

YOUTH POVERTY CHALLENGE CONFERENCE: We will be taking 10 students to this year's **Youth Poverty Conference** at **McArthur College** on **Wednesday, April 6th** where they will experience poverty first hand.

GRADE 12 RETREAT: Our Grade 12 Retreat will take place at **Rideau Acres** on **Friday, April 29th** and we are excited to have members of the **Catholic Christian Outreach Team (CCO)** take part again this year. Please see **Mr. Forster** or **Fr. Labelle** for permission forms.

APRIL 9TH CATHOLIC YOUTH RALLY: And, don't forget this exciting event which we will be hosting once again at **Holy Cross** on **Saturday, April 9th**. We are expecting hundreds of young people from across our Archdiocese to come together for this annual conference. Call the Pastoral Office to register.

PARTNERS IN MISSION FOOD BLITZ: Please mark **Wednesday, May 18th** on your calendars as we will be looking for volunteers to help again with this year's **Food Blitz**. **Holy Cross** is a major participant in this annual effort to restock the **Food Bank** shelves with non-perishable food items in this time of great need in our local community. And we will need lots of volunteers to make this possible.

As we continue our Lenten journey may each of us open our hearts to God's love through almsgiving, prayer and fasting. And, may each member of our Holy Cross community enter deeply into **Christ's** Passion and Death during **Holy Week** so that we can fully experience the joy of His Resurrection this **Easter**.

Chris Forster, Pastoral Services

HOLY CROSS OPTIONAL SPRING UNIFORM

The **optional** spring uniform may be worn beginning on **Monday, May 2nd, 2011**. The spring uniform consists of a school-crested green golf shirt and school-crested beige shorts offered for purchase at Holy Cross. Flat front shorts for girls will be offered once again this year. Footwear for the spring uniform is either sandals or running shoes. Students may continue to wear the fall/winter uniform. **Combinations of the seasonal uniforms are not permitted. Students can expect that all staff will be particularly vigilant that only school-crested khaki shorts and green uniform shirts are worn in their classrooms.**

HC SPRING UNIFORM SHOPPING

On **Thursday, April 7th from 3:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.** the Spring Uniform will be available for purchase from the **Halpern's Mobile Store** in the Holy Cross cafeteria. Please note Halpern's accepts cash, Master Card, Visa and debit cards. Halpern's does not accept cheques. This will be the only day students and their families may purchase the spring uniform at Holy Cross. After this date, the spring uniform will be available at the **HC Uniform Store located in the Tuck Shop**. Available clothing and prices may be viewed at the Halpern's web site at www.halperns.ca.

	Green golf shirt, short sleeve, crested	Khaki walking shorts, "H" crested
Boys	Youth \$19.95 Adult \$24.95	\$29.95
Girls	Youth \$21.95 Adult \$26.95	\$29.95

ONE DAY WITHOUT SHOES

One Day Without Shoes is the day we spread awareness about the impact a simple pair of shoes can have on a child's life. On **Tuesday, April 5th**, students and staff to go **without shoes in the morning, P1 and 2**, to experience a life without shoes first hand, and inspire others at the same time. Through everyday encounters with domestic poverty, we are reminded to appreciate having food and shelter, but most of us all but forget about our feet. Food, shelter, and shoes facilitate life's fundamentals.

SHARE YOUR CARE PRESENTATION

The **Truth Uncensored** leadership group that attended a conference sponsored by the **Health Unit** on **February 18th** was awarded a cheque for \$300.00 to spend on some sort of education regarding substance misuse. As a result **Holy Cross** will host two assemblies during Period One with **Andy Thibodeau** on **Monday, April 11th**. Andy uses his experiences and has created a high-energy comedy presentation that impacts students with messages of **"get your hand up"** and **"share your care"** Andy stresses that school is about learning and having fun. Andy's presentations encourage students and student leaders to find balance between participating in school activities while trying their best in the classroom. Throughout the presentation students will be reminded that **the power of simple daily acts of caring**. The top 3 examples of Caring: **Show UP ...** to events, to practice, to work, to class! **Participate ...** dress up for spirit days, cheer at a game, put your hand up in class. **Listen ...** to the teacher, to your parents, to the boss, to your friends! Why don't some youth care at school? It's because care comes with one large catch ... it doesn't work all of the time! A student can feel hurt when they cut from a team or play, laughed at in class, get a poor mark on an assignment, or get dumped in a relationship. However, for every one time that care doesn't work, it works 50 times!

