



## HCA Family Newsletter August 24, 2018

**"Do not wish to be anything but what you are and strive to be that perfectly." ~ St. Francis de Sales**

### August 2018

24 – PTO Wine and Cheese Welcome for new parents

**27- Welcome to a new school year! Please join us for our very special Mass at 10am.**

28 – lunch service begins; Middle School Back-to-School Night, 7pm, parents only

28 & 29 – Kindergarten begins; Boys' Soccer tryouts, 4-6 pm

30 – Grades K to 5 Back-to-School Night, 7pm, parents only

30 & 31- Girls' Field Hockey tryouts, 3:30-5 pm

**31 – 20 years ago today Holy Cross Academy opened its doors for the first time!**

### September

1 – Girls' Field Hockey tryouts, 3:30pm

3– Labor Day, no school

4– St. Mary Preschool opens;

5 & 6 – Girls' Volleyball tryouts, 3:30-5:30pm, FBH

7 –School Mass, 8:15am, all are welcome.

9 – St. Mary Ice Cream Social and Cake Walk, 4-7pm, please plan to join us!

**8 & 9– Manna Food collection at all Masses St, Mary & HCA**



**Recess duty:** Aug 28-31-volunteers; 8<sup>th</sup> grade families will receive an email to sign up for our first two weeks in September.

### NOTES

**Welcome to a new school year!** Our teachers and staff have been working hard and we are ready to begin our 21<sup>st</sup> year as a school community. We can't wait to see all of you. Please plan to join us on Monday for our Commitment Mass at 10am. We invite you to walk your children to their classrooms beginning at 7:45. At 8:10 we will say our Morning Prayer and invite our parents to FBH for coffee and a chance to see one another. Our very special Commitment Mass is at 10am. All of us, administrators, teachers and staff, parents and students will renew our commitment to Catholic education. Dismissal will be at 11:30am, in the regular carpool line!

**Back-to-School Forms:** Please make sure to hand in these forms on Monday: Handbook Acknowledgement, Media Release Form, Health History Update for all students and all health forms, **any corrections to Emergency forms** and Aviat Care registration. The office will be very busy but we are happy to accept your forms. *We use our Emergency Forms to update our data base and create our Family Directory. Please make it a priority!*

We hope to **see many of our parents at the Back-to-School Nights** so that we can share our plans for the year with you. These meetings are for parents only and begin at 7pm in Father Brisson Hall. We want to share with you our plans for this school year. After our opening meeting, parents will be invited to visit their children's classrooms where the teachers will share their plans for the year.

*It's About the Children!*

The **Holy Cross Academy school chorus** is now accepting new members. If you love to sing, would like to learn more about music and harmony, and are a student in grades 5-8, please consider joining the Holy Cross Academy "Youth of Note." Rehearsals will be held on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, from 3:10 until 4:00. Our first rehearsal will be Tuesday, August 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Our Yearbook is not yet printed.** We apologize for the inconvenience. We hope to have it by the end of September. We will let you know when it arrives.

We have a **family that lives in England Run who is in need of a ride to and from school.** They have three children, 1st, 2nd and 5th grade. If your family can help drive one or more days either to or from school, please contact Molly Dalton [mdalton@holycrossweb.com](mailto:mdalton@holycrossweb.com) Many thanks in advance!

### HCA Fun Run/Walk, September 9, 2018

The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual HCA Fun Run/Walk is right around the corner. Please join us for the annual 1-Mile and "just added" 5K Fun Run/Walk right before the Parish Ice Cream Social, **September 9, 2018 at 3:00pm.** We will start and finish at Holy Cross Academy. Registration is \$5.00 for the 1-Mile and \$10.00 for the 5K, with all proceeds going to support the HCA building expansion. The 1-Mile event is primarily for children, ages 11 and under, but open to everyone. The 5K event is open to all ages. Both events are stroller friendly! We will have awards for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishers in male and female age groups: 12-14 and 15-17 in the 5K only. For Registration Information Contact Pearl: [crypea@aol.com](mailto:crypea@aol.com) or stop by the registration table.

