

HOLY CROSS

High School

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FLUSHING, NY 11358

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<http://www.holycrosshs.org>

Student
& Parent
Handbook
2025-2026



SCHOOL INFORMATION

Holy Cross High School is an incorporated Catholic High School:

- Founded by the Brothers of Holy Cross, Eastern Province, and sponsored by the Congregation of Holy Cross, Moreau Province
- Chartered by the Regents of the University of the State of New York
- Accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools

Holy Cross High School admits students of any gender, race, color, national or ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school.

Holy Cross High School does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, color, national or ethnic origin in the administration of educational policies, admission policies, loan programs and athletic or other school administered programs.

Holy Cross High School reserves the right to make any changes in the Handbook/Calendar during the year that it deems necessary.



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THE HISTORY OF HOLY CROSS HIGH SCHOOL

The plans for Holy Cross High School in Queens began on the campus of the University of Notre Dame in the early 1940's out of a friendship between The Reverend Monsignor Edmund Reilly, Pastor of St. Thomas Aquinas Church in the Flatlands section of Brooklyn and The Reverend Father Frank Frederick Schulte, C.S.C. The Brothers of the Congregation of Holy Cross were invited to staff the Boys' Department of St. Thomas Aquinas School in 1944 and St. Francis Assisi School (also in Brooklyn) in 1947. Within two months after staffing St. Thomas Aquinas, the Brothers were invited to establish a high school in the Bayside West section of Queens.

Due to World War II and some difficulties the Diocese of Brooklyn encountered in securing the land on which Holy Cross was built, in September 1955, ten years after the initial plans were envisioned; Holy Cross High School officially opened its doors in the still incomplete building. With the enthusiastic support of interested parents, and the leadership of the Brothers of Holy Cross, who assumed all financial responsibility and built the school through their own funding, Holy Cross was well on its way to educating generations of young people in the context of Christian values and the Holy Cross tradition.

In 2017, Holy Cross High School enhanced its mission by announcing the decision to move to co-education. In doing so, Holy Cross High School joined the vast majority of the twenty-two secondary and post-secondary academic institutions sponsored by the Congregation of Holy Cross in the United States who have also observed the guidance of Blessed Basil Moreau, the founder of the Congregation of Holy Cross. In 1856 Moreau wrote, "How we educate the mind will change with the times; how we cultivate the heart is and will remain timeless." The mission to educate young people in the Holy Cross traditions of Catholic faith and to prepare them for future life situations, remains as important now as it did when the school first opened.

MISSION STATEMENT

Holy Cross High School, a Catholic college preparatory school in Queens, New York, educates the hearts and minds of young people following the educational and spiritual vision of Blessed Father Basil Moreau, founder of the Congregation of Holy Cross.

Holy Cross embraces students who reflect social and economic diversity. The school strives to instill within each student a desire to identify and fully develop God-given talents while pursuing excellence in all endeavors.

Holy Cross' varied academic programs and activities nurture and promote spiritual, intellectual, creative, social and psychological growth and development. As Blessed Father Basil Moreau wrote in 1856, "Education is the art of helping young people to completeness."

PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT

Holy Cross High School, sponsored by the Congregation of Holy Cross, demonstrates and teaches in the Catholic tradition. We believe this requires each person to recognize the need for the following: a spirituality centered in Christ; a developed intellect; emotional, physical and social maturity; and an understanding of the Christian truth of each person's developing relationship to other persons.

The faculty, staff, administration, and Board of Directors are dedicated to the spiritual development of young people who are moral, courageous, and of service to others. We recognize that a student's education and development are reinforced by active participation in the school, the community, and places of worship. Civic and moral responsibility are exemplified and promoted.

The curriculum of Holy Cross High School is designed to stimulate interest, intellectual curiosity, and creativity. We strive to develop each student's innate capacity for independent decision making, good judgment, and respect for others. It is through the integration of these spiritual and human potentials that a student will be capable of enjoying, contributing to and appreciating life and embracing the eternal God.

Our philosophy is rooted in the vision of our founder, Blessed Basil Moreau, and in the two hundred year old tradition of the Congregation of Holy Cross. We are part of the network of Holy Cross education in the United States which includes twenty-two secondary and post-secondary academic institutions. Whether you find yourself on the campus of the University of Notre Dame or in the halls of Holy Cross High School, Flushing, the characteristics of a Holy Cross education remain the same.

THE HOLY CROSS STUDENT

- A Holy Cross student is primarily concerned with moral and ethical behavior, which is the essence of Christian living.
- A Holy Cross student is well-mannered, educated, and aware of the feelings and views of others.
- A Holy Cross student strives for a solid grasp of academics and a warm association with dedicated teachers.
- A Holy Cross student demonstrates care for self.
- A Holy Cross student seeks the will of God through prayer and by listening to others who also seek to serve the Lord.
- Holy Cross alumni find ways to serve their communities in a variety of professional, skilled and volunteer capacities.

Board of Directors, Administration, Faculty, and Staff, 2017

CHARACTERISTICS OF SCHOOLS SPONSORED BY THE CONGREGATION OF HOLY CROSS

- A Holy Cross school exists primarily to evangelize and to educate in the faith. This is accomplished through religious instruction, spiritual and moral guidance, and a Campus Ministry program.
- A Holy Cross school views itself as part of the local Church.
- A Holy Cross school serves a diverse population.
- A Holy Cross school finds ways of providing educational opportunities for the poor and disadvantaged.
- A Holy Cross school is a community and a family.
- A Holy Cross school's mission includes helping students to receive the best education possible.
- A Holy Cross school selects and retains teachers with great care.
- A Holy Cross school's mission includes helping students become active and informed citizens.
- A Holy Cross school's mission includes instilling in each student a strong sense of personal self worth and feelings of accomplishment.
- A Holy Cross school helps students to develop all aspects of their humanity.
- A Holy Cross school provides an orderly learning environment.
- A Holy Cross school provides efficient and well maintained facilities.

OBJECTIVES

The Board of Directors, administration, faculty and staff are committed to the following objectives:

- To provide a Catholic environment which develops informed and involved Christians.
- To offer a challenging academic college preparatory program.
- To promote and retain a dedicated faculty and staff who are committed to the school's educational mission and to their own professional growth.
- To instill in all students the Holy Cross tradition of Christian service and civic involvement.
- To incorporate the use of innovative technologies in the curriculum by teachers and students.
- To provide personal counseling and guidance, college planning assistance, and career counseling.
- To ensure an atmosphere that fosters mutual respect and an appreciation of diversity.
- To encourage student participation in varied activities which promote leadership, self-esteem, and school involvement.
- To convey a positive and well-respected public image to the general community.
- To maintain a financially stable institution with a clearly focused development and public relations program and a significant endowment commitment.

SCHOOL SHIELD

The Meaning of The Seal of Holy Cross High School

The Seal of Holy Cross High School is an outward expression of our heritage, our values, our traditions, and our commitments. The emblem is rich in symbolism centering on the student, the community, the diocese and the Congregation of Holy Cross (C.S.C.).

The upper left corner of the shield displays the coat of arms of the Congregation of Holy Cross - a Cross with the Anchors of Hope holding it firmly in place.¹ The open book is Wisdom, and the crown represents Queens County in which the high school is located. The Knight is our mascot.



¹ The seal of the Congregation of Holy Cross is represented by a cross surmounted at its base by two anchors, the Christian symbol for hope. The motto of the Congregation is the Latin phrase "Crux Ave Spes Unica" reflecting the conviction that the cross is our only hope.

I. CAMPUS MINISTRY AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Holy Cross High School is founded upon a tradition of learning, spirit and faith. The tradition of faith is developed through the Department of Religious Education and the Campus Ministry Program.

The Religious Education Curriculum emphasizes teaching the Christian message of salvation in a structured, content oriented, introspective and structured program of study. Each year has a specific focus of attention designed to build a foundation of faith, in partnership with parents, from which our children and families will grow in their knowledge of God and the Roman Catholic Church.

The Campus Ministry Program coordinates the celebrations of faith in the life of Holy Cross. Deep-rooted in the guiding principles of the Congregation of Holy Cross, that of making God known, loved and served, Campus Ministry concentrates its efforts on conducting retreats for Holy Cross Educators and students, and coordinating all service opportunities/charity drives conducted throughout the school year. The Campus Ministry department assists the President, as the Spiritual Leader of the high school, to enliven the Gospel in the hearts of all who study and work at Holy Cross.

A. LITURGY, PRAYER AND RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES

Holy Cross is a Catholic High School rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and the faith history of the Congregation of Holy Cross. Its educators and students have long worshiped and expressed their faith in prayer and liturgy. These practices and the understanding of prayer and worship are foundational to education at Holy Cross. Students must attend all school liturgies and religious services. Proper dress, behavior and respect are mandatory.

1. Worship

The Holy Family Chapel - The Chapel is open throughout the day for private prayer and reflection and is a sacred space for students and educators to build their personal relationship with God and increase their own individual spirituality.

School liturgies are held on all Roman Catholic Holy Days of Obligation and on other important feast days of the Congregation of Holy Cross. The entire school community participates in the liturgies and involves students in all parts of the Mass. Campus Ministry also organizes Prayer Services for Advent, Lent, and other holidays for the entire school.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated in the school during Lent with a Reconciliation Service.

2. Retreat Ministry

The Retreat Program is an essential part of our efforts as Christian and the Congregation of Holy Cross Charism formation. Through participating in a retreat, students are able to deepen both their friendships as well as their spirituality.

3. “Knights Reaching Others” is a retreat program that exists to provide students with a mini-retreat experience once a quarter. Students enjoy an evening of fellowship, reflection, pizza and prayer. Knights Reaching Others strives to nurture healthy relationships through guided fellowship and guided reflection on the connection our faith has to our everyday life. A true Knight Reaching Others experience occurs when a student leaves feeling that their mind has been informed and their heart further cultivated through faith and our Holy Cross values and charisms.

4. The “Spes Unica Experience” offers students the opportunity to step out of their daily routines in order to spend focused time in prayer and reflection. Students spend time bonding with classmates, are involved in service projects, and participate in prayer or liturgy while expanding their understanding of the Mission of the Congregation of Holy Cross. Our hope is to expand our horizons of understanding while growing our faith in and understanding of our Holy Cross mission to make God known, loved and served.

- Freshman “Be HC” Experience
- Freshmen Orientation
- Freshmen “Faith Day”
- Junior Unity Day
- Senior “Call to Leadership” Day
- Retreat & Service Experience “Call to Service”
- Seasonal Athletic Prayer Services
- HC Community Family Mass; Freshmen & Sophomore: October, Junior: April, Senior Baccalaureate Mass: June

5. “HCC4SL” - Holy Cross Conference for Student Leadership

The Leadership Conference is held at Holy Cross College and the University of Notre Dame, in South Bend, Indiana. This 5 day event brings together students from Holy Cross High Schools throughout the country that are sponsored by the Congregation of Holy Cross.

Students are invited to participate in this conference based on their leadership potential within our School and our community, and it is our hope this conference will help further develop these skills, while enjoying the benefits of a college experience on the campuses of Notre Dame University, Holy Cross College, and Saint Mary’s College. Students will participate in workshops, meetings, communal prayer, social activities, and meaningful community service at various local sites.

II. CODE OF CONDUCT

Students at Holy Cross are responsible for observing a code of behavior rooted in its philosophy and objectives. It is expressed most simply as compassionate behavior. Students treat each other and their environment with respect, and are aware of the needs of others. This is one of the fundamental lessons taught at Holy Cross.

