



# Holy Cross News

Vol. 20 No. 2

The Official Newsletter of Holy Cross Academy

Fall 2015

## New Students Begin Adventure of a Lifetime

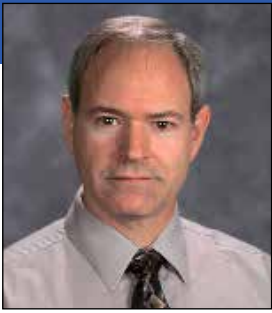
*Only possible because of your help!*



## Exciting Year Begins

Every September, HCA welcomes new students and is both humbled and excited to have the opportunity to celebrate the beginning of a new year. It is exciting that we can share the faith and the joy that accompanies it. It is thrilling to introduce new students to HCA's truly Catholic culture, knowing that they will develop friendships that will last a lifetime. And it is humbling knowing that the mission of the school would not be accomplished without so many faithful supporters who make it possible.

As classes began on Sept. 9 of this year, Holy Cross Academy welcomed many new students, including the new 7th grade class, transfer students, and a foreign exchange student from South Korea.



Daniel J. Miller  
President, Board of Trustees

# How YOU Are Saving The World

*...and how you inspire us!*

You may not know how much we depend on you, but our work would be impossible without you. We don't rely on funding from the state or diocese or any parish. And I want you to know that what you do for Holy Cross and our students is making a huge impact. We are in this together, HCA and you.

There is no other school around like Holy Cross Academy, and without it, Catholic families would have no other option. No other school integrates the faith into each class, or includes Mass as part of the curriculum. No other school has an entire faculty who pledges fidelity to the Faith. No other school around has been recognized nationally as a school of excellence year after year. And have you heard our choir? *Phenomenal*. This is what YOU have accomplished through your support of HCA, and it is quite unique and special.

***"There is no other school around like Holy Cross Academy, and without it, Catholic families would have no other option."***

Sometimes we look at the huge problems in the world today and feel overwhelmed. What can we do? We come to realize this: We can't do everything, but we can do little things. And those little things add up to make a big difference, especially when we all work together. An active faith working through love can inspire and teach those close to us. They in turn impact their small circle, and eventually that circle becomes the world. Your helpfulness and generosity motivates and inspires us every day.

Often, the greatest achievements are accomplished through small beginnings and humble people. Remember that when the world was in darkness and sin, Jesus came to us as a poor little baby, born to a humble family, in a cold stable, on that Holy Night. He defeated sin and death and purchased salvation for us. But He calls us individually, *one heart at a time*. And one by one, he transforms and sanctifies the world.

And so our mission is simple, accomplished one student at a time. It is carried out by providing a loving environment, a sound curriculum infused with the truths of the Faith, and by helping students know Christ and to seek the things of heaven. When you help us, we help students, and students become the future. This is how you are saving the world. One student, one heart at a time.

Merry Christmas to you and your family!

## Prayer Intentions



**Please join our HCA family in prayer.**

For the Eternal Repose of the souls of Henry and Johanna vanLieshout, Robert McDermott, Jeff Abbe, Joann Lovell, Lorraine Armitage, Joanne O'Brien and John Potter, Anne Mengucci

For the health of Heidi Acosta, Stephen Curley, Clark Mollenhauer, and Winn Zeller

For all of our benefactors and for success in our mission.

**Prayer Intentions of Pope Francis for December 2015**

Universal: That all may experience the mercy of God, who never tires of forgiving.

Evangelization: That families, especially those who suffer, may find in the birth of Jesus a sign of certain hope.



**Holy Cross Academy**

Jr./Sr. High School - Est. 1997  
Joyfully Dedicated to the Catholic Faith

### OUR MISSION

Holy Cross Academy exists to provide a rounded education for the whole person, to help students seek the truth, love God and neighbor, and to become saints.

