



LANCE

HOLY CROSS HIGH SCHOOL

OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1955

MARCH 2023

www.holycrosshs.org

WINTER SEMESTER

P.S. I Love You Day 2023

by: Briana Tola '23

P.S. I Love You Day is to bring awareness to the importance of mental health and decrease bullying. They strongly believe that by educating students earlier about mental health, the conversation will be easier to discuss and students will be able to recognize when they or others around them need help. On the second Friday of every February, they encourage communities to wear purple in order to foster kindness and a welcoming environment, and educate others that mental health is just as important as physical health. There was a kindness challenge each day to help spread kindness. On February 10th, the Holy Cross community showed their support with another 453 schools by wearing purple. We welcomed former principal Mr. Giannuzzi to tell his son Matthew's story. This assembly was powerful and taught others about spreading kindness. Mr. G went to all lunch periods and sat with students and had lunch with them. The GEM Club sold chocolate bars at all lunch periods to help fundraise for the Matthew Giannuzzi scholarship fund. Like Mr. G said, we all matter and be kind to each other. Thank You to the GEM Club for planning this amazing event.



Matthew Brian Giannuzzi
July 14, 1984 - March 28, 2001



Mr. Lyons, Mr. Manta, Mr. McCarthy, Ms. Diez, Ms Trabazo, Mrs. Tsimisiris, Mrs. Velocci, Mrs. Niti, Mrs. DiGiacomo, Mr. Fischer, Mrs. Kelleher, Mrs. Tate, Mr. Rampulla, Mrs. Schillenger, Mrs. Gil, Mr. Bailey, Mr. Cochrane and Principal Mr. Ed Burns '84.



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The Lance

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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



MM92

Dear Members of the Holy Cross Community,

With great pleasure and excitement, I share with you the appointment of Mr. Edward Burns '84 as Holy Cross High School's Vice President for Mission, commencing July 1, 2023.



Mr. Ed Burns '84

Ed's dedication to Holy Cross has been invaluable for thirty-one years, and he has left an indelible impact on our school community that is hard-pressed to rival. After earning both Bachelors and Masters degrees in Secondary Education from Queens College and teaching at St. Francis Prep for a couple of years, Ed returned home here to Holy Cross in 1992 as a fine arts teacher, before eventually becoming the Fine Arts Chairperson. The true embodiment of zeal, he was the senior-class moderator for many years and was responsible for organizing innumerable senior class trips, baccalaureate masses, annual farewell breakfasts for our graduating seniors, and memorable senior proms—all culminating in June commencement ceremonies. As moderator of *The Cross* (our school yearbook), Ed has helped capture and preserve many wonderful memories and experiences of countless Holy Cross students, and for a time motivated students both behind the cameras or in the spotlight as the director of our Television Production program – HCtv.

During his ten years as principal (the longest tenure after Joe Giannuzzi '65), Ed earned a Masters of Science from Fordham in School Building Leadership, helped steer Holy Cross with the implementation of a 1:1 Chromebook program, and successfully led our school's historic mission expansion as we welcomed young women for the first time as freshmen in the Fall of 2018. Over the course of the next four years, Ed's dedication and attention to detail—with the help of his colleagues on the academic side—helped ensure a successful transformation to a fully-coeducational institution. During that time, as the world faced a global pandemic in the spring of 2020, under Ed's leadership, our faculty and students were able to navigate an unimaginable situation while continuing to provide the quality of education expected from Holy Cross. Ever the masterful planner, that June, under Ed's stewardship, the Holy Cross community rose to the challenge of delivering a private graduation

ceremony for each member of the Class of 2020. From Queens to Brooklyn to Nassau County, Ed's devotion to our students provided a moment of illumination during a dark time for many in our community. That Fall, as schools were tasked with reopening while adhering to the at-times confusing and contradictory government-issued guidelines, Ed and his team guaranteed that our institution would meet the required standards so we could welcome back our faculty, staff and students eagerly—and safely.

As Vice President for Mission, Ed is charged with supporting mission integration of our unique Holy Cross charism for our students, our faculty and members of the Board of Directors, while overseeing the Office of Mission and Campus Ministry and our day to day faith life including daily prayer, Feast Day celebrations, prayer services and liturgies. With over three decades of experience living our mission, Ed is well-suited in accomplishing these goals while fostering and nurturing the relationships necessary throughout the Diocese of Brooklyn and the Moreau Province of the Congregation of Holy Cross to further our Catholic and Holy Cross identity. His unique gifts and knowledge of the Holy Cross charism will also play an integral role in the creation and implementation of a four-year retreat program in cooperation with the Theology Department, that will help our students to deepen their relationship with God and strengthen their faith.

In my first year as president of Holy Cross, Ed has proven to be a wonderful partner: wise, gracious, full of institutional knowledge, and driven to make our mission real. I know that he will continue to be a valued colleague as he takes on the important responsibilities of Vice President for Mission with the necessary zeal our founder Blessed Basil Moreau, CSC, would insist upon. I trust that Ed will bring to this new role all of the skills and talents that our beloved Holy Cross has benefited from over the three plus decades he has served our mission in various ways.

Please join me in thanking Ed for his decade of service as our tenth principal. We will be sure to celebrate his many accomplishments later in the school year. For now, please join me with joyful anticipation of Ed's next leadership role here at Cross!