STUDENT RIGHTS

Each Holy Cross Student has a right to:

- Learn
- Be treated in an honest and trustful way
- Attend a clean school and have his/her property treated with respect
- Feel safe and secure
- Move about the campus without disturbance
- Respectfully express himself/herself

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Each Holy Cross student is responsible to behave in a manner that:

- Promotes respectful and responsible interactions with teachers, staff and other students
- Creates an environment so teachers and students may learn, free from any type of harassment or distraction
- Encourages academic, physical, social, spiritual, and emotional growth
- Is respectful of the school property and the property of others
- Fosters safety in our school

III. STUDENT BEHAVIOR

THE OATH

I have chosen to act honorably, not because someone is watching, but because I value my character and our community of trust.

Holy Cross students are expected to be respectful at all times, within the school and outside of school. Students are required to conduct themselves properly at all times in class, in the cafeteria during lunch periods, between periods and in the halls. They must refrain from cursing, loud talking, screaming, running and loitering. When in the cafeteria, students are to keep the cafeteria line orderly and they are to clean up their places and push in their chairs when finished. Students must understand that they represent Holy Cross High School to the public, whether traveling to and from school, communicating electronically, participating in interscholastic sports/events, or simply wearing a Holy Cross shirt or team jersey.

Every student who is a member of an athletic team or extracurricular activity represents the school. If that student's behavior is deemed unacceptable they can lose the privilege to represent the school in the above capacity either temporarily or permanently.

Unlawful Act - Any unlawful act taking place on school grounds, or trains and buses coming to and from school, or whenever the student is in a position where their conduct is detrimental to the image of the school (vicinity of the school, field trips, athletic events, school trips, social media) not only makes the student subject to penalties which the courts and other authorities may prescribe, but will also result in penalties imposed by the school.

Incident Reports - Written documentation for violations of the Code of Conduct (Section II) is typically given to the student at the time of the incident. Students and parents will be able to log into *PowerSchool* to see their incident reports at any time and view how many remain unserved.

Consequence for incidents/referrals - Incidents/referrals can result in an array of consequences including, but not limited to, a phone call, a teacher-student conference, a parent conference, removal from classroom, detention, or suspension. Please see the Infraction Protocol that follows.

The time allotment for detention will be determined by the Office for Campus Life and range from one to several hours, depending on the severity of the incident. Guidelines for detention time are discussed in the Infraction Protocol that follows.

Detention - Students must report to detention by the afternoon of the next school day after receiving an incident report. Exceptions to this rule may be granted by the student's Dean, if permission is sought ahead of time.

Location and Time - Detentions will be held daily in both the morning and afternoon. The morning detention will take place from 7:15 AM until 7:55 AM in Room 104. The afternoon detention will take place from 2:40 PM until 3:20 PM in Room 207.

Outstanding Penalty - Failure to report to detention, without permission from the Office of Campus Life, will result in consequences that may include, but are not limited to, after-school detention or suspension. **Work and other school activities are not valid excuses for missing detention.** Students with outstanding detentions may not participate in any extracurricular activities/clubs, sports (practice/game), dances, pep rallies or dress downs.

Detention Policy - Students should report to detention on time and in full dress code wearing their school ID; an assignment will be given by the Dean covering the detention room.

The Assistant Principal for Campus Life may conduct mandatory detention on days when school is not in session.

A student who fails to serve detention by the end of the next school day will receive another detention for failure to serve and may become ineligible for all extracurricular activities until the detention is served. This includes: clubs, sports (practice/game), dances, pep rallies or participation in dress downs.

- Any student who is issued six (6) disciplinary detentions in a quarter is required to have a meeting with Campus Life, a Parent/Legal Guardian and his/her Guidance counselor.
- A student who is issued eight (8) disciplinary detentions in a quarter will receive a one day out of school suspension.
- A student who is issued ten (10) disciplinary detentions in a quarter will need to be seen by the Discipline Board to discuss their future at Holy Cross High School.

Infraction Protocol - An infraction is a violation of school policy. All prohibited behaviors addressed in this handbook are considered violations of school policy. All infractions result in an Incident Report. Each Incident Report indicates the level of the infraction which determines the number of detention hours to be served. **Detention hours must be served by the end of the next school day of receiving the detention.** Parent(s)/guardian(s) and students are notified of each infraction electronically. Technology related infractions are addressed in more detail in Appendix A.

Levels of Infractions:

Level 1

Infractions are those types that do not warrant intervention from the Office of Campus Life. The faculty member involved will handle the incident by correcting the behavior and writing the report. Examples of Level 1 infractions include, but are not limited to, calling out, being out of seat during class, being out of uniform, and being unprepared for class.

Level 2

Infractions are those that are cause for referral to the Office of Campus Life, but do not require immediate action. The infraction is brought to the attention of the Office of Campus Life and the student will be seen within 48 hours. Examples of Level 2 infractions include, but are not limited to, vulgar/inappropriate language, chronic lateness, chronic unpreparedness, chronic disregard for school and/or classroom policies and defiance.

Level 3

Infractions are those that require the immediate attention of the Office of Campus Life. The student is removed from the academic environment. The student will meet with the Office of Campus Life. The student's parent(s)/guardian(s) will be notified. If a student commits ONE Level 3 infraction, they will be suspended. A parent meeting will be required for the student to return to school. The severity of the infraction will determine the length and type of suspension. In some instances, the severity of the infraction will require immediate dismissal. Examples of Level 3 infractions include, but are not limited to, smoking/vaping, possession of weapons, possession of drugs or drug paraphernalia, sexual harassment, vandalism, theft, bullying, physical assault/fighting.

PROHIBITED

Social Media: The use of social media is public and can be viewed by anyone. Derogatory comments, pictures or posting, defaming the faculty, staff, student body or ideals of Holy Cross High School by any student is grounds for dismissal.

Harassment: Holy Cross is committed to maintaining a learning environment free from any type of harassment and/or violence, where all students and employees can work and study together comfortably and productively. Holy Cross considers any acts of harassment to be of a most serious nature, always and everywhere contrary to the Church's teaching on the dignity of human beings. This includes verbal, physical, emotional, bullying or cyber-bullying, including sexting (either sending or receiving), and sexual harassment.

Hazing: Pranks or initiation are absolutely prohibited. These are serious matters and reasons for immediate suspension of a student and may also be cause for dismissal. All physical violence, force or threats, including fighting or affiliation in any organization that promotes these activities, is prohibited. Students are required to report any such incidents.

Bullying: Physical and/or emotional bullying will not be tolerated. Holy Cross finds that a student's ability to learn, to achieve and to meet high academic standards, and the school's ability to educate its students, are compromised by incidents of harassment, discrimination, taunting or intimidation, and will not be tolerated. All members of the Holy Cross community are to be treated with the utmost respect and civility. All complaints contrary to this will be investigated promptly and aggressively. Appropriate disciplinary action, including a mandated educational component, will be taken whenever any type of harassment is found to have occurred.

Sexual Harassment is the imposition of unwelcome and/or unwanted verbal, physical or written acts, of a sexual nature, that create an uncomfortable, hostile or intimidating environment. Holy Cross is committed to an environment free of such conditions, and will aggressively investigate any and all reported incidents. Appropriate disciplinary action, suspension or dismissal from Holy Cross will be taken whenever an incident of harassment is found. All educational material must be free of inappropriate or obscene writing and/or pictures. It is the student's responsibility to keep his/her possessions free of such material.

Unauthorized possession of another person's property is grounds for dismissal. Students are prohibited from selling anything at Holy Cross without permission from the Administration. Students selling anything on school property may face dismissal.

Weapons of any kind or description are prohibited. Possession of a weapon of any kind is grounds for dismissal. Menacing or threatening behavior to anyone of the Holy Cross community will not be tolerated. Anyone involved faces dismissal. Any student interfering with the school's security system faces immediate dismissal.

The use of audio or video equipment inside the building, without the permission of the Administration, is strictly prohibited. Any unauthorized posting of any such material online is grounds for dismissal. Students are not allowed to hang any signs or post notices in the building without permission from the faculty or Administration. **Personal devices** are not permitted to be used in the building during the school day, unless used in a supervised, educational environment as specified by a teacher.

CELL PHONE POLICY

Beginning on the first day of school in September, Holy Cross will implement changes to student use of personal electronic devices, including but not limited to **cell phones, smartwatches, and earbuds**, throughout the entire school day. These devices will not be permitted from the beginning of the academic day until the end of the academic day. This policy applies during:

- All classes
- Lunch periods
- Locker Room

- Library/ Media Center
- Study halls
- Passing time (hallways, bathrooms)

By implementing this policy, we aim to:

- Restore focus in the classroom and during learning activities
- Reduce digital dependency and encourage healthier habits
- Foster stronger interpersonal skills and more meaningful connections among students

Upon the start of the school day (8:00 AM) students are required to turn off all personal electronic devices (**smartphones, smartwatches, and earbuds**) and store them in their assigned lockers or backpacks. Devices must remain off and stored until the official end of the school day (2:30 PM).

The Administration of Holy Cross High School reserves the right to confiscate a phone at any time. All communication between student and parent may not take place through a cell phone unless authorized by Administration. If a student needs to contact his/her parent(s), the student should report to the Attendance Office. All medical issues should be dealt with through the Medical Office. If a parent needs to contact a student, the parent should call Ext. 510 or 518.

Students may use their cell phone on campus only during the following times:

- Before school in the cafeteria or auditorium (Before 8:00 am)
- After school (After 2:30 pm)

Responsible use of a cell phone complies with the Code of Conduct outlined in Section II.

Students are expected to put their cell phones in the cell phone caddy in each classroom when they enter the classroom, to avoid the temptation of use during class.

If a cell phone is seen or is in use at any time between 8:00 AM and 2:30 PM, it will be confiscated immediately, and a disciplinary infraction will be issued in accordance with the Cell Phone Policy outlined on page 17 of the Holy Cross Student and Parent Handbook.

This policy is in place to support an environment focused on learning, respect, and accountability.

At no time shall a student use his/her cell phone or iPad/tablet to capture photographic or video content.

At no time shall a student use his/her headphones/earbuds/or Smartwatch during the school day without expressed permission from faculty or administration.

Apple® or any other type of Smart watches are prohibited during the school day.

A cell phone should never be out during the school day. Phone calls/text messages should be made outside of school hours only. Consequences for prohibited use of cell phones are as follows:

- **First offense** - 2 hours detention time will be assigned to the student. The cell phone will be confiscated and placed in the dean's office - room 209. The student will get the phone back at the end of the school day.
- **Second offense** - 3 hours detention time will be assigned to the student. The cell phone will be confiscated and placed in the dean's office - room 209. The student will have to turn in their phone to the Dean's office, every day before homeroom, for a week.
- **Third offense** - 6 hours detention time will be assigned to the student. The cell phone will be confiscated and placed in the dean's office - room 209. The student will have to turn in their phone to the Dean's office, every day before homeroom, for a month.
- **Fourth offense** - Suspension and parent meeting required for return to school.

STUDENT TECHNOLOGY AND BEHAVIORAL POLICY

The conduct of our students online, whether in school or not, should always reflect the highest ideals of the Holy Cross community. Please review [Appendix A](#) in its entirety for chromebook and other technology policies, as well as the levels of behavioral infractions/consequences.

DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

Holy Cross has a Zero Tolerance Policy regarding drugs, drug paraphernalia, alcohol and controlled substances. Please note that the unauthorized use of prescription drugs and/or steroids constitutes illegal drug use. The use and/or possession of any of these, on or near the school property, in transit, or at any school sponsored event, is strictly prohibited. Students in violation of the above policy are subject to severe disciplinary action, including dismissal from Holy Cross High School.

