

Principal's Message

The season of Advent helps to prepare us for Christmas, when we recall Christ's first coming. This is a season of joyful expectation and preparation. Christmas is a time of giving as we celebrate the greatest gift the world has ever received, the baby Jesus, God's one and only Son. At this time of year, CICS sponsors the Advent Food Drive to assist those most in need. I encourage all to give generously to assist those who are in need. May the true spirit of the season and Christmas touch each of you and your families.

We have now begun the Advent Season. Here at Holy Cross, students and staff will be entering into the spirit of this season through our Advent Reconciliation Celebration on Thursday, December 1 and our School Mass on Thursday, December 22. We encourage everyone to "Prepare the Way of the Lord" in the days leading up to our celebration of Christmas.

We welcomed Mr. Fabian Brown, Executive Director of St. Patrick's Foundation, to our school in November. Mr. Brown spoke at our November 10th School Masses and shared in classrooms and in many other venues about his work with the underprivileged in Kingston, Jamaica. As a result, we will be supporting his foundation through our Advent Collection this year, as well as collecting food donations for the St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Hamper Campaign. We are hoping to keep the "Christmas Challenge Cup" here at Holy Cross this year as we compete again in a 'friendly' way with our sister school – Regiopolis-Notre Dame. The collection of food and money ends on Friday, December 16th.

We congratulate **C.I.C.S.** for their participation again this year in the **Diabetes Fund-raising Blitz on November 2**. In their door-to-door canvassing, our Crusader volunteers collected over \$846.00 for this worthy cause. Our **Paper and Pop Can recycling programs** continue to grow through the hard work of **Sr. McCallum's** and **Mr. Hunter's** students who are helping in this effort to cut down on our waste here at Holy Cross. C.I.C.S. will also be promoting the **Development & Peace Water Campaign** during Advent. Petitions against the privatization of water in Canada and in the Third World and educational materials about the wasteful use of bottled water will be highlighted in the coming weeks.

Let us continue to pray for all those who are sick or who have lost a loved one recently. And may God bless each member of our Holy Cross community with a Holy and Blessed Advent Season.

December events at Holy Cross

Dec. 8	Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary			
Dec. 8-9	International Days			
Dec. 9	Last day for Friends and Grad photo orders			
Dec. 10	International Human Rights Day			
	HCTV Comm Tech Trip to Toronto			
	Norbert George presentation: Grades 9-12			
Dec. 15				
	End of Advent "Christmas Challenge Cup" Collection			
	Varsity Girls Hockey Tournament at Napanee			
	Sale of Candy-Cane-O-Grams			
	Present Wrapping Contest			
	Door Decorating			
	ost-Secondary Plans Survey, Grade 11, 12, 5th year			
Dec. 22	Advent School Mass			
	Christmas Carols Karaoke			
Dec. 22Katharine Splinter Memorial Christmas Recital-7:00pm				
Dec.23 Activity Day - Distrbution of Candy-Cane-O-Grams, Holy Cross Christmas Concert				
Dec. 23	Non-uniform day			
Dec. 23	Last Instructional day of 2005			
	. 8Christmas Break			
	Christmas Eve			
	Christmas Day			
	Boxing Day			
Dec. 31	New Year's Eve			

The Smart Youth Power Assembly

The **Kingston Community Credit Union** Presents the "The Smart Youth Power Assembly" with Norbert Georget on Wednesday, December 14th, beginning at 9:30 for the entire Holy Cross community. This powerful assembly features the most up-to-date, valuable, effective and organized presentation on adolescent & teenage problems and issues ever assembled. Student tested, parent and teacher approved, this program has already positively changed the lives of over one million youths across North America. As a former paramedic, Norbert Georget's personal stories coupled with the multimedia presentation, will captivate students. The assembly shows students how their everyday choices can determine the outcome in their path on life. Norbert Georget will teach them How to Make the Right Choice™ and The Ultimate Peer Pressure Solutions™! This segment of the assembly is fun and empowering. If there is one breakthrough message that thousands of students have grabbed onto, it's the 'It's Ok Not To Drink' slogan. It's simple, positive, easy to use and a major peer pressure relief for students.

