



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL, KINGSTON

October, 2007 Newsletter.. visit our web site at www.hctoday.ca

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Now that the month of September has come and gone, let me take a moment to thank all members of our school community for a great start to the school year. Some highlights of our first month together include:

- The nearly 100 members of our Holy Cross community who participated in the 27th Annual **Terry Fox Run** at **St. Lawrence College** on **September 16th**. Many participants wore Crusader Spirit attire, making our participation clearly visible and capturing the **Barry Brady Trophy for the fifth consecutive year** for the most number of high school participants.
- Our **Students' Council**, led by **Mr. Mike Zanette**, for spearheading our initiatives to welcome Grade Nines into our school from our day in August set aside to make sure students had their books and their lockers and were able to locate their classrooms, to the Grade Nine Orientation morning, which was good, if not clean, fun and ended with a BBQ, to the first school dance "Black and White", which also was well-organized and fun for all. We are proud of all of our students who were well-behaved at the dance, living up to the responsibilities charged to Holy Cross students.
- Our **fall sports teams**, who are underway, are demonstrating Crusader spirit in their preparations and fierce but fair play. We are very excited about the annual **PH Classic** on **Thursday, October 4th** and **The Catholic Cup**, being played "under the lights" at Richardson Stadium on **Friday, October 5th**.
- Our arts department, many of whom are rehearsing for this year's musical, **Urinetown**, a play that explores social justice issues connected with access to basic rights such as clean water and dignity for all. I think most would agree that the play's title is startling. Please trust us that the play's message will stay with you longer than its title.
- Two of our students, **Grace Sylvester** and **Shari King**, who with some friends, created a video entitled "**A Call to Holiness**"; this video won a **national prize from the Christian and Missionary Alliance of Canada**. More importantly, we are proud that these young people have the courage and vision to share a simple but important message for us all: we all do have a call to holiness and bear out that call in our everyday lives.

Paul A. Walsh

PASTORAL UPDATE

We are now well along in this year's **Thanksgiving Food Drive** which runs until **October 5th**. Once again, we are in a friendly competition with other local high schools to see who can collect the most food and win the coveted **K-ROCK High School**

Mon., Sept. 24 to Thurs., Oct. 04	Thanksgiving Food Drive
Tuesday and Wednesday Oct. 02 – 03.....	Fall Team Photos
Monday October 01.....	University of Ottawa, 2:35 p.m.
Wednesday, October 03....	St. Lawrence College Presentation, 10:15 a.m.
	-Cross Country at TISS Invitational
	-University Information Session at Frontenac Secondary School, 7:00 p.m.
Thursday , October 04.....	Semester One Early Report Card Day
	-Grad Photo orders due in Room 129
	-Graduation write-ups due in Room 129
	-Take Our Kids To Work Permission Forms Issued
	-University of Guelph-Kemptville Campus 2:35 p.m.
	-Toonie-Non-Uni Day, PH Classic at HC JV & V Girls' Basketball Games
Friday, October 05.....	Green and Silver Pep Rally Day
	-World Teachers Day
Fri. Oct. 05 to Fri. Oct. 26.....	Grade 9 Per. 2 Library Orientation Classes
Monday, October 08	Thanksgiving Holiday
Tuesday, October 09.....	University of Western Ontario, 2:35 p.m.
	-Boys OFSAA Golf - Mississauga
Wednesday, October 10	Graduation Photos at 11:15 in room 129
	-Grade Representative Elections; Ontario Provincial Election Day
	-Boys OFSAA Golf - Mississauga
Thursday, October 11.....	Thanksgiving School Masses
	-McMaster University 2:35 p.m.
	-Parent Teacher Interview Night I, 3:30 to 6:00 and 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Friday, October 12.....	IEPS mailed to Parents
	-Cross Country at Bay of Quinte Invitational
	-Queen's University 2:45 p.m.; St. Mary's University (Halifax) 11:15 a.m.
Saturday, October 13.....	JV Volleyball at RND Invitational
Monday, October 15.....	Memorial University (St. John's) 2:35 p.m.
	-Take Our Kids to Work Permission Forms Due
Oct. 16 th to 19 th ..	Grade 10 Home Form Retreats, <i>Sexuality: Mind, Body and Spirit</i>
Tuesday, October 16.....	World Food Day
	-York University 2:35 p.m.
Wednesday, October 17.....	Make Poverty History Day (Bake Sale)
	-Brock University 2:35 p.m.
	-Parent Teacher Interview Night II, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Wed. to Thurs. 17 th to 18 th .	Sr. Geretsen, CNV visit with students from Sakura Japan
Friday, October 19.....	KASSAA Cross Country
	-Carleton University 11:15 a.m.
Saturday, October 20.....	Senior Boys Volleyball Invitational
	-International Students to Canada's Wonderland
Tuesday, October 23.....	"Drive for Life" Grade 11 Assembly Period 1
	-Lake Head University 2:35 p.m.
	-College Information Program at St. Lawrence College 5:00-7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, October 24.....	Drama Trip
	-School Photo retakes 8:00-10:00 a.m.
	-"Drive for Life" Grade 11 Assembly Period 1
	-Online University application workshops 11:15 a.m. and 2:35 p.m.
Thursday, October 25.....	King's College (Western University) 2:35 p.m.
Friday, October 26.....	Hallowe'en Dance
	-Tentative Non-Unifrom Day
	-EOSSAA X-Country at Belle Park
	-Online University application workshops 11:15 a.m. and 2:35 p.m.
Monday, October 29.....	PA Day #2 – No classes
	Holy Cross Catholic School Council Meeting, 7:00-8:30 p.m. – Library
Tuesday, October 30.....	University of Guelph 2:35; Laurentian U. 11:20 a.m.
Wednesday, October 31.....	Huron University College 2:35 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 31 to Nov. 07.....	Mid-semester Examination Period

