

Holy Rosary Review

Important

Dates:

February 1:

Catholic Schools
Week Begins

February 4:

Talent Show

February 8:

Valentine Candy Sale
Begins

February 10:

Ash Wednesday/
Prayer Service 2pm/
HASA General Meeting

February 12:

Grades K-5 Stations
1:30pm/ Dress Down
in Pink, Red or
White
Grades 6-8 Field Trip
Please Wear Winter
Uniform

February 15:

Presidents' Day/
No School

February 16:

Chik-Fil-A Night Out

February 19:

Grades 6-8 Stations
1:30pm / Chinese
Culture Day after
Stations

February 22:

Pennies for Patients
Begins

February 26:

Terra Novas Begin/
African Culture Day
after Testing

3040 Walton Road
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462
<http://holyroaryregional.com>

Office: 610-825-0160
Fax: 610-825-0460
School Closing # 1385

From the Principal's Desk

As many of you know, our students, faculty, and administration went out to all our parishes this past weekend to proclaim our love for our school. Teachers, students, HASA Board members, and Advisory Board members spoke at all the masses, sharing the excitement of our school community. It was probably the best Catholic Schools Week kick-off I have ever experienced.

We received just wonderful feedback, I thought it would be appropriate to share what was said at the masses in case you were unable to attend. For those who heard it already, perhaps you would enjoy reading it on your own. In addition to thanking the parishioners, we wanted to reach out to the alumni of each school to help them understand that we are a continuation of them. This is what was said:

"Our students may walk different halls but with same confidence and love of God and School that you did. They continue the traditions begun at each of our legacy schools, such as each student having a prayer partner who they accompany to church each week and for whom they model good behavior. We celebrate the Christmas Pageant, Living Stations, the Stations of the Cross and May procession. We love Family Bingo, the Halloween Parade, and Walkathon. But most especially beloved is adorning each of our school windows with the nativity.

What you began, we have built even stronger. The single Science Lab has become two so that every student from PreK to 8th grade can delve first hand into the experimental process. Our technology is second to none, with two iPad carts for the use of students in grades PreK-5, and close to 200 iPads in use by our 6th-8th graders at Holy Rosary, upon which they learn to film, write, and most importantly collaborate. This past week when every district closed its doors for the blizzard, Holy Rosary opened its Cyber School, providing a venue for students in 6-8th grade to attend each of the classes they would have had on those days, virtually. Students who cannot come to school because of illnesses, have the ability to attend via iPad where they can participate in the daily class, and in some instances, actually present projects for their classmates and teachers, virtually.

We have strengthened the moral character of our students by making them keenly aware of how their actions affect each other. If a student is harmed physically or emotionally, the entire school gathers to take down our Unity Flag, and it remains down for 24 hours. We pray together to the Blessed Mother for the Grace to do better. Our middle school students have moved to Block Scheduling where they are being taught to persist through problems and difficult tasks, while also affording time in the schedule for a ministry class each week where they are tasked with bringing the Corporal Works of Mercy to action.

Our CYO is stronger than ever as we are able to draw athletes from all our parishes. Our boys won the Parade of Champions this fall and both the boys and girls have won championships as well in volleyball, track and cheerleading.

In an effort toward continued sustainability, and charged with doing so by Archbishop Chaput, Holy Rosary has formed its first Advisory Board of Limited Jurisdiction. The board is made up of a pastor, principal, parishioners, and parents who meet monthly to provide oversight in areas such as finances, advancement, and marketing. Just in its infancy, the board is currently adopting its mode of operation and developing sub committees tasked for each of the oversight areas. We are very excited to welcome its members and pray for their success.

Perhaps our greatest strength is our students, who come from a vast array of backgrounds and cultures. This current year Holy Rosary is honoring a different culture each month to strengthen community and acceptance while gaining a rich appreciation of our families' different traditions and gifts.

At each of the doors of the church at every mass today, students and their families from Holy Rosary will be handing out thank you cards to show our sincere appreciation for all you do in support of our school. Please feel free to chat with them about their school, ask questions, and if you wish, plan on visiting our school on another day. We welcome you to stop in and see firsthand all the great things we are accomplishing in God's name.

May God continue to bless our parish and its school so that we may grow stronger in offering an education where God and prayer come first.

Thank you!"

Peace,

Lisa S. Hoban

One Faith, One Family, One School





Did You Know...

Ms. Elizalde—Middle School ELA:

As part of Holy Rosary's cultural series, 7th grade will be doing a cultural presentation on China and the Chinese New Year on Friday, February 19th.

Mrs. Gilman—Physical Education:

Thank you for your always generous response to our annual Jump Rope for Hearts. With a few donations still outstanding, it looks like we raised about \$3800! What a wonderful celebration of our school community! The American Heart Association will be most appreciative of Holy Rosary's gift.