Music Notes:

The Katharine Splinter Memorial Christmas Recital will be held in the Holy Cross Gymnasium on Thursday, December 22nd at 7:00pm. Works by Alfred Reed, Clifton Williams, Robert Smith, Roland Barrett, and Elliot Del Borgo will be presented by the Senior Wind Ensemble, the Jazz Ensemble, Junior Concert Band, and the Holy Cross Symphonic Band. Tickets are \$5.00 and may be purchased at the door.

EQAO Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics

In **January 2006**, Holy Cross students who are currently enrolled in a grade 9 Applied or Academic course will join others in a province wide standardized **Grade Nine Math Test**. This mandatory assessment will involve multiple choice questions, short answer and extended responses. This test which is one component of the Secondary School Reform initiative, will be administered over two of the students' regular mathematics classes. Dates for the testing at Holy Cross will be determined. Additional information can be obtained from teachers in the Mathematics Department.

Post Secondary Plans Survey, Grades 11, 12 and 5th Year

On **Wednesday, December 21**st, senior students will be surveyed to obtain their impressions and knowledge of the colleges of applied arts and technology, and how information about colleges and college programs reaches students. The survey will also collect information about courses selected, achievement, and post secondary plans so that school programs can better prepare students to meet their goals after high school. The survey, which will be conducted during period 2, should take approximately 20 minutes to complete. Students are not to sign this survey, and all information will be kept confidential.

Special Education Department Update

Our assistive technology lab is fully operational. Students taking General Strategies courses are being trained to use **Kurzweil and Dragon Naturally Speaking**. Mid-term report cards were sent home in November. Parents who are concerned about their childrens' progress should contact the Special Education Department.

Students and Textbooks

A reminder about student responsibility for textbooks.

In mid-December each student will receive a letter indicating the titles of all textbooks signed out as well as the unique barcode assigned to each book. Please take the time to verify your books against the list provided. It may save you and your parents much confusion and inconvenience later.

Books with exact barcodes as listed must be returned by the end of the exam period, **February 2, 2006**. As in other years, the good condition of each text is the student's responsibility.

Students may not collect Semester 2 texts until all Semester 1 books are returned or paid for. **Deposit cheques (\$100.00)** will be cashed where necessary for lost or damaged books beginning **February 6, 2006.**

Books in need of repair can be brought to the Library at any time. If there are any questions, please direct them to **Mr. Cortis or Mrs. Shea at 384 1919 Extension 3413**. Thanks for your cooperation.

The 2005-2006 Holy Cross Improv Team is in the process of preparing for the 2005 Improv games which will occur in February. The dates and times will be announced in the January newsletter.

The Holy Cross Reach For the Top Team will be appearing on the PBS television show Whiz Quiz this month. Tune in on December 13 at 7:30 p.m. and again on December 17 for two games at 4 and 5 p.m.

Technological Studies:

LOGOCONTESTWINNERS

Mr. Scarpazza's grade 11 Tech Design and Mr. Esford's grade 10 Communications Technology classes competed in a design competition to create a logo for the Holy Cross Technological Studies Department. Staff members judged the entries and congratulations are extended to all participants. Caity Mahoney's design "Building Brighter Futures" was selected as first place, Eric Keates won second and Mark Ottenhof won third. The winning design will be used by the Tech Dept for future use on web sites, T-shirts, and print promotional materials. Students will receive gift certificates totalling \$100.00 and professionally silk screened T-shirts with the new Tech Department logo design.

SAFETYCONFERENCE

The theme of safety is promoted, taught, expected and priority #1 in all Holy Cross Tech classrooms. To keep current and maintain our safety atmosphere, Mr. Corrigan (Construction) and Mr. Kallevig (Transportation) recently attended a Safety Conference in Whitby for secondary school Technological Studies teacher.

PHOTOCONTESTWINNER

Congratulations to grade 10 Communications Technology student Jessica Higgs who won first place in the "Responsibility" category of the Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox & Addington Public Health Unit's "Parenting" photo contest. Kudos to all students in Mr. Esford's grade 10 Com Tech class who entered the contest.