Ave Crux, Spes Unica

Mark A. Mongelluzzo '92

Mark A. Mongelluzzo '92
President



Mr. Bailey and The Culinary Club Cheffin It Up For Those In Need

by: Briana Tola '23



**RONALD MCDONALD
HOUSE CHARITIES**

Ronald McDonald House provides temporary housing for pediatric cancer patients and their families in a strong, supportive, and caring environment which encourages and nurtures the development of child-to-child and parent-to-parent support systems. On February 1st Mr. Bailey and his Culinary Club made a trip to the Ronald McDonald House in New Hyde Park. They were all given a tour of the house and were able to see how the design of the house was made to make sure families are comfortable while their child is seeking treatment. After their tour they got in the kitchen and started cooking. They made breakfast for these families Pancakes, Eggs, Bacon, Fresh Fruit Bowls and breakfast sandwiches. Many families were able to enjoy this breakfast made by our Knights. Thank You to Mr. Bailey and Mr. Adams for planning this wonderful service trip.



Paul Romano, Sebastian Ruano, Briana Tola, Juliana Cerasuolo, Isabelle Caffrey, Saber Soliman, Gabby Giaimo, Arianna Giaimo, Alexa Vasiliou, Hannah Maher, Mr. Bailey and Mr. Adams.



Mr. Bailey, Mr. Adams, Briana Tola, Gabby Giaimo & Arianna Giaimo



Sebastian Ruano

Valentines for Veterans

by: Briana Tola '23




During the month of February our Campus Ministry Team hosted a Valentines For Veterans card making table. This was available for students and staff to do outside the cafeteria during all lunch periods. This was an opportunity for the Holy Cross Community to Thank Valentines for the freedoms we enjoy as Americans The valentines for veterans only lasted one day because of the outpouring support from our students. All of the Valentines were given to Veterans at St. Albans Veterans Hospital.



Mr. Rampulla, Campus Ministry President's Luke Hammond, Briana Tola, & Giselle Mendez.



THE LANCE



WRITE FOR THE LANCE.
DESIGN FOR THE LANCE.

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FOOD CRITICS REVIEW CLUB



Avo Taco

212-97 26th Ave
Bayside, New York 11360
Bay Terrace Shopping Center
Phone #: (929) 566-1879

by: Michael Daidone '26
by: Nicholas Forgione '24

The restaurant I chose to try with a southwest/tex/mex style food was Avo Taco in Bay Terrace Shopping center Queens NY. I ordered take-out at around 6pm and got the Floridian. The Floridian was a taco with Blackened mahi, crisp slaw, guacamole, pico de gallo, cilantro on it. The meat on it was very juicy and flavorful, with a large portion of guacamole on it. The shell was very soft and overall this was very easy to eat. The service at pickup was relatively good other than the fact they forgot one item in our order. The Wait was very fast as it only took 15 minutes for my order to be completed. Overall my rating for Avo Taco and the food I selected from their large menu is an 8/10. Some improvements would be to make sure everything in the customers order is correct. If this is your first time trying the southwest/tex/mex style food I recommend the Floridian taco as it's not spicy and just right for anyone!



The Floridian

Moho Mexican Grill

3805 Bell Blvd.
Bayside, New York 11361
Phone #: (718) 709-9695



Moho is a Mexican grill located on Bell Boulevard. The food at this location is extremely good and there are many different varieties you can choose from. You can build your own Taco as I had done or go with a more healthier option and build your own bowl with whatever you would like in it. They also have more traditional foods such as the Birria Pie and Tacos that you can choose from. I ordered 3 hard shell tacos with the sweet and spicy chicken, ground beef, white rice, and lastly to top it off cheese. I would rate these tacos a 9/10 as they were full of flavor and filled to the top. But as everyone knows you cannot leave without dessert so I ordered a churro which is stuffed with dulce de leche and is a 10/10. I would recommend this location to those who have a big appetite and love Mexican style food. I would overall rate Moho a 8/10 as the food is very good but the parking and location of the restaurant is inconvenient due to bell blvd always being crowded.



WINTER PEP RALLY

by: Kayla Marcelin '24

The Winter Pep Rally allowed all of the winter sports teams to be introduced to the school. These teams included the Boys and Girls Basketball teams, Ice Hockey team, Winter Track team, Bowling team, and Swim team. The cheerleaders helped present every team and the Step Team performed in front of the entire school for the first time!



Girl's JV Basketball



Girl's Varsity Basketball



Boy's Varsity Basketball



Boy's Varsity "B" Basketball

STUDENT Spotlight

Ashley Altoro '23

The Student Spotlight series aims to highlight the work of current Holy Cross students, asking them to share thoughts on their practice by answering curated and peer-submitted questions.

Ashley Altoro '23 is an AP Studio Art student studying Art studies in her final year at Holy Cross High School. Ashley plans on attending the Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT) in the fall with a desire to study Business of Fashion as her major and minor in art and design.

What themes or subjects are you currently addressing in your work?

A big theme that is expressed throughout my artwork would be, the issues with the fashion industry. The fashion industry has always had somewhat of a bad reputation with a lot of different things. So with my first hand experience I have decided to express how it feels and my story. I wanted to show how that world

can make you feel as if you're falling down a hole, being pulled back, or feeling stuck.

