



St. Joseph NEWS

We are proud to be a part of the Lakeshore Catholic and St. Michael Family of Schools.

May 2025



We are all called by name to grow with God!

May Reflection:

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!

In the month of May, we focus on worshipping God through prayer to Mary, the Mother of God. No one knows a child more deeply than one's mother, and it is no different for Mary and her son, Jesus. It is for this reason that the Church honors Mary in a special way this month. If we want to know how to honour and worship Jesus with our lives we simply need to ask His mother.

One way we can worship with Mary is by praying the Rosary. Comprised primarily of a series of Our Father's and Hail Mary's, the rosary is a simple and beautiful way to pray together with Mary. Our prayers carry within them our beliefs as Catholics, about our God and His relationship with each and every one of us. As we continue to grow in His love through prayer this month, may we take time to reflect upon the blessings we have, the needs that we hold, and the prayers we say. As well, as we celebrate and highlight Catholic Education in May, let us take a moment to be thankful for the daily opportunity to have our faith guide us in our spiritual and academic growth. Our focus during this exciting week will be to further nurture our relationship with God, and with one another. The week will be a celebration of the gift of our faith lived daily! **THANK YOU for your continued support of our students, our families and staff, and the entire St. Joseph Community.**

Mrs. Walsh



Dear Lord,



Please watch over and support all mothers on earth and in heaven and all those who take on the roles of mothers... help them to know how much they are loved and appreciated on Mother's Day and Everyday! Amen

OUR CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK 2025



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

St. Joseph Catholic will celebrate **Catholic Education and Mental Health Week 2025**, "Pilgrims of Hope" from May 5 - May 9 and invite you to participate in the opening prayer service on Monday May 5th at 10 am.

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.

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

Monday: By honouring human dignity

Tuesday: By caring for creation

Wednesday: By responding to the poverties in our world

Thursday: By serving in solidarity

Friday: By living as peacemakers



North of 60 Project

Supporting our Northern Neighbours in Need



In 2010, the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul (SSVP) took on the challenge initiated by Eileen Orysiuk and Sister Fay Trombley aimed at helping inhabitants of the Canadian Arctic in need. It all started in the community of Tuktoyaktuk, in the Northwest Territories.

Teams of Vincentian volunteers from the south help neighbours in need in 16 Northern Canadian communities whose needs continue to increase. They are assigned to a community, establish connections with the people and gain awareness of their requirements, allowing them to develop an accurate list of community needs and ensure equitable distribution of shipped goods.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul St. Catharines Central Council along with the respective particular councils and parish conferences across our Diocese have been helping with the North of 60 Project Naujaat Nunavut, also known as "Repulse Bay" for nine years, since 2016.

Repulse Bay is located north of Iqaluit and Coral Harbour and has a population of 1000 people. 22% of the population is less than 20 years old and 40 - 50 babies are born annually. Families usually consist of mom, dad, 6 - 8 children and at least two elders. Residents in this community actively pursue hunting, fishing, and trapping to survive. There are 40 families in need of help this year. Each particular council and parish conference has been asked to donate various items in a rather large quantity in order to fill a 20 foot Sea container to be sent out in September 2025. The truth is that many conferences find themselves lacking resources to aid the poor in their own community.

St. Joseph School has been asked to help by donating Pasta to this cause.





DANCE - A - THON

This year's Dance –A-Thon was a great success. First and foremost thank you to Thank you to DJ Jordan and DJ James for being so awesome and getting us in the spirit for our dance–a-thon. They led us not only with music but with their dance moves as well. A HUGE thank you to Leon who joined us and showed us his dance moves. Thank you to all who donated incentive prizes. Congratulations to Mr. Greg H who was the winner of the Social Graces package, Ms. Cindy C who was the winner of the Rizzo's Gift Certificate and Mr. Aaron P who was the winner of the Stevensville Garden Gallery Gift Certificate and to Marissa L. who won the Overnight package with water park passes for raising the most money - \$800! She has decided that she would like to be Miss Perry for a day. The winner of the grand incentive prize, the Hoverboard with Go Kart Package was the Klassen Family. Congratulations to all who were lucky enough to have their names drawn for incentive prizes. Over 75% of our St. Joseph families took home prizes. Thank you to all our families for your continued support. The students and their families collected \$6557.00.

Thank you to the following families, staff and community members for donating incentive prizes: 9 OH 5 Liquidation, Mrs. Plyley, Paola & George Doczi (Niagara Waffle Company), Super-Bee Truck Accessories Ltd. (Alberta), Crafted Subs, Dominos Pizza, Zia's Pizzeria, Social Graces Market & Cellar, Miss Perry, Mrs. Kranidis, Mr. & Mrs. Climenhage, Habjan & Zaleski Families, Mrs. Salvati, The Skuttlebutt Tap & Eatery, Ms Cyndi, Mrs. Walsh, IceDogs, Niagara River Lions, Buffalo Bisons.

2024 - 2025 YEARBOOKS

As this school year comes to an end, the memories created throughout the year will be celebrated and remembered in our St. Joseph Catholic School yearbook. This wonderful keepsake, is available to all students to pre-order and purchase.

