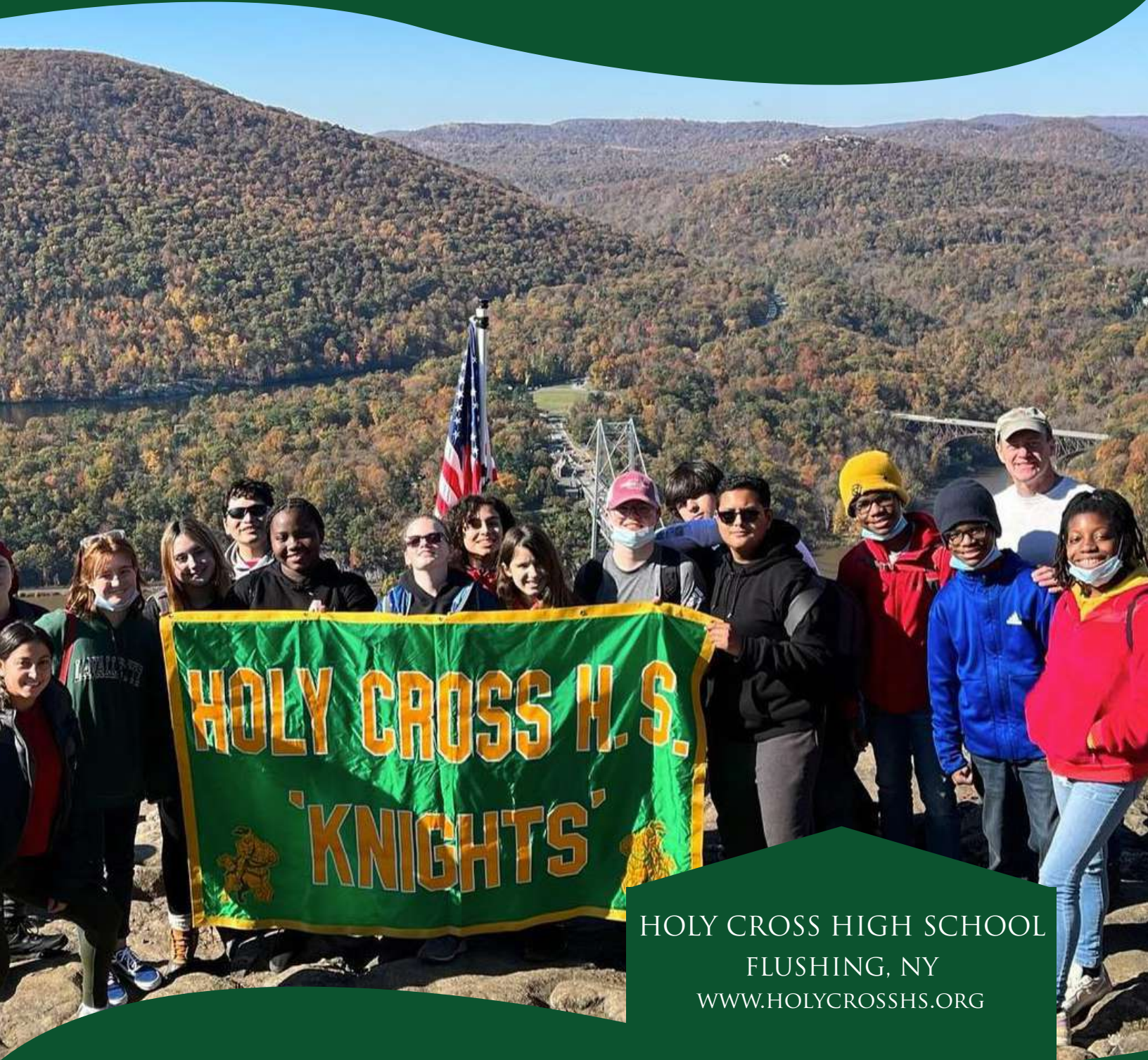




KNIGHTS NEWSFLASH

FALL/WINTER 2021-2022



HOLY CROSS HIGH SCHOOL
FLUSHING, NY
WWW.HOLYCROSSHS.ORG

KNIGHTS NEWSFLASH CONTENTS

Fall/Winter 2021-2022

02 A LETTER FROM
THE PRESIDENT

03 A LETTER FROM
THE PRINCIPAL

HIGHLIGHTS

04 GYM FLOOR
RENOVATIONS

04 CHRISTMAS
CONCERT

05 SPIRIT WEEK

06 WALKATHON

07 HALL OF FAME

FAITH & SERVICE

08 STUDENT COUNCIL

09 SERVICE

11 CAMPUS MINISTRY

CLUBS

12 PING PONG CLUB

13 COMPUTER CLUB

15 ASIAN CULTURE
CLUB

17 ENVIRONMENTALISTS
CLUB

18 OUTDOOR
ADVENTURE

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

19 2021 CONVOCATION
CEREMONY

AWARDS

20 JULIET
ROMERO '22

20 GABRIELLA
AORDKIAN '22

SPORTS

21 GIRLS VARSITY
VOLLEYBALL

21 GIRLS VARSITY
BASKETBALL

22 FOOTBALL

22 TRACK

ALUMNI

24 ALUMNI
NOTES

30 IN
MEMORIAM

31 UPCOMING
EVENTS

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Several times during the Covid-19 pandemic we have marveled at the prescience of Blessed Fr. Basil Moreau, CSC, the Founder of the Congregation of Holy Cross. When he wrote in 1856, “How we educate the mind will change with the times: How we cultivate the heart is and will remain timeless,” little did he know that one of the possible changes to educational methods would require the use of remote technologies, as of then uninvented.

