



# Knights Highlights

March 2018

## From the Principal's Desk

### HRCS MISSION

Holy Redeemer Catholic School (Pre-K through 8th Grade), the primary educational ministry of Holy Redeemer Catholic Church, serves Catholic families in Osceola and neighboring counties, as well as others who embrace our philosophy of education. The school community instills a daily living and ever growing knowledge of the Gospel message by creating a Catholic environment that empowers our students to reach their maximum potential spiritually, morally, and academically.

*We Educate the Mind,  
Invigorate the Body, and  
Expand the Heart*

Pope Francis Says: *"Lent is a fitting time for self-denial; we would do well to ask ourselves what we can give up in order to help and enrich others by our own poverty. Let us not forget that real poverty hurts: no self-denial is real without this dimension of penance. I distrust a charity that costs nothing and does not hurt."*

Dear HRCS Families and Friends,

Happy March and Spring Blessings! It is hard to believe we are in beginning of our 3rd trimester of this academic school year, but we still have a lot of work ahead of us.

During March, we find ourselves deep in the season of Lent. As parents and teachers, we try to teach our children that reconciliation, reflection, and fasting prepares us for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday, through which we attain redemption. We try to encourage not only giving up something during Lent, but to make more of an effort to live our lives by following Jesus' example. Through our HRCS Root Beliefs and Virtues, our students model and encourage being kind and gentle, being respectful, and being responsible. Lent is a time of reflection on our personal relationship with Christ and to remind ourselves that God loved us so much — He gave His Only Son. As a school community, we will come together for the 5th grade reenactment of the Stations of the Cross on Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00 pm in our Church. Our students, in grades 3rd through 8th, will also have the opportunity to participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Families are encouraged to participate in the CRS Rice Bowl. CRS Rice Bowl is a faith-in-action program that invites us to encounter our neighbor, as companions on the journey. We will see how our prayers, fasting and alms can support those worldwide who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities. Reflecting on the crosses of hunger, poverty and war carried by our brothers and sisters forced to flee their homes, we have an opportunity to also reflect on our roles in caring for them as members of our human family. We will collect your CRS Rice Bowls at the end of Lent. Thank you for participating in CRS Rice Bowl with your family.

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> page of this newsletter, I have included some information regarding the use of technology. At Holy Redeemer Catholic School, we teach the proper use of technology through the ISafe program, but I encourage all of our families to have an open discussion on the benefits and risks of technology.

Next week, Holy Redeemer Catholic School, as well as all schools in the Diocese of Orlando, will administer the IOWA Standardized Assessments to all 2nd through 8th graders. Testing will begin March 6th and continue through March 10th (makeups through 3/17); we will adhere closely to schedules with little or no interruptions to ensure an appropriate and positive test-taking environment. Testing will begin promptly at 8:30 am. Please be aware that attendance and promptness are expected in order to avoid disruptions.

I ask that we all pray for our 8th grade Confirmandi, as they receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit on Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 10:00, and use these spiritual gifts to serve all of God's people in the world.

Thank you to all of the families who have re-enrolled for the 2018-2019 academic school year. Our classes are filling up and we encourage you to invite members of your family, friends and community to apply at Holy Redeemer Catholic School, during this time of open enrollment. We are grateful for your support as we move our students toward a future of spiritual growth, academic achievement and physical development.

May the Peace of Christ be with all of our families during Lent, as we continue our Lenten Journey and become closer to Our Lord, Jesus Christ, every day. We wish God's blessings on all Holy Redeemer families during this time of preparation for Easter.