Are there any themes or materials you're interested in exploring in the future?

I am interested in looking at more positive themes within the fashion industry. I have obviously had many good experiences that I would love to capture and express. The reason I chose the darker themes first was because I felt there was a deeper message with those. I could express a lot more with those and create the artwork I was looking to accomplish.

What challenges do you face in your practice?

So considering I only started painting in my junior year, my knowledge of anything to do with art was limited. However something sparked junior year, I found a love for sketching and painting. There is something so calming to me when it comes to painting. Over the summer going into senior year, I sketched a lot and painted here and there. So when I was given the creative freedom to do as I pleased, the ideas and excitement started flowing. Don't get me wrong though, I had weeks where all I did was spend all my free time in the art room, but other weeks where I was blocked, got frustrated, and did not want to paint. Or I would rush myself for no reason and

be harsh on myself when it came to my work. I think I discarded a total of 2 finished pieces because I convinced myself I messed them up.

What artists or works inspire you?

A lot of my inspiration came from Monika Luniak paintings. She always had this one girl in her paintings and she was always doing something different. I knew I wanted my work to reflect me but I wasn't sure how. I looked through some of her work and figured out how I was going to portray this one girl in each of my paintings. We use completely different mediums of paint and the concepts/themes are completely different but her work still gave me an idea.

What has been your favorite class at Holy Cross so far?

Honestly and I don't mean this in a biased way, Art class. I just feel so creative in Art. I feel like I can express myself and really think straight. Throughout my years at cross I have had nothing but amazing art teachers. Each one has taught me something and has helped my artwork become what it is today.

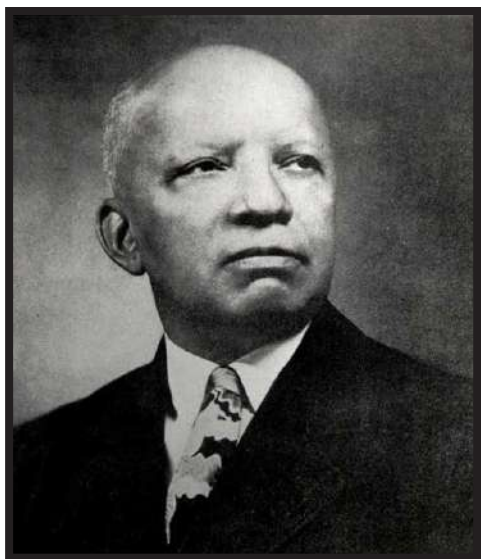




HISTORY MONTH

by: Bertha Wesley '23

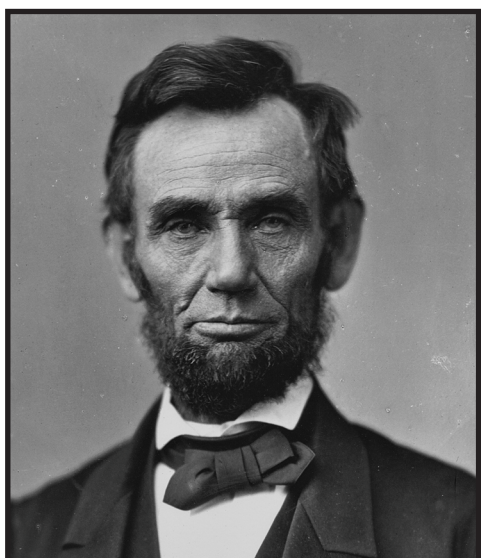
It is important to understand the significance of Black History Month. This event is intended to recognize the contribution and achievements of those with African or Caribbean heritage. It's an opportunity to spotlight and celebrate the achievements that African Americans have accomplished in this country.



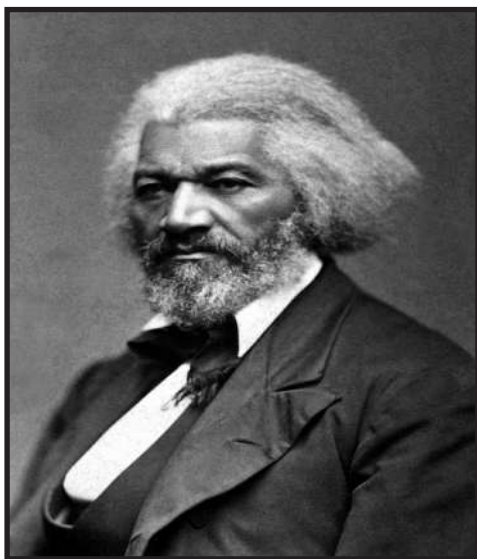
Dr. Carter G Woodson

The starter of Black History Month is Carter G. Woodson. He was a scholar whose dedication to celebrating the historic contributions of Black people led to the establishment of Black History Month. Which has been celebrated every February since 1976.

Woodson chose February for reasons of tradition and reform. It is commonly said that Woodson selected February to encompass the birthdays of two great Americans who played a prominent role in shaping black history, namely Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass, whose birthdays are the 12th and the 14th.



