



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.

February 11, 2021

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!

Bingo

Our bingos are open again! To schedule to work bingo on Wednesdays at St Catherine's: please contact **Paul Burger** at **734.837.5807**.

Catholic Schools Week

Thank you to everyone who helped celebrate our Catholic schools last week. Students and staff enjoyed all the dress down days and treats. Thank you to the **PTO, the Westricks, and Mrs. Davenport** for all the goodies they provided. Thank you, too, to everyone who "voted" in the "Penny War:" your donations totaled \$749.69, which will go to the Our Lady on the River parish food pantry! A lot of hungry families will have a little more to eat thanks to you. Kindergarten won the contest: they get an extra recess!

Mark Your Calendar....

- **F-M, Feb 12-15: midwinter break-NO SCHOOL**
- **W Feb 17: Ash Wednesday--mass at noon (church day dress code); no East China buses home**
- **W Feb. 24: Winter sports pictures (bring your uniform!)**
- **M March 8: teachers' professional development--NO SCHOOL for students**

Basketball and Cheerleading

Our boys' first game is at 6:30 at home on Feb. 22. They head to Landmark the next day for a 5:30 start. The girls' team plays its first game at MCA on Feb. 25 (starting at 7:30pm). Each athlete is permitted to bring up to two spectators (admission will be \$5 for each).

Parents of athletes: players' families are all expected to work two admissions or concessions shifts over the course of the season. (That raises the money to pay our coaches, refs, league fees and other sports teams' expenses.) A million thanks to **Mrs. Janine Winne** who coordinates our concessions and workers! Please contact her to offer your help.

Go, Crusaders!!

Winter Sports Pictures

...will be taken on **Wednesday, February 24**. Basketball players and cheerleaders: you will need to bring your uniforms to school that day for your photos.

Winter Break: No School

--tomorrow or Monday!

Raffle Calendar Winners

...for February are Barbara Molenda and Wanda Edie of Algonac and Derek Grystzelius of Cottrellville Township. Congratulations!

Ash Wednesday

Next Wednesday, Feb. 17, is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. Holy Cross students will go to mass at noon that day. Students: please remember to follow the mass day dress code for that day. (We will also go to mass on Friday as usual.)

Registration for 2021-2

Re-registration for the 2021-2 school year will open soon. A packet will be prepared for your family and sent home with your oldest "Crusader" within the next two weeks. This way, current families will be offered the opportunity to register before it is opened in March to the general public.

To register, the registration paperwork must be completed and returned to the school office with the appropriate fees. Also, all prior years' tuition and other obligations must be satisfied in full before a family's registration is complete.

With the uncertainty still caused by the pandemic, we must plan to have to continue distancing, so our class sizes will continue to be limited. Therefore, it will be more important than ever that you reserve your children's spaces for the upcoming year in a timely manner.

Service Credits: Lunch Aides

Thank you to those who have been signing up and working as lunch aides!

Please sign up for all service credit shifts in advance to be sure you receive the credit: if you just show up and we have enough workers already, we can't offer the extra credits. The signup schedule is online at:

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

--and runs through the end of the school year. 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.

Thanks to the new folks who helped in January! Starting now, **we really need your help!** As a lunch supervisor, you can earn your service credits while seeing your kids! If you are interested (or for more info), please contact the office.

Holy Cross on Facebook:

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

...and Fish Frys

The parish fish frys will start next Friday, February 19. COVID regulations (as of today) allow only take out meals; therefore, workers to serve/bus tables...will not be needed. However, the fish fry committee says what is really needed is cleanup people.

Cleanup is expected to take under 3 hours each night, and the shift would start at 6:30pm. School workers will earn 1 service credit for each full cleanup shift.

Fish fry contact info has been sent to families who indicated at registration they were interested in helping with the fish frys. Please be sure to email "Mary Agnes" to schedule your shifts.

...and Auction 2021

Due to the pandemic, this year's Auction is being planned as a virtual event. This means that fewer service credit work shifts will be available than in the past. **Please contact the school office if you are interested in helping with an online Auction.**

T-Shirts and Hungry Howie Cards

PTO still has a few Hungry Howie fundraiser cards available: for the \$10 cost, you get a free large one-item pizza, along with a number of pizza discounts. There are also a few "vintage" t-shirts (old logo) and caps available for \$5 each: all at the school office.

"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>

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/newbtfe>

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

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

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

VG's Receipts

Thanks to everyone who continues to save them for us! We're over half way to our next reward.

