



# CRUSADER NEWS AND VIEWS

*The mission of Holy Cross Catholic School is to educate tomorrow's Christian leaders  
by fostering academic excellence in a Catholic community.*

**February 9, 2017**

## Protecting God's Children Workshops

The Archdiocese of Detroit's "Protecting God's Children" workshop is held periodically throughout the Archdiocese. To find a session that fits your schedule, go to [www.virtus.org](http://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 or lunchroom volunteering. (Please call DRE Mr. K at 810.765.8300 if you need help.)

All volunteers working with children must have attended a "PGC" workshop.

**Remember: you need to complete this workshop in order to volunteer for field day or camp or to chaperone field trips.**

got SCRIP?

SCRIP office hours  
Mondays and Fridays 7-9am  
Mondays; 5-7pm; and  
Wednesdays 1-3pm  
Patty Smith (St Clair)

The SCRIP order form is available now on the Holy Cross website: copy & paste this address into your browser—  
<http://www.holycrossonline.net/school/scríp-order-form-nov-2016/>

## VG's Receipts & Box Tops for Education

A deadline is quickly approaching: please turn in all "Box Tops for Education" by **next Friday, Feb. 17.**

We have a couple more months to continue collecting VG's receipts—but we're less than halfway to the goal of \$150,000 worth of receipts to earn their rebate. Please keep saving and turning in those receipts: it will be worth \$1000 to us if we succeed! (We need the entire receipt, and receipts must have the paragraph about "Direct Your Dollars.") Thanks to all who save these for us!!

## Third Quarter Honors

OOPS!! We missed third grader **Lylah Schaening** in the perfect attendance report last week. Good job, Lylah!

## Mark Your Calendar....

- **Tomorrow: food drive for parish food pantry**
- Tu. Feb. 14: Valentines' Day: dress down in pink/red/white
- **Th. Feb. 16: no East China buses home**
- Feb. 17-20: midwinter break—no classes
- **Tu. Feb. 21: back to school**
- S. Feb. 25: Academic Olympics in Richmond
- **W. March 1: Ash Wednesday (mass today: church dress code)**
- F. March 3: Friday mass as usual
- **S. March 5 (1-3pm) Open House**

## Volleyball

The girls' pulled off a win at their first game at St Mary McCormick on Monday.—congratulations!! No game tonight—but their first home game is Monday, when they host Trinity. The game starts at 6:30pm—all are welcome! They have a second home game (this one against St. Mary St Clair) on Thursday, Feb. 16.

Please note that the volleyball tournament will be here at Holy Cross at the end of March and will give us the opportunity to earn the money to keep our sports program running: therefore, parents of ALL athletes in all sports (not just volleyball) are expected to help. Please contact Stacy to let her know when you'll be able to do your share.

## "Car Show" and Refreshments for Open House

PTO regrets that the "Drive In / Cardboard Car Show" has been canceled. PTO is looking for donations of cookies, fruit trays and bottled water for the Open House on March 5. If you can help, please contact Suzy DeVeney c/o school.

## Holy Cross on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/holycrosscatholicmc/>

## Academic Olympics

Students in grades 5-8 have been issued the challenge to compete academically against the other Blue Water Vicariate schools! The annual "Academic Olympics" will be held at St. Augustine School in Richmond on the morning of Saturday, February 25 (time to arrive depends on the student's area(s) of competition).

Students have begun practicing in class for the math, forensics (humorous and serious prose and poetry readings), problem solving and religion quiz bowl competitions. Some of the competitions are individual events, while others are teams. (Students may ask any of the middle school teachers if they'd like to compete, and they'll help get the students signed up.)

## Congratulations, Evan and Gavin Isrow!

Despite a kind of mediocre season, fifth grader **Evan Isrow's** hockey team (the "06 Macomb Mavericks") made it to the district finals this past weekend. They were playing teams that were 2 and 3 level ahead of them, AND in first place for those levels. Against all odds, they continued to win against these teams!—until Sunday's game, where they lost to a team 3 levels higher than they, and at first place for that level. So Evan and his team took second place in Districts!! WOW!

Younger brother, Gavin's, team enjoyed a winning season (with a 15/0 record) but were not able to continue their winning streak through Districts. So both boys have a lot to be proud of this season—Congratulations, Isrow boys!!



