



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.

December 7, 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

To be sure you have your SCRIP order in time for Christmas, **orders and payment must be received by the morning of December 13.** (If your order comes after then, it may not arrive in time for Christmas.)

The SCRIP office will be closed from December 22 through January 2.

Boys' Basketball

Our boy hosted St Mary McCormick last night. Next week sees us at home again. The next game we are aware of is at home again on January 10.

Mrs. Stacy Goulette is again coordinating workers for this season's games. All athletes' families are expected to help at some point during the season—please contact Mrs. Goulette c/o school to offer your help.

VG's Receipts

We are almost **90%** of the way to the \$1000 reward in our VG's receipts collection! Please keep sending in those receipts—entire receipts, please, with the "Direct Your Dollars" paragraph—thanks!

Mark Your Calendar....

- **T. Dec. 12: "Santa Shop"**
- **M. Dec. 18:** Christmas program—meet your teacher in the gym by 5:45pm
- **W. Dec. 20: first day of Christmas vacation**
- **W. Jan. 3:** back to school

Toys for Tots

Tomorrow is the final day for families to participate in eighth grader **Michael Wilkinson's** "Toys for Tots" collection. The collection box is near the school office and is available for school families' donations until December 8.

If you've ever wanted to help make sure Christmas is special for local needy children, here's your chance to help. Thank you to Michael and family for giving us this opportunity to serve, and to the families who have donated already.

Christmas Program

Our school-wide Christmas program is scheduled for Monday, Dec. 18 at 6pm in the gym. We are planning on having the participation of all students: even the preschoolers! They are going to dress as angels and sing "Happy Birthday" to baby Jesus.

Dress code is 'Sunday best' for students not in costume. Please plan to meet up with your teacher by 5:45pm in the gym that night.

Raffle Calendar

Returns are pouring in—merci beaucoup!! Muchas gracias!! Holy Cross School relies on this fundraiser to provide individualized learning opportunities to all of its students. Last year, we raised over \$12,600—let's see if we can raise over \$15,000 this year! Each ticket purchased helps in a big way.

Next Monday, someone will be getting the phone call saying they've won \$1000 in the final drawing for 2017. It could be you, if you bought a ticket last year. If you didn't—make sure you get your ticket in for the 2018 prize drawings.

Camp 2018

Families with 5-8th graders planning to attend camp in January should have just received a statement for their second camp payment. Our students' days at camp are always a fond memory for our alumni, and we expect this year's trip to be no less impactful.

Camp bills are payable in thirds: 1/3 of total was due Nov. 15, with the next 1/3 due by Dec. 15 and the balance by Jan. 16. (They leave for camp the morning of Monday, January 22.)

Service Credit Records

(...for K-8 families:) Your service credit record is in the mail (along with camp bills, if appropriate for your family). Please check to be sure we've marked all the shifts you've worked. Families who hadn't yet selected their credits by Nov. 30 are now on 'Plan A;' please catch up on that as soon as you are able.

Hat / Scarf / Mitten Drive

The 5-6th graders are sponsoring a hat / scarf / mitten drive. They will collect new items until next Friday, Dec. 15. Everything collected will be donated to the Marine City Old Newsboys to help them with their Christmas distributions.

If you'd like to help, please send in new hats, scarves and/or mittens before Dec. 15. There will be a tree that the students will "decorate" with items donated. Thank you for your concern for our needy neighbors!

Santa Shop

Our annual children's shopping event is scheduled for next Tuesday, Dec. 12. "Santa Shop" will offer a variety of items for students who want to shop for gifts for their friends and loved ones. Many items are in the \$1-3 range, and only a few items are \$7-10, so everything is quite affordable. For more info visit www.funservices.com.

Algonac KofC Essay Contest

Applications for the Algonac KofC Council 7227 scholarship are due by **Dec. 15.**

“Kids 2 Kids” Blanket Project

A group of our older students began meeting during their lunch times in November to make knotted fleece blankets for other kids—they will send them (each with a small toy and book) to Puerto Rican children who have been fighting back after the devastation their island suffered during the recent hurricane. We're happy to report that the students met their goal of 50 blankets by the end of November! Many thanks to **Ms. Pam Dezzi** for mentoring the students during the project. A big thank you to Springgrove Variety Store in Marysville for discounts and other assistance they provided for the project.

