



The Cross and Community

A Holy Cross Academy Newsletter



Issue No. 11 | May 2026



Family Faith Reflection:

As we begin the summer season, we are filled with gratitude for the many blessings of this past school year. From moments of learning and growth to acts of faith, friendship, and service, God's presence has been evident throughout our Holy Cross Academy community.

Summer offers a different rhythm—one that gives us the opportunity to rest, recharge, and spend meaningful time with family and friends. Even as routines change, we are reminded that faith continues beyond the classroom. Whether through attending Mass, spending time in prayer, serving others, or simply appreciating the beauty of God's creation, summer can be a

meaningful time to stay connected to Him.

As families enjoy vacations, camps, and time together, we encourage everyone to continue living out our call to “serve one another through love” in simple, everyday ways. A kind gesture, helping a neighbor, or offering encouragement to someone in need are all opportunities to reflect Christ's love.

Thank you for a wonderful school year filled with partnership, support, and community spirit. We pray that your summer is safe, restful, and filled with joy, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back for another great year at Holy Cross Academy.

Principal's Message

Dear Holy Cross Academy Families and Friends,

We did it! The 2025-2026 school year was a journey of service, friendship, learning, and faith.

I have so much gratitude to the people who make up our school community.

- To the friends of HCA who make donations, spread the good word about us, and keep up to date on our mission and growth: thank you for letting us be part of your life.
- To the parishioners of Annunciation, Our Lady of Providence, Seven Holy Founders, and St. Michael the Archangel: your financial contributions and presence at our weekly Masses are appreciated.
- To our parents: the trust and support you give us brings meaning to our work.
- To our volunteers: your time and energy bring life and vitality to our school year.
- To our priests: your leadership in faith and your prayers for us enhance our mission.

- To our AMAZING faculty and staff: there are so many things you do that we never have the opportunity to say thank you for. You are valued. You are appreciated. You are excellent.
- To our students: without you we have no purpose. The joy, laughter, and spirit you fill the halls and classrooms with each day are such gifts to us! Watching you grow is our honor.

May this summer be filled with everything good and holy!

Sincerely,
Ms. Melissa Hunter
Head Principal



Holy Cross Happenings

Intermediate Spring Concert

The 3rd–5th graders performed a beautiful spring concert on April 22nd featuring songs centered around the themes of America in celebration of the Bicentennial and our schoolwide “Serve” theme. The students practiced for weeks, and their hard work truly paid off in a wonderful performance!



Bellarmino Speech Team

Our Bellarmino Speech Team had an incredible time at the final two meets of the year, and brought home some well-earned ribbons.

Humorous Category: Gita – Blue ribbon x2

Serious Category: Maggie –Blue ribbon,
Nicole –Blue ribbon x2

Duet Category: Theo and Gus –Red ribbon



Teacher Highlight

Our very own Ms. Amelotti (5th grade teacher) received the Excellent Educator of the Month Award from Crestwood/Sunset Hills Kiwanis Club!



ECEC Garden

There is an exciting new addition to our ECEC: Garden Beds! We can't wait to see what students will grow and learn about. Thank you to the families that helped create this new learning opportunity!



A note from Nurse Rita

“After many wonderful years at Holy Cross Academy, it is time for me to say goodbye as I retire. I am truly grateful for the support of all administrators, the friendships of my coworkers, and the joy of caring for such amazing students and their families. Thank you all! Have a healthy and happy summer!” - Nurse Rita Moylan

Holy Cross Happenings

5th Grade vs. Teachers

Dodgeball Game

Every year at the Intermediate Campus, the 5th grade class gets to play a game against the teachers. This year's class had a blast playing against their teachers and volunteers from Vianney high school. They also got to enjoy a treat from the Kona Ice Truck!



Mystery Trip

8th graders had a blast going to Top Golf, Main Event, Ted Drewes, Brentwood Park, Activate, and ending the day off with a BBQ with parents at Wehner Park!



Kindergarten Celebration



Frog Room Ice Cream Party

Thanks to the generosity of a Frog Room family at the Gala, the class got to enjoy an afternoon of ice cream in the sun!



Confirmation

April 25



First Communion

April 18



Field Day

May 8



Graduation

May 19



Faculty & Staff Corner

Q & A with Mrs. Kelly Martin

What is your role at HCA?

5th grade teacher.

How long have you been with HCA?

Two years.

What is your favorite part about being at HCA?

I love the spirit of community among teachers, parents, and students!

If you could give one piece of advice to students or families, what would it be?

Spend time with God every day.

What do you like to do outside of work?

Relax at the pool, watch TV, and kickboxing.

Favorite STL restaurant?

Charlie Gitto's.

Where would you like to travel to?

Greece.

Do you have a favorite scripture passage? What is it?

I can do all things through Christ who is my strength. Philippians 4:13



Q & A with Mrs. Jessica Harris

What is your role at HCA?

Primary Campus Learning Consultant.

How long have you been with HCA?

Nine years.

What is your favorite part about being at HCA?

THE STUDENTS! They make coming to work so fun with their smiles, stories, hugs, and aha moments.

What do you like to do outside of work?

I love swimming, reading, spending time with my family, and shopping and eating at local places.

Favorite STL restaurant?

Twisted Tree. My brother is the head chef!

Where would you like to travel to?

Hawaii.

Favorite HCA memory?

All Academy Days- There is nothing like seeing everyone come together!