Holy Cross reserves the right to require drug or alcohol testing of any student who is suspected of using or being under the influence of any illegal substance. Additionally, the school may conduct random drug testing at any time. If the school becomes aware of, or suspects that, a student has a dependency problem outside of the school, **the school may require the student to enroll in a drug counseling and/or substance abuse program. Refusal to comply with the requirement of enrolling in a drug counseling and/or substance-abuse program may result in dismissal.**

The self-acknowledgement of a substance dependency by a Holy Cross student is a different matter. The Guidance Department of Holy Cross High School will assist any student who willingly comes forward seeking help to address the problem.

FINES

Students are assessed fines for certain behaviors. Smoking/vaping is not allowed in the building or within 200 yards of the perimeter of Holy Cross. Students caught smoking cigarettes, electronic cigarettes, or vaping, **will be placed on Disciplinary Probation, receive detention(s) and a fine of \$50.00 (1st offense)**. Students responsible for defacing the building (including graffiti), and/or destroying school property for any reason must pay the full cost of the replacement, plus labor charges assessed. In addition, the student will pay a fine of \$100. These fines must be paid immediately for the student to return to school.

TECHNOLOGY AND INTERNET USE POLICY

The conduct of our students online, whether in school or not, should always reflect the highest ideals of the Holy Cross community. Please review [Appendix A](#) in its entirety for the technology and internet use policy.

DISCIPLINARY PROBATION

A student may be placed on Disciplinary Probation for an accumulation of disciplinary incidents and/or chronic absences/tardiness. Insubordination, endangering the safety, morals or health of others, stealing and the destruction of school property are some of the offenses which could place a student on immediate Disciplinary Probation.

A student placed on Disciplinary Probation must meet with his/her Guidance Counselor on a regular basis. A student on Disciplinary Probation may be placed on a Behavior Plan, which would require that student to meet periodically with the Office of Campus Life. A student who is on Disciplinary Probation may be ineligible for all co-curricular and extracurricular activities, including participation on school trips. Administration also reserves the right to declare any student ineligible for all co-curricular activities based on infractions of the Code of Conduct at any time during the school year. A student who remains on Disciplinary Probation for an extended period of time is subject to dismissal from Holy Cross High School. The status of a student placed on Disciplinary Probation will be reviewed quarterly by the Assistant Principal for Campus Life. Any student placed on Disciplinary Probation is eligible to be removed from probation after that student has demonstrated reformed behavior over a suitable amount of time. The decision to remove a student from Disciplinary Probation is made by the Assistant Principal for Campus Life.

SUSPENSION

The Administration reserves the right to suspend a student for a serious violation of the Code of Conduct at Holy Cross. Suspended students may not return to class until a parent or guardian meets with the Office of Campus Life. Suspended students are not permitted to attend any co-curricular or extra-curricular activity. A serious violation can result in immediate dismissal.

DISMISSAL

The Administration of Holy Cross High School reserves the right to dismiss a student due to a major violation of school rules and/or an ongoing pattern of conduct unbecoming of a Holy

Cross student. This includes a student's conduct at events outside school and online which violate the spirit of the Mission, Philosophy and Objectives of Holy Cross. Dismissal can occur at any time during or after the school year.

DISCIPLINARY PROCESS AND DISCIPLINARY BOARD

The Discipline Board exists as a part of the educational process at Holy Cross, assisting the Administration in formulating and carrying out disciplinary policies of the school. The Discipline Board may be composed of a group of selected faculty members from various areas of school life including the Deans of Students. The Discipline Board exists to serve primarily three functions: (1) As a fact-finding body assisting the Assistant Principal in determining the scope and context of a student's involvement in disciplinary matters of a more serious nature; (2) As a mid-year and end-of-year review board regarding a student's disciplinary status in the school and suggesting conditions for his/her return as deemed appropriate for the common good of the school population; (3) As an advisory board in reviewing general school disciplinary policies and practices.

As a fact-finding body, the Assistant Principal may convene a meeting of the Discipline Board to review a student's case. A student may be directed to appear before the Board when there appears to be no progress being made in the area of discipline or when a single violation of the code of conduct is serious enough to make an appearance necessary. In all instances, the Assistant Principal notifies the student and his/her parents of the scheduled appearance. Parents/guardians are given the option to attend the Board meeting; however, the absence of a parent at a Board meeting is reviewed as waiving the right to attend the meeting and the meeting will proceed with the student as scheduled. Parents who are unable to attend a Board meeting and wish to be present must contact the Assistant Principal 48 hours prior to the meeting to request a different meeting time/date. Attorneys are not permitted to attend Disciplinary Board meetings. When a student appears before the Board, the Board will hear the student's account and question the student regarding the incident(s) being discussed. Parents/guardians may also present relevant information and, if permitted by the Chair, ask questions of Discipline Board members. At the time of the appearance, Board members may make individual recommendations to the student regarding his/her behavior. Following the student's appearance, the Board evaluates its findings and recommends a course of action that it feels will best meet the needs of both the individual and the school community. The Board's recommendations are designed to help solve problems of inappropriate behavior and may call for assistance from parents, teachers, counselors, etc. The Board also recommends what it believes are proper consequences for the unacceptable behavior that has necessitated the student's appearance before the Discipline Board. The Assistant Principal will present the recommendation offered by the Discipline Board to the Administrative Team. The Administrative Team will collaboratively determine the final course of action and may, but need not, accept the recommendations of the Board. The final course of action may include, but is not limited to, a series of after-school detentions, Saturday detentions, a disciplinary warning, disciplinary probation, suspension, or expulsion. Parents will be notified of this decision by the Assistant Principal within three (3) school/working days after the Board appearance.

Notifications regarding end-of-year discipline board reviews will be sent out following the completion of all final and Regents examinations. All decisions will be communicated through written correspondence after the Board presents its findings to the Principal of Holy Cross High School.

At the midpoint and at the end of each school year, the Discipline Board, with consultation from the faculty and the administration, will review the disciplinary records of all students, concentrating specifically on those students who have numerous disciplinary infractions, who have been suspended, who are currently on Disciplinary Probation or who have appeared before the Board during the school year. Specific consideration is given to recent behavior. The Board will determine any necessary disciplinary action to be taken in preparation for the next school year. If little or no progress is noted in the area of discipline, a student may not be invited to return to Holy Cross the next year. Students given the option to return may be required to meet with a member of the administration to discuss the terms and conditions of his/her return for the next year. Returning students should expect, at the very least, that their behavior must improve if they are to remain at the school. Other students, as a condition for returning, will be placed on Disciplinary Probation at the start of the next school year. In such cases, parent(s) and students will be notified by mail of the Board's decision.

CONSEQUENCES

Holy Cross Discipline Range of Consequences for Inappropriate Behavior

This list is neither binding nor exhaustive of all possible consequences. It is a guideline to follow.

	Behavior	Consequence		Behavior	Consequence
1	Disrespectful behavior	A - K	14	Unacceptable computer/Internet use (social media)	A - K
2	Use of profane or abusive language/gestures	A - K	15	Use/sharing of prescription and over-the-counter drugs	A, H - K
3	Insubordination	A - K	16	Use/possession of drug related paraphernalia or alcohol	A, H - K
4	Disruption of class	A - K	17	Sexual Harassment	A, H - K
5	Loudness, running in the halls	A - K	18	Causing a false alarm	A, H - K
6	Inappropriate attire (See Student Dress Code)	A - K	19	Behavior that endangers self or others	A, H - K
7	Pushing/yelling	A - K	20	Possession of weapons/dangerous instruments	H - K
8	Selling, using or possessing obscene material	A - K	21	Threatening or displaying what appears to be a weapon	H - K
9	Defamation	A - K	22	Striking another person/fighting	B,D,G,H-K
10	Hazing	A - K	23	Smoking/Vaping on school grounds	A,B,D,G,H-K
11	Lateness/Tuancy	A - K	24	Gambling	A, B,D,G,H-K
12	Trespassing	A - K	25	Cutting school/class/detention/leaving school grounds without permission	A, B - K
13	Lewd/vulgar language or behavior	A - K	26	Other offenses not specifically listed	A - K

Disciplinary Actions

A	Verbal Reprimand
B	Phone call to parent by teacher
C	Detention
D	Temporary suspensions from class/classes
E	Parent conference
F	Suspension from athletics, social or extracurricular activities
G	In School Suspension (ISS) for remainder of day/days
H	Principal's Hearing
I	Out of School Suspension
J	Involvement of outside community resources (police community services)
K	Disciplinary Board Hearing

IV. ATTIRE AND APPEARANCE

Adherence to the dress code is a sign of respect that students have for themselves and the school community. A Uniform Dress Code serves to heighten awareness that the business of learning is a serious enterprise. All accessories (including jewelry) must be businesslike in nature. **Students are to travel to and from school in their school uniform.** Parents are asked to support and emphasize these policies with their children. The Assistant Principal for Campus Life, as well as the Assistant Principals/Dean of Students, reserves the right to make subjective judgments on any student's attire or personal appearance and may request that the student make changes. **The Assistant Principal for Campus Life and the Deans reserve the right to send home any student who is not in compliance with the attire and appearance guidelines. Any student who is out of dress code more than 3 times in a quarter will be sent home every time they are not in dress code compliance.**

FRESHMEN & SOPHOMORES

Boys must wear:

- Official Holy Cross polo shirt in either green, gray or white with the HC piped in white (**polo must be tucked in at all times**)
- Official Holy Cross black or gray pants
- Black Oxford or Penny Loafer style shoes with black soles (**no sneakers, slippers, or uggs**)
- Socks
- Black belt
- Gym clothes - Holy Cross T-shirt, shorts, or sweatpants to be purchased at the school bookstore
- Official Holy Cross gray V neck or gray ¼ zip sweater (**may be worn Nov 1 - April 15**)
- Students wearing something over their HC polo shirt must have their polo collar visible at all times
- Student identification, "I.D.", **must be worn with the school lanyard every day.**

Girls must wear:

- Official Holy Cross polo shirt in either green, gray or white with the HC piped in white
- Official Holy Cross black or gray pants or plaid skort
- Black sheer or opaque tights with skort - **no socks**
- Black Oxford or Penny Loafer style shoes with black soles (**no sneakers, slippers, or uggs**)
- Gym clothes - Holy Cross T-shirt, shorts, or sweatpants to be purchased at the school bookstore
- Official Holy Cross gray V neck or ¼ zip sweater (**may be worn Nov 1 - April 15**)
- Students wearing something over their polo shirt must have their polo collar visible at all times
- Student identification, "I.D.", **must be worn with the school lanyard every day.**

JUNIORS & SENIORS

Boys must wear:

- Holy Cross polo shirts in either white, gray or green (**the polo must be tucked in at all times**)
- Official Holy Cross black or gray pants
- Black Oxford, Penny Loafer style shoes with black soles, (**no sneakers, slippers or uggs**)
- Black belt
- Socks
- Gym clothes - Holy Cross T-shirt, shorts, or sweatpants (to be purchased at the school bookstore)
- Official Sports Team Sweatshirts, Polos or Quarter Zips
- Students wearing something over their polo shirt must have their polo collar visible at all times
- Student identification, "I.D.", **must be worn with the school lanyard every day.**

Girls must wear:

- Holy Cross polo shirts in either white, gray or green
- Official Holy Cross black or gray pants or plaid/gray skort
- Black sheer or opaque tights with skort - **no socks**
- Black Oxford or Penny Loafer style shoes with black soles (**no sneakers, slippers, or uggs**)
- Gym clothes - Holy Cross T-shirt, shorts, or sweatpants (to be purchased at the school bookstore)
- Official Sports Team Sweatshirts, Polos or Quarter Zips
- Students wearing something over their polo shirt must have their polo collar visible at all times
- Student identification, "I.D.", **must be worn with the school lanyard every day.**

SENIORS ONLY:

- The option of wearing the **Black** Holy Cross Dri-fit polo shirt purchased through Flynn & O'Hara.
- Holy Cross gray, green, or black pullover HC sweatshirt.
- Varsity letterman sweater with Knight logo on the chest.

