
HOLY NAME HIGHLIGHTS



MARCH 2011

Volume 14, Issue 5

HN *Highlights* is a monthly publication for parents/guardians of students at Holy Name Central Catholic Junior. Senior High School, 144 Granite St, Worcester, MA 01604
www.holyname.net

In keeping with Holy Name's motto of "What a 21st Century Catholic School Should Be," a new, innovative technology has been introduced to the math department curriculum. GeoGebra is free dynamic mathematics software for all levels of education that joins geometry, algebra, tables, graphing, statistics and calculus in one easy-to-use package. First developed in Austria, GeoGebra is now used by students all over the world. In fact, a look at GeoGebra's Facebook page reveals pictures of students accessing new levels of math in such far-flung locations as Katmandu, South Korea, Egypt, Slovenia, Brazil, Singapore and at 144 Granite Street in Worcester, Massachusetts. The software has won numerous international awards, including the National Technology Leadership Award for 2010.

Holy Name students have been putting GeoGebra to use for activities such as graphing points and lines and creating polygons to study their properties. Functions and trigonometric relationships have been explored. Eighth grade students have created kaleidoscopes, demonstrating properties of symmetry and the use of variables. Mrs. Russo's Algebra II students have found the equation of the parabola that represents the curvature of the arch of the new Hoover Dam Bypass Bridge, and they are looking forward to a project using GeoGebra to develop mathematical models of real-world data that can be used to predict future trends in economic, health, and environmental issues.

Two of our seniors, **Katherine Esparza** and **Klejdi Xhaja**, are using the software to prepare an entry into the World Maths Day "Constructivist Medal" competition, which calls for advanced students to show off their abilities to explain mathematical concepts using online materials. Some students have used it to create entries to the "Doodle for Google" competition with personal encouragement from Markus Hohenwarter of Linz, Austria, who happens to be the original founder of GeoGebra.

We have enjoyed using this great software to visually explore mathematical concepts that we have been talking about for years. Students and parents are encouraged to download the free software at www.geogebra.org.

-Susan Russo

MUSIC DEPARTMENT



Three Holy Name students auditioned and were selected to participate in this year's All-State Music Festival. They are Anna **Koogler '13** and **Drew Stairs '12** for chorus. **Craig Robbins '12** was selected for the second consecutive year for first chair trombone for Jazz Band. The festival will take place in Boston March 24th – 26th with a concert at Symphony Hall. Congratulations to these accomplished musical artists!

Our second annual student-teacher lesson program began the week after February vacation. This year **Pam Choinski '13** and **Emily Pitzi '13** serve as coordinators. Volunteer high school students are available one half hour per week to instruct junior high students free of charge.

The second annual "Oldies Night" Dance will be held in the cafeteria on Friday, April 1st from seven to ten. Alumni Dan Gable '07 and James Gancarz '07 have put together an all star swing band called "The Abletones". They will provide dancing for the evening. Several of our small ensembles will entertain those in attendance as well including our exciting Jazz Band. Seating is limited as tickets go on sale to 508-363-0149, www.holyname.net or through music department students. "Forties" attire is optional. Come join as we swing into spring.



The "B"eginners, "I"ntermediate, and Jazz Ensemble held their annual mid winter concert on February 29th. Our beginners' band was one of the biggest in recent memory. The Intermediate band was quite accomplished, performing a most challenging program. Ms. Nancy Ackerman led the award winning jazz ensemble. Many solos were performed throughout the evening including those by **Josh Loell, Craig Robbins, Colin Crawford, Pam Choinski, Carolyn Trottier, Paul Bleau, Sarah Decelles, Ryan Moran and Nick Smarra**. The final song of the evening was the theme song "Don't Stop" by Fleetwood Mac. A wonderful reception was hosted by **Sarah Campbell, Eliana Agudelo, Chelsea Valentino and Mariah Rennie**.

