



CRUSADER NEWS AND VIEWS

The mission of Holy Cross Catholic School is to provide a setting that ignites a joyful spirit of Christian discipleship in collaboration with families, staff, and the parish in a personalized learning culture.

April 23, 2020

Protecting God's Children Workshops

The Archdiocese of Detroit's "Protecting God's Children" workshop is held periodically throughout the Archdiocese. EVERY classroom or lunchroom volunteer or employee needs to have attended. To find a session that fits your schedule, go to www.virtus.org and select "First Time Registrant." Then choose "view list" of class sites, and choose "Detroit." Scroll through to find your session, then go back to the top of that page to create your login.

When attending a "PGC" workshop, be sure to be on time, as the Archdiocese does not allow latecomers to enter.

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.

If you have recently attended a "PGC" workshop, please send a copy of your certificate to school ASAP so we have it on file--thank you!

The SCRIP OFFICE will be closed as long as school is.

Registration for 2020-21

Registration packets for the 2020-21 school year went home with your oldest "Crusader" in a blue folder in March. Mail in your registrations before April 30 for the "early registration" discount! (The packet also included financial aid information--time to apply for that, too!)

Hoping to lessen COVID's possible "cash flow" impact to our families, we are delaying the standard, 10-payment tuition plan by a month. From now on, the first tuition payment will be due by the end of June, and the last by the end of March.

Holy Cross on Facebook:

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

Mark Your Calendar....

- **TOMORROW, April 24: NO SCHOOL:** teachers' meeting.

Archdiocesan Grants

Applications for tuition assistance from the Archdiocese of Detroit for 2020-21 are now being accepted. For information go to: detroitcatholicsschools.org/tuition-assistance-scholarships

To apply for the Archdiocesan grant: go to your FACTS account and look for "apply for tuition assistance". Application is done online, and there is a small fee. **You will also need to print the "Pastor's Signature" page and get your (Archdiocese of Detroit parish) pastor's signature as part of your application.** After you have his signature, fax or email the Pastor Signature page to the school office: school@holycrossonline.net.

Your application and all supporting paperwork must be complete and submitted by May 15 in order to qualify for tuition assistance from the Archdiocese of Detroit. **Applying for this grant is required if you plan to apply for "local" tuition help, as well--PLEASE APPLY ASAP if you plan to apply for any tuition assistance for 2020-21!**

Eighth Graders Heading to CMC in the Fall

—A letter detailing the availability of a scholarship you are eligible to apply for was included in the mailing with your report card last week: we hope you apply!!!

NO SCHOOL TOMORROW

The teachers will be participating in Archdiocesan professional development, so there will be no distance learning assignments for Friday, April 24.

Thank You!!

...to the Marine City Knights of Columbus for their recent donation of \$15,000! This comes from the Wednesday night bingo that school parents can work at for their service credits.

Distance Learning Info

We may not return to "in-school" classes before the end of this school year. However, that does not change our working online: and Mrs. Davenport and the teachers are proud of how hard your students have been working. The Archdiocese of Detroit has assured us that we are not subject to the recent questions on the acceptability of distance learning, and Holy Cross students are on track to finish the year as planned.

Here are a few notes to help distance learning run smoothly:

- Parents: **accept teachers'** invitations to join Google classrooms (email the school or your teacher if you don't remember having been invited).
- Parents and students: please **check your emails several times each day** and respond as needed or requested.
- Students: teachers are available for you from 7:30am to 3:30pm each day. **Log in and do your work early in the day!** Your teacher may not receive your email until the next day if you send it after 3pm.
- Instruction and class work time should take **approximately 4 hours** each day. If you are having trouble, please let your teacher know right away.

PTO's Annual Flower Sale

People will still be wanting flowers and other garden/landscaping plants after the quarantines: plants and digital gift certificates from Vandenbossche Greenhouses will arrive on Friday, May 8 (just in time for Mothers' Day). The order form is included with this email. Please mail your order and payment to the PTO c/o Holy Cross School, 618 South Water Street, Marine City 48039.

Proceeds from the sale will be used to provide teachers with needed classroom supplies for the beginning of the 2020-21 school year.