During the first week of classes following the Christmas break, we at Holy Cross opted to ease back into the education of the mind using remote learning. The objective was to allow any lingering Covid-19 Omicron variant infections among our extended family to run their course. The reason for this decision was actually the second half of Moreau’s observation. Our experience tells us that the cultivation of our students’ hearts has always been when we follow our founder’s guidance. That is when we are together, caring for each other, and sharing in one-another’s successes and challenges. And we wanted to get together as soon as safely possible.

Mid-week during that first week in January, I had the opportunity to ask Mrs. Cathy Kenny, Science Dept. Chair, how her students were doing with the week of remote learning. She responded, “They are all logging in, participating, and doing their work ... but I can tell by the looks on their faces that they are wanting to be together to do the best of what we do.” I believe Mrs. Kenny was truly echoing the second half of our Founder’s view.

Much of what you will be reading in this issue of the Knights Newsflash focuses on the second half of that 1856 turn of phrase by Moreau. You will see photos of students accompanied by descriptions of their care and concern for each other and our community. You will have the opportunity to have your own heart cultivated by what you see. And, together, we can marvel at the timelessness of our Founder’s words.

Thank you for all you do for Holy Cross!

Ave Crux Spes Unica



Michael “Mike” Truesdell
President

A LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Almost 24 months have passed since we first heard of Covid-19 and we all have had to adapt and grow as we have lived through the pandemic. I have seen our teachers, an incredible group of people, rethink their teaching style and methodologies in order to reach the young people they need to teach. Their passion and sheer determination to never give up on educating the hearts and minds of our students is what this issue of "The Knights Newsflash" celebrates. It is about how student engagement has been thoughtfully reimagined bringing strength to the educational environment by our faculty and staff.

It is about celebrating accomplishments and bringing hope to the school community. I am incredibly proud to share the following.

The science department rethought how students could engage in the science lab classroom with the introduction of Labster, a virtual science lab experience empowering the next generation of scientists by bringing the science lab to your Chromebook. Providing universal access to all students in person or remote.

The math department re-envisioned the use of technology to make sure classroom instruction was just as powerful remotely as in person. The idea of using screen share technology brought the SmartBoard right to the students' Chromebooks. Enhanced with multiple pen color options so you could follow the problem solving steps easily with visual clarity.

The guidance department restructured the college planning process by utilizing Google Meets, Google Classroom, and Naviance to insure the college preparation process did not fall behind. All of this was enhanced with parent and student forums this fall. Providing a road map for our scholars as they undertook early acceptance, early decision, and college onsite acceptance days. We could not be prouder of our scholar's accomplishments. Their acceptance speaks to their success!

I would be remiss if I did not mention our Service Learning Program which never skipped a beat providing resources, comfort and hope to all who were in need. Our recent collaboration with the Little Saint Nick Foundation provided the student population the opportunity to help supply Cohen's Children's Hospital with comfort kits for children who are admitted to the hospital. This is just one of the many moments that our mission brought to life each day by our students and faculty to bring "Hope" to the community.

Go Knights! Stay Safe. God Bless, All!



Edward Burns
Principal

GYM FLOOR RENOVATIONS

The William J. O'Meara Memorial Gymnasium awaited its final coat of sealer on November 10th, and the students were back in action the following week! In addition to the repairs, we made a few modest improvements, including an automated camera to livestream games.

[Click here](#) to watch a video of the new gym floor in the making!



CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Friday, December 17, 2021



HOLY CROSS SPIRIT WEEK

The student council hosted Holy Cross High School's Spirit Week from October 25th through October 29th. On Monday, the students wore attire representing their favorite sports team. On Tuesday, the Freshman, Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors had the chance to dress up for "Decades Day." However, the day that the students were the most creative was on "Wacky Wednesday," when they all dressed up in their most imaginative mismatched outfits.



HOLY CROSS WALKATHON

On Friday, October 29th, Holy Cross High School held the 23rd Annual Brother Ralph Edmiston, C.S.C. Walkathon. Faculty, staff, and students walked together to support the school. The money that was raised for this year's walkathon assisted in the replacement of the gymnasium floor, which was damaged as a result of flooding from Tropical Storm Ida.



HALL OF FAME

On Saturday evening, November 13, 2021, over 275 guests gathered at the Inn at New Hyde Park to celebrate the outstanding accomplishments of our 2021 Hall of Fame honorees.

Family and friends of Hall of Fame inductees Carlo Acquista '96, Richard Duggan '62, James Magee '71, Richard Schneider '64, Eamon Tubridy '85 and Glenn Xavier '91

were introduced to former classmates, faculty members and coaches, who regaled them with stories of their loved ones, as they reminisced of days gone by.



Cross and Anchor Award recipient FDNY Chief Charles Lamberta '78 was introduced by his long-time friend and classmate, Michael McCarthy '78, as a true hero who saved countless lives, and was instrumental in the rebirth of New York after the tragic events of 9/11.

Mark Boccia AP '12, Peter Segrave '81 and Mark Boccia '12, founders of "Food for the Fearless" and proprietors of Bourbon Street, OSP and Austin's Ale House, accepted the Cross and Anchor Award in recognition of their efforts in providing meals for frontline workers throughout the COVID-19 epidemic.