Challenge. This annual campaign provides our school community with a wonderful opportunity to share our blessings with those less fortunate than ourselves. We will be announcing the totals for our Food Drive at our School Masses on **Thursday, Oct. 11th**.

We are also busy planning for our **Grade 10 Sexuality Retreats** which will take place from **October 16 to 19th**. Once again **all of our Grade 10 students** will have an opportunity to participate in these important and thought provoking retreats which proved to be very interesting for students and staff last year. The theme of the retreat days "*Sexuality: Mind, Body & Spirit*" addresses an important aspect of our students' lives, one that is often seriously misunderstood and even distorted in our contemporary culture. The retreat day format has been developed in consultation with our **Religion Department, Pastoral Services, Youth Worker Services, School Board, school administration** and the local **Health Unit** as we look at our sexuality from the perspective of a healthy and well-balanced Catholic moral framework. We are especially fortunate in that **Peter Bagnall** from the '**Chastity Challenge Team**' will be part of our retreats this year.

One day to keep in mind is **October 17th** which has been designated as **Make Poverty History Day** around the world. People are encouraged to do some activity to remind our governments of their responsibility to help end poverty in our own communities as well as around the world. And on **October 19th** we will welcome **Fabian Brown** from **St. Patrick's Foundation in Kingston, Jamaica** to our school as he seeks to deepen the connection between our two communities.

Blessings to all this Thanksgiving and throughout the month ahead.

Christopher Forster

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

Council met for the first time this school year on **Monday, September 24th** in the school library. Nominations were held and for the second year in a row **Greg Heffernan** will serve as Chair. **Lori O'Connor** was named Vice-Chair, and **Ann van Herpt** agreed to serve as Secretary. Parent members for 2007-2008 include: **William Vanderhelm, Kim St. Onge, Ron Robson, Nancy Hayes, Denise Clifford, Steve Halligan, Carolyn Kellar, and Betty Ann Coleman; John Walsh** continues to serve as Teacher Representative; **Christopher Forster** as Non-teaching Representative; **Ray Smith** as Parish Representative; members from the **Administration Team** and from **Students' Council** also participate regularly in these meetings. School Council is an advisory body that forms an important link with the school. All are welcome to join meetings. Please see the minutes on hctoday.ca for Catholic School Council information.

EARLY SEMESTER REPORT CARDS AND INTERVIEWS

On **Thursday, October 4th**, the early **Report Cards** for Grades 9 – 12 students will be distributed in homeroom classes. Parent-teacher interviews are scheduled for **Thursday, October 11th from 3:30 to 6:00 p.m. and from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.** and **Wednesday, October 17th from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.** Each parent-teacher conference is scheduled for ten minutes, and should be booked by appointment, in advance, in the days prior to the interview. Parents and guardians should feel free to contact their son or daughter's teacher at any time in order to learn more about his or her performance, but this time, in particular, is reserved for the essential link between home and school.

