



HOLY CROSS

Catholic Secondary School

September 2017

Principal's Message

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It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2017-18 school year at Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School. A special welcome to our grade 9s, the class of 2021, many of who recently participated in our annual two-day 'Movin-on Up' orientation camp at the school August 30th and 31st. Many thanks to Ms. Gallant and her team for putting on an excellent and informative introduction to Holy Cross for our newest Crusaders.

In a brief conversation that I had with the grade 9s at the camp, I encouraged them to look around the school and discover the many opportunities there are to get involved in this community. Our talented Arts department will be holding auditions in the first week of school for our annual musical theatre production, *Godspell*. In athletics, the Junior and senior football, boys' volleyball, girls' basketball, field hockey and golf teams will be swinging into action in the first week. Our many clubs will also be looking for new members, check out the Green-Team, CICS (Crusaders in Community Service) and Youth Alpha, among others at the school. I like to think that there is something for everyone at Holy Cross.

There are, of course, opportunities for parents and guardians to get involved at Holy Cross. Our first School Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 13th at 6:30 p.m. in the Learning Commons. I look forward to seeing you and to the opportunity to share with you, the great things happening at Holy Cross. We have one meeting per month for about an hour. In year's past, parents and guardians have helped fund student events, wellness activities, form policy on our uniform, and organize parent engagement evenings.

I would like to highlight our upcoming Speaker Series about Teen Mental Health, a School Council and Wellness Team initiative that will take place over this coming year.

This Month

- Sept 4 Labour Day
- Sept 5 First Day of School!
- Sept 7 School Play –Godspell Info Mtg
- Sept 11-14 Godspell Auditions
- Sept 13 Live Differently Assembly
Gr 9 students
- Sept 14 School Mass
- Sept 21 HC Speaker Series for parents
Teens and Stress 7:00-8:30pm
- Sept 27 Parent Post Secondary Info Mtg
6:30-8:00pm
- Sept 29 P A Day

We have secured three local Teen Mental Health professionals to provide our parent community with some excellent resources and insight into different aspects of Teen Mental Health. Please mark your calendars for the following dates:

Session 1: *Teen Stress and Anxiety* – Dr. Mike Condra, Ph.D., C. Psych. Thursday September 21st, 2017 at 7:00pm, Holy Cross Lecture Theatre.

Session 2: *Parenting Youth in a Time of Transition: How to help prepare them for managing life stress.* Dr. Susan Buchanan, Ph.D., C. Psych. Thursday February 8th, 2018, at 7:00pm, Holy Cross Lecture Theatre.

Session 3: *On the front lines in Teen Mental Health.* Nicholas Axas, MSW, RSW. Thursday May 10th, 2018, at 7:00pm, Holy Cross Lecture Theatre.



PASTORAL NEWS

Our Chaplaincy Team of Fr. Shea, Fr. Amato, Ms. Mulvihill, Ms. Melo Jordan and Mr. Chris Forster looks 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 CICS' outreach programs, we hope to challenge all our students to come to know God in a personal way this year. We are especially mindful of the people of Houston, Texas, and other communities whose lives have been so affected by hurricanes, flooding, drought, forest fires or famine. We will be assisting them through our fundraising efforts in the coming weeks. Our school theme this year ***“God Calls Us to Be Compassionate”*** is a timely invitation for us to reach out to others in need with the love of Christ.

Fr. Sebastian Amato will preside and Fr. Tim Shea will preach at our Opening School Mass on Thursday, September 14th as we celebrate together our school feast day - *The Exaltation of the Holy Cross*. We are also looking forward to having many of our students involved in our **“Youth ALPHA”** pizza lunch hours which will begin the first Wednesday of October and continue throughout first semester. Come and share your questions about life and the meaning of life with other young people.

Throughout the coming year, let us take time to reflect on the importance of our Catholic faith and to thank God for all our blessings, especially for the gift of our families, our friends and for our faith community here at **Holy Cross**.