Abraham Lincoln

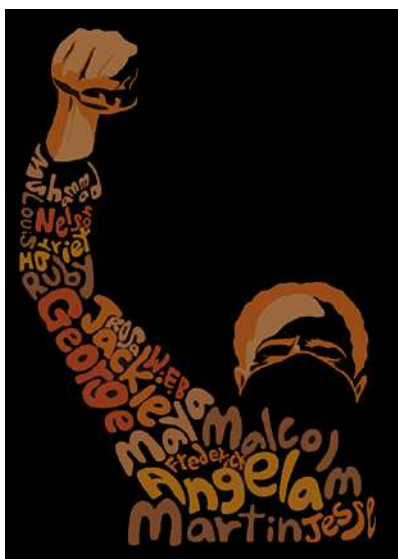


Frederick Douglass

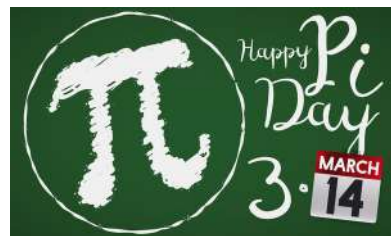
In 1976, President Gerald R. Ford officially recognized Black History Month. President Ford called upon the public to "seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history."



President Gerald R. Ford



**BLACK
History
MONTH**



by: Elizabeth Fazio '23

This year, Holy Cross proudly held its annual Pi Eating Contest to celebrate Pi day! The event is held on March 14th because those are the first three digits of pi (3.14)! To celebrate this delicious holiday, the math teachers hosted a pie eating contest in the cafeteria after school. What flavor of pie was served, you may be asking? Apple! Each student had to pay \$10 to participate and the money was split amongst the top three winners at the end. We had an awesome turnout, the entire cafeteria was full! Each participant was given a plastic poncho, a shower cap, and a pair of goggles to keep clean. The participants sat across from another student who acted as their time keeper. The time keeper was responsible for setting a stopwatch and timing how long it took the other to finish their pie. The first person to finish the entire slice won!

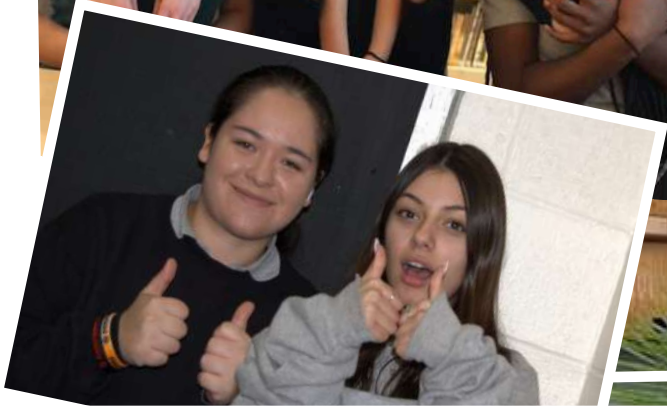


Adam Muczynski '23

Our first winner was senior Adam Muczynski coming in at first place with an impressive thirty three seconds! Our second place winner, sophomore Cameron Sofia, came in close with thirty four seconds! Our third place winner was senior Jake Deneke with fifty four seconds! Congratulations to all of our winners and thank you to everyone who participated in this year's pie eating contest!



Snaps



2023
HC Varsity
City Cham





WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

by: Alexandra Lynch '23

Every March, Women's History Month recognizes the achievements made by women that have impacted history. According to womenshistorymonth.gov, it was first recognized by the United States government in 1981, when Congress authorized the president to proclaim the week of March 7th, 1982 as "Women's History Week". It wasn't until 1987 that "Women's History Week" became "Women's History Month". This month is celebrated throughout the United States to appreciate the women who have contributed to American history in significant ways after a rough history of oppression and sexism. This month is also meant to inspire young women to follow in the footsteps of these incredible individuals and become pieces in history themselves. Throughout the month, Holy Cross has found special ways to appreciate their lady knights. During the week of March 6th, Mr. Rampulla had different female teachers and students read the morning prayer to honor women throughout our school. Additionally, the National Honor Society put up posters including some famous quotes said by women. These quotes were chosen by some of the female faculty members here at Holy Cross, providing inspiration for female students. Women's History Month is a great time for everyone to become well acquainted with the incredible backgrounds of some of our greatest women in history. Take some time to read the quotes below, and maybe even research a figure that stands out to you.

Happy Women's History Month!

"I raise up my voice — not so that I can shout, but so that those without a voice can be heard — we cannot all succeed when half of us are held back"

— *Malala Yousafzai, Pakistani activist and youngest Nobel Prize winner*

"The success of every woman should be the inspiration to another. We should raise each other up. Make sure you're very courageous: be strong, be extremely kind, and above all be humble."

— *Serena Williams, record breaking professional tennis player*

"Have no fear of perfection; you'll never reach it."