BOYS' DRESS REGULATIONS

- All headwear, including **hats**, is prohibited in school and in the immediate vicinity, except at times of inclement weather. These items are subject to confiscation.
- The hair is to be neatly kept, combed properly without covering the eyes and may be neither excessively long nor too short. Hair would be too long that touches the shirt collar when the collar is buttoned. Hair must be neat and well groomed. Substantial variations in length are not acceptable. The Administration has the final decision on the appropriateness of a hairstyle.
- Dyed or unnatural hair colors are not acceptable.
- Ponytails, man buns, long braids, and rubber bands are prohibited.
- Extreme and trendy hairstyles, such as faux hawks (including partially or completely shaved scalp) are not permitted. This includes shaved lines on scalps or eyebrows.
- All parts must be straight from front to back.
- The Assistant Principal for Campus Life reserves the right to determine the suitability of a hairstyle, and may send a student home until the appropriate changes are made.
- One pair of earrings. Earrings should be worn in the lower lobe only. Body piercings, such as nose rings or any other type are prohibited.
- **No visible tattoos are permitted.** (Students who have visible tattoos must wear clothing that will cover the tattoos, even in warm weather)
- Excessive facial hair is not permitted. Facial hair must be neatly groomed with a buzzer.
- **Shirts are to be tucked in at all times.**
- All Apple® watches and similar smartwatches are prohibited. Wearing an apple watch repeatedly will result in detention.

GIRLS' DRESS REGULATIONS

- Certain headwear, including **HATS**, is prohibited in school and in the immediate vicinity, except at times of inclement weather. The only accessories one may wear in the hair are hair clips such as barrettes, clips and headbands. Prohibited items are subject to confiscation.
- Hairstyles are to be neat and well groomed.
- Dyed or unnatural hair colors are not acceptable.
- Extreme and trendy hairstyles, including partially or completely shaved scalp, are not permitted. This includes shaved lines on scalps or eyebrows.
- The Assistant Principal for Campus Life reserves the right to determine the suitability of a hairstyle, and may send a student home until the appropriate changes are made.
- Jewelry should be kept to a minimum. Up to two pairs of earrings, no larger than the diameter of a quarter. Earrings should be worn in the lower lobe only.
- **Body piercings, such as nose rings or any other type are prohibited.**
- **No visible tattoos are permitted.** (Students who have visible tattoos must wear clothing that will cover the tattoos, even in warm weather)
- Girls may wear the dress slacks or the skort. Skorts must be worn with black or opaque tights, and should fall immediately above the knee. No designed hose, leg warmers,

textured tights, footless stockings, athletic socks, or thigh highs may be worn.

- Nails are to be well manicured and kept at a natural length - Polish is acceptable.
- Makeup should be kept to a minimum.
- All Apple® watches and similar smartwatches are prohibited. Wearing an apple watch repeatedly will result in detention.

The DRESS CODE is in effect for all students at all times throughout the school day, including all detentions and after school business. This requirement includes orientation days at the beginning of the school year, as well as ALL testing days.

DRESS DOWN DAYS

Holy Cross High School occasionally has special days throughout the year in which students and faculty may dress casually. During these casual days of dressing down, all school rules apply. **Lanyards with ID cards must be worn.** Dress neatly and appropriately. The AP for Campus Life will notify any/all students that are ineligible to participate in a dress down day due to owed detentions or if a student has been placed on disciplinary probation.

The following are not permitted:

- Open toed shoes (Flip flops, slides, or slippers)
- Ripped clothing/ripped jeans
- Shirts without sleeves, midriffs, halter or tube/tank tops
- Clothing that displays inappropriate designs or messages
- Excessively short skirts
- Excessively baggy pants/pajama bottoms/or shorts

KNIGHT DAYS

Various days throughout the year are designated as “Knight” days. Students are permitted to wear a single official Holy Cross apparel item over, not in place of, their uniform. These include: team warm-up jackets or jerseys, club issued shirts, sweatshirts or shirts sold by the bookstore. All uniform and personal appearance regulations remain in effect on Knight days.

ID cards must be visibly worn.

V. ACADEMIC POLICIES AND CURRICULUM

CURRICULUM

Holy Cross High School is chartered by the Regents of the University of the State of New York, and is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

The curriculum fulfills the expectations of the National Catholic Education Association, and the educational mission of the Congregation of Holy Cross. Its values are clearly expressed in the Mission Statement at the beginning of this Handbook. The curriculum also fulfills the diploma requirements for secondary schools in New York State, as well as Regents endorsed diplomas.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students must complete a minimum of 26.5 credits to be eligible for a Holy Cross diploma. In addition, all necessary NYS Regents Exams must be passed. Specific course and test requirements are delineated in the Holy Cross High School [Academic Course Catalog](#).

Students must fulfill all NY State Regents exam requirements. A senior who fails two or more courses or achieves a grade below 55 in any elective may be prohibited from attending Graduation Ceremonies. Attendance at the **Senior Retreat** is a requirement for graduation. Seniors on Disciplinary Probation and/or with excessive absences may not be permitted to attend Graduation Ceremonies.

Theology	4 Credits
English	4 Credits
World Languages (3 consecutive years of the same language)	3 Credits
Mathematics	4 Credits
Physical Education and Health	2.5 Credit
Science (with lab)	3 Credits
Social Studies	4 Credits
Fine Arts	1 Credit
Electives	1 Credit
Service Learning Program (completed each year)	0 credits
Total	26.5 Credits

SERVICE LEARNING PROGRAM

It is of the utmost importance to help our fellow man, now more than ever. The Service Learning Program at Holy Cross High School is developed by the Service Coordinator. Service is required to make a real impact.

All students are required to complete the Service Learning Program (with a specific number of hours for each grade level) during each year that they are enrolled. All students must submit a signed [Service Learning Acknowledgement & Agreement](#) at the start of each year. This is a mandatory requirement for graduation. It is the student's responsibility to log their service hours in as they are being completed. Students who enter Holy Cross as transfer students are required to complete the service requirement only for those years in which they are enrolled at Holy Cross.

Service opportunities must be approved by the Coordinator of Service Learning. A list of approved service sites is available from the Coordinator of Service Learning. Detailed descriptions of the Holy Cross Service Program will be distributed annually by the Coordinator of Service Learning during Theology classes.

PASSING GRADE

The passing grade at Holy Cross is 70%. Students are responsible for adhering to all teacher/class course requirements.

MIDTERM AND FINAL EXAMS

Mid-term and final examinations are given to all students. These exams are cumulative in nature and are designed to last at least one hour and no more than one and one-half hours. Exams count no less than 10% or more than 20% of each semester grade.

Students must take exams during their scheduled times. Any changes must be approved by the Assistant Principal of Academics at least two weeks prior to the start of exams. Written requests from a parent or guardian should start this process.

GRADUATION AWARDS

- *Cum Laude*: is awarded to the student with a weighted numerical average of 91.5.
- *Magna Cum Laude*: is awarded to the student with a weighted numerical average of 94.5.
- *Summa Cum Laude*: is awarded to the student with a weighted numerical average of 97.5.
- *Salutatorian*: is the student who has achieved the second highest weighted numerical average.
- *Valedictorian*: is the student who has achieved the highest weighted numerical average.

NOTE: To be eligible for the Valedictorian or Salutatorian Awards, students must have completed a minimum of three years of study at Holy Cross High School. All honors for graduation are awarded on the basis of the seventh semester. A student must be passing all classes at the end of the year to be considered for any award at graduation, including Holy Cross Knight of the Year, and have an exemplary discipline record.

HONOR ROLL

Academic Awards are presented to students in recognition of their academic accomplishments. Students must pass all courses in a marking period to be eligible for academic awards.

Principal's List: Minimum GPA of 96.00, with no grade lower than 90.00

First Honors: Minimum GPA of 91.00, with no grade lower than 85.00

Second Honors: Minimum GPA of 86.00, with no grade lower than 80.00

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

The National Honor Society was founded in 1921 in an effort to create an organization that would recognize and encourage academic excellence as well as develop other characteristics considered essential to citizens of democracy. These ideals of scholarship, leadership, character, and service are as relevant in today's society as they were in 1921.

Membership in the National Honor Society is both an honor and a responsibility. Parents and students must understand that no student has a right to be selected for membership in the National Honor Society.

The following procedures for the selection of members in the National Honor Society are in compliance with the national Constitution of the National Honor Society.

- Membership in the National Honor Society is open to all qualified juniors and seniors. Transfer students may not qualify for membership until they have been at the school a minimum of one full semester.
- The academic requirement of the Holy Cross Chapter of the National Honor Society is a weighted average of 95 over 7 quarters and no grade less than 80 in any course. Students meeting the scholastic criteria are then eligible for consideration on the basis of service, leadership, and character.
- Students who are scholastically eligible will be notified and told that for further consideration for selection to the National Honor Society, they may complete the Student Activity Information Form and write the requested essays. Students supplying this information should understand that review of the information submitted does not guarantee selection.
- The Student Activity Forms and any other verifiable information will be reviewed by the faculty council. Candidates receiving a majority vote of the faculty council are selected for membership.
- Students chosen for membership by the faculty council will receive letters notifying them of their selection.

SUBJECT HONOR SOCIETIES

Holy Cross offers students the opportunity to apply for membership and engage in a number of subject area honor societies including the English National Honor Society, Rho Kappa, Mu Alpha Theta, Italian Honor Society, French Honor Society and the Spanish Honor Society.

SCHOLASTIC MEDALS

Students who maintain Principal's List or First Honors during the first three marking periods of the year will be awarded a scholastic medal during our fourth quarter awards night.

SCHOLARS OF THE YEAR

A list of all students who have maintained Principal's List status for all four quarters of the previous year are recognized as Scholars of the Year. A list of these students is posted in the display case in the main lobby.

GRADE REPORTS AND GRADING PERIODS

Progress Reports are issued each mid-quarter. Grade reports, including behavior comments, are issued at the end of each marking period. Errors in grade reporting should be reported to the Assistant Principal for Academics. It is important to report these errors in writing, as soon as possible.

PLAGIARISM

Maintaining academic integrity is extremely important at Holy Cross. **Plagiarism will not be tolerated at Holy Cross. Plagiarism is cheating.** A student plagiarizes when they take someone else's words or ideas (in part or in total), and then incorporates those words or ideas into their own work without giving credit to the original sources. Unless a student has been directed to research information from outside sources, including internet web pages, they must always submit original work. **If this is not done, the work is considered to be plagiarized, and a score of zero will be given for that assignment.**

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Holy Cross High School recognizes the potential of AI in its mission of educating the young men and women of character and integrity while upholding its high academic standards. Holy Cross views this as an opportunity for our dedicated faculty to work with your young learners as co-learners in this technology, while building a culture of integrity in the classroom and beyond. This position ensures students continue to take responsibility for their own learning through the ethical use of this evolving technology. Holy Cross' goal is to properly balance the use of AI as a tool for student growth and development as they go forth to transform the world for God's greater glory.