Prior to the Hall of Fame Dinner, this year's St. Brother André Medal recipient, Father Jim Fenstermaker, C.S.C. '74, presided over Mass at nearby Church of the Holy Spirit, concelebrating with Father Frank Grieco, Father Walter Jenkins, C.S.C., former Holy Cross President, and Deacon John Hogan '72.

[Click here](#) to view photos from the 2021 Hall of Fame Induction and Dinner.

[Click here](#) to view the 2021 Hall of Fame Journal.

[Click here](#) for Hall of Fame Nomination Form and Criteria.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Candy Cane Gram

Student Council orchestrated a Candy Cane Gram school wide activity. On December 17th, the candy canes and messages that students purchased for \$1 were delivered to their friends in homeroom.



School Wide Candy Cane Grams



Homeroom deliveries of Candy Cane Grams



Prepping for Deliveries of Candy Cane Grams

Christmas Door Poster Contest

During Christmas time students and faculty participated in a contest to creatively decorate their Homeroom doors. The four winners were: Mrs. Nitti's Student Council Room (grades 9-12), Mrs. Kanni's Homeroom (Jrs.), Mrs. Daus' Homeroom (Jrs.) and Mrs. Roesch's Homeroom (Soph.)



SERVICE

Clothing Drive

Throughout the beginning of the school year, students donated clothing to help those in need. The USAgain non-profit organization has clothed 17 million people and counting, while contributing positively to the environment by reducing waste from the textile industry. A clothing donation bin was set up outside of Holy Cross High School, where students donated over 500 bags of clothing.



Day of Service

Each year, Holy Cross comes together to remember our blessings as we think of those in need. This year, Holy Cross partnered with the Little Saint Nick Foundation, which provides emergency room gift bags to children in hospitals. Each student created a get well card and brought in a small stuffed animal and coloring book, which were put into the bags, along with crayons. Our donations were sent to Cohen's Children's Hospital to bring joy to children in our area.



Annual Food Drive

Senior Nicholas McAloney led the efforts in this year's Annual Food Drive. Nicholas created advertisements and informational letters for the school community and was responsible for reaching out to St. John's Bread and Life to coordinate the effort. Due to the pandemic, the number of individuals who need access to food has increased tremendously. The Holy Cross community donated more than 4,500 food items to St. John's Bread and Life, to help the underserved.



CAMPUS MINISTRY

Campus Ministry

The Campus Ministry Program coordinates and supports the liturgical, sacramental, and spiritual needs of the community. The Campus Ministers are active and public examples of service and leadership, in the spirit of the charism of the Congregation of Holy Cross, and the vision of Blessed Basil Moreau, the Congregation founder. We are dedicated to making God known, loved and served through outreach to our Holy Cross High School community, as well as to the community through liturgies, prayer services, retreats and meaningful service both here and in the surrounding community.



Food Drive at the First Reformed Church

On December 23rd, Freshman Hannah Maher worked with Campus Ministry on a food drive that was conducted at the First Reformed Church of College Point.

Hannah, with help from several Campus Ministers, assembled packages of homemade cookies and Christmas ornaments for holiday packages, that they distributed at the Church. Campus Ministry received a letter from Pastor Sally-Ann Castle, thanking them for the effort, and explained how much it was needed. The drive was a complete success!



First Reformed Church of College Point
118-17 14th Avenue, College Point, NY 11356
718-359-3956
Rev. Sally Ann Castle, Interim Pastor

Holy Cross High School
Campus Ministry
26-20 Francis Lewis Blvd
Flushing, NY 11358

December 29, 2021

Dear Campus Ministry Members,

On behalf of the consistory and congregation of the First Reformed Church of College Point I would like to thank you for the very generous donation of homemade cookies and ornaments that you gave out at the food pantry distribution on December 23, 2021! Your gift of time, talent and festively packaged food came at a time when our supplies were very low, so we and our pantry patrons are extremely grateful for your efforts.

Your kindness and generosity are greatly appreciated as we continue to support our ministry to our community in these difficult times. Thank you for sharing the blessings God has given to you with others.

Grace and Peace,

Karen Tanager
Karen Tanager
Karen Tanager and Karl Nagawara
Ministry Committee Co-Chairs

New Developments

"In an effort to ensure that Campus Ministers remain true ambassadors for our community, I have instituted a Heritage Class, to be presented (by me) to the Campus Ministers over several classes regarding the rich legacy of the Congregation of Holy Cross. In this way, the hope is that they will spread their newfound knowledge with the community via short segments on HCTV and classroom visits. When we finally get back to normal the Knight-to-Knight Mentoring Program will once again get underway, where each Campus Minister will be assigned to a Freshman as a big brother/big sister, keeping a watchful eye and offering advice dealing with everyday school occurrences."

- Jack Rampulla, Director of Campus Ministry

PING PONG CLUB

Many thanks to Mr. Terence Tarpey, Jr. '83, Senior Assistant Principal of Campus Life, and Mr. Keith Goggin '92, Athletic Director, who procured two brand new ping pong tables to kick off the Ping Pong Club grand opening on November 17th. To respond to the overwhelming number of 40+ student participants, three more tables are on their way. In the meantime, students assembled makeshift tables using lunch tables in the cafeteria, while others practiced bouncing ping pong balls against the walls--such enthusiasm and creativity! Our Freshman players expressed a great interest in challenging faculty/staff in a future contest.



COMPUTER CLUB

Computer Club students recently demonstrated various outstanding skills.

