



# HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL, KINGSTON

## March, 2007 Newsletter... visit our web site at [www.hctoday.ca](http://www.hctoday.ca)

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The Holy Cross newsletter is issued on the first school day of each month.

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

As we head into the March Break, I express my appreciation to all students and staff for the great start to Semester II. Our community is blessed to have so many dedicated and talented members who share their time and talents with one another. I offer my congratulations on behalf of our community to the following: the organizers of the **18<sup>th</sup> Annual Memorial** hosted at Holy Cross on **February 8<sup>th</sup>**. Approximately **\$16 000** was raised through ticket sales to the boys' basketball games, 50/50 draws, Silent Auction, T-shirt sales, and the two day elementary schools' basketball tournament; the **Holy Cross Swimming Team** with **Philip Arnold, Ryan Coens, and Andrew Klenke**, who have qualified for the **All-Ontario Championships** on **March 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>** in Etobicoke; the **Holy Cross Improv** team comprised of **Sheila Edwards, Simon Finn, Melissa Davis, Rob Taylor, Graham Slaughter, Brianna Roberts, Mike Cox and Cassie Berry** under the direction of **Ms. Carrie Rose** which placed **3<sup>rd</sup>** on an emotionally-combustible Saturday evening in the **Eastern Regional Improv** games; the **Holy Cross Bands**, which competed in the **Annual Kiwanis Festival** at Holy Cross on **February 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>** under the Direction of **Mr. David Orser** and **Mrs. Diane McCombs**; **Laura Martindale** who will be participating in the **Canada Winter Games** in the **Yukon** as a member of the **U-18 Ontario hockey team**; **Chas Murphy, Jen Brulé, and Brynn Hutzler** who competed at the **All-Ontario OFSAA Wrestling Championships** in Brampton where **Chas Murphy won Gold**; our **Cheerleading Team** that won best overall in our KASSAA and regional competitions and will compete in the nationals in early May; Technology Department Head **Mr. John Esford** who was awarded the Kingston Tech Council **Dick Hopkins Innovation in Education Award**.

In order to maintain an atmosphere that is centered on learning, we are reinforcing some initiatives such as the **cell phone use policy** you can read about later in this newsletter, a **proxy server** that blocks inappropriate internet sites from school computers, and visits from the **Health Unit's Bylaw Enforcement Officer** to monitor and respond to smoking on school property. For the first time, we will be running **Lockdown Drills**, to rehearse what staff and students should do in the unlikely event that a dangerous intruder invades our school; this practice is intended to inform and empower rather than alarm. An exciting initiative is the **Crusader Express Card** for students to use in our cafeteria. More information will follow.

### PASTORAL SERVICES UPDATE

**PANCAKE BREAKFAST:** Thanks to everyone who supported our Pancake Breakfast on **February 20<sup>th</sup>**. With the capable assistance of C.I.C.S., Students' Council, **Ms. Rae Dalton's** Art Class and **Mrs. Coombs'** Bridges class we were able to cook over 1200 pancakes and raised close to \$1200.00 for our Share Lent Collection. We would like to especially thank the Brown's Cafeteria Staff, the Golden Griddle, and M & M's on Gardiner's Road for their hard work and generous donations.

### MARCH DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday, March 1<sup>st</sup> .... Reconciliation, All Day, Library  
 Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> ... 2007-2008 Course Selection completed  
 Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> ..... World Day of Prayer  
 Mon., March 5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> ..... International Women's Week  
 Thursday, March 8<sup>th</sup> Last Instructional Day before March Break  
 Thursday, March 8<sup>th</sup> .... History Trip to Communications Museum, CFB Kingston  
 Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup> Daylight Savings Time Begins  
 Thurs., March 8<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> ... London / Paris Theatre and Arts Trip  
 Fri., March 9<sup>th</sup> - Sun., March 18<sup>th</sup> ... March Break  
 Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup> ..... First Instructional Day after March Break  
 Tuesday, March 20<sup>th</sup> ..... Parent Evening  
     The Internet & Your Teen, 7 p.m. Library  
 Wednesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> ..... Early Semester Reports Cards  
 Thursday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> ..... World Water Day, Assemblies  
 Monday, March 26<sup>th</sup> .. Catholic School Council Meeting, 7 p.m., Library  
 Tuesday, March 27<sup>th</sup> ... Parent-Teacher Interviews Night  
     3:30 to 6:00 & 7:00 to 9:00 in the Cafetorium  
 Wednesday, March 28<sup>th</sup> ... Meningococcal Vaccine Clinic  
 Thursday, March 29<sup>th</sup> .. Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test, Independent Study Day for Grades 11 and 12s not writing.  
 Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup> ..... ThinkFast  
 Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup> .... Future Building Exposition, Ottawa  
 Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup> ..... Non-uniform Day  
 Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup> ..... Improv Share Lent Show

