

ONE NATION *under* GOD

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ONE SCHOOL *in* CHRIST

HOLY CROSS REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

701 Locust Street | Collegeville, PA | 19426
hcrc.school

Dear Friends and Families of Holy Cross,

As I begin this new chapter as Principal of Holy Cross Regional Catholic School, I have spent much of my time listening, learning, and getting to know the people who make this school such a special place. One thing has become abundantly clear: Holy Cross has a rich tradition of academic excellence rooted in the values of our Catholic faith.

At Holy Cross, we are committed to educating the whole child. Academic achievement is certainly a priority, but it is not our only measure of success. Each day, our students are encouraged to grow as disciples of Christ by demonstrating kindness, compassion, integrity, and service to others. These values are woven into every aspect of school life.

That commitment begins with our exceptional faculty. Our teachers are dedicated professionals who continually seek opportunities to grow in their craft. Many have earned advanced degrees and additional certifications, bringing a wealth of knowledge and expertise into their classrooms. Several members of our faculty also serve on the Archdiocesan curriculum committee, helping to shape instructional practices that benefit schools throughout the Archdiocese. Their willingness to lead beyond our school is a testament to both their professionalism and their commitment to providing the very best educational experience for our students.

I am excited for what the future holds for Holy Cross and look forward to working alongside our pastors, various stakeholders, and Board of Limited Jurisdiction as we continue to strengthen the partnerships that have made this school so successful. Together, we will build upon the school's strong foundation while continuing to seek new opportunities for growth and innovation.

The pages that follow provide a snapshot of the many accomplishments and successes of Holy Cross. They reflect the hard work of our students and staff and the unwavering support of our families. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve, and look forward to all that we will accomplish together.

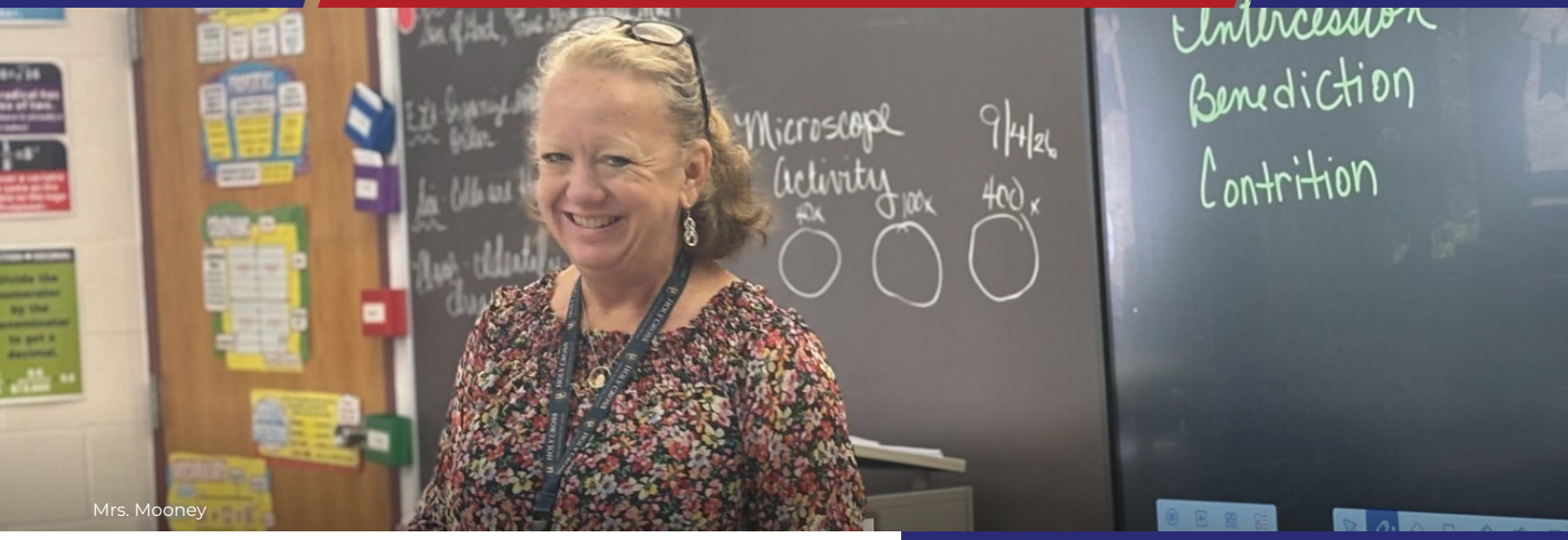
Thank you for your continued support of Holy Cross Regional Catholic School. May God continue to bless our school and all those who call it home.