Chris Forster, Chaplaincy Leader

Looking Forward to October

Oct 4 - Andy Thibodeau presentation
Oct 5 - School Mass
Oct 9 - Thanksgiving
Oct 13 - Report Cards Issued
Oct 13-25 - Parent Teacher Interview sign-up
Oct 19 - Parent Teacher Interviews 3:30-8:30
Oct 25 - Parent Teacher Interviews 6:30 - 8:30
Oct 27 - P A Day
Oct 31 - Halloween

Contact Us

Check on-line for more information at www.hctoday.ca
Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School
1085 Woodbine Road, Kingston, Ontario, K7P 2V9
(613) 384-1919

**Holy Cross Secondary School Handmade Only Crafters
Event in support of The Jamaica Mission Trip Fund**

Saturday October 14, 2017 10:00 am –3:00 pm

Over 30 vendors invite you to this unique show. Featuring woodworking, acrylic art, knitting and crochet items, felting, pebble art, paper creating, jewelry, candles, bath and body products, photography and much, much more.

No Cost for admission. Great time to start your holiday shopping.

Why learn French?

"I think it's important to learn French because you can get a better job when you are older. Also, if your family went on a trip to a foreign country where they speak French you could talk to people and ask for directions or for help. Everyone deserves to learn our country's 2 official languages."

-Jack, ALCDSB Grade 3 Student

Encourage your child to be a lifelong learner of French!



ARTS Update

Annual Musical

Every fall, the Holy Cross Arts Department is proud to present a major Broadway musical on the HC stage. This year we present "Godspell" (November 29-December 2). Auditions begin September 11th. ALL GRADE LEVELS ARE ENCOURAGED TO AUDITION. No previous experience required.



Italy Switzerland March Break 2018

The Euro trip to Italy and Switzerland takes place this school year during the March break. Spots are still available and students can register until late October (earlier registration helps for organization). Trip highlights include visits to the beautiful cities of Venice, Florence, Lausanne and Geneva. Students will tour a Swiss chocolate factory, ascend Mount Pilatus in the Swiss Alps, enjoy a gondola ride in Venice, climb the dome of Florence's cathedral and many more experiences that will be cherished for a lifetime. Please see Mr. Coleman to get registration papers.

Counsellor's Corner

Time table changes and course load:

All students in grade 9, 10, and 11 will carry a full course load which is 4 credits per semester. Students in grade 12 who have a minimum of 24 credits may elect to have a spare in each semester. All grade 12 students who have not graduated are required to carry a minimum of 3 courses each semester. It is the view of the school, that students fully engaged in the classroom will perform better academically and will progress to graduation with fewer challenges.

Students have until Friday, September 15 to request a timetable change. Students must meet with their guidance counsellor to discuss their request.

Post-secondary Information

Information sessions regarding post-secondary education will start next week. Students should regularly check the announcements for the presentation schedule. A monthly schedule is also posted in Student Services. Students interested in applying to University should plan on attending the information session on Wednesday, September 13 at 11:15 or at 2:30.

Volunteer Opportunities

Students should check the bulletin board outside Student Services for current volunteer opportunities

The golf season is upcoming and goes by pretty fast so we will have meetings/tryouts in the first week of school.

Tryout Dates/Times:

Wednesday, September 6th - 3:15pm at The Landings (9 holes)

Thursday, September 7th - 3:15pm at The Landings (9 holes)

Friday, September 8th - 3:15pm at The Landings (9 holes)

Practice rounds for the competitive and farm teams will be played during the second week in September.

With tax, the cost for the try-outs will be \$11.30/player/9 holes. Please pay this fee in the Pro Shop when you arrive at The Landings Golf Course.

The tournaments last year occurred in the second week of school with the KASSAA final having to be played in the third week. EOSSAA takes place on Sept 28th this year so that means our KASSAA final will take place by Sept 22nd at the latest. I'm awaiting confirmation of the dates for the tournaments and will announce these soon.

KASSAA events will include:

9 hole tournament at The Landings

9 hole tournament at Camden Braes

KASSAA finals at Smugglers Glen.



See you soon!

Rob Watts

Senior Football is attending an exhibition game in Toronto at U of T - Varsity stadium on Friday, September 15.

