



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.

March 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 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

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/>

NEW PROCEDURE— **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE** **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 at Holy Cross, you MUST (if you are eligible) have first applied for the Archdiocese of Detroit's assistance. Print **off your completed application** because you will need to submit a copy of it along with other grant and scholarship applications.

The deadline for applying for the AoD grant is **April 7.**

Mark Your Calendar....

- **F. March 3: Friday mass as usual; vision & hearing screenings for preschoolers for Kindergarten entry; first Stations of the Cross 2pm and first Lenten fish fry 4-7pm at St. Catherine**
- S. March 5 (1-3pm) Open House
- **Th. March 16: dress down in green & white for St Patrick Day; no afternoon East China buses**
- F. March 17: nonperishable food drive for pantry; no Chartwells: nacho lunch; no East China buses
- **F. March 24: end of third quarter; volleyball tournament today & Saturday at Holy Cross**
- M-F, March 27-31: boater safety classes for students in grades 6-8
- **F. March 31: report cards go home**

Fr. Bartone Scholarship

Applications for 2017-18 are now available at the school office.

Please Keep In Your Prayers...

...Fr. Rooney and his family on the death last week of his mother, Mary Catherine Rooney.

Tuition

A reminder that ALL tuition was due to have been paid in full **by the end of February.** Late fees will be accruing for accounts not paid up.

Re- Registration Packets

...went home with your "oldest Crusader" last week: if you didn't get yours, please ask your child for the big white envelope with your name on it! You'll notice many similarities to the details of this past year, and maybe a few changes. We will be going with FACTS tuition management company this year.

Registrations that are completed, returned and accepted by the end of April will qualify for a discount in the registration fee. Please let us know as soon as possible if you are planning to return.

OPEN HOUSE

We met a lot of new friends this weekend—thank you to all of them for visiting during our Open House!

A million thanks go out to all of our host/helpers—thank you to PTO and **Mrs. Suzy DeVeny** for organizing the snacks, to **Mr. James LaParl, Ms. Pam Dezsi, Mrs. Theresa Kukawka, and Mrs. Tiffany Mensen, Mrs. Sherrie DuVall, Mrs. Dolores Chara and Mrs. Dawn Davey**, who all donated snacks and drinks, and **Ms. Renee Shandor and Mrs. Laura Bailey and Ms Pam Dezsi**, who helped prepare the room and set up/serve the food. **Mrs. Jamie Guyor, Mr. Mike Govier, Mr. Rick Goulette and Ms. Sandy Favrow** from our School Committee, and **Mrs. Tracy Wilson and Mrs. Jennifer Kuzera** helped answer families' questions and schedule their service credits. **Mrs. Patty Smith and Mrs. Julie Wolf** opened the SCRIP office for the two hours of the open house, as well. Always, thank you to **Mr. Gary Barr** for the pains he took to set the room up the way we wanted it and clean up afterward.

Thank you, too, to our student ambassadors, who greeted our visitors and showed them around our school: **Claire Campbell, Taylor Marlatt, Charlotte Fajardo, Lauren Rosemeck, Rebecca Goulette, Nicole Zawadzinski, Sophia Goulette, Lydia Kukawka, Abbie Cullen, Jack Maben, Ashton DeMeulenaere, Brennan DeMeulenaere, Luke Chadra and Allison Kuzera.**

Volleyball

Last Thursday found the Holy Cross squad on the road to St Peter's in Richmond; on Monday, they traveled to collect a win at St Mary St Clair. Tonight, they host St Augustine School. Games start at 6:30pm:—all Crusader fans are welcome!

Next week: on Monday (Mar 13), St Peter School will be visiting; on Thursday, (Mar 16) we go to St. Augustine School.

Holy Cross will host the annual volleyball tournament March 24-5; this 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 c/o school to let her know when you'll be able to help.

Yearbook Orders

...are due next Friday (March 17): don't forget to get your yearbook order in!

Congratulations!

...to 7th grader **Michael Wilkinson** and his team on winning the "Shamrock (Hockey) Tournament" this past weekend. Michael scored the goal that put his team into overtime during the game before the finals: exciting games!

...and to Our Gymnasts, Too!

Kyle and Janae Miotke both placed in their gymnastics competition this past weekend, with Janae coming in third overall in her age division and Kyle, in first place in his. Congratulations to both Janae and Kyle!!