STUDENTS'TECHCOUNCIL

You have heard of the Holy Cross Students' Council, Athletic Council and Arts Council. Now say welcome to Holy Cross Students' Tech Council, an extracurricular club comprised of a group of Technological Studies students who desire to gain additional knowledge and skills in technology. The students will perform community based projects and Tech related activities. The executive council includes: Presidents Jessica Dykins and Lindsay Stokes, Vice President Brittany Mallen, Communications Richard Kohar, and Junior Rep Sheri King. There are also 12 members at large. If interested, please join our meetings every Wednesday during the lunch period in room 215. Our next activity will be producing a Fashion Show.

SANTACAUSEPARADE

On **November 19**, members of the Student's Tech Council designed, built and presented a float in the **2005 Downtown Kingston Santa Claus Parade**. The integrated project incorporated brain storming, computer design, carpentry, finishing, and electricity. The entry consisted of a truck converted into the "**Crusader Christmas Express**" train festooned in lights which even included a working smokestack. The float carried a human sized snow globe which contained the Holy Cross Crusader mascot. Twenty hearty Holy Cross students walked along with the float singing the HC school song. The student design received numerous "Wows!" along the parade route.

NEWWEBDESIGNCOURSE

Mr. Pat Murphy (Computers) is creating a new course for next semester

entitled **Web Design (IDC 30)**. Students will design and maintain the official Holy Cross school web site. Interested students can contact Mr. Murphy in room 217.

Communication Technology

HCTV Toronto Trip: On Wednesday, December 14, 2005, Mr. Esford's Grade 12 Communications Technology students will travel to Toronto to tour Ryerson University and the Radio & Television Arts program, Much Music studios, and be in the live studio audience video tape recording of the MOD "Much on Demand".

The 2005 –2006 **Holy Cross DVD Year Disc** is on sale now for \$10.00. The DVD will include 99 videos on Holy Cross students, teams, clubs, arts performances and special activities. The DVD features full screen, moving images, using digital audio and video quality. The DVD comes with a colour case, label, site map and autograph section insert. Order forms are available in home room classes, at the front office, and in room 215. You may also contact **Mr. John Esford** (384-1919 ext. 2215).

Friend Photo, Grad Artist, Grad Athlete and Graduation Portrait orders will continue to be accepted until Thursday, December 9th. Please submit your orders to Mr. Prior in room 129. Completed orders will be distributed by December 23rd.

Les Miserables photo CD's are available for purchase for \$5.00 from Mr. Prior in room 129. This CD includes all of the group photos, entire cast photo and selected action photo scenes. You may make high quality prints from images off this photo CD.

The **Transportation Technology** department here at Holy Cross is more than just a classroom, it is a rich learning environment that focuses on the practical application of knowledge learned. Students work on a variety of vehicles provided by staff, parents and students themselves. While there, students learn the basics of: tire repairs, balancing, rotation, and changing flat tires; engine tune-ups; diagnosis and repair of cooling systems, electrical systems (small to medium repairs), suspension systems; minor rust repair and prevention; welding, cutting and fabrication; small engine diagnosis, repair and maintenance; diagnosis and repair of fuel injection and ignition systems; brake relining and machining. If you are closely related to the school (a parent or relative or student) and would like to support our efforts with your vehicle repairs, please contact Mr. Kallevig at the school or by e-mail at **mkallevig@yahoo.com** with your request. If it fits the curriculum and is deemed appropriate, we will gladly consider your request.

CRUSADER ATHLETICS

KASSAA and EOSSAA Champions Again!

Congratulations to the **Senior Girls Basketball** team who captured their fifth consecutive **EOSSAA title** by defeating TISS in the championship game. The win earned the team a trip to the **OFSAA** championship on **December 1^{\underline{st}}, 2^{\underline{nd}} and 3^{\underline{rd}} in Samia. The team has received an impressive 7^{\underline{rb}} seed this year! Good luck in Sarnia girls! Congratulations and thankyou to graduating players Muddy Hutzler, Kelsie Ball, Nicole Shillington, Cassidy Shkimba, and Erica Gibbs.**

The KASSAA winter sport season begins in the **first week of December**, and Holy Cross is again expected to field extremely competitive teams in Wrestling, Curling, Cheerleading, Badminton, Boys' Basketball, Girls' Volleyball, and Girls' and Boys' Hockey.

STUDENT'S COUNCIL EVENTS

HOLY CROSS CHRISTMAS SPIRIT WEEK!