INCOMPLETE “INC” GRADE STATUS

The status of incomplete (INC) is given, in rare circumstances, to a student who, for approved reasons, is unable to complete their course requirements in a marking period. Students who have received an (INC) will be responsible for completing the necessary requirements as soon as possible after the incomplete is received. An incomplete (INC) is never given as a final grade.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

In rare instances, a student may request a schedule change to reflect revised elective courses. A \$75 fee is attached to such instances.

ACADEMIC INTERVENTION & ELIGIBILITY

A student who is achieving less than 70% **in two or more courses a quarter** is placed on Academic Intervention. Freshmen, Sophomores and Juniors who are listed on Academic Intervention will be required to attend an after school program. A student on Academic Intervention is in jeopardy of being dismissed. Seniors who fail one or more subjects in a quarter lose their privilege of early dismissal for the next quarter.

A student who is failing two or more subjects in any marking period will be ineligible for any interscholastic sport or co-curricular activity in the following marking period. A Freshman on probation may request a review of their probation at the mid-quarter. It is the student's responsibility to initiate the appeal with their guidance counselor. All decisions are rendered by the Assistant Principal for Academics. This appeal is for Freshmen only and is limited to one marking period during their Freshman year.

SUMMER SCHOOL CREDIT RECOVERY

A student who fails a course during the regular school year is required to attend summer school to make-up and receive credit for the failed course. Students must attend an accredited summer school program approved by the Principal/Assistant Principal of Academics. Special directions for implementing summer school procedures are published at the end of the school year.

ACADEMIC DISMISSAL

A student's academic progress is continually evaluated to determine the integration of their schedule and their projected graduation. **Students who fail more than two courses on the final report card are subject to dismissal.**

PARENT/TEACHER/STUDENT COMMUNICATION

Parents should check their student's progress frequently through their *PowerSchool* and Google accounts. Holy Cross High School will be using SchoolMessenger™ for schoolwide communications through email, phone notification, and text messaging.

Parent, Teacher, Student (PTS) conferences are scheduled twice each year by the school. **Students must be a part of these conferences for clarity of communication, and appropriately placed responsibility.** Holy Cross High School uses TeacherReacher™ to assist parents in scheduling appointments for these conferences.

Holy Cross High School strives to support all of our students' needs. Parents are expected to notify the Guidance Counselor of any special needs or conditions that may affect a student's academic performance or behavior.

As the need arises, parents are encouraged to **contact teachers**. The primary method for this contact is the school gmail account. Faculty may also be reached by telephone via the Main Office, extension 510, concerning student performance.

TRANSCRIPTS OF ACADEMIC RECORDS

There are two types of transcripts:

- Official: These transcripts are sent directly to a college or employer. In no case will an official transcript be sent to a student.
- Unofficial: These transcripts do not bear the official seal and can be sent directly to the student.
- A fee of \$5.00 is charged for each transcript. Payment must accompany the request. No request will be honored if any previous fee or tuition is outstanding.

GRADING POLICY FOR CHRONICALLY LATE AND/OR ABSENT STUDENTS

All students who attend Holy Cross are responsible for completing all class assignments. Lateness and/or absence is not a valid excuse for incomplete work or for failing to hand in assignments. When an assignment is not handed in for any reason by the date it is due, the student will receive a grade of zero which will be posted in the appropriate teacher's grade book. Students will be afforded a reasonable period of time within which to submit any missing assignments for grading purposes. Deductions will be taken according to the syllabus and course requirements provided by individual teachers to their students at the beginning of the school year or semester. **All courses include a written policy regarding attendance and participation in class. Attendance can impact 10% of a student's final quarterly grade.** The syllabus and course requirements for each course are posted on every teacher's Holy Cross Google class page and should be reviewed by students, parents and guardians at the commencement of any given semester.

VI. DEPARTMENT OF GUIDANCE

The Holy Cross High School Guidance Department is dedicated to helping students reach their fullest academic, social, and emotional potential. We accomplish this in collaboration with students, parents, teachers, and the Holy Cross administration. Our counselors provide counseling services in a friendly, non-judgmental and confidential environment. The counselor/student ratios allow for a strong relationship to be established.

Throughout the high school years, counselors place special emphasis on student performance in relation to their individual abilities. The primary objective during freshman year is to ensure that every student has a successful transition to high school. In the sophomore year, students are encouraged to continue to strive academically and to become more involved in the Holy Cross community. Students will participate in service learning and have opportunities to explore career interests.

The junior year is a time for thoughtful college and career planning. Students and Parents/Guardians attend individual and group meetings where they will receive information and materials specifically prepared for Holy Cross High School. Students and Parents/Guardians are encouraged to attend our Annual College Fair in the fall. The Holy Cross Guidance Department works closely with each student to prepare him or her for the college selection process. Our goal is to have our students accepted to the college/university that meets the student's individual selection criteria.

The senior year begins with our **mandatory** Senior Night. This informative evening is critical to the student and parent understanding of the college application process. Students and Parents/Guardians are strongly encouraged to attend our annual Financial Aid Night where the college financial aid process is thoroughly discussed. In addition, Seniors should attend our College Fair in the fall where they can speak directly with college representatives. Throughout senior year, students are to meet established goals in order to succeed academically.

We are a highly successful college preparatory high school with outstanding college acceptances and scholarships. The school counselors take pride in recognizing the individuality of each student and work with him or her to succeed in high school and beyond.

LOCATION AND APPOINTMENTS

The Guidance Department is located on the fourth (4th) floor to the right of the main stairwell. Students can contact their assigned counselor by utilizing their gmail account to request an appointment. Once the request is received, your assigned counselor will set a time to meet and issue a pass that is convenient to both the student and counselor. Counselors can only legally speak with those persons registered on the student's school contact information.

PERSONAL FAMILY INFORMATION

Divorced or separated parents must file a court-certified copy of the custody section of the divorce or separation decree with the Principal's Office. The school will not be held responsible for failing to honor arrangements that have not been made known.

VII. ATTENDANCE

SCHOOL ABSENCE

Attendance and participation in class are vital to academic success. Student absences prevent full participation in the educational process. New York State law allows a legal absence or lateness for the following reasons: sickness, death in the family, or requirements of court appearance. College visits and observance of religious holidays outside the scope of the Holy Cross calendar will be considered absences. When a student is absent from school, his/her parent/guardian must call the ATTENDANCE OFFICE (718 886-7250 Ext. 518) before 8:00 A.M. The student's name, year of graduation, and reason for absence should be given. **Parents are required to provide their student with a signed absence note containing an explanation of the absence. Students are required to submit the signed absence note to the Attendance Office on the morning of their return to school. Students will then be issued a Readmittance Slip which they will present to each of their teachers for signature. Students will return the signed Readmittance Slip to the Attendance Office at the end of the school day.**

In accordance with New York State Law, a student who is absent due to illness for five (5) consecutive days is required to present a note from his/her physician upon returning to school. Any long term medical issues that impact student attendance must be documented, to the satisfaction of the Administration of Holy Cross High School, by a physician.

STUDENT ABSENTEEISM

Attendance Matters (Absence, Lateness, Early Dismissal)

Please read carefully: Administration has sole discretion in deciding its responses to students and families who are not in compliance with these or any school policies. Students are expected to arrive at school on-time, attend school daily, and be prepared for the day. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated and will result in a student's optimal success. Official Attendance is taken daily in HOMEROOM, and in each class.

HOMEROOM

All students are expected to be on time for their daily HR period. During HR, the official daily attendance is taken. We begin every day in HR with Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance; students are required to stand for both the Prayer and Pledge. Students must be in their seats at 8:05 AM in Homeroom to be considered on time for school. Students should have already

been to their lockers to deposit any outerwear and be in school-regulation shoes and uniform with their ID at the time they arrive in Homeroom and attendance is taken.

Attendance on days that have special schedules (i.e., Walk-a-thon, Retreat, Career Day, Junior Unity Mass, etc.) is mandatory.

The Administration of Holy Cross High School determines if reasons for absence are legitimate. Unusual circumstances surrounding absences should be made known to the Assistant Principal for Campus Life.

When possible, students are required to inform their teachers of an upcoming absence prior to the actual absence. All students are responsible for meeting with their teachers to arrange for learning and testing in the missed areas of instruction. **Absence from school prohibits a student from attending and or participating in all school activities, co-curricular and dances. Vacations should not be scheduled during the school year. Sufficient time off exists during the academic calendar year for the scheduling of vacation time.**

When a student returns to school after an absence, he/she reports to the Attendance Office to submit a note written and signed by his/her parent/guardian or a doctor's note. **A Readmittance Slip will be issued to the student when he/she submits their signed absence note to the Attendance Office.** Class attendance is a primary responsibility of every student.

CONSEQUENCES FOR EXCESSIVE ABSENCES

Students are accountable for every absence. Absenteeism is not a valid excuse for incomplete or missing work. Students are responsible for completing all work missed due to lateness or absence. The student will receive a grade of zero for all missing work. Deductions will be taken according to the syllabus provided by the teacher at the beginning of the course.

- Absence from school or a class without permission is serious, considered TRUANCY, and may lead to dismissal. Any work missed due to truant behavior will result in a zero.
- If a student is absent ten (10) days in a single semester, a mandatory meeting with the student, parents and guidance counselor will be arranged, at which time conditions for continued enrollment at Holy Cross High School will be discussed.
- Any student who is absent for more than twenty (20) days total in a school year may be denied credit for courses taken during that school year.
- **The denial of course credit also pertains to students who are absent from individual classes due to chronic lateness or repeated early dismissal requests.**
- Holy Cross High School is responsible for ensuring that all enrolled students are actively attending school. Excessive absences will be reported to Child Protective Services.

LATE TO CLASS

Students are expected to be on time and in their seats for the start of all classes **AND** study halls. A student who is **late to class** will be issued a detention.

LATE TO SCHOOL (TARDY)

Students are expected to be in their seats in Homeroom by 8:05 AM in full uniform, otherwise they are considered late and must report to the Attendance Office for a late referral and an incident slip. Mass Transit, weather related issues, the distance that students have to travel to get to school, and subsequent traffic are not acceptable reasons for lateness. **It is strongly recommended that students target themselves to arrive at school between 7:30 AM and 7:45 AM. As the school is located in a congested area, sufficient time must be allotted for a timely arrival to school. In the event of a late arrival due to an appointment, the appropriate documentation must be provided to the Attendance Office at the time of the student's arrival at school.**

CONSEQUENCES FOR TARDINESS

- **If a student is late to school, the student will receive a detention that must be served by the afternoon of the next school day.**
- Five (5) late to school infractions in a semester will result in a meeting with the parents/guardians, the AP for Campus Life, and the student's guidance counselor.
- Any Student who is late six (6) or more times will be denied the ability to participate in extracurricular activities. This includes after school sports, clubs, dances, dress downs and pep-rallies. The student will be placed on a probationary period of two weeks whereby the student has the ability to demonstrate the willingness to arrive at school on time. After the two-week probationary period, if the student has not incurred any further latenesses, the student can resume extracurricular activities, in addition to having served the required detention hours.
- Additional latenesses to school during a probationary period will result in suspension from school.
- If a student continues to be late to school after a suspension, a Disciplinary Review Board meeting will be held to review possible consequences up to and including dismissal from Holy Cross High School.

EARLY DISMISSAL

Early dismissal from school is rigorously discouraged. If it is absolutely necessary for a student to have an early dismissal, it can **ONLY** occur after a class, not during a class, as it interferes with the learning and instructional environment of the student body. Therefore, please be mindful of the student's schedule. Students must present a signed note to the Attendance Office on the morning of the early dismissal. Parents should not email the Attendance Office with a request for an early dismissal, as it interferes with the operation of the school offices. Only in the case of a student being medically released to travel home on their own will the Attendance Office accept a signed letter sent via email. All doctor appointments should be scheduled after the school day is completed.