4020 Barrington Road  
Oneida, NY 13421  
315-363-1669

[www.holycrossacademy.com](http://www.holycrossacademy.com)

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# Graduates Set Out To Change The World

*“Through all of the laughs, cries, happiness, and setbacks, we have undeniably learned that friendship is a special gift – generously given, happily accepted, and deeply appreciated.”*

**Jessica van Lieshout**  
*in her valedictory address*



Holy Cross Academy held its 14th Mass and commencement exercises on June 19, 2015, at Holy Family Catholic Church in Vernon. Faculty, parents, friends, and fellow students celebrated the accomplishments of our new graduates and prayed for their future success. They will be continuing their education in fields such as Nursing, Engineering, Culinary Arts, Teaching, Music and the Priesthood at schools including Franciscan University, Clarkson University, Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts, the State University of New York, and Our Lady of Guadalupe Seminary in Nebraska. The Valedictorian is Jessica van Lieshout and the Salutatorian is Aaron Dostie.

## Donations to be Matched!

Double the impact of your donations and take advantage of the ***Matching Challenge!***  
**All donations made in December will be matched up to a total of \$5,000.**

A generous couple has come forward and has challenged others to join them in supporting the mission of Holy Cross. They could have chosen many other worthy causes, but they selected Holy Cross because they have witnessed the quality of the students, the dedication of the faculty and administration, and the faithfulness to the teachings of the Church.

Holy Cross is a special and unique school. There is none other like it around. And it would not exist without your support. Other schools are funded by the state or diocese, but HCA depends on you, and you have been faithful year after year.

### Annual Fund Update

This year, the Annual Fund goal is \$120,000. This fund helps bridge the gap between income from tuition and fundraising events, and the cost of keeping the doors open. Since the beginning of the fiscal year on July 1, \$51,000 has been received toward that goal, and \$69,000 more is needed before June 30, 2016. At this half-way point, the ***Matching Challenge*** offers a wonderful opportunity for you to double the impact of your gift and to help HCA in reaching this goal and meeting daily obligations.

We hope you find HCA worthy of your support. Please be generous in your prayers and gifts, any amount is truly appreciated. All benefactors of HCA and their intentions are remembered in prayer, especially during Mass.

## Thank You! Have a Blessed Christmas!

## Alumnus Aaron Dostie: Seminarian



Seminarian Aaron Dostie served as sacristan and was a frequent altar server while a student at Holy Cross Academy.

Although electronic communication is off limits for first-year seminarians, we have heard from HCA 2015 graduate Aaron Dostie in the form of a handwritten letter. He entered Our Lady of Guadalupe Seminary in Denton, NE, in September.

As he begins his preparation to become a priest in the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter, he says his life is very busy and quite different. Their days begin before 6:00am when the seminarians chant Lauds. They also chant the other hours of the day finishing with Compline at 7:30pm. Then they observe Grand Silence without speaking until after breakfast of the next day. They attend classes and do manual labor throughout the day, but it's not all work. They also have times of recreation when they play sports and converse with each other. He says already he feels a sense of brotherhood with his fellow seminarians and everyone has been welcoming and helpful.

Be sure to check the next issue of *Holy Cross News* for a more in-depth article which Aaron plans to write about life in the seminary.

Aaron says he is praying for everyone at HCA and asks for prayers from all of you for him and for all the young men preparing for the priesthood.

## Spiritual Message - Fr. Joseph F. Kehoe

At the present time there is an excellent Catholic catechism course available from the following source entitled, "Eternal Life 2015 Catalog". Today I would like to share with you the structure of this home study course. It consists of three points: The Revised Basic Catholic Catechism Course, the Advanced Catechism Course and the Masters Catholic Catechism Course.

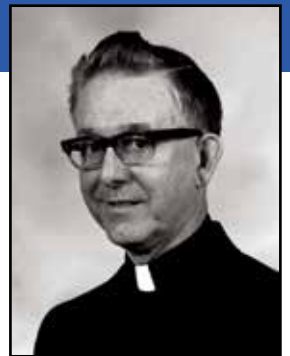
In the catalog it states "The Revised Basic Catechism Course was written for the training of teachers of religion, providing them with the necessary means of sharing the Faith, teachers preparing students, parents providing the spiritual needs of their children, people helping friends and family to develop and expand their knowledge of the Faith – anyone, everyone who wants to grow in their knowledge of the Faith and strengthen their ability to share it with others will benefit from the Catechism Course."

