



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Thank you to the parents who were able to make it to the **Back to School Nights** this week. The last one is tonight for grades 3 - 5. Partnerships with our parents is one of the key factors that will support the growth and development of your child. After all, y'all are the **primary educators of your child!** We appreciate being able to work in partnership with you. Also, thank you to the teachers and the staff for all their work in preparing for their night.

After two weeks of school, we are beginning to settle into the new routines. **Please remember to support your child in being ready for their school day** by getting a good night's sleep, eating a healthy breakfast, and being on time to school. [I need to remember this for myself...] Please also plan family trips and vacations for scheduled school breaks. **Routine and consistency are integral in the education of your child.** Thank you!

Volunteering in your child's classroom or on a field trip is so exciting and a fun way of getting involved in your child's education! Please remember to complete the **required volunteer requirements.**

- **New Volunteers:**

- Complete the [in-person CASE training](#)
- Complete a criminal records background check
- Sign a Code of Conduct
- Submit information as required by Senate Bill 155

- **Returning Volunteers:**

- Complete the annual online training.
 - This year: "[Foundations: Preventing Abuse in Youth-Serving Organizations.](#)"
- Complete a criminal records background check every 3 years
 - The CASE Administrator will notify you when your background check is set to expire

Please do not wait to complete these requirements. Reach out to [Tessa Johnson](#), the CASE Administrator, if you have any questions...we want you volunteering!

FAITH FORMATION HAPPY FEAST DAY!

Along with the whole Church, we celebrate the Feast of the Exaltation (or Triumph) of the Holy Cross. We have the special honor to celebrate this day as our parish patronal feast.

According to John 3, 13-16, Jesus was lifted up "...so that everyone who believes

in Him may not perish but may have eternal life.” We are deeply grateful that this “life” came to us because Jesus gave His life on the Cross. That momentous event and His loving action were the sign of the Father’s love for each and every one of us and for the whole world. For, as Jesus would tell His disciples at the Last Supper, “No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.”

For reflection: The word ‘Exaltation’ in the name of today’s feast means a “lifting up.” In the Gospel of St. John, Jesus says that He, being “lifted up” will draw all people to Himself. This “lifting up” refers not only to Jesus being physically raised on the Cross – it also refers to His being raised from the dead on Easter morning. After all, following St. John’s presentation of the Paschal Mystery, Jesus died on the Cross in order to pass over to new life (the Resurrection), in order to return to the Father (the Ascension), and in order to breathe forth the Holy Spirit (at Pentecost). In this sense, Jesus is totally “exalted” on the Cross. Therefore, we pray: “We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you. Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.”

VOLUNTEER TRAINING INFORMATION

NEW VOLUNTEERS:

Mary Jane Weber will be offering two CASE training courses within the next few days: mid-day on Sunday, September 17, and in the evening on Monday, September 18. Please use [this link](#) to sign up to attend a class. This is the first step, as required by the Archdiocese of Portland, in being allowed to volunteer with students. See the flyer below for more details.

RETURNING VOLUNTEERS:

If you have previously completed the in-person CASE training, you must now complete the required online training to continue to be eligible to volunteer with students. See the flyer below for details.



VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS FOR 2023-2024

Returning volunteers at Holy Cross:

This year all volunteers must complete *Foundations: Preventing Abuse in Youth-Serving Organizations* online no later than **December 31st, 2023**.

Annual online training is done in Academy training website. All returning employees should have an Academy account.

- Log into Academy: <https://www.praesidiumacademy.com/learn/dashboard>
- Log in with your username (email) and password. It will walk you through the process if you have forgotten your password.
- In Academy scroll down to "Featured Content." You should see *Foundations: Preventing Abuse in Youth-Serving Organizations* with a picture of a child.

Featured Content



- Click on "Start Course" to begin. This will take 30-45 minutes to complete.
- Please do not complete any other online training in Academy!

New volunteers at Holy Cross:

If you are new to volunteering in the Archdiocese of Portland, you will need to complete an in-person training course: "Creating A Safe Environment (CASE)" with Mary Jane Weber, CASE Trainer. At the completion of this course, you will be given instructions for completing your background check and signing the Standards of Conduct.