On October 14, **David Tran '23** presented to his fellow club members one-quarter of his Rubik's Cube collection and several algorithms, at which he is adept. To challenge himself, David asked 3 students to scramble a cube; he then solved the cube in as little as 26 seconds. [See video here.](#)



Michael Varkoutas '24 took a keen interest in computer hardware repair at the start of this school year. When provided scraps of previously damaged chromebooks, Michael assembled miscellaneous parts into fully functioning chromebooks, some of which are now added to our Loaner Chromebook Program. Michael attracted a large crowd during the Open House by fixing computers on the spot and answering questions on how he had developed such an interest and skillset.

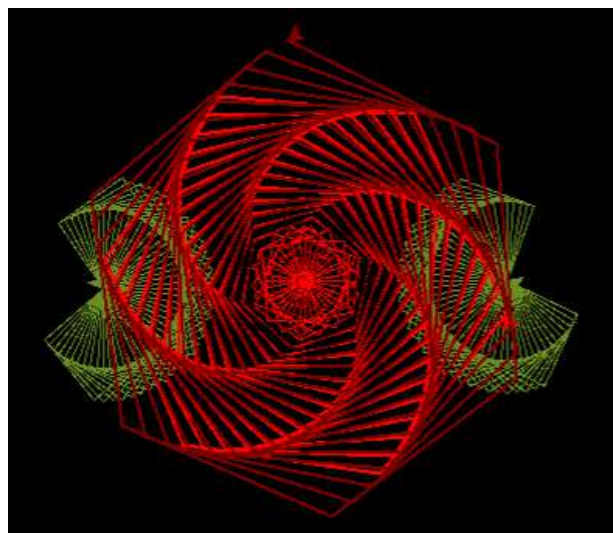


Daniel Wahed '22 pioneered in researching Virtual Reality last year. This month, Daniel embarked on a new study on an LED pad. He wishes to program the LED pad to create a light show by lighting up certain rows and/or columns in a timed manner. At the moment, there seems to be a hardware issue to solve, and problem-solving is exactly where Computer Club students excel!



AP Computer Science Principles

Paula Herrera '22 in the AP Computer Science Principles class transferred in without any prior computer programming experience. Seven weeks into the semester, Paula has already acquired proficient techniques and created a “for loop mind game” that generated mesmerizing geometric shapes using the Python programming language.



ASIAN CULTURE CLUB

STUDENTS COOKING ASIAN FOOD!

Club members met on Wednesday, November 18th, for a fun food party. Students brought in ingredients to make Asian dishes and desserts for club members to enjoy. Together, the students prepared delicious fried rice, seaweed rice balls, miso soup, as well as dalgona/ppogi (old-fashioned sugar candy 뽑기). The Club celebrates cultures of Asian origins, and welcomes all students to learn about Asian cuisines, and beyond.



CALIGRAPHY LESSON

During the November 30th club meeting, Xiruitian Pan '23 showed fellow students the basics of calligraphy. She demonstrated how to hold a calligraphy brush correctly, and how to grind the ink stick with water in order to prepare ink. Students who had never held a brush before found it fun just to try something new. Some used their cell phones to find a Kanji image online, and mimicked the strokes to "paint" a character. Dalia Rojas-Hernandez '23 said she simply applied what she had learned in her painting class, and quickly learned how to write several characters in Chinese.



#StopAsianHate The Event

Asian Culture (Beyond the Food) Club students hosted a #StopAsianHate discussion forum via Google Meet and in-person, concurrently. Led by Jiyeong Choi '22, our students hosted this event hoping it would serve as a starter for more conversations of the like. We believe it did on all fronts, gathering from everyone's positive energy while discussing various points in depth: recent incidents, stereotypes of Asian people, organizations that help combat anti-Asian attacks, local crime stats, and what we can do to raise awareness.

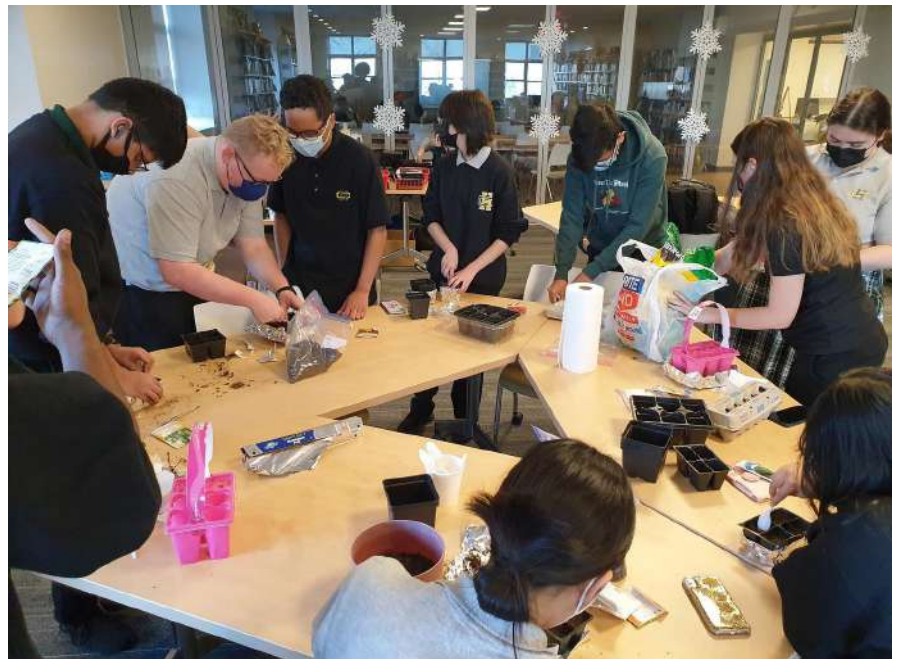
During the forum discussions, Social Studies teacher, Mr. Raymon Cullinan, introduced the historical background of Asian Migration and Anti-Asian Sentiment. Jiyeong shared her participation in local rallies, while other students presented their research on rampant incidents and bias against Asian populations. Mr. Marty Stein '74, connected us with the Community Affairs office of Precinct 109 in Flushing, to acquire local crime data and flyers for awareness and action.