In Christ,

Anthony Palmieri, M.Ed.
Principal







Mrs. Mooney

Education through the Lens of Faith

As America celebrates 250 years of independence, we remember the founders' vision of a society sustained by educated, virtuous citizens. Since our founding in 2012, Holy Cross has embraced this same calling—strengthening our community in faith, hope, and love while challenging students to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Eighth grade teacher Mary Mooney emphasizes the school's intentional integration of faith within rigorous academics. She explains that whether exploring science, solving complex mathematics, or examining history, learning is viewed through the lens of faith, cultivating both intellectual curiosity and moral character.

“We believe academic excellence and faith formation are inseparable,” she says. “Students thrive when challenged not only to master knowledge but also to seek truth, think critically, and recognize their God-given responsibility to use their unique gifts for the common good. It’s a profound formula for success.”

As America begins its next chapter, Holy Cross remains deeply committed to the mission of our dedicated educators -- forming young men and women who will faithfully serve their Church, their communities, and their nation.

> *“We believe* academic excellence and faith formation are inseparable.”

BIOLOGY

Students marvel at the remarkable complexity and beauty of living systems. They areinvited to contemplate the intricate design of creation points by our Creator, whose wisdom is reflected in every cell and ecosystem they study.

AMERICAN HISTORY

Students explore the founding principles of our nation alongside the truths of the dignity of the human person and the natural rights bestowed by God. These lessons invite them to appreciate that the freedoms cherished by our nation are rooted in a deeper understanding of faith, virtue, and the inherent worth of every individual.

MATHEMATICS

Students discover that numbers and calculations are more than academic exercises; they are tools for sound reasoning, responsible stewardship, and ethical decision-making – helping them evaluate real-world problems with both logic and integrity.





Preparing Students for the Complex Challenges of Digital Citizenship

At Holy Cross Regional Catholic School, our distinguished curriculum is designed to accommodate all levels of abilities — and advance each student to reach their full potential. This includes fostering a sense of responsibility for the personal, moral, and civic choices they face in today's complex digital landscape.

Our responsibility as educators is to prepare our students to participate fully in digital and real-world communities — understanding how to make smart choices online and in life, regardless of their grade level.

This requires the introduction of age-appropriate digital citizenship topics such as media usage, digital footprints, security, communication, media literacy, cyberbullying, and the proper use of artificial intelligence. These lessons – integrated seamlessly within our STREAM curriculum – open a dialogue with students so they can learn how to think through and handle situations they have already discussed and resolved together in the classroom. We don't just work on teaching students to be safe and avoid the negative aspects of the digital world. Instead, we expose them to positive opportunities to express themselves, participate in conversations relevant to their interests, and help them learn how to be involved in their local and world communities.

Digital citizenship. It's a responsibility we will never take for granted here at Holy Cross.



> "If, however, technology is integrated with a wise perspective, it can become an instrument of growth, justice and fraternity."

Leo PP. XIV

– MAGNIFICA HUMANITAS – On Safeguarding the Human Person in the Time of Artificial Intelligence

Proud Alumni Faithful to our Common Good

The founders of our nation envisioned citizens guided by virtue and dedicated to the greater good. At Holy Cross, we embrace that calling through lives centered on Christ – daily prayer, acts of kindness, and participation in the Sacraments. Many of our graduates carry these values with them throughout their lives, serving their communities, strengthening their parishes, and inspiring the next generation.

Recently, three members of our Class of 2014 (Elizabeth Kropp, Christopher Haffey, and Jason Mitala) reflected on their personal journeys here at Holy Cross more than a decade ago.

For Jason, faith wasn't something confined to church or the classroom. "Holy Cross taught me that faith should be integrated into every part of my life. In my schoolwork, in my extracurricular activities, and most of all, in the people around me. It was reflected in the yearly Saints Parade, Living Stations of the Cross, and communal prayers before CYO basketball games."

Even today, Christopher leans strongly on the community service and leadership opportunities he experienced at Holy Cross. "Students learn the importance of compassion, accountability, and civic responsibility," he reflected.

