



# LANCE

## HOLY CROSS HIGH SCHOOL

OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1955

JANUARY 2023

[www.holycrosshs.org](http://www.holycrosshs.org)

WINTER SEMESTER

### The National Honor Society Induction Ceremony

by: Samantha Sambucharan '23



On November 9, 2022, Holy Cross celebrated the 22-23 Induction ceremony for juniors and seniors who are being recognized for their outstanding academic achievements. The night led by Mrs. Doepfner and Mr. Fisher, as well as this year's officers of the NHS; Samantha Sambucharan (President), Ripley Petrovic (Vice President), and Alex Lynch (Secretary). Each officer shared a few words regarding what it means to be part of the National Honor Society, reminding us of the four pillars- character, scholarship, leadership, and service- and how to keep them present in everyday life. Congratulations to those who were inducted and we, as a Holy Cross community, wish you all continued success in all your academic endeavors.



Alexandra Lynch, Samantha Sambucharan, Ripley Petrovic

#### Junior Members



Veronica Avallone, Venessa Caniano, Sabrina Carey, Saverio Carone, Ronald Ceballos, Nicholas Cirigliano, Jamie Davneiro, Jianna Davneiro, Jade Devarez, Kayla Fanelli, Nicholas Forgione, Bianca Frascino, Gabriella Galvis, Arianna Gaiamo, Luke Hammond, Viktoria Jedrzejowski, Aamir Khan, Isabella Lombardo, Noah Mangual, Kayla Marcellin, Isabella Montemagno, Michael Palmisano, Madison Pizzurro, Joseph Ribarich, Paul Romano, Alexander Rouzeau, Nicholas Servidio, Kristen Siegenthal, Isabella Tamayo, Georgia Tentomas, Kaitlyn Tranquada, Santiago Villanueva

#### Senior Members



Waheed Asgar, Alex Azcarruz, Camilo Balbin, John Bonavita Jr., Adrianna Caporale, Brianna Chang, Damyan Dekajlo, Nicole DePasquale, Sean Devlin, Jenny Drakoulis, Lauren Emmett-Turner, Julia Farley, Kaitlyn Farran, Andrew Fazio, Elizabeth Fazio, Anthony Forte, Nicolas Furnari, Thomas Gafaro, Jake Gergyes, Christian Gomes, Edward Harnett, Jessica Herceg, Maria Katechis, Kelly Lin, Andrei Loser, Jayden Louis, Alexandra Lynch, Carmelina Maniaci, Alexandria Marchesini, Celeste Marrero, Adryan Morocho, Adam Muczynski, Julia Muczynski, Raquel Natale, Anna Papadopoulos, La'Mon Perry, Devonte Peterkin, Ripley Petrovic, Eduardo Pita, Irina Pjerov, Elenie Rama, Justin Ram-saroop, Ryan Ravines, Joseph Reid, Wesley Reyes-Mayancela, Madison Rodriguez, Samantha Sambucharan, Isabella Sartori, Francis Scullin, Chad Seepersaud, David Tran, Alexa Vasiliou, Amanda Waldron, Bertha Wesley, Alexis Wirta



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## The Lance

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Mr. Michael Ware '89

This publication seeks to follow the Holy Cross philosophy, objectives, and mission statement. We reserve the right to edit all articles for grammar, taste, clarity, content, and availability of space. Letters are accepted. Please direct them to the editors or the moderator.



## The President's Corner

### Mr. Mark Mongelluzzo '92

by: La'Mon Perry '23



It has been a few months since Holy Cross High School celebrated the official installation of President Mark Mongelluzzo. As you may know, he is working to the best of his ability to ensure the needs of the student body are met, and to make sure he builds a connection with each of the students in this community. As 2022 comes to a close, I curated a list of Mr. Mongelluzzo's favorite books, movies, tv shows, and music that he enjoyed this year. I also wrote below a brief explanation of what each of his picks were about

Mr. Mongelluzzo's Favorite Music artist he has listened to in 2022:



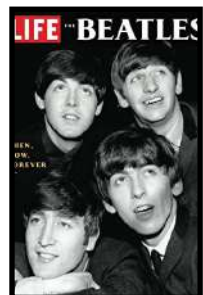
### Pink

Pink is a popular American singer, songwriter, and actress. Her powerful vocals, dynamic stage presence, and meaningful lyrics are well-known. Pink's pop, rock, and R&B albums have sold well. Pink has been active in several philanthropic initiatives throughout her career, in addition to her music career.



### Louis Prima

Louis Prima was an American singer, songwriter, and bandleader who was active in the 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s. He was known for his energetic stage presence and his ability to play a wide range of instruments, including the trumpet, saxophone, and piano. Prima was a pioneer of the swing and jump blues genres. Prima's music continues to be popular and has been featured in various films, television shows, and commercials.

