

Holy Cross Catholic High School

Frequently Asked Questions



1. What will the Catholic identity look like at Holy Cross Catholic HS (HCCHS)?

At the center and the measure of any true Catholic education is the living person of Jesus Christ. Holy Cross Catholic High School exists to further the evangelization mission of the Church by providing all students, staff, and parents the opportunity for a transformative encounter with the living God.

At Holy Cross we will begin every school day with prayer in the Chapel. This will nurture and encourage our daily dialogue with God and will also help to foster the notion of sacred spaces before beginning our “busy” daily routines. Our Theology/Liturgical coordinator will also organize participation in the sacramental life of the Church by scheduling Penance services, devotional opportunities, holy days of obligation (including a liturgical school wide celebration of the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross).

At the core of our rigorous academic curriculum will be a Christocentric based Theology course offering that will be available to all Holy Cross students. Our Catholic faith is rooted in Christ as revealed to us in the sacred Scriptures, sacred Tradition and safeguarded by the Magisterium of the Church. The curriculum will give a special place to these three pillars of Divine Revelation through both required course offerings as well as electives.

At the heart of everything we do will be the formation of strong Catholics that will be leaders in the Church, as well as at home or in the workplace.

2. What will be used as the curriculum for the school?

HCCHS will utilize the Texas Education Agencies Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) as the curriculum. We will purchase eBooks for students that align with the state standards and place emphasis in educating our students on Catholic doctrine as they are educated in the content. We will pursue strong programs in Science, Technology, Religion (Theology), Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STREAM).

Students will begin taking dual credit courses in the spring of their Sophomore year. The expectation is that each student will graduate with an associate degree in their field of interest.

3. Will HCCHS offer Fine Arts and Athletics?

Yes. HCCHS will offer Fine Arts and Athletics. We are currently working with various entities to offer Fine Arts options to students.

We have established that 6-man football, basketball, volleyball, track, cross country, golf and tennis will be available at HCCHS. We will apply to the Texas Association of Private Parochial Schools (TAPPS) for the athletic programs.

4. Why is tuition so much more than the private Catholic middle schools?

HCCHS is a startup organization with a goal to assist every student who would like to attend our school. Tuition in the 2019-2020 school year will be \$12,500. We (Board of Directors) evaluated all aspects of a high school budget and determined that it takes approximately \$22,500 to educate each student. The goal of the board is to ensure all students who desire a Catholic education have that opportunity. Toward that end, we will establish an endowment fund that encourages all students to apply and receive assistance. We will utilize FACTS tuition management systems so that parents are able to apply online for assistance.

5. Is there an open campus for lunch?

We are a closed campus which means that the students must stay on campus for lunch unless accompanied by a parent to an off-site location. Meals will be catered by a local vendor for \$7 or the student will need to bring a lunch to school.

6. What do the facilities look like at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton?

The facilities more than accommodate our needs for the educational and spiritual setting we wish to provide. We have been given complete use of the Youth building and 5 of the classrooms at the parish.

7. Will we offer foreign language classes?

Spanish will be offered at this time.

8. When will we move to the new building?

Our goal is the fall of 2020. With that said, many factors can impact that timeline, but we remain committed to our first graduating seniors receiving their diplomas in our new building.

9. How many class periods will we have?

We will have 9 class periods with one of those designated for lunch.

10. Will theology class be separate for 9th and 10th grade?

Yes, each grade level has its own Theology curriculum.

11. Do females always have to wear skirts?

Skirts will only be mandatory for girls to wear to mass on Fridays.

12. What if tuition prices go down?

In the event that tuition prices drop, students currently enrolled would also receive the lower tuition rate.

13. How do you recruit teachers?

We have had teachers contacting us and submitting their resumes since December. We will post our job descriptions in March and begin advertising using various media sources.

14. Will logo already be on shirt when we order?

We are working with Mills Uniform Co. to determine if this is feasible. Their initial response was yes but have since changed their decision. We are working to find one person who parents will work with to have the logo embroidered on the shirts and jackets, if needed.

15. Will HCCHS have a cafeteria?

Yes, St. Elizabeth has graciously offered their site for our use.

16. Will the school calendar align with the public-school calendar?

We will follow public-school calendar as much as possible so there are few conflicts with younger sibling schedules.

17. Will HCCHS offer transportation?

We are working with a local parish to utilize one of their busses for the 2019-2020 school year. We will offer a bus pick up from St. Ann's in Midland to HCCHS and a bus pick up from St. Mary's in Odessa to HCCHS. We will offer drop off services back to both schools at the end of our school day.

18. Will the student's home parish honor Confirmation from Holy Cross theology classes?

We are currently working with the local Parish Priests to determine the best solution.