



HOLY CROSS

Catholic Secondary School

March 2020

Principal's Message – March 2020

Semester two is well underway at Holy Cross! Despite the inclement weather day, we were pleased to have Father Amato and Father Shea with us to celebrate our Ash Wednesday Mass on February 26th as a community. In the season of Lent, a time of reflection and preparation for Easter, we enter a time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. This year, our Share Lent campaign will be raising funds for Chalice Canada. Thanks to Mr. Nick Cotman, Chaplain and our Crusaders in Community Service (CICs) group for their work in support of those in need.

A warm welcome back to the participants from our annual Jamaica Mission trip. Mrs. Melo-Jordan, Mrs. Agostino and Mrs. Vella-Bowry and their team of twelve dedicated students enjoyed a whirlwind week of work in Kingston, Jamaica; visiting with the elderly, teaching and learning with students at local schools and completing a house-build for a citizen in need. We look forward to your sharing of this experience in the weeks to come – it's always great to see your faith in action!

It was wonderful to see such a great turnout for our annual grade 8 open house on February 12th. It's always reaffirming to hear/see the positive reactions from prospective grade 9s and their parents/guardians about the many great opportunities that this school affords to its students. I look forward to welcoming the class of 2024 next fall and in our upcoming outreach events including the HC Carnival in May and **Moving-On-Up** orientation program for new grade 9s at the end of August 2020. Details of these and other events can always be found on the school website: www.hctoday.ca

As the winter athletics season winds down, we have Holy Cross representatives heading to provincial competitions at OFSSA—members of the Swim Team are heading to Toronto, and members of our Wrestling Team will be heading to Sault Ste. Marie. At this point, our boys and girls varsity hockey teams are beginning KASSAA playoff competition, with their eyes set on a return to provincial competition. Best of luck to our student athletes and thanks, as always to our staff coaches and community helpers for their hard work this season.

This Month

Mar 12 - Making a Difference Speaker Series

Mar 13– Semester 2 Early Progress Reports home

Mar 16-20– March Break

**Mar 25– Parent Teacher Interviews
3:30-8:00 pm**

Mar 31– Gr 10 OSSLT

Parent-teacher interviews take place at the school on March 25th and are a great opportunity to meet and speak with your child's teachers. I encourage you to come out for this event. Information about on-line booking for parent-teacher interviews will be forthcoming. Watch the school website for details about booking interviews.

I'm very excited to welcome Nav Bhatia, the Toronto Raptors Superfan, who will be at Holy Cross this month to speak to students from ALCDSB and LDSB, as part of the Boys and Girls Club of Kingston's annual "Making a Difference Speaker Series." The Holy Cross CSS community is thrilled to host this event for the first time and we look forward to hearing Nav's message to our youth!

Finally, as the March break will soon be upon us, I wish each of you and your families a safe and restful holiday and a return to school invigorated for the balance of semester two.

God Bless

Michael Faught

COUNSELLOR'S CORNER

COURSE SELECTION FOR 2020- 2021

The course selection process for next year began on Wednesday, February 20. It is critical that all students select their courses by **Friday, March 6th**. Grade 9 and 10 students have been scheduled to attend a course selection workshop during Period 2 and grade 11's and returning grade 12's attended workshops during Period 3. All students accessed myBlueprint in order to select courses. A verification sheet listing choices will be issued in April. Students can still make adjustments to their choices by meeting with their Guidance counselors.

COLLEGE / UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

A reminder that university and college applicants who have made course changes recently must check their university/college site to make sure the changes have been made in their OUAC/OCAS file. See your counsellor as soon as possible if the academic info on either the OUAC or OCAS site is incorrect.

Students are encouraged to visit post-secondary campuses during March Break Open Houses.

DISCOVERY DAYS IN HEALTH SCIENCE

Queen's University will be hosting a discovery day in Science on Wednesday, May 6th, 2020 for students to explore careers in medicine and other health related sciences. Enrollment is very limited. Please see Mrs. Cantarutti for more information.

SUMMER JOB OPPORTUNITIES

There are summer employment opportunities with the Ontario Government, please check [Ontario.ca/summerstudents](https://ontario.ca/summerstudents) for a list of job postings and closing dates.

YOUTH AMBASSADORS PROGRAM

This three week summer exchange program with the U.S. from July 16- August 3, 2020 is for highly motivated students. It takes place in Ottawa, New York State and Washington DC. See Student Services for more information.

SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES

Archaeology summer course - August 7 – 23, 2020, Claremont Nature Centre, Pickering, ON, - visit trca.ca/boydfieldschool

Queen's Summer Engineering Academy – for students in grades 9 – 11
- go to engineering.queensu.ca/qsea

University of Toronto Youth Summer Programs in the Faculty of Law and Medicine – go to <http://bit.ly/YSPschools>

DaVinci Engineering Enrichment program at U of T – go to outreach.engineering.utoronto.ca

ROTARY YOUTH PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES

Rotary Youth Leadership Academy is an opportunity for high school students to develop leadership skills. The conference takes place at St. Lawrence College from Friday, May 29th to Sunday, May 31st, 2020 to rotary7040.com/page/ryla for more information.

The Adventure in citizenship program takes place in Ottawa from April 26th – April 29th, and provides an opportunity for students to learn more about Canadian citizenship. Go to rotaryottawa.com/page/welcome-to-the-adventure-in-citizenship-program.





PASTORAL NEWS

We are now in the season of Lent. Thank you to all who participated in our Ash Wednesday Mass on February 26th. A special shout-out to Fr. Amato who came in to burn palms and sift the ashes in preparation! Fr. Amato, Fr. Shea and other priests from the archdiocese will be coming in to offer the sacrament of reconciliation to our grade nine and ten classes on March 6th. The important of this sacrament to our faith-life cannot be emphasized enough; thank you in advance to our wonderful priests.

Congratulations to the Jamaica Mission Team on their inspiring work last month. Their witness of service challenges us to reflect on how we can each offer our help to others, both within our community and beyond.

CICS is working hard on Holy Cross' Lenten initiative. We are working with Chalice Canada for this year's campaign. Chalice's "School Connections" program has paired Holy Cross with Nelson Mandela Secondary School in Tanzania. We are raising funds for the construction of a library at our partner school. Please keep our Lenten initiative and the students of Nelson Mandela Secondary School in your prayers!

We wish all members of the HC community blessings in observing Lent. In this season, may we continue to seek out spiritual growth and reinvigorate our relationship with God through acts of charity, penance, and fasting.

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Matthew 6: 21

Nick Cotman, Chaplaincy Team Leader

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

Looking Forward to April

Apr 1– Kiwanis Music Festival

Apr 3– PD Day

Apr 8– Catholic School Council Mtg

Apr 10– Good Friday

Apr 12– Easter

Apr 13– Easter Monday

Apr 14 - Term 2 begins

Apr 15– Graduate Assembly

Apr 15– Cabaret

Apr 22-26 Music Trip to Washington

Apr 24– Mid Term Reports Issued

Apr 30– Grad Retreat

Apr 30– Arts Olympics

Contact Us

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

Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School

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(613) 384-1919



HOLY CROSS BAND & VOCALS FUNDRAISING EVENT

SATURDAY, MARCH 7TH, 2020

LOCATED AT

4PM - 8PM

\$12 COVER

KIDS 10 AND UNDER FREE



FEATURING

THE MANY TALENTED
STUDENT PERFORMERS
FROM HOLY CROSS

HELP SUPPORT

THE HOLY CROSS BAND AND VOCALISTS
TAKING PART IN THE
WORLDSTRIDES HERITAGE
INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL
WASHINGTON DC - APRIL 2020

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS



**SILENT AUCTION
AND
50/50 DRAW**

**TICKETS AVAILABLE
AT THE DOOR**

NAV BHATIA

OFFICIAL TORONTO RAPTORS SUPERFAN & COMMUNITY AMBASSADOR

Nav Bhatia is best known as the Official Toronto Raptors Superfan. He has not missed a home game since the inception of the team in 1995. He can be seen at the Air Canada Centre and quite a few road games sitting in his now famous courtside seat next to the basket. In 2015 Nav has also been appointed the role of Raptors Community Ambassador and asked to report to the Global Ambassador, Drake, as they look to spread the love of Basketball and the Toronto Raptors.

Arriving in Canada in 1984 with very little to his name, Nav worked his way to becoming the number one car salesman at Hyundai and eventually found himself the opportunity to own both the Mississauga and Rexdale Hyundai dealerships. The path to success was not without challenges; in particular, Nav overcame many instances of racial intolerance as a visible minority.

Through his love of basketball, Nav looks to change the perception of Sikhs and South Asians to the mainstream audience hoping for a more united community where people won't have to face the discrimination Nav dealt with over the years.

Nav believes integrating our youth at a young age is truly the path to help change this perception and build a more tolerant society. Each year he purchases tickets and brings thousands of kids of all backgrounds together to watch the NBA's Toronto Raptors play at home.

With the start of the Superfan Nav Bhatia Foundation, he recently has accepted ambassadorship roles with Tissot, World Vision, TIFF (The Toronto International Film Festival) and now the WE Charity all organizations helping Nav and his Foundation bring kids together through the game of basketball by building basketball courts across the world.