Teacher Spotlight

Lauren Gray, our new PreK teacher, graduated from Cabrini with a Master's in Education and is certified to teach Prek-4th. She has been working with children in elementary schools for nine years; a couple of those years at St. Francis in Norristown. In her free time, Lauren likes to travel, spend time with her family, and golfing. However, this year all her free time will be spent planning her wedding to be held in July 2016.



Lauren's Aide, Barb Kellogg, has four children with her husband of 36 years. She also has two grandchildren with another two on the way. This will be Barb's 11th year on Catholic Schools. She spends all her time with her family or escaping from them on a cruise anywhere.

Letter from The Governing Board of Pastors

Fr. Lewandowski—Pastor of Saint Titus

Dear students, parents and friends of Holy Rosary School:

Praised be Jesus Christ – now and forever!

Within this month, we will begin the season of Lent which is the beginning of our Easter Season – the most important season of the Church's entire year. Lent begins with "Ash Wednesday". With Ash Wednesday, the material of "Ashes" is traditionally placed on our foreheads. These "ashes" represent everything that the Lenten/Easter season is all about.

First of all, "ashes" represent "death". One of the formulas the priest uses as he places the ashes on our foreheads is "remember, man, that you are dust and unto dust you shall return". This statement reminds us that it was from the clay (dust) of the earth that humankind came to be and that, when we die, our bodies will go back to that dust.

Secondly, "ashes" represent the "dirt of sin" we will collect on our souls during our lifetime. Unfortunately, we are not perfect people. If we were, there would be no need for a Savior – no need for Jesus. We are sinners. Our souls get "dirty" from the sins we commit. The purpose for the Savior was to help us be cleansed of those sins – of that dirt.

The third thing that "ashes" represents is the "cleansing agent" for our sins. Anyone who has done any camping realizes that one of the best ways to clean off a dirty pot or pan at a camping site is to use the ashes from the campfire. These ashes act as a scrubbing agent (a form of "Comet cleanser", if you will) to get off the grease, dirt, and grime from the frying pan. Ashes, consequently, help to clean our souls from our sins. Jesus, our Savior, is also that cleanser. He gets the grease, dirt, and grime off our souls in order to make us presentable to God the Father for our eventual reception into heaven. The Sacraments of Reconciliation (Confession) and the Anointing of the Sick help keep our souls clean from the dirt of sin so that we can always look presentable to God when we become dust to this earth at our death and are called home to our eternal reward in heaven.

May the good Lord bless you during this Lenten/Easter Season. May the symbol of "ashes" remind us that from dust we came and to dust we shall return; that sin will always try to make its way into our lives; and that through the abrasive power of Jesus Christ, we will be freed from our sins and able to enter God's kingdom in the spotless manner in which God initially created us.

Fr. Len Lewandowski

CYO NEWS

- **IBL registration** is now OPEN! The Instructional Basketball League Registration for 1st -4th graders is taking place until February 7th, please register now, as space is limited. Registration is \$40 per child, and can be completed at www.Wagdogs.com. If you have any questions, please contact **Matt Brooks** at mattybpt@yahoo.com.
- Our next **CYO Dance** is scheduled to take place on Friday February 19th and we are in need of chaperones. If you are available to chaperone, please email **Megan Patzuk** at Holyrosaryregionalcyo@gmail.com by February 12th.
- Do you like to run? Do you want to teach others to enjoy running as much as you do? Do you enjoy seeing the look of accomplishment on the faces of children? If you answered yes to these questions, we have the perfect opportunity for you! **Holy Rosary CYO is in need of a Track & Field Coach for the Spring season.** These energetic and eager to learn kids need an adult to help them achieve the success that comes with participating in Track & Field. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming our Track & Field Coach for this Spring, please contact **Megan Patzuk** at Holyrosaryregionalcyo@gmail.com as soon as possible.
- **Spring Sports registration** will open on February 8th and run until February 22nd. To register, please go to www.Wagdogs.com.
- Please mark your calendars for our **CYO Banquet** scheduled to take place on **Wednesday May 13th**.
- **Holy Rosary CYO will be participating in a Day of Service** where our participants and their families work together to help those in need. Service to others is an integral part of CYO, and we look forward to sharing this experience with each of you. The charity we will be assisting this year is Cradles to Crayons. Stay tuned for more information as the details are finalized.
- **Congratulations to all of our basketball teams on your terrific seasons! Good luck to our Regional basketball teams as their playoffs take place this week!**
- **Good luck to our Cheerleaders as they begin their competition season this month!**

GO GLADIATORS!