THRIFT SALE!

The ever-popular "Thrift Sale" (to benefit the eighth graders' class trip to Chicago) is returning! The sale is scheduled for the school hallways on Saturday, April 22 (from 9am-3pm).

They're looking for treasures to sell! Do you have a basement full of stuff you don't need, and just don't want to bother with your own yard sale? You may drop items off at the school office any school day (between 7am-3pm). (Sorry, but they can't accept clothing, shoes, or stuffed animals.) If items are large or donors need someone to pick up their things, they can contact the school office (810.765.3591) to be put in touch with someone who can help.

Music Scholarships

East China School District and the St. Clair Music Club (in cooperation with the Community Foundation of St. Clair County) announce their 2017 Music Scholarship auditions. Auditions will be on Sunday, March 26 in the First Congregational Church in St. Clair, and 7 scholarships (of \$650 each) will be awarded: for students of voice, piano, brass, woodwind, percussion or orchestral strings.

Applicants must be residents of or students in the East China School District, and (except for the organ scholarship) in 7-11th grades. Applications are available in the school office (or online at ecsd.us or stclairfoundation.org).

Book Fair

Our annual Book Fair is scheduled for the first week of April. More info will follow as the date draws closer.

Chili Nacho Lunch

On Friday, March 17, Chartwell's will not be serving. Instead, we'll have Mrs. Isrow's chili nachos! For \$2.50 you can order a generous serving of nachos and cheese, with meatless chili, lettuce, tomatoes, salsa and sour cream available to top them, along with fruit and a drink.

Order slips were given to all K-8 students today; orders need to be in the school office **by Wednesday morning** (March 15) so that we know how much food to prepare.

2017/18 Bingo Service Credit schedule now available online!

Avoid the \$540 service credit fee for the 2017-18 school year. Whether you want to fulfill all 12 of your service credits or you just need a few, the 2017-18 bingo service credit schedule is up and running, and filling up quickly. If you work just 1 bingo a month you satisfy your 12 credit obligation for the school year. The 2017-18 service credit year begins in May and runs through April 2018.

"Control" and "click" to follow this link (or copy and paste this URL into your browser—and then, maybe, you'll want to bookmark it):

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1toQA6nE-y0NjiTDZKYuqIQ1cjurqrqJP-TDBI7FjF8/edit>

If you have any questions, please contact Tracy at hcwedbingo@gmail.com.

Reserve your spots before they're all gone!

"Flashback Friday"

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

"Students in the News"

Soccer, Scouts, geography bee dance / music recital or other live performance—does your child have an accomplishment outside of school to share with the rest of our readers? We'd love to be able to let all of his/her friends and classmates know! Please submit to Mrs. Steinmetz (school@holycrossonline.net with a photo, if you have one).

Fish Fry

OLR sponsors fish fries on all of the Fridays of lent (with the exception of Good Friday): they served 300 meals at their first fish fry, last week.

Do you need a few service credits?—shifts (10am-3pm and 4-8pm) for adult workers at the remaining fish fries are still available: call Sherrie (c/o school).

A few 6th-8th grade student helpers are welcome each week, as well: but they need to be scheduled ahead of time. Too many student helpers at one time just get in each other's way, and that encourages behaviors that detract from the positive image of our school that we expect those students to reflect to the public. Please call Sherrie ahead of time to schedule your child's shifts—please do not just drop your child off without having spoken with Sherrie first.

Lenten Family Night

Holy Cross PTO invites parish families to our Lenten Family Night. It will be on Thursday, March 30, 2017 6:00-7:30pm in the Activity Center. This event will offer family centered Lenten activities to help parents and children to grow in their faith during Lent.

Holy Cross on Facebook:

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

Lenten Soup and Talk Series

All are invited to all or any of the gatherings in this series, moderated by Frs. Rooney and Bechill and Deacon Oldani. The series will take place on the Tuesdays in Lent, at 6:30 in the Holy Cross cafeteria.

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 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!

