



# Holy Cross News

Vol. 11 No. 2

Holy Cross Academy: A private school loyal to the Magisterium. Est. 1997

Dec. 2005

## Looking Forward with Hope

As we celebrate Advent and Christmas at the beginning of the liturgical year, we look back and give thanks for all the blessings bestowed upon Holy Cross Academy. We also look forward with hope to the future and all the good things that lie ahead.

In June, we celebrated our fourth commencement, graduating seven, our largest class to date. Their faith and their diverse interests - medicine, engineering, agriculture, education - give us hope that they will enter the world as witnesses to Christ, working to transform all things in Him.

This past September, HCA opened its doors to the largest student population ever: 70. Our school is bursting at the seams and we are currently drawing up plans to expand the facility. Please pray for this endeavor - and watch for more exciting information to come in the next few months.

In the middle of December, we were blessed to have Our Lord present in the Holy Eucharist for an entire week in celebration of Advent. We thank Bishop Moynihan for granting this special privilege both now and during the season of Lent. Although we have Mass celebrated in the chapel many times throughout the year, we find ourselves longing for Our Lord to stay with us permanently, like the disciples on the road to Emmaus.



During Advent, we focus on preparing for the coming of Jesus. What better model than His Mother, Mary? "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. Be it done to me according to your word." In response to these words and this great faith, the Word became flesh and dwelt among us. Mankind could have been redeemed without our cooperation, but God desired that we participate through our free choice. It was through the free choice of Eve that sin entered the world, and it was through the free choice of the new Eve - Mary - that the sinless One came into the world to save us.

Though she was afraid and troubled by the words of the angel, Mary said "Yes". In our own lives and in the life of Holy Cross Academy, we would do well to imitate Mary and say "Yes," even when we are troubled and when we don't know how we can keep moving forward. We may hesitate for a moment and say, "How can this be?" But ultimately we say, "Be it done according to your word," knowing that nothing is impossible for God.

A blessed Christmas to you and your family and have a Happy and Holy New Year!

- Daniel Miller  
Trustees President



Class of 2005 from L: Jason Dostie, Patrick Collins, Jessica Vanderhoof, Joseph Rudd, Mary Droz, Jesse Tomcho, Joseph Maciag.



Katy and Abby Vanderhoof decorating for Christmas

### Remember:

- ◆ Matching Challenge through Dec. 31
- ◆ Sportsman Show Feb. 4
- ◆ Bingo Night - Mondays at the Knights of Columbus, Oneida

## Our "Prince" Has Come

After conducting a nationwide search for a principal, and after much prayer and consideration, we are happy to welcome our new Principal, Brian Prince who comes to us from the Wilmington, Delaware area.

Mr. Prince received his BA in sociology in 1998 from the University of Delaware and then went on to discern a vocation to the Priesthood. It was his desire to offer himself to God in the service of the Catholic Church and at the time believed that he was being called to the Priesthood. He spent the next three years as a simply professed brother with the Discalced Carmelite Friars in San Jose, California. Here he enveloped himself in prayer and the Liturgical Life of the Church. Through much prayer and with the guidance of his spiritual director, it became clear that God was not calling him to the Priesthood. So, he left the Carmelites and California and returned to his home in Delaware.

He began teaching and coaching at Aquinas Academy, a small Private Catholic school in Bear, Delaware with many similarities to Holy Cross. At Aquinas Mr. Prince taught Theology, Composition, Literature and Latin and was the head coach of the varsity girls' volleyball team which boasted a state ranking in 2004. He was also the assistant coach of the boys and girls varsity basketball teams as well as the golf team.

After feeling particularly drawn to an ad placed by HCA with CatholicJobs.com, and after a great deal of prayer and discernment, Mr. Prince has accepted the offer of becoming the new Principal of Holy Cross. He hopes to bring the same prayerful and dedicated enthusiasm to the family of Holy Cross Academy and the Community of Oneida.

Please help us welcome him into our school family and if you get a chance, stop in and meet him. You will learn in a short time that he truly is one of the family and shares the same vision for Holy Cross Academy and for our community. Welcome aboard, Mr. Prince!

