



CANADIAN MARTYRS NEWS



MAY

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Spring has finally sprung! During this beautiful month, the Earth springs into bloom and we start thinking about planting gardens and family picnics. We are celebrating Catholic Education Week from May 6 to May 10. This is also Mental Health Awareness Week.

During this month of May we focus on our Blessed Mother, Mary. Mary is everyone's Mother and she cares for all of us each day, interceding for us in even the tiniest matters. For that, she deserves an entire month in her honor. One of the ways we can honor Mary this month is by attentively praying the rosary each day. The Crowning of Mary with a crown of beautiful blossoms represents Mary's beauty and virtue. It's also a reminder for us to strive to emulate our Blessed Mother's virtue in our daily lives. As Catholics, we want to be close to Mary always and offer her special gifts during the month of May through small sacrifices in her honor and work well-finished offered up to her.

Yours in Catholic Education,
Mrs. L. Incaviglia, Principal
Ms. W. Wilson, Vice Principal

KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION

Canadian Martyrs will be hosting a Kindergarten Orientation Night on Tuesday, June 4th at 6:00 pm for new students entering kindergarten in September 2024. We invite you to come to the school for this session where information will be shared to help prepare you and your child for transition to school in September. As part of this Orientation Night, our new students will have the opportunity to ride a school bus for the first time, so please bring your child with you. Please complete the form that was emailed to you or call the office to let us know you're coming on June 4th. We look forward to meeting you!

Reflection #9

God loves to involve us in His plans to lead people to heaven. He often uses the weakest to lead the strong. Sometimes God speaks to us through other people. But, have you considered that God could use you to bring His message to others? What have you done today to share the love of God with those around you? Spend some time with God today asking Him to help you share His love to those in most need of it.

LIBRARY USED BOOK SALE

Last year, in June, we had a used book sale of withdrawn library books. It was such a success that we'd like to do it again! But since we don't have used library books sell, this year we are asking CM families to donate any books in good condition that your kids are finished with. This endeavour has so many advantages:

- Kids get to pick out books that are new to them for summer reading (for only \$1.00)!
- Families have a place to bring the books they clean out of closets and off bookshelves!
- The library gets funds to purchase news books for all students to enjoy!
- Books are saved from landfill sites, and get the chance to be reread and loved again!

So, if you have books that are no longer being read at home, please bag them or box them and bring them to school. We will be collecting books throughout the month of May for the used book sale to take place the second week of June.

Thank you for your help with this!

Mother's Day Prayer

- Lord, thank you for all mothers.
- For the new ones, who endure sleepless nights with infants in arms.
- For the busy ones, who juggle the pressures of home and family life.
- For the steadfast ones, who nurture and care for our special vulnerable children.
- For the patient ones, who always seek to forgive and engage with their pre-teens.
- For the persistent ones, who cleverly find new ways to connect with their mini-adults.
- For the mother aunts, who step in to cradle and care for nieces and nephews.
- For all grandmas, who love and support their precious grandchildren.
- For the foster mums that are called to gather and cover the fragile ones.
- For the Sunday mums who care for our children and lead them in faith.
- For the mums who give far beyond their own resources, who overcome disability to cherish and love.

Thank you Lord for all our beautiful mothers. Help us to support them and keep them in our prayers. May you bless them now on this their special day.

Amen



Canadian Martyrs is on Social Media!
Follow us @canadian.martyrs



We are proud to be a part of the Holy Cross Family of Schools.

YMCA Stronger Together Child Care Campaign

The YMCA Child Care Centre, in collaboration with Canadian Martyrs, has started their annual Stronger Together Campaign with a Frozen Yogurt Day on May 7th.

For over 160 years the YMCA of Niagara has been responding to evolving community needs. The YMCA Stronger Together Annual Support Campaign raises funds in support of ensuring that all children, youth and their families have the opportunity to participate in proven YMCA programs.

We at the YMCA are committed to finding solutions so children can build resilience and reach their potential. Children and their families continue to rely on the work we do and now, more than ever, our community and families need our help.