The Christmas Spirit is coming to Holy Cross! The Students' Council will be hosting a Christmas Spirit Week beginning on December 19th and continuing until December 23rd. The activities include: Sale of Candycane-o-grams on Monday, Present Wrapping Contest on Tuesday, Door Decorating on Wednesday, Christmas Carols Karaoke on Thursday, and then wrapping up with the distribution of Candy-cane-o-grams, and the grand finale - The Holy Cross Christmas Concert on Friday.

Ping Pong Comes to Holy Cross!

During the week of December 12th to 16th, Students' Council will be hosting a Ping Pong Tournament during the lunch hour. There will be two categories; a competitive category for the "diehard" players and a noncompetitive category for those who only wish to have fun. There will be a \$5.00 entry fee as we will provide paddles and balls, however, you may bring your own paddle is you wish. Come out and join the fun!

Senior Girl Says:

There are 24 hours in one day, 365 days in one year, and 4 weeks in one month. You would think that would be enough time to juggle endless amounts of balls? This is just not so. Learning the skill of juggling balls is like balancing time. It is an overwhelming task that is usually completed unsuccessfully among high school students. Not many people realize the lack of spare time teenagers possess in their lives. The hours usually add up to the grand number of zero.

Once we hit the 'oh so mature' age of thirteen we become clowns; juggling activities such as sports, jobs, homework, friends, boyfriends/girlfriends and family. Each of these priorities maintains the mind set that they are our only priority and our time should be completely dedicated to their needs. We will continue to perform our clown act facing our audience. When one of the balls fall to the ground (which will occur, regardless of how experienced we become), we will be encountered with two choices: pick our ball back up... As Holy Cross Students, there is also one more thing that must be kept in mind; the occurrences of student's council! Ms. Van Vlack is conjuring up ideas of an ice rink plopped in the rear of our school. This could create serious smiles for many people in the Kingston area and spread some Christmas spirit through our school. Mike Veryzer is a big x-box fan; do we have any of those here at Holy Cross? The thoughts of keeping occupied during lunch and before major sport's games have become a significant concern in the mind of mike. Therefore, he has been contemplating the idea of x-box competitions during these boring moments in our lives. Our first movie night is also under way. There will be popcorn served and a movie played in the lecture theatre at 6:30 pm. This will be a social event for all you people that enjoy meeting and eating. There will be time to talk to new Holy Cross students that you have never met before, and stuff your face with snacks. It is a time that you will not want to miss. Because school extends until December 23rd (two days before Christmas, I might add), we need to have a little Christmas fun before the Holidays. There will be a Spirit Week from the 19th until the 23rd, when we can express our creative side through Kaitlyn Lackie's genius ideas. Anyone up for a skillful game of ping pong? Bring it on! There will be ping pong competitions in the gym from the 12th of December until the 16th. This will be entertaining for the audience and the competitive students that will be showing off their moves. I know that my favourite time of the school day is narrowed down to the fifty minutes designated to satisfying my hunger. Brown's Fine Foods supports my rumbling stomach during this time by allowing me to buy their mouthwatering cuisine. Keep your eyes wide open for Brown Bucks coming in 2006! There will be much more to come on these issues.

COUNSELLOR'S CORNER

Holy Cross held their annual **Honour Roll Celebration** on **Wednesday**, **November 2**, **2005**. The guest speaker was **Mr. Chris Whitaker**, **Vice-Principal of Academics and Executive Director of St. Lawrence College**.

Grade 9, 10 and 11 students who achieved Honour Roll status for the 2004-2005 school year were recognized for their academic achievement. Grade 12 students were recognized during the graduation ceremonies in June.