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**Middle School Minute:** Welcome back, Middle School! And a special welcome to our 6<sup>th</sup> graders and our new 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders! We have many fun events planned for you this year including eating lunch on the patio one day a week, Class of 2019 hoodies for 8<sup>th</sup> graders and great new Encore Experiences classes, electives with a new look and feel. Student Council elections will be held on Friday Sept 14<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in student government, see Mrs. Dalton for a permission slip. Keep those lockers clean this year!!! We will be having a monthly contest to see which homeroom keeps their lockers the cleanest! Mrs. Dalton is in search of students who LOVE to decorate.....shhhhhh come see her and she will give you a special task! 8<sup>th</sup> graders, get ready to put your creative skills at work as you compete with school spirit designs for our Spirit Rock.

**The Drama Club welcomes you back to HCA.** The Drama Club invites you to join us for a back to school fundraiser at Chipotle ([28 South Gateway Drive](#)) on Sunday, September 16 from 4-8pm. Please see attached flyer. *The Drama Club is raising funds for our Spring production of Mary Poppins.* Please present the flyer, valid for in-store purchases only. Chipotle will only give a donation based on pre-existing gift cards. We cannot hand out flyers at the door (*that is cheating, their words*). Please share and share and share. We stand to make 33% of the sales for every HCA friend and have a delicious meal.

**Go back to school shopping for supplies, treats and accessories.** Bring flyer or show on your smart phone and mention HCA before checkout. Please help Drama Club raise funds for our Spring

production of Mary Poppins. Stop into **Five Below in Central Park** 9/14 through 9/16 and a portion of your purchase will go to Drama Club.

**Band classes are offered for students in grades 4 - 8 on flute, clarinet, alto saxophone, trumpet, trombone, and snare drum.** The 3rd grade students can sign up for keyboard classes. The rates are reasonable and if you would like to sign up for band or keyboard you can email me at [laurie.kendall@comcast.net](mailto:laurie.kendall@comcast.net). Mrs. Kendall will be at both back-to-school meetings if you would like to sign your child up for band or keyboard. She will take sign ups from 6:30 to 7:00pm. You can also sign up by sending her an email.

*Photography/Yearbook Club will hold our 1st meeting after school on Thursday, August 30th. Students interested in taking pictures for our school publications and assisting in yearbook production should plan to attend! Additional information and membership forms can be obtained in advance from Mrs. Tomayko in the computer lab or at [atomayko@holycrossweb.com](mailto:atomayko@holycrossweb.com).*

**PTO Corner:** On behalf of the Holy Cross Academy Parent-Teacher Organization, welcome back to school! Whether this is your first year at Holy Cross or your 21st, we are glad you are here and we have lots of great activities planned throughout the school year. So let's roll our sleeves up and work together to create the happiest, healthiest, brightest school year yet!

Parents new to HCA and their Mentor families are invited to our annual wine and cheese social tonight from 7 to 9 PM in Father Brisson Hall. This is a relaxed atmosphere in which to ask our administration, faculty and staff some of those last minute questions and to get to know a few more faces and names before the first day of school. Come tilt a glass with the Parish Fathers and some of our teachers, too. The only "Pour Decisions" on hand are whether you want white, red, or perhaps even a beer-colored (or non-alcoholic) beverage--you've already made the right decision coming to our school!

A whole weekend later will be the PTO Welcome Back Coffee, which starts on Monday, August 27th right after morning prayers. Drop the children off at their classrooms and then come on down to Father Brisson Hall to enjoy coffee and camaraderie with your fellow parents. You know that first day can be bittersweet--especially after a long summer of having your darlings home and bouncing around all day--so come and share a beverage and meet up with some of the parents, grandparents and other caretakers going through the exact same feelings you are. Please join us later that morning for Mass and for our Rededication.

Our Cake Walk will be held on Sunday September 9th starting at 4 PM. Please have the most inventive, amazing cakes you can create at the judging tables by 3:45 PM--the music will start promptly at 4 and you can't win a cake unless you're walking on the numbered squares. Prizes will be awarded, so start dreaming up the cake that will give you bragging rights for the rest of the year. If you have something against cake, the Council of Catholic Women will be spooning up vats of delicious ice cream, just for you!

*“It’s About the Children.”*

Many activities are already on the horizon, and we especially need volunteers for Scrip Coordinator and helpers; Grandparents' Day helpers; Yearbook Coordinators, Photographers, Editors and Helpers; and many other key positions. Please contact Brian Fannin at [attorney@brianfanninlaw.com](mailto:attorney@brianfanninlaw.com) to express your interest in these or any other positions. PTO Corner wasn't exactly sad and lonely before volunteering for PTO, but he's definitely happy that he did!

