



SOPHOMORE PARENTS' MEETING 2018

ACT:

- Single most important number for college acceptance and scholarships
- Given 4 times per year at Holy Cross: August, October, March, and April
- Students should approach these exams very seriously
- Study and preparation in every class
- Students will set achievement goals in their classes
- Growth will be recognized at the academic awards in the spring

Sophomore Slump:

Sophomore slump – please remind them that between the excitement of first year of high school and Junior year events there can be a drop-off in enthusiasm during sophomore year. Parents need to be attentive to changes in behavior, sleeping patterns, eating patterns or concerns with grades. Sycamore is a big help – use it to stay on top of assignments and missing work.

We can also sometimes see an increase in negative or counter-productive behaviors during Sophomore year.

- This is a year when they are trying to more strongly identify with the upperclassmen, so parents, please be on top of your child's social media habits – who they are talking to, hanging out with and what types of conversations they are having.
- Connect and communicate with your child's friend's parents to be aware of social events at other people's houses – who will be attending – who is monitoring the event, etc.
- Holy Cross is a good school with a lot of good people but we are naive if we don't admit that some of our kids are drinking and doing other risky behaviors and that some of our families can have more liberal ideas about what they allow their children to do.
- Talk to other parents about their concerns and what they are dealing with – stay connected!

Below is a free webinar on some risky behaviors that are becoming more problematic and prevalent among teens. Register through Sycamore on the home page under “Headline News”.

Content Viewed By

REGISTER FOR OUR UPCOMING...

FREE Webinar: E-Cigarettes and Teens: Vaping, Puffing and Dripping

Presented by Dr. Patricia Purcell, MD

Monday, August 27, 2018 10am - 11am EST

[Register Now](#)

Learn about the newest trends in teen tobacco use and addiction; e-cigarettes and vaping.

- Identify e-cigarette and vaping devices
- Review prevalence and health effects with the use of these products
- Discuss parental strategies for prevention of tobacco use

*Please note: Once you've registered, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. If you are registered and are unable to attend the live event you will receive a recording of the webinar the following day.

Close

If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact Mr. Wood through email, jwood@holycrosshs.com or Pass-a-Note on Sycamore.

Driver's License:

- School must certify the student's grades and attendance
- We have a form that does this
- Form must be requested two days in advance
- If a student is failing 4 or more classes or has 9 unexcused absences he/she is ineligible
- Present license suspended for the above

Service Learning Program:

Why we serve:

Holy Cross is committed to educating and forming disciples of Jesus Christ. It is within the Catholic faith tradition that we teach, mentor, and empower students to embrace the seven themes of Catholic Social Teaching and explore their gifts and talents in service to others.

Our Goal of the Service Learning:

To draw young people to responsible participation in the life, mission, and work of the Catholic faith community. Holy Cross seeks to foster within each student their ability to discover who God called and created them to be... Service – being Christ for another – is one of the many ways Holy Cross does this.

Our Invitation to You:

We invite you as part of the Holy Cross Family to embrace our call to be Christ for one another and for others. You might be the only Jesus someone will encounter in their day – our hope and prayer is that you say YES! We serve as individuals, as families, as parish and church communities, as a school community and as citizens in our community at large. In each of these areas of one's life – God is inviting you to be of service to others – to be His hands and feet – most importantly to be His heart – and love others as He loves us! We intentionally invite you into being a part of sharing the love of Christ in all areas of your life.

What we are asking:

We will be serving in four primary areas Family, Parish/Church, School, and Community

SOPHOMORES – minimum of 16 hours

- 3 hours as a family
- 3 hours in your parish / church
- 3 hours here at Holy Cross
- 7 hours in the community at large

Grading Procedures:

Service is 10% of each student's theology grade. Service grades are issued at the end of each semester (**not quarters as in the past**). The theology course grade for each quarter will be determined by the completion of service hours on the given scale:

Sophomore

- 8 hours completed = 100%
- 7 hours completed = 87%
- 6 hours completed = 75%
- 5 hours completed = 63%
- 4 hours completed = 50%
- 3 hours completed = 38%
- 2 hours completed = 25%
- 1 hour completed = 13%
- 0 hours completed = 0%

General Guidelines:

- www.X2vol must be used to submit all service hours. No paper or emails will be accepted for recording of service. (Email is only used in the verification process).
- Part of recording your service hours includes giving a description of what you did and a paragraph of 3-5 sentences reflecting on your experience.

- X2vol will be updating their APP to include GPS Verification and Signature Verification in late September – we are excited for this feature as it will make verification of hours smoother.
- Service hours need to be completed when Holy Cross school is not in session.
- Holy Cross does have an approved agency list for students to select from in assisting them to explore agencies for their do community service portion. This document is in the process of being updated in Fall of 2018.
- Please email the Service Learning Coordinator (Ms Stammerman) at mstammerman@holycrosshs.com if service is to be completed at an agency not on the list PRIOR to completing your service, especially as it relates to community service.
- Students need an active school email account to use for all service related correspondence. Personal emails will not be recognized.
- Completion of minimal requirements is expected, falling short at end of semester can impact eligibility for sports and extra-curricular activities.

Due Dates of Service Hours to be Posted to X2vol

November 30, 2018 First Semester

May 6, 2019 Second Semester

(This is a change from the current handbook.)

Be sure not to procrastinate – so your experiences will be meaningful and not rushed!

Great Day of Service:

The annual Holy Cross Guild Service Day is an integral part of the overall mission of service here at Holy Cross. Our 8 Guilds go out into the community and provide service for 8 various agencies. All faculty and students participate in this amazing day by giving just at 1,800 hours of service in one day!! PHENOMENAL!!! It is an expectation that all students participate; those unable to participate will be given an alternative assignment to complete. In addition to the Day of Service, we will be having Jeans Days once a month and monies collected those days will be donated to the 8 Agencies who partnered with us in the Guild Day of Service!

How to reach the Learning Service Coordinator:

I am excited to be a part of this journey with each of you! You can reach me (Ms. Stammerman) best by email – mstammerman@holycrosshs.com . Contact information is also on the website.

Office hours are Wednesdays after school from 3:00 – 4:00. Students may also utilize their study hall time on Tuesdays and Thursdays for any service related questions. To utilize study hall time, students first need to request a study hall pass from Ms Stammerman and then give to their GAB Advisor before GAB starts that day.

To Help you Explore the Various Areas of Service – Here are some examples!:

Examples of Service as a Family

- Volunteer for or participate in a 5K Run/Walk for a charitable organization or cause
- Go to a service organization together and do service. (Soup Kitchens, Shelters, Nursing Homes)
- Chaperone and assist at events or programs of various organizations and non-profits.

Examples of Service at your Parish / Church

- Participate in any planned service event from your parish or youth ministry program
- Volunteer to serve in liturgical ministries – Serving, Ushering, Lectoring, Eucharistic Ministry, Choir, Setting up art and environment at Christmas or Easter...
- Assisting with parish programs or events – Festivals, Vacation Bible School, Nursery, Baby Sitting for programs...

Examples of Service at Holy Cross

- Look for a detailed list of opportunities to be communicated to students and posted on the website by end of September.

Examples of Service in the Community

- Any of the agencies listed on the Holy Cross Approved Organization List (being updated this fall). This is located on the Website – Student Section – Service Information