



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.

September 24, 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. The training is also available online: if you don't find it on the "Virtus" website, call school.

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!

got SCRIP?

**Mondays 7-9am and 5-6pm,
and Fridays 7-9am**

Patty Smith 810.434.9557--
Call or text your order ahead of time
to arrange "no-contact" pickup!

If you don't quite understand SCRIP, contact Patty (above) or the school office for an explanation of the program.

**NO SCHOOL NEXT MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 28**

Professional development for teachers. Enjoy the three-day weekend!

Calendar Reminder: Day Off!

A reminder to all that **there will also be NO SCHOOL on Oct. 16** (another day for teachers' inservices).

Phoning In Student Absences

Parents are reminded to **call the school office (810.765.3591)** any morning their child will not be coming to school.

Mark Your Calendar....

- **Next M Sep 28: NO SCHOOL--teachers' professional development**
- F Oct 9: advanced altar server training 3pm at church
- **W Oct. 14: school picture re-takes**
- F Oct 16: NO SCHOOL--teachers' professional development

Service Credits

Don't forget that families had until September 15 to sign up for credits; families who hadn't chosen by then were assigned to Plan "A" (to simply pay for their credits). You should have received a copy of your service credit record via US mail within the past few days.

To Schedule Bingo Shifts...

Families opting to work their service credits at Wednesday bingos (at St Catherine activity center in Algonac): please contact **Paul Burger** at **734.837.5807**. When bingo resumes, help will be needed most Wednesdays: one should fit your schedule.

Service Credits: Lunch Aides

Thank you to the folks who have answered the call already--and to those who have been filling in those empty spots! We are still looking for lunch supervisors. You can earn service credits being a lunch aide: four shifts worked will equal one credit. We are most in need of help (10:30-11:30am) on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

NEW SCHEDULING OPTION--by the day! The schedule is at:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1tqQWXOy86EdecEz7Sq0dzzPy6NK6SUjTd9zNjXEHIFE/edit#gid=1>

You can take any open slot: just fill in your name. However, remember that everyone working at lunch must be an adult, must have taken the "Protecting God's Children" class (which you can do online!--see the first paragraph of this newsletter) and submit to a background check. If you are interested (or for more info), please contact the school office.

Cross Country

First meet is this afternoon: go, Crusaders! Watch for results in next week's newsletter.

Substitute Teachers

We're looking for substitute teachers to add to our list. If you know of anyone interested (a retired teacher, perhaps, or other person with a bachelor's degree) please ask them to contact Mrs. Davenport.

Lunch Recess

Little by little we're working out the kinks in our "COVID" schedule!

We do still need help with lunch supervisors (earn service credits!): please contact school or sign up by the date at the webpage listed earlier in this newsletter if you can help. (There aren't many opportunities to earn service credits that allow you to see your child, during the day!)

In addition to supervision, keeping the kiddos occupied is proving to be a challenge. In order to be able to take breaks from wearing their masks, the classes are having their recess time grouped with only their own classroom-mates. Each group has its own balls to play with outdoors, as well as sidewalk chalk and jump ropes.

Finding fun things for the students to do that fit within "COVID-safe" parameters has also been taxing! We have begun putting together bags of play things for indoor recess for each child--things like crayons, paper, and small toys. These items will not be shared, but will be used only by the owner of the bag.

We will gladly accept donations of such things! We are imagining things like small coloring books, small reading books or comic books, jacks, yoyos,... If you have little things like these that you can part with, we would love to have them. Thank you so much for your cooperation as we navigate these challenging times together!

Water

A reminder that water bottles need to be clear and contain only water (we've had some sticky messes from spills that made it obvious it was something other than water!).

Lunches

A reminder, also, that students' lunches need to contain a drink and (when needed) eating utensils--thanks!

Birthday Goodies

In deference to the virus, we must request that any goodies sent in to celebrate birthdays be **store-bought** and **individually wrapped**.

Parents of children with food allergies: if you are concerned that such items may not comply with your child's dietary restrictions, please send in a few approved treats that your child's teacher can hold for him to enjoy during his classmates' birthday celebrations.