— *Marie Curie, chemist and first female Nobel Prize winner*

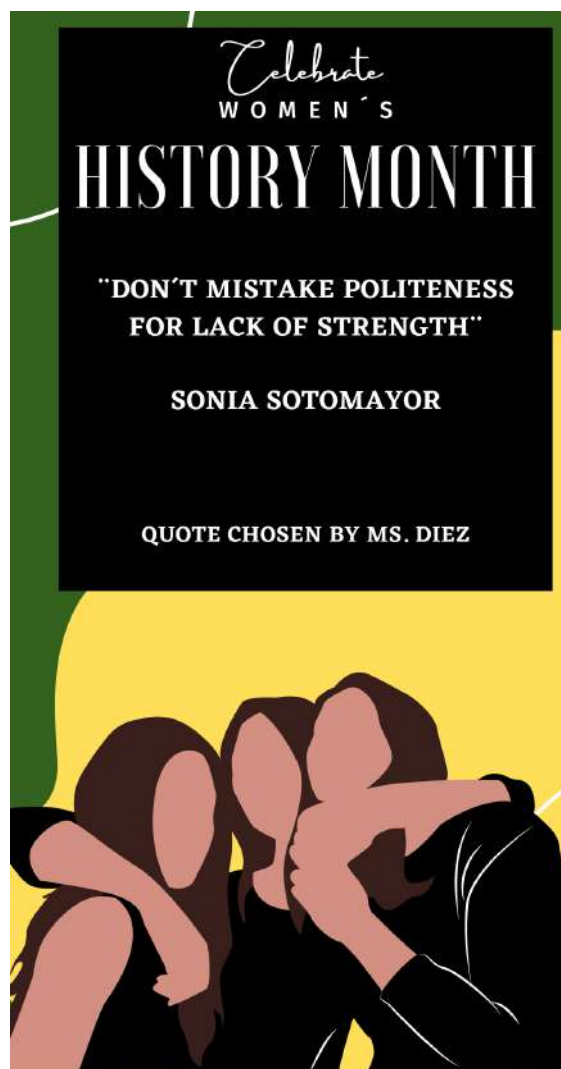


"If you're always trying to be normal, you will never know how amazing you can be."

— *Maya Angelou, Pulitzer-prize nominated poet*

"Fight for the things that you care about, but do it in a way that will lead others to join you."

— *Ruth Bader Ginsburg, second female U.S. Supreme Court justice.*



Breast Cancer Awareness

by: Carlangelo Alessandro '23

Holy Cross High School has run another successful Breast Cancer Awareness Drive. During the month of February, students and staff were able to purchase a Holy Cross branded shirt with the classic slogan "Real Knights Wear Pink" in order to raise not only awareness, but also money for a good cause. Given my personal experience with this terrible disease, it is something that should have better treatment, more research, and overall a way to have a cure without having to go through the horrific experience of chemotherapy. Using a study based from 2020, 12.9% of women will develop this type of cancer within their lifetime. This means over 21 million women in the United States will have to suffer through this type of cancer. Thankfully research has been getting much better over the last 50 years, however there is still a long way to go. Thanks to everyone who bought a shirt, their money will be donated to an organization that will fuel the breast cancer research program and hopefully eliminate this disease entirely from our worldly community.

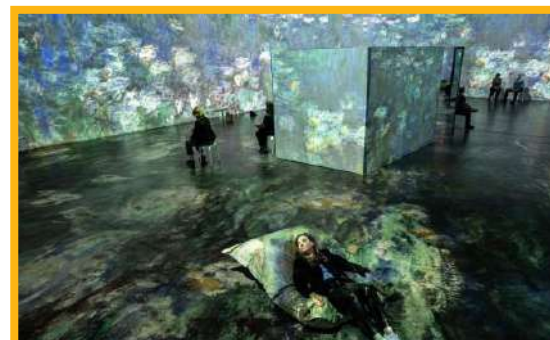
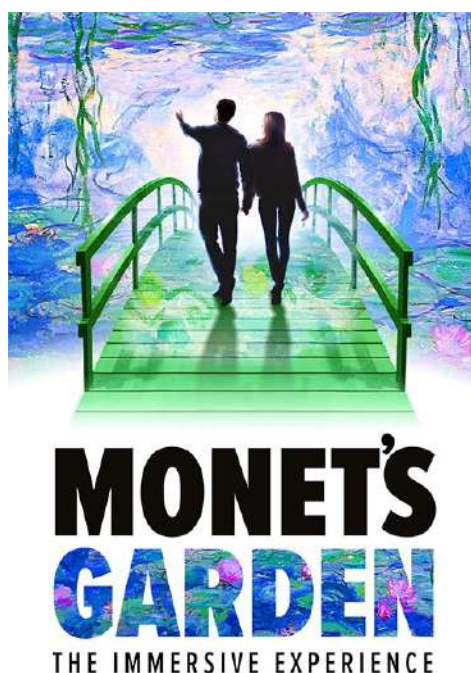


Monet's Garden: The Immersive Experience

by: Juliana Lopez '25

The Visual Arts Club went on an amazing trip to Monet's Garden: The Immersive Experience, located in Manhattan. Leaving during the school day and coming back as the bell rang, these students enjoyed this amazing experience where they saw some of Monet's best works. They walked around and were able to interact with multiple visuals. This trip was monitored by two amazing faculty members, Ms. Carine and Mr. Ware, both part of the Fine Arts department. A quote from Ms. Carine, "The Visual Arts Club, along with other Art students, were invited to attend Monet's Garden: The Immersive Experience. Students learned about the history of Claude Monet, while engaging in the creative process through interactive prompts at the gallery. It was a beautiful sunny day in the city and it was evident that the students were engaged and inspired by the art around us." The trip included an immersive experience of Monet's paintings with an enrapturing orchestral classical score, scented gardens, interactive AR displays and his life story. The show

lasted about 45 minutes, explaining everything about Monet's life and every detail needed to know about this painter. The staff members were extremely accommodating for the group of students and were extremely nice.



