

HOLY CROSS

EMPOWERED
girls



Now is the time for girls
to find their voices,
to speak their minds,
to stand up for their beliefs,
to lead change in the world.

**NOW IS THE
TIME FOR GIRLS.**



Our Mission

The Academy of the Holy Cross, a Catholic college preparatory school sponsored by the Sisters of the Holy Cross since 1868, is dedicated to educating young women in a Christ-centered community which values diversity. The Academy is committed to developing women of courage, compassion and scholarship who responsibly embrace the social, spiritual and intellectual challenges of the world.



**I'm on the Kennedy Center
stage before a crowd of 2,000,
body tensed, eyes closed,
heart pounding—not from fear,
but excitement.**

I count the beat.

I open my eyes.

I play.



Our Girls Thrive. All of Them.

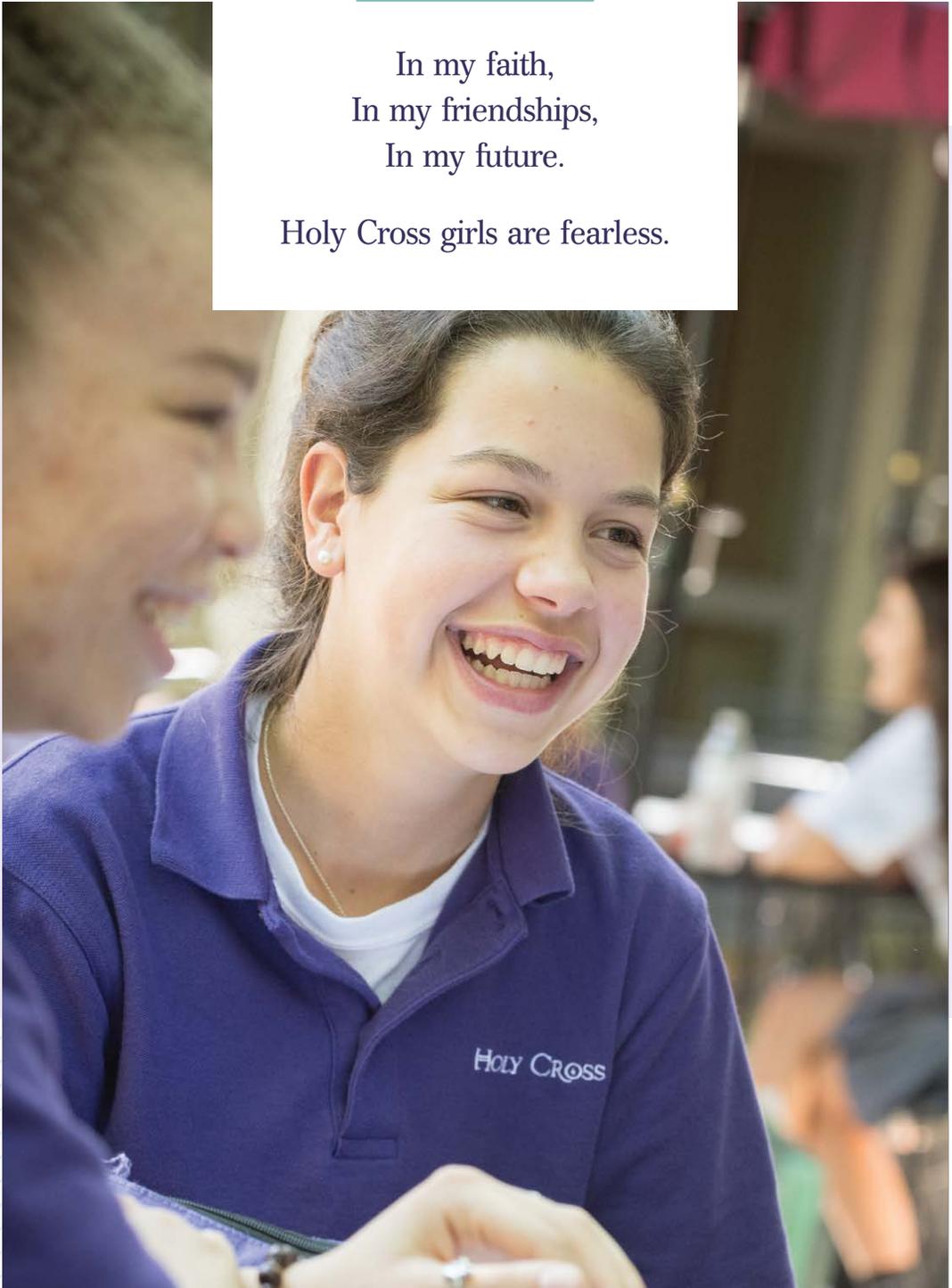
The dreamers and the doers,
The soccer stars and the campus ministers,
The innovators and creators,
The future engineers and passionate volunteers,

