



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.

December 4, 2008

A St. Nicholas Prayer

God of joy and cheer,
we thank you for your servant,
the good Nicholas.
In loving the poor,
he showed us your kindness;
in caring for your children,
he revealed your love.
Make us thoughtful
without need of reward
so that we, too, may be good
followers of Jesus
Amen. --David Batchelder

Protecting God's Children Workshops

Visit 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 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.**

got scrip?

SCRIP office hours:

Mondays and Fridays, 7-9am;
Tuesdays, Wednesdays and
Thursdays 1-3pm; and
5-7pm Mondays & Tuesdays during
RE classes

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

Peddlers:

Kelly Glowski (Algonac)
Sue Sharpe (Marine City)
Kelly Zichi (East China)

As you do your Christmas shopping, don't forget our **SCRIP = stores' gift certificates**. They're perfect if you plan to give gift certificates. If you buy them at one of our SCRIP centers, you'll earn tuition credit—while avoiding traffic and line(s) at the store(s)! Using SCRIP as gifts (or for your own purchases), Christmas shopping can help pay your tuition!

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Thank you to everyone who helped give "JT" the turkey his beautiful array of feathers during November's food drive.

Camp Fundraiser Reminder:

Next Thursday, December 11, all outstanding money from camp fundraising is due so we can make any changes for final camp bills. We have some calendars, notepads and note cards available to sell—if you would like some, please send in a note with your child and we'll send them home, or stop at the office to check out the selection. Thank you—Mrs. Wade

School Survey

At conferences, you may have been given a survey by your child's teacher, or taken one from the two tables set up in the hallway. ALL of our parents' opinions are important to us! If you did not fill out a survey while you were at conferences, please take a minute to go to our website:

www.holycrossonline.net/school and select the link:

<http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/?p=WEB228JPK55WY5> to complete the survey online. (A paper copy is also included with this newsletter.) The class(es) with the highest percentage of returns will win a dress down day! The last day to take the survey is Friday, December 12, 2008. Please take a moment to give us your input. Your children, and your school, thank you!

Thanksgiving Dinner Thanks

A great meal was orchestrated by Mrs. Jennifer Laster and Mrs. Leslie Schuh: thank you SO much, ladies!

Thank you, too, to all the parents who came to cook for and serve us: Mary Ruemenapp, Gretchen Rogus, Kim Pawlak, Carrie Todd, Karen Peterson, Kari and Jim Schafer, Sue Tomlanovich, Sharon Rivard, Julie Wolf, Jackie MacKenzie, Theresa and Jessica Babel, Sue Moreton, Sue Sharpe, Diane Govier and Mary Ellen VanBoekel.

Special thanks to Mr. Fizz, Mr. Dave, Mr. Kent, and Mrs. Sweet and the 8th grade for setting up and/or putting away all the tarps, tables & chairs in the gym.

We enjoyed a wonderful meal, with enough leftovers to feed a roomful at Downriver Helping Hands. Thank you all for your part in preparing our feast.

Christmas Program News

Our Christmas program will be next Tuesday, Dec. 9, 2008 at 6:30pm at the East China Schools District Performing Arts Center. Students should wear "**dress-up day**" clothing. The doors open at 6 pm-- please arrive at the PAC NO LATER THAN 6:15 pm that evening. (Students: meet your teacher backstage while your parents take their seats in the audience.)

Help Your Children Stay Warm

Please be sure to check with your children to be sure they are wearing hats, gloves, warm coats, etc. to school. As long as the wind chill isn't drastic, we will be going out for recess at lunch.

Library Note

Due to inventory being done during the holidays, students' last day to check out books will be tomorrow, Dec. 5. All books must be returned by Friday, December 12. All Accelerated Reader books must be returned by Wednesday, December 17, Thank you!

--from the library staff

Early Dismissal:

On Monday, December 15, school will be dismissed at **12:30pm** (to coincide with East China Schools' schedule). East China buses will leave Holy Cross at 12:30pm. There will be no "study hall" that day; CMC bus riders may wait at latchkey until their bus leaves but will need to have latchkey paperwork filled out. (Please contact school ASAP if you need a packet.)

Thank You!!

...to **Mrs. Pawlak** for envelopes, and to **the Vargo family** for books donated to school.

Congratulations!!

...to **the Nicaise family** on the birth of their brother/nephew/grandson! Warren Ryder entered the world Tuesday and all is well with both him & mom.

More Congratulations!

...to **Annemarie Heitz**, who took first place at Preliminary level in the Port Huron Figure Skating Club's William E. Gilbert Memorial Club Competition on Nov. 22. Because of her win, Annemarie will skate in an extra number in the club's annual ice show in March. The judges chose Annemarie, from all of the skaters that day, as the winner of the Outstanding Performance Award, and she received a really nice plaque. Congratulations, Annemarie!

Also, both Annemarie and her sister, Veronica, will be skating at the Festival of Trees this weekend (at McMorran Arena in Port Huron). Veronica skates Thursday night at the gala opening night event, and both girls skate on Saturday and Sunday afternoon. If you'd like more info, call Mrs. Heitz c/o school.