The students packaged the blankets with the book and toys in plastic shoe boxes to prepare them for shipping. Then they walked them to the Mariner Theater, where owner **Gary Kohs** and **Laura Scaccia** are taking care of shipping them. The gifts will end up with the (DeVeny/Pavlor family's) contact person in Puerto Rico, who will distribute them to nearby families. From our hearts to yours—Feliz Navidad, amigos!

right: students inside the Mariner, with the Titanic builder's model behind them:



above: delivering the blankets to the Mariner.



The Nutcracker

Last weekend (Dec. 1-3), 8th-grader **Grace Govier-LaParl** performed 'The Nutcracker' with the Macomb Ballet Company. They had 5 performances in 3 days, filling the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts with smiles all weekend long. This is Grace's first year with the Macomb Ballet Company, and she had a great time performing 4 parts in the show. Well done, Grace!

Star Students

...for November:

New prekindergartner **Kylee Cronkright** likes to play with friends and is a good leader in our classroom. Kylee loves to draw, color, and do crafts. Ms. Betsy and Ms. Jen love to watch her do creative work at school because she is such a talented little artist!

First grader **Katie Bryson's** favorite food is ice cream. Her favorite color is pink. She enjoys playing with her favorite stuffed animal, Moosey (who also makes frequent appearances at show and tell). When she grows up, she wants to be a mom! Katie has an awesome vocabulary and amazing math skills for a six year old. She runs on her own time, which is why her class lovingly refers to her as "Pokey Puppy."

Dominic DeVeny is a hard worker and a great listener. In his free time, Dominic likes talking about puppies. Some day he plans on becoming a puppy trainer. When Dominic is not in school, he likes to play "Prodigy" on his ChromeBook, and his favorite subject is math.

Third grade **Micah Arlow** is a great student! He is helpful to all his classmate, sets wonderful examples, and thoroughly enjoys school. Micah LOVES cats and enjoys boyscouts. When he grows up, Micah has shared with me, that he would like to attend a trade school to learn to build homes.

Gavin Kloss is a new student to Holy Cross this year!

Gavin loves math and enjoys playing games and building with Legos. At home, Gavin enjoys the company of his mom and brother, Collin, as well as their family dog. He loves to play outside as well! When he grows up, Gavin would like to be a priest or a bishop.

Olivia Ogden is a hard-working and intelligent fifth grader who always puts forth 100%. Olivia is helpful to others and has a true Christian attitude. She isn't afraid of a challenge and is willing to help when needed.

Sixth grader **Lauchlan McDonald** is a wonderful young man with a passion for understanding the world around him. His cheery attitude and polite nature brighten every day. Lauchlan has great insight and isn't afraid to share his thoughts during class discussion.

Devin Allam is a seventh grader who enjoys playing soccer and plays basketball for our Holy Cross varsity team. He's also an animal lover. Devin is a well-mannered young man who routinely demonstrates kindness and respect for others, and he is an outstanding student as well! **Scarlett Scott** is an outstanding seventh grade student who works hard, always pays attention in class, and is kind and respectful of others. She enjoys reading, watching television and writing. Scarlet also plays volleyball, and she loves pizza and tacos!

Strategic Planning

Following through on the challenges for Catholic Schools addressed in the Archbishop's letter Unleash the Gospel, pastors and principals have been directed to begin a revision of our School Strategic Plan to align our goals and strategies with the Archbishop's charges based on Synod 16 recommendations. We will need to have two teachers, two parents, two parishioners, one alumnus, and one parishioner each from two nearby Parishes without a school. We will be needing a number of surveys from parents and parishioners.

The preliminary meeting of the Strategic Planning Team was held this past Tuesday. The team's calendar of times and tasks was begun.

Any cooperation you are able to give in support of this work from the directive of the Archbishop will be sincerely appreciated and valued.

K of C Children's Christmas Party

All children up to fifth grade accompanied by a parent are invited!

