



# Notre Dame Catholic School



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

FAITH ♦ WISDOM ♦ HUMILITY

## March 2024

### 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

### Monthly Reflection Called by Name: Hear My Voice



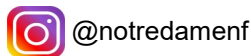
Is hearing God's voice good enough? Or does God want more than for us to acknowledge that He speaks to us? God tells us to "be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves" (James 1:22). Listening to God is the first step. From God's word, we are called to move to action. Sometimes this can feel overwhelming. "You mean, God wants me to do His work? Isn't there someone more qualified?" The reality is, without God, no one is qualified. God gives us everything we need to hear and do what He calls us to. God, help me to be a doer of the word. When I am discouraged, help me to remember that "I can do all things through him who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13).

### Registrations - Join Our Family!

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

#### Notre Dame on Social Media

Follow Notre Dame on Instagram to get the latest updates:



#### Our Lady of the Scapular Parish

Website: [www.scapular.ca](http://www.scapular.ca)

Mass Times:

Saturdays: 5:00 PM & Sundays: 8:00, 9:00 & 11:00 AM



**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 ♦ COMPASSIONS ♦ STEWARDSHIP ♦ ACCOUNTABILITY ♦ COMMUNITY ♦ INTEGRITY ♦ FAITHFULNESS



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## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### Alternate Lunch Days

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

- Thursday, March 7 - Carmine's Pizza
- Thursday, March 21 - Pasta Fresca
- Thursday, March 28 - Swiss Chalet

**All orders can be placed through SchoolCash Online.** Thank you in advance for your participation.

### First Confession Liturgy - Grade 2 Students



Grade 2 Students who are receiving the Sacrament of First Holy Communion, will participate in the Sacrament of First Confession. The liturgies will be held at Our Lady of the Scapular Parish from **March 5 to 7 at 7:00 PM**. For the First Confession Liturgy, candidates will be seated with their parents in the front pews. Following a short Liturgy of the Word, Sermon, General Intercessions and Examination of Conscience, students will take part in individual Confession with a priest in the Church's Sanctuary. After offering their penance, students are free to leave the Church with their parents/guardians. We are proud of our students as they receive this sacramental milestone in their faith journey!

### 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 18**. That day will be an out of dress code day for students and they 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.



### 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](#).





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## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### Kindergarten

#### 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.

Please look for information about our **Kindergarten Spring Orientation Evening** later this school year.

#### Kindergarten Registration

Register online at [niagaracatholic.ca](https://niagaracatholic.ca)

If you have a child that was born in 2020, they are eligible to begin school in September 2024. **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 send 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](mailto:notre.dame@ncdsb.com).

#### Niagara Regional Science Fair

The Notre Dame Science Fair showcase was an amazing display of student learning. Projects were from a wide range of topics 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 22**.

Some of the top projects were: the 3D Shoe, Dental Implants, Artificial Intelligence and "Phermented" Foods. Congratulations to all participants for amount of effort put into their research!



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## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### Saint Paul High School Transition



Our Grade 8 students have started their transition from being part of the Notre Dame family to joining the Saint Paul Catholic High School Community. Students have been visited by school administrators Mrs. Majka and Mr. Folinazzo to introduce students to the excellence they can expect when attending Saint Paul High School. Notre Dame students will continue experiencing the Patriot culture by attending a variety of events held at the high school. In the next few months, our students will be visiting Saint Paul to participate in a dodgeball tournament and watch the school's production of Mean Girls: The Musical.

#### **Saint Paul Activity Fee - Grade 9**

The deadline to pay the \$55 Activity Fee for next year is extended to Thursday, March 7. All students who pay their activity fee before this date will receive a complimentary Saint Paul t-shirt. The fee can be paid through SchoolCash Online.

#### **Kids Helping Kids Fundraiser**

The Kids Helping Kids fundraiser took place February 12-23, 2024. This year marked the 25th year elementary and secondary schools in the Niagara Catholic District School Board have participated in this fundraiser to support Niagara Children's Centre and Niagara Foundation for Catholic Education.

We are proud to say that Notre Dame students participated in many of the exciting activities such as Jersey Day, Hat Day and a Twin Day in support of the campaign. Thank you to our families who made donations through School Cash Online, raising approximately \$750 for the Niagara Children's Center and the Niagara Foundation for Catholic Education.

#### **Lent Food Drive**



Thank you to all our families who supported our Lent Food Drive from February 14-23. All donations were delivered to Our Lady of the Scapular Parish and distributed to our community through the Society of Saint Vince de Paul.

We are blessed to be a part of such a generous community!



# 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.

### Payment for School Activities

As activities and educational field trips are being scheduled for your children, we ask that parents sign up for our convenient payment program - SCHOOL CASH ONLINE. This is an excellent way to pay for student activities without sending money to school.

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

### Thank you Delta Bingo!

Our students and staff thank you so much for your generosity!!! We look forward to continuing our school fundraising through our partnership. Last year, funds raised through volunteering allowed the school to purchase classroom TV displays, classroom resources and physical education equipment to enhance student learning



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