On November 9, St. Clair County Health Department technicians will be at Holy Cross to do student vision and hearing screenings. Students in grades K, 2 and 4 will have their hearing checked, and students in grades 1, 3, 5 and 7 will receive vision screenings. If your child's grade is not scheduled for testing but you'd like him checked, please contact the school office. (Or—if you prefer that your student NOT participate in the screenings, please let the office know that, too.)

Please note that it is important for students who wear glasses (or contacts) to wear them during vision testing: please be sure they take them to school on the screening day.

• Thank You! •

"The Holy Cross PTO would like to extend a big thank you to all who helped to make the spaghetti dinner a success. We were able to raise over \$1400 for our teachers through the generous donations of money, time and talents of so many people (too many to list individually). A special thank you goes to all the students who helped to serve our guests and to Mr. Brian Chadra, who was the dishwasher supreme!"

—Gary Barr, PTO President

Boys' Basketball

Although the season won't begin for a month, boys in grades 4 and up are welcome to let the school office know they're interested in playing. (Parents: please remember that all student-athletes must have your and a doctor's OK to play; blank physical forms are available at the school office or on the school's website (click the "Athletics" tab on the right hand side of the home page).

Men of the Sacred Hearts

*A Lay Organization Founded by Rev. Francis Tardif, S.S., C.C., in Private Devotion to the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary
Founded in 1945*

Father James Owens, S.S.

Spiritual Director

John L. Owens

President

David Jay

Executive Director

Kerry Schmitt

Executive Director

Frank McGee

President

Bill Rogers

Secretary

Robert Kowalski

John J. Harrison

John Harris

Walter Gierke

Mike Gierke

Richard Smith

Robert Kowalski

Donald J. McDonnell

Gene - J. McDonnell

CPA, D.U.

Anthony L. McDonnell

John McDonnell

Head of School

Dear Parents of Holy Cross students:



Holy Cross Catholic School will be Enthroned to the Sacred Heart of Jesus on Friday, October 15. Father Bob Schuster (Pastor of Our Lady on the River Parish) will celebrate Mass at 9:00AM followed by the Enthronement of the school and each classroom.

The Men of the Sacred Hearts (www.menofthesacredhearts.org) provided the materials and procedure for this program.

Enthroning the Sacred Heart of Jesus in Holy Cross School means that "we proclaim Jesus as King who rules over us through love...but He is more like a Father than a ruler".

Enthroning the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary in each classroom will remind the teachers as well as the students that Jesus loves and watches over us.

The Men of the Sacred Hearts also offer home Enthronement to the Sacred Heart of Jesus for your homes. We bring a 3ft tall statue of Our Lady of Fatima that stays in the home for a week. We supply all materials and lead the family in a rosary followed by the enthronement prayers. Contact us directly to set up an appointment to have your home enthroned.

Thank you.

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