Where: St Catherine Activity Center—Algonac

When: Sunday, December 10
1-4pm (doors open at 12:30)

No reservations are needed. Door prizes, games, activities, drinks and snacks provided—along with a visit from a certain "jolly elf"!



HOLY CROSS 29TH ANNUAL DINNER & AUCTION

EVENT DETAILS

Date: February 10th, 2018
Location: Holy Cross School
Time: 6:30 doors open

- Strolling Appetizers to Kick Off
- Dinner catered by Big River BBQ
- Live Entertainment with Dancing!
- Live and Silent Auction!
- Raffles tickets!
- Keeping the tradition "Dessert Dash"

Attire: Your fave jeans & best "BLING"!

TICKETS

2018 Auction tickets are available in the school office and through Tiffany Mensen our Auction Chair.

tmensen@holycrossonline.net or 810.794.3823

Enjoy a fun evening out with family, friends, and neighbors while showing your supporting for Holy Cross Catholic School.

- \$30 per person
- \$240 for a table of 8

A GREAT WAY TO CELEBRATE VALENTINE'S DAY EARLY!

FAMILY BASKETS

THANK YOU to the families who have provided such **WONDERFUL** and **CREATIVE** baskets thus far!

Please remember our auction depends on donations of items, not just random by any means these **Family Baskets** display to the community of people attending our family support, dedication, and belief in what our school represents. We hope you feel the same and look forward to seeing the unique and creative ways you display your baskets.

- Baskets are due on or before December 1st.
- In lieu of the donation a cash contribution of \$60 will be accepted no later than November 1st.
- After December 1st an invoice will be sent for \$80 to cover your commitment.



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.



2017 Christian Service Essay Contest

"Going to the Peripheries"

"Through his Incarnation, the Lord has united himself forever with suffering humanity — not as an abstraction, but throughout history with each suffering person. Jesus is already at the peripheries. The question for us is whether He will be there alone or whether His disciples will be there with Him."

- Supreme Knight Carl Anderson

This year students should consider the role of the Catholic Church going to the peripheries, then select one of the following ideas to complete your essay:

- a) Describe the work of one widely known current Catholic who went to the periphery.**
- b) Describe the work of one widely known historical Catholic who went to the periphery.**
- c) Describe the work of one person in your life, who helps alleviate human suffering.**

Entry forms will be available through the school office or you can email GK7227@mikofc.org for forms and more detail. Essays due by 12/15/17

Councils 7227 Algonac and Marine City 856

Attention 'Photographers:'

Mrs. Steinmetz will be looking for photos for the yearbook. If you've taken some great shots (at any student events!) and are willing to share, please email (school@holycrossonline.net). Thanks!

Holy Cross on Facebook:

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

The Day After Christmas (or: Don't Let This Happen to YOU!!!)

by Mrs. Steinmetz

The day after Christmas, somewhere in some house, a gift-buyer started to whimper and grouse, "I spent so much money! Made so many trips! Things would have gone better if I had used SCRIP!"

"I bought extra food and made sure I had drinks—two or three hun-der-ed dollars' worth, methinks; But I SPENT CASH!! Had I used SCRIP instead, it would have earned me some tuition credit!"

"Johnny's eyes sparkled, imagining the elves; mine misted--I'd emptied out Toys R Us' shelves! Another small fortune; and at four percent, I'd've saved a sum equaling half a month's rent.

"Susie was lovely in her new Christmas clothes. Kohl's offered me 5% back, but: NO-- I'd forgotten to order pre-holiday SCRIP, so deeper into my wallet I dip.

"I did think ahead—sent, to loved ones afar, certificate gifts--but the toll on my car! Drove to Applebee's, Best Buy, Old Navy, Lowe's-- and into a world of vehicular woes.

"To think: all I needed to do was to call—the SCRIP office could have ordered them all! My friends got their gifts, but I got no break. (My mechanic, though, loves the fortune he'll make.)

"I finally get it!--next vacation fare, I'll be calling for Hyatt and American Air; I'm learning to plan: gonna take a long trip. So happy holidays, all: don't forget to buy SCRIP!"