VIII. CAMPUS

Holy Cross is a closed campus. The Campus is open from 7:30 AM until 3:45 PM on regular school days. These hours are subject to change for special events, activities, games, etc. Students are expected to enter the school building immediately upon arrival at school. A student cannot leave the building from 8:00 AM until dismissal without permission of the Administration. **Loitering in the vicinity of the school is prohibited.**

LOITERING

Holy Cross High School is located in a residential neighborhood and has a responsibility to its neighbors. Therefore, loitering, littering or causing a disturbance anywhere in the neighborhood of the school is not permitted. When students arrive at school in the morning, by whatever means of transportation, they are to enter immediately and remain in the school building. Students waiting for buses after school are to wait on the school property. As the rights of people living in the neighborhood and the good reputation of the school are involved in this matter, any offense against this rule may result in disciplinary action.

CLASSROOMS are available by 8:00 AM each morning. For the security of each student, it is necessary for a teacher to be in each classroom before students enter the room. Students may only use the CAFETERIA, AUDITORIUM, OR LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER before school in the morning. Breakfast may be purchased each full day that school is in session. Food and beverages, including water, are permitted only in the cafeteria, and cannot be brought outside the cafeteria.

Students are not permitted in Restricted Areas that are marked by a sign. All students are expected to leave the campus at the end of their club or sports activity. There is no access to the elevator after 3:45 PM and no student should be in the building unless accompanied by a supervisor. Students found in the building without supervision are subject to dismissal.

DOORS

While construction is in progress on the Courtyard Entrance, students are to use the 170th Street entrance. **Upon the completion of construction, students are to ENTER the building only via the Courtyard entrance, accessible from either 169th St. or 170th St.** All doors to enter the school MUST be closed at all times. Students may not open a door for anyone. **Once a student enters Holy Cross, he/she MAY NOT exit the building without permission (from the Attendance office) until the student's official school day has concluded.**

HOMEROOM

Each student is assigned to a homeroom which serves as the basic unit of organization in the school. Homeroom is the first class of the day. All students should be present for Morning Prayer and announcements. After announcements, only an Administrative pass will excuse a student from homeroom. **All student business should be concluded by 8:05 AM, including cell phone use.**

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR

The Assistant Principal for Campus Life and the Deans reserve the right to send home any student who consistently disrupts the classroom environment and interferes with the educational experience of others. If a student is sent home, a parent meeting must be scheduled before the student is permitted to return to school. Continued disruptive behavior following the parent meeting will result in suspension and the scheduling of a Disciplinary Board meeting to consider the possibility of the student's dismissal from Holy Cross High School.

HALLWAY BEHAVIOR

Students are expected to behave in a safe and orderly fashion in the school building. Pushing, running, shoving, yelling, using inappropriate language, blocking passage, or disturbing classes before, during, or after school is strictly prohibited. Students are not permitted in other classrooms. During P.A. announcements, students are expected to stop and listen before continuing on their way.

CAFETERIA

Holy Cross has partnered with Corato Food Service Group to offer a full cafeteria service for the school. This service would be available beginning each school day starting at 7:30 AM. **No food deliveries are allowed in the cafeteria. All food and beverages may only be consumed in the cafeteria. No beverages or foodstuffs may be taken from the cafeteria.**

In the morning, the cafeteria will offer both hot and cold breakfast in the cafeteria. Students will have access to the cafeteria for breakfast from 7:30 AM until 8:00 AM.

During the student's assigned lunch period both hot and cold lunches are available for purchase. Holy Cross, in partnership with Corato Food Service Group, offers MySchoolBucks which enables students to pay for purchases through their Holy Cross Student ID card. Parents would simply load money onto the student's account through the MySchoolBucks website <https://www.myschoolbucks.com>. Students use their Holy Cross issued ID card to make payments for purchases in the cafeteria whether it be before or during their designated lunch period. If a child forgets their ID card, they can request and pay for a new ID Card from the Dean's office - room 209. Corato Food Service will accept cash in the cafeteria for the purchase of food and beverage. It is the sole responsibility of the student and their parent(s) or guardian(s) to remember to load money onto the student's MySchoolBucks account. Students are not required to use the MySchoolBucks system. Students may also bring their own lunch from home. If a student is bringing their own lunch, please know glass bottles are not permitted. They may bring a water bottle from home or a hydro flask water bottle.

Students are expected to clean up after themselves. Students who engage in disruptive behavior before or after school are subject to disciplinary action. **While students are in their lunch period, they are required to ask permission to use the restroom; once permission is granted, they need to create a Smartpass (Digital Hall Pass) while they are in their lunch period.** The cafeteria is open after school but not for food purchases. Students may visit the cafeteria to complete their homework assignments, await their late bus, or after school activities. Students are responsible for following the after-school dress code: school uniform. Students participating on athletic teams may wear only HC approved athletic attire while in the cafeteria. All athletic equipment is strictly prohibited in the cafeteria, i.e. bats, football helmets, etc.

RESTROOMS

The purpose of the restrooms is to be utilized appropriately and then exited; congregating in the restrooms is not permitted. Any student misusing the purposes of the restroom will be referred to the Office for Campus Life/Grade level Dean. Please respect the space and all who utilize it. **One person in a stall at a time.** If two or more students are within a bathroom stall together a discipline infraction (detention) will be issued. Students requesting to use the restroom during class time/or while in the cafeteria are required to ask permission from the teacher, and to then create a SmartPass (on their Chromebook). *If a student requests to use the restroom often, the Deans will speak with the student, contact the parent /guardian, and, if necessary, refer the student to the school nurse.

EATING AND CHEWING GUM

Any eating of food in school, except in the cafeteria, is NOT permitted. **Chewing gum in school at any time is not permitted.**

STUDY HALLS

Study Halls are a time for academic preparation. Students must come to the Study Hall prepared to do school work. Individual seating will be assigned. Study halls by definition, are QUIET. **The use of Earbuds will not be permitted during a Study Hall.**

SELECTIVE ACCESS

For reasons of good order, safety, legal responsibilities and the well-being of each student, use of the areas listed below require specific teacher permission, and observance of the rules for the use of that space.

- Gymnasium
- Weight Room
- Music Room
- T. V. Studio / Production Center
- Art Room
- Auditorium/Stage
- Locker Rooms
- Computer Facilities
- Library Media Center
- Departmental Offices

LATENESS - TEACHER:

If a teacher has not arrived for a class after it is scheduled to begin, a representative from the class is to report to the Main Office. All students are to remain orderly and await further instruction. Students are never allowed to dismiss themselves. Additionally, if a student “believes” a teacher may be absent, the student still must go to class on time and follow any special instructions if the teacher is absent. Students cannot presume class is canceled.

MEDIA CENTER - LIBRARY

The Library, located in the Media Center, is normally open from 7:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m., when school is in session, to all students for QUIET study, research and reading. Students who wish to use the Library as a Study Hall must sign up via the website ahead of time, before the start of homeroom. Library circulation policies and procedures are in effect at all times using their school issued student ID. The Media Center also provides services for chromebook repairs and school account issues. When coming to the Media Center for such services, students must first ask their teacher and then a Smartpass must be created prior to arriving. **Cell phone or earbud use is not permitted in the Media Center at any time during the school day.**

IX. MISCELLANEOUS

NEW YORK STATE TEXTBOOK LAW (NYSTL)

Under NYSTL, students are loaned hardcover textbooks for their course requirements. Students are responsible for covering each NYSTL book. Each book has a nameplate which the student signs when he/she receives the textbook. At the conclusion of the course, the student returns the same book that was loaned to him/her.

If the book is not returned, or the NYSTL signature plate is missing from the book, the student will be charged the full cost of replacement.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Peaceful and safe public transportation is the protected right of the citizens of New York. Students are equally entitled to those rights. At the same time, students are equally responsible not to cause danger or discomfort, or to be abusive to fellow passengers.

Holy Cross High School supports and endorses all public codes and civil penalties for behavior on public transportation. We cooperate fully with the Transit Authority in the enforcement of the codes, sanctions, and penalties, as they relate to students.

Holy Cross students are reminded that **they represent the school** when traveling to and from the school, and therefore should conduct themselves accordingly.

EMERGENCY DRILLS

Students should familiarize themselves with emergency protocols and exit directions which are posted in each classroom. Students are to exit and re-enter the building in a quiet and orderly manner. Students must always follow the directions of their teachers.

PARKING REGULATIONS

Parking is prohibited:

- At the yellow curb area in front of the school between the hours of 7AM and 4PM on school days.
- In all driveway entrances of our neighbors around the school.

Student parking is prohibited:

- On 169th and 170th Streets.
- In all driveway entrances of our neighbors around the school.

SCHOOL CLOSING AND WEATHER EMERGENCIES

In the event of weather related school closings, **please do not call the school**. Check our website www.holycrosshs.org for up-to-date information. Parents receive both a text message and a robo-call. The website gets a banner update and the social media outlets get updates as well.

CHANGE OF VITAL INFORMATION FORM

Any custodial parent who needs to update vital contact information must contact the Registrar Office, Ext. 523.

STUDENT ID

Each student receives a picture bar coded Identification Card. It is necessary that this student identification, "ID", **be worn with the school lanyard every day.** It is considered part of the school uniform. A student who is unable to produce an ID card when requested from a faculty/staff member may be subject to detention.

If an ID card is lost or stolen, it should be reported immediately to their class Dean. Loss of an ID card will result in a \$3 fee for a reprint.

LOCKERS

All students must purchase one (1) combination lock from the bookstore which must be used to secure student lockers at all times. This lock is to be used on their regular school locker. **Outside locks are not permitted.** The purchase of a second lock is recommended for their gym locker. The lock serial numbers, and combinations, are registered with the Office of Campus Life. **Sharing of lockers is strictly prohibited and disciplinary consequences will be applied if students are found to be in violation of the school policy.**

All lockers are the property of Holy Cross High School and may be opened and searched by the Administration of the high school at any time. Students must keep their lockers neat and tidy. The Office of Campus Life also reserves the right, in the interest of the student body's safety and well-being, to search a student's bags or person.

Lockers for students participating in team sports are assigned by the Director of Athletics. Only locks issued by Holy Cross High School are permitted. The use of personal or outside locks is strictly prohibited.

LOST AND FOUND

Any personal property found in the school is to be delivered immediately to the Main Office or to the supervising teacher/coach at the time. A student who has lost or misplaced property may ask at the Dean's Office (209) to see if the property has been returned.

If a student believes with good reason that they have been a victim of theft or extortion at Holy Cross, or traveling to and from Holy Cross, they should notify the Assistant Principal for Campus Life.

PARENT PORTAL (POWERSCHOOL)

You (as a parent/guardian) and your student will have access to the HC Parent Portal. This allows you the opportunity to check on the student's grades, as well as his/her discipline record, attendance, and lateness to school. Parents receive their Access ID and Access Password during chromebook pickup. Parents are required to activate their parent accounts within the first week of school.

X. STUDENT ASSEMBLIES AND ACTIVITIES

GYMNASIUM, AUDITORIUM

When students assemble by class or student body in the gymnasium or auditorium, it is necessary to cooperate with the officers of the assembly. Students should be aware of the safety of others, treat their fellow students with respect, and listen to supervisory personnel. Students must be courteous and attentive at all times.