Grade 11

Maretta Adams, Steven Amelotte, Allee Armstrong, Joshua Ashurst, Kelsi Ball, Alexandra Barbatbun, Lucas Bevak, Bethany Biggs, Kyle Boyce, Cody Bush, Kori Cembal, Ginger Chen, Xu (Claire) Cheng, Corey Cougle, Meghan Dalton, Jordan DeSousa, Katherine Dolphin, Robert Dorey, Vincent Doyle, Brianna Drew, Blake Evans, Justin Evans, Simon Farrell, Krystle Finn, Cameron Flude, Teresa Forster, Danielle Fraser, Tammy Georgiou, Fady Ghabros, Erica Gibbs, Samantha Gordanier, Mathieu Guimont, Sung Joo (Natalie) Ha. Jessica Heikamp, Denny Ho. Beniamin Holland, Rebecca Holmes, Justin Houde, Matthew Hulse, Nicholas Hume, Kera James, Daniel Jaques, Matthew Jewett, Joshua Johnson-Pelletier, John Kelsey, Kayla Kenney, Casey Kidson, Youngil Kim, Richard Kohar, Kaitlyn Lackie, Patricia Larocca, Tsz Kwan (Kathy) Lee, Sarah Lesslie, Kathleen Lewis, Ashley Lloyd, Joanne (Asia) Lukaszuk, Candice MacDonald, Adrienne Mason, Matthew McCombs, Kristen McCourt, Kimberly McIntosh, Kelly McKellar, Alexandra McLeod, Andrew Miller, Lauren Moore, Michael Muir, Vuanh Nguyen, Jaclyn O'Hearn, Gabrielle Ouimet, Stephanie Pacheco, Samantha Pang, Samuel Pearson, Jessica Pickles, Ayrton Potter, Elizabeth Quinlan-Keech, Sylvie Racicot, Sarah Roney, Bethany Schock, Kelsie Shafer, Meghan Shaver, Tyler Shillington, Cassidy Shkimba, Luis Silvestre, Elena St. George, Lindsay Stokes, Kelvin Tang, Janelle Taylor, Jennifer Taylor, Sarah Taylor, Elvse Thompson, Nicole Thompson, Rebekah Trafford, Sarah Turkeli, Jason Upton, Katherine Van Vlack, Michael Veryzer, Meera Vyas, Amanda Vyvey, Christopher Walsh, Lauranne Warner, Jessie Warren, Rebecca Wehner, Jamie Wells, Emma West-Sadler, Stephanie Whitaker, Cory Wilkinson, Christopher Witters. Award Winner for best overall average: Jaclyn O'Hearn.

Grade 10

Hector Abullarade-Gamez, Ashley Alexander, Joclynn Amaral, Jamie Arniel, Kaitlynn Baki, Dana Barr, Blake Beehler, Scott Bennett, William Blades, Alyssa Botnick, Brittini Bourdage, Joanne Boyle, Matthew Brady, Sebastian Braganza, Andrea Brassard, Amber Brent, Rebecca Brown, Stephanie Buck, George Cave, Heejae Chung, Stephanie Cime, Brittney Conroy, Ellen Conway, Emma Cotman, Bradley Crawford, James Crawford, Emily Culhane, Jessica Daley, Kristina Daoust, Melissa Davis, Eleisha Deline, Jennifer Denoble, Emily Desigrations, Lacey Desousa, Tiffany Desousa, Heather Donohue, Patrick Dwyre, Heidi Evans, Alana Feeley, Christopher Ferris, Linda Forster, Allison Forsyth, Carolyn Fox, Michael Garrett, Nicole Garrett, Lesley Golding, Matthew Greyling, Jacqueline Hamilton, Matthew Hartley, Patrick Healey, Kevin Hogan, Corey Howard, Emily Hyde, Chelsea Hynes, Matthew Irving, Won Suk (Jack) Jung, Alicia Kenny, Ryan Kerstens, Min-Jung (Mindy) Kim, Derek Knaack, Christopher Kohar, David Kotanko, Yoon Ju (Julia) Lee, Young Guel (Stephen) Lee, Andrew Locke, Katelyn MacDonald, Kyle MacDonald, Ryan Marshall, Laura Martindale, Natalie Maschi, Leigh Matassa, Manoj Mathew, Courtney McFarland, Colin McMillan, Joshua Merkley-Pogue, Alison Milde, Cory Mooney, Scott Mortimer, Evan Mullen, Ashley Murphy, Ryan Murphy, Kyra Nicholson, Curtis Ottenhof, Nicole Pacheco, Laura Palma, Evan Pawliuk, Tom Pham-Nguyen, William Picard, Elizabeth Pickles, Daniel Prezgot, Vilma (Veronica) Rivera, Filipe Rodrigues, Andrew Roy, Brett Scanlan, Rachel Schock, Rachael Smart, Sarah Splinter, Michael Stafford, Ian Stewart, Rebecca Stewart, Alexander Stuart, Erin Sudds, Shannon Sudds, Katherine Sung, Paulina Tavares, Laura Taylor, Alexandra Tripp, Justin Tulloch, Caterina Van Herpt, Kaleb Verk, Andrew

Wallace, Rebecca Whitaker, Nevil Whitty, Casey Wilkinson, Matthew Woo, Michael Young. Award Winner for best overall average: Rebecca Stewart.