Peace in Christ,  
*Gloria Del Orbe*  
Principal

### HAPPENING IN MARCH

Confirmation at 10 am	3/3
IOWA Testing	3/5-16
4th Grade Class Trip	3/19
NUT Day	*3/14
*CHANGED FROM ORIGINAL DATE	
Spring Pictures	3/22
Stations of the Cross	3/23
5th Grade at 5pm	
Holy Thursday	3/29
NO SCHOOL	
Good Friday	3/30
NO SCHOOL	
Easter Break	4/2-6
School Resumes	4/9



## PARENT INFORMATION ON TECHNOLOGY SAFETY

In this rapidly changing digital world, it is important for parents to know more than ever what your child is doing online. At school, our web filter does not allow students to access these apps or websites but at home parents are the first line of defense when it comes to online safety. Talk to your kids about what apps they are using and what they are using them for. Check to see if there is an age restriction for the app your child is using. Know that although the apps or the technology changes the protocols needed for privacy, security and safety remain the same. Kids need to be reminded that there are consequences for online behavior and that anything posted or exchanged digitally remains and can be stored, saved, copied and shared. For an up-to-date look at the apps and websites used by kids see the article:

<https://www.common sense media.org/blog/16-apps-and-websites-kids-are-heading-to-after-facebook#>

Snapchat is currently one of the most popular social media apps among students these days. What makes it so popular? Snapchat allows users to capture and send photos and short videos that self-destruct after a certain amount of time (up to 10 seconds). With Snapchat, it is all about the quick image, animated face, or video!

When users send a message, they get to decide how long it will live on the receiver's end. After that, send...poof... disappear... it is now history... or so most senders think.

<https://www.connectsafely.org/a-parents-guide-to-snapchat/>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/guidance/snapchat-safety-a-how-to-guide-for-parents/>

Holy Redeemer Catholic School teaches the proper use of technology through the ISafe program, but I encourage all of our families to have an open discussion on the benefits and risks of technology.

## THE IOWAS ARE COMING RIGHT UP! MARCH 5TH—16TH

### Leading up to the week of testing:

Remind your child of the importance of the IOWAs—encourage him/her to do his/her best!

Confirm with your child's teacher that he/she will receive pre-determined accommodations, if applicable.

### The week of the Iowa Assessments:

- ◆ Set a reasonable bedtime, especially during the week of testing.
- ◆ Well rested students are more likely to be able to focus than tired students.
- ◆ Provide a high-protein, healthy, low-sugar breakfast.
- ◆ Ensure your child has enough time to wake up and get their brain engaged.
- ◆ Please be on time and try not to rush on testing days.

### General tips:

- ◆ Avoid pressuring your child, but ask them to do their best!
- ◆ Attendance is a priority.  
(Students generally perform better when taking the test with the class, rather than at make-up time)
- ◆ Remind your child to listen carefully to instructions, read directions and attempt to answer all questions, don't leave any questions blank
- ◆ Help your child be prepared, remind them to bring all materials necessary for testing.  
(Generally: sharpened #2 Pencils)
- ◆ Make sure child has taken any medication needed, if applicable.
- ◆ Have a positive attitude and maintain a pleasant home environment, avoiding unnecessary conflicts the week of the Iowas. (The morning commute to school is not a time to "get into it" with your pre-teen about their missing homework, messy room, etc.)

**Send your child off to school with words of praise and encouragement!**

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE: Due to IOWA testing, morning and afternoon tutoring sessions for Kids4Kids will be suspended. It will resume the week of April 9th (when we return from spring break). If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Ali or Mrs. Garcia at [aabreu@hrcschool.com](mailto:aabreu@hrcschool.com).**

## SECURITY & SAFETY MEASURES

- ◆ Classroom doors are locked at all times, except during a fire.
- ◆ The front office will be asking visitors and vendor "How may we help you today?" rather than "Come in" so that we are proactive on all entering the office area.
- ◆ Walkie-Talkies will be picked up by any teacher using the soccer field for recess.

We will have the Kissimmee Police Department at the school **Monday, March 26**, to run through a mock lockdown drill and review our procedures.



# NEW ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS

*Step Up Wants to Pay You Faster!*

Tired of waiting on your scholarship checks? Annoyed by broken packages, torn checks and/or lost checks? Don't feel like going to the bank to make the deposit?

**GREAT NEWS!** *We are going electronic.*

## What do you mean?

A faster, easier, and more convenient way to receive scholarship funds.

## Why are we doing this?

To provide quicker access to scholarship funds and protect against fraud and misuse.

## When will this change take place?

- **March 2018** – You will be asked to enter your banking information during your tuition and fee submission.
- **During the 2018-19 school year**, electronic payments will begin.

