



Notre Dame Catholic School



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Principal: Mr. E. Roussos Superintendent of Education: Mr. D. Massi

FAITH ♦ WISDOM ♦ HUMILITY

March 2025

Principal's Message

Dear Notre Dame Families,

As we slowly move out of winter and into spring, we take this time to give thanks for all that we are blessed with. March is nutrition month, which is a time to refocus on taking care of our families and ourselves by practicing healthy eating habits.

A Prayer for Nourishment

Dear Lord, help us to choose wisely and gratefully,
That we may live in harmony with your creation,
Avoid excess and enjoy the many good things that you provide. Amen!

Wishing everyone a month full of good health, laughter and great memories.

All the best,
E. Roussos

Theological Theme Called by Name: Follow Me

Speakers often ask, "Do you follow me?" to make sure you understand. You can hear someone speaking, but to truly understand them, you have to listen. We often hear the words of Jesus in the Bible, at school, and during Mass. But are we taking the time to really follow what Jesus is saying? Jesus calls each of us to follow Him. Part of following Jesus means listening to His words, understanding His message, and living it out each day. What's one way you can follow Jesus more closely? How will you start building that habit today?



Notre Dame on Social Media

Follow Notre Dame on Instagram to get the latest updates:



@notredamenf

Our Lady of the Scapular Parish

Website: www.scapular.ca

Mass Times:

Saturday - 5:00 PM & Sunday - 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 AM

*Please contact your child's teacher for their class monthly mass time



Registrations - Join Our Family!

We are always welcoming those families who want to join the Notre Dame Catholic School Community! **Please register online at the Niagara Catholic DSB webpage or by clicking [here](#).**

We are proud to be a part of the Saint Paul High School family of schools!

Niagara Catholic District School Board Mission

We are a Christ-centred Catholic faith community that celebrates diversity and fosters spiritual growth, inspiring all to reach their full potential in mind, body and spirit.

JUSTICE ♦ COMPASSION ♦ STEWARDSHIP ♦ ACCOUNTABILITY ♦ COMMUNITY ♦ INTEGRITY ♦ FAITHFULNESS



Notre Dame Catholic School



ON THE CALENDAR

Alternate Lunch Days

Families will have the option to order lunch for students on select days each month. In March, we will offer the following alternate lunch days:

- March 7 - Little Caesar's Pizza
- March 19 - Pasta Fresca
- March 26 - Swiss Chalet
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All orders can be placed through SchoolCash Online. Thank you in advance for your participation.

Shrove Tuesday & Ash Wednesday

Shrove Tuesday is the traditional feast day before the start of Lent. Students will be provided with a pancake snack on **March 4**. Parent volunteers will be at the school making pancakes that morning.



On **March 5**, the school will have a liturgy in the gymnasium at 9:40 AM, where the students will receive ashes. The ashes we receive on Ash Wednesday remind us of God's call to repent and believe in the Gospel.

St. Patrick's Day - Green, Gold and White Day



Students and staff at Notre Dame will celebrate St. Patrick's Day and being called "The Irish" on **March 17**. That day will be an out of dress code day. Students are invited to wear articles of clothing that are green, gold and white. We look forward to a day full of school spirit as we honour St. Patrick and Notre Dame.



World Down Syndrome Day - Rock Your Socks!

World Down Syndrome Day will take place around the world on **March 21**. Notre Dame is inviting all students and staff to wear colourful socks to raise awareness about Down Syndrome, and how people with Down Syndrome play a vital role in our lives and our school communities. **Rock Your Socks!** This will not be an out of dress code day.



Niagara Regional Science Fair

The Notre Dame Science Fair showcase was an amazing display of student learning. Project topics were from a variety of student interests and judges were impressed with the higher-level thinking demonstrated by our students. The top projects from our school showcase will be submitted for entry into the Niagara Regional Science Fair at Brock University on the weekend of **March 28**.