We would also like to thank our former principal and teacher, Kelley Harrigan for her many years of service to Holy Cross. We wish her success and pray that God will bestow His many blessings upon her, her family and her new students at Canastota. Thank you Mrs. Harrigan!



Brian Prince

### Faculty/Staff 2005-2006

Brian Prince - Principal, Religion 12, Gov't  
Margaret Miller - Religion, Admin. Advisor  
Barbara Rudd - Social Studies/History  
Bill Marchak - Math  
Mary Ellen Shaver - Library  
Eric Belusar - Spanish  
Jerry Williams - English, Health  
Deborah Miller - Secretary  
Sandy Finley - Secretary  
Nettie Periard - Secretary  
Therese Maciag - Admin. Aide, Secretarial  
Tom Schneider - Phys. Ed.  
Robert Zeller - 7-8 Science, Earth Science,  
Biology, Chemistry, Physics  
Stan Cehonski - Computer  
Tracy Vanderhoof - Music, Choir, Phys. Ed  
Jolene Walker - Latin Intro, Religion, Art, Music  
Elizabeth Moses - Religion  
Bonnie Panara - English, Speech  
Mike Romano - Math  
Nancy Clark - Photography  
David Watson - Athletic Director  
Coaches: David Watson, Pat Collins,  
David Drake, Kim Herter, John Vanderhoof

### Board of Trustees:

Daniel Miller: President  
Dr. James Vanderhoof: Vice Pres.  
Mary Ellen Shaver: Secretary  
Paul vanLieshout: Treasurer  
Therese Maciag: Member  
Margaret Miller: Member

Rev. J. Kehoe: Spiritual Advisor

Holy Cross News Editor: Dan Miller  
danmiller@holycrossacademy.com  
www.holycrossacademy.com



Board president Dan Miller and Principal Brian Prince install lockers donated by Phil Wenzel and Ferris Industries. "Oh, so that's what those guys do."



# Commencement 2005



2005 Valedictorian Mary Droz now attending Franciscan University pursuing a degree in Education.



Commencement Mass celebrants Fr. Richard Dello, Fr. Edmund Morelle, Fr. Richard Morissette. Servers Tyler Vanderhoof and Andrew Vanderhoof.



2005 Salutatorian Joe Maciag, currently an Engineering and Math student at Franciscan University at Steubenville.



*"I would like to thank my Lord, Jesus Christ, for always being at my side, guiding me down the path that leads to Him ... a word of advice to my graduating class: Never abandon your faith and let God always be your light in this dark world. Continue to work hard in college and in your future professions, and always make God the center of your life." - Mary Droz*



Andy Maciag, Class of 2003 is HCA's first alumnus to earn a college degree, graduating from Mohawk Valley CC with a degree in Criminal Justice. Andy is currently enrolled at Morrisville pursuing a degree in Renewable Resources..

## St. Nicholas Day Celebration



Eighth graders Stephen Miller and Mark vanLieshout

English students prepared presentations and holiday treats representative of many cultures and traditions throughout the world. Students from St. Patrick's elementary visited Holy Cross and enjoyed participating in the St. Nicholas Day festivities.



Visiting students from St. Patrick's in Oneida



## HCA Soccer



Congratulations to both boys and girls soccer teams on an excellent season. The girls finished the regular season undefeated at 8-0 and went on to the conference finals. They won their semifinal match against Faith Fellowship in grand style by a score of 6-0. In the final game they played well, but in the end came up short on their bid for a conference championship, losing to a very good New Life Christian team. The boys finished the regular season with an impressive record of 8-1. They continually developed momentum during the season and carried that into the conference tournament. The day came for the semifinal match and what a day it was - cold, damp and rainy. The boys worked hard and the fans cheered loudly but their season came to an end in double overtime by a score of 2-1. Thank you all for coming out this season to cheer on our athletes in soccer!

