

# HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL, KINGSTON

Main Office 613-384-1919; Attendance Office 613-384-1355; Student Services 613-384-2023; Fax 613-384-8665

August, 2009 Newsletter ... visit our web site at [www.hctoday.ca](http://www.hctoday.ca)

## WELCOME TO HOLY CROSS

On behalf of our staff, we would like to extend a special warm welcome to our new students and their parents for whom the beginning of this school year will most definitely mark a new chapter. For the incoming **Holy Cross Class of 2013**, this is a time of personal transition that our staff will make every effort to make as smooth as possible. We welcome back all of our students, their parents and our staff who will be returning to familiar halls, yet facing the same excitement and anticipation that marks the beginning of the new school year for all of us, here at **Holy Cross**. The beginning of the school year is always a time of excitement and expectation, a time for renewing and making friendships and a time for setting new goals. It is also a time when new challenges and opportunities open the door to new perspectives on the world around us. Our mission is "**Christ: The Light of our World.**" To that end at **Holy Cross**, we will educate students in the Catholic Faith; provide an academic environment with a professional faculty and staff which encourages the pursuit of excellence; provide opportunities for the development of individual abilities and talents; provide co-curricular and extra-curricular activities which encourage life-long learning; and provide opportunities which appreciate and celebrate human diversity and guide our students in the practice of Christian social behaviour. We wish you every success in your studies, and more importantly true fulfilment, as you embark to achieve your personal goals.

Paul A. Walsh, Principal

**The Holy Cross  
Administration Team:** Ms. Terri Daniel, Mr. Paul Walsh and Mrs. Lucy Teves



## WELCOME FROM THE PASTORAL COORDINATOR

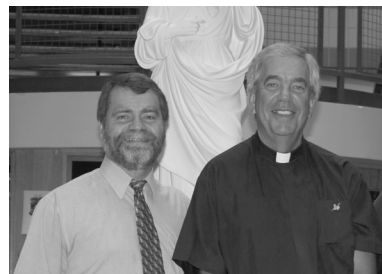
I would like to extend a very warm welcome to our incoming Grade 9 students and their families. I look forward to meeting you and to working with you during your years at **Holy Cross**. I would especially like to take this opportunity to encourage you to get involved in the many faith-based activities that Pastoral Services organizes throughout the school year. One such activity is a **Youth ALPHA** which we are currently making plans for together with the **Archdiocese** and **St. Paul the Apostle Parish** and which will begin in late September. You might also be interested in serving or reading at School Masses, singing in the School Choir, attending a leadership retreat or joining our **Crusaders In Community Service** (or CICS) Club and through them helping out with food drives, Street Retreats, Thinkfests, and our Jamaica Mission Trips. You will find plenty of ways to get involved and opportunities to put your faith into action both in our local community and on a global level. Our Pastoral theme for this year "**Christ: the Light of Our World**" challenges

us all to reflect on how Christ is a light in our own personal lives and on how we can help to bring that light into the world around us. May you and your families experience Christ's love during your years at Holy Cross and may you be able to share your gifts with us as together we bring Christ's light to others. God bless you always. Chris Forster, Coordinator of Pastoral Services

## Chaplain's Message

It is my deepest prayer and hope that our young people will have a yearning for Christ to be the centre of their lives. We are surrounded by the many attractions of a changing world. We need a solid foundation as a starting point in our lives. Here at Holy Cross we emphasize the Catholic traditions so that the students will deepen their knowledge of God and build a personal relationship with Jesus. Through the sacraments of the Church, especially the Eucharist, we will be able to accomplish this prayerful hope.

