



# St. Mark Catholic Elementary School

Home of the Mountain Lions

A Member of the Blessed Trinity Family of Schools

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## PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

O God our Father, we thank you for protecting us and bringing us safely through another year. Help us to grow not only in body, but also in heart and mind. May we look upon each new day as another chance to follow you more closely. As the new year unfolds, may we be more merciful towards others and more generous in serving you. Amen.

FamilyRosary.org





# Thank you to our Community!

## Winter Items Donation

Thank you to our St Mark community for donating their gently used winter coats, boots, hats, mitts and scarves this holiday season. Project Share will be by to pick them up. We thank everyone for their generous donations. All of the items will be put to good use.



## Celebrating Advent Together 🏛️ 📄

On Friday, December 20th the students participated in an Advent ceremony led by Father Krzys in the gym. It was a wonderful way to start our Christmas break.



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## Christmas Around the School!

### Joy Day!

Staff and students enjoyed a fun day celebrating Joy Day in their Christmas Pajamas and decorating their classroom doors. We have a lot of creative students at St. Mark.



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### Christmas Theme Day

On December 20th students and staff showed their Christmas spirit by dressing in Christmas themed clothing.



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### Robotic Meet

In December, the intermediate Vex Robotics team travelled to St. Mary's in Niagara Falls to participate in their first friendly competition. Students have been working extremely hard creating and building their Vex robot to navigate through the Rapid Relay Game. Our Robo - Rocket team placed 5th overall and our Robo - Thunder team placed 7th overall out of 16 teams. We are very proud of our Vex teams commitment, teamwork and problem solving skills. Keep up the excellent work.





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## Choir Fest

Mrs. Dionne and Mrs. Morawek would like to thank the St. Mark Senior Choir for their hard work and dedication in preparation for Choirfest. The choir had a fun filled day of singing, crafting and spreading Christmas Cheer at the Seaway Mall in Welland. Special thanks to all the families that came to support us.



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## Winter Playground - Snow stays on the ground❄️

As we approach the cold winter days, please be advised that going out for recess during the Winter Season will be a rule rather than an exception. Please ensure that your child comes to school properly dressed and ready to play outside in the winter months. In extreme weather cases,



children will remain indoors. With the number of students at our school, it is imperative that we all emphasize the dangers of throwing snow and use of body contact in any form. Please make sure your children are aware of the possible dangers of throwing snow and body contact at school. No one wants anyone hurt and sometimes innocent body contact turns into harmful play. Your support in this matter is greatly appreciated. Let's have fun outside, and keep everyone safe!

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## Inclement Weather and School Closures

The Niagara Catholic District School Board will make every effort to keep the schools open during periods of inclement weather. Only in the most exceptional circumstances will schools be closed partway through the day. In these rare cases, we will follow the procedure you have selected on the Emergency Form completed in September. Should School bus transportation be cancelled, parents are asked to use discretion in making the decision about whether or not to send children to school. If you decide to keep your child at home please use the Safe Arrival system to call in your child's absence. Announcements concerning school closures or bus cancellations will be made on all local radio stations beginning at 7:00 a.m. or you can check our website at [www.niagaracatholic.ca](http://www.niagaracatholic.ca).



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## A Message from Blessed Trinity

We are just 1 weeks away from Christmas, but Blessed Trinity is still moving forward with many activities and the start of the Winter sports season. Our boys and girls' hockey, girls volleyball and boys' basketball teams have started their regular seasons. Our wrestlers hosted a tournament and our Music Dept. is touring our Family of Schools spreading the Christmas Cheer.



A representative from our Student Services Department has begun doing presentations to all of our grade 8's focusing on the courses they will be choosing and taking at BT next year. Those presentations will continue throughout December and early January. An early plug for our Grade 8 Open House that will take place on January 16th at 6:30 pm.

Blessed Trinity would like to wish all of our Family of Schools a very Merry Christmas and all the best in the New Year.



# OPENHOUSE

## Thursday, January 16, 2025 at 6:30 pm

Join our Blessed Trinity family; tour our state of the art facility; hear from our faculty members about our innovative programs and explore our extensive co-instructional opportunities



**Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School**  
145 Livingston Avenue, Grimsby, Ontario  
[www.blessedtrinitycatholic.com](http://www.blessedtrinitycatholic.com)

Niagara Region



### Niagara Region Public Health School Health Newsletter

January 2025

#### Access and Update Your Child's Immunization Record

Niagara Region Public Health would like to remind parents and guardians to keep their children's immunization record up to date. This can easily be completed by using [Immunization Connect](#).

*Immunization Connect* is a quick, confidential, and secure system where you can access your child's vaccination record and report vaccines.

Report every time your child receives a vaccine directly to Public Health with *Immunization Connect*. **Health care**

**providers do not do this for you.**

Visit [niagararegion.ca/vaccines](http://niagararegion.ca/vaccines) for other ways to report vaccination information to Public Health.

**Access and Update Your Child's Immunization Record**

Immunization Connect is a quick, confidential and secure system where you can access your child's vaccination record and report vaccines.

Report every time your child receives a vaccine directly to Public Health with Immunization Connect. Health care providers do not do this for you.

Visit [niagararegion.ca/vaccines](http://niagararegion.ca/vaccines) for other ways to report vaccination information to Public Health.

SCAN QR CODE for more immunization information

#### Wintertime Well-Being

As the weather changes and days get shorter, many people, including children and youth, may feel more anxious, depressed, or tired. It's essential to be mindful of our emotional well-being. Beat the winter blues and check out these simple activities to boost your and your child's mood.

- [8 feel good tips to boost your mood](#)
- [Easy and Fun Mental Health Activities for Home](#)
- [Active Play ideas - Active4Life](#)

## Snow Safety for Kids

Embrace the thrill of tobogganing this winter, but remember, safety comes first! Whether your child is racing down the slopes or enjoying a leisurely ride, follow these snow safety tips to make the most of winter adventures:

1. **Gear Up:** Wear appropriate winter gear such as gloves, and sturdy boots to provide protection from the cold.
2. **Choose Safe Hills:** Pick tobogganing hills that are marked as a safe place and free from objects such as trees, rocks, or traffic. Avoid hills with steep inclines or crowded areas.
3. **Follow Etiquette:** Be mindful of others on the hill. Encourage your child to wait their turn and choose a clear path to avoid collisions. Respect the space and safety of fellow tobogganers.
4. **Think Safety:** Help your child to sit facing forward on the toboggan with their feet first. Remind tobogganers to hold on firmly and avoid standing or kneeling during the ride.
5. **Stay Visible:** If tobogganing in the evening, ensure visibility. Wear bright colours and consider adding reflective elements to clothing.

Remember, tobogganing is all about having fun, but safety ensures that the enjoyment lasts throughout the winter season. So, bundle up, find a safe hill, and make lasting memories with your child and friends in the winter wonderland!





# St. Mark Catholic

## January 2025

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			<b>HAPPY NEW YEAR</b>				Mass: St. Helen Church 5:00 p.m.
Mass: St. Helen Church 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.	<b>Day 1</b>	<b>Day 2</b>	<b>Day 3</b>	<b>Day 4</b>	<b>Day 5</b>		Mass: St. Helen Church 5:00 p.m.
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January 2025 Calendar.pdf

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1.5 MB



St. Mark Catholic Elementary



J. DeCoff  
Principal

A. Vilella  
Vice-Principal