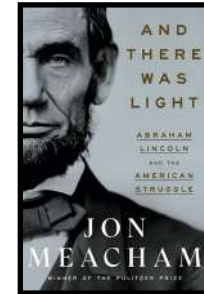


### The Beatles

The Beatles were a British rock group that got together in 1960 in Liverpool. The group was made up of John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison, and Ringo Starr. They are thought to be one of the most influential and successful bands in the history of popular music. The Beatles were always trying new things when they wrote songs, and their music changed a lot over the course of their career, from the upbeat, catchy pop of their early hits to the more experimental, sophisticated sound of their later work. The Beatles broke up in 1970, but their music is still well-known and has influenced artists all over the world.

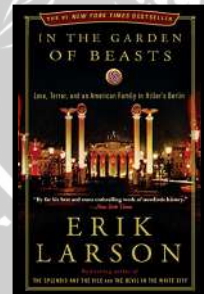
Mr. Mongelluzzo's Favorite Books he has read in 2022:

### And There Was Light: Abraham Lincoln and the American Struggle by Jon Meacham (2022)



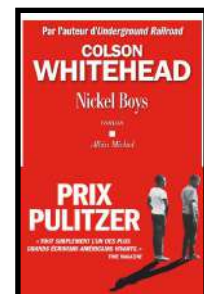
Jon Meacham's "And There Was Light: Abraham Lincoln and the American Struggle" examines Lincoln's life and presidency. It mainly focuses on Lincoln's efforts to preserve the Union and eradicate slavery during the American Civil War. Meacham's book underscores Lincoln's perseverance, determination, and moral compass as he overcame political and societal hurdles. The book also explores Lincoln's family, friends, and the events that formed his ideas on slavery and government. "And There Was Light" portrays Lincoln as a leader and person in a nuanced and thought-provoking way and illuminates his contributions to American history.

### In the Garden of Beasts by Erik Larson (2011)



"In the Garden of Beasts" by Erik Larson follows William E. Dodd, the 1930s US ambassador to Germany, and his daughter Martha as the Nazi Party ascended to power in Berlin. The book recounts the Dodds' early years in Berlin under Hitler and how they experienced Nazi horrors and propaganda. The book also analyzes German politics and the international response to Hitler and the Nazi Party. "In the Garden of Beasts" is a captivating and thought-provoking look at a pivotal time in history.

### The Nickel Boys by Colson Whitehead (2019)



"The Nickel Boys" is a novel by Colson Whitehead that tells the story of Elwood Curtis, a young black man sent to a juvenile detention center in the 1960s. The detention center, known as the Nickel Academy, is abusive and corrupt. Elwood witnessed firsthand the horrors and injustices that occur there. The book explores themes of racism, violence, and the abuse of power that follows Elwood as he fights to survive and escape the Nickel Academy. "The Nickel Boys" is a powerful and poignant work of fiction that sheds light on a dark chapter in American history.

Mr. Mongelluzzo's Favorite Movies he has watched in 2022:

### Top Gun: Maverick



"Top Gun: Maverick" is a film about a veteran pilot training a new generation of naval aviators at the Top Gun school. The film explores themes of loyalty, friendship, and self-discovery as the main character navigates the challenges of being an older pilot in a younger generation and confronts the ghosts of his past. It is an action-packed and emotionally charged film.

### Amsterdam (Hulu)



Based on the 1933 US political conspiracy known as the Business Plot, the plot follows three friends, a doctor, a nurse, and a lawyer who are involved in the strange death of a retired US general.

### Spirited (Apple TV)



A musical adaptation of Charles Dickens' classic tale about a miserable misanthrope who is whisked away on an enchanted adventure.

Mr. Mongelluzzo's Favorite TV Shows he has watched in 2022:

### The Gilded Age (HBO)



The Darcys, a wealthy and powerful family, navigate the Gilded Age in the late 19th-century New York City. The late 1800s-set series addresses power, ambition, and social class through an ensemble cast of individuals. The Gilded Age is a sumptuous and immersive period drama that offers a unique look at an iconic era in American History. The Crown (Season 5 on Netflix) "The Crown" is a Netflix produced television drama series created by Peter Morgan. The series follows the reign of Queen Elizabeth II, beginning with her coronation in the 1950s and continuing through the present day. Each season of the series covers a different period of the Queen's life and reign, and explores the personal and political challenges she faced during that time.

It was great learning about the things that Mr. Mongelluzzo enjoys! Each book, movie/tv show, and music choice has their own unique story and importance behind it. These were definitely good picks, and after doing my own research about each of his choices, I will definitely be adding each of these on my to-do list for this upcoming year.