In Christ, Father René Labelle,  
Chaplain



**The Holy Cross Pastoral  
Team:** Mr. Chris Forster Fr.  
René Labelle,

## STUDENTS' COUNCIL 2009 - 2010

Welcome to the 2009-2010 school year at Holy Cross. The **HC Students' Council Executive** is composed of: **Erica Pascoal**, Head Girl; **Sam Hume**, Head Boy; **Julia Allen**, Senior Girl; **Nick Vidotto**, Senior Boy; **Jordan Reda**, Treasurer; **Mark DeSousa**, Secretary; **Kaitlyn Barbosa**, Communications Officer and **Mr. Richard Coleman**, Staff Advisor. We traditionally begin our year with many activities to welcome back all students and staff. We encourage everyone in the **Holy Cross** community to join in a spirit of renewal and commitment to Crusader Pride! Whether you are returning or new, we welcome you and hope that you have an exciting and rewarding year at Holy Cross. If you want to learn more about the activities of the **Students' Council**, please feel free to contact any of the members. We strive to assume the role of leadership and be a positive example for students to act in a Catholic way.

The **Students' Council** represents the interests of everyone enrolled in our school and as such, supports the many student activities that occur on a daily basis. This of course, involves a substantial financial commitment and monies raised come from fund-raising activities and the sale of compulsory student identification cards. They are required for admittance to school dances. With your help, the upcoming school year will be a rewarding one, both academically, socially and spiritually. We look forward to seeing you in September.



## GRADE 9 DAY – WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26<sup>TH</sup>

We look forward to meeting our newest Crusaders on **Wednesday, August 26<sup>th</sup>**. This day has been set aside for Grade 9 Students to pick up their Semester One textbooks, get their locker and lock and agenda. In addition there will be displays of extra-curricular activities in the Main Foyer for our newest Crusaders to learn more about the extra-curricular life at HC. Grade 9 students will also be able to tour the school with the assistance of upper year students who will help them locate their classrooms in advance of the first day of school. Grade 9 students should also make appointments for Wednesday with their guidance counselors if they need to make course level changes to their timetable by contacting the **Student Services Department** at **613-384-2023**. This day will run from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. In order to prevent long line ups, we ask that the students follow the schedule below: Students with last names beginning with  
A to F should come from 9:00 to 10:00 am  
G to L should come from 10:00 to 11:00 am  
M to R should come from 11:00 to 12:00 pm  
S to Z should come from 1:00 to 2:00 pm.

### Grade 9 students need to bring:

- their student activity fee cheque of **\$85.00** payable to Holy Cross. Included in this fee are the following: Holy Cross Agenda, Students' Council ID Card, School Lock for lockers, Grade 9 French Cahier, Holy Cross Spirit T-Shirt or drawstring backpack, two Twonie – No Uni Days to support cancer research, and a personalized, Award Winning 2009/10 Holy Cross Yearbook. For parents with more than one child at Holy Cross, a reduction of \$4.00 per additional child is available
- their **\$100.00 textbook deposit cheque** payable to **Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School** should be post dated to **March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010**. This cheque will not be cashed if the student's books are returned in good condition at the end of each semester. The name of each student should be clearly printed in the left hand corner of the cheque.

## CHOOSING HOLY CROSS

The choice to come to Holy Cross is a conscious decision to enter into a community that is Christ-centred and devoted to providing students with a Catholic education. This is what distinguishes our school from the neighbouring public high schools. When you accept the invitation to attend this school, you are entering into a covenant with the members of our school and greater Catholic community. A part of that covenant is to be open to the teachings of Christ, to participate as actively as possible in the faith life of our community and to dedicate oneself to the service of others. We accomplish our mission in a number of ways: religious education classes; our teachers incorporate Catholic teaching into the daily curriculum; we pray at school regularly; our students and staff actively participate in charity work; and our staff and students regularly attend Mass and other liturgies. It is not possible to opt out of any of these activities and we will not give permission to students to be absent or to not participate. If you have made the choice to attend Holy Cross, then you must understand and be accepting of our mission and our expectations for you in this regard. No one is required to attend a Catholic school, therefore having made the decision to do so, you must be prepared to meet the obligations that accompany that decision.