HOLY CROSS CHEERLEADING

by: Samantha Sambucharan '23



This season has been one like no other for the Cheerleaders of Holy Cross. Starting the season off with a new coach and a new team, the girls have made exponential progress in building their abilities and leading the future of the sport at Cross to success. As one of the Captains, I can definitely say that the team has been phenomenal and the bond we created goes beyond anything we've experienced seasons before. Next season, the girls will begin competing for the first time in Cross history. We wish them the best of luck in paving the path for Further Lady Knights.



HOLY CROSS

CHEERLEADER CAPTAINS:

Celeste Marrero, Samantha Sambucharan,
Ashley Altoro & Juliana Cerasuolo



2022-23
HOLY CROSS
Girl's Varsity Cheerleading Team

HOLY CROSS ICE HOCKEY

by: Carlangelo Alessandro '23



Head Coach - Herbert Mai
Assistant Coach - Angelo DelGreco
Assistant Coach - Nicholas Lercara

#	Name:	Position
80	Bonatos, Theo	- Forward
9	Brakshkis, Maxim	- Player
22	Davios, Steven	- Forward
77	Devlin, Sean	- Defense
52	Katsihtis, Lukas	- Player
8	Keating, Jeremiah	- Forward
35	Mavromichalis, Demetri	- Goalie
45	McCutcheon, James	- Defense
20	Ribarich, Joseph	- Forward
30	Satriana, Matthew	- Player
3	Zimic, Anthony	- Forward

Wins - Losses - Ties GF GA
5 - 12 - 1 69 94





HOLY CROSS BASKETBALL



Girls' Basketball

by: Emma Chiffriller '24



Alexandra Peon, Sophia Gabriel, Jamie Davneiro, Adrianna Caporale, Isabelle Lebron, Kyara Champagne, Jianna Davneiro, Monagoz Okorie

Starting off the season strong, the Varsity Girls Basketball team won their first four games against Kennedy Catholic, Fontbonne Hall Academy, Notre Dame Academy, and Cardinal Spellman, all by over 10 points. The team earned a spot in the playoffs and went on to defeat Moore Catholic by 1 point. They were in the final four. We asked them a few questions for some insight on what it is like to play basketball at Holy Cross.

Jianna is number 0 on the girls varsity basketball team. She has won "player of the game" 5 times this season. She averages 8.3 points a game, and has scored a total of 353 points in her past 2 years on Varsity. Jianna is ranked 13th for points per game, ranked 7th for FT made, ranked 5th for 3PT made, and ranked 6th for steals per game in Catholic schools of New York. We asked Jianna how she started playing basketball.



"I have been playing basketball my entire life," she said. "It started off from watching my cousins play CYO basketball to them playing at Holy Cross." Jianna also tells us about her teams before high school. "I began playing for a team in 1st grade. Before I started to play at my high school, I played for many different leagues. For starters, I played for Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament. I also was involved in AAU, which is a traveling basketball team. I played for 'Shooting Stars', 'Lightning', and 'Pride'. I was also put into a league called 'DG', which is for all players who are interested." We also asked Jianna what sparked her interest in basketball since she shows so much love for the game. "Growing up, my parents and aunt would literally drag me to almost every single basketball game my cousins had." She contin-

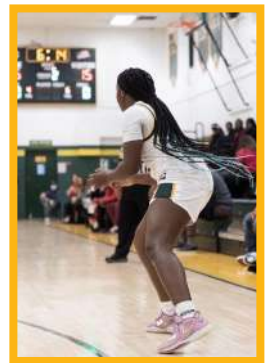
ues by talking about how she always had to be just like her cousins. "From copying the same shoes, to the jersey number, and to the style of basketball, they created that spark for this sport." To Jianna, the biggest inspiration for basketball was her family. "As I started to take basketball seriously, my father began coaching me. He basically has



taught me everything I know and from then, I have always wanted to make my family proud. This sport has the key to my heart and I refuse to ever give up after this long of playing." Although she has so much love for this sport, every athlete knows that there are always struggles that come with success. "The most challenging part of being a student athlete would be time management." Jianna works hard both on and off the court. "Having loads of work on top of having to have 2 hour practices multiple times a week can be very challenging. There is no room for failure, on the court or in the books." She also tells us about the social struggles of being a student athlete. "If you want to be a great athlete, hanging out with friends decreases tremendously. It is always important to work hard for your dreams. Sometimes being successful is lonely at the top." Jianna elaborated on her dreams with basketball when she shared her goals for the future with us. "My goals for basketball in the future would be to play college level basketball. Even though being a 5'3 PG/SG has its moments, it'll definitely be something I will always work hard for. To be able to play in a huge arena would absolutely be insane. I look forward to having intense practices, even though almost every athlete hates it, it is something I could never not do. Hard work and dedication will help prove my success on the court." Aside from working hard 24/7, Jianna also expressed the level of competition, the friends you meet on the way, and the atmosphere of a crowded gym is her favorite part of playing basketball. "Most may know me as a very competitive player. I love to be surrounded by my friends and family when putting on a show. Other than high school basketball, basketball anywhere can create family-like bonds. That is something I'll forever be extremely grateful for." Jianna is an

extremely dedicated player and her success and stats really show that. The last thing Jianna wanted to leave us off with was "Even though any sport can take a toll on your social or personal life, it is always important to do what you love. Sports have more meaning than winning or losing.. It's about finding yourself and creating new relationships with others."

