



HCA Family Newsletter November 9, 2018

"Hundreds of times during the day, let us join our life to God's love."

Saint Francis de Sales

November

10 – Confirmation Retreat, teams 12-22

11 – Happy Veterans Day, with our prayers of gratitude for your dedicated service!
Saint Mary Preschool Open House, 9:30-12pm.

12 – Doughnuts with Day, 7:30-8am

We invite all our HCA Dads to join us for coffee and a doughnut with your beautiful children!

13 – HCA Open House, 9am, in the library, please invite family and friends to learn about our school

14 – Transitioning to High School Night, 7pm, library

15 – 4th grade field trip, Science Museum of Virginia

16 – school Mass, 8:15am, *Food for the Poor collection;*

5th grade trip to National Museum of the Marine Corps

20 – PTO Board meeting, 1:30, conference room

21 – no school, Thanksgiving holiday

22 – Blessed Happy Thanksgiving!

Recess Duty, 11:35-12:25: 3rd grade 11/12 to 11/14; 2nd grade 11/15-29;

1st grade 11/16-12/5; kindergarten 12/6 to 12/21

NOTES

We have lunch room charges over \$1,000. Please fund your accounts right away so that our lunch program can continue providing this wonderful service for all of us.

All orders for the kitchen fundraiser must be prepaid. Thanks for your support.



We are very proud to announce that **Holy Cross Academy has been awarded the Purple Star Award**. The Purple Star designation is awarded by the Virginia Department of Education and the Virginia Council on the Interstate Compact on the Educational Opportunity for Military Children to military-friendly schools that have demonstrated their commitment to meeting the needs of military-connected students and their families. Mr. Dan Dunham from the Virginia Department of Education will be here at Doughnuts with Dad to present the award to the school. He will join us at 7:45.

Our **2018 Yearbooks are in and look beautiful**. Thanks to all who worked so hard on it. We have some extras if you would like to purchase one for \$45. They are available in the office. If you did not pick yours up at Parent Conferences, they will be sent home on Monday. If you do not receive one and believe you should have, please contact Mrs. Burke, hcaoffice@holycrossweb.com.

Our **Coke Give, Amazon Smile and SCRIP programs** are doing very well - THANK YOU - WE APPRECIATE YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!!

It's About the Children!

FACTS GRANT & AID 2019-2020 WINDOW IS NOW OPEN - please remember you will need to submit 2018 tax and W-2 forms. FACTS Management annual fees will be going up to \$50.00 per agreement for the 2019/2020 school year. They will also be adding a great new online payment system for other fees & incidentals. Stayed tuned for more information coming soon!

We had a beautiful Grandparents' Day but we know that **all of our students' grandparents could not attend**. We would be happy to send them a letter from our school letting them know that we were thinking of them and praying for them. If you would like us to do this, please send an email to Sr. Susan Louise at principal@holycrossweb.com. Please give the grandparents' names and addresses, and the names of their grandchildren.

Congratulations to James Sherman, Mia Skaggs, McKenna Withers and Matthew Stoeter who were part of the All County Chorus this past Wednesday. They qualified in a competitive audition and represented HCA very well.

We are extremely grateful to all our HCA volunteers. Our parish invites you to attend the 13th Annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner taking place Thursday, November 29th here at HCA. Please RSVP to the dinner no later than Monday, November 26th: call 540-373-6491 or email stmary@stmaryfred.org.

Nominations are now being accepted for those whom we would like to recognize this year for sharing the gift of themselves, in a special way, with our parish/school family. If you would like to nominate someone, please email Elena Doyle @ edoyle@stmaryfred.org with the individual's name and a short paragraph describing your nominee's service. Deadline for submissions is Friday, November 23rd.

Several of our 5th grade students were chosen to participate in a "**Living Museum of Saints**" this past week. Five students were chosen from each 5th grade class to present the saint they did a report on in the "living museum". Our Saint Mary Preschoolers enjoyed seeing the costumed saints and learning a few facts about each.

Listening Event: Join Fr. Mosimann & our vicar clergy to discuss openly the abuse crisis in our Catholic Church. You are welcome to attend and ask questions or share comments that are weighing on your heart and/or to listen to those in your parish family. Friday, November 16th at 7:00pm in the Church. (Note: Due to the nature of this topic, this event is not suitable for children.) The Arlington Diocese has a great resource that can be found at <https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/Child-Protection/Sexual-Abuse-FAQs-October-26-2018.pdf>

TOOL for a better marriage: If you are interested in enriching your marriage, come and meet couples that are already involved with an international movement that is doing just that! They will share with you the joy that they have found meeting with like-minded couples once a month, to eat, pray and discuss topics reflecting faith and marriage. Join us on Thursday, November 15th at 7:30 p.m. in the Fr. Don Rooney Community Room at St. Mary, and hear more about Teams of our Lady!