## Student Council Elections

by: Bertha Wesley '23

Wake up Knights, our Holy Cross Student Council Election season has finally arrived! Our candidates have spent weeks strategizing their goals and ambitions for which they believe will properly represent their grade level. Elections will be held Dec 15, 2022 and we encourage every student to cast their vote. This is an amazing opportunity, for us the students, to make our voices heard and organize activities that serve the Holy Cross body. I would like to formally congratulate each and every candidate for taking the step to better our community. Your willingness and dedication will not go unnoticed. CONGRADULATIONS to our newly elected officers.

### Student Council 2022-2023 - Student Council Officers

#### Grade 12:

Briana Tola - Student Council President

Jessica Herceg - Student Council Vice President

Celeste Marrero - Senior Class President

Eleni Rama - Senior Class Vice President

Ismeni Rallis - Senior Class Secretary

Stephen Ovanessian - Senior Class Fundraising Chairperson

#### Grade 11:

Jianna Davneiro - Junior Class President

Jaime Davneiro - Junior Class Vice President

Kayla Marcelin - Junior Class Secretary

Elizabeth Lazo - Junior Class Press Secretary

Giselle Mendez - Fundraising Chairperson

Brandon Wilkins - HR liaison for Senior/Jr. Representatives

Ethen Barcia - HR liaison for Freshmen/Sophomore Representatives

#### Grade 10:

Jason Paz - Sophomore Class President

Sofia Tsatsaronis - Sophomore Class Vice President

Peter Muro - Sophomore Class Secretary

#### Grade 9:

Haley Warman - Freshmen Class President

Diego Diez - Freshmen Class Vice President

Yvonne Pirovolikos - Freshman Class Secretary

#### Active Members of Student Council:

Ashley Altoro	Anthony Forte	Anna Oh
Veronica Avallone	Emily Garro Ordonez	La'Mon Perry
Emma Chiffriller	Michael Geiger	Kloe Pirovolikos
Krystal Campbell	Arianna Giaino	Irina Pjerov
Jade Devarez	Leah Gonzalez	Valentina Roveto
Lauren Emmett-Turner	Madison Jones	Salvatore Ruffo
Syarah Espada	Angelo Lombardi	Kaitlyn Tranquada
Nicholas Forgione	Hannah Maher	Alessia Vitale



## Mr. Kani, Mr. Ware, Mr. Cullinan and Ms. Whalen are on a mission to mold the next generation of Holy Cross Knights!

by: Briana Tola '23

At the beginning of this school year Holy Cross welcomed four new deans! Some of us Knights have been very lucky to have them as our teachers or maybe even as our basketball or football coach. Each dean wants to make sure that we all follow the rules and also be true Knights. I had the opportunity to interview our four new deans to learn more about them.

### Mr. Kani



**Q: What grade are you the dean of?**  
Senior Class

**Q: What are some hopes you have as dean?**

I hope to see the students of Holy Cross be even more considerate of others, more so then they already

are. Every action you take affects someone, either positively or negatively. My hope is that all HC students will make choices that positively affect those around them.

**Q: What have you learned about the Holy Cross students as dean?**

I have learned students are so much more than just the people you see in the classrooms and hallways. Everyone has a story, and it affects who they are. We all need to be aware of that, everyone comes with a backstory, and that can influence who they are, and how they act.

**Q: What is one fun fact about you?** I am a trained musician, not just a science teacher. I played standup string bass for over 15 years, and am a singer. I have 25 years in theater, and that is why I decided

to head up the reboot of HC's theater program.

### Mr. Ware



**Q: What grade are you the dean of?**

I am the dean for the sophomore class.

**Q: What are some hopes you have as dean?**

I hope to mold the young men and women of Holy

Cross, so that they are ready for the world that lies ahead of them.

**Q: What have you learned about the Holy Cross students as dean?**

I have learned that the Holy Cross students are looking for direction, guidance and inspiration from us as educators.

**Q: What is one fun fact about you?** I love to bake all different types of deserts.

Some of my most popular requested desserts are Carrot cake, Venetian (Rainbow/Tri-Color) cookies, Blueberry scones, Coffee cake, and Oatmeal cookies just to name a few.

### Mr. Cullinan



**Q: What grade are you the dean of?**  
Freshmen

**Q: What are some hopes you have as dean?**

That students will have a positive experience this year at HC and that they will always try to do the

right thing.

**Q: What have you learned about the Holy Cross students as dean?**

That most of the students in the building are good kids who follow the rules and do their best.

**Q: What is one fun fact about you?**

I am starting my 5th year as the Head Coach of the Boys Varsity Basketball Team and I hope to see a great amount of student support at our home games this year.

### Ms. Whalen



**Q: What grade are you the dean of?**  
The Juniors

**Q: What are some hopes you have as dean?**

I am looking forward to meeting students in a different way than a teacher. My hope is that they have

a great year and enjoy their junior year.