"My Catholic education taught me that we are all created equal in God's eyes," said Elizabeth. "Loving your neighbor as yourself means embracing and celebrating the beautiful diversity around us. To me, that's what real patriotism looks like."


Chris Haffey, Gr. 7


Elizabeth Kropp, Gr. 7


Jason Mitala, Gr. 7


Chris Haffey


Elizabeth Kropp


Jason Mitala

Advancement:
One Mission For All

The strength of Holy Cross comes from our community. Together, our families, alumni, parishioners, faculty, and friends make it possible for every child to grow academically, spiritually, and personally in a faith-filled environment.

Every generous act — through a financial gift, volunteering, attending school events, or offering prayers — strengthens our shared mission to provide an exceptional Catholic education while ensuring that financial circumstances never stand in the way of a child's opportunity to learn and thrive.



Your Impact

This year, your generosity has made a meaningful impact — enriching our classrooms, supporting our dedicated teachers, strengthening our Catholic mission, and preparing students to cherish respect, integrity, compassion, and justice.

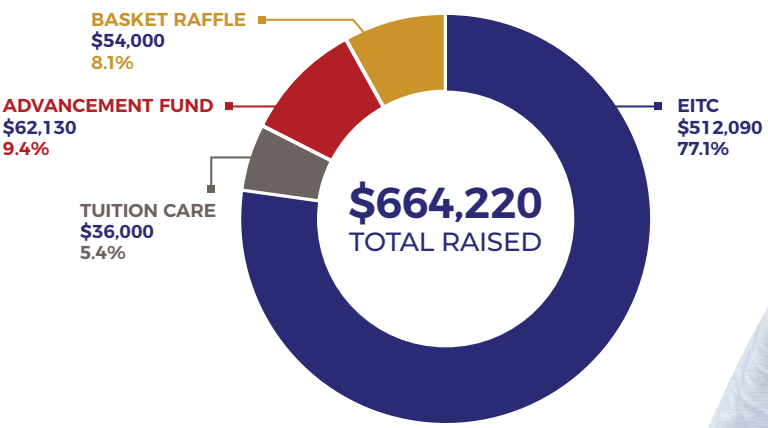
163 donors supported Holy Cross with gifts

126 students received tuition assistance during the 25-26 school year

Enrollment continues to grow, and with it, the need for tuition assistance and mission support.

With growth comes the opportunity to make a lasting impact. Together we are ensuring that Holy Cross remains **One School in Christ**, where every child is known, loved, challenged, and inspired to live their faith.

Sources of Advancement Funding



Join us in strengthening Holy Cross for today's students and tomorrow's generations.

Scan the QR code or visit the Advancement page to learn more or make a gift.



Faithful Stewardship through Facilities

Creating a safe and welcoming school environment is a forever priority for the Holy Cross Board of Limited Jurisdiction. One shining example is our Facilities Committee, led by board member Ted Kochen. Ted and his team oversee everything from deferred maintenance and infrastructure upgrades to improvements that enhance the daily student experience.

“Performing proactive critical maintenance on a routine basis extends the life of our buildings and equipment, reduces costly emergency repairs, minimizes disruptions to learning, improves the school environment, and helps protect the long-term investment in our facilities,” Ted said.

Ted points to some recent projects, including highly visible safety barriers in the school parking lot, updated smoke and fire alarm systems, and the installation of security window film.

“Although our work often occurs behind the scenes,” Ted reflects, “its impact is visible every day in the life of the school. As Jesus reminds us in Matthew 25:21, faithful stewardship of what has been entrusted to us is itself a form of service. That’s the most meaningful reward of all -- knowing that our efforts create an environment where children are safe, welcomed, and inspired to grow in knowledge, character, and faith.”

Responsibilities of the Facilities Committee

- In collaboration with the pastors and parish finance councils, develops the master capital plan for the school’s buildings and grounds
- Monitors implementation of the plan
- Reports periodically to the board on major plant and campus issues
- Keeps the board finance committee and the host parish finance council informed of building and grounds needs
- The committee does not get involved in day-to-day operations such as field maintenance, carpet selection, etc. but should be attentive to deferred maintenance needs



From left to right: John Warner, Ted Kochen, Mike Perrone, Jim Bozzini
Missing: Steve Seckinger

Citizens, Saints, and Service

Our country was built on service well beyond the example of our founding fathers. Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, our first American-born saint emphasized that true charity is defined by everyday kindness, mercy, and good will. Serving others is a cornerstone of our lives here at Holy Cross.