Notre Dame Catholic School



ON THE CALENDAR

Niagara Foundation for Catholic Education Annual Benefit Gala

The Gala supports Niagara Catholic District School Board students in need and scholarships. Event details:

Thursday, March 27, 2025, Club Roma Event Centre, 6:00 pm. Tickets \$100/person

Online payment can be made at www.niagaracatholic.ca or by cheque payable to the Niagara Foundation for Catholic Education. Mailing address: 427 Rice Road, Welland, ON L3C 7C1 -- Attention Anna Pisano.

Please make payment by March 18, 2025 (\$30 tax receipt upon request). Individual tickets available or tables of eight or ten. For further information (905) 735-0240, ext. 214 or email linda.marconi@ncdsb.com

Lent Food Drive

Students of Notre Dame will be participating in a Lenten Food Drive. The proceeds of this food drive will be delivered to the St. Vincent de Paul Society of our home Parish, who will distribute goods to families in need within the Our Lady of Scapular Parish community.

Donations will be accepted beginning on **Monday, March 17 until Friday, March 21.**

We are asking families with a child in our various grade divisions to donate different items.

- In our **Kindergarten Division**, we are asking families to donate pasta and pasta sauce
- In our **Primary Division (Grades 1-3)**, we are asking families to donate cereal and granola bars
- In our **Junior Division (Grades 4-6)**, we are asking families to donate tuna, soup and crackers
- In our **Intermediate Division (Grades 7-8)**, we are asking families to donate canned fruits and vegetables, baked beans, etc.

The continued generosity of the Notre Dame Community is both valued and appreciated.



Notre Dame Catholic School



ON THE CALENDAR

Saint Paul High School Transition Activities



Saint Paul High School Transition Activities

Our Grade 8 students have started their transition from being part of the Notre Dame family to joining the Saint Paul family. Students have been visited by school administrators Mrs. Majka, Mr. Folinazzo and Mrs. Piroso to introduce students to the excellence they can expect when attending Saint Paul. Notre Dame students will be experience the Patriot culture and level of excellence by attending a variety of events.

Kindergarten

Kindergarten Registration

Register online at niagaracatholic.ca

If you have a child that was born in 2021, they are eligible to begin school in September 2025. **Click on the link above** to register your child and have them join the Notre Dame Family!

To complete the registration process, families are asked to provide their child's **registration documents** to the school, by either dropping them off at the main office or emailing them to the school at notre.dame@ncdsb.com.

Kindergarten Open House

The Notre Dame Catholic School Kindergarten Open House was held in February. Families who have children starting their Catholic education journey had a chance to tour the school and see the learning happening in our classrooms up close. **For those families that did not have a chance to stop by the school for our Open House, it's never too late to see the great learning happening in our Kindergarten classrooms. Please contact the school to make arrangements for a visit.**



Notre Dame Catholic School



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Our Lady of the Scapular Roman Catholic Church **LENT 2025**

Deepen your experience of Lent by considering these suggestions.



Ash Wednesday

March 5 8:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Sunday Eucharistic Celebrations

Saturday Vigil 5 p.m.,

Sunday 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Weekday Mass

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday,
Friday, Saturday 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday Evening Mass 7:00 p.m.

New During Lent - Friday Evening 7:00 p.m.

March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4 & 11

Stations of the Cross

Fridays in Lent @

9:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.

March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4, 11

Good Friday April 18

@ 7:00 p.m.



Confessions

Monday 8:30—8:45 a.m.

Tuesday 6:15-6:45 p.m.

Wednesday 8:30—8:45 a.m.

Thursday 8:30—8:45 a.m.

Friday 8:30—8:45 a.m. (except Good Friday)

Saturday 8:30—8:45 a.m. (except April 19)

Saturday 9:30-10:00 a.m. (except April 19)

Saturday 4:30 to 4:45 p.m. (except April 19)



Holy Thursday April 17 8:30 p.m.—9:30 p.m.

Good Friday April 18 10:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.

Saturday April 19 9:00 a.m.—10:00 a.m.

Palm Sunday

Saturday April 17 @ 5:00 p.m.

Sunday April 18 @

8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.