They all shine in Holy Cross purple.

FEARLESS

In my faith,
In my friendships,
In my future.

Holy Cross girls are fearless.





OUR GIRLS UNDERSTAND THAT SERVICE IS NOT JUST A GRADUATION REQUIREMENT, BUT A VITAL PART OF OUR CATHOLIC TRADITION.

They remain positive no matter the challenge, completing more than 350 hours of service during 2020's pandemic lockdown—sewing face masks, writing cards to older adults, using 3D printers to make face shields, and more.

They work with low-income children, adults at a nursing home and individuals with physical disabilities during the Urban Challenge Immersion service trip in Camden, New Jersey.

They raise money to fight hunger through our Empty Bowls event, and donate to the I Support the Girls charity.

GIRLS HERE FLEX THEIR FAITH AND STRENGTHEN THE BONDS THEY SHARE WITH FRIENDS.

They visit the chapel before school for a moment of prayerful contemplation.

They lead their peers in guided meditation during lunch.

They share joyful songs and prayers of encouragement during Praise and Worship in the chapel.



HOLY CROSS *Moments* YOU'LL NEVER FORGET

1

KAIROS RETREAT

Four days living, praying and bonding with your best friends

2

SENIOR PROJECT

Internships in careers you want to pursue—from architecture to zoology

3

HOLY CROSS DAY

Hundreds of girls in face paint, purple wigs and tutus—and one big drum

4

JUNIOR RING CEREMONY

A symbol of sisterhood that lasts forever

5

SERVICE

Annual all-school day of service benefiting 20 different organizations

More than 350
AP exams taken
by each Holy Cross
graduating class



Report that classes
challenge them to achieve
their full potential,
compared to 44 percent
of girls at public schools*

Our commitment to our students
is so strong that ambassadors from
foreign countries have visited
campus to learn more about the best
practices for educating girls.

All-Girls for



58%

Are likely to keep
current with political
issues, compared to
48% at coed schools*



10

Percentage points higher
confidence in math and
computer science than
girls at coed schools*

Our girls stand up for their beliefs,
whether it's in LOTAs for Life, Young
Progressives, Prism Club, Support the
Troops, Young Conservatives, Onyx Club,
Environmental Club or Our Minds Matter.

Holy Cross girls started a
robotics team, one of the few
all-girls teams in the area,
to participate in competitions
with other local schools.

*Information from a UCLA study that compared the attitudes and
performance of teenage girls educated in all-girls and coed environments



Say they were offered greater leadership opportunities than their peers at coed institutions*

Every Holy Cross senior completes a 60-hour, off-campus internship with organizations like:

National Institutes of Health

The Washington Post

World Bank

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

All Girls.

“I’ve spent my career teaching in both coed and single-sex environments. I have never seen girls more willing to work hard in the classroom and support each other than I’ve seen at Holy Cross.”

RACHEL MULLERVY

WORLD LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT CHAIR



43

Points higher on average in composite SAT scores than coed peers*

All of our graduates attend college, including admissions to UCLA, Davidson, Stevens Institute of Technology, McGill University, Tufts, Fordham and more.



EMPOWERED GIRLS DEFY EXPECTATIONS.

They don't wait for opportunity.
They create it.

They don't accept common
standards. They tailor their
learning to their own interests.

They don't just memorize content.
They seek solutions and interact
with difficult issues.