Did you know, the YMCA of Niagara served and impacted our community by providing:

- Bursaries to cover 90% of the cost of becoming a lifeguard or instructor through our Making Waves program to ensure that youth learn leadership skills and children learn life-saving swimming skills
- Over \$16,000 in financial assistance towards our fitness programs in 2021 to keep families active and healthy
- Financial assistance that provided hundreds of children the opportunity to have a memorable summer camp experience and connect socially to make new friends
- Financial assistance that provided 1,369 children an opportunity to attend an after-school youth outreach program

Thank you for supporting the Strong Kids Campaign through Frozen Yogurt Day.

Reflections of Love Gallery *Catholic Education Week—Friday, May 10, 2024*

Canadian Martyrs will celebrate Catholic Education and Mental Health Week 2024, “**We Are Called to Love**” from May 6- May 10. This week draws attention to the special role that Catholic schools have as faith communities. All community members – parents, students, teachers, administrative and support staff, pastors and parish staff – have been called by name through their Baptism to grow and walk joyfully in our faith that is nurtured by the local parish, the home and the school.

The students and staff are pleased to invite parents/guardians to the school on Friday, May 10th to celebrate Catholic Education Week with our **Reflections of Love Gallery**. Our gym will be transformed into an art gallery. All students from Kindergarten to Grade 8 will have their artwork displayed.

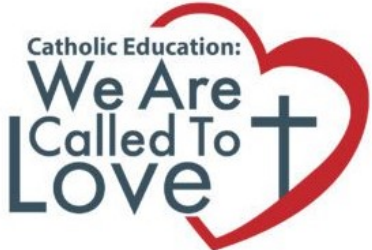
Classes will be creating poetry, reflections and artwork based on this year’s Catholic Education Week theme, **We are Called to Love**.

Parents/guardians have two timeslots to choose from to view the art display:

1. 9:00 am to 10:00 am
2. 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm

Please be reminded that Canadian Martyrs is a scent-free environment. Visitors to the school are reminded not to wear any perfume, cologne or scented creams and lotions. When you arrive, your child(ren) will be called down to join you in the gym to enjoy the art display. Classes will also have the opportunity to view the art display outside of the parent/guardian viewing times.

Complete the form linked [HERE](#) to reserve your spot. We look forward to seeing you on May 10th!



**We are Called to Love /
Appelés à aimer**

“If we love one another, God lives in us.”
(1 John 4:12)

«Si nous nous aimons les uns les autres, Dieu demeure en nous.»
(1 Jean 4, 12)

CANADIAN MARTYRS CHESS TEAM

On Thursday, April 18, twenty-four students from the Canadian Martyrs chess club visited St. Mary school in Niagara Falls to compete at the annual NCDSB chess tournament. The chess team competed against students from a variety of different schools from across the Niagara region. The team impressively displayed their knowledge of chess and they represented Canadian Martyrs school well.



Thank you very much to the following students from the chess club who participated in the tournament: Sadie K., Camila R., Harsh M., Lewis M., Logan C., Rowen C., Addasyn W., Miracle A., Igor B., Nicholas D., Shelby N., Denyze D., Miguel DT., Mark K., Vincenzo M., Rocco F., Scotia E., Olkar B., Mikayla M., Stanislav E., Alejandro P., Landon F., Isabella CM., Zoe B.

PARENT NIGHT—MENTAL HEALTH

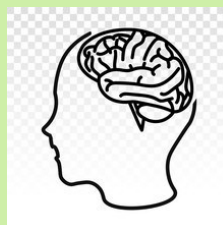
On behalf of the Canadian Martyrs Catholic School Council, we are pleased to invite you to a parent engagement event, *Love Builds Brains*, to aid all families in building strategies to support children at home with mental health and well-being. This event is taking place on Monday, May 6th at 6:30pm in the school's gym.

Mr. Alfonso Monachino, Behaviour Resource Teacher, will take parents/guardians through the core elements of Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) and the workshop that has been shared at school with students and staff, "I Am a Child of God". Mr. Monachino will also provide parents/guardians with strategies they can use at home to keep the conversation on SEL moving forward as we work as partners on this beautiful journey of accompaniment together.

