



CANADIAN MARTYRS NEWS



APRIL 2025



NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

With the upcoming Easter season, we look forward to the continued celebration of Easter and the joy and hope that it represents. There are 50 days of Easter from the first Sunday of the Resurrection to Pentecost Sunday. Without Easter, without the Resurrection, we would face a future of darkness rather than the promise of eternal life. Easter is truly a time of celebration. As we see signs of renewed life all around us in nature, we realize that we can share in that renewal.

At Easter, Jesus brings so much light into the world. Light has overcome darkness. The liturgical colour changes from purple to white for Easter to represent this light.

What a sign of God's love we experience with the Resurrection. We are truly Easter people. Together as a school community we face the future – with all of its challenges and all of its opportunities – with renewed faith and hope as we voice our joyful "Alleluia".

During the month of April, let us see each person in our lives as a gift. Let us focus on caring for all of the families in our lives; at home, at school, at church and the world at large, making the school, community, and world better places to be!

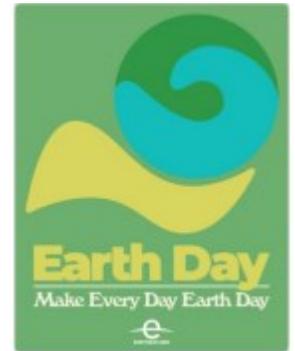
Yours in Catholic Education,
Mrs. L. Incaviglia Principal
Ms. W. Wilson Vice Principal



EARTH DAY- APRIL 22, 2025

INVEST IN OUR PLANET

Earth Day is an annual event dedicated to raising awareness and inspiring action to tackle the various environmental challenges facing our planet. This day is also a time to celebrate those who have done a lot to help the environment. Over 190 countries celebrate Earth Day around the globe, with more people getting involved every year. Did you know that Earth Day is marked by more than a billion people a year? Yes, a billion!



The theme for Earth Day 2025 is **OUR POWER, OUR PLANET**, inviting everyone to unite behind renewable energy. How? Join

in Earth Action Day, encouraging all to take action. Pledge your Earth Action on social media using #EarthActionDay.

For more information about Earth Day and how you and your family can support Earth Day initiatives, go to

earthday.org.

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



PARENT NIGHT—INTERNET SAFETY

We are pleased to offer a parent engagement event based on the results of the survey sent to families in November 2024.

Jon Hansen will be speaking to parents/guardians about how social media can be used for positivity, learning and creativity. Please see page 3 for more information about Jon Hansen and click on the following link for a video that will also give more details about Jon's presentation.

www.jonhansenspeaks.com/parentsession

When: Monday, May 5, 2025 6:00pm

Where: Canadian Martyrs School Gym

At this event, we will offer free child care, refreshments, and prize draws for all families who attend. More information about how to register will follow. We hope everyone can attend.

Reflection #8

In Mark's Gospel, we read about Jesus and the rich man, who asked what he had to do to inherit eternal life. The rich man explained that he had kept all the commandments, but "Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, 'You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me'" (Mark 10:21).

The rich man chose not to follow Jesus because he loved his many possessions. Our hearts were made for God. In order to follow Jesus, we need to set aside the things that take His place in our hearts. Jesus wants to be the King of our whole heart, not just part of it. Like his call to the rich man, Jesus asks each of us to let go of everything that gets in the way of us following Him. Take a moment today to pray and ask Jesus to reveal any areas of your heart that need His healing touch and to help you fully entrust them to Him. By identifying and surrendering these parts of our hearts, we allow Jesus to transform us from within.

St. Alfred Church Corner



First Holy Communion for our grade 2 students will take place on Sunday, May 4, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. at St. Alfred Church.

Confirmation for our grade 8 students will take place on Thursday, May 8, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Alfred Church.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

We are taking registrations for September 2025. Students who have reached the age of four by December 31, 2025 are eligible for Junior Kindergarten. Students who have reached the age of five by December 31, 2025 are eligible for Senior Kindergarten. Register Online anytime at <https://niagaracatholic.ca/registration/>

Niagara Catholic Chess Tournament

We are thrilled to celebrate the incredible efforts of our Grade 5 to Grade 8 students who recently participated in the **NCDSB School-Wide Chess Tournament!** The students demonstrated outstanding skill, patience, along with great determination and respect for their opponents. Thank you to Mark K., Miguel D.T., Corbin C., Alex F., AJ S., Nathan A., Tek C., Vincent L., Christopher M., Rowen C., Logen C., Igor B., Georgie M., Natalie J., Fabian P., Ariana S., Harsh M., Natalia M., Lewis M., Phoebe G., Tristan H., Spencer M., Aubrey B., and Avery B.



Follow us on Instagram:

@canadian.martyrs

Do you want to see your child in our posts? Call the office to ensure your child has permission to be photographed.