Kyara is number 22 on the Girls Varsity Basketball team at Holy Cross. She has won "Player of the Game" 28 times in her past 2 seasons on Varsity. She averages 20.7 points a game with a total of 537 points this season alone! She's ranked number 1 FT made in the state and ranked number 4 for points per game in Catholic schools in New York. Kyara



has been playing basketball since the 3rd grade. She played for many teams before high school such as Riverside, New York Pride, OLBS, Shooting Stars, Rising Stars, OLS, and more. She is also one of the two captains of the Varsity team. We asked Kyara how she keeps herself and her team motivated throughout the season. "Being the captain of the team comes with its good and bad days," she says. "I'm constantly reminding myself as well as my teammates that it doesn't matter how you finish. No one cares if you miss shots, turn the ball over, get a bad call, etc. If you finish the game with high energy, effort, and a positive attitude, a win is a win." Being team captain, we asked Champagne what her advice would be to the sophomores who will be moving up to her team next year. "Train all summer. The girls on Varsity are bigger, better, faster and stronger. Playing at a JV level on a Varsity team will only



get you little to no playing time leaving you as a bench warmer." We asked Kyara what she thinks the hardest part of being a student athlete was. "Coming home from practice, games, workouts, etc. and having to still do school work before your body officially shuts down has made me contemplate being an athlete sometimes." But with struggles also comes great success. "My favorite part about playing high school basketball is watch



HOLY CROSS Girl's Basketball

by: Emma Chiffriller '24

ing my progress throughout the years. From the time I was a freshman playing in covid times, to finishing my junior season in the final four." Kyara would also like to make it known that she would like to have earlier practice times and have the cheerleading team cheer for all sports teams, not just the boys.

Jamie is number 3 on Holy Cross' Girls Varsity Basketball team. Jamie has been "Player of the Game" 5 times this season. Jamie averages 7.2 points per game and has a total of 290 points from her last 2 seasons. Jamie is ranked 12th for assists per game in New York State. She is ranked 6th in FT made, ranked 11th in 3PTS made, ranked number 1 in assists per game, ranked number 1 in steals per game, and 5th in blocks per game for Catholic Schools in New York. Jamie has been playing basketball since she was 4 years old starting with OLBS. We asked her why she started playing basketball. "Growing up, I was always hanging out with my two cousins- Dharon and Dontae. They both played basketball. I always looked up to Dontae, whether he would just practice his ball handling on the street with construction cones or practicing his jump shot from elbow to elbow. When Dontae's friends came over, I'd ask to play



(in which they allowed me to) which grew my love for the game even more. It made me want to be a star." Jamie has always admired the idea of being in the big lights. "My goal for basketball is to play in college. I want to be surrounded by the crowd under the big lights. I love that exciting energy in the room. During or after college, I would try to become an assistant coach or trainer, wherever life takes me with basketball, I'm up for it. Basketball is my life." Jamie has such an inspirational amount of love for basketball, so we asked her what the best part of playing is. "My favorite part of playing high school basketball is the heart I encounter on the floor. Watching and playing against girls who give it 150% like I do, makes me love the game more. It pushes me to be better. In practice, sometimes we go at each other but nothing out of hatred, it's all love. The game ties my team together, we are family. I love my team- I wouldn't trade them for the world." The last thing Jamie wanted to share was a piece of advice. "A special person in my life told me to think that "you're the best at everything you do." Be confident in yourself, believe that you can get through anything and everything. Work hard but out-work others, give it your 150%. If you fail- don't get too low on the failures, and stay humble- don't get too high on the successes."



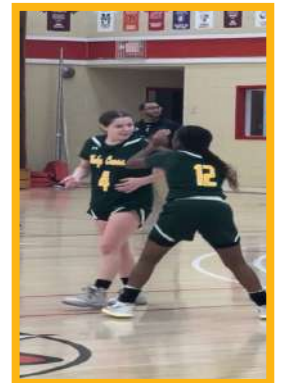
We also interviewed two players from the JV basketball team.

Ayyan Walker #12

Ayyan has been playing basketball since the 7th grade and got into it by playing 2K with her friends and watching LeBron James playing in the Barclays Center. We asked Walker what her biggest accomplishment this season was and how she feels about moving up to varsity next year. "Being a starter and being captain was a big accomplishment I had this year," she said. "I'm gonna have to put in a lot of work and have more confidence in myself to get ready for varsity next year." Ayyan also told us that her least favorite part of playing basketball was not getting enough sleep because of the late practices she would have. Her favorite part was her teammates and playing against Varsity.

