



Holy Cross Catholic School Newsletter January 20 – February 3

*“Train up children in the way they should go,
and when they are old they will not depart from it”
Proverbs 22:6*

Dear Parents,

The passage I chose to begin this note captures the essence of Catholic education in a very simple yet profound way. Academic excellence aside, the unique contribution a Catholic school can make to its students in “training them up in the way they should go” is to teach them to love God, to cherish and practice their Catholic faith, and to lead good Christian lives. Catholic schools make a similar contribution to the parents of their students by sharing with them the responsibility of developing the moral character of their children. In this way, Catholic schools are truly one of the avenues through which the Church has enabled its members to become good Catholics, good Christians and good citizens.

I hope I don't need to sell any of you on the benefits of Catholic education at Holy Cross School. Enrollment of your child/children in our school demonstrates your support of and commitment to the superior education in the Catholic tradition that your child is receiving. As the school administrator, I am inspired by the sacrifice you make in having Holy Cross as your school of choice. Know that I pray for you and your children daily, and greatly appreciate your willingness to support this school with your time, treasure and talent.

That being said, in a few short weeks from now we will begin the registration process at Holy Cross School. At no time in our school's history is the re-registration of your child more important. Because our student count is low, we need to keep the students we presently have as well as extend a warm welcome to new families to increase our numbers. Parents, whatever you can do to help us encourage new families to attend a parent meeting or arrange a visit to find out more about Holy Cross School would be much appreciated. You are the most credible witness to what is done at Holy Cross School, and what you think and say about our school does make a difference. Please check the note section for more information about registration.

Although I'm still quite new to the school, I ask that you contact me directly if you have any questions about registration, tuition or any other concern that may keep you from reregistering. It is a pleasure to serve you and your family as the administrator of Holy Cross School, and it is my hope that you will remain at Holy Cross not only for another year, but throughout your child/children's elementary school years as well. Your children and you are very special members of our school family. Thank you for entrusting your greatest gift with us.

“Train children up in the way they should go... and when they are old they will not depart from it.” This is Catholic education at its best. We look forward to continuing our partnership with you. May God continue to bless you with generosity and abundance.

Ms. Scipioni

Monday, January 23 –

Kimball Public Schools are not in session. All those who ride Kimball buses will have to provide their own transportation to and from school.

- **MENU CHANGE** – Today’s menu was made by the 5th & 6th grade students: Beef Nachos and fixings, strawberries and grapes, fry bread and milk.

Tuesday, January 24 –

Stearns Electric Association presents “Play It Safe Around Electricity” for the students in grades K-6.

- 6:30 p.m.- PreKindergarten parents currently enrolled in our PK program are invited to a parent information meeting regarding registration for Kindergarten and grades 1-6. PK parents received a note about this meeting and should call the office or refer to the note with questions.
- 7:30 p.m. – Holy Cross Parish Leadership are invited and encouraged to attend a meeting at Mary of the Immaculate Conception Church in Rockville. Parish Council, Finance Council and Board of Education members are encouraged to attend.

Wednesday, January 25 –

DARE for grades 5/6 today at 8:30

- Grades PK/K/1/2 will attend a play at St. John’s University today at noon. Signed field trip permission forms must be returned by today to allow attendance. The students will be seeing the play “Winnie the Pooh.” Thank you to our Home and School Association for sponsoring this field trip.

Friday, January 27 –

8:30 – Join us as we celebrate Eucharist as a school and parish family. The Kindergarten students assist at their first mass this year!! Please join us!

12:00 – Early Dismissal. The teachers will have an inservice this afternoon on using and integrating the Smart Board into their instruction. Students will have lunch at 11:30 and may be picked up at noon.

Bus Information - Kimball buses will not be available to pick up our students at the early dismissal time. **However, the ROCORI bus WILL pick up our students at noon, transport them to your home, and then return to the Rocori district for an early dismissal for their district too.** All other students must have private transportation from school on this day.