## STUDENT TIMETABLES

Student schedules are enclosed. There may be some changes which have occurred since the June run of timetables. Counselors will be available from **Tuesday, August 25<sup>th</sup>** to **Thursday, August 27<sup>th</sup>** for students who need to discuss timetable changes regarding course level changes or elective changes. Students who wish to make a course level change or change an elective, should phone to schedule

an appointment with **Student Services** at **613-384-2023**. Timetable changes will not be given priority for students wishing to change classes due to staffing. Students who have a timetable and have decided not to return to **Holy Cross** for this September are asked to notify **Student Services** as soon as possible. Early notification to **Holy Cross** by students who are not returning allows the school the opportunity to plan more effectively to meet the needs of all students.

## 2009-2010 CRUSADER STUDENT ACTIVITY FEE

### Grade 10-12 Students

For students in Grades 10-12 the fee is **\$66.00** reflecting the lack of need of a French Cahier and school lock. This fee is to be paid when you pick up your textbooks. The value of the items purchased individually is much greater than the actual comprehensive fee. By ordering in bulk, Holy Cross is able to pass on savings to the community. With all students purchasing a Student Card, the Students' Council will be able to support the extra-curricular activities that make Holy Cross such a great place to be. The Student Card also entitles our students to many discounts at local stores. The Crusader Activity Fee is mandatory for all students. Students may opt out of receiving the Holy Cross yearbook by completing and signing the opting out form at the time they pick up their textbooks.

### Graduating Students

In an attempt to minimize the amount of times students are asked to bring in monies, graduating student activity fees this year will also include the **\$30.00 Graduation fee**, bringing the total to **\$101.00** for any students planning to graduate in **June 2010**. For parents with more than one child at Holy Cross, a reduction of **\$4.00** per additional child is available.

## AUGUST TEXTBOOK PICK-UP

Students will be able to pick up their next year's first semester textbooks as of the last week in August. The textbook room will be open on **Wednesday, August 26<sup>th</sup>** to **Friday, August 28<sup>th</sup>** from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. It will also be open in the evening of **Thursday, August 27<sup>th</sup>** from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. **Wednesday, August 26<sup>th</sup>** is reserved as a "grade 9 only" day. Other students can pick up their books on any of the other days.

In order to get textbooks each student's account of the previous year must be clear. Student must have their green textbook card to be validated. (New grade 9 students will be given their cards at textbook pick-up time.) A separate textbook deposit cheque must be submitted. This cheque is to be made out to Holy Cross Secondary School, in the amount of \$100, postdated to **March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010**, and should have the students full name printed at the top left of the cheque.

Please be advised that any textbook account problems that have not been resolved from the previous semester will not be able to be addressed during the busy textbook pick-up days. **Replacement green textbook cards are \$5.00** and cannot be issued the same day. In order to avoid delays please ensure that all textbooks are returned on time and that lost textbook cards are replaced before the end of June.

## PREVIOUSLY OWNED UNIFORM SALE

Thanks to the hard work of school council members **Lori O'Connor** and **Nancy Hayes**, we will run a second previously owned uniform sale on the evening of the textbook shop sales, **Thursday, August 27<sup>th</sup>**, from **6:00 – 7:00 p.m.** Come see us in the Main Foyer if your son or daughter needs an "extra" component of their uniform. All proceeds from the used uniform sale go to supporting student activity fees for students whose families are in need of financial support.

## CODE OF CONDUCT

Please review the Code of Conduct and discuss it with your son(s)/

daughter(s). It may be found in the course calendar with your registration package. The Holy Cross Code of Conduct may also be viewed at [www.alcdsb.on.ca/~hcsc](http://www.alcdsb.on.ca/~hcsc). It is our expectation that parents/guardians and students will read this document and use it to guide their actions. If you should have any questions, please direct them to a member of the administration team.