Thank you to Chinh Fannin, Dawn Mauro, Wendy Roche and our other volunteers who made the Welcome Back teacher luncheon a special and happy occasion.

Be prepared: the chocolate sale is coming soon. This is a requirement for all HCA families and it funds many great activities and programs without the need to put onerous fees or increased tuition on anyone. The opportunity to buy-out will be explained soon, and is a good option for those families looking for convenience or that can't find the time or place to sell some chocolate (hint: the time is right after Mass; the place is St. Mary's; unless you work for GEICO or the Passaic County, New Jersey Board of Social Services, in which case you've got a built-in clientele eager to buy chocolate).

Last but not least, we at PTO Corner are very grateful to Mrs. Jill Wolf for joining our Executive Board as a member-at-large! Welcome back to the board Mrs. Wolf, and thank you for your service!

**HCA Athletics:** Fall sports tryouts begin next week, please remember to submit all of the required paperwork and the participation fee so that your student athlete may play.

The tryouts for **Boys Soccer** will be held on 8/28 & 8/29 from 4-6pm. **Field Hockey** will be held on 8/30 & 8/31 from 3:30-5pm and **Volleyball** will be held on 9/5 & 9/6 from 3:30 - 5:30 pm.

*The spirit cart is open through next Wednesday (September 5).* There is a new option for the warm-ups which can be used for PE during the colder months. Please use the link located on the school homepage (look for the T-shirt) and place your orders before September 5.

### **Our SCRIP program needs you!**

We are **seeking a dedicated individual** who would be willing to help manage the SCRIP program, as one of its coordinators. Our SCRIP program directly supports Holy Cross Academy (HCA) earning rebates for the school expansion fund through the sale of gift cards for many favorite stores and retailers such as Wal-Mart, Giant, Wawa, Target, Olive Garden, Ruby Tuesday and Regal Theatre just to name a few. The SCRIP Coordinator duties are shared by two enthusiastic individuals who divide the duties. This volunteer position takes approximately 1-2 hours per week and includes placing orders to replenish inventory, picking up and delivering the St. Mary and HCA Scrip bags in partnership with the other coordinator, creating the SCRIP Schedule (once a month), and being the POC for Parishioners who need assistance with setting up an account in SCRIPWARE and/or answering questions. Training will be provided.

We are also **seeking additional volunteers** to help sell after Saturday and Sunday Masses. SCRIP is sold after most Masses at the Church, at the 10:30 Mass at HCA, and at HCA during the week during carpool. This effort takes about 15 minutes after each of the Masses when SCRIP is sold.

If you are intrigued by the possibility of either (1) taking over as one of the Co-Coordinator, (2) selling SCRIP or (3) both, please email [scripcoordinator@holycrossweb.com](mailto:scripcoordinator@holycrossweb.com) for more information.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration in being a part of this important effort that directly benefits Holy Cross Academy, our parish school. After all, It's FOR the CHILDREN!

**American Heritage Girls** Troop VA0128, chartered to the St. Mary Council of Catholic Women, is having their registration and Open House Thursday, September 6th, at 7pm at HCA. All new and returning families are invited to attend. Please email the Troop Coordinator Maureen Siegmund at [AHGVA0128@yahoo.com](mailto:AHGVA0128@yahoo.com) for more information.

### 2018-2019 Majest Martial Arts HCA Taekwondo Program



Registration for our after school TKD program in the Fall. Classes are scheduled on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 3:45-4:30p.m. Program runs from September 11, 2018 to June 7, 2019. Students will learn Taekwondo with Master Ha, 5<sup>th</sup> degree Black Belt. At Majest, we teach beyond the “kick and punch”. Through taekwondo, students learn the physical and mental skills to apply to their life outside our dojang doors. At the cornerstone of our teaching is respect. We partner with our families to assist students to establish and achieve personal goals and reinforce family values. A percentage of the registration fees will be donated to HCA programs. Transportation is still available. For more information, contact Pearl Conroy at 540.899.5588 or [customerservice@majestTKDfredericksburg.com](mailto:customerservice@majestTKDfredericksburg.com).



*“It’s About the Children.”*