Everyone Loves a Parade!

Marine City is hosting its annual Christmas parade next Thursday, December 11. The parade begins in front of Holy Cross church at 7pm and runs generally north along South Water Street.

Our live walking nativity is ready to march. We will demonstrate the true meaning of Christmas. All those marching: please meet at school by 5:45 pm Dec. 11.

Hope to see you in the crowds!

"How Santa Got His Christmas Tree"

The Drama Club will perform their play for the school body in the gymnasium at 12:30pm on December 18, and again at 3:30 pm for parents and others who would like to come.

Food Pantry

Our local St. Vincent de Paul food pantry is nearly empty—the bad economy hits the needy especially hard. Tomorrow is the first Friday of the month: time for our monthly nonperishable food drive to restock the pantry.

The pantry is in special need this month of breakfast foods (cereal, pancake mix and syrup, breakfast bars,...); they always need canned protein foods like tuna, peanut butter, hash, or canned ham or chicken, as well as fruits. Our hungry neighbors thank you—and remember: "whatever you do to the least of My brothers, that you do to Me."

The Sports Page

Our boys' basketball teams' first game was Monday at St. Mary St. Clair. Both of our teams enjoyed their first win of the season! The JV game ended in a score of 26-20: Coach says all ten boys played a great game. The Varsity game score was 55-44.

Last night they traveled to Port Huron to take on Trinity/McCormick. JV earned a tough win with a final score of 22-18. Our Varsity boys earned another win with a final score of 33-22.

Next week we have our first home game on Wednesday (no games on Monday)—the workers' schedule is:

Dec. 10 2008	JV game	V game
Admission	Rickel	May
Concessions	Maben	LaFontaine
Concessions	Derisley	MacKenzie
50-50	Schweihofer	Polio
Hall Monitor	Sykes	Butros

(Sports parents: your oldest athlete received your home game work schedule today.)

Thank You!!

The "Early Eds" would like to thank all who donated to our November collection for veterans. We were able to send three huge boxes of goodies to these special men and women.

All-Generations Christmas Choir

The whole family can sing together at the 4pm Christmas Eve mass—all ages! Rehearsals are on Saturdays at 4:30pm in the choir loft 'til then. Bring the whole family to sing at Holy Cross's early Christmas Eve mass.

Notes from Booster Club November 18 2008 meeting

1. Gym floor bill: rec'd & paid (~\$376).
2. AD's report: boys' basketball schedule complete.
3. Coaches' reports: varsity boys' basketball team has 22 members; JV, 10. Cheerleading: JV only.
4. Koeze nuts: sale in progress (so far orders are about 1/2 of last year's sales).
5. Magazine drive: complete; profit figures to be presented next meeting.
6. Coaches' spirit wear: Boosters to purchase polos for 4 basketball coaches and hoodies for cheer coaches.
7. Cost of basketball backboard foam & net replacements to be split with CMC.
8. Looking into new volley uniforms.
9. Next meeting: Tuesday, December 16 2008, 6:30 pm at Gar's Restaurant.

--respectfully submitted,
Kim Chaltron, Secretary

"Angel Food Ministries"

Algonac Baptist Church is sponsoring a program called "Angel Food Ministries." You can read more about it by going to the following link. <http://www.algonacbaptist.org/angelfoodministries.htm>. The program allows a family of four to purchase food for four at approximately \$30 for a week's worth of groceries. They deliver food only once a month and the payment must be in cash or food stamps. There is no proof of income required: it is just a program to help families. You can read more about the national organization at <http://www.angelfoodministries.com/>

Market Day

Thank you to everyone who supported our December Market Day!

Attached is next month's brochure. Please note that orders need to be at school by Monday, Jan. 5.

Nativity Display

In the spirit of keeping Christ in Christmas and celebrating Holy Family weekend, St. Mary Queen of Creation Parish in New Baltimore is hosting a nativity display. It will be held in their parish center (on Maria and Main Streets) and will be on December 27-29 from noon until 7pm. There will be over 300 different nativity sets (some one of a kind) from over 60 countries. It is an uplifting as well as educational experience to see the ways various cultures view the birth of Christ. No charge, but free will offerings will be accepted for their parish food pantry and local St. Vincent de Paul society.

Children's Christmas Celebration

The Marine City Knights of Columbus invite your children to their annual Christmas party this Sunday, Dec. 7, at 1 pm at their hall on King Road, Marine City. (Please note that all children must be accompanied by an adult.)

"Cookie Walk"

Blue Water Habitat for Humanity hosts its "Great Cookie Walk" this Saturday, Dec. 6 (10am-2pm: unless the cookies run out sooner!) at the Acheson Community Resource Center (514 McMorran Blvd. Port Huron). A huge assortment of homemade cookies will be available at \$7/pound, with proceeds benefiting Blue Water Habitat. Come (with your own containers, please) and do your holiday "baking!"