



Holy Cross Academy PTO Newsletter

AUGUST 19, 2025

Welcome Back Parents!

Dear Holy Cross Academy Families,

The 2025-2026 HCA PTO extends a warm welcome to all of our new and returning families as we kick off an exciting new school year together!

Over the summer, the PTO has been hard at work planning a spectacular year filled with events, opportunities to connect, and ways to support the school community. We're also launching a **new format for the PTO newsletter**, so it's easier to distinguish from the Crusader Chronicles you receive from Dr. Fry on Fridays.

We'd love your feedback! Please reach out anytime at **HCAPTO@holycrossweb.com**

Have you completed the PTO Parent Survey yet?

Your input matters! If you haven't filled it out yet, we encourage you to do so today. Please click on the link to complete the survey now.

[2025-2026 HCA PTO Parent Survey](#)

Let's make this an incredible year—together!

With gratitude,

The 2025–2026 HCA PTO
HCAPTO@holycrossweb.com



What's new for the 2025-2026 school year?

Grade Level PTO Liaisons

A brand new initiative! We're looking for at least one volunteer per grade to serve as a PTO Liaison, to help build a community among parents that have children in the same grade, so that parents can support each other when needed for carpool, forgotten homework, meal trains, etc.

- PTO Liaisons will help facilitate parent participation in events such as Foodie Fridays, Teachers' Appreciation Week, and creating a themed auction basket for the PTO spring auction event.
- The PTO Liaisons' ability to communicate at the grade level is optimal to connect with parents and encourage involvement in PTO sponsored events. If you are interested in becoming a PTO Liaison, please email us at HCAPTO@holycrossweb.com

Updated PTO Handbook Coming Soon

Includes everything you need to know about:

- Executive Board Members & PTO Contact Info
- Volunteer Opportunities & Service Hour Requirements
- Annual Family Fundraising Goal & Year-Round Fundraisers
- Yearbook Committee Info
- VIRTUS Training Guidance
- PTO Bylaws & More

Expanded Ways to Earn Service Hours

(Trial for 2025–2026 Only)

Families can earn service hours through the following PTO-approved methods:

- Attend Open PTO Meetings (1 hour)
- Participate in Trunk or Treat (1 hour for decorating a car)
- Donate treats/candy or items via Sign-Up Genius (see posted tables)
- Donate raffle baskets or solicit donations from local businesses.
- Complete VIRTUS Training (Earn 4 hours)

Note: Service hours are *not* granted for direct monetary donations or non-PTO-sponsored activities (e.g., First Communion, Confirmation, Teacher gifts, meal trains, etc.)

Table 1 - *Purchased items listed on a PTO sign-up genius (e.g., food, supplies).

Item Amount (before taxes)	Hour(s)
\$25-\$50	1
\$51-\$75	2
\$76-\$100	3
\$101-\$125	4

Purchase amounts >\$125 must be preauthorized by the PTO.

New Planning Committees

We're forming TWO event planning teams:

- Grandparents Day Event Committee -the kickoff meeting will be **Monday, September 8th 3:30-5pm**
- Father-Daughter Dance Committee -the kick-off meeting will be **Friday, November 7th 3:30-5pm.**

If you love event planning, decorating or want to help make these events extra special, [sign up below!](#)

Upcoming Event: Foodie Friday Chili Cook-Off Friday, November 7, 2025

Bring your best chili in a crockpot for our **Faculty & Staff Lunch!** Staff will vote and prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.

There are only **10 spots for contestants**—sign up now!

Join the Yearbook Committee!

Co-chaired by Mrs. Tomayko, Assistant Principal & an HCA Parent Volunteer.

Volunteer roles available:

- Sales/Marketing
- Layout/Captions
- Editors (2)
- Photographers (2)
- Club Photos/Achievements
- 8th Grade Personal Ads
- 8th Grade Baby Photos

Volunteers will meet their service hour requirements and **and will**

receive a complimentary yearbook.

Interested? Email HCAPTO@holycrossweb.com

Important Announcement:

Virtus Training at HCA

Saturday, September 20, 2025 10am-2pm

Before attending, you must complete the OPCYP background check:

[Visit the Arlington Diocese Volunteer Background Check Page](#)

Contact Mrs. Dina James at djames@holycrossweb.com for questions.



Save the Date!

PTO Meeting Open to Parents

Friday, September 26th

5-7 pm -Pizza & Drinks

Sign up to attend

The PTO helps HCA THRIVE

Together, we support:

- Volunteers & Service Hours
- Fundraising
- Communication
- Enrichment Programs
- Family Events
- Faculty & Staff Appreciation
- Student Experience Enhancements
- Special Projects

Parent Tip

Label your child's clothing and belongings!

Lost items fill the HCA Lost & Found every year - including coats, uniforms, shoes, books, water bottles, and more.

If your child comes home without their belongings, please check the Lost & Found asap!

Where is the Lost & Found?

Location: Inside Immaculate Conception Hall (ICH), right side of the back wall.

Clean out occurs before Christmas Break and at the end of the school year.



[Quick Volunteer Sign-up links](#)

Monday, September 8, 2025 3:30-5pm

Holy Cross Academy: Grandparents Day Event Planning Committee Meeting

Friday, September 26, 2025 5-7pm

Earn (1) Service Hour for attending!

Holy Cross Academy: Friday, September 26, 2025 Open PTO Meeting 5-7pm -Please sign up if you plan to attend!