Grade 9

Victoria Allan, Kelsey Berry, Sacha Blackman, Timothy Blades, Jacob Blair, Joshua Blair, Elizabeth Bourassa, Jennifer Brule, Daniel Cachaco, Megan Cahill, Kelsey Carlin-Adam, Griffin Chambers, Kaitlin Chandrarajan, Ryan Chapman, Charlotte Corsi-Johnson, Mackenzie Costron, Bobbi-Jo Cronk, Meghan Daoust, Danielle Davies, Mikaila De Sousa, Peterson Dela Fuente, Patrick Donovan, Aiden Dorosz, Thomas Doyle, Mary (Aly) Edwards, Meaghan Egan, Clare Forster, John Forster, Layney Gauthier, Sarah Gauthier, Robert Gencarelli, Ramey Ghabros, Lindsay Gibson, Joseph Graham, Daniel Grant, Alessandra Greenwood-Dasilva, Kyle Griese, David Halligan, Robert Hayes, Jessica Higgs, Christopher Ho, Katelynn Hodges, Emily Holmes, Miranda Hunt, Maeve Jones, Nicholas Kelly, Hyo-Bee Kim, Stacey Kimmett, Allison King, Alexandra Klenke, Megan Lackie, Gabrielle LaFortune, Joshua Leavitt, Brandan Leroux, Julie MacGarvey, Morgan MacKay, Caitlan Mahoney, Emily Mahoney, Samantha Marino, Olivia Marquez, Andrew Martin, Christopher Matias, Ashley Mayhew, Ryan McCaugherty, Michael McGarvey, James McLean, Scott McLean, Jeremy Moreau, Janita Murphy, Nathan Neeteson, Andrew Nelson, Macey Nielissen, Mark Ottenhof, Shelby Owen, Hyunjin (Luke) Park, Daniel Pearson, Allan Urena Pinones, Brock Poirier, Josh Prinsen, Serena Pugh, James Ransom, Jordan Reed, Alexandra Reid, Connor Reid, Kaitlyn Roberts, Kaitlyn Running, Charline St. George, Stephanie Samms, Kaitlin Scott, Jessica Scriver, Adam Sosnowski, Matthew Stinson, Robert Taylor, Katrina Thompson, Christopher Vermeersch, Danica Vidotto, Christa Walsh, Eighren Weima Majury, Nichole Wiemann, Joanna (Asia) Zolnierczyk. Award Winner for best overall average: Robert Gencarelli.

College/University Applications

Post secondary application workshops and information sessions have concluded. Although the deadline for applications to OUAC (University) is January 11th and OCAS (College) is February 1st, the Holy Cross recommended date is December 15th.

Course Changes for Semester Two

Students intending to make changes in their semester 2 timetable are asked to do so by **December 22**nd.

Looking for a Job or Volunteer Hours

Coming up at Holy Cross

Students are reminded to regularly check the postings on the **Job & Volunteer Board** located outside Student Services.

January 01 DAY !	World Day of Prayer, NEW YEAR'S
January 09	First Instructional Day of the New Year
	January 2006 Newsletter Issued
	y Boys Basketball Mini-Tournament at HC
January 19	January School mass
January 25	Last Instructional Day in Semester 1
	Grades 9 to 12 Examinations Begin
February 01	Grade Eight Parent Information Night
	Final Examination Day
February 03	Professional Activity Day #3
February 06	Turn Around Day
February 07	First Full Instructional Day in Semester 2
	Semester I Report Cards Distributed
February 10	17 th Annual Memorial at RND
February 28	Early Dismissal Day (periods 1 and 2)

March 01 Ash Wednesday Mass