There are three basic books in this first course, namely the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* approved by Pope St. John Paul II, the *Modern Catholic Dictionary* by Fr. John A. Hardon, S.J. and The Father John A. Hardon, S.J., *Basic Catholic Catechism Course* -- Revised and Updated Under the Direction of Raymond Leo Cardinal Burke... Manual.

These are available from Eternal Life, 902 W. Stephen Foster Ave., Bardstown, KY, 40004, (800) 842-2871.

In addition to the above books, in *Eternal Life 2015 Catalog*, I use the following books in my work as a priest:

- *Outlines of the Catholic Faith and Handbook of Prayers* by Rev. James Socias, both from Leaflet Missal Catalog
- *St. Joseph Confirmation Book* by Fr. Lovasik
- *Pocket Catechism* by Rev. A. Ladders, C.S.S.R.
- *Knowing Your Faith -- All Basic Catholic Beliefs* by Raymond F. Fullam, S.J.
- *St. Joseph New American Catechism*, No. 0 and *St. Joseph New American Catechism*, No. 1 both by Fr. Lovasik
- *Jerusalem Bible Readers Edition* 1968
- *The Navarre Scripture Commentary* (20 books)
- *Daily Roman Missal* (published by MTF)
- *The Liturgy of the Hours* (4 volumes)
- *My Imitation of Christ* by Thomas Á Kempis
- *Pray the Rosary* book #40-05 from C.B.P.C.
- *Baltimore Catechism #2* by Fr. Bennet
- *Treasury of Novenas* by Fr. Lovasik
- *Mary Day by Day* by Rev. C. Fehrenbach, C.S.S.R.
- *St. Joseph Church History* by Fr. Lovasik
- *Vatican Council II Documents* (2 volumes) by A. Flannery



If you need more information you can contact me through Holy Cross or at St. Francis in Durhamville, NY. Thank you. May God bless you.

*Father Joseph F. Kehoe*



# New Teachers Bring Talents to HCA Faculty



**Christina Laucello**, a 2008 graduate of Holy Cross Academy, returned to her alma mater this year to join the HCA faculty. She is teaching the 7th, 8th, and 9th grade English classes as well as 9th grade religion and the 11th grade Theology of the Body course.

Miss Laucello earned her bachelor's degree in English with a minor in Theology from Franciscan University of Steubenville, OH. She went on to spend three years in St. Louis, MO, as a member of AmeriCorps serving as a teaching assistant in an inner city school. There she also worked on a program to teach low-income parents how to improve their children's early learning. She then returned to her home in Clinton, NY to teach at HCA and to pursue a career in creative writing.

***"HCA was a great foundation for me. It was a good, safe environment. HCA made a big difference for me."***

"I hope the kids can learn a lot about the Catholic Faith and become better writers and readers," she said. "I want them to develop an interest in English."

She aims to do what she can to make her students' HCA experience as valuable as hers was. "HCA was a great foundation for me. It was a good, safe environment, and I'm still very close to my high school friends. HCA made a big difference for me," she said.



**Ellen Gigliotti** joined the Holy Cross Academy faculty this year teaching 7th and 8th grade religion classes and conducting retreats.

Originally from West Winfield, NY, she worked as a veterinary assistant in Alaska until she discovered her vocation to teaching in her late 20s. She went to Franciscan University of Steubenville, OH, to obtain her degree in education and has completed a three-year program of certification in spiritual direction from Our Lady of Divine Providence in Clearwater, FL.

***"As soon as you walk in the place, you feel at home. I feel very blessed to be here."***

After teaching in Steubenville for 17 years, Miss Gigliotti returned to New York to be near family. She was Pastoral Associate at St. Patrick's in Boonville and a teacher at St. Patrick's school in Oneida. Over the years she has taught many religion classes from First Communion through Confirmation as well as classes for college students.

She says she enjoys being at HCA. "As soon as you walk in the place, you feel at home," she said. "I feel very blessed to be here."

She was inspired by the recent visit of Pope Francis to the United States. "I was so captivated by him," she said. "I'd like to take on the messages of living the life of Christ and try to have the students embrace his messages too."