**TAIZE VISITOR:** We welcomed **Br. Felix** from the **Taizé** community in France to our school on **Tuesday, Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>**. He visited religion classes and led a Taizé Prayer Service in the Chapel after school. Students and staff were deeply touched by his joyful presence and beautiful singing. As a result of his visit, some of us are considering attending the **Taizé Youth Conference** which will be held in Montreal at the end of April.

**SHARE LENT CAMPAIGN:** We are once again encouraging donations to Share Lent through home form classes, bake sales and other fundraising activities during lent. This year our monies will be going to support an **Apprenticeship & Trades' program** at **St. Margaret's School** in **Kingston, Jamaica** through the **St. Patrick's Foundation**. We will also be helping a school sponsored by the **Sisters of Providence** in **Chiricaja, Guatemala** and supporting international development programs through the **Catholic Organization for Development & Peace**. The A.L.C.D.S.B. is also encouraging schools across the Board to examine the use of soft-plastic water bottles by students and staff in an effort to discourage their use and to promote the use of tap water or hard plastic water bottles instead. There will be a presentation to the school community on **March 22<sup>nd</sup>** which is "**World Water Day**". We will also be selling "Holy Cross" hard-plastic water bottles during Lent: 500 ml bottles are \$5.00, while the 1 liter bottle will cost \$6.00. See Students' Council or **Mr. Forster** to order one.

**LENT:** Once again, we began the season of Lent here at Holy Cross with Ash Wednesday Mass and with the distribution of ashes at the end of Mass as a symbol of our common need for repentance and conversion. As Christians, we are encouraged to follow the traditional observances of fasting, abstinence and almsgiving throughout the 40 days of Lent. We will have a celebration of **Reconciliation** for the school community on **March 1<sup>st</sup>**, a **Staff Way of the Cross** on **April 4<sup>th</sup>**, and a **Holy Week Liturgy** for the school also on **Wednesday, April 4<sup>th</sup>** to help us to enter into the spirit of this penitential season.

**THINKFAST:** Our annual **25-Hour Thinkfast** will take place from **March 30<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup>**. Students will be asked to collect pledges for the **Catholic Organization for Development & Peace** and to fast from solid food for 25 hours as part of this overnight experience. See **Mr. Forster** for an application form.

May all of our students, staff and families enter deeply into this holy season of Lent and experience new meaning in the Easter that awaits us all.

Chris Forster, Pastoral Services

#### **WORLD YOUTH DAY, 2008, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA**

The process for registering for World Youth Day 2008 (July 2008) will be the same as previous World Youth Days. All registrations will be coordinated through the Archdiocese of Kingston Youth Office. If you or someone you know is planning to attend WYD 2008, please contact **Mary Carr** at **613.548.4461**. Information about cost, travel options, organized groups, and so on, is now available. To avoid disappointment, plans should be finalized by December 2007.

#### **LITERACY TESTING**

The Literacy Test will be written on **Thursday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2007**. A Literacy Test preparation class is being presented to all Grade 10 students. A practice booklet has been sent home with the students. This year, the test will be conducted on one day for two ninety-minute sessions. In order to serve the test writers properly, our **Grade 11** and **12** students not writing the test are granted an **Independent Study Day** (at home) on **March 29<sup>th</sup>**. Grade 9 classes will run as regularly scheduled.

