

# HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL, KINGSTON

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

### Principal's Welcome

On behalf of the school's teaching staff, support staff and administrative team, I would like to welcome all students, parents and guardians to the 2009 – 2010 school year at Holy Cross. As the year begins, I extend my best wishes for a successful school year to all members of the Holy Cross community. We began our school year on **September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009** staffed for 1300 students. Our staffing for the school now appears to be nearing completion and we would like to welcome at this time **Mr. Rick White** (in the alternative program), **Ms. Carolyn Fenrich**, returning to the English and religion departments, as well as **Mr. Shaun Forester**, **Ms. Claire Bouvier**, and **Ms. Karen Leroy** who are filling in temporary leave positions, and EA **Ms. Paula Finucan**. We encourage parents and guardians to keep the lines of communication open with your sons and daughters and with us. Please talk to your children about their daily experiences. Talk to them about their academics as well as their extra-curricular involvements. Despite an anomalous pre-Labour Day start, the first day of school went very successfully and our students looked starched and pressed and shiny white in their fall / winter uniforms. The girls, in particular, looked smart with the addition of black tights to the kilt option of the fall/winter uniform. During the warmer autumn days, girls who do not wish to wear leotards should wear the grey HC pants instead.

I am looking forward to meeting the parents of our 300 Grade 9 students at our **Grade 9 Profile Night on Wednesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** This is an important night for you as parents since it provides an opportunity for you to learn more about policies and procedures of Holy Cross. Please plan on joining us on this evening. I would like to thank you in advance for your prayers, support and co-operation. May God bless.

Paul A. Walsh

### Pastoral Services

**Fr. Labelle** and I look forward to meeting both returning and new students as another academic year begins. Through our monthly school Masses, daily prayer and liturgies in the Chapel, retreats and community outreach programs, we hope to challenge all our students to answer God's call in their daily lives. Our school theme this year "**Christ: the Light of Our World**" reminds us of God's call to proclaim Christ's love to the world. Throughout the coming year, we will be invited to reflect on the ways in which we can bring Christ's light into any areas of darkness around us. Let each of us seek to be a light for our families, our friends and for our brothers and sisters around the world. Our school chaplain, **Fr. René Labelle** will preside at our Opening School Mass on **Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup>** as we celebrate together our school feast day, *The Triumph of the Cross*. We are also looking forward to having many of our students and staff involved in a **Youth Alpha** which will be held at **St. Paul the Apostle Church** and which will begin on **September 23<sup>rd</sup>** and continue every Wednesday evening until late November. Come and see what the Christian faith is all about. And, on **Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup>** our **Jamaica Mission Group** will be holding a '**Giant Yard Sale**' at **Holy Cross**. Come out and support this fundraising event. Let us ask God to bless our Holy Cross community this year and all our efforts to serve God and each other. Chris Forster, Coordinator of Pastoral Services