From the Pews

St. Michael's Parish Picnic MONDAY JUNE 1, 2025



Schedule of Events:
Parade
 10:30am: Gather in SMA Parking Lot
 11am: Parade begins
 11:30am: Concessions open:
 Busses return to summer camp
Picnic
 Noon: Carnival rides open
 4pm: Chicken Dinners open—
 in the gym
 5pm: John Euers' Washer's Tourney
 on the front lawn
 6pm: SMA Games close
 7pm: The Defenders - Live!
 8pm: Rides close
 10pm: Picnic ends

PARADE INFORMATION:

Community Members, HCA and PSR students are invited to participate in the parade! The parade begins on Sutherland, north of the Parish Center. Golf carts and fun cars are also welcome.

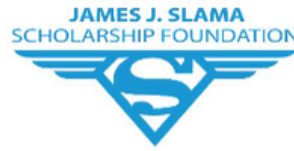
Students should wear the assigned color of the class they were in 2025-2026 school year.

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Kindergarten - Blue | Fifth Grade - Red |
| First Grade - Green | Sixth Grade - White |
| Second Grade - Yellow | Seventh Grade - Pink |
| Third Grade - Orange | Eighth Grade - High School colors |
| Fourth Grade - Purple | |

Ride Bracelets, Game tickets & bracelets, Raffle tickets, Dinners, and more can be purchased online:

<https://Stmike.org/Picnic>

Ride bracelets are \$35 pre-sale, \$40 day of picnic (available online and in-person May 24-25, after all Masses)



Congratulations to our HCA Scholarship Winners!

The James J. Slama Scholarship Foundation is pleased to announce our 2026 recipients. Austin received our Super Scholarship, a \$5000 renewable scholarship for all four years of high school, and Dylan received the Runner-up Scholarship, a one-time award of \$2000. These were presented at the HCA awards ceremony on May 15.

The James J. Slama Scholarship has now given away \$147,000 in scholarships since its inception in 2018, to students from all HCA parishes.



Rosary Repair Blue Boxes

The blue rosary box for Annunciation is in the brides room and for OLP, the rosary box is in the back of church. Broken rosaries, beads, center pieces and crucifixes are needed to repair and donate to organizations needing rosaries for their ministries. Personal rosaries are repaired at no cost. They will be returned to the rosary box when repaired.



For repairs, please leave your rosary in an envelope with your name and telephone number. Contact Marisue Stoll at 314-960-6831 for more information.



RACHEL MUETH MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT
OUR LADY OF PROVIDENCE

Sunday, June 7, 2026

Aberdeen Golf Club
4111 Crescent Rd. | Eureka, MO 63025

Four Person Scramble

Registration, lunch & driving range - Noon

Tee-off - 1:00 pm

Dinner & Raffle Drawings - after play

Learn more & register by using the QR Code.



Holy Cross Parents Association

Recap

Over the past month, HCPA has been busy bringing fun, encouragement, and appreciation to our Holy Cross Academy community!

Our Middle School students enjoyed a memorable evening together at the Middle School Skating Party, giving them the chance to unwind, laugh and spend time building friendships outside the classroom. Special thanks to Rollercade for hosting, and to event chair Christy Bauche and the many volunteers that helped make the evening possible.

We also celebrated our soon-to-be graduates with the annual 8th Grade Flocking tradition, unleashing flocks of navy and gold flamingos in front yards across St. Louis. Special thanks to flocking chairs Jenna Kopff and Kelly Kelly and the volunteers who assisted with moving the flocks from yard to yard.

During Field Day, HCPA helped keep the energy going by providing Ted Drewes treats for students and hosting a Teacher Refuel Station to give our hardworking faculty and staff a well-deserved boost throughout a busy day of activities. Finally, we celebrated the incredible dedication of our secretaries and teachers through special appreciation activities that reminded them just how valued they are. Thank you to all the parents who helped make these events such a success!

Upcoming HCPA Events

Uniform Resale | Sunday, July 19 | 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | Primary Campus

The Summer Uniform Resale is a great opportunity to stock up on polos, jumpers, skirts, gym uniforms and spirit wear for the next school year. And before this school year wraps, why not clear the closets of gently worn, outgrown items? Donations can be dropped off in the main office at any campus May 18-21. Arrangements can also be made over the summer by emailing hcpa@hca-stl.org.

Volunteers are also needed to assist with the sale. (Pro Tip: Volunteers get earliest access to what's available!) Sign up to volunteer [here](#).

July Jamboree | Date and Time COMING SOON! | Intermediate Campus

Be on the lookout this summer for an invite to July Jamboree – a fun summer get-together for the HCA community! Whether you're brand new to HCA or a familiar face, we invite you to come enjoy food, fellowship, and festive summer fun with fellow families before the school year begins. Details and sign up coming soon!

HCA Singing During 7th Inning Stretch | Tuesday, August 25 | 6:45 p.m. | Busch Stadium

Mark your calendars for one of our favorite HCA traditions when our students have the opportunity to sing "Take Me Out to the Ballgame"

Holy Cross Parents Association

during the 7th inning stretch of the August 25th Cardinals game. Stay tuned. Full details will be announced soon, and we'll need to meet a minimum ticket purchase requirement to make this exciting opportunity happen.

Ways to Get Involved

Keep an eye out for our end-of-year survey coming your way soon. We'd truly value your thoughts on this year's events AND ideas for what's ahead. And don't forget that we're always looking for additional parents to get involved and support our efforts throughout the year. And speaking of getting involved...Holy Cross Parents Association is still seeking its next Treasurer—a meaningful opportunity to serve our community in a hands-on way. This two-year role offers a unique behind-the-scenes look at all things HCA, while helping steward resources that build community and support our students, teachers, and families. If you're organized, detail-oriented, and looking for a way to get more involved, we'd love to hear from you! Email hcpa@hca-stl.org with any questions.

2025-2026 HCPA Board
President Marie Laury
Vice President Angela Kovarik
Treasurer Erin True
Secretary Sandy Schwab