THE PAUL HALLIGAN CLASSIC

October is **Breast Cancer Awareness** month; therefore we have decided to focus our efforts in the direction. This year alone 25,000 women will develop breast cancer and 5,500 of these women will die from this disease. We are hopeful that through your donations, we will continue the progress in "**Shooting For A Cure!**"

On **July 21st, 1997**, our fellow school community, **Regiopolis - Notre Dame**, lost one of its greatest supporters. **Paul Halligan** died of cancer after a two year battle with the disease. Paul was a graduate of RND, a basketball and football coach, an organizer of the Alumni Association, founder of the Irish Ontario Basketball Club, and the driving force behind the Peter Carty Memorial. Above all else, Paul was a devoted member of the school community, continually demonstrating his Christian call to service. He lived a vocation of service and our school communities are blessed to have known him and touched by his life.

Wednesday, October 3rd, 2007 –Make a donation to "**Bump**" vs. Jr. and Sr. Girls' basketball teams in the gym at lunch. Shoot for a Cure!

Thursday, October 4th, 2007 - Students have prepaid through their Student Activity Fee for a **Toonie Non-Uni Day** to raise money for the Breast Screening Clinic. This prepaid fee will result in a donation of approximately \$2,600.00.

Paul Halligan Classic Day

Boys' Volleyball Senior - Holy Cross @ RND 1:00 p.m.
Junior – Holy Cross @ RND 2:30 p.m.
Girls' Basketball Junior – RND @ Holy Cross 3:30 p.m.
Senior – RND @ Holy Cross 5:00 p.m.

FIRE DRILLS AND LOCKDOWN DRILLS

All teaching staff have reviewed with all their classes the emergency and evacuation procedures as posted in each classroom. Scheduled fire drills have occurred in Week 3 of the Semester. After two practice drills, a mandated fire drill with the **City of Kingston Fire and Rescue Department** was scheduled on **Tuesday, September 25th at 10:00 a.m.** As per board policy, Holy Cross will also conduct two planned lockdown drills each year. The focus in practising lockdown drills is, like with fire drills, a wish to use knowledge as power in situations of uncertainty. We want to empower rather than invoke fear.

DRAMA PRODUCTION

Casting for this year's musical production has just been completed. We have assembled a cast of sixty talented performers who have eagerly begun the rehearsal process. The show has been hailed by the critics as "a sensational piece of performance art that acknowledges theatre tradition and pushes it forward as well." The play tells a story of

ecological disaster and suppression of human rights while at the same time providing a "wild and happy mix of biting satire and loving parody." Performances are set for **November 28, 29, 30, and December 1st at 7:00 p.m.** Ticket information will appear in the November newsletter.

EQAO GRADE NINE MATHEMATICS ASSESSMENT

Holy Cross is proud of the achievement of our students and staff on their 2006 - 2007 Grade Nine EQAO Mathematics Assessments. We continue to make improvements in many key



areas and to be above the provincial results in all areas of the test. We are particularly proud of the accomplishments of our students in the applied program, many of whom traditionally don't think they are "good at math." Hard work and determination do indeed pay dividends. The report of the detailed results is available on the Holy Cross website. Each student who wrote the assessment last year has been provided with their individual results. The results were distributed to students in their homeroom on the last week of September.

CRUSADERS CARE: WALK/ RUN FOR DIABETES

On Tuesday October 16th at 10:30 a.m., all students are invited to run or walk 4.2 km to raise awareness and funds for diabetes. Have fun with your friends while being active and supporting a good cause! Those interested in participating, can give a \$2 donation to their period 2 class. Students are encouraged to fundraise beyond the \$2 entry. The top fundraisers can win prizes such as: golf lessons, dinner for 2, xbox, playstation games, cds, dvds and more. For more information see Mrs. Agostino.

OPEN YOUR CRUSADER HEART!

Once again our **United Way Campaign** begins at Holy Cross. This year's campaign will be spearheaded by our **Bridges Under 18 Program** for students with special needs. Watch for their creative and fun events which will offer both staff and students opportunities to "touch a life". Your United Way gift helps people in KFL&A when they need it the most! For further information, please contact **Mrs. Donna Coombs** at **384-1919 Ext. 3501**.

INTRODUCTION TO THE HOLY CROSS LIBRARY

Every year, we devote one class period to introduce all **Grade Nine students** to our Holy Cross Library and to give them information about our facilities and services. New students to our school will need to start developing advanced research skills and will need to become familiar with the resources available to them.

This will be a hands-on experience which will involve the students in activities designed to teach them about the various areas of the library. These will include the fiction, non-fiction, and reference sections, especially our various sets of encyclopedias; the PC computer lab, the CD-ROM computers, and the OPAC computers; the newspaper and periodicals section, both current and archives; as well as the various on-line databases accessible to them.

We see the library as a focal point of our school and our aim is to have each and every student feel welcome and comfortable with the use of all our facilities.