Our book drive for Children's Hospital of Philadelphia collected new books to brighten the days of young patients, reminding them that they are cared for by a community that extends beyond their hospital rooms.

During our annual Souper Bowl collection, students donated soup and other nonperishable food items to the St. Vincent de Paul Society, helping provide nourishment and hope to local families in need.

Girls with a Cause (GWAC) demonstrated servant leadership through a garden project, creating and tending a beautiful space that celebrates God's creation while fostering teamwork, stewardship, and respect for the environment. And during Catholic Schools Week, the Holy Cross community came together to collect toiletries for St. John's Hospice.

These experiences help our students discover that the strength of a nation is built not only on its history, but also on the character of its people. Through acts of kindness and service, they are growing into compassionate neighbors, responsible citizens, and living saints who will help shape a brighter future for our communities and our country.

> "Blessed, blessed Lord, keep us always in your company and press our weak hearts forever in your service."
>
> *Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton*


Holy Cross Garden


SOUPer Bowl


SOUPer Bowl



St. John's

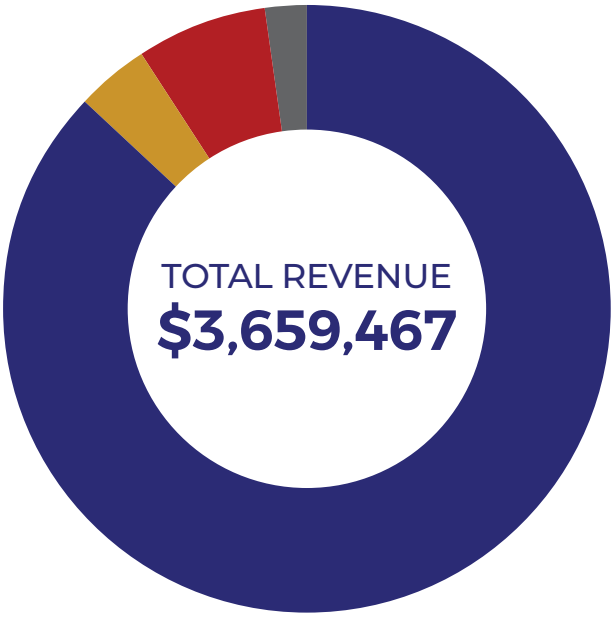
Financial Report

"The Board of Directors develops plans for and the means to secure the financial future of the school. This includes creating a three-to-five-year Financial Plan assessing capital needs and a technology evaluation, creating the annual budget, determining annual development goals, allocating resources according to the budget, and monitoring each of the above."