**They reject typical—and
celebrate girls like you.**

They don't wait
for opportunity.

They create it.

They don't accept
common standards.

They tailor their
learning to their
own interests.

Our challenging, college prep curriculum includes 35 additional online courses, such as AP Music Theory, Computer Science by Design, Social Entrepreneurship, Climate Change and Criminal Justice Reform, as well as dual credit opportunities with Marymount University.



**BETHESDA MAGAZINE NAMED
PREETAM BHUTANI '20 AN
“EXTRAORDINARY TEEN” FOR HER
COMMITMENT TO HELPING OTHERS,**

**including forming a community service club
through her Sikh temple, volunteering with
children with epilepsy, and co-founding a
mental health awareness club at Holy Cross.**



“In my career as an engineer, I’ve seen firsthand the benefits of more and more women entering and advancing the technical fields. At Holy Cross, we prepare girls to embrace leadership positions in STEM professions and a wide range of careers across the country.”

DAVID GEISER

SCIENCE FACULTY
AND PROJECT LEAD
THE WAY COORDINATOR



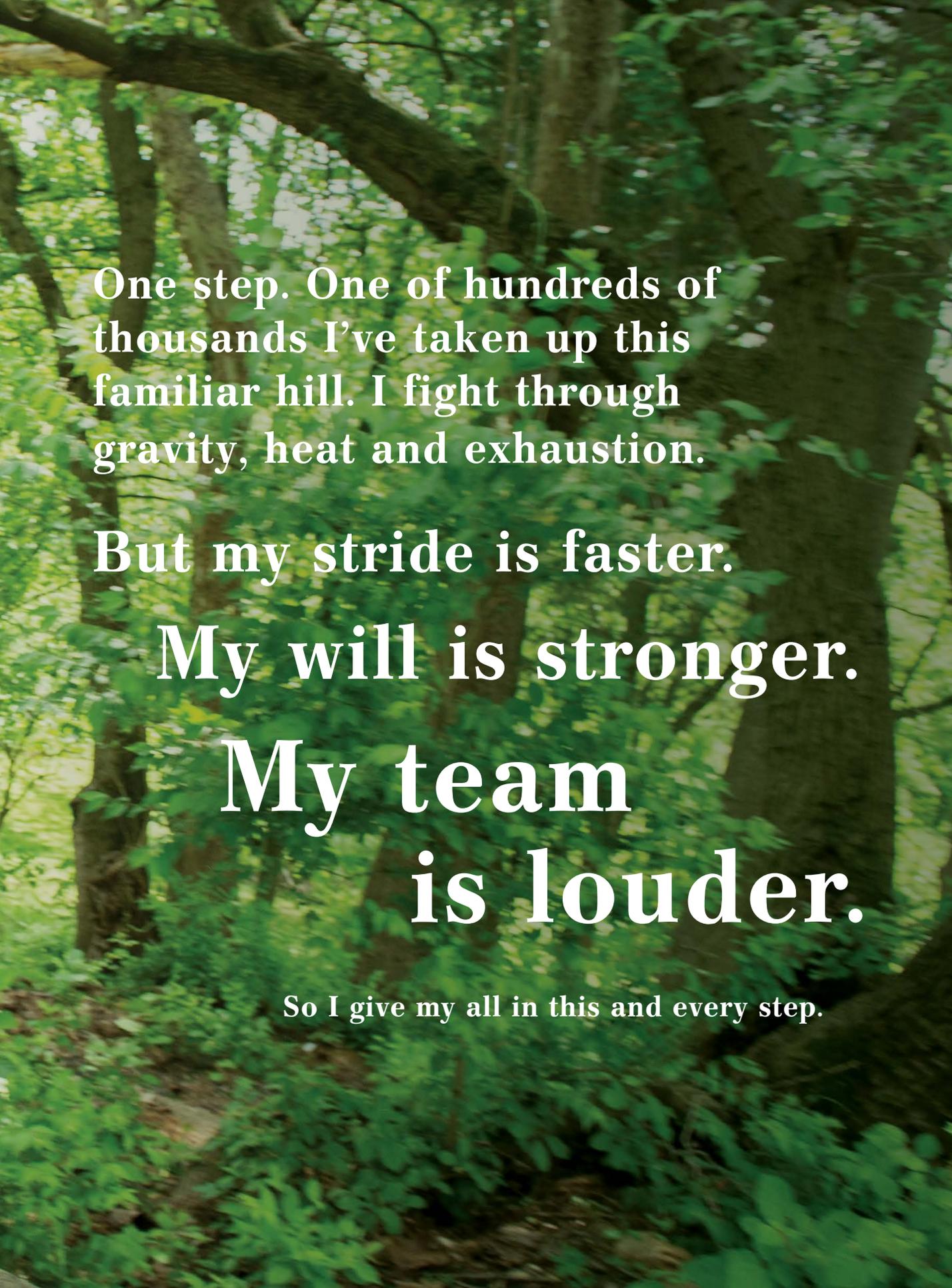
**IN 2020,
11 Holy Cross
girls earned
college credit
from the
Rochester
Institute of
Technology
THROUGH PROJECT
LEAD THE WAY
ENGINEERING COURSES.**

