

# Holy Rosary Review

## Important Dates:

- November 27th:  
Holy Rosary Focus  
Group 7-8:30pm
- November 30th:  
Holy Rosary Book  
Fair at Barnes &  
Noble, Plymouth  
Meeting 6-9pm
- December 1st and  
2nd: Craft Fair
- December 3rd:  
No School/Teacher  
In-service / 2nd  
Trimester begins
- December 5th:  
Holy Rosary Focus  
Group 1-2:30pm
- December 6th:  
Open House 9-  
11am/St. Nicholas  
Day
- December 7th: First  
Friday Mass 11am &  
Report Cards
- December 10th:  
Confessions 1pm
- December 18th:  
Kindergarten Lunch  
with Santa
- December 19th:  
School Nativity  
7:00 p.m. in Church
- December 24th-  
31st: No school-  
Christmas Holidays

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Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462  
<http://holyroaryregional.com>

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School Closing # 1385

## From the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Like most of the population, Thanksgiving is a special time for me to reflect on everything for which I am grateful. There is so much to be thankful for this year that it is difficult to list it all. But besides the many blessings of my own family, I am most grateful for this community. It is only through God's grace that I landed here in Plymouth Meeting where I have spent some of my happiest moments surrounded by your beautiful children, so thank you for trusting us with your most precious gifts.

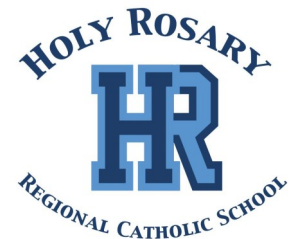
I am equally grateful for the superb group of teachers with which we have been blessed. I am not sure if everyone is aware of just how hard they work at great sacrifice to themselves, rarely taking time for lunch and staying late, so that they can offer individualized attention to a few students, to decorate their classroom, to learn iPad applications, to grade papers, to develop new lesson plans, or to meet with the Student Council or newspaper gang. I'm exhausted just thinking about it! Their commitment to Catholic education is unparalleled, so thank you, my esteemed colleagues.

And I am most grateful for our parents and guardians and their willingness to move along with us on our path, despite it often being a little rocky. I am grateful to the parents and relatives of our students who come out diligently every day to help in the school yard, the cafeteria, and our classrooms. I am so thankful to the many families who opened email accounts just to accommodate our going green, for your patience as we developed our means of communication, for understanding our humanity, recognizing that none of us are perfect, but doing the best we can with humility and Christian charity. So, thank you, parents and guardians.

I am eternally grateful for the support given all of us from our Pastoral leadership and from Beth Sheldon, whose hard work helps sustain this school, keeps it running, and along with the tremendous efforts and forward thinking of Lisa Moran, guarantees its future. So thank you, Pastors, Beth, and Lisa.

And now it is time to switch gears and look ahead to what is yet to be accomplished. We have tried a few venues to engage the population in our ongoing efforts, and we will continue to do so. The Home and School is working on developing focus groups so that everyone will have an opportunity to share their innovative juices, whether that is in newly created ideas, support of those ideas, or muscle to get the job done. I am hopeful that every parent and guardian will pray over their participation and recognize how desperately we need your help in developing the sense of community we all desire. Please come out and meet other parents by supporting the Craft Fair on December 1-2, the proceeds of which go directly to reducing your tuition. The money earned this year will help in our forecasting the tuition for next year, so everyone wins if everyone participates.

May God bless you and your families during these holidays.



Peace,

**Lisa S. Hoban**



*Read  
highlights  
from our  
teachers  
each month!*

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## **Did you know...**

### **Mrs. Koneski & Mrs. Pickering Kindergarten:**

The Kindergarten classes will be meeting Santa for lunch on Monday, December 17th. They will be traveling to the North Pole (Chaps Restaurant in Norristown) where they will sit on Santa's lap and tell him what they want for Christmas. Santa will read them a story about the Birth of Jesus and they will sing some songs for him. They are looking forward to this wonderful trip!

### **Mrs. Dunsmore & Mrs. Carroll 1st Grade:**

December is an exciting month! The children will reenact "The Story of the Nativity". Both first grade classes will take part in the play. The children are in the process of being cast for parts in the play. Parents can look forward to seeing their little ones and can appreciate that the true meaning of Christmas is upheld and celebrated at Holy Regional Catholic School. First grade will also have fun making gingerbread houses.