**Q: What have you learned about the Holy Cross students as dean?**

Holy Cross students are good students who generally follow the rules. They are friendly and kind to each other.

**Q: What is one fun fact about you?**

I love golf!! I have been playing for about 10 years and enjoy it tremendously.



## FOOD CRITICS REVIEW CLUB



**FOOD CRITIC**  
**Sushi Village**

32-50 Francis Lewis Blvd

Flushing, NY 11358

Phone #: 718-358-2888

by: Michael Daidone '26

The food I chose to try from Sushi Village was the Spicy Roll Trilogy for \$16.95 and the California Roll for \$5.50. The service for delivery was fairly quick, taking from 30-40 minutes. The food was very good and well displayed in the packaging. The Spicy Roll Trilogy was a more spicy kind of sushi. It had tuna, spicy salmon and spicy yellowtail. It wasn't an incredibly spicy kind of food, but it depends on your spice tolerance. It was an overall 8/10 for the Spicy Roll Trilogy. The California Roll was a sushi with cucumber, avocado, rice, and crab meat. This sushi was not spicy at all and is a more typical sushi that many people go for. The overall taste of it was more avocado and cucumber. Overall the California Roll was a 10/10 and highly recommended if you're trying sushi for the first time.



Spicy Roll Trilogy



California Roll

by: Nicholas Forgione '24

Sushi Village, located in Flushing, New York, I would rate 4.5 out of 5. The staff was very friendly and there was a positive atmosphere in the restaurant as the service was very good. Nothing really stood out about the decor which kinda disappointed me but the restaurant was very clean and many kids after a long school day were in there enjoying some sushi. The sushi was very good and presented fairly nice but I felt the materials they used to make it weren't too fresh. Despite this, the food was amazing and affordable. I had a very good time here and I would recommend you all try it out.



### Sushi Bell

36-28 Bell Blvd,  
Bayside, NY 11361

Phone #: 718-229-4653

by: Jamie Davneiro '24

I ordered from Sushi Bell "To Go" located on 36-28 Bell Blvd, Queens, NY. The restaurant had an A rating, for it was very clean and calm inside. The restaurant was not busy, so I could quickly grab my food and leave. (They also give out free chopsticks and Soy Sauce!!!) Starting with the Tuna Roll, rolled with rice, the price was reasonable (\$6.00). The rolls were presented in a cute and carryable container, neatly rolled, and it was a good size portion, including the hint of ginger and wasabi on the side. The Tuna was fresh and tender, and the rice was warm, sticky, and soft, so it could be easily put together. The Miso Soup was in a cup-like, paper container so the condensation was making the container wet and soup escaped. I did not particularly care for the holder but the soup itself was at the right temperature which made it an excellent, soothing side to finish the meal. The scallions were perfectly cut thin and tiny and the tofu was acceptingly soft and easy to eat. The Miso Soup was a good portion and its cost is acceptable (\$2.75). I would most definitely want to eat from here again!



Tuna Roll wrapped with rice and Miso Soup

## Breakfast with Santa

by: Briana Tola '23



Old Saint Nick stopped by to ask kids what they wanted for Christmas at Holy Cross. Breakfast With Santa was stacked with tons of games and activities for kids. Our Senior Cheerleaders performed and showed the children some of the HC cheers. Our Campus Ministers organized many fun activities with the children. Delicious Breakfast was made by Corato Food Service. Mr. Rampulla, director of Campus Ministry, read Twas the Night before Christmas with Santa. Thank you to Mr. Rampulla for planning this wonderful event!



2022-23 Holy Cross Campus Ministry Team



2022-23 Holy Cross Cheerleaders



## Knights Doing What They Do Best!

by: Briana Tola '23

A tradition for many years here at Holy Cross is our annual Food Drive. We have a responsibility to assist those in need, following the lead of Blessed Basil Moreau, who founded the Congregation of Holy Cross. Holy Cross seeks to give this support to the less fortunate as a school community. This mission is essential in the current world. Despite the fact that one is less evident than the other, food donations actually support two initiatives aimed

at improving localities. Along with the immediate advantages for the people in our communities, the world gains significantly. This is why it is so important to help those who need it most. Each homeroom was assigned a different item

to bring in. On November 22nd, student volunteers delivered goods to St. Kevins Food Pantry in Flushing. All of the food us Knights donated will go to the less fortunate. Thank You to Mr. Adams, director of Service Learning for planning this wonderful and successful food drive!