(www.teamsofourlady.org) For more information, contact Helene (540 361 5662) and Gonzague (540 361 5673) de Bonfils, or hdebonfils@gmail.com.

The Order of the Elks are holding an essay contest on the topic: "What Makes You Proud of America". This is open to grades 5 – 8. Students can ask their teachers for an entry form.

Stephanie Cook is available for tutoring for students in grades K-5. She has openings after school and on weekends. Please email her at CooksClass@holycrossweb.com for more information.

Holy Cross Academy Girls' Lacrosse Clinic

When: Monday, November 12th, 2018, 3:30-4:45pm

Where: HCA Athletics Field

Who: Any girls in 6th-8th grades interested in learning more about playing lacrosse in the spring at HCA
Equipment: Girls who have a lacrosse stick, goggles, and a mouth guard should bring those items. Extra lacrosse sticks will be provided for girls who need to borrow them for the event.

There is no cost to participate in this girls' lacrosse event.

***Attention 8th Graders:** We are now collecting baby/toddler photos for the yearbook. Mrs. McDonald will be accepting these via her email. Please send one as a .jpeg attachment to: mcdonaldmd1@yahoo.com. Please note your child's name and "baby picture" in the memo field.*

If you need to scan a hard copy, send it in with your student to bring to Mrs. Tomayko. She will scan and immediately return your photo. Please send in as soon as possible so we can complete that part of the yearbook!

MSM Our Student Council will be offering "cookie grams" for sale for the Thanksgiving holiday. They will be peanut and tree nut free and will be offered for \$1 on sale from Mon Nov 12 to Friday Nov 16th during lunch, and will be delivered Nov 20th during snack. Students can write a small note to send with the cookie. The **7th grade school store** will be offering some holiday- themed items starting in the next few weeks. They are open on Wednesdays during lunch. As the weather is so nice we offer classes **6th, 7th and 8th grade one day a week to enjoy their lunch outside** (provided they clean up after themselves). Student council is also busy preparing some "spirit week" fun events so **stay tuned**.

Our annual **Transitioning to High School Night** will be held in the Library on Wednesday, November 14th at 7pm. **Note** this was originally scheduled for November 15th.** Mrs. Darling will give a presentation that will help you and your family better prepare for the move to high school. There is information relevant to all types of high schools, public and private. After the presentation, many private schools will be on hand to speak to you about their schools and offer information for interested parties. **This event is for parents only.** The students will be given a similar presentation the next day during class. If you need more information or have any questions please contact Mrs. Darling directly at hcacounselor@holycrossweb.com.



"It's About the Children."

Please see the flyer for the **St. Mary Craft Group open to students aged 4 – 11 years**. There are many different craft opportunities, along with the chance to make new friends.

Crusader Corner: Congratulations to our **Varsity Girls Volleyball team on their first ever VCAC championship**. A new banner will be raised in Father Brisson Hall to commemorate the wonderful occasion. We are proud of you, Crusaders!



Basketball tryouts were a great success. We will have both boys' and girls' JV and Varsity teams. Notifications will be sent out to those about who will be on the team this weekend, and practices will begin next week. The first games will be the week after Thanksgiving. Check the calendar or the athletic board in the middle school hallway for game dates and times.

There is a **free lacrosse clinic** for 6th - 8th girls being held on our field after school on Monday, November 12 from 3:30 - 4:45. This is a great way to learn about the sport before the spring season starts. If you are interested, please bring a lacrosse stick, goggles and mouth guard if you have them. Otherwise, a stick will be provided.

Uniforms from fall sports are due now. Please return the cleaned uniform in as soon as possible to avoid a replacement fee.