Any student wishing to go to Boston after the competition should have paid the \$100.00 deposit by March 4th. The final payment of \$150.00 is due March 29th.

LITERARY CAFÉ

The students in Holy Name's book club, The Literary Café, meet once a month to discuss a great novel, enjoy refreshments, and select the next book. Previously, the students read and discussed *City of Shadows* by Ariana Franklin, *The Pact* by Jodi Picoult, *Have a Little Faith* by Mitch Albom, and several others. Next they will be meeting to discuss *Water for Elephants* by Sara Gruen. Any high school student who loves to read is welcome to join.. Contact Mrs. Redmond with any questions

Parents are asked to make arrangements with their children in advance for rides home after school events. Students should not be waiting at the school for extended periods of time after a game, concert, play, school dance, fundraiser, etc.

FREE \$\$\$ HOLY NAME \$\$\$

EARN CASH for Holy Name when you shop at the following stores:

Big Y.....Price Chopper.....Stop and Shop
Register your card and every dollar you spend will generate \$ for Holy Name. Just go to Customer Service at your favorite store and register. If they ask you for the code number, here it is:

Big Y: 7070

Price Chopper: 14362

Stop and Shop: 09204

To register on-line:

www.bigy.com/education/edexp_sign_up.php
www.2.pricechopper.com/toolsforschools
www.stopandshop.com/aplus

**If you have a used car that needs a new home, call
Donate For Charity (800-700-4216) or
www.donateforcharity.com
They will pick up your car and sell it, giving the
proceeds to Holy Name.
Tax deduction for you and \$\$ for Holy Name.**

SCIENCE

Greetings from Mr. Hoogasian! Junior high students in the Science Fair should be working on their experiments, conducting them, gathering data, and recording all observations in their logbook. These will be checked four times between February 14th and March 7th. The science fair will be rapidly approaching (April 13th), so please be sure to keep all your observations organized. They will be very helpful when it comes time to typing your lab report.

ENGLISH

Mr. Hoogasian's 7th grade English class has begun reading "Big Fish" by Daniel Wallace. We will be discussing the tall tales within it, creating some of our own, strengthening comprehension skills and expanding our vocabulary in a variety of ways.

Mr. Hoogasian's 10th grade English class has intensified its efforts with regard to reading comprehension skills. Students have selected a number of short stories and essays to read and analyze. These readings are supplemented with video comparisons and other more personally creative projects.

THEOLOGY

During Catholic Schools' week, Mr. Hoogasian's tenth grade New Testament class wrote some letters of appreciation to Worcester's seminarians for their service. We are reminded of the unique privilege it is to attend a Catholic School where issues of morality, values, and faith can be shared and discussed on a regular basis in a secure environment. In other theology news, Mr. Hoogasian's class has been busy reading and discussing the parables of Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew.

SOCIAL STUDIES

The grade seven students are studying the Ancient Greeks. They made sketches to emphasize the theme of the Athenian leader Pericles' speech. Many chose the famous Parthenon to show Pericles' appeal to patriotism and to honor those that died in the war with Sparta.

The grade eight students learned about the crisis our nation faced with France during the XYZ affair. The advice that President Washington provided to the world as he left office was to remain united at home and neutral abroad. The students created newspaper articles that highlighted their understanding of our need for guided judgment from our leaders.

Grade nine Social Studies students completed their study

of the Aztecs, Mayas, and Incas. The students viewed films and outside readings and created maps and charts to further their understanding of the individual cultures and histories.