### **NON-SMOKING POLICY 2009 - 2010**

Students in all grades are prohibited from smoking or being in possession of tobacco or tobacco products at Holy Cross. While we realize that smoking is a personal decision, our goal this year is to eliminate smoking entirely at Holy Cross entirely in 2009-10. The school and the KFLA Health Unit will also offer smoking cessation program early in the school year. Students will face suspension and a system of progressive discipline for failure to comply with the school's expectation. Smoking on the property will result in fines by the Health Unit's Tobacco Enforcement Officer who regularly patrols the area. Students who are gathered in groups off-property will be asked to move along, in part to eliminate smoking and in part to help maintain a neighbourhood that is litter-free and allows our neighbours and their children to feel confident as they travel by our property.

### **ATHLETICS**

Please see our Code of Conduct for our Athletic Eligibility policy. A contract must be signed by the student, parent/guardian and coach prior to any student athlete being eligible to participate on an extracurricular team. This contract will clearly define the expectations we have regarding the role of student athlete, parent and coach and will explain the process by which concerns of parents or players can be addressed in a suitable and appropriate manner. It is imperative that parents, in particular, understand that their behaviour can result in players being declared ineligible to play and that student athletes must exhibit, at all times, the qualities of sportsmanship and commitment, both on and off the field.

### **HOLY CROSS UNIFORM POLICY**

Students are to wear the Holy Cross uniform at all times during the school day, including the lunch hour and during spare periods. Some students wear clothes other than their uniform in the morning, on the bus, at lunch, and before leaving the school in the afternoon. Although no doubt unintentional, to do so works at cross purposes with the intent of the uniform policy. In addition there are not enough areas available for students to change, thus precipitating a situation where students are changing in the hall. This is not an appropriate situation and is not permitted. Students should arrive at school in their uniform or use change rooms and washrooms for changing into their uniform on arrival. The uniform provides many advantages to our students, including safety, pride, and equal status. All of our students are dressed identically so that our staff can easily identify any person who does not belong in our building. Our students who wear their uniform proudly definitely experience feelings of belonging to a larger group. Our uniform allows our students to be on equal footing, as family income is not transparent. Our students are more easily able to concentrate on their classroom activities as various attire is not an obstacle for learning. The fall/winter uniform is in effect from September to June. Acceptable fall/winter items are listed below: Girls: solid grey Holy Cross dress pants, kilt (hemmed to 2 inches above the knee), white button-down collared or French cut blouses with monogram, black leotards or tights (must not be leggings which don't have feet), black (polishable) dress shoes; Boys: solid grey Holy Cross dress pants, school tie, white button-down collared shirt with monogram, black (polishable) dress shoes; Unisex: school crested vest / pull-over. Undershirts or T-shirts which are worn under uniform shirts are to be entirely white.

The spring uniform is in effect for May and June only. Acceptable spring uniform items include green school crested golf shirt, tan knee length school crested walking shorts (with no alterations or rolling allowed), deck shoes, running shoes, sandals with strap. The items from the spring uniform are not to be mixed with the items from the winter uniform at any time. The spring uniform may be purchased at Holy Cross in April of 2010. Students must present themselves in good repair at all times during the school day. Ball caps, hoodies and offensive clothing are not permitted in the school at any time; if found, they will be seized and reissued at the end of the semester. Appropriate attire for shop, gym, drama, and art will be determined by the teacher and worn for that period only. Students are not to accessorize their uniform. Excessive jewelry, studded arm bands, necklaces and/or belts, or bandanas are not to be worn. One warning will be issued to students who are not in compliance with these rules and on second offense the items will be confiscated for the term. Students who choose to be out of uniform or who dress unsuitably, will receive one warning after which they will read the Holy Cross uniform policy. On second offense students will serve a lunch-hour detention and their parents will be notified. On third offense students will be sent home to change. Persistent violations of the uniform policy will be interpreted as an unwillingness to comply with the policy of the school. This progressive system of intervention will be incorporated to deal with students who do not comply with the uniform policy. Students who habitually work against the spirit of the uniform policy will be suspended. Students who display an unwillingness to co-operate with school authorities will not remain at Holy Cross.

