



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 5 to May 9. 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 Wednesday, June 4th at 6:00 pm for **new students entering kindergarten in September 2025**. 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 call the office to let us know you're coming on June 4th. We look forward to meeting you!

Reflection #9

When Jesus says "Come, follow me," He's doing more than just asking us to walk with Him. He is asking us to become a part of something bigger. Imagine you're invited to join an adventure where you learn new things and grow in ways you never thought possible. Following Jesus means we get to learn from Him how to be more loving, forgiving, and courageous. It's like being part of a great story where each of us has a special role. As we follow Jesus, we discover our own strengths and talents and find joy in helping others. So, when we hear His invitation, it's a chance to embark on an exciting journey of faith and make a real difference in the world!

Hail Mary



Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

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.



Catholic Education: Pilgrims of Hope

This year's Catholic Education Week theme is, "Pilgrims of Hope."

The theme for Catholic Education Week 2025 was inspired by the following considerations:

In February of 2022, Pope Francis announced that the theme for the upcoming 2025 holy year would be "Pilgrims of Hope." "We must fan the flame of hope that has been given to us and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision."

The Holy Father asks us to focus prayerfully on the bonds that unite our whole human family, to reflect on the rampant poverty in our world, and to think about the plight of the many refugees forced to leave their homes. He also summons us, as stewards of Creation, "to contemplate the beauty of creation and care for our common home."

A pilgrimage is a spiritual journey of movement toward a goal, often lived together with others – and that certainly describes Catholic education. Hope – one of the three theological virtues – is grounded in our Easter faith in Jesus' resurrection and renewal; this is what enables us to be builders, dreamers and leaders in Jesus' name. Pope Francis invites us to keep moving ahead in faith, in joy, and in hope, as part of a pilgrim people. Even in challenging times, our eyes are focussed on the future.

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

- Day 1: By honouring human dignity / Honorent la dignité humaine
- Day 2: By caring for creation / Prennent soin de la création
- Day 3: By responding to the poverties in our world / Luttent contre les pauvretés
- Day 4: By serving in solidarity / Servent en solidarité
- Day 5: By living as peacemakers / Vivent en artisans de paix

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 our own developed activities, we have prepared a series of activities, which will highlight how the students and staff at our school are being Pilgrims of Hope together.

We hope to see many of you during our school celebrations!

Please see page 3 for how to register to attend our school events.

Catholic Education Week Parent/Guardian Visits *Monday, May 5 and Wednesday, May 7, 2025*

Canadian Martyrs will celebrate Catholic Education and Mental Health Week 2025, "**Pilgrims of Hope**" from May 5- May 9. A pilgrimage is a spiritual journey of movement toward a goal, often lived together with others, which also describes Catholic education. Hope is grounded in our Easter faith in Jesus' resurrection and renewal; this is what enables us to be builders, dreamers and leaders in Jesus' name. Pope Francis invited us to keep moving ahead in faith, in joy, and in hope, as part of a pilgrim people.

The students and staff are pleased to invite parents/guardians to the school on either Monday, May 5th and/or Wednesday, May 7th to celebrate Catholic Education Week by being a part of our Reading/Math Buddies. During this time, older students mentor younger students and enjoy literacy and/or numeracy activities together.

Parents/guardians are invited to sign up for the timeslot associated with their child's class as per the following schedule:

Monday, May 5th

1:30pm-2:00pm

Grade 3 Miss A. Riganelli + Grade 8 Mr. Sroka
Grade 3 Ms. Bogusat + Grade 7 Mr. Kelly

2:00pm-2:30pm

Grade 2 Mrs. Napoli + Grade 2 Mrs. DeLuca + Grade 6 Miss Belcastro/Mrs. DiPaola
Grade 2 Mrs. Krawchuk + Grade 8 Mr. Carile

Wednesday, May 7th

1:30pm-2:00pm

Grade 1 Ms. Vandenbraak + Grade 5 Mrs. L. Riganelli
Grade 1 Ms. Ricciuto + Grade 6 Mrs. Venneri
Grade 1 Mrs. Sciarra + Grade 7 Mrs. Roe

2:00pm-2:30pm

Kindergarten Mrs. Hebert/Mrs. DiMaria + Grade 3/4 Mrs. Lacroix
Kindergarten Mrs. Saranchuk/Mrs. DeAngelis/Ms. Rucinski + Grade 4 Mrs. Florov
Kindergarten Mrs. Warner/Mrs. Sokal + Grade 4/5 Ms. Sciamonte

Please note that space is limited and we can only accommodate 2 parents/guardians per student. Canadian Martyrs is a scent-free environment. Visitors to the school are reminded not to wear any perfume, cologne or scented creams and lotions.

Please use this [form](#) to reserve your spot. This form will be accepting responses until Friday, May 2nd at noon. **Only those who are registered can attend.** If you need assistance with registering, please call the office.

We look forward to seeing you!



JON HANSEN

LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR PARENTS

"Teenage Social Media: Unusual Insights and Tips from a Parent, Teacher, and TikTok"



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.

PARENT NIGHT—INTERNET SAFETY AND SOCIAL MEDIA

On behalf of the Canadian Martyrs Catholic School Council, we are pleased to invite you to a parent engagement event to aid all families in building strategies to support children at home with safe internet and social media usage. This event is taking place on Monday, May 5th at 6:00pm in the school's gym.

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

Jon Hansen has visited Canadian Martyrs twice to speak to junior and intermediate students. Jon is a very engaging and dynamic speaker and will be speaking to parents/guardians about how social media can be used for positivity, learning and creativity. Please see page 4 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

This session is for all parents/guardians with children of all ages to support you in understanding how to use social media safely and with success to support your child's future.

At this event, we will offer free child care, refreshments, and prize draws for all families who attend. Registration for this free event is available on [School Cash Online](#). If you need assistance registering for this event, please call the school office.



We hope to see everyone there!



TEENAGE SOCIAL MEDIA

UNUSUAL INSIGHTS AND TIPS FROM A
PARENT, TEACHER, AND TIKTOKER



JON HANSEN



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

Parent Engagement

presentation

Youth Addictive Behaviours

with Dr. Jean Clinton, MD – Child Psychiatrist,
Knowledge Translator, and Clinical Professor at McMaster University.



Niagara Catholic
District School Board



Niagara Catholic
Parent Involvement
Committee



Dr. Jean Clinton is a child psychiatrist at McMaster Children's Hospital and a senior scientist at McMaster's INCH Lab. She holds appointments in Pediatrics, Family Medicine, and Child Psychiatry at both McMaster and the University of Toronto. With nearly 30 years of experience consulting in child and youth mental health, child welfare, and primary care, she was recently named an education advisor to Ontario's Premier and Minister of Education.

Monday May 5 • 7-9 PM
Denis Morris Catholic High School
40 Glen Morris Drive, St. Catharines

Registration is required for this event as seating is limited.
Registration will be open until Friday, April 30, 2025.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)