#### **CELLPHONE POLICY**

The use of cell phones should primarily be used in emergency situations and should not interfere with student learning and individual privacy. According to the **Safe Schools Act**, photographs can not be published without consent of the individual being photographed.

Cell phones may not be used and **must** be powered off (not on silent or vibrate) while a student is in the classroom or during school-sponsored activities during the regular instructional day, such as school Masses, exams, or student assemblies. Students may use their cell phones **only** in the cafeteria and the student commons before and after school hours and during the lunch hour and student spares.

**A cell phone that disrupts class or a student assembly will be taken by the teacher, given to the administration and returned at the end of the day.** A second violation will result in the phone being taken for the day and returned to the parent the next day. Additional disruptions may result in suspension. Holy Cross does not assume responsibility for lost or stolen electronic devices.

#### **QUIT 4 LIFE—SMOKER'S CORNER**

Holy Cross welcomed Public Health Nurse **Nancy Melville** who set up a display in the Foyer educating students about tobacco use and resulting health consequences. Several young people signed up for **Quit 4 Life**, a ten week smoking cessation program facilitated by **Ms. Melville**. We wish our students the best of luck and the fruit of determination in their quest to quit smoking.

#### **KIWANIS MUSIC FESTIVAL RESULTS**

Congratulations to the **Holy Cross Crusader Bands** for their stellar performance in the **Kiwanis Music Festival**. First place honours went to the **Senior Wind Ensemble** and the **Symphonic Band** while the **Junior Band** received Second Place in the Junior Competitive Category. In addition to the competitive classes, the **Senior Wind Ensemble** and **Jazz Ensemble** both received highest honours in the non-competitive classes. Next stop for the Bands is the Big Apple. The Crusader Bands will travel to New York City in April where they will perform for two schools in Harlem, see two Broadway shows (*Wicked* and *Hairspray*), visit the Juilliard School for the Arts and the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and finish with a trip to Lincoln Centre to see and hear the world-famous New York Philharmonic.

#### **IMPROV TEAM**

The **Holy Cross Competition** and **In-House Improv Teams** are having a lunchtime show on **Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup>** in the Lecture Theatre. We are asking for a small donation to the **Share Lent Campaign** as an admissions fee.





# HOLY CROSS ATHLETICS



## CHAS MURPHY TAKES HOME OFSAA GOLD!

Chas Murphy, a Grade 11 student at Holy Cross, recently won a gold medal at the 2007 Wrestling Championships, held in Brampton, Ontario. Chas was seeded #3 out of 28 of Ontario's top wrestlers in the 44kg category. Chas rolled through the competition winning all of his matches by pinning his opponents. Chas now has his sights set on a gold medal at the National Championships to be held April 13th - 15th. Chas is the third wrestler from Holy Cross to reach such a high level of achievement in wrestling. Others who have won gold at OFSAA: Paul Ragusa 1989, 1991 (47.5kg category) and Mike Kuba 1991 (57.5kg category). Good Luck at Nationals, Chas!

The winter season comes to a close as the spring season starts up. Holy Cross will be represented at **O.F.S.A.A.** in **swimming** on **March 6<sup>th</sup>** and **7<sup>th</sup>** by **Ryan Coens, Philip Arnold** and **Andrew Klenke**, **wrestling** on **March 1<sup>st</sup>** and **2<sup>nd</sup>** by **Chas Murphy, Jen Brulé**, and **Brynn Hutzler**. **Holy Cross Cheerleaders** regained their winning form by capturing the **K.A.S.S.A.A.** and **regional championships** this past month. They will compete at the **nationals** in **Kitchener** on the weekend of **May 11<sup>th</sup>**.

**Badminton** season hits full stride in March and April. The badminton team will compete in the following events: **Singles tournament – Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>** at Regiopolis-Notre Dame, **Doubles – Monday, March 5<sup>th</sup>** at **LCVI**, **Mixed – Wednesday, April 4<sup>th</sup>** at **Lasalle**, **KASSAA Finals Open – Wednesday, April 11<sup>th</sup>** at **LCVI**, and **Juniors – Thursday, April 19<sup>th</sup>** at **HC**.