STUDENTS' COUNCIL REPORT

Students' Council has been very busy this past month selling over 200 drinks; Muddy Leprechaun Milkshakes and Root Beer Floats sales have been a great success! Dodgeball intramural games continue at lunch, come support your favorite teams as we head into the play-offs. **Students' Council** would like to encourage everyone to bring your E-Waste to **Holy Cross** on **Saturday, April 16th** from 9am-2pm. E-Waste can be things such as: audio and video players, cameras, cell phones, radios, televisions, headphones, and much more. All proceeds will go to the **Tanzania Schools Project**. **Students' Council** is working with **CICS** for the **ShareLent Campaign**. Please donate generously to help to build a house in **Kingston, Jamaica** through a **Catholic Foundation 'Food for the Poor'**. Election forms for next year's **Students' Council** are now available outside the **Students' Council** office. We would like to wish all of the **Crusader Community** a Happy Easter!

Sara Valentino, Communications Officer

HOLY CROSS STUDENTS' COUNCIL EXECUTIVE ELECTIONS

Students who are interested in becoming a member of **Students' Council** executive for the 2011-2012 school year are required to complete a nomination package. **Holy Cross Students' Council 2011-12 Executive** election packages were distributed in March. Completed packages are to be submitted to a current **Students' Council Executive** member by **Thursday, April 14th**. The **Town Hall Assembly** is scheduled for **Wednesday, May 4th** and voting will take place on **Thursday, May 5th, 2011**.

To be eligible to stand for election a student must:

- i) Attain and maintain a minimum 75% academic average
- ii) Be a student in good standing
- iii) Submit a nomination form with 50 signatures from peers
- iv) Submit 3 teacher references.

OFSAA RESULTS

Congratulations to **Hannah Sutherland, Samantha Searle, Emanuelle Delaney, Laura Perry, Chad Leess** and **Nik Tolgyesi**, who represented **Holy Cross** well at the **OFSAA** swimming championships in **Toronto** on **March 1st and 2nd**.

As well, the **Junior Boys' Curling Team** competed in the **OFSAA curling championship** in **Thunder Bay**. A long way to travel, but the team represented the school well.

The **Boys' Hockey Team**, despite being seeded 20th out of 25 teams at the **OFSAA AAA/AAAA championship** in **Toronto** at the **Mastercard Centre**, played hard but unfortunately were beat out by some of the top seeds at the tournament. The boys look forward to a strong returning group for the 2011-2012 season.

The Senior Boys' Basketball Team competed in Niagara Falls, had some very close games and definitely returned to town feeling good both about this season and the potential to carry forward their experiences next year.

SPRING LEAGUE BASKETBALL

The Holy Cross Junior and Senior Boys' Basketball Teams are hosting a Spring Basketball league at Holy Cross. The games will be held on Wednesday evenings beginning April 6th, 2011 and continuing through May 18th, 2011. The games will be played between 5:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Teams will each have a half-hour practice, followed by an hour long game. The league is for 12 – 15 year old boys (Grades 7 – 9) and the teams will be coached by members of the Senior Boys' Basketball Team. The coaches of the Junior and Senior Varsity Crusaders, Mr. Demelo, and Mr. Dzierniejko, will be organizing and supervising the league. The cost to join is \$20 which includes a league t-shirt. Please send an email to dzierobi@alcdsb.on.ca if you are interested in signing up.