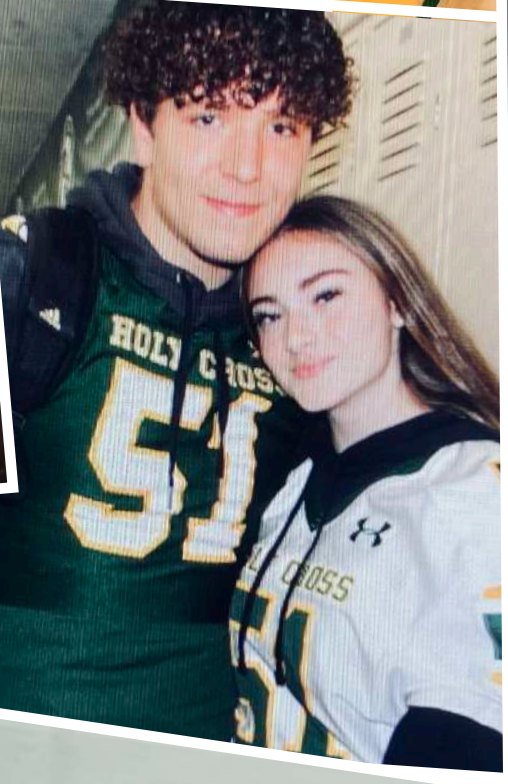


Damyan Dekajlo, Alexis Wirta, Thomas Gafaro, Ed Harnett, Imini Rallis, Mr. Adams, Nicole DePasquale, Jenny Drakoulis, Kaitlyn Farran, Alexandra Lynch, Kaitlyn Tranquada, Kayla Fanelli, Gabriella Galvis, Isabella Lombardo



Jenny Drakoulis, Kaitlyn Farran, Alexandra Lynch, Kayla Fanelli, Isabella Lombardo

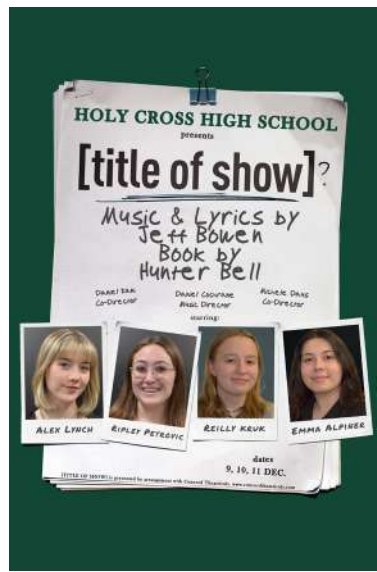
# Snaps





# Holy Cross Drama Club "Title of Show" Musical

by: Carlangelo Alessandro '23



December 9th, 2022. At 8:10pm, the first musical in over 12 years on Holy Cross's campus kicked off. After the incredible rendition of a Noises Off this past April, Mr. Kani felt confident that our student body would be able to pull off a musical. After picking [Title of Show] for our fall performance, 4 people would be casted after weeks of pre-auditions and actual auditions. Following some tough decisions, the cast boiled down to seniors Emma Alpiner, Alexandra Lynch, Ripley Petrovic, and Riley Kruk. Alex and Reilly both have many performances under their belt and Ripley and Emma having roles in the past, both Mr. Kani and the newly added Mrs. Daus felt very confident in the cast. Mr Kani has been in theater for over 25 years so it's safe to say that he knows a show when he sees it. One of Alex and Ripley's performances was in Noises off so they were already familiar with Mr. Kani's style of theater and were able to show great leadership skills to help Emma and Reilly fit right in. Alex, in her second lead role, and Emma in her first, there was work that needed to be done. There was shorter prep time compared to the play, both cast and crew

needed to be fully committed in order to succeed. With senior Ashley Altoro being stage manager for the second time, and sophomore Vivian Monteverdi being Assistant Stage Manager, stage crew including seniors such as myself, Andrew Fazio, Nicole Depasquale, Jenny Drakoulis, Julia Muczynski, and sophomore Jonathan Wakie, everyone was able to get this show on the right track from the beginning. From the middle of October to opening night, everyone was giving it their all. "Without blood, sweat, and tears, theater isn't being done right" said Emma. Thanks to all this effort put in by past and present cast members, the Holy Cross theater program is thriving once again. After the final performance on a late Sunday afternoon, both cast and crew were able to look back on their experiences. Ripley said "It was an awesome experience and I am so grateful for the friendships I made along with it!" and Ashley Altoro said, "I love being a part of the drama department and being a part of yet another amazing production; I look forward to the play in the spring." Piggybacking off of that, most of the cast and crew are seniors and Mr. Kani is urging the younger student body to get involved in the Drama Club. "There is no experience out there that is quite like getting on the stage and getting to be someone you're not, it's a very freeing experience," said Mr. Kani. Mr. Cochrane, who played the character of Larry, who is behind the keyboard on stage throughout Title of Show said "It was an honor to be a part of the first musical at Holy Cross in quite some time. Both music directing and playing the part of Larry really brought me closer to the cast and I'm so proud of them for all their hard work." Without Mr. Co-



Reilly Kruk & Alexandra Lynch

chrane, the musical wouldn't have even been possible so we thank him, along with Mr. Kani, Mrs. Daus, and everyone else involved for their great work and dedication. The next performance from the Drama Club will be in the spring and it will be a play called "The Night of January 16th". Auditions will start the week after midterms and there will be 16 roles in total. The roles within range from big to small so it's a great starting place for anyone who is interested in pursuing their passion. Be sure to give support to the Drama Club in the spring!