JON HANSEN

LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR PARENTS

“Teenage Social Media: Unusual Insights and Tips from a Parent, Teacher, and TikToker”



Jon Hansen is a dynamic speaker and educator, celebrated for his expertise in navigating the complex landscape of teen social media. With an online presence of over 1 million followers and over 300 million worldwide video views, Jon has honed a unique understanding of the challenges and opportunities within the world of phone use and social media.

Featured on CBC News, Radio, and other major Canadian media outlets, Jon's insights and engaging approach make him the perfect fit for guiding parents through the intricacies of teen social media use, offering actionable advice and empowering strategies to foster a more positive online experience for their children.

LEARNING OUTCOMES INCLUDE:

- ✓ **Harnessing the Positive** - Parents will explore the ways in which social media can be utilized as a platform for learning, creativity, and positivity while empowering parents to guide their teenagers in leveraging these aspects for personal and social growth.
- ✓ **Creating Supportive Networks** - Parents will learn how to foster a supportive network within the family and community to address social media challenges.
- ✓ **Implementing Practical Strategies** - Jon will provide parents with practical, actionable strategies to engage and guide their teens in a rapidly evolving digital landscape.
- ✓ **Interactive Q&A With Jon** - Parents can ask specific, personalized questions, providing tailored guidance and solutions for their concerns regarding teens and social media.

**ST. ALFRED CHURCH
272 VINE STREET, ST. CATHARINES, ON
HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE**

CONFESSIONS

**MONDAY APRIL 14 6pm to 8pm
(English, Spanish and Italian)**

**GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 18 9am to 11am
(English, Spanish and Italian)**

No confessions Holy Thursday or Holy Saturday



MASSES

HOLY THURSDAY APRIL 17

Mass of the Lord's Supper 6pm (Spanish)

Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:30pm (English) Adoration till 10pm

GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 18

Celebration of the Lord's Passion 12 Noon (Italian)

Celebration of the Lord's Passion 3pm (English)

Celebration of the Lord's Passion 6pm (Spanish)

HOLY SATURDAY APRIL 19

Blessing of Easter Food 12:15pm in the Chapel

Easter Vigil Mass 8pm (English)

Easter Vigil Mass 11pm (Spanish)

EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 20

Masses: 7:30am (English) 9:30am (Italian) 11:30am (English) 5pm (Spanish)

COBS Bread Fundraiser 2025

Back by popular demand, our 4th Annual COBS Bread Fundraiser is underway! All funds raised will support the purchase of technology for our school. **This fundraiser will run until Thursday, April 24th.** Stamp cards will be distributed in early May.

The "Loaf per Month" Card entitles you to get one complimentary loaf of bread at COBS Bread Ridley Square every month for a year! The card is valid for one "Complimentary" loaf of any kind in the bakery every month for a year – (12 loaves in total). This card is only redeemable at the COBS Bread Ridley Square location in St. Catharines. **The cost of the card is \$25. The school receives half of the proceeds from card sales.**

How does it work / Rules?

- The cardholder will come into the bakery every month and will choose any loaf available that day and will get it as a "Complimentary Loaf". Their card will be stamped at that time and they will not be charged for the loaf. The process will repeat itself every month until the card has been stamped for every month.
- Only **one** card can be used per person per day.
- If you miss a month and come into the bakery with a missing stamp, you will still get your free loaf for the missing month. All 12 months will be allowed to be redeemed.
- This card can only be used at the COBS Bread Ridley Square location in St. Catharines.

PRIZES

The top-selling class will win a pizza party.

Every student who participates in the fundraiser will be entered in a draw to win one of 3 prizes of a free year end field trip. For every ten (10) cards a student sells, he/she will be entered in a draw to win a Nintendo Switch!

COBS Loaf per Month Cards can only be purchased on [School Cash Online](#). It is open to the public, which means no account is required to purchase the card(s), so please pass this email on to family and friends!

Thank you for your support!



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS NIAGARA CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (NCPIC) MEMBERSHIP 2025-2026



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 on the 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, livestreamed and recorded.

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

The Niagara Catholic District School Board is seeking to appoint up to three (3) community representatives for the 2025-2026 school year to the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee. Interested parties are to complete and submit the Community Representative Form, along with a letter of recommendation supporting the nomination from the community agency, association, or organization addressed to **Danny Di Lorenzo, Chair of the Board no later than 4:00 p.m., on Friday, May 16, 2025.**

PARENT/GUARDIAN REPRESENTATIVES

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 Niagara Catholic District School 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 2025-2026 Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Membership are as follows:

Fort Erie/Port Colborne/Wainfleet	2 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives
Grimsby/Lincoln/West Lincoln	1 position	Parent/Guardian Representative
Thorold/Merritton	2 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives
Niagara Falls	2 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives
St. Catharines/Niagara-on-the-Lake	2 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives
Welland/Pelham	1 position	Parent/Guardian Representative

Interested parents/guardians are to complete and submit the parent/guardian nomination form **no later than 4:00 p.m., on Friday, May 16, 2025.** Nomination forms are available at the school and on the Board website. Please click 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