"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>

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 (old logo) and caps available at the school office: \$5 each.

Free and Reduced Lunches

Funding for the current "free lunch" program WILL end at some point. Families are encouraged to apply for continued free/reduced cost lunch benefits. The application form was included in your "first day" folder (and can be found at

<https://eastchinaschools.org/wp-content/uploads/bsk-pdf-manager/2020/07/2020-21-Free-and-Reduced-Price-Lunch-Application.pdf>

(Go to ecsd.us, select "departments"--"food service"--then scroll down for the application and other information.)

Clothes Hangers for "The Blue Room"

We have TONS of clothes: so much that we've run out of hangers. If you have any (especially the ones with clips) that you can part with, your donation will be greatly appreciated. Thank you!

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>

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.

VG's Receipts

Please keep saving those entire paper VG's receipts, including the "Direct Your Dollars" paragraph. ("E-receipts" are not accepted.) We are almost 90% of the way to our next \$1000 award, and 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.

Volleyball!

Many thanks to **Mrs. Colleen Kowalewski** for offering to help. We are still looking for a "head" coach. Seven 5-8th grade girls have indicated their interest in having a team--it's not too late for their classmates to join them IF there's someone who can lead. More info next week!

Advanced Altar Server Training

Fr. Lapeyre invites those who would like to serve at weddings, funerals and other special events to a training on Friday, October 16, at 3pm in the church.

Middle School Athletes:

Your sports season is coming up: get your physical done now so you'll be ready for the first practice!

Spirit Wear

There has been a little problem with the supplier, and everyone with a pending order should have been contacted by the supplier to arrange for a refund.

We are looking for a new supplier: stay tuned!

"STAR" Testing

This year, the Archdiocese of Detroit has chosen to use "STAR" as its standardized testing, replacing the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills that we have used for years.

The testing "window" is September 29-October 9. Testing helps us identify individual students' strengths and weaknesses, and class trends help us "tweak" our curriculum to be sure we are presenting lessons appropriately and effectively.

The best test preparation is to ensure that your child is well rested and well fed: get to bed early and have a good breakfast to perform your best!

From The Archdiocese of Detroit:

The Department of Communications is launching the first CSA Giving Day is on Thursday, September 24. While CSA is nothing new, this will be an opportunity for the faithful to see and hear what's happening in the AoD in a live format.

You can check this out on social media at:

<https://mobile.twitter.com/aodschools/status/1308048524223938560>

Please complete a "review" on our Holy Cross School Facebook page:

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

You can follow us on Instagram: **#mcholycross**

A Plea On Behalf of your Parish:

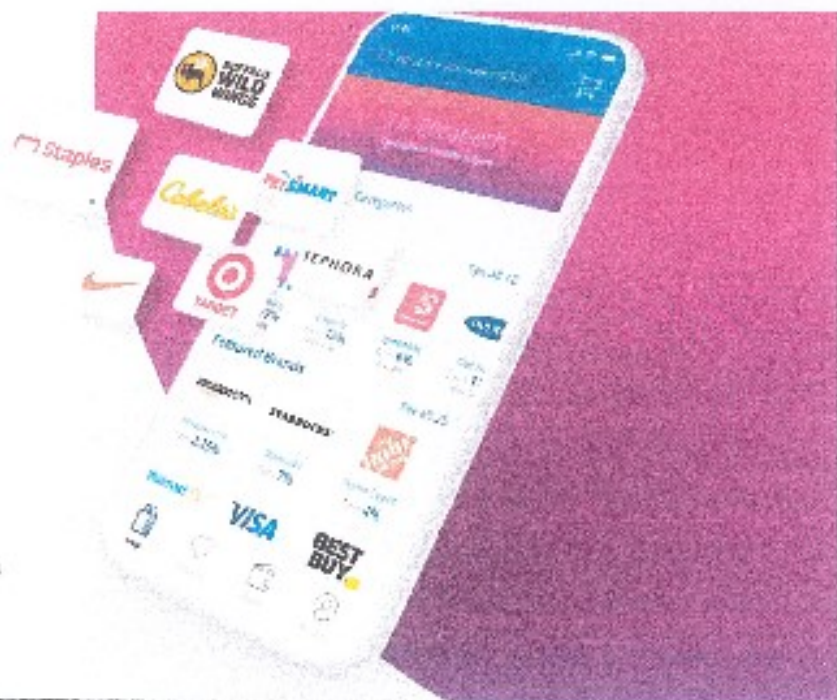
Your parish needs you now more than ever. Please keep your pastor and his staff in your prayers during this pandemic crisis. You are invited to join in Our Lady on the River's daily and weekend services. However, if you prefer not to venture out into crowds just yet, please continue to send in your "tithe" or weekly donations, as you are able. 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/>