This year's yearbook, with coloured photos, will showcase the students and staff participating in the many fun-filled activities that have occurred throughout the school year. In order to include all the events of the entire year, including those that occur in June, the yearbook will be delivered to students in September 2025.



The cost of the yearbook is \$25.

All yearbook orders and payments are due by June 10, 2025.

Thank you for your continued support!



From Public Health

Vision Health Month

Visual health is an important part of a child's overall health and well-being. Proper vision is important for a child's movement and coordination, independence, play and learning. If left untreated, vision problems may become serious and prevent a child from reaching their full potential.



A yearly eye exam is **FREE** – the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) covers the cost of an eye exam every 12 months for children up to the age of 19 with a valid OHIP card. [Find an eye doctor near you.](#)

Also, contact an eye doctor if you see **ANY** of these signs:

- | | |
|--|---|
| • Squinting or holding objects close to the eyes | • One eye that turns out or in |
| • Blinking often | • Rubbing, tearing, itchy or burning eyes |
| • Turning or tilting the head to the side often | • Reporting blurry or double vision |
| • Covering or closing one eye | • Reporting headaches, nausea or eye strain |

For more information on vision screening, please visit <https://www.niagararegion.ca/health/schools/vision-screening.aspx>.

Welcome to Kindergarten!

Do you have a little one starting Kindergarten?



Public Health works in partnership with teachers, support staff, students, and parents to build a healthier school community.

Check out our [School Health webpage](#) for some important links and supports:

- [Childhood illnesses and diseases of public health significance](#)
- [Non-reportable illnesses and exclusion periods](#)
- [Dental screening](#)
- [School-aged vaccines](#)

Parents and legal guardians of junior and senior kindergarten registrants and students new to Ontario are asked to report their vaccinations to [Public Health](#).

Head Lice



Students are now back into the swing of things and spending lots of time with friends and classmates during school and after school. Lice can spread regardless of a student's age. Head lice are spread by direct head-to-head contact or by sometimes sharing items like combs, brushes, hats, pillows, etc. Anyone can get head lice, it's not a sign of poor personal hygiene or an unclean environment.

Check out School Health's new webpage on head lice for more information: [Head Lice - Niagara Region, Ontario](#)

NEW Quit Vaping Program for Youth

The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) is excited to launch [Youth-Vaping, Substance use, and Technology \(VAST\)](#). Youth-VAST is a program for youth in Ontario who are using vaping, substances, or feel like technology is taking up too much of their time. This program brings together existing and new resources across CAMH to deliver virtual services directly to youth and their family.



- Program offered for youth ages 12-21 years.
- Appointments are offered virtually for youth all over Ontario
- Youth will be assigned a care coordinator to create a customized treatment plan
- Individuals can self-refer directly into this program, no physician referral required.

To refer, visit [Youth-VAST](#) to book an appointment. For more information you can email youth.vast@camh.ca.

May is Rabies Awareness Month

During Spring, wildlife activity increases and so does the potential for rabies exposures. Rabies is a serious and fatal disease that affects the brain and spinal cord of mammals, including humans.

To prevent rabies, avoid any contact with wild animals, especially those that appear sick. Although they may seem cute, do not feed wild animals and most importantly, make sure to have your pets vaccinated.



For more information visit https://www.niagararegion.ca/living/health_wellness/disease-prevent/rabies.aspx





Lakeshore Catholic News

Today, multiple classes and members of LCHS Students' Council opened the *Jubilee 2000 Time Capsule*. This *Time Capsule* was created on December 23, 1999 at the turn of the century – many would remember this date as Y2K! Pope John Paul II commemorated Jubilee 2000 as a special period of celebration and spiritual renewal, marked by a theme and the opening of the Holy Doors in Rome, encouraging pilgrimage and forgiveness. Today, as a school community, we marked this special date by highlighting our new Holy Year, Jubilee 2025, with its theme "Pilgrims of Hope." We shared the history of the Jubilee 2000 Wall where all staff and students from the 1999-2000 school year signed one brick on this wall, in addition to the time capsule. As we celebrate Jubilee 2025, members of our school community will be creating a new *Catholicity Wall* in this space where we will capture memories from both Holy Years, along with Catholic commitments to our Witness through expressions of our Catholic Social Teachings and Catholic Graduate Expectations. The contents within the *Time Capsule* will be on display in the chapel until the end of this school year; guests are invited to come see the contents if they so choose. Our new *Catholicity Wall* will be completed for the start of May 2025, Catholic Education Week – during that week, we will also be celebrating mass honouring Jubilee 2025.



Growing with God! Growing with God! Growing with God! Growing with God! Growing with God!

Lakeshore Catholic High School Presents...

MAMMA MIA!



May 1, 2025 - 7pm
May 2, 2025 - 7pm
May 3, 2025 - 2pm & 7pm
May 4, 2025 - 2pm

Tickets \$20 (\$15 Students)
Ticket available via:
SCHOOL CASH ONLINE
or by contacting Nancy Bodis
nancy.bodis@ncdsb.com
or (905) 835-2451 or visit
www.lakeshorecatholic.ca

Music and Lyrics by : BENNY ANDERSSON & BJORN ULVAEUS
Presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International MTI