Girl Power

Compete alongside girls who know that team comes first, success starts within and grass stains match perfectly with lavender.

- Over the last eight years, our volleyball team has won six Washington Catholic Athletic Conference championships and has reached the finals in every season.
- Two-sport athlete Anna Avila '22 finished first among all women in USA Triathlon's 2018 Maryland High School State Championship race.
- Two Class of 2020 graduates are competing in volleyball and lacrosse at the United States Military Academy at West Point.





One step. One of hundreds of
thousands I've taken up this
familiar hill. I fight through
gravity, heat and exhaustion.

But my stride is faster.

My will is stronger.

My team
is louder.

So I give my all in this and every step.



Shelby Wilson '20 established the No Place for Hate program at Holy Cross and organized discussions within our community about kindness, by-standing, bullying and respect.

University of Chicago

Georgetown University

New York University

Stanford University

Vassar College

Villanova University

College of William & Mary

Two Holy Cross alumnae, Dominica Groom Williams '00 and Suzy Menser '00, have been recognized in The Daily Record's

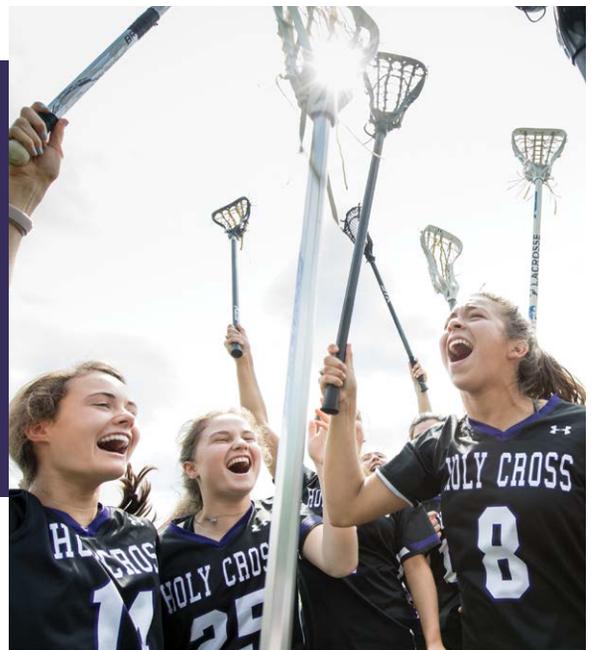
“Top 100 Women in Maryland.”