### **Mrs. Mariani 2nd Grade:**

All students in 2 B had to interview an older relative or family friend on what Thanksgiving was like when they were in second grade! They asked about family traditions, their favorite food to eat on Thanksgiving day, their favorite memory, and what they are most thankful for now. The answers were wonderful and the students presented their interviews to the class!

### **Sr. Regina Dougherty, SSJ 8th Grade Religion:**

Students in the 8th Grade have been learning about the history of the Church. They have covered the beginning of the Church at the time of the Apostles through the Council of Trent from 1545-1563. During December, they will continue to learn about the development of the Church in the Modern Era and prepare for their Christmas presentation on December 19th.

### **Sr. Regina Dougherty, SSJ Music:**

Students in Grades 1-8 enjoyed singing turkey songs during the month of November and especially LOVE to sing "Cranberries Forever" :-)

Students have covered Music theory work such as distinguishing between sound and noise, identifying important, yet common, music symbols, dynamics, and are now learning about rhythmic notation - notes, rests, patterns, time signatures, etc. In-between the acts, students in Grades 1-4 have also been looking at other concepts in music such as form and melodic direction. The students in Kindergarten are also learning the same elements of music as the rest of the student body but on a simpler scale. All of the children are wonderful singers!!! It is a pleasure to teach them not only music but songs that we sing in church when coming together for mass and prayer services. It is a blessing to be able to share the joy of music with your children. I wish you an abundance of God's blessings during these Advent days and the Christmas season ahead.

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## Lunch Duty

Thank you to everyone who volunteered their lunch hour(s) to Holy Rosary for the school year. You have all been wonderful as we worked together to make everything flow so well.

We are still in need of a few “lunch duty” volunteers to help Monday through Friday, 11:50 am–12:50 pm.

If you are interested in volunteering your lunch hour to do “lunch duty,” please email or call **Colleen Giamo**, Lunch Coordinator - [colleengiamo@comcast.net](mailto:colleengiamo@comcast.net) or **267-441-5720**

Please note that ALL lunch volunteers will need security clearances handed in to the school by January 2nd, 2013.

You can obtain the child abuse clearance form at [http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/ucmprd/groups/webcontent/documents/form/s\\_001762.pdf](http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/ucmprd/groups/webcontent/documents/form/s_001762.pdf)

The criminal record clearance form at <https://epatch.state.pa.us/Home.jsp>

In our continuing efforts to keep our students healthy, we are kindly requesting donations of hand sanitizer for lunch periods. Please label “Lunch Cart” and send donated bottles to the Front Office. Thank you!

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## Holy Rosary Regional Catholic School Open House

**Thursday, December 6th—9am-11am**

Invite a friend!

Tour the school and meet the principal!

Refreshments will be served!

**Questions?** Please contact **Lisa Moran**, Executive Assistant, [lmoran@holyroaryregional.com](mailto:lmoran@holyroaryregional.com)



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## Holy Rosary Regional Catholic School Focus Groups

Please plan on joining us for focus group discussions on ways to improve our school. They will be held in the school library on the following dates. More information will be sent from HASA.

**Tuesday November 27th 7-8:30 P.M.**

**Wednesday December 5th 1-2:30 P.M.**

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## Holy Rosary Regional Book Fair

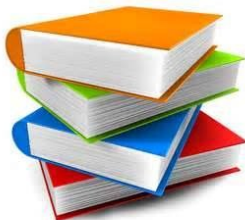
**Holy Rosary Regional School Book Fair will be held on Friday evening, November 30, 2012 from 6-9PM at the Barnes and Noble Book Store located in the Plymouth Meeting Metroplex.**

A percentage of the proceeds will be given to the school. Older students will be reading to younger students and Danny Bader, local author of the inspirational book, Back From Heaven's Front Porch will be on hand for a book signing event.

Please come out to support our school! Books make great Christmas gifts!

For more information and to download your voucher/flier please go to <http://holyrosaryregional.com/2012/11/help-hr-raise-money-at-barnes-and-noble-book-fair-november-30th/>

Thanks for your support!



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## Cinch Sacks Still Available!

### Please help support the Eighth Grade!

There are a limited number of cinch sacks available for only \$10!

Email **Patie Lampe** at [nonajus@yahoo.com](mailto:nonajus@yahoo.com) to reserve yours today!