This spring, over 200 student athletes from Holy Cross will compete for KASSAA and EOSSA championships. Both the KASSAA website - [www.kassaa.ca](http://www.kassaa.ca) and the OFSAA website [www.ofsaa.on.ca](http://www.ofsaa.on.ca) are an excellent resource for schedules, league rules and any general information regarding high school sports. Information regarding teams can be obtained through a number of media, including school announcements, posters, our school's athletic web site – [www.alcbsb.on.ca/~hcssa](http://www.alcbsb.on.ca/~hcssa), local newspapers and the KASSAA web site – [www.kassaa.ca](http://www.kassaa.ca). If you have any questions concerning a team please contact the coach listed or ask your home room teacher for assistance.

## Boys' Soccer

The **Senior Boys' Soccer** team will play under the leadership of teacher coaches **Mr. Fil Scarpaza** and **Mr. Mike Zanette**. **Mr. Scarpaza** is looking forward to another competitive season. The team will travel to two tournaments. Tryouts will begin after March break with practices after school. The team's user fee will be \$110.

The **Junior Boys' Soccer** team will be looking to improve upon their strong showing last year. Teacher Coaches **Mr. Bob Bouvier**, and **Mr. Pat Murphy** will be taking the Junior Crusaders to one tournament at LaSalle. Practices occur daily Monday through Friday after school. Tryouts will begin after March Break.

## Girls' Soccer

The **Senior Girls'** team is led by teacher coach **Mr. Richard Coleman**. The team practices after school. The **Junior Girls'** team is led by teacher coaches **Mrs. Patsy Hawkins-Hogan** and **Mrs. Marie Hulse**. The team will have some morning practices and some after school practices.

## Rugby

All three Rugby teams are coached by the same coaching staff led by **Mr. Mike Chambers**, **Mr. Dave Jarrell** and **Mr. John Clark**. Official team tryouts begin after the March break. The teams practise daily after school and each new player is required to purchase team kit. The **Senior Boys** team will attend two tournaments: in Toronto and Guelph. The **Junior Boys** team looks to build on the success of the junior football team as they vie for the **KASSAA** championship. The **Girls'** team again looks to be strong. They and the juniors will attend two tournaments. All three teams have a \$60 user fee separate from tournament and kit costs.

## Tennis

The **Tennis Club** will be coached by **Ms. Noella Johnston**. Practices will start in the first week in May. Practices will take place at 7:00 a.m. at the Bayridge Tennis Courts Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. Everyone is welcome!

## Track and Field

The **Track and field** team, under the leadership of coaches **Mrs. Anne Marie Macrow**, **Mrs. Marie Hulse**, **Mr. Mike Lazure**, **Mr. Robin Dzierniejko**, **Mrs. Kim Hulton**, **Mrs. Joanne Van Nest**, and **Mr. Matthew Van Nest** will try to send a record number of Crusaders to the OFSAA championships being held on June 7- 9 in Ottawa. Any interested student, willing to practise regularly will be given an opportunity to join this highly competitive team. Try-outs occur late in March. The team's user fee is approximately \$100.

## Rowing

A meeting for all returning and new rowers and parents is planned for **Thursday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>** at 7 p.m. in the **Lecture Theatre** at Holy Cross. If you are unable to attend this meeting, please contact **Ms. Shani Doucet** at **613-389-1122**. **Ms. Doucet** is a teacher at Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Rowing regattas will be held every weekend in May culminating in the regatta in St. Catharines at the beginning of June. In addition dry land training for all rowers will begin at the school on **Thursday March 22<sup>nd</sup>** at 6:30 am. Senior rowers will continue to train at the rowing club on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings at 6:30 am. Until such time as we are able to train on the water practices will be held at the school and at the rowing club at 6:30 am.

## Baseball and Lacrosse - pending

Consideration is undergoing regarding the fielding of a baseball team and a Lacrosse team. Interested students should pay attention to announcements.