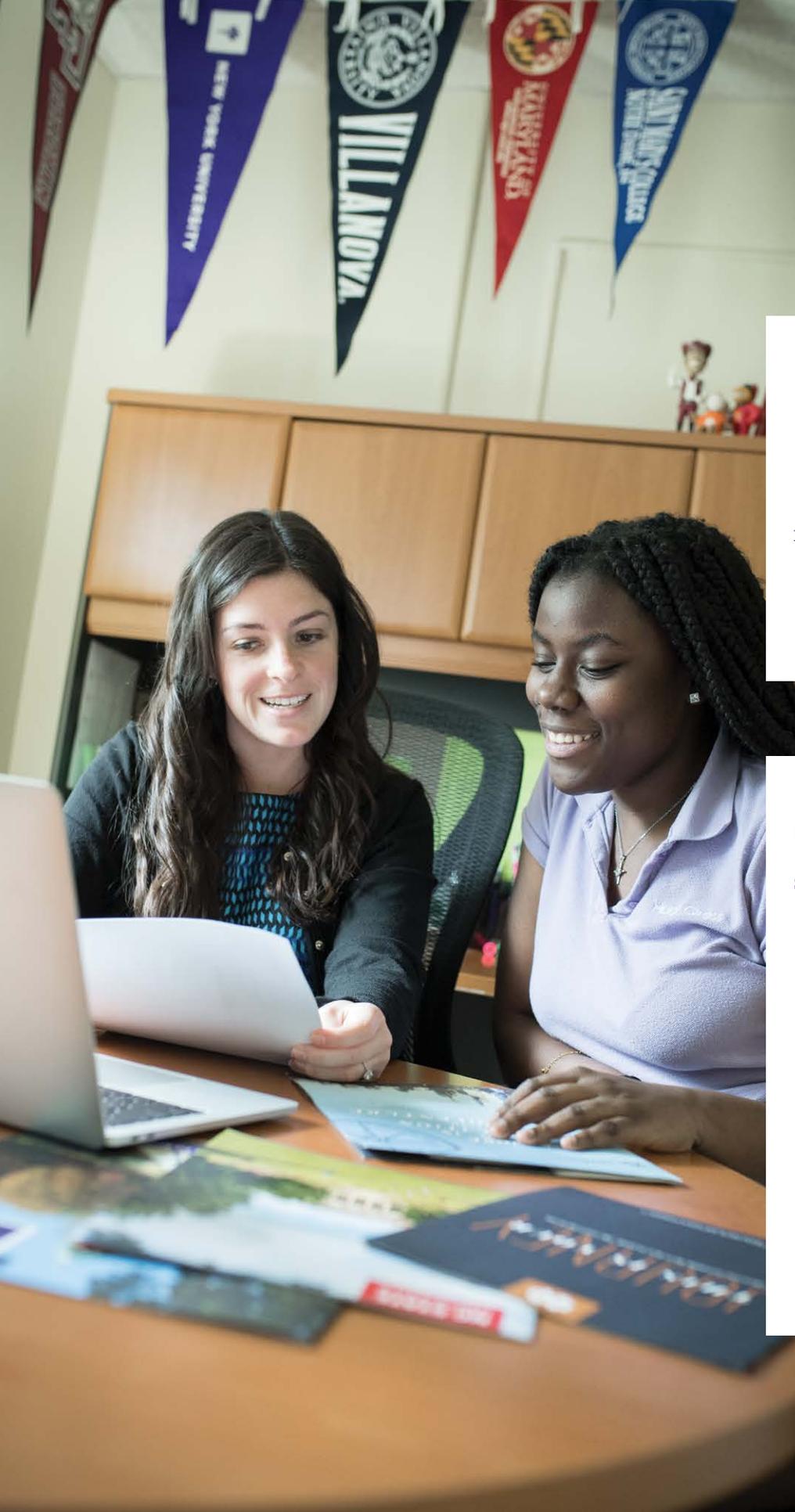
Dominica serves as vice president of inclusion, diversity and community engagement at Freddie Mac and her outreach efforts for underserved affinities have earned her recognition as one of Black Enterprises'

“Top Executives in Corporate Diversity.”

Meanwhile, Suzy, a partner in the KPMG's Baltimore office, lends her financial expertise for not-for-profits and serves on the Baltimore Women's Advisory Board she founded.

Girls fill every leadership role at Holy Cross—from captains of sports teams to presidents of our 30-plus clubs.





On fall Saturdays, Samantha Miller '18 marches to her spot on the 30-yard line of one of the most iconic fields in college athletics, where she plays trumpet in the Band of the Fighting Irish at Notre Dame.