## Field Dedication

The new athletic field on the grounds of Holy Cross was blessed at a ribbon cutting ceremony, officially opening the field for the 2005 soccer season. Special prayers were offered and the many who made the field possible were recognized for their generosity and effort. A heartfelt thank you goes out to the vanLieshout family, the Lorraine McDermott Memorial fund, and Snyder Engineering and Surveying of Oneida.



The field is still in need of benches, bleachers, maintenance equipment, scoreboard, a field house/concession booth, fencing, and trees if anyone is interested in helping out.





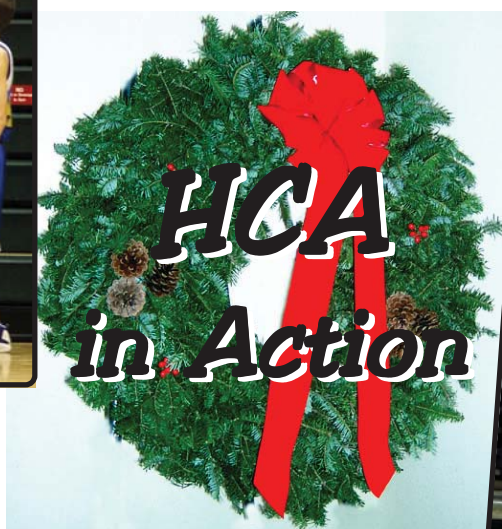
Katlyn Baughman and Alexis Pellerin

Basketball teams at Mohawk for the season opener.



Brandon Dostie working all night on the 2005 yearbook

Catherine Herter wins the tip.



Students visit a local cemetery in November to pray for the dead - and clean up after a wind storm.





## Top 50 in America - Again!



For the second consecutive year, Holy Cross Academy has been honored by being named one of the top 50 Catholic schools in the United States. HCA has also been recognized as a leader (top 20) in the area of Civics. This is a remarkable achievement for such a young school.

We attribute this to having excellent teachers, the involvement of all of the families, a sincere dedication to each and every student, generous support from donors and a persistent focus on our mission.

The honor came from the Acton Institute for the Study of Religion and Liberty, an international research and educational organization who annually select members of the Catholic School Honor Roll based on demonstrated strength in academics, Catholic identity and civic education.

Thanks to all who helped make this possible!

## Blessed Sacrament at HCA



*He appeared to be going further, but they constrained him, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognized him; and he vanished out of their sight. - Luke 24:28-31*

The Eucharist is the Source and Summit of the life and mission of the Church. Christ Himself is the source of life and offers his Body and Blood for the salvation of mankind. By our participation in His banquet, we become His instruments of Love, Mercy and Peace. It is His desire for us to be involved in His work and so the mission of Christ, the mission of the Church, becomes our mission. The closer we unite ourselves with Christ, the more perfectly we carry out His work, building up His Kingdom.

What an honor and a blessing to have the Blessed Sacrament reposed at Holy Cross Academy, even if only for one week. The center of our mission present at the school puts all things into perspective. We draw our life from Christ in the Eucharist, we become participants in the mission of Christ through the same sacrament, and we hope to reach that summit which is union with Christ Himself forever.

Thank you, Bishop Moynihan for granting your permission, and thanks to our wonderful priests who come to celebrate Mass throughout the year at Holy Cross.

Thank you, Lord, for coming. "Stay with us!"

## Matching Challenge Nears End

Time is running out on the Matching Challenge issued by a generous benefactor of HCA. Your opportunity to increase the impact of your contributions through matching funds extends through the month of December. Our financial obligations just for this month are approximately \$30,000 and we are relying on your continued generosity to stay afloat. Typically, donations begin to wane after the end of the year, and we are hopeful that those received during this month will help carry us on into the new year. With building projects on the horizon, next year promises to be more challenging than ever. But we continue to move forward with confidence, strengthened by your prayers and generosity.

May God bless you. We know the sacrifices you make for HCA and we cannot thank you enough!



# Spiritual Message

From Fr. Joseph Kehoe - Spiritual Advisor

During the Advent Season and the Christmas Season it would be well for us to read and meditate on the *four pillars* found in the Catechism of the Catholic Church – Second Edition.