Rowan Boggs #4

Rowan has been playing basketball since 3rd grade. Rowan's inspiration to start playing basketball came from her sister. I asked Rowan what she thinks her greatest accomplishment was this season. "I think as a team, our biggest accomplishment was getting more wins than we had last year while having a smaller bench." Rowan also shared that getting home late from practices makes it hard for her to focus on her school work sometimes, but it's all worth it because of the community and friends she's made. Lastly, we asked Rowan how she feels about moving up to Varsity next year. "I know the intensity level is very different but I'm very excited and ready"



The varsity girls had a great season with 12 wins and made it to the playoffs to be in the final four. Each girl on the team is dedicated, hardworking, and shows a tremendous amount of love for the sport. We wish all the luck to them and the JV girls during their off season and for them to come back better than ever next season. If you wanna support your Girls Holy Cross Knights, you can follow the Instagram page [hchsladyknightsbasketball](https://www.instagram.com/hchsladyknightsbasketball) and show support at their games in the future seasons.

HOLY CROSS Boy's Basketball

by: La'Mon Perry '23

The 22-23 Boy's Basketball season was an exciting one. The ending of the season was especially bittersweet for me as a senior because it was the last time I was able to attend Friday night triple headers and see my friends play their hearts out on the court. Many memories were formed at these games throughout my time in High School and I will truly miss it. I had the pleasure to speak with three seniors who gave a reflection on their time playing basketball at Holy Cross and advice to underclassmen still going through their athletic career.

Tyler Castro '23 (Varsity A)

How long have you been on the basketball team?

I've been on the basketball team for 2 seasons now, 1 transferred to Holy Cross my junior year.

What made you join the basketball team?
I've been playing basketball my whole life, and I saw a great opportunity to come to Holy Cross and play city basketball against some great competition.

What are your thoughts on the season overall?



It's been a very competitive season but I'm just having fun out there.

What are your plans for after high school?

I am going to continue playing basketball in college and study criminal law.

Do you have any advice for those who want to play next year or currently play?

Live in the moment, have fun, beat prep, and hire a photographer.

Daniel Murray '23 (Varsity B Captain)

How long have you been on the basketball team?

I've been on the basketball team since freshman year, and then the Covid year hit so there was no basketball for my sophomore year but I was still getting in the gym and working out and then my junior and senior year I decided to play varsity B basketball.

What made you join the basketball team?

My love for the sport, I've always





SWIMMING

by: Alexandra Lynch '23

The Holy Cross swim team has had an absolutely incredible season this year, making history with yet another new girls team in Holy Cross athletics. To finish off a great season, both the girls and the boys team went to the championship meet. Captain Ripley Petrovic swam at the A Championship, competing in the 100 yard backstroke and the 100 yard freestyle. Ripley made finals for both of these swims, with times of 1:14.20 and 1:10.91, respectively. She also won the All League award, an incredible honor given to the top swimmers in their swim league. Holy Cross is extremely proud of Ripley for making Holy Cross history at the first ever championship for our lady knight swimmers. At the B Championship, the girls had a successful competition too, most of them winning ribbons and medals, and others beating their personal best times. Of note, sophomore Vivian Monteverdi beat her time in the 500 freestyle by 30 seconds and junior Viktoria Jedrzejowski beat her time for her 100 butterfly by 5 seconds. Huge congratulations to both of these girls and all others for doing an excellent job in Holy Cross' new territory. The boys team also did a fantastic job with only three swimmers, especially in supporting the girls team and truly creating a community out of a new team. Overall, the swim team had a great run this year and Holy Cross cannot wait to see what they do next year. Congratulations everyone!

GO
KNIGHTS!!!



HOLY CROSS

A T H L E T I C S



TRACK TEAM

by: Elizabeth Fazio '23

I had the opportunity to speak with senior Jake Gergyes of the Track team! He told me about his experiences and some quick information about the team. Jake is an experienced runner and was also on the Cross Country team in the fall. On the Track team, the girls and boys have separate coaches, Coach Wilkerson for the boys and Coach Warner for the girls. They meet for practice four times a week, Monday through Thursday. The team meets by the bookstore and have their practices in the building. Sometimes you can catch them in action running through the halls. Make sure to move out of their way! The coaches decide when to have meets based on when they feel the team is prepared for it and when it works best for everyone. So far, they have already had a handful of meets. Their last meet to date was January 15th. During one of the meets, Jake did a 55 meter dash. Finally, I asked Jake to reflect on his time with the team. His favorite memory was when it was down to him and three teammates and he had the opportunity to lead practice. What he will miss most are the days when the girls and boys worked out together in the beginning of the season because he was able to hang out and socialize with friends.



A picture taken by Jake Gergyes of the Armory in Washington Heights where the team has their meets.



BASKETBALL

by: La'Mon Perry '23

played basketball since I was in kindergarten.

What are your thoughts on the season overall?

My overall thoughts on the season were pretty good, even though we didn't get as many wins as I would have liked we still fought and got some wins.

What are your plans for after high school?

My plans after high school is to go to college and study business and get my masters, while also playing college basketball

Do you have any advice for those who want to play next year or currently play?

My advice for those who want to play and for the current players are to never give up, don't let anyone tell you you can't because you can.

Samuel Parada '23 (Varsity B)

How long have you been on the basketball team?

I've been on the basketball team for two years.

What made you join the basketball team?

What made me want to join the basketball team was my passion for basketball.

What are your thoughts on the season overall?

I believe our season was the best and really fun. I made and met a lot of cool and amazing people.

What are your plans for after high school?

My plans after highschool is to study sports medicine or become a dentist.

Do you have any advice for those who want to play next year or currently play?

My advice to those who want to play next year or currently play is to enjoy every practice game etc and not take anything for granted.

