

Holy Cross students are well-heeled

Rob Cullivan/Catholic Courier

CHARLOTTE — As part of Catholic Schools Week, students at Holy Cross School put their best feet forward on "Crazy Sock Day" Jan. 30 as they wore their wackiest socks to class.

The students in Nancy Chesterton's second-grade class exemplified the enthusiasm Holy Cross kids brought to the day, as they revealed their soles to a *Catholic Courier* reporter.

Charlie Williams sported tiny plastic "googly eyes" on his socks. When asked if the eyes close when his feet go to sleep, he replied that "they never get tired."

Emily Greenwell wore one long purple sock and one short green one.

"They were the only ones I could find," she said. When asked how often her mother washes her socks, she said: "I'm never home when she does it, so I don't know."

Megan Powlowski wore "Hello Kitty" socks because cats "are cool, they're soft, they're furry and they're nice." Natalie McCormick and her twin sister, Karli, wore pink "Bratz" socks, emblazoned with pictures of the trendy dolls.

"They're comfortable, they're colorful and they're crazy," Karli said.

Both Melissa Kabb and Christina Musson wore multicolored socks that featured separate coverings for each toe.

"They feel different," Christina said when asked to compare her socks to conventional socks. "(My toes) have their own little spots, and it feels weird."

Giana Mastrella wore "Care Bears" socks because she collects Care Bears, and David Hendershott wore "Power Rangers" socks because "it's my favorite TV show."

"They fight bad guys," he added.

On that note, Furrion Hilliard also wanted to honor a cartoon hero, and showed off his "Popeye" socks.

"He drinks his spinach, and he gets muscles," Furrion said of Popeye. Furrion added that he, too, loves his spinach, a comment that elicited groans of disgust from several other students.

Dino Swan wore patterned socks his grandmother gave him; Cellina Marcera has a pink bed cover and blue lamp in her room, so she wore pink and blue socks; and Toni Poggi wore socks with the slogan "Born To Rule" on them, and the picture of a princess.

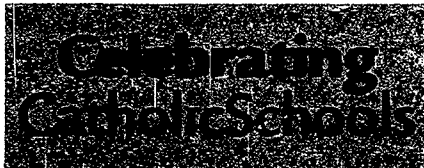
"Everyone calls me a princess," she said.

Timothy Mouso wore what he called his "comfortable socks." He



Lauren Long/Catholic Courier

Students at Holy Cross School in Charlotte sported their wackiest socks and donated a pair to the needy Jan. 30 as part of Catholic Schools Week celebrations. Second-graders Bridget Walsh (from left), Christina Musson and Kathryn Huurman do their part to make the event a colorful one.



pointed out that he wears such socks when he sleeps, but stressed he wasn't planning to sleep in class that day.

Shannon Pakusch wore frog socks because a former teacher liked frogs, and Bridget Walsh wore socks with the word "Mudd" on them, "because I couldn't find any socks," she said.

On that note, Katie Huurman couldn't find one of her Christmas reindeer socks, so she wore the other one along with one sock sporting animals.

Tatiana Avangelista wore one purple sock and one white, and offered the best explanation of any of the students for her choice.

"Purple used to be my favorite color, and I couldn't find a pink one,

so I wore white," she said.

She added that her new favorite color was "red." So why did she wear pink, er, white?

"It's as close as it can get to red," Tatiana replied.

Silenced by this logic, the *Courier* reporter decided to interview

Chesterton, who was wearing socks with dogs on them.

"I just think they're a nice addition to the family," she said of dogs in general, not socks.

In the school hallway, Holy Cross Principal Catherine Kress noted that the students were having fun on Crazy Sock Day, and also learning about how to help those less fortunate than themselves. The children brought in new pairs of socks, she said, which were collected and donated to St. Joseph's Neighborhood Center in Rochester. An outreach ministry of the Sisters of St. Joseph, the center offers health, educational and social services to low-income area residents.

Kress added that she, too, got in the day's spirit by wearing socks with cows on them. The socks were a gift from Mary Conover, who has two children attending Holy Cross. Conover said she gave the socks to Kress because she saw them and thought of her.

"Did I remind you of a cow?" Kress said.

At this moment, the *Courier* reporter decided to move his own socks out the door.

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