The Holy Cross school community provided tremendous support for the students to voice their concerns. Administration and faculty/staff showed their great care and concern by participating and offering their valuable input, as well as practical assistance in future events. #HateIsAVirus #StopAsianHate



ENVIRONMENTALISTS CLUB

As a new after-school club, the Environmentalists Club attracted students from all grades to meet and share their care for the environment we live. Club members brainstormed what actions they could take to help make a difference: beach and park cleanup, composting within our campus, and more. The most popular interest was in building a rooftop garden! Students immediately pooled together all necessary materials, such as soil, containers, and seeds--all recyclable from their homes. Once seeds were planted and placed on the windowsills in the school library, students began keeping up with daily watering and observations.



OUTDOOR ADVENTURE CLUB

The Outdoor Adventure Club is one of 34 clubs offered at Holy Cross this semester. During the Fall semester, the students had the chance to hike at Anthony's Nose in the Hudson Valley. They also got together during the month of December to visit Rockefeller Center, and Saint Patrick's Cathedral.



2021 NATIONAL HONORS SOCIETY CONVOCATION CEREMONY

On Thursday, December 7th, Holy Cross High School live-streamed the annual National Honors Society Convocation Ceremony.



AWARDS

Juliet Romero '22

Mrs. Cathy Kenny, Department Chair, Science, and Mr. Ben Howell, Assistant Principal, Academics, congratulated Juliet Romero '22 for her recognition by the New York State Senate. Juliet was honored on her recent Science Research Project focused on Web-Based Rehabilitation Strategies for Treating Pediatric Traumatic Brain Injury.

To read the article, [click here](#).



Gabriella Aordkian '22

Senior Gabriella Aordkian was recognized in The Tablet during the Fall of 2021. Gabriella spent her summer researching the causes of breast cancer.

[Click here](#) to read the full article.



GIRLS VARSITY VOLLEYBALL

BQ Diocesan League Championship Winners

On November 2nd, the Girls Varsity Volleyball team won the Class A Brooklyn Diocese Division Title. This was the first ever Girls regular season Diocesan championship!



All League Volleyball Team

Congratulations to Junior Alexis Wirta and Seniors Maria Del Greco and Sara Keenan on being named to the All League Volleyball Team!

GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL

Rose Classic SuperJam

The Girls Varsity basketball team won their first Varsity game on December 3, 2021, defeating Fontbonne Hall Academy 53-43. Sophomore Jianna Davneiro led the way, scoring 13 points; Senior Linet Coste added 9 points, and 3 assists; and Sophomore Jamie Davneiro scored 8 points and dished out 3 assists.



Basketball awards went to (L-R)
Adrianna Caporale '23,
Scholar-Athlete Award;
Kyara Champagne '24, M.V.P.;
Jianna Davneiro '24, Sportsmanship

FOOTBALL

Battle of the Boulevard

Varisty Football won the annual Battle of the Boulevard, defeating St. Francis Prep for the first time in five years, 30-15, taking possession of the Francis Lewis Boulevard Trophy! They went on to defeat Mount St. Michael's 43-8 in the Quarter Finals of the CHSFL AA Division Playoffs. Congratulations on a great victory!



Devon Grant: Defensive MVP Award

Senior Devin Grant won MVP of the Senior Bowl, and signed his letter of intent to go to University of Buffalo where he will continue his football career.



TRACK

Senior Kiana Reyes was named the winner of the Student-Athlete Leaders of Tomorrow Award by The United States Air Force.



ALUMNI

**Stay Up To Date with
Alumni Events & More**

**Visit us at
www.HolyCrossHS.org/Alumni
to sign up for
upcoming events and update
your contact information!**

WWW.HOLYCROSSHS.ORG/ALUMNI

ALUMNI NOTES

NOTES FROM THE HOLY CROSS FAMILY

FORMER FACULTY

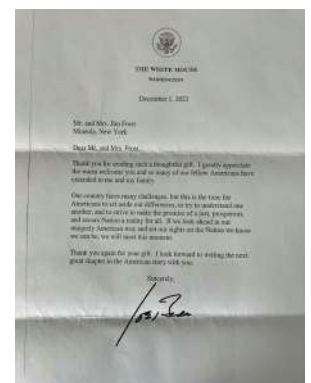
Allan Blonde became a teacher at 20 years old and retired at the age of 70, after 50 years of teaching. He expressed that he enjoyed each year, especially all the wonderful students in his classes. "Because of them I lived a useful and happy life. If I had a chance to do it again, I wouldn't change a single thing, except, perhaps, to retire at a later age."

THE FIFTIES

Kevin Austin '59 The Cross has always been an important part of his life, and he has focused his efforts on creating the "Christ Wreath." Kevin has been granted a design patent, trademark and copyright to merge the symbols together and hopes to popularize this new symbol that affirms the true meaning of Christmas.