COACHING THE COACHES

On the evening of Friday April 29th and on Saturday, April 30th, many Holy Cross coaches will take part in the 6th Annual Spring "Coaching the Coaches", a clinic sponsored by Tourism Kingston and the Investors Group, and hosted this year at the Queen's University Athletics and Recreation Centre. Featured will be a series of seminars designed to help coaches of children of all ages to provide better learning and playing environments for their athletes. Top level coaches will share their expertise in dealing with athletes and provide examples of their best practices that can be used by coaches for all levels. This clinic focuses specifically on basketball, football and volleyball. Contact Frank Halligan, Clinic Manager, for additional information and registration forms which are available at <http://www.coachingthecoaches.ca>.

Holy Cross Class of 2011 Graduation Ceremony

The graduation ceremony for this year's graduating class will be held on Tuesday, June 28th beginning at 7:00 pm in the gymnasium. A Graduation Mass will be celebrated by Father Rene LaBelle at St. Paul the Apostle Church on Taylor Kidd Blvd at 12:00 for the graduates, their families, friends and staff.

Holy Cross Class of 2011 Reminders

Potential graduates should take note of the following significant dates:

Wednesday, March 23rd (10:40) Class of 2011 Information meeting
Friday, April 29th.....Graduates Retreat at Rideau Acres
Monday, May 2nd Potential HC Graduates List Published
Week of May 9th.....Grad Invitations distributed in Period 1
Wednesday, May 11th.....Valedictorian Submission Deadline
Friday, May 13th..Community Service Hours documentation due
Wednesday, June 22nd.....Final Course documentation deadline
Tuesday, June 28th...Graduation Mass and Commencement Exercises

A list of students who are potential graduates of Holy Cross and eligible to receive their Ontario Secondary School Diploma and take part in the June 2011 graduation ceremony will be published in the May Newsletter. The completion of thirty (30) credits (including compulsories), forty (40) hours of Community involvement, and the successful completion of the literacy test, are the key components of the diploma requirements. The community involvement hours (40) are to be completed and submitted to Student Services by Friday, May 13th, 2011. Students are asked to ensure that all requirements (including night school courses and on-line courses) have been completed or will be completed. The final marks for on-line and night school courses must be submitted to Student Services by Wednesday, June 22nd, 2011. Students may contact their counselor regarding any questions concerning graduation.

COUNSELLORS' CORNER

Mid Semester Report Cards

On Wednesday, April 27th mid semester report cards will be issued to all students in Period 1. Students will be directed to take the report cards home that day. No formal interviews are scheduled at this time. Parents may contact Student Services.

Course Selection Verification Forms

Although it may seem early, the planning for the 2011-12 school year is well underway at Holy Cross. Students have received Course Selection Verification sheets which indicate the courses that students have selected for next year. Our students are asked to select their courses in consultation with their teachers and parents. In addition, students are asked to bring the course verification sheet home and to return signed verification forms by Thursday, April 14th, 2011. Alternatively, students and parents may view the courses selected for next year by visiting the Maplewood Access button on our website, clicking on Timetable and then selecting Choices. The courses selected for next year will be indicated. Students who plan to return to Holy Cross for next year should ensure that they have completed the course selection process including verifying their courses.

Summer Jobs

Students should also check the board for summer job postings. The latest postings are up on the bulletin board located outside from Student Services. Summer job information from Employment Ontario can be found at Ontario.ca/summerjobs.

University and College Acceptances

Final first semester marks have been forwarded to both OUAC and OCAS. Please be aware of the fact that universities vary widely in when they send their offers of admission. Some students may have already had an early acceptance, but this is not the norm. Mid-term marks will be forwarded to OUAC April 28th. Universities will then begin to send offers of admission. Please reassure your son/daughter that they should not be alarmed if they do not hear at the same time as their friends. Students should expect a response from Universities by May 30th (latest). June 2nd is earliest date by which Ontario universities may require a response to an offer of admission. Grade 12 students enrolled in a night school course must have a midterm mark submitted to Student Services by April 20th and a final mark by June 16th. Please note that you may be expected to write a final exam before June 1st in order to receive a final mark by the deadline. College applicants must confirm their acceptance of a college offer by May 2nd.