### SEPTEMBER AT HOLY CROSS

Tuesday, September 1.....	First Day of School Try-outs for Fall Sports Teams Begin
Tues – Thurs, 1-3.....	Sign up for Grad Photos in Room 129
Friday, 4.....	ALCDSB Board-Designated Holiday
Monday, 7.....	Labour Day (no classes)
Tuesday, 8.....	Semester 1 Grade Assemblies International Literacy Day Grade 9 Group Photo
Wednesday, 9.....	Picture Day -Smile! Payment required
10, 11 & 14.....	Grad Photos 12:00 – 5:00 in Room 129
Thurs, 10.....	Opening School Mass "Triumph of the Cross" West Side Story Info Mtg, Room 246, 2:45 p.m.
Friday, 11.....	Grade 9 Orientation Morning and BBQ Students' Council Dance and Movie Night #1 Last Day for Timetable Changes
Fri – Sat, 11 & 12.....	Sr. Girls' Bball Limestone Tournament
Sunday, 13.....	Jr. Girls' Bball Preseason Tournament @ HC 29th Annual Terry Fox Run at St. Lawrence College
Monday, 14.....	Triumph of the Cross Feast Day Absentee Photo Day - payment required
14 - 17.....	West Side Story Auditions, Rm. 246, 2:45
Tuesday, 15.....	First Fire Drill, P2 KASSAA Transfer Eligibility Appeal Deadline
Wed, 16.....	University Application Sessions, 11:15 and 2:35 Trinity Cross-Country Invitational
17 & 18.....	Graduating Athlete & Artist Photos in Rm 129
Thurs, 17.....	Ryerson University, 2:35 Wilfrid Laurier University, 11:15
18 & 19.....	LaSalle Jr. & Sr. Girls' Bball Tournament
Saturday, 19.....	HC Jr. Boys' Volleyball @ RMC
Mon, 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
Tuesday, 22.....	Grade 10 Friends Photos in Rm 129
Wednesday, 23.....	Grade 11 Friends Photos in Rm 129 Grade 9 Profile Night, 7:00 p.m., HC Cafetorium
Thurs, 24.....	Eagle / Falcon Cross-Country Meet Tentative Non-Uniform Day Grade 12 Friends Photos in Room 129
Friday, 25.....	PA Day # 1 - No Classes Opening Night Celebration, Grand Theatre, 6 p.m. EOSSAA Golf, Smiths Falls Carleton University Sr. Girls' Bball Tournament
25 - 27.....	Ontario Universities Fair at Metro Toronto C C
Sat, 26.....	Garage Sale for Jamaican Mission Trip KCVI Jr. Girls' Blue Ball Tournament HC Jr. Boys' Vball Saturation Saturday at HC
Monday, 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
Wed, 30.....	York University, 11:15 McMaster University, 2:30



### EcoCorner

Due to the hard work of our students, staff, and the **HC Green Team**, Holy Cross is a newly **Silver-certified Ontario Ecoschool**. As part of our environmental efforts, we encourage all students and staff to use the paper and container recycling bins provided in the classrooms and hallways, as well as the collection center for used batteries, cell phones, ink cartridges, and eye glasses located on the way to the gym, across from **Room 129**. We encourage the use of tap water in reusable bottles, and thanks to a gift from the graduating class of 2009, a new chilled and filtered drinking water fountain will be installed near the main foyer, making it easier to refill water bottles. We invite everyone to get involved in our green efforts and help Holy Cross reduce the human impact on the environment.

### Transportation

All students and parents/guardians are reminded to record their bus number and bus company in case of inclement weather or emergencies. The Triboard Transportation website, <http://www.triboard.on.ca/>, will provide parents who register with them up-to-date information on any delays or cancellations for their children's buses.

### Smoking Restrictions – All Students

Students in every grade are prohibited from smoking at Holy Cross. Therefore, students are not allowed to gather in the former smoking area and are not allowed to be in possession of cigarettes or tobacco products. Students are also reminded to be courteous to our neighbours. Gatherings off-campus, which can be bothersome both in terms of noise and littering, will not be condoned. If a student is found to be smoking or to be in possession of cigarettes, he or she will be given a warning. There will be a progression of consequences for subsequent infractions, including suspension from school. Smoking is the number one preventable cause of premature death and disease in Ontario.

### Smoking and Student Gathering Areas

It is the policy of our School Board that smoking is not allowed on the property and it is a distinct expectation that all will respect this policy. We recognize that the decision to smoke or not to smoke is an individual one, but we sincerely hope that in the face of mounting evidence with regard to the risk of our health that anyone thinking about beginning or ending "the habit" will give it serious thought. Smoking on the property will result in fines by the **Health Unit's Tobacco Enforcement Officer** who regularly patrols the area. Students wanting to quit smoking should listen for further information about our **Quit4Life program**, to be implemented later in the fall, or can visit [www.quit4life.com](http://www.quit4life.com) to find out more information.