Student Highlights

...for February:

Joshua Jacobs and **Olivia Mackie** are two new students in our 4&5-year-old prekindergarten program. Both of these children are very social. Joshua enjoys building with Legos and blocks, while Olivia likes working puzzles and "cooking" in the housekeeping area. These two energetic students enjoy doing crafts, and lately have been making maps to go on "treasure hunts." **Bailey Steward** is a member of our 3&4-year-old prekindergarten program. Bailey enjoys doing arts and crafts, books, and playing with play dough. Her new-found love is painting! All three of these children have unique personalities that help make each day with them special and interesting.

Second grader **Gabriel Jacobs** is an honest hard worker who is great at asking questions. His teacher can always count on Gabe to ask just the right questions to get his classmates thinking. In his free time, Gabe enjoys being a Cub Scout. He says the "Mom and Me" campout is SO fun. Keep up the great work Gabe!

Erin Wilson is a third grade art enthusiast who loves to make pictures for people. In her free time you may find Erin drawing cute animal pictures for her friends. Erin has a kind and generous heart. Her birthday wish every year is for all children to have enough food. Some day Erin wants to be a farmer so she can grow food for children who are poor. In five days Erin will test for her green belt in Tae Kwan Do. She is a yellow belt with a green stripe now, and is working hard for a successful achievement. Keep up the good work Erin.

Bryce Schocker is a very intelligent young man who works hard to do his best. His compassion toward others and his Christian attitude are characteristics that will help him succeed in his future goals. Bryce shows many positive leadership qualities.

Sixth grader **Anna Winne** is a hard-working young lady who puts her full effort into work. While she seems quiet, Anna has a mischievous streak and a great sense of humor. She has the ability to reach any goal she sets for herself.

Ashton DeMeulenaere is a kind-hearted seventh grader who has made many new friends this year at Holy Cross. In his spare time he enjoys playing the piano and participating in soccer. His favorite subject is science, and when he grows up he wants to become an engineer. He is a great helper in the classroom regarding technology, which may

stem from his personal description as being a "big gamer." These are all excellent traits to lead him to much success in life.

Eighth grader **Sophia Goulette** will attend Cardinal Mooney in the fall. Sophia enjoys reading and writing poetry, and her favorite subject is ELA. She enjoys playing softball, volleyball and basketball, reading and writing, and listening to country music. Sophia is a responsible young lady who is always willing to help out.

PTO MEETING

Tu. March 14 5:15pm
in the teachers' room—
All are welcome!

"Books Are Fun!"

The traveling book display has once again stopped at Holy Cross! "Books Are Fun" offers a nice assortment of high quality items at reasonable prices, and the school library earns a book for every ten items sold. Orders and payment need to be in the office by next Friday, March 17; your items can go home with your oldest "Crusader" on Monday, the 20th (or held at the school office: call Mrs. Steinmetz).

East China Bus Riders:

NO afternoon bus
next Thursday, March
16; no buses at all on
Friday, March 17.

"Samaritas" Foster Children

The Samaritas foster care program (recently featured in the OLR Sunday bulletin) is seeking foster homes for Michigan children who are wards of the court as a result of abuse or neglect, or refugees fleeing chaos in their home countries. Holy Cross families are reminded that tuition for foster children would be rated at the "family" rates (included in multi-student discounts enjoyed by the children of the family).

If you are interested in learning more about Samaritas, please contact Dr Wagner at cwagner@holycrossonline.net (or phone 810.765.3591).

"International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program"

One area which we have identified for improving learning opportunities at Holy Cross involves a feasibility study of whether or not we might want to move toward implementing the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program, and possibly later on the Middle Years Program. Even if the decision is made not to pursue this program, just learning the processes and opportunities and methods of this international awareness approach to learning could benefit students and teachers. As we learn more about the program Dr Wagner will share additional information with you. We do plan to have a professional development for our teachers and some parents to introduce them to the mission, design and process of this "world school" recognized around the entire world for its approach to personalized learning as the best program to meet each individual youngster's learning needs.

ORDER YOUR 2016-17 YEARBOOK!

Time to order your yearbook! This year's yearbook will be 28 pages long (much like last year's) and filled with full-color photos and memories. The books are expected to be here by mid-May and will be available **by pre-order only**—reserve your copy today! Cost is \$15 per book.

Family name _____

Students' names _____

of yearbooks ordered _____ X \$15 each = \$ _____

Checks can be made out to "OLR.") When they arrive, your yearbooks will be delivered to the student(s) you have named above.

Orders need to be in the school office **by TOMORROW, Friday, March 17.**