For assistance with accessing your Academy account:

Please contact the Holy Cross CASE Administrator, Tessa Johnson, at tejohnson@archdpdx.org.

MEDICATION RULES FOR GRADE SCHOOL STUDENTS

With the "cold and flu season" beginning early this year, we must remind parents that the state of Oregon has strict procedures in place concerning medication, both prescription and non-prescription, for student use at school. **Students may not have medication with them in the classroom.** Medication must be brought to the school by a parent, and the parent must sign an authorization form to allow school personnel to administer it. **All medications, including cough drops, must be kept locked in the office.**

Please contact the school office if you have any questions about these procedures: 503-289-3010 or dlarsen@archdpdx.org

LOST AND FOUND

The school office is currently holding the following Lost and Found items:

- a gold charm
- a rosary
- a locked iPhone
- a flash drive

If any of these items might belong to someone in your family, please contact [Miss Debbie](#) in the office to identify and claim them.

There are also several sweaters and sweatshirts on the Lost and Found rack in the hallway leading to the playground doors. If something is already missing from your child's wardrobe, remind them to check that rack!

SEPTEMBER FREE DRESS DAYS

Thursday, September 14th

Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

HOLY CROSS T-SHIRT DAY



Tuesday, September 19th

August & September Birthdays Free Dress

Wednesday, September 27th

School Picture Day Free Dress Day



HCCS Dress Code Rules Apply.

If you choose not to participate, please wear your HCCS uniform.

MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDY HALL

Middle School Study Hall begins on Tuesday, September 19. Please pick your students up at 4:00pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Students are expected to be productive during Study Hall, which is a time for completing homework with the assistance and support of middle school

teachers. They are welcome to bring a snack.

PUPPIES

Does your family need a new furry family member? Instructional Assistant Sinai Romero Hernandez has five German Shepherd puppies who are looking for new homes. The fabulous five shown below are 10 weeks old, born on June 28, Contact Sinai by phone or text at 503-885-4355, or via email at romerohe23@up.edu.



PARENTS' ASSOCIATION NEWS

Please join us for Casino Night on Saturday, October 7. Buy your tickets (Early Bird pricing through October 1!) online on the [Parents' Association website](#).

Casino Night is an adults-only event, and it's open to all, so invite friends, neighbors, and family members to join you. Childcare is available (supervised by our Parish Youth Group and their leaders) for a fee, and registration for that is available when you purchase your event tickets.

HIGH SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

On Monday, September 18, student representatives from the local Catholic high schools will be presenting information about their schools to our 7th and 8th graders. These presentations are geared towards middle school students. If your family is considering a Catholic high school, please attend a high school Open House, which is geared towards both parents and potential students.

Open House dates are:

Central Catholic High School on October 1

De La Salle North Catholic High School on October 8

Jesuit High School on October 29

La Salle Catholic College Preparatory High School on October 22

St. Mary's Academy on October 15

Valley Catholic High School on October 8

Check the high school's website for times and contact their Admissions Office if you have questions.

PARISH NEWS

We are cleaning out the Parish Center in preparation for its demolition, and we will be holding a Convent Cleanout Sale. Join us on Sunday, September 24 between 8:00am and 2:00pm

CASE training for new volunteers is scheduled for this coming Sunday afternoon and next Monday evening. See the Volunteer Training Information at the beginning of this newsletter for additional information, and click the link to sign up for one of these classes.

Mark your calendar for JLP23. Jesus. Love. People. Sunday, October 22 from 12:30pm to 3:30pm. Watch your school newsletter and parish bulletin for details.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Wednesday, October 11: SCHOOL OUT AT NOON, Parent-Teacher Conferences

Thursday, October 12: NO SCHOOL, Parent-Teacher Conferences

Friday, October 13: NO SCHOOL, Statewide Teacher In-Service Day

Holy Cross Catholic School | 503-289-3010 | 5202 N Bowdoin St, Portland, Oregon 97203 | holycrosspdx.org/school