### Fire Drills and Lock Down Drills

In order to maintain our students safety it is necessary for students to practice Fire Drill and Lock Down. According to our Board Policy we will be participating in three Fire Drills per semester and one Lock Down Drill. The first Fire Drill will occur on **Tuesday, September 15<sup>th</sup>** and the other two to follow in late September and early October. Our Lock Down Drill this semester will occur in October. There will be more information about Lock Downs in the October Newsletter.

### Medical Information

Medical information forms are available in the main office for all students who have allergies, or any other medical concerns that the school should be aware of. Please complete the forms and return them to **Mrs. Teves** as soon as possible. Students who may need

to use an Epipen must carry one with them at all times and inform their teachers where the Epipen is. If you have any questions about your child's medical concerns please contact **Mrs. Teves**.

### Terry Fox Run

This year the 29<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the **Terry Fox Run for Cancer Research** will be held on **Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>** starting at **1:00 p.m.** In past years, Holy Cross has been awarded the **Barry Brady Trophy** for having the largest number of participants participating in the Terry Fox Run at **St. Lawrence College**. Since Terry's run in 1980, there has been great progress in cancer research:

- Almost 60% of people diagnosed with cancer in Canada today will survive.
  - Incidence rates for most cancers are stabilizing or declining.
  - Death rates for childhood cancers have fallen by more than 50% since the 1950s.
  - Cancer treatments are more effective and have fewer side effects.
- Hopefully, we can all contribute to this worthy cause and walk, run, bike, or roll as participants in this great Canadian tradition.

### School Dance and Movie Night

The first school dance will be held on **Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup>** from **7:30-11:00 p.m.**, with a **Rock Star theme**. All are encouraged to participate appropriately. Students must show ID to gain admission. All students and their belongings will be searched before being admitted. Students may choose either the dance or the movie, **School of Rock** (with popcorn!) but will not be allowed to travel between both venues. Seating is limited to 70, so pay your \$2 deposit early. The cost of admission for either event is \$10.00.

### Extracurricular Activities at Holy Cross

Get involved! Holy Cross students can be proud not only of their academic achievements, but also of their achievements in music, drama, yearbook, Students' Council, Crusaders in Community Service, athletics and many other initiatives. The extracurriculars offered at Holy Cross are supported by the teachers, administrators, Board office officials and support staff because of the contribution that extracurriculars make to the general educational experience of our students. Our extracurricular programs are second to none and a source of pride within our community.

### Arts Notes

#### "Something's coming..."

**The Arts Department** is excited to begin work on this year's major musical production - **West Side Story**. Based on Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* and featuring the musical brilliance of **Leonard Bernstein** and **Stephen Sondheim**, *West Side Story* is set to explode into action on our stage during the last week of November. Auditions will be held **September 14 – 17<sup>th</sup>**. All students interested in auditioning should pick up an audition form on **Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup>** at lunch in the drama room and check the call board outside the drama room for additional information.

### Grand Theatre Opening Celebration

Some of our students will be performing, along with students from other area high schools, at the **Opening Night Celebration of the Grand Theatre**. They will present in a vignette style, the **Empire Life Broadway Series**. Please contact the **Grand Theatre Box Office** at **613 530-2050** for ticket information.

### Holy Cross Catholic School Council

The first meeting of the **2009/2010 Catholic School Council** will take place on **Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009, at 7 p.m.** The election of the school council executive, if necessary, will be announced. If you are in-

terested in being a member of the School Council Executive, please contact **Mr. Paul Walsh** at **384-1919 ext. 3411** or **walshp@alcdsb.on.ca** prior to **September 14<sup>th</sup>**. Check our website regularly for Council news.

### Crusader Gear Sale

The **Holy Cross Tuck Shop** will be open Wednesdays and Fridays from 11:10 to 11:50 a.m. starting **September 9<sup>th</sup>**. Check out our Holy Cross clothing and show your Crusader pride by wearing green and silver! If these times do not work for parents, please call **613 384-1919 ext. 2201 (Kelly Davison)** and a time can be arranged. Remember: Christmas comes fast!