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## Spotlight On...

Holy Rosary received six Smartboards through the Office of Catholic Education. These Smartboards are valued at more than \$20,500! Holy Rosary is very grateful to OCE and the teachers and students are anxious to start using the Smartboards in the classrooms.



Congratulations to Holy Rosary's Olivia Certa, who received an academic scholarship to Mount Saint Joseph Academy.

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## Holy Rosary Regional Craft Fair

### Holy Rosary Craft Show December 1st and 2nd!

The 2012 Craft Show is here!

There has been an incredible response of volunteers and donations from the school families that is sure to make the show a great success. So please bring your family & friends this weekend and browse the remarkable display of unique crafts. Lots of good ideas for Christmas gifts.

We also have a flat-screen TV, a laptop, a Kindle eReader, and an iPod Touch that are up for grabs in the raffle.

Don't forget to drop off your homemade baked goods at our popular Bake Table while you're visiting the show. And make sure to check out the 8th Grade Table to order that beautiful poinsettia for your holiday centerpiece and support their fundraising efforts.

The event is open on Saturday, Dec 1st from 9 AM to 4 PM, and on Sunday, Dec 2nd from 8 AM to 2 PM. See you at the show!



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## Save the Date!

### Come out and mingle at the Holy Rosary Spring Parent Social!

Saturday, March 23rd, 2013

6:30pm to 9:30pm

MaGerks Bar and Grill, Fort Washington

Mark your calendar, more details coming soon!

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## BLOCS

Each year, Business Leadership Organized for Catholic Schools (BLOCS) provides need-based scholarships to students in preschool through 8th grade in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia parochial schools.

BLOCS is currently accepting applications for the 2013-2014 school year. Applications are available at [www.blocs.org](http://www.blocs.org) or by contacting Lisa Moran in the Holy Rosary office.

While scholarship funds have increased over the past several years, so has demand. Filing of an application and payment of an application fee does not guarantee the awarding of a scholarship. Scholarships are granted on a rolling basis.

If you apply between December 1, 2012 and January 31, 2013, awards will be made in March 2013. If you apply between February 1, 2013 and March 15, 2013, awards will be made in May 2013. If you apply after March 15, 2013, awards will be made in late June 2013.

Please note that this application requires you to submit your 2011 financial information if you are applying before July 31, 2013.

Applications should be sent, along with supporting documentation and the \$22 application fee, to:

PSAS-Common Application

Box 89434 Cleveland

OH 44101-6434

If your financial situation has changed significantly since you filed your 2011 taxes, please contact **Lisa Moran** in the Holy Rosary office, [lmoran@holynosaryregional.com](mailto:lmoran@holynosaryregional.com), for information on how to apply for an emergency scholarship.



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## We are Proud to Announce the 2012/2013 HASA Board Members

Board Members: Maryann Barbosa, Sonia Calvano and Jessica Calhoun

Marketing Co-Chairs: Rachel Yoka and Colleen Giamo

Ministry Chair: Tanya Hagner

Fundraising Co-Chairs: Jennifer Petruccelli and Heather Fryer

Hospitality Chair: Marie Dougherty-Peticca

Beautification Chair: Jennifer Klug

Grant Writing Chair: Kathy Stanley

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## Book Donations, Box Tops for Education and More!

Did you know the library accepts donations of new books? We are looking to expand our non-fiction library. If you would like to commemorate a birthday, special event or remember a loved one, please donate a book (Hardback preferred) to the library. A special "plate" will be created for the book. We ask that you include the name of the person donating the book, and the reason for the donation( birthday, event, memorial).

Holy Rosary is also collecting Campbell's Labels for Education, Box Tops for Education, and soda can tabs. Please collect them in a baggie (pre-cut preferred) and forward them to the library at the end of each month.




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## More About Box Tops for Education

We can earn cash for our school online, too!

There are two ways. One, you can shop online through the Box Tops website and earn eBox-Tops® credits on all your purchases. Just click the "earn" section at the top of the [BTFE.com](http://BTFE.com) homepage and scroll down to "shop marketplace." Two, you can take part in any of the activities on the eBoxTops' Click & Earn page., click the "earn" section at the top of the homepage, then scroll down to "click & earn."

Any eBoxTops you earn will be automatically credited to our school.

Each eBoxTop is worth 10¢, just like a regular Box Top.