Friday, October 24, 2025 - TRUNK or TREAT

Holy Cross Academy: TRUNK or TREAT

Friday, November 7, 2025

Holy Cross Academy: Foodie Friday PTO Sponsored Chili Cook-off

****3:30-5pm**

Holy Cross Academy: Father/Daughter Dance Event Planning Committee Kick-off Meeting

Friday, November 14, 2025

Holy Cross Academy: Help w/ Donuts With Dad!

Friday, May 15, 2026 7-8am

Holy Cross Academy: Help w/ Muffins with Mom!

The PTO will announce additional events as the school year progresses. However, the core PTO events are scheduled for the year on the calendar below!

PTO Calendar of Scheduled Events

August			
Date	Event	Time	Notes
Wed, Aug 20	Welcome Back Ice Cream Social	11:30-1pm	Sponsored by PTO
Wed, Aug 20	Meet & Greet Teachers	12pm-1:30pm	
Thurs, Aug 28	PreK & MS Back to School Night	6:30pm	Meet PTO Members

September			
Date	Event	Time	Notes
Thurs, Sept 4	K-5 Back to School Night	6:30pm	Meet PTO Members
Mon, Sept 8	Grandparents Day Planning Committee Meeting	3:30-5pm	Volunteer Opportunity
Thurs, Sept 11	HCA Feast Day Day 1- Novena of the Holy Cross	10-2pm	Bishop Burbidge Visit Kona Ice Treat Sponsored by the PTO
Sept 11-19	Novena of the Holy Cross		Sponsored by PTO
Sat, Sept 13	St. Mary's Parish Picnic	3-7pm	PTO sponsored Inflatables
Fri, Sept 26	Foodie Friday Grade 8 PTO Meeting		Volunteer Opportunity for 8th Grade Families Pizza & Drinks provided by PTO

	Open to Parents!	5-7pm	
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October			
Date	Event	Time	Notes
Fri, Oct 10 or Sat, Oct 11	Grandparents Day Event	TBD	Based on survey results
Fri, Oct 17	Foodie Friday Grade 7		Volunteer Opportunity for 7th Grade Families.
Fri, Oct 24	Trunk or Treat	6-8pm	Rain Date -Oct 24 Volunteer Opportunity

November			
Date	Event	Time	Notes
Fri, Nov 7	Foodie Friday/PTO Chili Cook-off	11-2pm	PTO Sponsored 1st, 2nd, 3rd Place Awards
Fri, Nov 7	Father Daughter Dance Planning Committee Meeting	3:30-5pm	Volunteer Opportunity
Fri, Nov 14	Donuts with Dad	7-8am	Volunteer Opportunity
Fri, Nov 21	Race-for-Education		PTO Fundraiser

December			
Date	Event	Time	Notes
Fri, Dec 12	Foodie Friday Grade 6		Volunteer Opportunity for 6th Grade Families
Fri, Dec 19	Open PTO Meeting w/ Coffee	9-10am	

January 2026			
Date	Event	Time	Notes
Fri, Jan 16	Foodie Friday Grade 5		Volunteer Opportunity for 5th

			Grade Families
Jan 26-30	Catholic Schools Week		PTO sponsored student treats

February			
Date	Event	Time	Notes
Fri, Feb 13	Foodie Friday Grade 4		Volunteer Opportunity for 4th Grade Families
Sat, Feb 21	Father Daughter Dance	6-8pm	HCA Cafeteria Volunteer Opportunity

March			
Date	Event	Time	Notes
TBD	Used Uniform Sale	TBD	Time & location comng soon
Fri, Mar 13	Foodie Friday Grade 3		Volunteer Opportunity for 3rd Grade Families

April			
Date	Event	Time	Notes
All Month	Month of the Military Child		Mrs. James - Point of contact
TBD	Used Uniform Sale	TBD	Time & location coming soon
Fri, Apr 17	Foodie Friday Grade 2		Volunteer Opportunity for 2nd Grade Families
Sat, Apr 25	PTO Auction Event		Save the Date! Location & Details depend on survey results.
TBD	Mother/Son Event		April/May

May			

Date	Event	Time	Notes
May 4-8	Teacher Appreciation Week		See daily lunch assignments PTO sponsors "Appreciation Activities" throughout the week
Mon, May 4	Teacher Appreciation Lunch First Grade		Volunteer Opportunity for 1st Grade Families
Tues, May 5	Teacher Appreciation Lunch Kindergarten		Volunteer Opportunity for Kindergarten Families
Wed, May 6	Teacher Appreciation Lunch 7th & 8th Grade		Volunteer Opportunity for 7th & 8th Grade Families
Thurs, May 7	Teacher Appreciation Lunch 5th & 6th Grade		Volunteer Opportunities for 5th & 6th Grade Families
Fri, May 8	Teacher Appreciation Lunch 3rd & 4th Grade		Volunteer Opportunities for 3rd & 4th Grade Families
Fri, May 15	Muffins with Mom	7-8am	Volunteer Opportunity
TBD	Great Train Race		Volunteer Opportunity

June			
Date	Event	Time	Notes
June 5	2025-2026 PTO Board Final Meeting & Handoff to 2026-2027 PTO Board	12:45-2:45pm	Tentative -time may change since 1/2 day.
Mon, June 4	8th Grade Final Walk Treats		Sponsored by PTO

Holy Cross Academy | 250 Stafford Lakes Pkwy | Fredericksburg, VA 22406 US

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