### School Pictures and Graduation Photos

Graduating students are asked to sign up for their grad photos immediately in **Room 129**. Graduation photographs and interviews will be taken during the afternoons of **September 10, 11 and 14<sup>th</sup> (from 12:00 to 5:00 p.m.)**. Sign up on **September 8 & 9<sup>th</sup>**. These photographs will be used in the school yearbook publication and will be made available for purchase. This year, we will have our school **Photo Day** on **Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>**. Those who are absent on the **9<sup>th</sup>** will have their pictures taken on **Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup>**. These pictures will be available to you for purchase. Students will be required to pay for their photo package on the day that the photos are taken. A copy of each student photograph will be maintained at the school for the purposes of record keeping, identification and use in the school yearbook publication. Any other use of these photographs would require your consent. That consent would be requested prior to their use. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the use of the student photographs, please do not hesitate to contact **Mr. Prior** or a member of administration. **Friends Photos** will also be slotted on various days in September; please consult the attached calendar or HC agenda for your grade's day.

### 2009 – 2010 Crusader Student Activity Fee

The student activity fee covers the Holy Cross Agenda, the Students' Council ID Card, a Holy Cross Spirit T-shirt or backpack (a new addition this year!), two Toonie for Non-Uni Days, and a 2009 – 2010 Holy Cross Yearbook. Students from Grades 10 – 12 must pay \$66.00. Graduating students will pay \$101.00, which includes the Grad Fee and Grad disc. The Grade Nine rate is \$85.00, which also includes a French Cahier and a school lock. Students may opt out of receiving the yearbook by signing the "opt out" form. For parents with more than one child at Holy Cross, a reduction of \$4.00 per additional child is available when purchasing a yearbook. At press time, nearly 1200 students (and / or their families) have paid their student activity fee – fantastic! 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 the savings on to the community. Therefore, Students' Council is better able to support the extra-curriculars that make Holy Cross such an easy place to get involved.

### Paul Halligan Classic

Girls Basketball teams will be promoting breast cancer awareness by participating in the **10<sup>th</sup> Annual PH Classic** games against **RND** on **Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup>** with games at **Holy Cross** at 5:00 and 6:30.

### Crusader's Girls Field Hockey 2009

We are coming off a strong 2008 season and are looking to build on our successes, with the goal of making this coming year our best season yet! We have the foundation for an extremely talented team. We are on the lookout for rookies who are passionate about the sport and have the potential and desire to be really positive contributors to the Holy Cross program this upcoming season and beyond.

### Counselors' Corner

#### Course Load

All students in Grades 9, 10, and 11 are required to carry a course load of 4 courses each semester. Even in Grade 12, only students who have already earned 24 credits may take a spare. All are required to carry a minimum of 3 courses each semester.

#### Course Changes/Deletions

Students are to consult with a counselor prior to any decisions being made to their timetable. It is advised that any course changes required be dealt with by the end of the first week of the semester. Further to this, it is required that all changes be completed by the end of the second week of the semester. It is recommended that no changes to schedules occur after **September 11<sup>th</sup>**.

#### Post Secondary Information Sessions

In the upcoming months, **Student Services** will be hosting many presentations from Ontario colleges and universities. Below is a schedule of the visits. Unless otherwise mentioned, all presentations will be held in the lecture theatre. The time of the events will be posted. Students will need to sign up for all presentations in Student Services that do not take place over the lunch hour.