Want to get involved, but don't have a lot of time... there are **OPEN** positions available on the **CYO Board** and more positions will be available at the end of this school year. Please contact **Megan Patzuk** at holyrosaryregionalcyo@gmail.com to find out more.

Yearbook Orders

Yearbook Order Form

Interested in ordering a yearbook?

There is still time! Preorder now!

The cost is \$25.00 per book.

Fill in the bottom portion of this page and return it with the money in an envelope addressed to

Miss Morrow

by Friday, February 19th.

Please make checks payable to Holy Rosary.

This will be your last chance to order, and there are a limited number of books available!

Yearbooks will be distributed in June.

Orders will not be taken after 2/19/16.

Please fill in one form for every student ordering.

Child's Name _____

Grade: _____ Homeroom : _____

_____ Check

_____ Cash

Spotlight on....

Congratulations to **Logan Kerper** who has been chosen to participate in the Philadelphia Area Honors Concert Band. This is a huge honor and we are so proud of Logan!

Also congratulations to our following 8th graders:

Tim Newell upon receiving the Principal Scholarship to PJP and
 Msgr. Joseph Schade Scholarship to Lansdale Catholic.

Bethany Belkowski upon receiving Golden Panther Scholarship to PJP.

HASA News

HASA General Meeting, Wednesday, February 10th at 7pm

We are pleased to announce that Chris Mominey, COO and Secretary of Catholic Education will be our speaker for the evening. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us in meeting “The man behind all those radical ideas and what this new direction means for education”* (*quoted from the website, <http://www.aopcatholicchools.org/>) As mentioned in Mrs. Hoban’s weekly memo, students whose parents attend will get a dress down day on the following day, Thursday, and their names will be entered in to a drawing for a free registration. (Value \$100.00)

Super Bowl Block Challenge

It's almost time to watch the Super Bowl! What could make watching the game more exciting than to have the possibility of winning some money! Holy Rosary's 1st Annual Super Bowl Block Challenge is open for business! It's super easy to play - \$20.00 per block that will be randomly assigned to you. There will be one winner for each of the first 3 quarters and a 4th winner for the final score. If we are able to secure 100 blocks, the payout will be: \$200 for each of the 1st 3 quarters, and \$400 for the final score winner!

To sign up and learn more on how the challenge works, please visit:

<http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=nxgquweab&oeidk=a07ec6b0rkuf8398ff9>

Box Tops for Education



The spring Box Top contest is in full swing! We are hoping you are all gathering up your Box Tops for submission. We plan to exceed our amount from the fall. Let’s all join together and collect Box Tops from family, friends, neighbors and co-workers. We can end this Box Top school year on top!

Get your children involved and let them know about the possibility of winning exciting prizes.

For a list of participating products, go to BTFE.com.

If you have any questions about the Box Tops for Education™ program, please contact Luisa Kelly, Box Top Coordinator at Aidankl@msn.com.

Happy Clipping!

February 2016



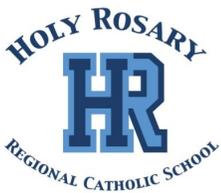

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Catholic Schools Week	Ground Hog Day Catholic Schools Week	Catholic Schools Week	Catholic Schools Week Talent Show After School Clubs	No School	
Sunday	1	2	3	4 Family Bingo	5	6
Students will be able to order Valentine candy for particular students/teachers to be delivered on Friday.	Valentine Candy Sale: ALL WEEK	Valentine Candy Sale: ALL WEEK	Ash Wednesday Valentine Candy Sale: ALL WEEK Prayer Service 2PM HASA General Meeting!!	Valentine Candy Sale: ALL WEEK After School Clubs	Valentines to Students Stations K-5 1:30 Grds 6-8 Fld trip Grds PreK-5 Dress in red/white/pink Dress Down	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Valentine's Day	President's Day No School	Chic-fil-A Night out.		After School Clubs	Stations Grds 6-8 1:30 Chinese Culture Day following Stations	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	Pennies for Patients .01	Pennies for Patients .05	Pennies for Patients .10	Pennies for Patients .25 After School Clubs	Pennies for Patients 1.00/Ck. Terra Nova begins African Culture Day after testing	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	Terra Nova	 				
28	29					