Ripley Petrovic & Emma Alpiner



"Title of Show" Musical Cast:  
Jonathan Wakie Carlangelo Alessandro Emma Alpiner, Ashley Altoro, Reilly Kruk, Mr. Kani, Alexandra Lynch, Ripley Petrovic, Mr. Cochrane, Nicole Depasquale, Mrs. Daus, Andrew Fazio, Jenny Drakoulis, Vivian Monteverdi  
Julia Muczynski



The final bow of the cast of the "Title of Show" musical -  
Emma Alpiner, Reilly Kruk, Ripley Petrovic, & Alexandra Lynch



# Christmas Classics

by: Kayla Marcelin '24



The Christmas Classic is the senior students and teachers volleyball game. This game was played on December 21, 2022. The students that will be participating will be the seniors that donate the most toys in the toy drive. The students who played were Alexis Wirta (coach), Alexander Lynch, Breanna Estrada, Christopher Galindo, Edward Harnett (Coach), Irina Pjetrov, Ismini Rallis, Jayden Louis, John Bonavita, Julia Muczynski, Matthew Pagan, Samantha Samburchan, Sebastain Ruano, Soleil Gomez, Stephen Ovanessian, Theodore Droggitis. The Teachers who played were Mr. Aufieri (referee), Mr. Bailey, Mr. Chevalier, Mrs. Daus, Mr. Fischer, Mrs. Gil, Ms. Guiseppone, Mr. Howell, Mr. Marchesini, Mrs. Marone, Mr. Mercardo, Mr. Mongelluzzo, Mr. Ware, Ms. Whelan. The volleyball game had two rounds: The first round the teachers had 25 points, the Seniors had 3. The second round the Teachers had 27 points, the Seniors had 5. The game was interesting to watch and a little funny. The teachers won the game.



Christmas Classic: Faculty Players (green) - Senior Players (red)

# Holy Cross' Annual Brother Ralph Edmiston, C.S.C. Walkathon

by: Alexandra Lynch '23

Yet again, Holy Cross' annual Walkathon was a success. The official Brother Ralph Edmiston, C.S.C. Walkathon is a treasured tradition throughout the building, where students and faculty alike get excited to walk throughout Flushing in support of the school. The Walkathon not only gains tremendous donations for the school, but never fails to boost school spirit and get the Holy Cross community excited for the year ahead. Just like past years, our school wide spirit week preceded the Walkathon. Students were able to dress down according to different themes each day of the week: Monday was Squad/Twin Day, Tuesday was Jersey Day, Wednesday was Decades Day, and Thursday was Character Day. Every day, many students and faculty came to school dressed their best showing incredible school spirit and participation. While spirit week is always fun for students as a dress down week, it also allows for the community to display their appreciation for Holy Cross. The widespread participation during spirit week unites the student body and faculty as they prepare for the upcoming year. On Friday, students were also able to dress down for the Walkathon, as each student was given a matching shirt to walk in. This year, the Walkathon goal for each student was \$100 which goes towards various improvements throughout the building. The Walkathon represents a core component of Holy Cross, as

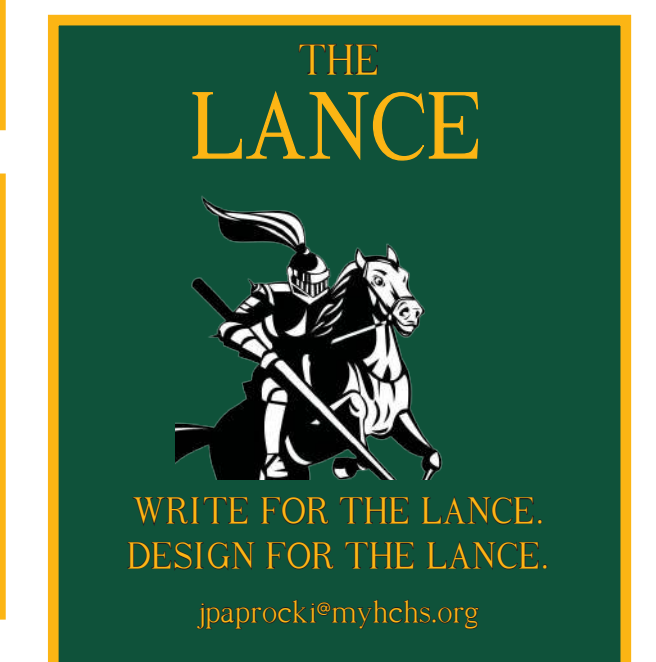
it involves service and brings the community together. The entire school community walked along 29th avenue, as the band played while we exited and re-entered the school. We also had our beloved mascot, Lance, walking with us in the Walkathon. During the same week, on Saturday our football team had the infamous "Battle of The Boulevard". Many students and faculty came to support the Knights against St. Francis Prep, which was a great end to a week of school spirit and participation.