St. Lawrence College Connections

Some grade 10/11 students have the opportunity to attend a one-day enrichment program at St. Lawrence College on May 5th. This program provides students the opportunity to experience one of the following career pathways: Justice Studies, Community Services, Business, Health Sciences, Applied Science and Computing, and Skilled Trades and Tourism. Contact Student Services for a registration form.

Connect and win at St. Lawrence Grade 12 and year 5 students have the opportunity attend a job fair at St. Lawrence College to meet with potential employers to hear about job opportunities, tour the college and learn about available programs at the college on Friday, April 29th. Sign up in Student Services.

University Experience Program

Queen's University is offering the UEP for students (all grades) who would be the first in their family to attend college or university in Canada. Students and their family members are invited to the Queen's campus on Saturday, April 2nd, 2011, for a series of activities including a campus tour with current students and seminars on financial aid, career options and a wide variety of degree programs. Contact Mrs. Cantarutti for more information.

OSAP

A financial representative will discuss OSAP applications on Tuesday, April 19th at 11:10 a.m. in the lecture theatre. Graduating students and their parents are encouraged to attend.

ARTS NOTES

The Holy Cross Improv Team will be heading to Ottawa to participate in the Canadian Improv Games. Having won the Kingston regional games, they will compete with twenty other teams from across Canada. Holy Cross plays Friday, April 22nd in the semi-final round, hopefully advancing to the finals on Saturday, April 23rd. The games will be held at the National Arts Center in Ottawa. The team, Ciara Roberts, Michael Vermeersch, Allison McLean, Hailey Masterson, Tyler Check, Grace Hill, Laura Donohue, and Rowan Burke-Lacoursiere is looking forward to competing in Ottawa. Tickets can be purchased through the National Arts Center.

NEWS FROM THE SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

All Parents/Guardians of students identified as exceptional learners, who requested IPRC meetings, have received their appointment time by mail with the IEP document. The time period is April 18-29th. "Thank you" to all those who have confirmed. Letters outlining accommodations for students on IEPs writing the OSSLT have been mailed to Parents/Guardians.

The Learning Disabilities Association of Kingston Newsletter contains current research on learning disabilities, resources available for loan, and scholarships available to students who are transitioning to college or university. Check out their website: www.ldkingston.com.

Many graduating students are preparing their Transition Portfolio which includes most recent psychological assessment, most recent IEP, and IPRC statement where applicable. They are then contacting their chosen college or university to set up an appointment with the Centre for Disabilities in April or May. As Ministry of Trades, Colleges and Universities govern post-secondary institutions, please be advised that the graduating student is solely responsible for sharing all confidential documentation pertaining to disabilities. On the weekend of May 6 and 7th, St. Lawrence College is running the transition event "Destination St. Lawrence" for students with disabilities attending St. Lawrence College in September. Registration deadline is April 22nd, 2011. Registration forms are available in Room 117.

A note also that information on post-secondary financial assistance is available on www.disabilityawards.ca and www.studentawards.ca.

April is Autism Awareness Month. Activities are being organized at Holy Cross to promote an understanding of students with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Parents/guardians wishing to discuss the early report card results, academic choices for next year, or any other concerns are invited to make an appointment with the Special Education Staff.

ECO-CORNER

Thanks to HC students and staff for sharing in our celebration of Earth Hour on Friday, March 25th. The hall lights were dimmed in the school and classrooms reduced their lights for at least 15 minutes per class for a total of one hour over the day. This symbolic gesture of our awareness to do our part for the environment was a great success and also a good lead in to Earth Day, which is celebrated on April 22nd. At HC, the Green Team has been busy completing our Eco-School requirements. A recent waste audit revealed that only 25% of the contents of our school waste is garbage. The other 75% is composed of recyclables and compostable materials. In an effort to address this problem, the Green Team is setting up a pilot composting project. The rich earth generated from the composters will be used for our planned vegetable gardens.