If you have any questions, please contact Jodi Farrand c/o school (school@holycrossonline.net or 810.765.3591). (Many thanks to Jodi for taking on this project, especially during these challenging times!)

Applications for Bartone Grants and Other Local Tuition Assistance

...are now available through the school office. **Applications are due May 29.** But remember: the first step is getting your Archdiocesan Grant application in! See the next paragraph....

Spirit Wear

You can order pullover hoodies, hats and bags with the new crest at <https://holycrosscatholic.itemorder.com/sale>.

Please note that hoodies will NOT be approved as uniform wear for 2020-21.

Service Credits: Scheduling Bingo Shifts...

Families interested in working some of their service credits at Wednesday bingos (at St Catherine activity center in Algonac): please contact **Paul Burger** at **734.837.507**. Help will be needed most Wednesdays once public gatherings resume: one should fit your schedule.

You can also see what bingo shifts are available by going to:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1tHdUA2KfrP527QHudAS6gNvLE0OV6XuX770ZHxqFg/edit?ts=5d4c47eb>

CORONAVIRUS

We continue to stay in daily contact with the Health Department, and are reviewing and updating our protocols and procedures.

The Health Department advises everyone to maintain cleanliness of frequently-touched surfaces (e.g. door-knobs, light switches, desks, keyboards, countertops, bathroom surfaces...). They also advise teaching and reviewing proper handwashing techniques and other ways of reducing disease transmission (e.g. coughing or sneezing into a tissue or elbow) with children.

When we are able to return to school: school policy requires students who have flu-like symptoms or a fever to remain away from school. Reducing a fever with medication does **not** eliminate the cause of the fever, and **the student must still stay away from school** until the fever is gone naturally.

"Box Tops for Education"

Just a reminder about "how to" digitally save those little box tops...download the app, scan the receipt, and you've done it! For details on the new program, please go to:

<https://www.boxtops4education.com/newbtf>

(There's a short you tube video with hints on how to scan: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qWuXDKejVEg&feature=youtu.be>)

As long as you see "Box Tops" on packages, please do continue to clip and send them in--they will be honored until their expiration dates.

T-Shirts and Hungry Howie Cards

The \$10 card includes a free large one-item pizza: hard to go wrong! PTO also has a few "vintage" t-shirts (last year's logo) and caps available at the school office: \$5.

VG's Receipts

Please keep saving those entire paper VG's receipts, including the "Direct Your Dollars" paragraph. ("E-receipts" are not accepted.) We will continue to collect those receipts until the store tells us to stop! Receipts can be dropped off at the school office (or SCRIP office) when you're out and about, or turned in at the rectory, or in the box at the river entrance at church.

East China School District

"Grab and Go Meals"

East China Schools are offering free "meals to go" (breakfasts and lunches) for students under age 18: pickup is on Wednesdays from 11am-1pm at both Marine City Middle/High School and St Clair High School. For more info go to the district's website:

<https://eastchinaschools.org/>

"The Blue Room"

Are your children outgrowing their school clothes? Remember our "Blue Room"--full of used school clothing donated by school families, and free to school families. Call the school office after the quarantine order is over, and we'll figure a time for you to check it out.

"Amazon Smile"

Do you shop online? You can designate Holy Cross to receive credit from online shopping through Amazon Smile! We are registered in Amazon Smile as "Holy Cross School Marine City:"

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/37-1542098>

You can follow us on Instagram: #mcholycross--and write a review for our school's Facebook page!

What You Can Do to Help!

- ◆ Love each other within your home--we are going to get through this!
- ◆ Keep Holy Cross School and all its members in your prayers.
- ◆ Mrs. Davenport send a link to morning prayer every school day before 9am: please join her.
- ◆ We LOVE to see your photos of your children during their distance learning! Please share!!
- ◆ Please complete a "review" on our Holy Cross School Facebook page:

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

A Plea On Behalf of your Parish:

Your parish needs you now more than ever. Please keep your pastor and his staff in your prayers during this pandemic crisis. And--if you are able--please continue to send in your "tithe" or weekly donations. Just as your household has ongoing expenses regardless of Governors' orders, your parish, also, has such needs, and no other way to meet them than its parishioners and other donors.

To give online to Our Lady on the River go to:
<https://ourladyontheriver.weshareonline.org/>