**Questions?** Please contact **Luisa Kelly-BoxTops Coordinator** at [aidank1@msn.com](mailto:aidank1@msn.com)




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## Market Day

**Please place orders for December Market Day by Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup>.**

**Orders will be available for pickup on Thursday, December 20<sup>th</sup> between 7 and 8pm.**

Market Day is a monthly fundraiser which offers over 200 convenient and nutritious products at competitive prices. Poultry, meats, seafood, family meals, appetizers, breakfast items and desserts are available to order, as well as gluten, dairy and peanut free products.

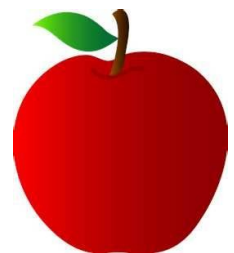
Orders may be placed either online at [www.marketday.com](http://www.marketday.com) or via order form returned to the school office. Order forms will be sent home monthly with your youngest child.

You can pay electronically for online orders or by cash or check at time of pickup.

Picking up your orders is easy! Come to the front lobby of the school where your order will be boxed up and ready, and help loading your order into your car will be available.

**Questions?** Please email Anne at [agennaria@verizon.net](mailto:agennaria@verizon.net)

Thank you for supporting Holy Rosary!





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## School Closings for Emergencies: Some Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

**Q:** If Norristown is closed but Holy Rosary is open you suggest that we should not bring the children to school. Will they be considered absent for the day?

**A:** If your school district is closed (Norristown) but Holy Rosary is open, we do suggest that your children stay home. The authorities in your township know the road conditions better than we do and are in a better position to make those calls. We would not want any family getting into an accident trying to get their children to school on dangerous roads. The children would be marked absent under the "inclement weather" column.

**Q:** Will this be an excused absence?

**A:** There are no excused absences because Holy Rosary does not have a perfect attendance award. All absences are marked as such to keep an accurate attendance/roll slip. However, the reason for the absence is noted on our attendance sheets, in this case, "inclement weather".

**Q:** If Holy Rosary is on a two hour delay will the districts bus our children two hours later?! If the school district is on a two hour delay but Holy Rosary is open at the regular time, will our transportation be on time or delayed 2 hours? Would the children be considered late?

**A:** If Holy Rosary is on a two hour delay, the bus companies will transport students according to THEIR district, not our school. For example, if Norristown is operating on a two hour delay and so is Holy Rosary, then the buses will pick them up and deliver them to our school two hours late. However, if Norristown is not on a two hour delay and Holy Rosary is, then Norristown will not be picking up our students at the two hour delay time and you will need to provide transportation or allow your children to stay home. Also, we would not mark any student late if bus transportation in their district was on a two hour delay.

**Q:** What happens in the event of an early dismissal?

**A:** You should have received a "Let it snow, Let us know" slip. The information on this paper allows the school to know in the case of an early dismissal, how your children will be going home. We do not make decisions concerning when the districts will be picking up, the individual school districts do. Parents will be notified through the One Call system as to which school districts are sending their buses early for pick up from Holy Rosary. Please note that not all districts will dismiss early at the same time (and some not at all). Holy Rosary will remain open until all school districts collect their children. Parents may listen to radio/TV to see what YOUR district is doing.



## December 2012 Calendar

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		Nov 27 Focus Group 7-8:30pm	Nov 28	Nov 29	Nov 30 Book Fair Barnes & Noble 6-9pm	Dec 1 Craft Show 9:30am-4pm
2 Craft Show- 8am-2pm	3 No School Teacher In-service 2nd Trimester	4 Puppet Assembly K-2	5 Focus Group 1-2:30pm	6 Open House 9-11am  Saint Nicholas Day	7 Report Cards First Friday Mass- 11:00am	8
9	10 Confession 1pm	11	12	13	14 Market Day Orders Due	15
16	17	18 Kindergarten Lunch with Santa	19 School Nativity 7pm in Church	20 Market Day Pickup 7-8pm	21	22
23	24 No School Christmas Holidays	25 No School Christmas Holidays	26 No School Christmas Holidays	27 No School Christmas Holidays	28 No School Christmas Holidays	29 No School Christmas Holidays
30	31 No School Christmas Holidays	Jan 1 No School Christmas Holidays	2	3	4 First Friday Mass- 11am	5