SPECIAL EDUCATION AND RESOURCE

If you have a son or daughter receiving Special Education support, you will be sent a draft Individual Education Plan for consultation on **Friday, October 12th**. We ask all parents and guardians to review this legal document and return the signed **Contact Record** to Special Education Resource Room 117.

Post-Secondary Transition Planning – Graduating Students on IEPs

We recommend that graduating students on an Individual Education Plan prepare a **Transition Portfolio**. This step is highly recommended for those going into the trades, college, university or the work force. Begin this process now by contacting **Ms. Gavan-Knox, Room 117**, at **(613) 384-1919, ext. 3426** or gavankno@alcdsb.on.ca.

COUNSELLORS' CORNER

Post Secondary Information

Application information session #1 for students applying to colleges and universities has been completed. In the upcoming months, Student Services will be hosting many presentations from Ontario colleges and universities as well as workshops for the application process. Applicants should have a copy of this schedule. A note to parents that a **Post Secondary Info Session will be held on November 7th at 7:00 p.m.** Students may access dates for presentations and the application process online on the HC Today site.

Volunteer Opportunities/Part time Jobs

Students are reminded to check the Information Board outside Student Services for volunteer opportunities. Some part time jobs opportunities are also posted.

Take Our Kids to Work

Wednesday November 7th is Take Our Kids to Work Day. Information sheets, including permission forms, will be distributed in Grade 9 home rooms in early October.

Scholarship News

The deadline for two prominent scholarships is approaching. The Loran Awards (formerly known as the Canadian Merit Scholarships) website is www.loranward.ca. We can sponsor/nominate one candidate and if you are not chosen as the sponsored candidate you can apply to the direct entry pool. You must download the application and read it carefully. If you are submitting your application for consideration as the school sponsored applicant we must have the COMPLETED application form by **October 9th**. Students applying to the direct pool need to apply before **October 31st, 2007**.

The deadline for the **TD Canada Trust Scholarships for Community Leadership**, www.tdcanadatrust.com/scholarship/index.jsp, is **October 31st, 2007**.

The deadline date for Queen's major entrance Scholarships and Awards is **December 1st, 2007**. Students interested in being nominated for the Queen's Chancellor's Scholarship must see **Mrs. Cantarutti** by **October 9th**. Students must have an average of higher than 90% to be eligible.

The Millenium Scholarship applications are due before December 15th, 2007. The website is www.excellenceaward.com.

If you have any questions about these or any other scholarships, please contact **Mrs. Cantarutti** in Student Services. Students can access general scholarship information on the HC Today website under Student Services in the Financial Aid link.

CRUSADER TUCK SHOP

The Holy Cross Tuck Shop will be operated this year by the new **Bridges to Community Life Skills Program**. On **Mondays and Wednesdays** during the **lunch break** you will have the opportunity to purchase Holy Cross Gear and treats from these hard working Crusaders. Take advantage of this opportunity to show your Crusader pride and enjoy a snack.

STUDENTS' COUNCIL

We have officially finished the first month of school, and what a month it has been. The **Grade Nines** were formally introduced into high school life at the **Grade Nine Orientation** and the black light, Black and White dance was an awesome night. But with a new month brings new opportunities, possibilities, and wicked things to do. For our leaders of tomorrow, Junior Rep selections will be happening very soon and anyone in Grade 9 or 10 can pick up forms from the student council office. Make sure to hand them in quickly as the deadline is **Oct. 3rd**. As you all know we have two huge games coming up

and we expect that Holy Cross will have better, faster, and stronger... fans at these events. These games are as much about the teams competing as they are about the schools competing. There will be school spirit buses to Richardson for the **Catholic Cup** to help us beat Regi. It is only a dollar per ticket and they will be sold all week up until the game either in the main foyer or if you want to come to the student council room. It has been a pleasure serving you on student council this past month.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGE – ONTARIO

ISE Ontario is a registered not-for-profit corporation, which offers to Ontario students a variety of educational programs through the school year and during the summer.

Please visit www.iseontario.on.ca or contact ISE Ontario at **705-722-9441**. For more information, see **Mrs. Vella Bowry** in Student Services.

KFLA HEALTH UNIT PRESENTS DRIVE FOR LIFE

An impaired driving prevention program for **Grade 11 students**, this event features four interactive presentations that address the consequences of alcohol use, strategies to avoid drinking and driving, and strategies to manage situations where alcohol is involved. The presentations will take place on **Tuesday and Wednesday, October 23rd and 24th** in the Duffey Gymnasium and Lecture Theatre during Period 1. For additional information, contact **Terrie Hoey at (613)384-1919 x 3238**.