Students posing with Lance at the Walkathon



Holy Cross Band playing for the Walkathon





**HOLY CROSS**  
**Bowling**

by: Alexandra Lynch '23

Yet again, the Holy Cross Bowling Team had an excellent season. Since September, both JV and Varsity have bowled every Tuesday at Whitestone Lanes, with the coaching of Mr. Arens. After much hard work, the Varsity team won the Brooklyn/Queens Division game. The two varsity season high games were Chris Yoon, with a score of 234, and Michael Palmisano, with a score of 221. For JV, the high games were Luke Hammond, with a score of 179, and Nico Medina, with a score of 166. On December 20th, both teams are set to advance to the Brooklyn/Queens Championship game. Hopefully they can continue their incredible streak of exceptional games, and bring it home for Holy Cross. After this game, both JV and Varsity will move on to compete in the city championship for the Catho-

**2023 JV BOWLING CITY RUNNERUPS**



Mr. Arens, Addison Villanueva, Luke Hammond, Jonathan Anozier, Nico Medina, John Sweeney

**2023 VARSITY BOWLING CITY CHAMPS!**



Sal Abicca, Michael Palmisano, Mr. Arens, Quinton Davoren, Anthony Vitolo, Christopher Yoon



Raquel Natale '23

How long have you been on the track team?

I joined the track team this year.

What made you join the track team? I felt like track would be a fun thing to do during the winter season, I also needed to do something to stay in shape and I believe that track would do that for me.

Do you have advice for anyone who wants to be on the track team? If you're looking for something that would make you push yourself and work hard, I recommend being on the track team.

**HOLY CROSS**  
**Indoor Track**

by: Briana Tola '23

What is a quote that inspires you? "Don't limit your challenges. Challenge your limits."

Madison Pizzurro '24

How long have you been on the track team?

I only just started on the team this year, but I've done track in the past as well as cross country.

What made you join the track team? I had the extra time on my hands and wanted to keep in shape; track seemed like the best way of doing that. I'm able to have fun while still pushing myself past my limits.

Do you have advice for anyone who wants to be on the track team? No matter how fast you are or how well you can run, if you're willing to put in the work and have the desire to better yourself, track is the way to go.

What is a quote that inspires you? "Start Strong, Finish Stronger"



Madison Pizzurro '24 & Raquel Natale '23

**HOLY CROSS**  
**Ice Hockey**

by: Giana Caiola '26

With the rising of the Holy Cross Hockey Team, people may wonder how far the team truly has come. From when the team was first put together to now the program has progressed significantly, and although we can't go that far back in time, we can go back to 2018. When alum Ryan Caiola was asked about his old team he stated "It was just so fun, hockey has always been the best thing for me, it helped me in so many ways and really just kept me going. The team was just super cool in itself, everyone was having fun and we were all doing the most we could do. Obviously we were teenagers so all we wanted to do was win but when we were given the chance to fool around and be kids we took it. I just always felt the best when I was on the ice, it was adrenaline rushing, it kept me aware of everything, always having to think what am I gonna do next what move should I take how should I shoot, there's this stigma around hockey about the violence which yeah can be true but no one ever talks about how much thinking goes into it. Every move has to be precise and you always have to watch out. People can be in front, in back, on either side, so everything has to be correctly timed and thought out." With all the hard work and dedication they are putting into it, go out and support the Holy Cross Hockey Team. They might lose some teeth but at least they'll get a win! Go Knights!



