



2019-2020 ANNUAL REPORT



OUR MISSION: Provide the highest quality academic program where each student develops spiritually, intellectually, and socially. Rooted in the person of Jesus Christ and in the Catholic tradition, we strive to prepare our students to live a faith-filled life.

OUR CORE VALUES: Faith Formation + Academic Excellence + Community + Social Justice + Stewardship

Greetings from Holy Cross Academy!

While the world faced challenging times with the arrival of COVID-19, our 2019-2020 academic year was extraordinary and remarkable in so many ways. Last August, we began a school year that looked like most others, under the banner of our spiritual theme for the year: *Many Parts, One Body*. We would not know just how important coming together would be for our community.

In a year that ended with abrupt school closures, we remain thankful for the many things we were able to accomplish. We were awarded a Beyond Sunday grant from the Roman Catholic Foundation to implement curriculum based grading for advanced learners — helping our students to develop critical thinking and creative skills. This is an example of how we work to differentiate education within the traditional classroom.

Holy Cross Academy was founded in 2012, when area parishes realized the need to bring a collaborative and innovative approach to traditional parochial education. To create a more sustainable academy while upholding our mission to provide the highest quality academic and faith formation program, we announced a plan to change the structure of our parish campuses to devote them to focused grade levels. Today, the five parishes of Annunciation, Our Lady of Providence, Seven Holy Founders, St. John Paul II, and St. Michael the Archangel support the Catholic education of nearly 600 students across four campuses from preschool through eighth grade with a vibrant faith-based curriculum. St. John Paul II is home to our Early Childhood Education Campus; St. Michael the Archangel is our Primary Campus serving grades K-2; Our Lady of Providence serves as our Intermediate Campus for grades 3-5; and our Middle School Campus remains at Annunciation. As a result of these changes, our school campuses are the first parochial schools in the Saint Louis area to offer a truly individualized approach to academic instruction with advanced learner programs and unique learning resources.

In March, our administration and teachers quickly adapted from teaching in the classrooms to teaching students remotely. While we have always recognized the partnership in education that parents and teachers hold, we experienced that partnership to an incredible degree this spring. Our teachers worked diligently to bring a sense of normalcy to our students, and our parents stepped in to support the education from home. Through the creativity of our staff and families, we found ways to support one another—in our academics and our faith—when we could not physically be together.

We also saw a tremendous show of support from so many of you when the HCA Community Cares Fund was established to support those adversely affected by COVID-19. Nearly \$45,000 was raised in a matter of weeks, and these funds were used to support 17 families through tuition assistance this year.

We hope that you have enjoyed this update of Holy Cross Academy through our inaugural annual report. Please know that we are incredibly grateful for each of you. There are several ways to continue to support the Academy this year. Your donations to the Annual Fund, the Community Cares Fund, or your support of the Gala enable us to continue our rich tradition of Catholic education. As our school grows and changes to navigate the ever-evolving academic needs of our children, we remain grounded in our core values. We have faith that with your help, we can and will continue our mission.



We are Catholic. We are One. We are Holy Cross Academy.

In Christ's name,
Fr. Michael Esswein, Fr. John Brennell, Fr. Michael Grosch,
Fr. Christopher Holtmann, Fr. Richard Schilli, Mrs. Janet Dolan,
Mrs. Karen Folk, Mrs. Angie Langhauser, Mrs. Stephanie True

Consider a gift to HCA today: <https://www.holycross-stl.org/giving>.
Checks are payable to Holy Cross Academy; please include in your memo Annual Fund (where needed most), Community Cares Fund, or the Gala. Thank you.

"When I came to Holy Cross in sixth grade, I was transitioning from a public elementary school to a private Catholic school knowing only two people. I was relieved to find out that all of my teachers and other staff members were always more than happy to help me. From homework to finding the right classroom to our unique system of creating assigned lunch tables, HCA has helped me to make many new friends and eased my transition into high school. As a result of an education that feels both individualized and enriching, I have tested out of Algebra I for my freshman year and have been able to select electives that interest me. Holy Cross has prepared me for life in high school and beyond."

Catherine Buster

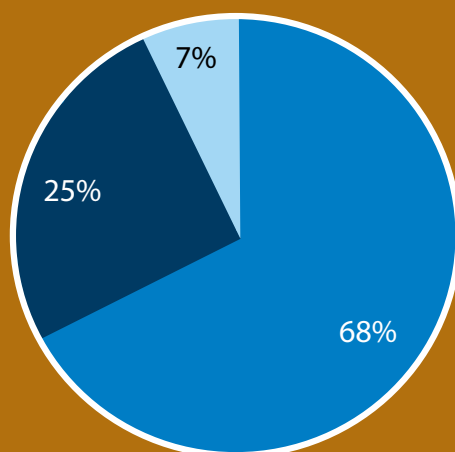
HCA Class of 2020



*We adore You
O Christ, and we
praise You, because
by Your Holy Cross
You have redeemed
the world.*

HCA FUNDING

2020/21 operating budget = \$4,366,500



- Parish Support
- Tuition, Fees & Sales
- Annual Fundraising Efforts*

**We thank YOU for your generous support of Holy Cross Academy. Your donations help bolster our budget as it stretches to provide resources to our students and teachers that not only positively impact their education, but their health and safety in this time of a global pandemic.*



Our faculty, staff & volunteers are a vital part of HCA. Visit holycross-stl.org for a full listing of employees and board members.

Congratulations!
**Holy Cross
Academy
Class of 2020
Graduate**



HCA Committees

Ways to get involved at Holy Cross Academy:

Academic & Student Life, Community, Communications, Development, Early Childhood, Faith Formation, Finance, Marketing, Student Support, Parent Support, Transportation, Holy Cross Parents Association (HCPA)

Holy Cross Academy is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation.



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Holy Cross Academy
Legacy Gala & Auction
is going *virtual!*

**Friday,
November
20th**

Register today!

<https://2020HCAGALA.givesmart.com>

Please consider supporting the Gala
through sponsorships or donations
of gift cards, items or experiences.

For more information, please
contact legacygala@hca-stl.org

We are Catholic.

We are One.

We are Holy Cross Academy.

SAVE
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