SPECTATORS

Holy Cross students are conscious of the fact that **they represent the school** at all off-campus events. They should conduct themselves with the same care as is expected at Holy Cross. Students are not permitted to use spectator events, especially competitive games, as an opportunity for rude, inappropriate or wild activity, in the interest of school spirit. In fact, school spirit demands respect for others and their property. Any student displaying inappropriate behavior at an after school event will be asked to leave. Repeated infractions at after school events will result in the student being banned from all Holy Cross sponsored events for the remainder of the year.

SCHOOL DANCES

Dances are a social and recreational activity of the student body. They are also important public functions, where persons who are not directly affiliated with Holy Cross High School meet the student body and use our facilities. It is important that we treat our friends and guests with respect and dignity. To that end, the following code of conduct is the rule at Holy Cross.

- Dances are open to Holy Cross students and their guests. Students are to make sure that their guests are aware of the Holy Cross Code of Conduct.
- Students may leave the dance at their own discretion. Students are not readmitted after leaving the dance.
- SMOKING/VAPING IS PROHIBITED in all areas of the building at all times.
- The use or possession of **ALCOHOL AND DRUGS ARE PROHIBITED** in all areas of the building at all times.
- Lewd or sexually suggestive dancing is prohibited and will result in dismissal from the dance.
- The school reserves the right to set the standard for dress at a school dance for all who attend. Those who violate this standard may be requested to leave.

SCHOOL TRIPS

Students who participate in any school trip are expected to comply with all Holy Cross rules while away from the school. The school also reserves the right to set the dress code standard on these trips. When a student misses class due to a school trip, they must notify their teacher(s) in advance or be subject to a zero on all assignments. It is the student's responsibility to make up all assigned work and exams. Transportation for school trips will be in school-owned vehicles. A student on academic or disciplinary probation may be prohibited from attending

school trips. Final determination for student eligibility for participation in a school trip rests with the Office of Campus Life.

XI. BUSINESS OFFICE

The Business Office is available by phone during normal school hours. The hours during vacation periods may vary slightly.

PRE-REGISTRATION

In the second semester of each year, currently enrolled students register for the next academic year. At this time, students select their courses for the coming year, and the first tuition payment for the next academic year is due. This secures the student their active status. Failure to make the tuition down payment will suspend scheduling for the student and list the student as non-registered.

TUITION

Holy Cross High school is an independent Catholic School and finances operations largely through the collection of tuition. As responsible citizens of our community, we count on your prompt payment of tuition so that we can meet our financial obligations to the community. The tuition is established and published each academic year by the Board of Directors.

PAYMENTS

We are pleased to announce that we have partnered with Blackbaud Tuition Management to process and collect tuition and fees for the 2025-2026 school year. As a family with a student/students attending Holy Cross in all grades this fall you are all enrolled in the Tuition Management Online System to begin making payments. By accessing your account online you can also review account history, transaction details, edit your contact information, password, and payment method. Tuition Management enables you to select a payment method that works best for you (monthly, quarterly, annually or semi-annually). You can choose to receive an invoice and pay by check or credit card (all major credit cards accepted) or set up recurring automatic payments from your bank account or credit card. You can also call a customer service representative toll free to make payments at (888) 868- 8828. You should contact the business office directly to discuss all matters relating to your account. As noted above, Holy Cross is dependent on our families honoring their obligation to make timely tuition payments. Families falling behind will be subject to late fees and other admin fees. The school will not honor any requests for transcripts if tuition is in arrears.

FUNDRAISING

Students must participate in the one required school fundraiser, the Annual Brother Ralph Edmiston, C.S.C. Walkathon, during the school year. Proceeds from our annual Walkathon are used to enhance the educational experience of our students. NO tuition money is utilized for any of these special projects. Each student is required to raise a minimum of \$100 in sponsorships by December 31st of the current year; sponsorships not fulfilled will be the responsibility of the parent(s)/guardian(s).

GRADUATION

Seniors will not be allowed to graduate unless all financial obligations to the school are met. Tuition and the Senior Charge must be paid by February 15th of the year of graduation. Seniors on the monthly plan receive an automatic extension to the completion date of the plan. In addition, seniors will not be permitted to attend the Prom or receive a yearbook if their account remains in arrears by the sign up date of these activities. Final transcripts will not be sent on to colleges.

REFUNDS

The Freshman Registration fee is **NOT REFUNDABLE**. If after the first tuition payment is made in the spring of the next academic year, and the student voluntarily withdraws, the first tuition payment is refundable on the following schedule: withdrawal within 30 days of the Registration date – $\frac{1}{2}$ of the first tuition payment will be refunded; withdrawal within 60 days of the Registration date – $\frac{1}{4}$ of the first tuition payment will be refunded; withdrawal after 60 days of the Registration date – no refund. If a student withdraws voluntarily during the school year, tuition may be refunded on a prorated basis of ten months, minus the first tuition payment as indicated above. Attendance on the first day of any month counts as a full month.

INSURANCE

Holy Cross High School provides supplemental or secondary accident insurance coverage to all students for accidental injury while at school, or at a school sponsored function. The student's primary health/accident insurance coverage is through a personal or family plan. In order that the student and the school are properly protected, all injuries that occur on school property, or at a school-sponsored event, must be reported to the Assistant Principal for Campus Life **and** the Nurse in the School Health Office as soon as possible. Please provide the name, address and telephone number of any persons who witnessed the accident.

FEES

The Registration fee is a one-time charge when a student first enters Holy Cross. It covers all costs associated with registering a student and setting up schedules. The Senior fee is billed in January of the student's senior year. It covers all the costs associated with graduation, including the cost of the yearbook. These fees are non-refundable.

FINANCIAL AID

A limited amount of financial assistance is available to Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors. (Incoming freshmen follow a separate procedure at the time of Registration.) To apply for financial assistance, forms are available online beginning on February 1st. Completed forms, with appropriate tax returns, must be submitted online by May 25th. There is a processing fee which must accompany the submitted application.

XII. MEDICAL OFFICE

SCHOOL NURSE

The school nurse is available every day. He/she is available to assess unexpected illness and injuries and make appropriate referrals, as well as supervise authorized medications. A signed pass is required to be admitted to the medical office from the teacher of the class the student is missing. A pass to return to class will be issued when leaving the medical office. To be excused from physical education, the student must present a doctor's note stating the reason and expected return to activities **Any student not participating in physical education is ineligible to participate in any athletics.**

PHYSICALS AND IMMUNIZATIONS

NYS Law requires all new students entering Holy Cross High School to provide a medical examination form and a copy of immunization record signed with the medical providers license number, stamped and dated by their physician, hospital or clinic. It is important that you keep your child's vaccine schedule up to date. Please check with your child's pediatrician to make sure they have received all of their required vaccines. If your child is missing required vaccines in September, our school nurse will notify you and you will have **14 days** from the notification to get the vaccination, or your **child will be excluded from attending school.**

SPORTS PARTICIPATION

Any student interested in participating in any and all sports must submit a completed medical form dated on or after June 1st of every year, before tryouts, to the Athletic Department. New student athletes are required to register with "Family ID Athletic Registration" before participating in late summer athletic tryouts.

SENIORS

The mandate for all students entering 12th grade/senior year is to provide proof of having received a vaccination or booster of meningococcal vaccine on or after their 16th birthday. Parents must provide proof of immunization before the start of the school year. If your child is missing required vaccines in September, our school nurse will notify you and you will have **14 days** from the notification to get the vaccination, or your **child will be excluded from attending school.**

MEDICATION

The City of New York, Board of Health and Department of Education prohibit the unauthorized distribution of medication, including aspirin, to students in any school.

Holy Cross' policies in regard to medication are as follows:

- The School Nurse will supervise the self-administration of over-the-counter medication only with a **Medical Administration Form (MAF completed by doctor and signed by parent/guardian).**
- Chronic pediatric illness requiring medication/supervision by a healthcare professional is

to be reported to the School Nurse.

- **No student is allowed to carry medications or to self-medicate without having a MAF on file in the medical room. Otherwise parents or an authorized adult have to come to the school's medical office, bring medicine and administer the medicine to their child.**
- All medical forms are available on the Holy Cross website.

ILLNESS RELATED SCHOOL RELEASE:

A student to be released from school because of illness needs to be picked up by a parent or an authorized adult. **Students are not permitted to directly contact their parents by either telephone, email or text requesting to be picked up from school without authorization from the Medical Office or other Administrative offices. All telephone calls to the home on behalf of the student must originate from the Medical Office or other Administrative offices.**

STUDENT PREGNANCY:

In keeping with the teachings of the Catholic Church, we believe in the sanctity of marriage. We expect that our students know and understand the Church's teachings on abstinence, respect the dignity of their own bodies and to refrain from sexual intimacy outside of marriage. We understand the pressures placed on today's adolescents. Above all, we respect the sanctity of life. If a student learns that she is pregnant, she is to notify her Guidance Counselor immediately. The student's parents will meet with Guidance and Campus Life to review the student's educational options. If the family decides that they would like the student to continue her studies at Holy Cross, the student would have to be evaluated by a doctor to ensure that her continued attendance would be safe for both the student and the unborn child. The parents would have to give written permission for the student's doctor to speak with our School Nurse. Holy Cross reserves the right to restrict the student's activities at school for the duration of the pregnancy.

ELEVATOR USE

Only students with a signed doctor's note presented to the Medical Office will be permitted to use the elevator before, during, or after school. Students will be provided an elevator pass and must show it to any staff member that requests to see it. **Only students with a valid elevator pass are authorized to use the elevator. Students assisting others who have an elevator pass are not permitted to use the elevator themselves during the school day.**

CONCUSSION POLICY:

Students who sustain a concussion must present a doctor's note that addresses both academics and physical education. All students will adhere to a gradual return to play (5 days of slowly increasing activity) after being cleared to participate by their doctor.

APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT "WORKING PAPERS"

Students seeking "working papers" are to print the working papers application and Physical Fitness for Employment Certification from the Holy Cross website. Fill out both completely. Bring or email completed forms to the School Nurse in the Medical Office prior to the beginning

of classes, during their lunch break, Study Hall period or end of school day. They will receive working papers within two school days. Working papers are issued only to Holy Cross students.

WELLNESS PROTOCOLS 2025-2026

In order to maintain the health and safety of faculty, staff, and students, the following practices have been put in place. These practices were created under the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and NYS/NYC Department of Health.

<u>Protocol Area</u>	<u>Key Guidelines</u>
Stay-Home Criteria	Fever $\geq 100.4^{\circ}\text{F}$, vomiting, diarrhea, or communicable illness symptoms
Return Requirements	Fever-free ≥ 24 hrs, improving symptoms, no reliance on medications
Hygiene & Ventilation	Regular handwashing, cough etiquette, cleaning surfaces, improving air flow
Absence Support	No penalty for illness-related absences

These practices work in conjunction with the policies and procedures in the Holy Cross Student/Parent Handbook. Holy Cross will continue to update and revise procedures based on their guidance, and is subject to change.

HOLY CROSS REGULAR DAILY SCHEDULE

Students who are not seated by the start of Homeroom in full uniform are considered late.

Classrooms Open	8:00
Homeroom	8:05 – 8:14
Period 1	8:18 – 9:01
Period 2	9:05 – 9:48
Period 3	9:52 – 10:35
Period 4	10:39 – 11:22
Period 5	11:26 – 12:09
Period 6	12:13 – 12:56
Period 7	1:00 – 1:43
Period 8	1:47 – 2:30

CO-CURRICULAR CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

Holy Cross offers students the opportunity to participate in more than 40 clubs and activities throughout the course of the school year. Each club and activity is moderated by a staff member and overseen by the school administration.

