



HOLY CROSS

Catholic Secondary School

January 2020

Principal's Message

Principal's Message – January 2020

On behalf of the entire staff at Holy Cross CSS, I wish you and your family a happy and healthy 2020. We look forward to having your sons and daughters back at school, rested and ready to finish semester one on a strong note.

In the month of January we turn our focus to the completion of culminating tasks and final exams for semester one courses. Examinations begin on Thursday January, 23rd and the complete examination schedule can be found on our website, www.hctoday.ca. Please be familiar with the contingency planning during exams in the case of inclement weather, you will find this information included on the examination schedule. Please know that we are committed to supporting the academic success of all students and we encourage all families to plan ahead for the completion of credits. While we will always work with families to find solutions to issues that might arise, the Education Act does not make allowances for absence from school for vacations. Consequently, the published examination schedule cannot be adjusted to meet individual needs of this type. Thank you for your understanding. Semester 2 begins on Monday February 3rd.

Our grade nine students enrolled in academic and applied mathematics courses in semester one will be writing the EQAO assessment for mathematics on January 15th and 16th. Good luck to all writers, we know that you have been well prepared!

In January, our winter athletic teams will return to competition in the small window of time leading up to the examination break. The annual Memorial boy's basketball games versus the Regiopolis-Notre Dame Panthers are certainly a highlight in the winter season. The Memorial was established in 1989 by Paul Halligan, and has been held each year to raise funds

This Month

Jan 6– First Day of Classes

Jan 15-16– EQAO Gr 9 Math Test

Jan 15– University Applications due to OUAC

**Jan 15– Gr 11 & 12 Vocal Concert
Cafetorium 7:00pm**

Jan 23-29– Exams

Jan 31– PD Day

and awareness in support of cancer research. We're expecting a big crowd of Holy Cross supporters to venture down to the RND gymnasium on Friday January 17th to cheer on our teams and to raise money for a very important cause.

God Bless,

Michael Faught



Holy Cross Student Council



“From our family to yours, Student Leadership would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!”

ARTS DEPARTMENT UPDATE

December was another busy month for the Arts Department!

the HC Improv team and dance team began practices after school

our 60-member choir sang at our December school Mass

our instrumental and vocal music students showcased their talents to a packed house at the annual Katharine Splinter Memorial

our grade 9 guitar class hosted a highly entertaining Christmas coffee house just before the break

January Events include:

Grade 11 Vocal Concert - January 15, 2020 at 7PM Tickets \$5

Please "Like" our Facebook page: **Holy Cross Performing Arts** to see many pictures of our events! Also please follow us on instagram **@hcarts_**





Missed your grad photos?
It's not too late.

Call to book your appointment today!

Graduation photo appointments are being scheduled
at your local Prestige Photography studio.

Appointments are available between Jan. 27 - 30, 2020

Call 613-634-1424
to schedule your appointment.

Portraits are taken by appointment only.

3055 Princess Street,
Kingston, ON K7P 0K3

Prestige
Photography by Lifetouch

**Thank
You!**

Thank you to all staff and community members for participating in our annual Poinsettia Fund-raiser Sale. Profits from the sale directly support all students in the 18-21 Bridges to Community Program.

COUNSELLORS' CORNER

University/College Applications

Applicants should notice that the application centre deadlines (for equal consideration for admission to programs) are approaching. University applications are due to the centre by **Wednesday, January 15th** and college applications by **Saturday, February 1st**. Students are asked to ensure that all data on the application is accurate (including address and transcript information). Please contact Student Services with any concerns.

Semester 2 Timetables

Students are able to access their timetable on the Student Maplewood Access on the Holy Cross website [hctoday](#). The link is under the "Student Services" section of the Home Page. Students should also verify demographic information here and notify Student Services of any changes. If you have misplaced your username and password, contact Student Services. A new timetable with teacher names and room numbers will be issued in Period 1 class on the **turnaround day, Monday, February 3rd, 2020**

Course Selection 2020- 2021

The course selection process for next school year will be outlined in workshops being conducted from February 18-28. Grade assemblies outlining the process will take place on February 13th, 2020.

Queen's University Enrichment Programs

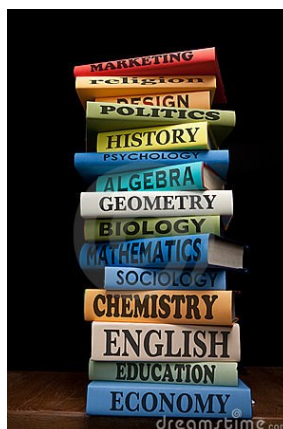
Enrichment Mini Course (EMC) Secondary Students: May 6-8, 2020

Summer Enrichment Grades 8 – 12: August 9 – 14, 2020

Leadership Training

Registration is currently open at esu.queensu.ca/ 613-533-3181

For more information please see your Guidance Counselor.





PASTORAL NEWS

December was a busy month here at Holy Cross and the chaplaincy team was working to keep up. On December 5th we had our Advent reconciliation for grade 11 and 12 students. It was a profound afternoon in the Learning Commons with the Holy Spirit moving in our midst. A big thank you to Fr. Amato, Fr. Shea, Fr. Byrne, Friar Ed, Fr. Grainger, and Fr. Pouliot for coming in to make this beautiful sacrament available!

The school gathered for our Advent Mass on December 12th, with Fr. Amato sharing a homily which inspired students and staff alike to prepare our hearts for Jesus at Christmas. Furthermore, short liturgies were held to mark the lighting of our Advent candles. Thank you to the students and staff who assisted with Mass and read at our wreath liturgies!

CICS also kept busy through the Advent season. The collection for Martha's Table was successful with homeroom classes generously taking part. CICS took to the lobby during lunch on multiple days to make Christmas cards for patients at Providence Care Hospital; many students stopped by to help decorate and write messages. There was also a visit to Rosewood Retirement Residence to sing carols and share favourite Christmas memories.

January will see masses continue for grade nine and ten classes. We keep in our prayers our students who are writing final assignments and studying for exams.

As we enter 2020, we look to God for renewed strength in all areas of our life, big and small. In case you're still trying to think of some, here are a few items from Pope Francis' New Year's resolution list!

Make time for others

Befriend those who disagree

Don't be afraid of commitment

Pray more often

Be happy!

Wishing blessings to all in the New Year,

Nick Cotman, Chaplaincy Leader

**Do Justice, Love Kindness, and Walk Humbly
with your God (Micah 6:8)**

Looking Forward to February

Feb 1– College Applications due to OCAS

Feb 3– 2nd Semester begins

Feb 3– Semester 1 exam return

Feb 5—Catholic School Council 6:30-7:30 Learning Commons

Feb 7– Final Semester 1 Report Cards issued

Feb 12– Gr 8 Parent Info Night

Feb 13– Course Selection Assemblies

Feb 14- Last day for Semester 2 changes

Feb 17– Family Day

Feb 18-28- Course Selection Workshops

Feb 26– School Mass

Contact Us

Check on-line for more information at www.hctoday.ca

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For any students that will be completing the OSSLT (Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test) on March 31st, 2020, there are practice resources available online on each student's Virtual Commons page. Students will find these resources at the bottom of their virtual commons page in a course entitled

“OSSLT” Literacy Test – Prep Materials.

If your student does not have access to this page – please let Ms. Sarris-White (HC literacy lead) know, as soon as possible. In class preparation activities for all OSSLT writers will commence during our ‘Holy Cross Literacy week’ in March and after-school literacy sessions will again be running at the start of semester two for all students that are interested in extra preparation for the test.

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