

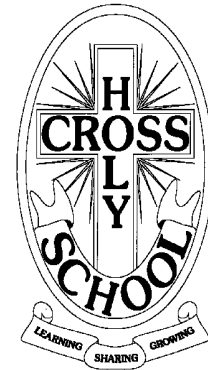
HOLY CROSS SCHOOL

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S "WAITING" DESK:

Dear Parents:

December 2, 2011

As we are in the season of Advent, I am told we are supposed to be in a period of waiting. Waiting for what? What does this mean? What does it look like? How do we do this? Our entire lives are geared towards going fast and accomplishing as much as humanly possible before bedtime (for some of us, that is early) only to do it all over again the next day. Last weekend, after a very busy day of working as part of the "Magnificent Seven Handymen" and then spending the day on Sunday coaching at a basketball tournament, I stumbled upon the answer. My answer, even if I didn't know it at the time, was attending the 7:00pm Mass. Initially, I was not looking forward to attending Mass. It was a different time than my usual routine.... St. John's... 9:00am.... 5th pew from the back. (We are all creatures of habit.) Nonetheless, I made up my mind to attend and due to my proximity to the church, I decided to walk. It turned out to be a beautiful crisp evening. Upon entering the church, I was struck by a few things. First, the warmth of the church, second, it was very quiet and finally, there were only a few people. This combination of elements allowed for the proper setting for me to be in the moment of "Waiting". This weekend is looking like a very busy time as well. I will attend Sunday Mass at 9:00am and try to recapture the quiet of Sunday night Mass at 7:00pm. Going to Mass twice in a weekend, I am sure won't kill me... (if I don't show up Monday morning, I was wrong!!) I challenge you to attempt to find your "Waiting" without the distraction of the regular grind. If you do, you might also find the answers to the questions posed above.

Happy Advent,

Mr. J. Brophy
Holy Cross School
Principal

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD HAMPERS

During the Christmas season there is an even great stress on the St. Vincent de Paul Food bank. Each year the St. Vincent de Paul Society delivers over 300 food hampers to needy families in the Penticton area. Here is a list of items that are desperately needed to stock the shelves and address this need. **Pancake mix, syrup, sugar, cereal, coffee/tea/hot chocolate, canned tuna/salmon, cookies, soup, beans, rice, crackers, pasta and sauce, etc.** Boxes will be kept in each classroom for your donations. Thank you for your assistance in this important cause.

POPCORN SALES

On Thursdays, Ms. Arnette and the grade 5 class will be hosting their popcorn sale in support of an orphanage in Africa. Popcorn is being sold at a cost of \$0.25 - \$2.00 for each bag. Last week almost \$90.00 was raised. Great work!!

SHOPPING CARD PROGRAM UPDATES

Our excellent money generating **(AT NO EXTRA COST TO PARENTS)** program continues to work magic!! For the month of November, we generated **\$2483.00**. That gives us a total of **\$7648.00** for the year. Many thanks are extended to our wonderful and loyal supporters. We are still challenging families who do not purchase our shopping cards on a regular basis to get with our program!!! Your support allows us to raise much needed funds without asking our families to dish out extra money. Everyone wins at Holy Cross School....parents, students, and school. Together we can meet or exceed all expectations. **Last year this program generated over \$26,000!!!**

It is not too late to purchase cards from our “**Special Christmas List**”. These cards make great gifts for the hard or easy to buy for person. Nothing says, “I love you to that special someone” like a gift card to his/her favorite store. Is there any wonder that I am still single????!!

Order forms have been sent out via e-mail or can be picked up at the office. All orders must be placed by **Thursday Dec. 9th** to ensure delivery by **December 16th**.

CHRISTMAS SALE

In support of the Holy Childhood Association, Ms. Tofin and the grade 6 class will be hosting their annual “Christmas Sale” on **Friday December 9th**. All items will be in the price range of \$0.25 to \$2.00!! If you would like to donate some gently used items to the sale, please drop them off in the grade 6 classroom by **Thursday, December 8th**. There will also be a gift wrapping station at this year’s Christmas Sale. If you have wrapping paper or plastic bags to donate that would be wonderful. Your support is greatly appreciated.

STAGE SET UP

On **Monday, December 12**, we will be setting up the stage in preparation for our Christmas concert. If there are any handymen who would like to help out, please show up at 1:30pm. A cordless drill with bits would be the tool of choice. Thank you in advance for your help.

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL CHOIR

Mrs. Beauchamp and her fantastic school choir are very busy during the Christmas season. They are visiting many of the Nursing Homes, churches, and private functions around our coverage area. Many thanks are extended to the Mrs. Beauchamp, the students, and parents for supporting this important program. The joy that this group spreads to the community is truly heart-warming. Thank you.

SENIOR BASKETBALL AT HOLY CROSS

The senior boy's and girl's basketball at Holy Cross got off to a great start last night with wins over Mc Nichol Park Middle School. Great work is extended to the grade 7 and 8 boys and girls. We wish them all the best in their upcoming seasons. Both teams will be traveling to Osoyoos on Tuesday, December 6th.
GO HURRICANES GO!!!

KEY DATES

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| ✓ Reconciliation | Wed. Dec. 7th 1:00pm |
| ✓ School Mass | Thursday, Dec. 8th Grade 2-3 hosting |
| ✓ Christmas Sale | Fri. Dec. 9 |
| ✓ Grade 7 & 8 to Kelowna | Mon. Dec 12th 8:00am |
| ✓ Stage set up | Mon. Dec. 12th 1:30pm |
| ✓ Christmas Concert Rehearsal | Tues. Dec. 13th 1:00pm |
| ✓ Christmas Concert | Wed. Dec 14th 7:00pm |
| ✓ Hamper delivery(Gr. 8 class) | Fri. Dec. 16th 9:00am |
| ✓ Christmas Holidays | Fri. Dec. 16th---noon dismissal |