A Catholic Schools Week flier will be sent home today with the kids. A paper copy will be sent to all families explaining the day to day events of Catholic Schools Week.

Mid-trimester reports will be sent home in today’s Friday Folder.

Saturday, January 28 –

Catholic Schools Week “Kick Off” Mass and Event! All students and parents are invited and encouraged to participate in either or both Masses this weekend to celebrate Catholic Schools Week. All those who signed up to attend 4:00 mass should meet at the Church by 3:40. All those who volunteered to participate (parents and kids) should receive a note from Ms. Scipioni indicating your assignment for Mass.

- **After Mass, all families and parishioners are welcome to come over to the school for a light dinner (hot dogs, popcorn, snacks, etc.) and a movie for the kids! Make every attempt to join our school families for this community building event. See the CSW letter for more information.**

Sunday, January 29 –

Catholic Schools Week “Kick Off” Mass and Breakfast! All those who signed up to attend the 8:00 a.m. mass should meet at the Church by 7:40. All those who volunteered to participate (parents and kids) should receive a note from Ms. Scipioni indicating your assignment for Mass.

- Catholic Schools Week Breakfast – Bring the family to H.C.S. from 8:30-Noon today to enjoy a great breakfast and help support our school at the same time. The great cooks of Holy Cross Parish will be cooking up a feast of pancakes (with fruit toppings), sausage (two kinds), eggs (with fixings), hash browns, pastries/rolls and a beverage (coffee, milk or juice) all for the low price of \$7.00 per adult and \$4.00 for kids under 12. Please come!

Monday, January 30 –

Parents, you will be receiving a separate flier regarding Catholic Schools Week, and all of the exciting events of the week will be listed on that sheet. The newsletter will just list the events for school. Please review the flier for information (special dress up days, activities, etc.)

Tuesday, January 31 –

Tonight is a parent information meeting for **NEW** parents who are interested in enrolling at Holy Cross School. Please invite any young families in your neighborhood or who you know to attend this meeting. It will be held by Ms. Scipioni and offered at 7:00 p.m. for all parents of PK-5th grade students that might be interested in more information about our program for the 2012-13 academic year.

Wednesday, February 1 –

8:30 – DARE for grades 5/6.

Friday, February 3rd –

8:30 – Mass, assisted by grades 5 / 6.

Once again, Parents, review the Catholic Schools Week flier that will be sent home in the 1/27/12 Friday Folder for all of the information on various events and fun happenings that comprise Catholic Schools Week!

Minnesota Twins “Father of the Year” Essay Contest

All students in grades 1-12 are invited to participate in the Minnesota Twins “Father of the Year” essay contest. Students and parents may request a copy of the packet of information from the school or may download the information from the contest web page at www.fathers.com/contest. The deadline for official entries is February 29, 2012. Get started now if you are interested.

January Calendar Raffle Winners

Thank you so much to all of you who so generously supported the Calendar Raffle. We realized about \$3,700 profit from this raffle, so it was very successful. Our gratitude is extended to Sara Schneider and Kristi Kalkbrenner who organized and chaired this needed fundraising event. Thanks again to all!

Steven Gohman	Jonathon & Carolina Walz	Diane Kern
Sylvia Weber	Jody Klaphake	Teri Farris
Peter & Gail Waldorf	Rita Wicker	Carla Lucia
Ginger & Jack Zwilling	John Moen	Lyle Beumer
Barb & Dan Waldorf	Diane Ohmann	Diane McKenzie
John Moen	John Fuchs	Alex Maselter
Bill Volkmann	John & Nick Mertens/Maxson	Marlene Kunkel
Richard Staab	Debbie Lochen	Bob& Jennifer Waldorf
Diane Kern	John Fuchs	Cheryl Spoden
Sue Scipioni	Kurt & Michelle Krippner	John Wieneke
Teresa Mertens		