Jim Frost '59, whose hobby is designing jewelry, sent President Joe Biden and First Lady Jill a sterling silver cross and a silver ring with lapis lazuli stone. Jim's jewelry is currently for sale at the prestigious Garden of Silver Boutique located at 124 Main Street, Westhampton Beach, N.Y.



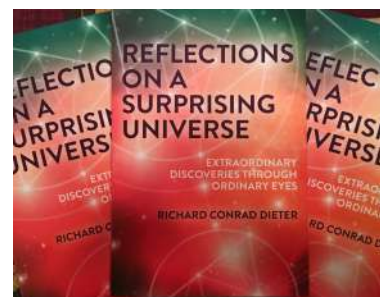
Robert McNamara '59 and his wife Marie, have relocated to North Carolina to join their daughter, son, and grandson. They feel that the style and pace of living there is very different from New York, and they are anticipating making many new adjustments!

THE SIXTIES

Frank Penna '61 "My time at Holy Cross High School was some of the best years of my life. It also made me a fan of Notre Dame Football lasting to this day. A number of years ago I went to South Bend to see a football game in person, a dream I had for many years. Go Knights, Go Irish."

John Iengo '62 retired after 38 years of working in education. He and his wife Wanda are enjoying his collector car hobby.

Richard Dieter '63 received his Bachelor's degree from the University of Notre Dame, a master's degree from Ohio State University and a law degree from Georgetown University Law Center. Richard is the Principal consultant of RDieter communications, with years of experience working in the national media. He has recently published a book, *Reflections on a Surprising Universe*.



Edward Dzioba '63 is one of the five members of the Craven County North Carolina Board of Elections. He describes it as a job of commitment, integrity and time, and is proud to be part of the voting process.

Paul Weston '63 is in his fourth year of retirement after 49 years of teaching and supervising math in Cleveland and Connecticut. He still thinks fondly back on the sports, plays, and friendships of the Class of 1963.

Greg Guma '64 has lived mainly in Vermont since 1968. In October 2021, White River Press and UVM's Vermont Research Books published his latest book, *Restless Spirits & Popular Movements: A Vermont History*. His other books include *The People's Republic: Vermont and the Sanders Revolution*, widely considered the definitive work on Bernie Sanders' pre-Congress years; *Uneasy Empire: Repression, Globalization, and What We Can Do*; two novels, *Spirits of Desire* and *Dons of Time*. He also wrote a play about the Haymarket affair and black activist Lucy Parsons, *Inquisitions (and Other Un-American Activities)*; and scripts for several documentaries. Over the years he has been a journalist, editor, educator, and administrator, as well as a community organizer, bookstore owner, historian, and CEO of Pacifica Radio, a listener-supported national broadcast network.



Greg with his son Jesse Lloyd Guma, Robin Lloyd, and Jesse's wife, Kathryn



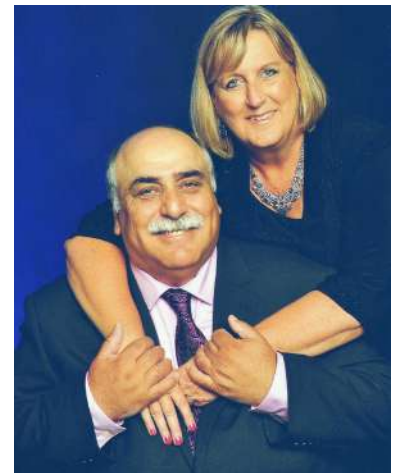
Frank Orzo '64 attended the Stone Hill game in November of 2021 against Franklin Pierce, where Stone Hill won, 34-7. Frank had the opportunity to watch alum and 2019 DII All-American Justin Felder '18 score three touchdowns, including a 77-yard run. He now holds the Stonehill record for career touchdowns.



Frank Orzo '64 and Justin Felder '18

Stephen Daunt '65 retired from his teaching, committee, and advising duties. He is now back to being an active research scientific professor. His field is in laboratory astrophysics where he studies molecules of interest in planetary atmospheres and the interstellar medium. He has had three successful research proposals go through since retiring. Stephen's work is conducted experimentally at the Canadian National Synchrotron in Saskatoon/University of Saskatchewan, Canada. Since 2019, Stephen, along with his students and colleagues, have presented more than 10 papers at NASA, American Physical Society and International Spectroscopy meetings. The first paper was published in 2020 with more to come!

Dennis Hollywood '67 spent three years in the army and became trained to repair CW and Pulse Radars. In 1972 he joined Delta Airlines, and during his 32 years with the airline, had the opportunity to take on different positions. Dennis traveled and lived in a variety of places during his employment. He is now settled in Atlanta with his wife Doris to be closer to one of their sons, and grandchildren.



Bob and Ann Corrado

Matthew Cola '68 retired after 11 years working at Saint John's University as a Volunteer Assistant Track and Field Coach.

Robert Corrado '69 received his BA and MBA at the University of Dayton. He now lives in Dayton Ohio with his wife Ann.

THE SEVENTIES

Robert J. Kalle '70 published a young adult novel titled, *DeathWorld*.

Ed Leahy's '71 debut novel, *Past Grief*, was published in March of 2021 by Black Rose Writing. Ed is also a past finalist for the Freddie Award for Writing Excellence in Mysteries.