Advertising Club	Guitar Club
Animal Rescue Club	HCTV Production Club
Art Club	Illustration Club
Asian Culture (Beyond the Food) Club	Ice Hockey
Astronomy & Astrophysics Club	Jazz Ensemble
Autism Awareness Committee	Mu Alpha Theta*
Badminton Club	National Honor Society*
Baseball	Outdoor Adventure Club
Basketball	Outdoor Track
Book Club	Photography Club
Bowling	Pickleball Club
Business & Financial Club	Ping Pong Club
Campus Ministry	Quiz bowl Club
Chess Club	Rho Kappa - History Honor Society*
Computer Club	Robotics Club
Cross Country Track	School Newspaper, <i>The Lance</i>
Culinary Club	School Yearbook, <i>The Cross</i>
Dance Club	STEP Team
Drama Club	Soccer
Dungeons & Dragons Club	S.O.C.A. - Students of Caribbean Association
English National Honor Society*	Spanish Honor Society*
Environmental Club	Spring Track and Field
Fashion Club	Student Council
Football	Volleyball
French Honor Society*	Weight Training Club - Boys/Girls
Gaming Club	Winter Indoor Track and Field
Golf	World Languages Club
Greek Life Club	

The Administration reserves the right to cancel any of these activities if there is not sufficient enrollment in that activity. Any student interested in starting a new club should present their proposal to the Office of Campus Life.

*Special Membership Application Process

TELEPHONE AND EXTENSION DIRECTORY

Main Office Hours are from 8:00 AM - 3:30 PM when school is in session.

Area Code 718

Assistant Principal For Campus Life	886-7250, Ext. 519
Assistant Principal For Academics	886-7250, Ext. 523
Admissions	886-7250, Ext. 558
Attendance (to report an absence)	886-7250, Ext. 518
Athletic Director	886-7250, Ext. 517
Athletic Event Schedule	886-7250, Ext. 561
Campus Ministry	886-7250, Ext. 612
Deans	886-7250, Ext. 528
Director of Instructional Technology /Google	886-7250, Ext. 576
Chromebook Repair	886-7250, Ext. 606
Driver Education	886-7250, Ext. 572
Guidance	886-7250, Ext. 571
Institutional Advancement Office	886-7250, Ext. 577
Main Office	886-7250, Ext. 510
Nurse's Office	886-7250, Ext. 515
President	886-7250, Ext. 529
Principal	886-7250, Ext. 570
Registrar	886-7250, Ext. 523
Service Coordinator	886-7250, Ext. 612
Tuition	886-7250, Ext. 574



APPENDIX A. STUDENT TECHNOLOGY USE AND BEHAVIORAL POLICY

The following is intended to provide general guidance of permissible and prohibited uses. These rules and guidelines do not attempt to state all required or prohibited activities by student users. Students, parents and school staff who have questions about whether a particular activity is prohibited are encouraged to contact the Director of Instructional Technology.

At Holy Cross High School, we use Google Workspace for Education to manage chromebooks, engage in digital assignments, communicate with teachers, and learn 21st century digital citizenship skills. Google Workspace for Education is a set of productivity tools from Google including Core Services, such as Gmail, Calendar, Docs, Classroom, and more used by tens of millions of students and teachers around the world. Holy Cross High School also leverages additional services from third-party applications (such as Clever, GoGuardian, YouTube, and Smart Pass) to enrich the learning environment of our students. All third-party apps are reviewed for approval by our Educational Technology Coordinator. If a third party service is approved, the EdTech Coordinator will enable access to that third-party service with your student's Google Workspace for Education account, and authorizes the disclosure of data, as necessitated by the third party service.

By sending your student to Holy Cross High School you are granting the school permission to create and maintain this Google Workspace for Education account for you child and for Google to collect, use, and disclose information necessary for these services to function. Google provides information about the information it collects, as well as how it uses and discloses the information it collects from Google Workspace for Education accounts in its Google Workspace for Education Privacy Notice. You can read that notice online at https://workspace.google.com/terms/education_privacy.html

A. Computer Use is a Privilege, Not a Right

Student use of the School computers, networks, and Internet services is a privilege and not a right. Unacceptable use/activity may result in suspension or cancellation of privileges as well as additional disciplinary and/or legal action including expulsion in severe situations. The Principal shall have final authority to decide whether a student's privileges will be denied or revoked. All students are responsible for their digital actions and activities, the School's network and internet services, and for their computer files, passwords and accounts.

B. Acceptable Use

1. All School devices are utilized for educational purposes ONLY.
2. Students must comply with all School policies, School rules and expectations concerning student conduct and communications when using school devices, whether on or off school property. Students represent their family, our School and our community in everything a student publishes. Web pages and social media are public; therefore, students will be held accountable for anything published that does not adhere to School policies.

C. Unacceptable and Prohibited Use

Unacceptable use of school devices includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Accessing or Communicating Inappropriate Materials - Students may not access, submit, post, publish, forward, download, scan or display defamatory, abusive, obscene, vulgar, sexually explicit, sexually suggestive, threatening, discriminatory, harassing, bullying and/or illegal materials or messages.

2. Illegal Activities - Students may not use School devices, networks and Internet services for any illegal activities. The School assumes no responsibility for any illegal activities of students while using school devices.

3. Violating Copyrights or Software Licenses - Students may not copy, download or share any type of copyrighted materials (including music or films) without the owner's permission; or copy or download software without the express authorization of the entity that owns the license to software. Unauthorized copying of software is illegal and may subject the copier to substantial civil and criminal penalties. The School unit assumes no responsibility for copyright or licensing violations by students.

4. Plagiarism - Students may not represent as their own work any materials obtained on the Internet (such as term papers, articles, music, etc.). When Internet sources are used in student work, the author, publisher and web site must be identified. The School assumes no responsibility for plagiarism that may result in prosecution.

5. Use for Non-School-Related Purposes - Using School devices, networks and Internet services for any personal reasons not connected with the educational program or school assignments while connected to the school network is prohibited. Students may not access blogs, social networking sites, etc. to which student access is prohibited while connected to the school network.

6. Misuse of Passwords/Unauthorized Access - Students may not share passwords; use other users' passwords; access or use other users' accounts.

7. Malicious Use/Vandalism - Students may not engage in any malicious use, disruption or harm to the School computers, network and Internet services or another student's device, including but not limited to hacking activities or other malicious acts.

8. Circumventing School Filters - Students may not attempt to or use any software, utilities or other means to access Internet sites or content blocked by the School filters. Students may not attempt to circumvent network security systems or monitoring software.

D. Student/Parent Financial Responsibility

The student and their parents/guardians are responsible for compensating the School for any cost to a device where a student did not adhere to School policies. This applies to both networked computers, school chromebooks and all other technology equipment.

Specific chromebook terms can be found in the Chromebook Usage Policy Agreement on the school website under Students.

E. System Security

Any student who identifies a security problem with the School's devices, networks or Internet must notify a teacher or staff member immediately.

F. Additional Rules

Students are not allowed to use personal devices in school during school hours.

G. Chromebook Usage Infractions and Consequences

Infractions	Consequences
Level 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No label (on the back of the chromebook)• Using assigned wifi password for another device• Using a personal device during the school day• Misplacing chromebook• Student's Chromebook is not charged	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Each Level 1 infraction = 1 hour detention
Level 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Logging into school chromebook with a non-school account• Lost chromebook• Viewing inappropriate material, first offense	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Each Level 2 infraction = 2 hour detention➤ Loss of school chromebook will result in a replacement fee.
Level 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lending/Borrowing school chromebook to someone else• Using a teacher chromebook• Intentional damage to the chromebook• Lost chromebook more than 2 times• Viewing inappropriate material, second offense	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Each Level 3 infraction = 1 Saturday detention, as well as a possible account lock for 1 week➤ Loss of school chromebook will result in a replacement fee.

APPENDIX B. CHROMEBOOK USAGE AGREEMENT

Student Responsibilities

- Students are responsible for keeping the device in reasonable, good condition throughout enrollment
- Students must bring Chromebook to school daily with full charge
- Never take device to outside repair services

Fees and Costs

- Damage/Loss Fee: \$400 full replacement cost if device is not kept in reasonable condition
- Early Departure: Students leaving before graduation must return Chromebook or pay \$400 replacement cost
- Charger Replacement: School does not provide replacement chargers

Usage Rules

- The chromebook/account should be used for educational purposes only
- Students must use school-issued Google account; no personal accounts for school purposes
- Sound must be muted unless teacher permission is given
- Student's device usage is monitored via school software
- No operating systems extensions are to be installed/downloaded

Repairing/Replacing School Chromebook

- Chromebook repair: Your technology fee includes covered repairs for accidental damage within reason
- The warranty does not warrant against damage caused by misuse, abuse, neglect, or vandalism

Important: If your School Chromebook is not working, please report to the Media Center. Any repair costs beyond the coverage is the responsibility of the parent/guardian.

Policy Subject to Change

By receiving the school chromebook, you understand that within the coming years, any changes to the policy and regulations are accepted.

Questions or Concerns? Please email Ms. Pirovolikos at learning@myhchs.org with any questions or concerns regarding school Chromebooks and school-assigned Google accounts.

STUDENT-PARENT HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

2025 – 2026

HOLY CROSS HIGH SCHOOL, QUEENS, NEW YORK

I acknowledge that:

- *my scholar and I have read and reviewed the contents of the STUDENT-PARENT HANDBOOK for the 2025-2026 academic year.*
- *the Student-Parent Handbook can be accessed online at www.holy_cross_hs.org.*
- *we are responsible for fulfilling the rules and regulations that it contains.*
- *all tuition payments for 2025-2026 school year must be completed by the dates stated in the 2025-2026 official calendar and that Holy Cross reserves the right to withhold educational services for lack of payment.*
- *the only email account Holy Cross High School will communicate through is the assigned School Gmail account.*
- *I must activate my parent PowerSchool account.*
- *my scholar must participate in the one required school fundraiser, the Annual Brother Ralph Edmiston, C.S.C. Walkathon during the school year.*

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Print Parent Name: _____

Signature of Student: _____ Date: _____

Print Student Name: _____

Please circle student grade: 9 10 11 12

SERVICE LEARNING ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & AGREEMENT

2025-2026

Service Learning is an essential component of a Holy Cross education and scholars must meet their service obligation of 100 total hours. The following hourly service requirements must be met each academic year:

- 10 Hours - Freshman Year
- 20 Hours - Sophomore Year
- 30 Hours - Junior Year
- 40 Hours - Senior Year

Students are responsible for documenting external service hours. Forms for documenting these are available in the Mission office on the second floor.

To ensure students safety, service must meet specific criteria and service contracts may be necessary. Service hours must be approved in order to count towards yearly requirements.

Service hours completed internally, through Holy Cross sponsored campaigns and events, will be tracked by the Coordinator of Service Learning or faculty coordinator of the event.

Approved Service:

- Holy Cross sponsored campaigns and events
- Volunteering through legitimate, non-profit organizations and community partners
- Students responding to a societal or community need

Unapproved Service includes 'acts of kindness' and standard responsibilities i.e.:

- Babysitting
- Working a Job ('But I didn't get paid.')
- Shoveling Snow

If parents/students are unsure if service will be approved, consult with the Coordinator of Service Learning prior to completion. Students who do not complete yearly requirements must complete service prior to the next academic year. Students who do not have 100 hours of service documented by May of their senior year will not receive their diploma until their requirement has been fulfilled.

Grade Level: _____

Student Name (Print): _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Print): _____

Parent Signature: _____