All of Mrs. Peters Social Studies students have created cards of encouragement for our new seminarians in the Diocese of Worcester.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE



The Christian Leaders and the Holy Name Chapter of SADD with their moderators, Mrs. Burke and Mrs. Weeks, sponsored the Third Annual Red Cross Blood Drive on Friday, February 11, 2011. Sixty students and faculty members volunteered to give blood on that day. Altogether, forty-one pints of blood were donated, exceeding the goal set by the Red Cross. Thank you to all who donated blood and volunteered at the blood drive. Thank you to Mr. Wassell and all the students who helped set up and put away tables and chairs

INTERNATIONAL CLUB

The International Club at Holy Name has raised money by selling Candy-Grams at Christmas. The money is being donated to the Poorest of the Poor Fund in honor of Britney Gengel. Britney is a 2008 graduate of Wachusett High School. She was a sophomore at Lynn University in Boca Raton, Florida at the time of her death. She was on a humanitarian mission with professors and students from her college when she died in an earthquake. The Gengel Family is building an orphanage in Haiti in honor of their daughter, Britney. Britney had told her parents that she wanted to return to Haiti to build an orphanage for many needy children that she saw. Thanks to all who bought Candy-Grams at Christmas!



HISTORY DEPARTMENT

Recent events in Egypt have kept the attention of a world wide audience, as people have waited to see what would happen there during the uprising. Students in Mrs. Weeks' history classes have discussed causes of the uprising and possible outcomes since the resignation of President Hosni Mubarak. The Watson Institute of Foreign Affairs at Brown University has provided informative videos, visuals, political cartoons, and discussion questions for students to broaden their knowledge of background history and current issues facing the Egyptian people today

MOCK TRIAL



The Mock Trial team has completed its tenth undefeated regular season in the past eleven years! Though not a single member of the team had started in a trial competition prior to the opening of this season, the talented cast of rookies have nonetheless performed impressively, vanquishing St. John's High School, South High School, and Shrewsbury High on its way to a 3-0 record, which once again lands the team in the playoffs!

This year's case involves a high school student who is charged with stealing a stop sign, the absence of which is alleged to have led to a fatal automobile accident. HN's team has, alternately, taken on the task of prosecuting and defending the teenager. The team is skillfully coached by Mr. Jonathan Meagher, Mrs. Ann Kennedy, and attorney James Barnhill. The team is made up of juniors **Ariana Caputo**, **Tina Vo**, and **Eric Zimmerman**, sophomores **Omaira Afzaal** and **Derek Pettinelli**, and freshmen **Katie Barrera**, **Dan Mathieu**, **Lauren Merritt**, **Missy Murphy**, **Derek Robidoux**, **Emily Simoneau**, and **Hannah Ungerer**.

FROM THE BOOKSTORE . .



Once again, Holy Name has been asked to be a drop-off site for "Worcester the City that Reads," a group dedicated to encouraging reading and raising the literacy rate in the Worcester Community. This year's goal is to collect 20,000 gently used books for children in grades K- 8. These books are given to children in our community as well as to social service groups to help encourage reading and work on summer school projects. As you do your spring cleaning, please consider donating your old books. This is a great way to recycle your books for a worthy cause. There will be a collection box in the bookstore starting March 1st through March 31st.

While planning your April and summer vacations, do not forget to use *scrip*. Scrip is available for many hotels, airlines, and restaurants. It is a great way to save for your books and enjoy your trip.

THEATRE DEPT



Holy Name will present "Little Shop of Horrors" on March 11, 12, 13 in the Performing Arts Center. This show follows Seymour Krelbourne, a young man working in a flower shop in

the meanest, poorest part of town. Things start to look up when he discovers an amazing new plant that brings great interest to the struggling shop. However, Seymour is soon faced with a tough dilemma when he discovers the plant will only eat one thing. Will he give in to the pressure to save the shop and strike it rich or will he do what he feels is right and risk losing the shop and his love interest, Audrey?

Come to the show and see what unfolds! Altogether a dark comedy and love story, it is beautifully told with catchy songs and great physical comedy. Four free tickets are available to students by filling out a form in the main office. Additional tickets purchased at the door are \$15.00 or prepaid tickets may be purchased at the main office for \$10.00. We hope to see you there!

Performance dates

Friday, March 11th at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 12th at 7:00 p.m.

and

Sunday, March 13th at 2:00 p.m.

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES . .



Lindsey Asquith – Anna Maria College, Becker College, New England College

Dandre Barrett – Fitchburg State University, Suffolk University

Christelle Boursiquot – Emmanuel College

Ana Bowden – University of Rhode Island

Frank Braney – Johnson & Wales University, Westfield State University, University of Massachusetts Lowell, Wentworth Institute of Technology

Sarah Campbell – Saint Anselm College, Worcester State University

Christian Casault – Westfield State University, University of Maine, Farmington

Keegan Cole - Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Anthony Cozza - Salve Regina University, Worcester State University, Western New England College

Daniel Cournoyer – Temple University, University of Massachusetts Lowell

Colin Crawford – Wentworth Institute of Technology, University of Massachusetts Lowell, New York Institute of Technology, Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Sarah Decelles – Mount Saint Vincent College

Lindsey Deluca - Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Judith Desmarais - Savannah College of Art and Design, University of Southern Maine

Blake Dickman – University of Southern Maine

Bianca Dintino – Simmons College

Stephanie Donaghy - Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Kevin Donohue – Plymouth State University, Saint Michael's College, Bowdoin University

Shannon Dyer – Anna Maria College, Regis College, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Emmanuel College, UMASS Boston

Stephanie Dymek – Newbury College

Katherine Esparza – University of Bridgeport, Worcester State University, Drew University

Yelitza Garcia – Nichols College

David Ginisi Jr. – St. John's University

Ellyn Glosinski – Assumption College, Salve Regina University, Western New England College,, Saint Michael's College, Endicott College

Matthew Gervais - Wentworth Institute of Technology, UMASS Boston, Suffolk University

Miles Goodwin – Fitchburg State University, Salem State University

Tram Ha – University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth

Patrick Hehir – Becker College

Jessica High – Gordon College

Elizabeth Holland – University of Rhode Island

Michael Ivas – Salve Regina University, Keene State College, Assumption College

Javon Johnston – New England College

Klejdi Khaja – Saint John's University

Josh Loell - Saint Anselm College, Assumption College, Catholic University of America, Emmanuel College, Providence College

Cara Loughlin – Assumption College, Saint Anselm College, Anna Maria College

Sean Mahoney – Springfield College

Benjamin Maloney – Saint Anselm College

Samantha Manzello – Assumption College

Kira Melendez- Savannah College of Art and Design, Lasell College

Randall Millay – University of Dayton, Quinnipiac University, Ithaca College, Appalachian State University, George Mason University

Bryden Moore – University of Rhode Island, Roger Williams College

Antoinette Pacifico – Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Elizabeth Patient– Worcester State University, University of Rhode Island

Julie Perez – Becker College

Mariusz Rdultowski - Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Samantha Sampaio – Southern New Hampshire University

Erica Soucy – Fisher College

Nicole Spasaro – Curry College

Sarah Spellane - Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Derek Szafarowicz – University of Scranton

Tung Tram – Newbury College, University of Connecticut

Chelsea Valentino – Fitchburg State University, UMASS Boston, Worcester State University

Bryan Yopez – Assumption College, Becker College

Due to the excessive number of school day cancellations for inclement weather (seven to date), Holy Name's school year for grades seven through eleven will be extended.

Originally, June 14, 2011 was scheduled to be our last exam day, but now that date is estimated to be June 23, 2011. This is only an estimate because we could still face further weather-related school day cancellations.

The Diocesan School Office requires that each student complete a final examination for each academic course taken during the school year. These final examinations are worth ten percent (10%) of each student's final course grade.

With these two facts in mind, students must reschedule any conflicts that would prohibit taking final examinations on the scheduled dates. To be relatively safe, please postpone/change plans until at least June 29, 2011.

International students who need to make travel arrangements should not book travel until the final exam dates have been scheduled.

No student will be allowed to take final examinations before the examination period commences.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this important educational matter.

**Sincerely,
Mrs. Arlene, Maurello, Principal
Mr. Ray Greenwood, Principal**