Catholic United Financial RAFFLE

Hopefully you read the letter sent home last week with the Catholic United Financial Raffle tickets. In the letter I apologized for the proximity of this raffle to the calendar raffle, but if timing wasn't a problem this would really be a good fundraiser. Catholic United sponsors this raffle with the goal of assisting the 60 schools in the five state, upper midwest area who have chosen to participate. C.U.F. buys all of the prizes, purchases the gambling license and prints the tickets. We sell the tickets at \$5.00 each, and keep the entire \$5.00 as profit for the school. No expense and 100% profit. We simply can't lose on this one! We can, however, not gain as much as we are able without participation from everyone. Please consider buying and selling the tickets you were assigned, as well as a few additional tickets, too. All tickets are numbered and need to be either sold or returned. If you are able to sell more tickets, please contact the school office and we'll get them to you. Thank you, parents!

Weather Related Late Start / School Closing

As a reminder about weather related school attendance issues: Holy Cross School is delayed (2 hour late start) or cancelled (closed for the day) when EITHER Kimball Public School or Rocori Public School district is delayed or closed. As I understand it, Kimball and Rocori often make their decisions together which could make this a bit less confusing. When and if they make their decision independently, we are delayed or closed when either one of the schools is delayed or closed. (i.e. Kimball has a weather related delayed start and Rocori is on time. We will have a delayed start to match Kimball. Kimball's buses will run two hours late, but Rocori's buses would have picked up at their usual time. Kids who take the Rocori bus wouldn't be able to ride, as they would need to be transported to school two hours later for the delayed start). Any clearer??

Happy (Almost) Catholic Schools Week!

Catholic Schools Week is set from January 28/29 – Feb. 3, 2012. From an administrative point of view, the most important event of Catholic Schools Week is the registration of our current families to return to Holy Cross School for the upcoming 2012-13 school year. A registration information packet for PK-5th grade families currently enrolled will be sent home on **Friday, January 27**. Please look for this information in your Friday folder and return your information as soon as possible. The scheduled parent information meetings each month (Jan. 31st is the first one) are only for parents who are new to the school. Currently enrolled parents do not need to attend, and simply should complete the registration and tuition information.

From a kid's perspective, however, the most important thing about C.S.W. is the opportunity to have some fun and to celebrate the many ways that Holy Cross School is different where it counts! Our in-school theme, "Catholic Schools, A Gift to Treasure" shares our whole hearted enjoyment and love of our mission as a Catholic school. Faith formation underlies all that we do, and provides the Catholic foundation upon which everything else flows. The fact that Catholic schools are places where faith and values are taught and practiced is one of the major reasons for the success of Catholic education. With all that going for us, it's time to celebrate! In next week's (1/27/12) Friday folder you will find information about our theme for the week. I won't have explained it to the kids before you get it, so you can look at it together as a family to get some excitement going. I think it's going to be a great week!

D.A.R.E. Graduation – Early Notice

All 5th and 6th grade parents are especially invited to attend the DARE graduation ceremony set for Tuesday, February 14th at 8:30 a.m. at the school. More information as the date nears.

Home and School – Your Help is Needed!

At the Home and School meeting of January 17th the following requests were mentioned. If you have questions, need further explanation, or would like to volunteer to assist with any of the listed items, please contact Sara Schneider at 398-7224:

- Bicycle handlebar grips are needed to be placed on the new teeter-totters that are being fabricated by Al's Ornamental Iron.
- Tickets will be donated to Holy Cross School for the Jose Cole Circus. They will be distributed on a "first come" basis. More info as this date nears.
- Parents are needed to make a meal or snacks for the teachers during Catholic Schools Week (Jan. 30-Feb. 3) Please call a.s.a.p. to volunteer
- A chairperson is needed for the "Pork Chop Trot." For a listing of the duties and responsibilities with this event call.

Teacher Language Arts Review

For the next few weeks our teachers will participate with the Catholic Schools of the St. Cloud area in reviewing the Minnesota K-6 Academic Language Arts standards to review/revise/update our Holy Cross School Language Arts Curriculum. This will take place on various afternoons during the weeks of January 23rd through February 16th.