## Student Highlights

...for January:

Preschooler **Claire Gryszkiewicz** is a 'returnee' to the 4-5-year-old group. She is very social and enjoys doing arts and crafts. When asked what she wants to do when she gets older, she states she wants to be like her mommy, a teacher. Claire is always willing to help others. **Nathaniel Pelz** is in our younger (3-4-year-old) group. He is all boy, and enjoys playing with his peers. Nate also likes learning his letters, writing his name, and has been named the "Bingo King" of the class. Both of these children bring smiles on a daily basis to the people they are in contact with!

**Andrew Earl's** favorite food is watermelon. His favorite color is red. He enjoys bouncing on his trampoline. Something special about Andrew is that he plays T-ball. Andrew is a very caring and considerate Kindergartner, and he loves cheering up his classmates.

First grader **Boyd Wilson's** favorite food is French toast in a cup. His favorite colors are black and yellow. He loves to play his new game, "Yoshi's Woolly World." When Boyd grows up, he wants to make movies and be a construction worker so he can use jackhammers. Boyd is a thoughtful, funny boy, and he is always willing to share.

**Owen Isrow** is a great teacher helper and a friend to everyone in the second grade! He likes watching You Tube videos at home on his Chromebook and he likes riding horses with his big sister. When Owen grows up he wants to be a vet or a horse back rider. Keep up the great work Owen.

Third grader **Lylah Schaening** has made great progress so far and can do her schoolwork without much assistance. Lylah loves to read and does well working with the younger students. I can always count on Lylah to show another classmate what to do. Some day Lylah hopes to be a Rock Star Farmer when she grows up.

Fourth grader **Ava DeVeny** is an exceptional student. She has worked very hard in building her confidence in solving long division. With her work, she is neat and checks for accuracy. She is a great example to her peers. Ava is also a wonderful artist. She is currently taking classes in St. Clair, which she looks forward to every week. She is the oldest of 4 children and each morning I see her carefully walking her brother to school, with her arm around him. Ava is a dependable, kind, and smart young lady.

**Isaac Zammit** is a very caring and focused fifth grader who always tries to put his best foot forward. While he may seem shy at first, once you get to know Matt he is very willing to engage in intelligent conversation and well thought-out perspectives. He is a great person to have as a friend!

Sixth grader **Devin Allam** is a wonderful young man who is a joy to have in class. He always strives to do his best, is compassionate and caring to others and has a great sense of humor. Devin puts others before himself and is always willing to lend a helping hand. **Kierstyn West** is a wonderful addition to our school this year. I have seen her confidence and abilities grow in all aspects of her learning endeavors. She is loyal to her friends and is willing to speak up for what is right. Anyone would be lucky to have Kierstyn as a friend!

Meet **Michael Wilkinson**—an energetic seventh grader full of ambition and a passion to make a difference in the world. He enjoys hockey and plays for the Junior Prowlers. He loves to travel to other countries, and serves as a student ambassador while traveling abroad. Michael's favorite subjects are science and math which drive his desire to someday become a doctor or engineer. His impressive smile is "catchy" and reminds us all for his passion for life!

Eighth grader **Luke Chadra** is athletic, intellectual, and exhibits a positive attitude toward his fellow schoolmates. Luke will attend Cardinal Mooney in the fall. Luke is always willing to step up and commit to tasks.

### Free Movie!

PTO is pleased to announce it is sponsoring a free movie on Feb. 25 & 26 at 10 am Riverside Cinema! All are invited to come and watch "Trolls."

### Food Drive for Pantry

Tomorrow is the second Friday of the month: time for the parish's food drive to restock the pantry. They always need breakfast foods, canned meats and other protein sources, canned fruits, and paper products. Please bring something tomorrow if you can to help our local needy—thank you.

## When Your Student Doesn't Feel Well

A reminder that—for their sake as well as that of their classmates—sick kids shouldn't be in school! The Health Department says if a student has had a fever s/he needs to remain out of school until there is no fever for 24 hours without using any kind of medication. Thanks for helping keep epidemics under control!

### "Flashback Friday"

Holy Cross alums interested in having their bio featured on our Facebook page: contact Leslie DeMeulenaere ([mrsd.leslie@gmail.com](mailto:mrsd.leslie@gmail.com)) for more info.

### Attention 8th Graders' Parents:

We're hoping to put a page of 8th graders' baby pictures in this year's yearbook. Do you have a (preferably digital) baby photo you can submit? Please send either digital or print copy to Mrs. Steinmetz ([school@holycrossonline.net](mailto:school@holycrossonline.net)) with your child's name on it—the photo will be returned. We'd need all the photos before the end of February.

