



HCA Family Newsletter November 16, 2018

*"Be who you were created to be and you will set the world on fire."
~ Saint Catherine of Siena*

November

- 16 – school Mass, 8:15am, *Food for the Poor collection*;
Church listening session, St. Mary Church, adults only, 7pm
- 20 – PTO Board meeting, 1:30, conference room
- 21 – no school, Thanksgiving holiday
- 22 – Blessed Happy Thanksgiving!
- 27 – Student Confessions
- 29 – Picture make-up day; 8th grade high school placement test; parish Volunteer Dinner
- 30 – school Mass, 8:15am, *Food for the Poor collection*; first trimester ends
dismissal, 11:30, teacher work day



Recess Duty, 11:35-12:25: 2nd grade 11/26-29; 1st grade 11/16-12/5; kindergarten 12/6 to 12/21

NOTES



A Thanksgiving Prayer

*"Thank you, Lord, for the food before us, the friends beside us,
the love between us and your presence among us."*

On behalf of our Oblate Sisters, our teachers and our staff, I wish you a blessed, joy-filled Thanksgiving. In our prayers, we thank God for each of you!

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.



Earlier this year, the PTO agreed to purchase a **new water fountain for the Middle School area**. It has been installed (Thank you, Mr. Bielovitz) and the students (and staff) are now enjoying it. Thanks so much to our generous PTO!

We had a **delicious luncheon last Thursday thanks to our dedicated Acts of Kindness committee**. What a wonderful treat for all of us!

Best of luck to our **7th grade Robotics team – Crusader Robotics** –as they participate in the **First Lego League Regional Tournament** to be held at Dixon-Smith Middle School on Saturday.

It's About the Children!

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

Our **photos from the Saints Parade** have disappeared and we do not have any for yearbook, etc. If you have any you can share, we will be grateful. You can send them to Mrs. Tomayko at atomayko@holycrossweb.com.

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

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!



Thank you for ordering a Square 1 Art gift for your friends and family! Proceeds from Square 1 Art fund all of the materials for our art program. Your keepsakes will arrive after the Thanksgiving holiday.

Did you miss out on ordering? You can still make an order by using the code on your child's brochure. All late orders will still benefit the art program!

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.

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>

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.

Attention 8th grade parents: If your student is applying to Saint John Paul the Great High School, you only need to complete the application form. All other forms and recommendations will be sent directly from Holy Cross. This holds for the scholarship application as well. Please fill out the necessary forms, but for the scholarships, the main recommendation form will come from HCA. You do not need to have us fill out the recommendation forms for each teacher. In the spring when you know which school your child will be attending for 9th grade, you **MUST fill out the records request at the new school and have it sent to Mrs. Jeffers so that she** knows where to mail all of the records. If you have any questions, please contact her in the office.

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 Middle School students continue to work hard and to brighten our school by their enthusiasm and their kindness. We know that we can always count on them when we need a little extra help. We give thanks for each of them! We had a very successful transitioning to high school night where we hope many of your questions were answered, although we realize many more will come up so feel free to contact Mrs. Darling at hcacounselor@holycrossweb.com if you need more information. On Dec, 6th, our 7th & 8th grades will be visiting St John Paul the Great high school. Parents are welcome to join the tour at no cost but must provide their own transportation.

Crusader Corner: Basketball tryouts were a great success and practices are now underway. **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:

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

“It’s About the Children.”

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.

Please send in the money from your Chocolate Sale. It is due at the end of this month!

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.

Junior Achievement VOLUNTEERS needed for K-1, K-2, 1-2, 2-1, 2-2, 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.

Ring in December and the holiday season with the joy of experiencing **The Nutcracker, by the Academy of Ballet**. Performances are Saturday, December 1st at 7pm and Sunday, December 2nd at 2pm at James Monroe High School. Tickets are \$17 in advance and \$20 at the door. Tickets are on sale now at the Academy of Ballet at 540-371-6781 or from one of the many parents at Holy Cross Academy who have students who will be performing in The Nutcracker. For more information, please contact Lori Simms, 540-809-1976.



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