### **Non-Uniform Day Dress Code**

In selected months, non-uniform days will usually take place on the last Thursday and Friday of the month to allow time for dry cleaning. These days are contingent upon students being in proper attire and demonstrating respect for our school community throughout the month. Non-uniform days are not scheduled during December, March, May or June. Attire for non-uniform days will be modest. Immodest, revealing clothing and/or clothing with inappropriate design/language promoting drugs/alcohol/sex will not be permitted.

### **GRADE 9 PROFILE NIGHT**

Parents and guardians of Grade 9 students are invited to attend the Grade 9 Profile night on **Wednesday September 23<sup>rd</sup>** in the Holy Cross Cafetorium. We look forward to meeting you and presenting our Grade 9 program, facility and the people involved in your child's education here at Holy Cross. Parents and guardians will have an opportunity to tour the school with their son/daughter's timetable and visit their classrooms and teachers. This night is for information only; it is not meant to be a parent/teacher interview. Parent-teacher interviews will be scheduled for October. At that time, students will bring home their Early Semester Report and parents can complete a request for interviews with teachers.

### **TRANSPORTATION**

Bus routes and times are usually available at the school after **August 28<sup>th</sup>** and will be posted on the lower windows immediately to the left of the Main Entrance so they can be viewed from outside the building. If you require transportation information, please call **Tri-County Transportation at 613-354-1981 ext 352**. Please note that the school does not create schedules or approve transportation requests. It always takes some time to normalize bus routes at the beginning of a school year. Students are advised to arrive at their pick up location a little early for the first few days. In the event that you are at the stop at the correct time and the bus does not arrive, please contact the school so that other arrangements can be made.



## HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

The HC Catholic School Council forms an advisory body that provides ideas and opinions to assist the Principal and, where appropriate, the Board in their decision-making on educational issues. The advice is based on the general views of the school community and in the best interest of Holy Cross students. Membership of the Council reflects the diversity of the community and includes parents/guardians of students enrolled at the school, students, teachers, non-teaching staff, a parish representative, a community representative and the principal.

### IS YOUR SON / DAUGHTER 18 YEARS OLD?

Schools are obliged to conform to "The Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (1989)" which means the school cannot share with parents/guardians any aspect of the student's activity at the school including marks, attendance, etc. without the written consent of the student. We at Holy Cross believe that parents do want to be involved in their children's education. Parents should encourage students to provide this written consent to the school on the forms provided in Student Services.

### WANT TO GET IN TOUCH WITH US?

The following phone numbers will allow you to contact us between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. daily:  
**Main Office 613-384-1919; Attendance Office 613-384-1355;**  
**Student Services 613-384-2023; Fax 613-384-8665.**

After hours, messages can be left on our call answer service and our fax lines are accessible 24 hours a day. Personal telephone messages cannot be relayed to students during class time except in the case of an emergency. Students are not allowed to use the office phones for personal calls except in the case of illness. Three pay phones are available.

### STUDENT PARKING AND TRAFFIC

Student parking is only available in the west parking lot adjacent to the gymnasiums. Parking is not permitted anywhere on the property except in designated areas. Fire routes and bus zones must be kept clear of vehicles at all times. Handicapped parking is available; only those vehicles with appropriate stickers are permitted in designated spots. Parking in these areas will result in fines and/or towing of vehicles at the owner's expense. Vehicles parking on school property are not to be used as gathering points for students. Students are not permitted to remain in parked vehicles. Vehicles are not to be used for "joyriding" on school property at any time. Actions of this kind jeopardize the safety of students, staff and visitors to our property. Failure to comply with the above provisions will result in the suspension of parking privileges. Vehicles left overnight on the school property without the approval of administration will be towed at the owner's expense.

### NEWS FROM THE ARTS DEPARTMENT

We are excited to announce that this year's major Drama Club production is *West Side Story*. With music and lyrics by Leonard Bernstein and Stephen Sondheim, and based on William Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, *West Side Story* changed the face of musical theatre when it first opened in 1957 and continues to engage audiences with its combination of timeless themes, memorable music, and explosive dance. We are proud to join the major revivals of this modern classic that have appeared this year, and look forward to introducing **Holy Cross** to the power of *West Side Story* in November. There will be a meeting on **Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup>** during lunch for all those interested in auditioning. Auditions will take place on **September 14, 15, 16, 17<sup>th</sup>** after school. All students are welcome to audition.

### SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER!

Classes will begin on **Tuesday, September 1<sup>st</sup>**. All students are to be in full uniform, and are to bring their most recent timetable and report to their first period class by 8:25 a.m.

## September at Holy Cross

August 26.....	Grade 9 Day
August 26 – 28.....	Textbook Pick-up Days
August 27.....	Textbook Pick-up & Used Uniform Sale Evening 6–8 p.m.
August 31.....	Opening Staff Mass and Meeting
September 1.....	First Day of School
1.....	Try-outs for Fall Sports Teams Begin
1-3.....	Sign up for Grad Photos in Room 129
4.....	ALCDSB Board-Designated Holiday
7.....	Labour Day (no classes)
8.....	Semester 1 Grade Assemblies
9.....	Grade 9 Group Photo
	Picture Day -Smile! Payment required
10, 14 & 15.....	Grad Photos 12:00 – 5:00 in Room 129
10.....	Opening School Mass "Triumph of the Cross"
	<i>West Side Story</i> Information Meeting
11.....	Grade 9 Orientation Morning and BBQ
	Students' Council Dance #1
11 & 12.....	Sr. Girls' Bball Limestone Tournament
13.....	Jr. Girls' Bball Preseason Tournament @ HC
	29th Annual Terry Fox Run at St. Lawrence College
14.....	Triumph of the Cross Feast Day
	Absentee Photo Day - payment required
14 - 17.....	<i>West Side Story</i> Auditions, Rm. 246, 2:45
15.....	First Fire Drill, 10 a.m.
16.....	University Application Sessions, 11:15 and 2:35
17 & 18.....	Graduating Athlete & Artist Photos in Rm 129
17.....	Ryerson University, 2:35
	Wilfrid Laurier University, 11:15
	West Side Story Call-Backs
18.....	HC Jr. Boys' Volleyball @ RMC
	Last Day for Timetable Changes
18 & 19.....	LaSalle Jr. & Sr. Girls' Bball Tournament
21.....	University of Western Ontario, 2:35
	HC Thanksgiving Food Drive Begins
	HC Catholic School Council Meeting, 7 p.m. HC Library
	Grade 9 Friends Photos in Room 129
22.....	Grade 10 Friends Photos in Room 129
23.....	Grade 11 Friends Photos in Room 129
	Grade 9 Profile Night, 7:00 p.m., HC Cafetorium
	Trinity Cross-Country Invitational
24.....	Tentative Non-Uniform Day
	Grade 12 Friends Photos in Room 129
25.....	PA Day # 1 - No Classes
	EOSSAA Golf, Smiths Falls
	Carleton University Sr. Girls' Bball Tournament
25 - 27.....	Ontario Universities Fair at Metro Toronto C C
26.....	Garage Sale for Jamaican Mission Trip
	KCVI Jr. Girls' Blue Ball Tournament
	HC Jr. Boys' Vball Saturation Saturday at HC
28.....	Trent University 11:15
29.....	College Application Sessions & Timelines, 11:15
29 – Oct. 5.....	Fall Team Photos, lunch
29 & 30.....	"Drive for Life", Gr. 11 Assembly, by KFLA Health Unit
30.....	York University, 11:15
	McMaster University, 2:30

### HOLY CROSS WELCOMES NEW STAFF MEMBERS

We welcome to our staff: teachers **Mr. Rob Watts, Ms. Marnie Doyle, Ms. Sarah Davey, Mr. Dan Dusome, Ms. Shani Doucet,** and educational assistants **Mrs. Katherine Kritsch, Ms. Ingrid Wimmer, Ms. Patricia Mailey, Ms. Jane Keates, Ms. Patricia Delaney, and Mr. Ryan Perkin.**