- (A) – The Creed
- (B) – The Sacraments
- (C) – The Commandments
- (D) – The Lord's Prayer

In the Apostolic Constitution "Fidei Depositum" dated Oct. 11, 1992 Pope John Paul II said: "Guarding the Deposit of Faith is the mission which the Lord entrusted to His Church." This Pope then spoke about the Second Vatican Council and Pope John XXIII, of happy memory. Pope John Paul II said: "The principal task entrusted to the Council by Pope John XXIII was to guard and present better the precious deposit of Christian doctrine in order to make it more accessible to the Christian faithful and to all people of good will. For this reason, the Council was not first of all to condemn the errors of the time, but above all to strive calmly to show the strength and beauty of the doctrine of the faith."

I well remember Father Thomas Riley at Holy Cross Catechetical Center in New London, NY. The enrollment during the Fall Semester 1980 reached two hundred adults who studied the Documents of Vatican Council II, the encyclicals of the Holy Fathers and the pronouncements of the Holy See. Father Riley gave all his students a great love for the Catholic Faith. The fruits of his labor can be seen today in Holy Cross Academy in Oneida, NY. Father Riley loved all the documents of the Church and was very happy when *Catechesi Tredendae* (on catechesis in our time) was given to us by Pope John Paul II.

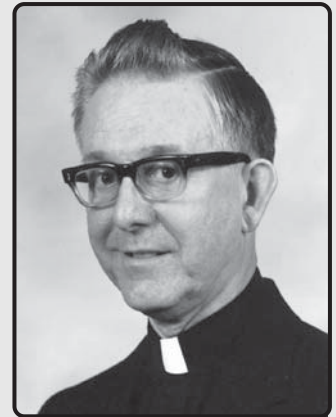
In the Introduction of this Apostolic Exhortation the Pope stated: "The Church has always considered catechesis one of her primary tasks, for before Christ ascended to His Father after His resurrection, He gave the apostles a final command – to make disciples of all nations and to teach them to observe all that He had commanded" (cf. Mt. 28:19-20).

In closing today I would like to leave you with this thought – it is from *Catechesi Tredendae* #5:

"... At the heart of catechesis we find in essence, a person, the person of Jesus of Nazareth... It is Jesus who is "the way, and the truth, and the life," (Jn. 1:14) and Christian living consists in following Christ."

Let us stay close to the Holy Family. May God bless you.

*Father Joseph F. Kehoe*



Fr. Joseph F. Kehoe



Please  
Pray...

*For these and all of our friends who have died:*

Armond Vito, Eileen Miller, Darlene Schneible, Spencer Elmer, Babe Galavotti, Sarah McNichol, Mary Amadon, Donald Dostie, Theodore Dahlem, Ray Rose, Matilda Vanderhoof, James Moran, Marie Marchak, Lorraine McDermott, Mary James

## Christmas Offering

Please pray for Holy Cross Academy and give what you are able.  
Your support means so much to us - we could not survive without you. Thank you!

- ☐ Please accept this Christmas gift to help sustain Holy Cross Academy: \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ I would like to support Holy Cross through monthly installments of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ I will pray for Holy Cross Academy.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_



12/05

*Detach and send to:*

Holy Cross Academy  
4020 Barrington Rd.  
Oneida, NY 13421

- ◆ Welcome Mr. Brian Prince!
- ◆ Top 50 in USA
- ◆ Blessed Sacrament at HCA
- ◆ Athletic Field Dedication
- ◆ Matching Challenge
- ◆ Commencement 2005

*Inside:*

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Holy Cross Academy is a private junior-senior high school teaching in the Catholic tradition and faithful to the Magisterium. For more information, please call (315) 363-1669 or write to Holy Cross Academy, 4020 Barrington Road, Oneida, NY 13421, or visit our website at [www.holycrossacademy.com](http://www.holycrossacademy.com). Please call if you receive this Newsletter by error or if you know of anyone who would like to receive Holy Cross News. HCA is just off Rt. 365 one block from 365A. Please come visit!