Ed Leahy '71, Cindy Leahy, and Jimmy Leahy

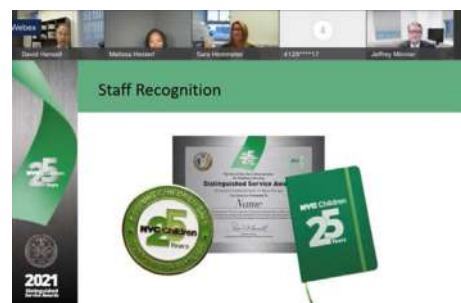
THE EIGHTIES

Fr. John Costello '81 was appointed as the 11th pastor of St. Luke Parish in Whitestone, New York. Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio presided over the Installation Mass in October 2020.

Joe Moran '88 attended SUNY Stony Brook, and then went to the Ross University School of Medicine. He now works at Clinch Valley Medical Center as the Director of the Bariatric Surgery Program. Joe resides in Virginia, with his wife Kori.

THE NINETIES

Andrew DeRose '95 was chosen to receive the "Supporting Youth throughout the Pandemic Award" at the 2021 Distinguished Service Awards (DSA). He was specifically recognized for his dedication in service during the pandemic to keep youth safe.



[Andrew DeRose](#) at the Virtual 2021 Distinguished Service Awards

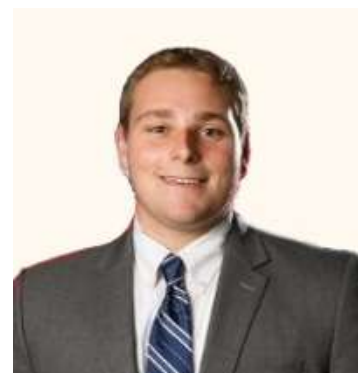
Gustavo Escobar '98 started teaching after five years of working at a not-for-profit organization in Far Rockaway. He is currently in his 11th year as a special education teacher in the NYC Department of Education at PS 127Q in East Elmhurst, Queens. Gustavo also coordinates the school's yearly Career Day, and mentioned that if anyone would like to participate they should email him at gustavoescobar10@gmail.com.



Gustavo Escobar '98

THE 2000'S

Matt Burke '13 Graduated from Loughborough University in England with a Masters in Sport Data Analytics. In January of 2020 he accepted a role with City Football Group's Major League Soccer property New York City Football Club (NYCFC) as a Data Engineer in their strategy and business intelligence department.



Matt Burke '13

George O. Mueller '02

Brooklyn Citizens Medal/ FF Louis Valentino Award

Lieutenant George O. Mueller '02

Ladder Company 107 - July 25, 2020, 1543 hours, Box 77-3966, Brooklyn

Appointed to the FDNY March 25, 2007. Previously assigned to Ladder Company 138. Holds a bachelor's from St. John's University. Resides in Smithtown, New York

At 1543 hours on July 25, 2020, Tower Ladder Company 107 was assigned second due to Brooklyn Box 3966 for a report of a fire with multiple addresses given. They arrived first due to the reported location due to other borough fire activity and street traffic. The outside vent firefighter alerted his officer to heavy smoke emanating from the top floor of the eight-story, fireproof building.



George O. Mueller '02

Lieutenant George Mueller and the inside team quickly made their way into the building, deciding to take the stairs due the unreliability of the elevator. As they ascended, they stopped on the sixth floor to size up the hallway layout. When members reached the eighth floor, they identified the apartment fire due to the dense black smoke pushing out from around the door frame.

The irons firefighter forced entry into the apartment, and members were immediately met with a thick wall of black smoke. Lieutenant Mueller directed his can firefighter to begin a left-handed search as he went right. With no guarantee of quick water, the irons firefighter stayed at the apartment door to act as a beacon for the searching members until relieved by the engine officer. All members of Ladder 107's inside team were aware of the challenges the building presented to engines getting a line into place because it did not have a standpipe. Lieutenant Mueller crawled down the interior apartment hallway with zero visibility in high-heat conditions. He made it into the living room area, where the main body of fire was located, and continued his search without the protection of the hose-line. He discovered an unconscious woman and transmitted a 10-45.

Using his body as a shield, Lieutenant Mueller turned the victim around and moved her to the door, where he handed her over. With Engine Company 225 still stretching the hose-line to his location, he reentered the apartment. Ladder 107's outside vent alerted the inside team to a person gasping for air at one of the windows, and the irons firefighter gave a 10-45 for an unconscious male.



Members of ladder 107 and Engine 225 responded to Box 77-3966 in Brooklyn on July 25, 2020.

Lieutenant Mueller began his search in the same location, this time finding an unconscious young female beneath a mattress and other clutter. As he grabbed the victim, Engine Company 225 moved in to apply water to the main body of fire. He was met by the can firefighter, who assisted him out of the apartment and into the public hallway. A moment later, the irons firefighter gave a fourth 10-45 for an unconscious male located in a closet. Lieutenant Mueller and the can firefighter went back into the apartment to assist with removal of the victim.

Climbing eight stories of a fireproof multiple dwelling, on a hot summer day in full protective gear, is no easy task. Despite the debilitating conditions, Lieutenant Mueller maintained his composure and kept the incident commander aware of conditions on the fire floor. He orchestrated multiple removals in punishing conditions. His selfless devotion and willingness to put himself in harm's way resulted in a positive outcome at this devastating fire. For his actions at this fire scene, he is awarded the Brooklyn Citizens Medal/FF Louis Valentino Award.

Jermaine Bishop '15

Congratulations to Jermaine Bishop who embarks on his professional career after signing with Phoenix Hagen in Germany's 16-team Pro A league.