Please keep saving the entire paper VG's receipts, including the "Direct Your Dollars" paragraph. ("E-receipts" are not accepted.) We are already about a third of the way to our next reward, and will continue to collect 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.

Attention All Actors!

The Brysons and Phelans invite all student actors (and parent helpers!) to join them in a socially-distant production of "Jungle Book Kids." They have already been in contact with students who have indicated an interest in participating. Please contact either Mrs. Bryson at 757.334.9662 or Mrs. Phelan at 810.434.5416 with any questions!

Archdiocesan Grant Applications for 2021-22

Grant applications are made through your FACTS account: look for the link on your FACTS info page.

For general information about the grant program, go to

<https://https://www.detroitcatholicsschools.org/tuition-assistance-scholarships>

Your application will require your pastor's signature: the pastor signature form is available at

<https://aod.app.box.com/s/2o7181wuacwdv2f867110yq01216uq6s>

Applying for the Archdiocesan grant is **required** to be eligible to apply for any other tuition assistance, so you are strongly encouraged to apply!

Congratulations Crusader Alumnae!

Congratulations go out to several Holy Cross grads who are now at Cardinal Mooney: **Maggie Bartholone** (HC class of 2019) and **Sophia Goulette** (Class of 2017) both earned "gold key" awards in the national 2021 Scholastic Art Competition. Maggie's award came in the category of drawing and illustrating; Sophia's, in painting. Way to go, ladies!

Free Reusable Masks!

Do you need (washable/reusable) white face masks? We have lots (FREE!): call school (810.765.3591)!

Winter Wear!

Especially this year, we want to get the kids outside and into the fresh air as much as we can. Please be sure your student has appropriate outer wear for cold weather recess--coat, hat, gloves, snowpants, boots.

YEARBOOK

Time to think about a yearbook! This year's yearbook will be 28 pages long, and filled with color photographs. The price will be the same as last year: \$15 per book; we expect they'll be delivered in mid-May. You'll find an order form on the last page of this newsletter--**orders will need to be in by Friday, March 26** to be included in this year's printing.

Remember EVERY DAY...

-your mask;
-**your charged ChromeBook**;
-your lunch;
-be in **complete school uniform** (shoes & socks, too!);
-have your **homework done** and ready to turn in;
-wear **warm outer clothes** for recess.

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 governmental 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/>

Lenten "Virtual Retreats"

The Archdiocese of Detroit announces upcoming virtual retreats. 'Virtual Catholic Conference' is offering two free virtual retreats, one for men and one for women, in February and March.

For more info about the men's conference go to:

https://go.virtualcatholicconference.com/nmc2021?r_done=1

For the women's conference, go to:
<https://go.virtualcatholicconference.com/NCWC2021>

Tuition / Service Credits For 2020-21

Just a reminder that all tuition should be paid in full by the end of March. Service credits should be worked by the end of April. Families on Plan A (paying for service credits) owe their final payment on April 1.

VG's and "Habitat for Humanity"

From Feb. 10-21, VG's is partnering with its shoppers to raise funds for their local "Habitat for Humanity" office. At checkout during those days, shoppers will have the opportunity to add \$1, \$5 or \$10 to their total, or to round up their change, with the entire extra amounts being donated to Habitat.

Then--save your store receipt to turn in at school, as VG's also helps raise money for us via their ongoing "Direct your Dollars" fundraiser! We are also grateful to VG;s for being one of our oldest SCRIP vendors!

"MOBILE CAMP"

Today is the second and final day of Leelanau Outdoor Center's "mobile camp" visit to Holy Cross. Our 5-8th graders have been enjoying some of the experiences they would ordinarily have had at winter camp (and are really looking forward to being able to return!!).

The LOC team started with activities to build teamwork and trust:



One game had the students standing on lined-up squares of carpet: they had to advance their line forward while staying on the carpet (but they couldn't slide the pieces along the floor). They soon realized that the last person in line had to pick up the last piece of carpet and pass it up to the head of the line in order for the line to advance.

The students enjoyed being with LOC counselors, and are eager to meet them again up at camp next year!



...meanwhile: our river-side view....

ORDER YOUR 2020-21 YEARBOOK!

This year's yearbook will be 28 pages long (just like last year's) and filled with full-color photos and memories. The books will 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 = \$ _____ enclosed

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 Friday, March 26**---