



Important Notes from Mrs. Luzzo

March 14, 2025

Don't forget to ROAR!

Happy Friday, HTCS families. Below you will find lots of important information about upcoming school events and activities. Please note, I will be out of the building Wednesday through Friday next week for a Diocesan Principals Retreat. Mrs. Hines and Mrs. Carman will be here to handle things in my absence as I will not be checking my email. My classes will be covered by Ms. Bach. I kindly ask for your prayers while I am on retreat as you will all be in mine. Have a great weekend!

St. Patrick's Day - In honor of St. Patrick, everyone may wear their favorite St. Patrick's Day "school appropriate" clothing on **Monday, 3/17**. Shoes must be safe for PE and recess.

Stations of the Cross - All are invited to join Deacon Richard and the school community for our annual tradition of walking the Stations of the Cross in the church after the 9 AM school Masses on **Wednesdays, 3/19, 3/26, 4/2, and 4/9**.

Family Mass - Please see the attached for information about our upcoming Family Mass on **Sunday, 3/16**. All families, faculty, and staff are asked to attend and sit together to represent our school.

Yearbook Pictures - All students will have their pictures taken for the annual yearbook on **Wednesday, 4/2**. Make-up photos and class pictures will be taken on **Wednesday, 4/9**.

Visit Day - On **Thursday, April 3**, newly enrolled students will join currently enrolled students who will be with us for the 2025-2026 school year from 8:30-11 AM for our annual Visit Day. Students will spend a few hours visiting their classrooms and with their teachers for next year. It's always an exciting morning for everyone as we look to the upcoming school year.

Middle School Meeting - Parents of our current 5th graders are invited to join us for a "Success in Middle School" meeting with Seton Catholic representatives on **Thursday, April 3**, at **8 AM** in the multipurpose room. Light refreshments will be served as we discuss transitioning from 5th grade to middle school, as well as the Seton advantage for HTCS students. All are invited to join us even if you are still deciding on where your child will attend school in the fall.

School Website - As always, please refer to the school website for all the information you could ever need regarding the calendar, school events, clubs, sports, etc. [Holy Trinity Catholic School | North Myrtle Beach, SC](#)

Catholic Faith Formation - *The Stations of the Cross: A Meaningful Tradition for Catholic Families to Share* - The liturgical season of **Lent** is a time of preparation and renewal—a season preceding the joyful celebration of Easter in which Catholic families can deepen their faith and grow closer to God through the practices of prayer, penance, and almsgiving.

What Are the Stations of the Cross? One of the most cherished ways to journey through Lent is by observing the Stations of the Cross. The Stations of the Cross are a Catholic devotion. Fourteen stations depict a series of 14 events that recount the condemnation, crucifixion, death, and burial of Jesus. Each station is typically depicted through artwork, statues, stained glass, or images placed along a path. Catholics pray their way through these stations, reflecting on Jesus's suffering and death. The Stations of the Cross are also known as the Way of the Cross or Via Crucis.

The 14 Stations of the Cross are:

1. Jesus is condemned to death.
2. Jesus takes up his cross.
3. Jesus falls for the first time.
4. Jesus meets his Mother.
5. Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus carry his cross.
6. Veronica wipes the face of Jesus.
7. Jesus falls for the second time.
8. Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem.
9. Jesus falls for the third time.
10. Jesus is stripped of his clothes.
11. Jesus is nailed to the cross.
12. Jesus dies forgiving those who crucified him.
13. The body of Jesus is taken down from the cross.
14. Jesus is placed in the tomb.

The History of the Stations of the Cross - The practice of the Stations of the Cross is rooted in pilgrimage. Early Christians traveled to Jerusalem to walk the Via Crucis—the route that Jesus followed on the way to his crucifixion in Calvary. They stopped at points along the way to reflect on Jesus's suffering. Over time, Christian communities began recreating the Via Crucis in their own churches. By the 14th century, it became a common Lenten devotion, making this special pilgrimage more accessible to all Catholics. The Stations of the Cross can now be found in almost every church worldwide!

The Meaning of the Stations of the Cross - The Stations of the Cross offer a profound reflection on the Passion of Jesus Christ. The stations feature moments in Jesus's suffering. Through these stations, Catholics are reminded that Jesus Christ understands our suffering and is always with us. As they walk alongside Jesus on the Stations of the Cross, families have an opportunity to consider Jesus's sacrifice and witness his love despite rejection, loneliness, and suffering. **The cross is not just a symbol of Christ's suffering. It is a symbol of salvation and hope.** Jesus Christ offers new life and redemption through his suffering, death, and resurrection. The Stations of the Cross are a reminder, during Lent or anytime, that Jesus is always with our Catholic families offering his mercy and love.

Set Aside Time During Lent - Lent is a season for prayer and reflection. The Stations of the Cross are an opportunity to focus on Jesus's suffering and prepare hearts for Easter, the joyful season of resurrection and new life. Set a goal for participating in the Stations of the Cross, whether once or multiple times. If possible, attend Mass together and participate in the Stations of the Cross at your church. If you're not able to make it, create your own "stations" at home—there are resources from the [USCCB](#) and the [Vatican](#) that include printable prayers and guides to help you listen or follow along.

[The Stations of the Cross: A Meaningful Tradition for Catholic Families - Catholic Virtual](#)

MISSION STATEMENT: Holy Trinity Catholic School, a ministry of Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish, offers to early childhood and elementary school students of diverse ethnic, economic, and religious backgrounds a superior academic program based on Gospel values. Within a family atmosphere, the school strives to develop the spiritual, academic, personal, creative, and physical growth of each student.

VISION STATEMENT: Holy Trinity Catholic School students will be fully prepared to transition to middle school possessing critical thinking skills, an ability to work independently as well as collaboratively, and an awareness of what it means to actively live the Gospel values.