Eco-tip: As the days get warmer and brighter consider walking or biking to school or work. There is no better way to get exercise and enjoy the sights and sounds of spring. **Go Green HC!!!**

KINGSTON YOUTH POVERTY CONFERENCE

The Kingston Roundtable on Poverty Reduction will host a conference on Wednesday, April 6th from 9:00 to 2:00 at Queen's Faculty of Education. 100 high school students (10 from HC) will participate in a day-long simulation game which will allow them to experience what it is like to be poor, learn what systems exist to assist people living in poverty, and realize how challenging it is to navigate through these systems. The goals of the conference include: to educate approximately 100 high school students about what it feels like to live in poverty; to introduce participants to the systems in place to assist people in poverty and allow them to experience how challenging it is to navigate through these systems; to encourage students to think about how they can take what they have learned back to their schools; and, to encourage students to become agents of social change in the struggle against poverty.

MAY AT HOLY CROSS

- May 1-7.....Catholic Education Week
- May 2..... Potential Graduate List published
- Students' Council Executive Election begins
- Spring Uniform Begins
- College Applicants must confirm acceptance
- May 3.....Grade 8 Orientation Day at HC
- 2011 - 12 Students' Council Executive Videos
- May 4..... Students' Council Town Hall Assembly
- Making the Cut, Algonquin College
- May 5..School Board Mass in Belleville for Catholic Education Week
- Sir Isaac Newton Physics Contest
- 2011-12 Students' Council Executive Election Day
- May 6..... Kids Helping Kids Twonie for Non-Uni Friday
- Students' Council Executive Election Results published
- May 6 & 7.....Destinations St. Lawrence
- May 8.....Mother's Day
- May 9.....Grad Invitations Mailed
- May 10- 13.....Spirit Week
- May 11.....Holy Cross 2011 Valedictorian selection begins
- KASSAA Track and Field Meet
- May 12.....March for Life Bus Trip to Ottawa
- KASSAA Track and Field Meet
- May 13...Community Services Hours Deadline for potential graduates
- May 14.....6th Annual Greg Hulse Memorial Soccer Tournament
- May 16.....Catholic School Council Meeting, 6:30, Library
- May 17.....KASSAA 2011 Girls' Rugby Championships
- May 18.....25th Partners in Mission Food Blitz @ HC
- The Lion King Princess of Wales Theatre, Toronto
- May 19.....EOSSAA Track and Field
- KASSAA Girls and Boys' Soccer Championships
- May 20.....EOSAA Girls' Rugby Championship at HC
- KASSAA Boys' Rugby Championship
- Grade 9 Student Retreat with N.E.T.
- May 23.....Victoria Day (holiday)
- May 24..... OSAP Information Sessions
- HC Semester Two Field Trip Moratorium begins
- May 25..... Yearbook Distribution, P1, Room 129
- Genesis Awards Evening, 7 p.m.
- May 26.....EOSSAA Boys' Rugby Championship at HC
- May 27.....ALCDSB P.A. Day #5 (no classes)
- May 28...Greg Hulse Memorial Soccer All-Star Games @ Richardson
- May 29.....International Day of U.N. Peacekeepers

25TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION CELEBRATIONS AT HCCSS

- May 20 Volleyball Tournament 6-8 Alumni vs Students
- Informal Meet and Greet 7:00 pm
- May 21 5 km family run at 8:00 am at HCCSS
- Children's events and family BBQ at 11:00 am
- Sporting events for alumni all day at HCCSS
- Alumni Mass at St. Paul the Apostle Church 5:00 pm
- Main Event: Dinner at HCCSS following the Mass**
- Theatrical and musical entertainment after dinner
- May 22 Anniversary Golf Tournament at Amherstview GC
- Register by April 30 at www.holycross25theanniversary.myevent.com