The easy way to raise money



Create opportunities for what matters most to you—right from your phone. Buy gift cards from 750+ brands to earn on your daily purchases. It's simply the right way to fundraise.



Start earning with the RaiseRight™ mobile app today

1. Join the program

- First, download the RaiseRight mobile app from the app store using your smartphone or tablet.
- Then, enter the enrollment code to join: **4EEA 329D724**

2. Buy gift cards and earn for your organization

- Browse bonuses, search for a specific brand, shop categories, and more.
- When you're ready to check out, sign up for secure online payments. You can link a bank account, add a credit card, or both.
- The brand gives back to your organization the moment you buy a gift card—at no extra cost to you.

3. Get and use your gift cards

- eGift cards are delivered to the app within minutes—view them in your Wallet.
- Physical gift cards are mailed to your coordinator. Many are reloadable so you can keep earning with the ones you have.
- Use both types in-store and online.

Have questions text **Patty Smith 810-434-9557** **Mon-Fri 9-4**

Have questions about getting started?

Call the ShopWithScrip Customer Support team at 1-800-727-4715 Option 3.

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FALL ATHLETICS UPDATE

Please see below for information relating to player and fan attendance for the fall sports. Keep in mind that this reflects things as they are today and can change as new information becomes available.

CROSS COUNTRY

- Athletes will be required to wear masks from the point of entering the grassy area until the "firing" of the starting gun at which time they will start running and either place in short's pocket or ear loop around forearm.
- Athletes are allowed two spectators outside of the vehicles and any spectators must wear masks when unable to maintain six feet of social distancing.
- There will be a two-minute staggered start between those athletes in the lower grades and those in the upper grades. In addition, the starting line will be wider so that athletes can be more spread out.
- There will be no health screening at the practices or meets. Similar to the way it has been handled in years past, an athlete must have attended school that day in order to participate in the meet. For weekend practices, if the athlete is displaying any COVID-like symptoms please refrain from attending that day.
- There will be no fruit or drinks provided at the meets. Parents are encouraged to bring refreshments for their own children only.
- It has been asked that the playground equipment that is present at the park not be used by athletes or their siblings at any time while at the park. The less possibilities of contracting any colds/viruses will allow Catholic schools to continue to meet face-to-face.

VOLLEYBALL

- In order to limit the number of people entering the school building, when dropping off or picking up a player we are asking that only the player enter the building. No one outside of players and coaches will be allowed in the building for practices.
- Players and coaches are required to wear masks while participating.
- Players are allowed two spectators at games and all spectators must wear masks while inside the building. We appreciate your attendance to this.
- There will be no health screening at the practices or games. Similar to the way it has been handled in years past, an athlete must have attended school that day in order to participate in the practice or game. For weekend practices, if the athlete is displaying any COVID-like symptoms please refrain from attending that day.
- Equipment will be wiped down daily at the end of each practice or game.

October 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sep 27	Sep 28 NO SCHOOL TO- DAY	Sep 29	Sep 30	OCT 1 Cross country meet 5:30pm at Columbus park	2	3
4	5	6 School Committee meets 6pm in teachers' room	7 Walk to School day: meet at MC beach at 7am No East China bus- es home	8 Cross country meet 5:30pm	9 Nonperishable food & paper goods drive for parish pantry	10
11	12	13 PTO meets 6:30 via Zoom	14 Picture retakes: fall sports teams pictures	15 Cross country meet 5:30pm if needed to make up	16 NO SCHOOL-- professional development for teachers	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30 End of first quar- ter	31