by: Carlangelo Alessandro '23



**HOLY CROSS**  
**GIRL'S SOCCER**



2022 Holy Cross Girl's Varsity Soccer Team

Before we start talking about the people responsible for this historic moment in Holy Cross's history, we must first look back on why this moment is so powerful for this young team. Since its founding in 1955, Holy Cross has been boys only for the better part of a century. However, during the 2018-2019 school year, girls were finally let into our family and Holy Cross became co-ed. This was a monumental moment in our school's decorated history but it doesn't end there. There was a lot of skepticism around the idea of girls being able to play sports at our school simply due to the unknown number of girls that actually wanted to play. To combat this problem, the 18-19 school year would be dedicated to finding out what sports the girls wanted to play and figuring out how this would come about. Fast forward to the 19-20 school year, and our women's soccer team was formed. Many girls tried out and it quickly became one of the most popular sports in the school for the girls! Sadly, with a new program like this, it took a little bit to get off the ground. The entire 2020-21 season was spent as a club, only really practicing without playing any games. Following this year, the girls finally played their first official game under the Holy Cross name during the 2021-2022 school year! However, there are a lot of growing pains when it comes to development. During their first season, they had a goose egg in the win column. Struggling to find success, and with the first co-ed class already graduating, there was an overwhelming feeling that this season felt different from the first practice of the year.



Stephanie Zimmerman '23

With the team appointing Stephanie Zimmerman as the seasoned captain, this team started to show the grit and determination needed to have a successful season. On September 12th, 2022, both the first day of the school year and the first game of the season, it would kick off at 5pm at our home field. Our Holy Cross girls played Cathedral and came out swinging from the first whistle. With the great chemistry this team built in their time together, they were able to pass the ball with ease, which set up many opportunities to score. Thanks to goals from freshmen Olivia Kemmet (2 goals), Alexis Murray (1 goal), senior Jenny Drakoulis (1 goal), and junior Anna Palmieri (1 goal), we were able to score 5 goals! The defense played just as well on the other side of the field. Vivian Monteverdi, Kaitlyn Farran, and goalkeeper Arietta Kontogianis were able to keep Cathedral to zero goals! The final score of the game was 5-0 & both Coach Sommer and Coach Guiseppone couldn't be happier. Coach Sommer took time out of his busy schedule to talk to me about the girls' win. "Coach Guiseppone and I are very proud of the girls. The team has shown great discipline and commitment to training every day to improve their skills. We look forward to finishing the season strong and continuing to build our girls' soccer program!" This historic team did finish the season strong as they made the playoffs with a 5-6-1 record! Although

they did not capture the championship this season, the future is shining brighter than ever before. Even though the senior class is leaving at the end of the school year, stars such as junior Anna Palmieri and freshman Alexis Murray are ready to lead the team for the foreseeable future.



Olivia Kemmet '26



Ariel Corales '25



Querube Najm-Al-Din '25



GO  
**KNIGHTS!!!**





# HOLY CROSS

B A S K E T B A L L



## Girls' Basketball

by: Giana Caiola '26

With this year's basketball season coming to a rise, we are off to a great start. When freshman Sophia Gonzalez was asked about how she felt about this season, she stated "Excited, it's my first high school team, this means new people, new strategies to play, and better chances at winning and going to championship games. We all just started playing together but we all get along, there is good chemistry and we all play well together." In addition, she added "When you're playing basketball it's adrenaline pumping, you're so excited to play but it's a lot of pressure. It's fun but if you mess up or make the wrong moves you feel like it's all on you. Basketball has always been my right thing to do, I've been playing since third grade and I have developed so many close relationships from it. It keeps bonds tight and it always helps me experience new things. Basketball really helps me as a person and it genuinely just helps me stay focused. It's one of the best hobbies to have and it's just so fun when you're finally playing. In a short period of time we've learned so much about each other and about the game itself, it's really just a good environment." Be sure to come and support the Girls Basketball Team.

**GO KNIGHTS!**

**Who's your coach?** Coach John  
**Who are your captains?** Rowan  
**How do you feel about being on the team?** Excited, first highschool team, new people, new strategies to play!  
**What are you looking forward to this year during the season?** Winning, championship and making new friends.  
**How do you feel when you're playing basketball?** Excited, nervous, and challenged. When you're playing you're excited to play but if you mess up it's on you! Depending on the team you're playing you're more challenged, if you lose you feel like it's on you.  
**Do you work well with everyone on your team?** Yeah, we just started playing together but as of right now we all get along, there is good chemistry!  
**What makes you want to be devoted to basketball?** I've been playing since third grade. I've developed a lot of close relationships so it keeps bonds tight and I experience new things. It's just one of the best hobbies to have.



Sophia Gonzalez '26

### Varsity Basketball



## Boy's Basketball

by: Samantha Sambucharan '23

This 22-23 season for Basketball has been an exciting and highly anticipated one for both Varsity A and B. Our last game, versus Christ The King, was a hyped up, action packed game ending with the score of 59-87. Mark your calendars- Varsity A's Senior Night is 2/14. We wish the boys the best of luck, as always! Varsity B's Senior Night is 2/1, be sure to come out and support them! As for our Freshman team, the boys beat Christ The King 48-45. Make sure to come out and see our talented teams play this season!



### Freshmen Basketball