"[AT HOLY CROSS], I SAW FEMALE LEADERSHIP AS A NORM, AND MY ALL-GIRLS SCHOOL REINFORCED THE IDEA THAT WOMEN ARE AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE POWERFUL LEADERS."

Chi-Emeka Egwuagu '14 graduated from the College of William & Mary, where she was recently honored as a "Woman of William & Mary." She's currently studying at Columbia University Law School.



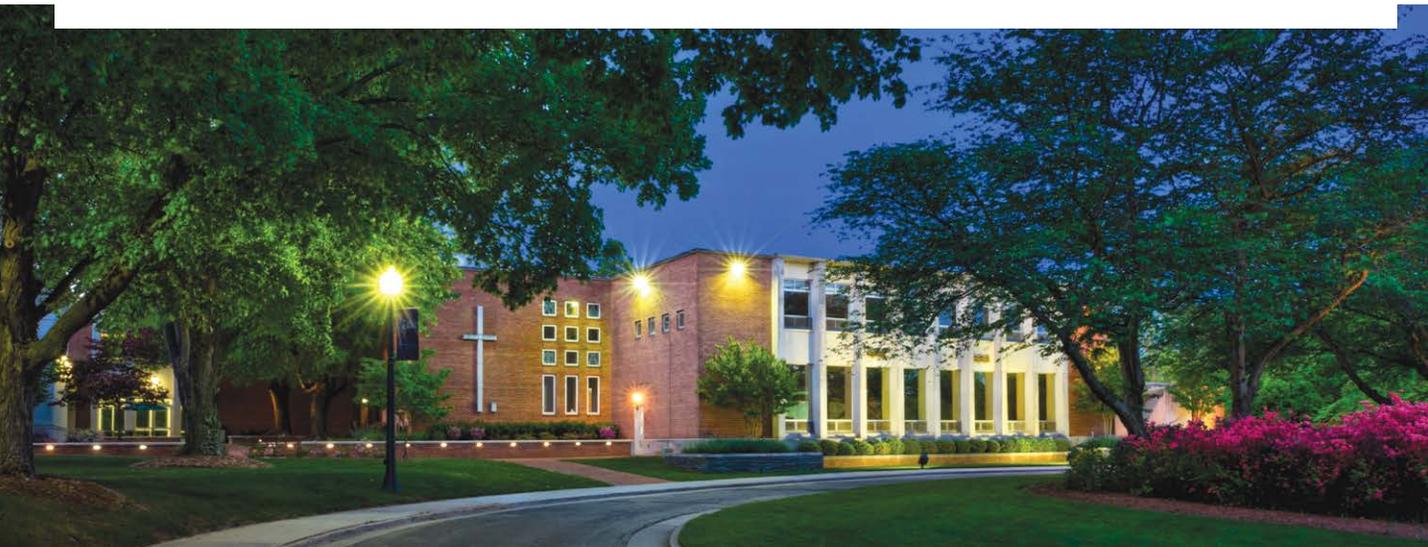
4920 Strathmore Ave.
Kensington, MD 20895

Be Empowered. #empoweredgirls

www.AcademyOfTheHolyCross.org

301.942.2100

All-Girls, Catholic, Grades 9–12, College Prep



Students

Enrollment: 425

Student–teacher ratio: 9:1

Average class size: 15

Diversity: 47% students of color

Faith

Campus Ministry: Daily prayer, weekly Mass, special all-school liturgies and prayer services, class retreats and Kairos

Academics

Coursework: More than 150 courses offered, including Dual Enrollment/Dual Credit opportunities with Marymount University, Project Lead the Way engineering courses, and AP, honors and online classes

Teachers: 80% of faculty hold advanced degrees in their field

Student support:

Saint Mary's Resource Program

Moreau Options Program:

Certificate program for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities

Transportation

Located within walking distance of Grosvenor Metro Station (Red Line); Ride-On bus stop at the school entrance

Arts

Eight stage productions each year (musical, dance, drama, improv, vocal and instrumental)

Visual Arts Showcase featuring student artwork

Athletics

Mascot: Tartans

Colors: Lavender and white

Teams: 29 teams in 17 sports