ONTARIO PROVINCIAL ELECTION OCTOBER 10th

Questions for Candidates and Their Parties Based on the Social Teaching of the Church and the Ontario Bishops' Document: Taking Stock – An Examination of Conscience

Governments are in power because we, the people, put them there. Every one of us, as a citizen of Ontario, has an obligation in conscience to vote in the upcoming election and to question the platform and positions of candidates in the light of the following concerns:

- 1) **FAMILY.** Are you concerned to protect and enhance family life in government legislation, so that parents can support their children and spend time with them?
- 2) **EDUCATION.** Do you agree that tuition charges for college and university students should be frozen, so that students do not incur a huge debt?
- 3) **THE ECONOMY.** The depth of poverty is increasing and the gap between and the lowest and highest incomes is growing. Do you agree that the government should do all it can to reduce this gap by suitable taxation, and increased support programs for low income people?
- 4) **EMPLOYMENT.** Will you ensure that provincial labour standards and regulations apply to all in the workplace, in particular to part time work, contract employment and immigrants, and that there are sufficient inspectors to enforce this legislation?
- 5) **THE POOR.** Do you agree that social assistance rates and the minimum wage need to be increased to provide an adequate standard of living? Do you support a Provincial Poverty Reduction Plan with measurable targets and timelines, similar to Quebec and Newfoundland?
- 6) **THE ENVIRONMENT.** Will you ensure that government and budget priorities protect our drinking water, our forests, wetlands, farmlands and overcome air pollution, including having a sufficient number of inspectors to enforce legislation?
- 7) **LIFE ETHIC.** While legislation regarding abortion, euthanasia and bio-ethical issues belongs to federal jurisdiction, will you uphold the sanctity of human life from conception to

natural death in any provincial measures affecting these areas?

- 8) **HEALTH CARE.** Will you uphold the principles of the Canada Health Act: accessibility, universality, portability, comprehensiveness, and public funding, and not allow these principles to be impaired by private health care?
- 9) **HOUSING.** Will you support government measures to increase subsidized and affordable housing for low income families and the homeless?
- 10) **TAXATION.** Are you in favour of adequate tax levels to provide for public services such as health care, education, the poor, the environment, and infrastructures?

BROWN'S FINE FOODS – STUDENT ID CARD SOLUTION

We are pleased to advise that Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School has successfully implemented the Student ID Card Solution. This means that your child will now be able use their Student ID card to purchase items from the cafeteria. It's safe, secure and convenient.

The following details are what you need in order to register. ***If you register by November 9th, 2007 you could win a \$75.00 dollar gift card to the shop or restaurant of your choice.*** The first thing that you need is your child's Student ID card, which will contain a label with a 9-digit Student ID Number. With this ID number you can now proceed to www.firststudentservices.com to complete the easy registration process. Simply follow the registration instructions detailed at this site. Once you have completed the registration process, you will immediately be provided with a 20-digit First Student Services account number. This 20-digit number is required to pay money into your Student ID Card using an electronic banking service. Should you not have access to the Internet or have questions regarding the First Student Services, please contact our office at **604-269-0037 Ext 30 or 33**. Alternatively you can contact **Brown's Fine Food Services at 613-546-3246 Ext #232**. We thank-you in advance for your participation with the **First Student Services** initiative at Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School.

Attention: Adults interested in upgrading their employability skills, or obtaining their high school diploma, or learning English as a Second Language.

Loyola Community Learning Centre, Adult and Continuing Education, is hosting an open house at each of its Kingston sites: 1440 Princess St. 613-544-3361

Open House Tuesday, October 16, 2 – 4 pm

Open Book, 158 Patrick St, 613-544-8883

Open House, Tuesday, October 16, 4 – 7 pm

Please join us for refreshments, tour our sites, meet our faculty, and learn about our interesting programs, including co-op, computers, credit courses, ESL, and Personal Support Worker.

Algonquin & Lakeshore Catholic District School Board

NEXT MONTH AT HOLY CROSS	
October 31 – November 7.....	Mid-Semester Test Period
November 7.....	Post-Secondary Information Night for Parents, 7 p.m.
	Honour Roll Celebration (Period One)
	"Take Our Kids to Work" Grade Nine Day
November 8.....	Term Two Courses (Civics and Careers) Begin
November 9.....	Remembrance Day Liturgies
November 14 - 16.....	Toronto Street Retreat
November 16.....	Mid-Semester Report Cards Issued
November 17.....	Kingston Santa Claus Parade
November 23.....	P. A. Day #3 – no classes
November 26 - 27.....	Matinee Performance of School Production
	Catholic School Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
28 – 30.....	Drama Club Production