*Deacon James Chappell conducts a special prayer service in honor of the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, September 14.*

## HCA Celebrates The Feast of the Holy Cross

Teachers and students gathered in the chapel to pray on September 14, the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

Holy Cross Academy takes its name from this feast, which commemorates St. Helena's finding of the True Cross in Jerusalem early in the fourth century. We also celebrate the redemptive work of Christ on the cross, which is no longer a symbol of death, but of life and love. We are reminded to take up our own cross and follow Him.

Holy Cross Academy was blessed to be able to venerate a relic of the True Cross for the feast day prayer service.

***"We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You, because by Your holy cross You have redeemed the world!"***



# Blessing the Community with Music



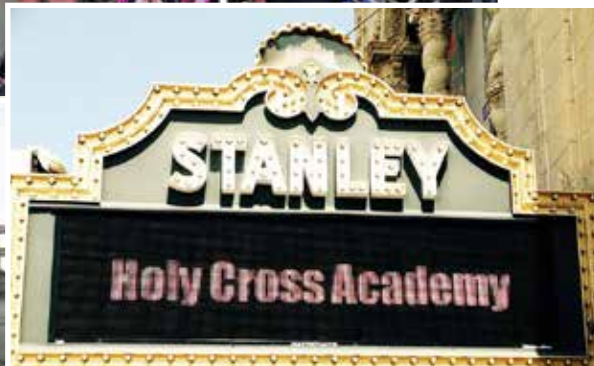
Mr. Rutledge and the HCA band and choirs kept up a busy performance schedule in the spring and summer beginning with their gala Tribute to Broadway fundraiser in April. The show featured several well-known local musicians, including Julianne Price, the Knights of the Mohawk, and Fr. James Tormey. With refreshments provided by the hard-working parents of HCA students, the evening was a grand success with over 300 people in attendance.

In May the HCA musicians presented their annual Spring Concert and shortly after that participated once again in the Darien Lake Music Fest competition where the Women's Choir took home the Grand Champion trophy.

Even during summer vacation, several members of the HCA choirs sang for the Boilermaker concert at the Stanley Theater in Utica, and at the Great American Irish Festival Mass in Frankfort.

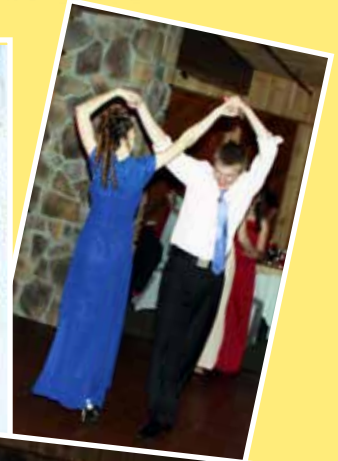
So far this fall, HCA singers lent their voices to the annual Family Rosary Crusade at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Utica, they joined with the Rome area churches for a concert, and they will present the annual Christmas concert on December 9 at 7:00pm at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Oneida.

If you're not able to hear HCA concerts in person, you can visit our YouTube channel. Just click on the icon at the top of [www.holycrossacademy.com](http://www.holycrossacademy.com).





# Spring Formal Dance 2015



Mrs. van Lieshout's 11th and 12th grade art students learned a great deal about the intricate process of making artists' paint and about entrepreneurship on a tour of Golden Artist Colors in New Berlin, NY, this fall. Here Barbara Golden shows the students a wall full of notes from grateful artists around the world who have used Golden paint.

*"Long lay the world in sin and error pining,  
'Til He appear'd and the soul felt its worth.  
O night divine, O night when Christ was born  
O night, O holy night, O night Divine!"*

## Upcoming Events at Holy Cross

**January 8**

Alumni Day

**January 22-23**

National March for Life

**February 6**

CNY Sportsman Show

**March**

Easter Fudge Sale

**March 6**

Open House

**May 25**

Spring Concert



Interested in HCA? Schedule a visit anytime!  
315-363-1669



- New Teachers and Students
- Celebrating Feast Days
- December Matching Challenge
- Update from our Seminarian
- Musical Blessings

Inside:

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**HOLY CROSS ACADEMY**



*Providing a Catholic Option  
Thanks to You!*

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# Softball & Soccer



Learning and growing in the Faith - Thanks to you!