Day of Reconciliation & Adoration



in every parish in the diocese

Saturday, April 5

10 a.m.—2 p.m.

at every parish in the diocese a priest will be available to celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation (confession)

Parish Reconciliation Service

Wednesday, April 9 @ 7:00 p.m.

followed by individual confessions



Blessing of Easter Baskets & Food

Saturday April 19 @ 12:00 p.m.



scapular.ca

Holy Thursday

Thursday April 17 @ 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday

Friday April 18 @ 3:00 p.m.

Easter Vigil

Saturday April 19 @ 8:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday

Sunday April 20 @

8:00 a.m.

9:30 a.m.

11:00 a.m.





Notre Dame Catholic School



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Notre Dame Spirit Wear



Notre Dame Catholic School spirit wear has been given a refreshed look. All spirit wear items will be accepted as part of the Notre Dame Catholic School standardized dress code. Families can purchase items directly through our supplier, Big Bear Spiritwear, on their website [here](#).



Elementary Standardized Dress Code



The Niagara Catholic DSB has a Standardized Elementary Dress Code in place for students in elementary schools. All students are to wear navy bottoms and navy blue or white shirts. For more detailed information, please view the NCDSB flyer [here](#).

Thank you Delta Bingo!

Our students and staff are thankful for all that Delta Bingo gives back to the school. Students have benefitted from equipment purchased for both recess & PE, as well as learning materials and classroom technology. We look forward to continuing our school fundraising efforts through our partnership.

The school is always looking for parent volunteers to assist during our assigned time at Delta Bingo (Tuesday afternoon). If any parent would like to assist with fundraising, please contact the school.



Student Consent Forms

Each year students have the opportunity to join in many learning activities here at school or on educational field trips. The school is asking that parents complete the following consent forms ([found on School Cash Online](#)), to ensure the school has the necessary information to keep your child/children safe.

Parent Consent - Student Personal Information (all K-8 students) - This form allows us to know parent preferences when it comes to using a child's information (ie. images, etc) in school publications such as social media posts, class photos and the school yearbook.

NCDSB Athletic Participation /Acknowledgement of Risk Form (Gr. 4-8 students only) - This form explains risks associated with participation in activities happening on school property and allows parent to indicate preferences regarding a child's participation in day-to-day activities (ie. intramurals, sports team tryouts, etc).

Educational Field Trips and activities happening off school property will have a separate consent form sent home.



Notre Dame Catholic School



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Emergency Medical Protocols

At Notre Dame, we work cooperatively with families in order to provide a safe, inclusive, and healthy educational environment for all students. We recognize that students who are at risk because of medical concerns such as **allergic reactions, diabetes, epilepsy, intolerances, asthma and/or seizures** require an intervention plan for their needs to be met and to reach their full potential at school.

If your child requires a specific plan of care, please contact the school at your earliest convenience so we can ensure his or her safety while in our care.

SchoolCash Online Payment for School Activities

As activities and educational field trips are being scheduled for our students, we ask that parents sign up for our convenient payment program, SchoolCash Online. This is an excellent way to pay for student activities without sending money to school.

To register, please go to:

<https://ncdsb.schoolcashionline.com/>

School Messenger - Safe Arrival

One of our greatest priorities is ensuring that all our students arrive safely to school each and every day. School Messenger allows parents to report their child's absence quickly and conveniently using the **mobile app**, a **website**, or an **interactive toll-free phone line** to report an absence, late arrival or early departure, in advance. This process allows the school to verify student attendance and notify parents of an unreported student absence efficiently.

If your child is marked absent and the absence hasn't been explained in advance, our SafeArrival system will contact you to get a reason for the absence. Calls will continue until you choose an option to explain your child's absence.

PLEASE use the following information to report your child's absence: mobile app, online at <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca/#/home> or by calling 1-844-287-6287. It is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Student Aware Internet Filter

This is just a reminder to families that all Niagara Catholic schools use a software program called "Student Aware". This program enables schools to monitor its student internet traffic while using Board internet devices. The "Student Aware" program will be identifying and notifying school staff when students access online websites related to suicide, violence, abuse and/or other dangerous activities that could be injurious to themselves and/or others. When high-risk incidents are identified, the occurrence will be investigated and school administration will respond accordingly to support student mental health and well-being.