All families in attendance will receive a swag bag with valuable resources and sensory materials to support SEL at home and will be entered in a prize draw to win exciting prizes. There will also be refreshments and daycare available for those who need it.

Please complete this [form](#) by Thursday, May 2nd to secure both your spot at this event and daycare for your child/children. You can also call the school office to reserve your spot.

We hope to see everyone there!





<p>MAY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER Catholic Education: <i>We are called to love</i></p>

As a Catholic Community, we see the link between our faith and mental health. This year's Catholic Education Week and Mental Health Week theme is, *"We are called to love."*

The theme for Catholic Education Week 2024 was inspired by the following considerations:

- With joyful anticipation of the Jubilee Year of 2025, we are inspired by Pope Francis announcing the theme of *"Pilgrims of Hope."* *With open hearts of love, we can continue to "fan the flame of hope" for a bright future.*
- On the fifth anniversary of Renewing the Promise, we celebrate that Catholic Education is centred on our Christian call to love. This love permeates how we live in the world and as we act with love, we build a better future. As Pope Francis stated in 2023, *"He wants us to be artisans of a new history, weavers of hope, builders of the future, peacemakers."*
- The theme of the synod, *"Enlarge the Space of Your Tent,"* invites us to listen in love, to be a healing presence to one another and to strengthen relationships.
- In his visit to Canada last summer, Pope Francis gave us hope for our continued work for Truth and Reconciliation. Through prayer and a commitment to love, stronger bonds are forming and a new way forward is emerging.
- Catholic Education Week comes at the same time as Mental Health Awareness Week. Through love and compassion, we continue to support each other's wellbeing. God is love and we are always called to live out this love.
- In our continued work for Equity and Inclusion in Catholic schools, a focus on love reminds us that all God's children are loved unconditionally.

There are five sub-themes for each day of Catholic Education Week and Mental Health Week:

Day 1: As people of hope / Dans l'espérance

Day 2: As people of faith / Dans la foi

Day 3: As people of mercy / Avec compassion

Day 4: As people of justice / Dans la justice

Day 5: As people of joy / Dans la joie

Every year, the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA) provides our Catholic schools with a resource kit to help schools prepare for Catholic Education Week. Using these resources, as well as School Mental Health Ontario's website and resources, will highlight how the students and staff at our school are being *Called to love together.*



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
NIAGARA CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (NCPIC)
PARENT/GUARDIAN MEMBERSHIP 2024-2025



The Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC) supports the Mission of Catholic education and the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board by providing a communication link to parents/guardians, Catholic School Councils, the Diocese, the Director of Education, and the Board. The NCPIC promotes active parent/guardian engagement within all schools for the improvement of student achievement and well-being of all students in the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

The NCPIC membership is made up of parents/guardians, community and student representatives, the Bishop of the Diocese of St. Catharines or his appointed representative, principals, teachers, support staff, the Director of Education or designate, the appointed Superintendent of Education and Trustees. The Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee meets the on first Thursday of the month on a bi-monthly basis (or as noted) at the Catholic Education Centre from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Meetings are open to the public and are livestreamed.

Parent/Guardian Membership

To be eligible for election/appointment as a parent/guardian representative to the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee, a person:

- must be a parent/guardian of a student enrolled in a school of the Board,
- must reside within the jurisdiction of the Board,
- must support the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, and
- must fully participate in the annual Commissioning Ceremony of NCPIC members.

Available parent/guardian positions for the 2024-2025 Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Membership:

Fort Erie/Port Colborne/Wainfleet	2 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives
Grimsby/Lincoln/West Lincoln	2 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives
Thorold/Merritton	2 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives
Niagara Falls	4 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives
St. Catharines/Niagara-on-the-Lake	3 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives
Welland/Pelham	2 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives

Interested parents/guardians are to complete and submit the parent/guardian nomination form **no later than 4:00 p.m., on Wednesday, May 1, 2024**. Nomination forms are available at the school and on the Board website, or by clicking on the link: [Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee](#).

Please send nomination forms to: Catholic Education Centre
 427 Rice Road
 Welland, ON L3C 7C1
 Attention: Yvonne Anderson
 or by email to: yvonne.anderson@ncdsb.com