Following his transfer from St. Louis University in 2018-19, Jermaine, who was sidelined for a season due to NCAA rules as a Division I transfer, completed his lone season with the Norfolk State Spartans where he averaged 15.6 points, 3.5 rebounds, 2.2 assists and 1.0 steals per game in 2019-20. He earned both NABC All-District 15 and BOXTOROW HBCU Division I All-America second team honors after setting the school record for 3-pointers (98) and topping the D-I record for free throw percentage (85.5).



Jermaine Bishop '15

As a freshman at Saint Louis University in 2015-16, Bishop played in 27 games with 16 starting assignments, averaging 8.9 points, 2.0 rebounds and 2.3 assists in 20.8 minutes per game. A three-time A-1 O Rookie of the Week honoree during that season, he was the first Billiken since 2009 to claim this honor. Jermaine led the Billikens in scoring (11.7 ppg) and assists (3.2 apg) in conference games, becoming the first Billiken freshman to lead his team in those categories since SLU joined the A-10 in 2005-06. His free-throw percentage (.864, 51-of-59) is sixth all-time in SLU history and is currently the top by any freshman in SLU history. He subsequently earned A-10 All-Rookie Team honors at the season's end.

Awards/Achievements in his college basketball career have been Atlantic 10 All-Rookie Team '16, CoSIDA NCAA Division I Academic All-District 3 Team '20, All-MEAC 1st Team '20, and NABC NCAA D1 All-District 15 2nd Team '20.

As a senior at Holy Cross, Jermaine averaged 20.6 points and 5.3 assists per game. He is HC's third all-time leading scorer in career points with 1,375, trailing only Sylven Landesberg '08 and Derrick Chievous '84, and is eighth in most points scored in a single season with 571.

"This is a great move for Jermaine, giving him European exposure instead of waiting for the G league in December. Jermaine is a hard worker, very focused, self-motivated and disciplined. I'm very proud of him, as are his parents, he continues to live his dream and he deserves it," said his former coach Terry Tarpey '83, Assistant Principal of Campus Life at Holy Cross.

Jermaine, who is headed overseas on August 21st, credits Holy Cross for laying the foundation of his basketball career. "Thanks to the SSP program, and my mentor, Michael Almonte (Class of 1998), I was able to attend Holy Cross and not only play and perform against the top schools in the league, but receive an excellent academic education as well. I know I'm still young, but I can say that my four years at Holy Cross were the best years of my life."

Michael Almonte's mutual admiration for Jermaine is evident as he remarks, "I am extremely proud of his accomplishments, both on the court and academically, but I'm even more proud of the man he's become. Love you Maine!"

IN MEMORIAM

James Casey '59
August 2021

Kevin Gallagher '59
June 2020

Richard Harrington '59
June 2021

Emil Bacso '60
January 2022

Wiley Crockett '61
February 2021

Thomas Dolan '61
July 2020

Paul Glennan '61
September 2021

Edward Petranek '61
January 2021

Norman Smercak '61
September 2021

Thomas Stabile '61
January 2021

Henry McLaughlin '62
August 2020

William Herold '63
August 2020

Walter Halloran '64
April 2021

Anthony Mannino '64
October 2021

John Scally '64
May 2021

Richard Zimmerman '64
November 2020

Robert Sullivan '65
September 2021

George Smith '66
April 2021

Cleveland Freeman '68
February 2021

Gary Gubelli '68
February 2021

Val Scansaroli '69
September 2020

Edward Bohner '72
January 2021

James Burke '72
June 2021

Alfred Lapp '72
December 2020

Patrick Brea '74
June 2021

Robert DeStefano '75
September 2021

Philip Scaramuccia '81
January 2022

John Ficarra '83
July 2021

Steven Perez '84
September 2021

Stan Zuzic '90
June 2020

Denis Mullaney '95
April 2021

Robert Femia '98
July 2021

Jeffery Ford '98
October 2020

Chris Theocharopoulos '02
September 2020

George Arsenis '08
April 2021

John Kubick '08
November 2020

David Nget '08
April 2021

Stephen Parisi '10
December 2020

Benny Pezzino '10
July 2021

Andrew Affatato '18
July 2020

To submit an Obituary Notification, go to www.holycrosshs.org/alumni/obituary or contact Alexandra Allimonos at aallimonos@myhchs.org



HOLY CROSS HIGH SCHOOL

26-20 Francis Lewis Boulevard
Flushing, New York 11358-1197

Upcoming Events

2022 ALUMNI REUNION

FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 2022

Hosted By:

25th Anniversary - Class of 1995, 1996, 1997

Celebrating With:

Class of 1980, 1981, 1982, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1990,
1991, 1992, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2005, 2006, 2007,
2010, 2011, 2012, 2015, 2016, 2017

SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 2022

Hosted By:

60th Anniversary - Class of 1960, 1961, 1962

50th Anniversary - Class of 1970, 1971, 1972

Celebrating With:

Class of 1965, 1966, 1967, 1975, 1976, 1977
& The Golden Knights (50+ Years)
1959, 1963, 1964, 1968, 1969

For updates visit:

<https://holycrosshs.org/alumni/alumni-reunion/>

39TH ANNUAL GOLF AND DINNER CLASSIC

Old Westbury Golf and Country Club

Monday, June 20, 2022

For updates visit: <https://holycrosshs.org/alumni/golf-classic/>

For more information about upcoming events,
please visit Alumni News on our
website (www.holycrosshs.org/alumni), email
Alexandra Allimonos (aallimonos@myhchs.org) or
call (718) 886-7250, Ext. 544.

VISIT US ON THE WEB!
www.holycrosshs.org