– Operating principles for the Holy Cross Finance Committee

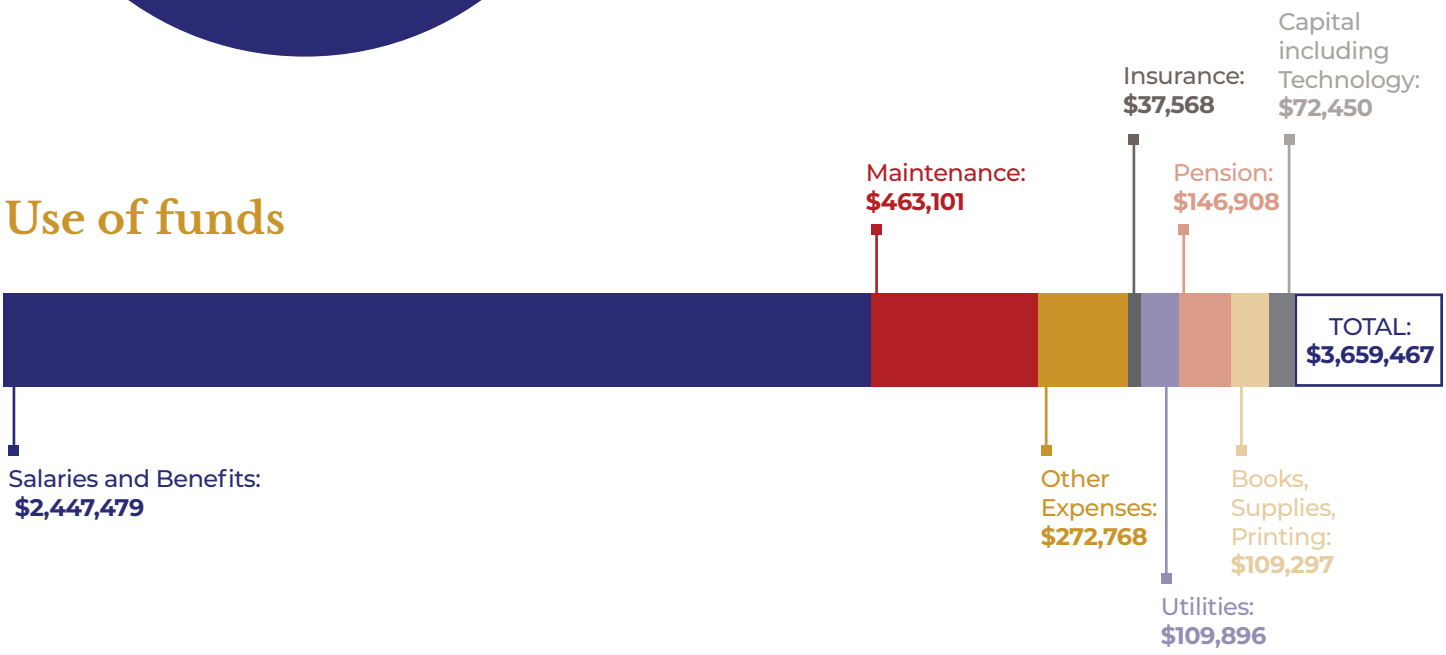


Source of Funds



- Tuition: **$3,198,465**
- Fees: **$149,898**
- Other Income: **$258,188**
- CARES: **$52,916**

Use of funds



Making Our Own History

We're proud of the accomplishments our school community has achieved during this historic year for our country. United in faith, hope, and love, we embrace our success and strive for greater heights. Here are just a few of so many milestones.

- **14% increase** in student enrollment since 2019
- **Five consecutive years** as an Archdiocesan School of Distinguished Instruction
- **97%** of all standardized test scores meet or exceed national averages
- **17 recipients** of the Neumann Scholarship in the past 14 years
- Nearly **40%** of current eighth grade students qualify for Neumann Scholarship consideration
- **14 years** average faculty teaching experience
- **111% increase** in financial aid since 2022
- **126 students** received tuition assistance in the 25-26 school year
- **Over $600,000 in academic scholarships** to area high schools received by the class of 25-26 school year
- **Over $10,000 in funds raised** by students to support local charities
- Students **collected over 1,500 food items** for the 2025 Thanksgiving Food Drive
- **96 students** (grades 4-8) participated in Reading Olympics
- **75%** of eighth grade students participate in the Broadcasting Club
- The Holy Cross Board of Limited Jurisdiction has 22 members with **63 years of combined service** in areas of Advancement, Development, Financial Oversight, Strategic Planning, Facilities, Technology, Marketing, and Enrollment







Rooted in Faith. Shaping the Future.

As our nation celebrates America's 250th anniversary, we are reminded that the future of our country depends upon young people of strong character, deep faith, and a commitment to serving the common good. At Holy Cross, we're proud to help form the next generation of leaders who will carry these values into their families, communities, and nation.

Looking forward, we remain focused on building upon this strong foundation. That means an unwavering commitment to advancing innovative teaching, cultivating meaningful learning experiences, and expanding opportunities that prepare every student to thrive, contribute, and lead in an ever-changing world - while remaining steadfast in their Catholic identity.

Our future is bright because it's built upon a tradition of excellence, a shared commitment to our mission, and the unwavering support of our families, faculty, staff, pastors, alumni, and benefactors. Together, we celebrate all that Holy Cross is today while embracing tomorrow with hope, purpose, and confidence. Inspired by the example of our own American saints, we pledge to prepare the next generation who will lead, serve, and make a lasting difference in our Church, our communities, and our nation.

Discover Holy Cross Regional Catholic School!
Visit hcrc.school or scan the QR Code to learn more.

> "The best way to be useful is to be faithful."
>
> *St. Katherine Drexel*

> "Be what you are and be that well."
>
> *St. John Neumann*



Our Mission

It is the mission of Holy Cross Regional Catholic School to strengthen our community in faith, hope, and love. We challenge each other to develop independence, creativity, and curiosity as disciples of Jesus Christ for our future. As members of the Holy Cross community, we recognize the unique gifts and talents of others while practicing the values of respect, integrity, compassion, and justice.