Sept. 16 ..... University Information Session  
Sept. 29 and Oct. 2 ..... College Application Sessions  
Oct. 20 ..... University Information Program @ Bayridge S.S.  
Oct. 27 & Nov. 2 ..... Online University Application Workshops  
Nov. 4 ..... College Information Program @ St. Lawrence College  
Nov. 5 ..... Post-Secondary Information Night for Parents 7:00 p.m.  
Nov. 10 & 12 ..... Online College Application Workshops

#### Individual College and University Presentation Dates

Sept. 17 ..... Ryerson University 11:15 a.m.  
Sept. 17 ..... Wilfrid Laurier University 2:30 p.m.  
Sept. 21 ..... University of Western Ontario 2:30 p.m.  
Sept. 28 ..... Trent University 11:10 a.m.  
Sept. 30 ..... York University 11:15 a.m.  
Sept. 30 ..... McMaster University 2:30 p.m.  
Oct. 1 ..... Atlantic Universities Fair, 10:45 – 12:15 p.m.  
Oct. 2 ..... University of Waterloo 2:30 p.m.  
Oct. 5 ..... Carleton University 2:30 p.m.  
Oct. 7 ..... Loyalist College 1:15 p.m.  
Oct. 7 ..... University of Ottawa 2:30 p.m.  
Oct. 9 ..... St. Lawrence College 9:00 a.m.  
Oct. 9 ..... Laurentian University 2:30 p.m.  
Oct. 14 ..... Concordia University, Montreal 2:30 p.m.  
Oct. 16 ..... Algonquin College 2:45 p.m.  
Oct. 26 ..... Nipissing University 2:30 p.m.  
Oct. 28 ..... Queen's University 2:30 p.m.  
Oct. 28 ..... Brescia College (UWO) 11:15 a.m.  
Oct. 29 ..... University of Guelph 11:15 a.m.  
Oct. 29 ..... Humber College 2:30 p.m.  
Nov. 3 ..... Bishop's University 2:30 p.m.  
Nov. 4 ..... University of Toronto 2:30 p.m.  
Nov. 5 ..... Dalhousie University (Halifax) 2:30 p.m.  
Nov. 6 ..... Huron University College 2:30 p.m.  
Nov. 10 ..... St. Francis Xavier University, Nova Scotia 2:30 p.m.  
Nov. 11 ..... Brock University 2:35 p.m.  
Nov. 19 ..... University of Ontario Institute of Technology 11:15 a.m.  
Nov. 23 ..... Redeemer University 2:35 p.m.

Due to the volume of material (application and scholarship related) handled in Student Services, graduating students are asked to regularly visit the HC website for current information on university and college presentations, the application process and scholarship information.

## Holy Cross Athletics

The fall of 2009 sees the return of a strong extracurricular athletics program at **Holy Cross**. Tryouts and practices begin the first week of September. This fall will see no less than eight teams carrying the green and silver of **Holy Cross**. The commitment of our student athletes and coaches generates dividends for all in our community. The parental support our teams have grown accustomed to over the years is most welcomed and appreciated. Grade 9 students should not hesitate to get involved. There are a wide range of teams to join and all are age-appropriate. High school sports are a great way to develop lasting friendships while learning and developing many skills. The values, beliefs and invaluable life skills which school sports provide allow our student-athletes the opportunity to fully develop themselves. If you have any questions regarding a team, contact one of the coaches or see your homeroom or physical and health education teacher.

**OFSSA** operates with a **Five Year Eligibility** and a **Transfer Eligibility Rule**. Student-athletes now have a maximum of five years of eligibility to compete in high school athletics. *Any student who has transferred into **Holy Cross** from another high school remains ineligible for all sports until they go through the transfer appeal process and are ruled upon.* Any transfer student should contact **Mr. Tim Hunter, Athletic Director** to begin the appeal process. The costs of running an extracurricular athletic program are great. Our teams are most fortunate to have the financial support of the **Holy Cross Students' Council**. Even with this support, user fees are required for all sports at **Holy Cross**. User fees for individual teams are listed in the **Holy Cross Student Agenda** and are due in full for all athletes before their first competition. Have a great season and we hope to see you on the sidelines supporting the **Green and Silver Crusaders of HC**