### Scholarship Opportunity

The American Legion Ladies' Auxiliary Unit #382 from St. Clair is coordinating local entry into a national scholarship on "Americanism." The contest is open to students in grades 3-12; local winners will receive a cash award of \$25, and continue on to the next level of competition. More information can be found in later pages of this newsletter.

### "Peyton's Sinkhole Bottle Drive"

A little girl in Fraser, Peyton Kalka, started a bottle drive to help raise money for families losing their homes from the sinkhole. The drive continues through Feb 15 at various places in Fraser. Peyton came to pick up bottles our fourth graders collected for her drive.

### FINANCIAL AID FOR 2017-18

The Archdiocese of Detroit has a NEW application process this year! It must be done online, and will be processed through FACTS tuition management company.

Here is the URL for the 2017-18 financial aid application and directions (copy and paste into your browser):

<http://www.aod.org/schools/tuition-assistance-and-scholarships/new-archdiocesan-tuition-assistance-process/>

Remember: to be eligible for any other aid, you MUST have applied for the Archdiocese of Detroit's assistance first!

**American Legion Ladies' Auxiliary  
2017 National Americanism Essay Contest**

Essay Title:

*"How Does Learning About Government and Our America Help You Become a Future  
Guardian of the Liberties of Our Country?"*

This is a national essay contest with local sponsorship by American Legion Auxiliary Unit 382, located in St. Clair, MI. Local essay winners will receive a cash award of \$25.00, and their submission will be forwarded up to the next level of competition.

Students in St. Clair County, Grades Three through Twelve are warmly invited to submit entries to American Legion Auxiliary Unit 382 in St. Clair, MI.

Essays must be submitted, by February 24, 2017, to:

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 382  
c/o American Legion Post 382  
1322 Clinton Ave; St. Clair, MI 48079  
(810) 329 2871

**\*\* Essays submissions must include the 2017 Americanism Essay Contest Cover Sheet. \*\***

For more information, contact:

Dianne Knowles, Americanism Committee American Legion Auxiliary Unit 382  
[sdtk@tds.net](mailto:sdtk@tds.net)

Dynamic Catholic Presents...

# The Four Signs

## Incredible Possibilities for Your Life and Your Parish

What if each day, every Catholic prayed for ten minutes and read five pages of a great Catholic book? What if every Catholic gave one percent more of their income to their Church this year and did one thing each week to intentionally share God's message with others? The Catholic Church would be staggeringly different from the Church today. But how do we get Catholics to take on these life-changing habits?

Based on Matthew Kelly's best-selling book, *The Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic*, this event is designed to help participants discover how to master the Four Signs in their own lives.

Featuring Dr. Alan Hunt



**Saturday February 25, 2017**

9:00am-1:30pm

**St. Isidore Catholic Church**

18201 23 Mile Road- Macomb Township, MI 48042

**Tickets \$25**

Order tickets online at [DynamicCatholic.com](http://DynamicCatholic.com) or call (855)980-7900



**Dynamic Catholic**  
Be Bold. Be Catholic.

### **Ecumenical Lenten Services**

On the Wednesdays during Lent Marine City churches will gather at 6:00 pm for a soup supper and 7:00 pm for a prayer service; this year the theme will be a reflection on the Ten Commandments.

Date and churches hosting:

March 8: St. Martin Lutheran

March 15: Our Lady on the River

March 22: St. Mark Episcopal

March 29: St. John Church of Christ

April 5: Our Lady on the River

All are welcome and encouraged to attend!





## AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST

### 2017 Cover Sheet

Each year, the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) sponsors an Americanism Essay Contest for students in grades 3-12, including students with special needs. Grade levels are divided into six classes. One award in each of the six classes will be presented in each division. Winners will receive \$50 and a \$50 donation in the student's name will be made to the Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship fund. National winners will be posted at [www.ALforVeterans.org](http://www.ALforVeterans.org) at the start of September.

**Essay Title:** *"How does learning about government and our America help you become a future guardian of the liberties of our country?"*

#### Essay Classes:

Class	Grade Level	Word Requirement
I	3 and 4	150-250
II	5 and 6	250-300
III	7 and 8	350-400
IV	9 and 10	450-500
V	11 and 12	450-500
VI	Students with special needs	Word count should correspond with student's grade level.