## Benefits

- ✓ Payments will be received faster.
- ✓ **Parents no longer have to come to your school to sign the check.**
- ✓ **Natural disasters (such as Hurricane Irma) will no longer delay your payment.**

## Current Process

1. School completes VR.
2. Checks are mailed.
3. Parents go to school to endorse the check.
4. School deposits the checks.

## New Process

1. School completes VR.
2. Parent receives an email asking them to approve the payment with the push of a button.
3. Step Up receives the approval.
4. Funds will be deposited to the school's bank account.



The following is an update on AAA Scholarship:

- ◆ 2018-19 Renewals – Paper Apps Mailed 2/15/18; Online Available 2/24/18 (link included on renewal letter mailed 2/15/18)
- ◆ 2018-19 New Applications – Will be available 3/15/18



# FLORIDA FUTURE PROBLEM SOLVERS

This year Holy Redeemer had the opportunity to send three groups of future problem solvers to the district competition in the Orlando Science Center. They competed along 16 other middle school groups in solving possible problems in the future...



Out of our 14 participants who competed alongside the most creative and innovative middle school thinkers in Orlando, 9 are moving forward to represent Holy Redeemer Catholic School in the statewide competition! We want to congratulate all these students on the endless hours and hard-work. Great job on representing HRCS so well! Good luck in States!

## FPS on the GO!



7th graders Siena, Joshua, Justin and Nathan prepare for their ribbon winning skit! They got 3rd place!



8th graders Chanel, Angel, Victoria, Alex and Emiliyenne present their ribbon winning skit to the audience. They placed in 4th!



**CONGRATULATIONS** to our Varsity Basketball team! On Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, the team will play for the Diocesan Cup Finals against the Brevard County champions at Father Lopez HS in Daytona. **GO KNIGHTS!!!**

**Girls' volleyball practice schedule:**

- ◆ March 5 - JV only until 5 pm
- ◆ March 6 - JJV only until 5 pm
- ◆ March 7 - JV and JJV until 4 pm

**Become A Coach Today**

Our Boys' Volleyball & Flag Football are upcoming sports at Holy Redeemer. If you would like to become a volunteer coach, please contact Isaiah Pace, Athletic Director at [ipace@hrcschool.com](mailto:ipace@hrcschool.com).

**Please note: All volunteers must be fingerprint cleared through the Diocese of Orlando.**

**Flag football season will begin soon. Details are listed below:**

- ◆ Football Regular Season - March 17, 2018 to April 29, 2018
- ◆ Football Tournament - May 6, 2018 to May 19, 2018
- ◆ Football Regional Championships - May 11, 2018
- ◆ Football Diocese Cup - May 19, 2018

**ON SALE NOW! HRCS 2017-2018 YEARBOOK**

Yearbook Pricing: Soft Cover, \$20; Add Hard Cover, \$5; Add Student Picture & Name to cover, \$5.  
Make payment to: **YBPay Online** with debit/credit online at [YBPay.lifetouch.com](http://YBPay.lifetouch.com) with Yearbook ID Code: **6599218**

Help us  
**get more smiles**  
in the yearbook!

Upload your photos of school events to  
**community.lifetouch.com**

Enter your school's code:

**XWKPYK**

Uploaded images will be considered for the yearbook.  
Please submit photos that are at least 300 dpi to ensure acceptable print quality for the yearbook.  
Note: Photos from social media websites may not be acceptable quality. Please consider this when uploading images.



**Yearbooks**

**HRCS Yearbook Committee**

is open to 7th and 8th graders

Students interested in capturing the memories of the HRCS experience will meet weekly beginning Monday, Feb 26<sup>th</sup> to learn about photography, layout design, copy writing and to edit the yearbook.

Meetings will be on Mondays from 3:15-5:00 on 2/26, 3/5, 3/12, 3/19, 3/26 in the media-tech center.



For more information, please contact:  
Mrs. Tinter at [ktinter@hrcschool.com](mailto:ktinter@hrcschool.com)



HRCs PTO invites all HRCs Boys and their Moms (or Mother figure) to Mother & Son Bowling!

Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm at AMF Lanes in Kissimmee

\$11.00 per person - Price includes: Two hours of bowling, shoe rental and cake

Lunch/Concessions available for purchase at the Bowling Alley.

Moms/Sons will be placed in teams of SIX to share one bowling lane. Please indicate the family you'd like to share your lane with below. Every attempt will be made to honor requests, however please understand we cannot guarantee them.

***All tickets must be purchased by March 28th. No tickets will be sold after this date or at the door.***

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (If multiple sons, please list the oldest child)

Teacher/Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Mom(s) attending: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$11.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Son(s) attending: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$11.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Grand total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Please print parent name on FACTS account: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of authorized parent on FACTS account: \_\_\_\_\_

If possible, I'd like to share my bowling lane with the \_\_\_\_\_ family.

***All students must be accompanied by a responsible adult – no drop-offs***



Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Regular Lunches for the month: \_\_\_\_\_ At \$4.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Hot Lunch: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Grand Total for the month

# April 2018

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2	<b>NO SCHOOL</b>				
9	A) Roasted Chicken with Dinner Roll B) Cheesy Breadsticks with Marinara Sauce Sweet Kernel Corn Chilled Fruit Milk: White, Strawberry, Choco	10 A) Tangerine Orange Chicken With Rice - Dinner Roll B) Pizza Garden Fresh Salad Fruit Juice Milk: White, Strawberry, Choco	11 A) Saucy Cheese Steak Burger Dinner Roll B) La Fiesta Nachos Whipped Potatoes Chilled Fruit Milk: White, Strawberry, Choco	12 A) Chicken Alfredo and Pasta Dinner Roll B) Pizza Crunchy Carrots Socks Chilled Fruit Milk: White, Strawberry, Choco	13 A) Cheesy Meatball Sub B) Dill Chicken Pasty on Bun Seasoned Potato Twisters Fruit Juice Milk: White, Strawberry, Choco
16	A) Roasted Chicken with Dinner Roll B) Cheesy Breadsticks with Marinara Sauce Sweet Kernel Corn Chilled Fruit Milk: White, Strawberry, Choco	17 A) Tangerine Orange Chicken With Rice - Dinner Roll B) Pizza Garden Fresh Salad Fruit Juice Milk: White, Strawberry, Choco	18 A) Saucy Cheese Steak Burger Dinner Roll B) La Fiesta Nachos Whipped Potatoes Chilled Fruit Milk: White, Strawberry, Choco	19 A) Chicken Alfredo and Pasta Dinner Roll B) Pizza Crunchy Carrots Socks Chilled Fruit Milk: White, Strawberry, Choco	20 A) Cheesy Meatball Sub B) Dill Chicken Pasty on Bun Seasoned Potato Twisters Fruit Juice Milk: White, Strawberry, Choco
23	A) Roasted Chicken with Dinner Roll B) Cheesy Breadsticks with Marinara Sauce Sweet Kernel Corn Chilled Fruit Milk: White, Strawberry, Choco	24 A) Tangerine Orange Chicken With Rice - Dinner Roll B) Pizza Garden Fresh Salad Fruit Juice Milk: White, Strawberry, Choco	25 A) Saucy Cheese Steak Burger Dinner Roll B) La Fiesta Nachos Whipped Potatoes Chilled Fruit Milk: White, Strawberry, Choco	26 A) Chicken Alfredo and Pasta Dinner Roll B) Pizza Crunchy Carrots Socks Chilled Fruit Milk: White, Strawberry, Choco	27 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
30	A) Cheesy Meatball Sub B) Dill Chicken Pasty on Bun Seasoned Potato Twisters Fruit Juice Milk: White, Strawberry, Choco				
<p>Please turn Lunch Order Forms to <b>Homeroom Teacher</b>  <b>NO LATER THAN Wednesday, March 14, 2018</b>            Menus are subject to change            Please circle your choice of Food &amp; Milk  <b>Lunch Order Total owed will be deducted from FACTS</b></p>					
<p>Menu is subject to change</p>					

## EASTER BREAK