## Attendance at Holy Cross

At **Holy Cross**, we are very concerned that all students realize their full potential. Our direct expectation is that students attend all of their classes in uniform and complete work that is assigned. We will make every effort to keep parents aware of any problems with respect to attendance as it relates to their child. *Parents can expect contact by the Attendance Secretary and/or Administration to verify student absences.* Teachers will contact parents about learning issues related to attendance. We are very concerned with ensuring that no student is unsuccessful as a result of irregular attendance. In order to accomplish this goal, the following procedures will be followed:

1. Attendance will be taken during each class. All student absences will be checked. *If you know that your child is going to be away, please call the Attendance Office at 613-384-1355.* Otherwise, the Attendance Secretary or Administration will be contacting you at your home or your place of business. *If no call has been received from the parent, the student must bring a note the next day explaining their absence. If they fail or forget to do so, the student may be assigned Study Hall time.*
2. All students who are absent from school or any class during the day who cannot satisfactorily account for their absence (normally by bringing a note signed by their parent, guardian or a doctor's certificate) will be required to make up missed time by attending Study Hall during the first half of lunch.
3. *If a student misses a study hall session to which they have been assigned without a satisfactory excuse, they meet with an administrator.* Subsequent failure to attend study hall or ongoing problems of irregular attendance will be dealt with in a progressively more serious manner, which will most likely include suspension after consultation with parents/guardians.

## Punctuality

All students are expected to be on time for period one and each subject class. Punctuality demonstrates consideration and respect for others. If you are late you interrupt the classroom learning environment, inconvenience the teacher and class causing unnecessary additional work for all. Sometimes lateness is unavoidable and may be excused. However, students who are repeatedly late will be subject to the discipline policy of the school. Study Halls (lunch period detentions) or suspension from the school may occur.

## Youth Worker Services

**Ms. Terrie Hoey**, our Youth Worker, is available to address the social, emotional and behavioural needs of the students, their families and the school community. The needs are identified by the students, administration, parents, outside service agencies and staff. Should you not want your child to have involvement in this service, please contact the school administration.

## Next Month at Holy Cross, OCTOBER 2009

- 1.....Atlantic Universities Fair 10:45 – 12:15, Library
- 2.....College Application and Timeline Session, 11:15  
University of Waterloo, 2:30
- 5.....Fall Team Photos  
Carleton University 2:30  
World Teachers' Day
- 7.....University of Ottawa, 2:30  
Loyalist College, 1:15
- 8.....School Masses (Thanksgiving)  
Thanksgiving Food Drive ends
- 9.....Laurentian University 2:30  
Friday Night Lights at Richardson Stadium  
Green and Silver Pep Rally Day  
Graduation Portrait Orders due in Rm 129
- 13 – 16.....Grade 10 Sexuality Retreats
- 14.....Grade Representative Elections  
Concordia University 2:30
- 16.....School Photograph Retakes  
Algonquin College 2:45  
Semester One Early Report Cards Issued
- 17.....International Make Poverty History Day
- 20.....University Information Program (Bayridge SS)
- 22.....Grade 9 Take Our Kids to Work forms due  
Parent / Teacher Interview Night #1, 3 – 6 & 7-9
- 23.....ALCDSB P.A. Day #2 (no classes)
- 24.....Jr. Girls' Basketball Fall Classic
- 26.....Nipissing University, 2:30  
HC Catholic School Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 27.....Online University Application Workshops, 11:15 & 2:35
- 28.....Parent / Teacher Interview Night #2, 7 – 9  
Queen's University, 2:30  
Brescia College, 11:15  
School Photo Retakes, 8 – 10 a.m.
- 29.....Humber College, 2:30  
Guelph University 11:15  
PH Classic at HC  
Twoonie for Non-Uni (Breast Cancer Research)  
Mid-semester Test Period Begins
- 30.....Non-Uniform Day (tentative)



CHRIST: THE LIGHT OF OUR WORLD