SCRIP News – Gifting that gives back. Find gifts for everyone on your gift list while raising funds for Holy Cross Academy with the Scrip holiday gift guide. Shop gift cards from over 750 top brands, including Best Buy, Amazon, The Home Depot and more. Whether you buy the gift cards to give as presents to family and friends, or use them to buy your gifts – Holy Cross Academy earns with every gift card purchased. It's simple, it's thoughtful and it's truly the gift that keeps on giving. Start today and buy a couple of gift cards each week, it's a great way to budget for Christmas and avoid the last-minute rush. Check out the Scrip holiday gift guide at ShopWithScrip.com/GiftGuide or email questions and/or orders to scripcoordinator@holycrossweb.com

PTO Corner: *Looking forward to seeing all our Dads on Monday at Doughnuts with Dad.*

Save the Date of December 9th! The Holy Cross Academy Barnes & Noble book fair will be held that day, with a portion of all sales from the Central Park Barnes and Noble coming to our school as a fundraiser. If you're available to help wrap gifts, direct shoppers or even to entertain the masses with a special talent, please contact Brian Fannin at attorney@brianfanninlaw.com to volunteer. This year we will have teacher wish lists available in advance, so if you don't know what to get that special teacher for Christmas, this will help you know what is needed for the classroom. And don't forget: cheesecakes! Watch this space for more information shortly.

Anyone up for an adult night out? The **fantastic Murder Mystery Dinner Show** may be coming to Holy Cross Academy to raise money for Drama Club and PTO.

Contact amyuriell@mac.com or skaggs13@aol.com to learn more about this evening of fantastic food, wonderful wine, and a touch of deductive reasoning--you may even get to pick whodunit!

Family: Forever, Faithful, Fruitful

You may have noticed the **chocolate that came home with your youngest child!** Many thanks to all of you who have already sent in your chocolate money--these funds go directly towards all of the many activities that we sponsor, so let's all do our best to get the money in on time this year. On time means before the end of November, which this year falls on Friday, November 30th--we know you can do it by then! If you are having trouble thinking of places to go to sell chocolate, contact attorney@brianfanninlaw.com and the PTO president will share all of his favorite entrepreneurial tricks for 10-year-olds (yes, the red wagon works going door to door in your own peaceful neighborhood--Cute Sells!). **Two more cases in the office just waiting to be sold!**

And **do I hear fifty, fifty-five, sixty fun-filled hours volunteering to lead the Auction in 2020?!?!?!?** Please give a thought to whether you could make the 2020 auction magically efficient, beautifully decorated, memorably delicious or just the most well-oiled fundraiser ever to support our school. The time is now to volunteer yourself and your friends for this fun, social event.

Many activities are already happening, and we especially need volunteers for Scrip Coordinator and helpers; Yearbook Coordinators, Photographers, Editors and Helpers; and many other key positions. Please contact Brian Fannin at attorney@brianfanninlaw.com to express your interest in these or any other positions.

Junior Achievement **VOLUNTEERS** needed for K-1, K-2, 1-2, 2-1, 2-2, 3-1, 3-2, 4-1, 5-1, 5-2, 6-2, 7-1 & 7-2! [Junior Achievement's programs](#) are designed to empower students at HCA from Kindergarten through 8th grade to own their economic success. They are taught by volunteers like YOU! Programs are presented by JA's volunteers for 30-45 minutes each week for five to six weeks, with the exact time commitments dependent upon the grade level of the students. JA programs give students the opportunity to practice cooperation, teamwork, decision-making, and leadership skills through numerous exciting hands-on activities. All of the lesson plans and activities are provided in an easy-to-follow guidebook in the program kit that you'll be provided. The kit includes all of the materials necessary to implement the programs. The teacher will always remain in the classroom to assist with any issues that may arise.

Please volunteer and spend time with your child (children, grandchildren etc.) and experience school life first-hand. The program will start in 2019! To volunteer or for more information please contact: Linda Caporali at lcaporali@comcast.net or (540) 878-0125.

From Saint John Paul the Great Catholic High School Come enjoy **an official 5K run or a Fun Run/Walk** on Saturday, November 10th at 17700 Dominican Drive, Potomac Shores, 22026. The race starts at 9 with the Fun Run and other great activities for the whole family immediately after, followed by a pancake breakfast! All proceeds benefit our Special Services Programs: "Options" for our intellectually disabled students and "Laudare" for our students with learning disabilities. *Sign up now and receive a T-Shirt at runsignup.com/jp5krunwalkforoptions.*

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OPEN HOUSE – SUNDAY NOVEMBER 25 3PM – 5PM

RISING FRESHMAN SHADOW DAYS – NOVEMBER 27, 28 & DECEMBER 4, 5

info@thesummitva.org

www.thesummitva.org

(540) 684-3989

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