February Lunch Menu

👉 February 2016 👈

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
	<u>Pizza Day w/Salad</u>	<u>Burgers/Tater Tots/Milk</u>	<u>Pasta w/Sauce</u>	<u>Chick-fil-a lunch 1</u>	<u>NO SCHOOL TODAY!!!</u>	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	<u>Pizza/cookies</u>	<u>Hot Dog Day</u>	<u>Mac & Cheese</u>	<u>Steak Sandwich Day</u>	<u>Waffles</u>	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	<u>Presidents Day</u>	<u>Burgers/Chips or Fruit</u>	<u>Chicken Noodle Soup/Ham & Cheese on Honey Wheat Bread/Milk</u>	<u>Chick-fil-a lunch 2</u>	<u>Grilled Cheese/Brownie</u>	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	<u>Pizza/Gogurt/Milk</u>	<u>Hot Dog w/cooked carrots</u>	<u>Beef Taco (2)/Ice Cream or Fruit/Milk</u>	<u>Bacon,egg and cheese on a Bagel</u>	<u>Tomato Pie/Pot Luck Snack</u>	
28	29	1	2	3	4	5
	<u>Pizza/Carrot sticks w/dip/Milk</u>					

2015/2016 Home & School Association Board Members



Executive Board

- President – Beth Fish
- Vice President – Anthony Garcia
- Treasurer - Lisa Trowbridge
- Recording Secretary - Giselle Booker
- Corresponding Secretary - Nicole Coey

Committees

- Fundraising - Kim Taglieber & Sharon Rupprecht
- Beautification-Nicole Marino
- Community Service - Judy Coughlin
- Grant Writing – Jacki Jay
- Lead Homeroom Parent – Melissa Keene
- Marketing – Amy Porter

Tuition Assistance Opportunities for Holy Rosary Families



There are several sources of tuition assistance available to Holy Rosary families. These opportunities are made possible through the generous support of various businesses and foundations. A number of these opportunities require interested families to go through an outside application process. Other opportunities become available because of direct donations to Holy Rosary from generous parishioners of affiliated parishes.

The available opportunities and related application processes are outlined below. In cases in which Holy Rosary decides who the recipients will be, Holy Rosary will only consider families that have completed the application process for all funding sources for which they would qualify. Any cases of extraordinary or unforeseen circumstances will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

If you have individual questions on applying for financial assistance, contact **Beth Hallinan** in the school office, bhallinan@holyroaryregional.com , 610-825-0160.

EITC & OSTC FUNDS

Much of the available tuition assistance is made possible through **Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC)** and **Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC)** business donations to non-profit organizations interested in promoting education. To be eligible for EITC or OSTC funding for the 2015-2016 school year the adjusted gross income for a family with one dependent must be \$90,000 or less. For each additional dependent, the adjusted gross income threshold increases \$15,000. Below is a listing of the organizations that provide EITC & OSTC funding to Holy Rosary students and an explanation of how to apply for funding from each organization. Please note: all eligible families do not necessarily receive funding. Awards are dependent on the amount of scholarship money available each year.

Business Leadership Organized for Catholic Schools (BLOCS) is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping families afford Catholic education. Holy Rosary students received almost \$19,000 in BLOCS funding during the 2015-2016 school year.

BLOCS applications for the 2016-2017 school year will be available in the fall at www.blocs.org.

Tuition Assistance for Holy Rosary Families

The Bridge Foundation is an independent non-profit organization that provides scholarship opportunities to Pennsylvania low-income families. Families must apply directly to the Bridge Foundation between May 1st and June 30th each year. Applications are only accepted during this window. Applications are available online at www.bridgeedu.org. Families who receive Bridge funding must complete a 40-hour community service requirement.

The Henkels Foundation supports benevolent, religious, educational, charitable, scientific, and literary undertakings throughout the United States.

If funds become available through the Foundation, Holy Rosary determines how to distribute the funding. Only families that have completed the BLOCS application, and who meet the eligibility requirements for EITC funding, will be considered for available Henkels funds.

Other Funding Sources

The Kremer Foundation provides Catholic elementary schools with tuition grants for children from financially challenged families. The Foundation's grants are given directly to the schools; school principals select which students receive the tuition assistance. Holy Rosary received \$10,000 from the Kremer Foundation for the 2014-2015 school year.

To qualify for assistance, a family's adjusted gross income cannot exceed the federal food program's maximum family income for reduced priced meals. The 2016-2017 guidelines are not yet available. To qualify for the 2015-2016 school year, a family of four's adjusted gross income had to be less than \$43,568; the qualifying amount was increased by \$7,437 for each additional family member.

If Holy Rosary receives a grant from the Kremer Foundation for the 2016-2017 school year, Holy Rosary will notify families of the application process in the spring. All applications will be submitted to Holy Rosary.

Children's Scholarship Fund (CSF) provides scholarships to qualifying families who live in Philadelphia to fund tuition at a private school of the family's choosing. PLEASE NOTE: Families must reside in Philadelphia to qualify; students may attend a CSF-approved school outside the Philadelphia city limits. Income eligibility requirements will be available on the CSF website www.csphiladelphia.org when they become available.

Applications will be available on the website in mid-November and are due no later than March 1. Scholarships are awarded by random lottery. Recipients are notified by mid-March.