#### Essay Checklist:

- ☐ Class competing in \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Sponsoring ALA unit \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Typed or neatly written essay conforming to the word requirement for class
- ☐ Completed essay coversheet as first page of essay
- ☐ Word count of essay \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Due date for student to return to ALA unit \_\_\_\_\_

#### To Be Completed by the Student/Parent:

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (Street, City, State, Zip): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School City/State: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Name and Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Auxiliary Use Only (Must be completed for entry to be considered.):

Sponsoring Unit Name/Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Unit Americanism Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit winner due to Department on: \_\_\_\_\_ Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Department Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_

*Department winner due to National Americanism Division Chairman by April 15, 2017*

Americanism



## Archdiocese of Detroit

DEPARTMENT OF EVANGELIZATION, CATECHESIS AND SCHOOLS  
OFFICE OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

January, 2017

Dear Parents:

The Archdiocese of Detroit has contracted with FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment to conduct the financial need analysis for the schools in the Archdiocese for the upcoming 2017-2018 school year. As a result of the Stewards for Tomorrow Campaign and the establishment of the Archdiocesan Endowment, the Archdiocese of Detroit is able to offer this opportunity to many of the families in the Archdiocese of Detroit. Families who are eligible to apply for the Archdiocesan Tuition Assistance through this process must complete an application online and submit the necessary supporting documentation to FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment by April 7, 2017.

**Parent Information Letter and Pastor's Signature Sheet:**

It is important that you read the Parent Information Letter which will answer frequently asked questions, as well as download the Pastor's Signature form that must be signed by your pastor indicating that you are an active parishioner in your parish. The following documents can be found on the Archdiocese of Detroit website and/or the school's website. Both of these documents are available by clicking on the attached link.

Once an online application has been completed, the following information will need to be sent to FACTS to complete the application process.

- Copies of your most recent Federal tax forms including all supporting tax schedules
- Copies of your most recent W-2 forms for both you and your spouse (if applicable)
- Copies of supporting documentation for Social Security Income, Welfare, Child Support, Food Stamps, Workers' Compensation, and TANF.
- Pastor's Signature Form. This form is only required if you are applying for the Archdiocese Tuition Grant and not for any other school or parish related scholarships.

This is the first page of a letter from the Archdiocese of Detroit's website regarding the new scholarship application. Go to <http://www.aod.org/schools/tuition-assistance-and-scholarships/new-archdiocesan-tuition-assistance-process/> for the rest of the parent information letters and application instructions.



## **PARENT INFORMATION LETTER**

### **2017-2018 School Year**

**ANNUAL TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**  
**ARCHDIOCESE OF DETROIT**

Effective immediately, the Archdiocese of Detroit will be contracting with FACTS Management, a third-party contractor, to process the 2017-2018 Tuition Assistance applications for families who wish to apply for the Archdiocesan Tuition Assistance Grant. It is important to note that the independent contracts and other services that FACTS Management provides are separate from the Archdiocesan Tuition Scholarship which is funded by the Stewards for Tomorrow Campaign and the Archdiocesan Endowment.

#### **What is the Archdiocesan Tuition Assistance Program?**

As a result of the Stewards for Tomorrow Campaign and the establishment of the Archdiocesan Endowment, the Archdiocese of Detroit extends tuition assistance grants to Catholic families with children in grades K-12 attending Catholic Schools.

#### **New Awarding Amounts**

Note: All awards are based on the calculated financial need which is established by the financial documentation that each applicant is requested to submit, as well as employment, number of children and ability to pay. These are the primary factors used to determine need. This year, the award amounts will fall into one of the following tiers:

- Tier I - \$1100.00
- Tier II: \$ 950.00
- Tier III: \$ 800.00

This new process allows for greater assistance based on need. It's imperative that you have the application and all supporting documents in by the deadline date of April 7, 2017.

#### **Frequently Asked Questions**

##### **Must financial need be demonstrated?**

Financial need must be demonstrated. FACTS Student Grant & Aid Form must be completed by each family applying, and submitted through an on-line application process. Receiving an award in previous years does not guarantee an award for the current year.

##### **How do I apply?**

Applications can only be completed online. The FACTS Student Grant & Aid link should be on your school's webpage. It will also be available on the Archdiocesan website by going to [aod.org/Catholic Schools/Tuition Assistance](http://aod.org/Catholic%20Schools/Tuition%20Assistance). Look for the FACTS Grant & Aid link. There is a \$24.00 on-line application fee. Please follow the payment instructions indicated on the application.

##### **Is the Pastor's Signature Form Mandatory for the AOD Grant?**

Visit <http://www.aod.org/schools/tuition-assistance-and-scholarships/new-archdiocesan-tuition-assistance-process/> for the rest of the parent information letters and application instructions.