



Firebird Free Press

May 12th-16th, 2025

Week at a Glance

Monday May 12th:

*Boys Flag Football Tryout 3-4pm: Tham, Quaranta and Redmond

Tuesday May 13th:

*Track and Field @ Oakes Park: Gr. 4-8

*Mother Mary Procession: 5:30pm and Mass: 7:00pm @ OLOS

Wednesday May 14th:

*Celebrating Intermediate Writers @ Catholic Education Centre: 4pm-6pm

Thursday May 15th:

*Niagara Falls Pickleball Tournament @ Kalar Road: 10am-1:30pm

*Kindergarten Art Gallery @ Holy Rosary: 4pm-6pm

*Flag Football Tryout Girls: 3-4pm: Tham, Quaranta and Remond

Friday May 16th:

*Interior Lockdown Practice @ 12pm: Whole School

*Pita Pit Day

Class Organization for 2025-2026

Please trust our professional judgment to make good pedagogically sound decisions regarding your child's class placement for September 2025. Talk positively and hopefully to your child about next year. If your child is with a different group of students, discuss the value of new friendships and fresh starts. We are looking forward to another wonderful school year with your support. Please know that careful thought is always given to student placement in the various classes. Guidelines that we consider may be one, some or all of the following:

☒ **Learning style/social needs**

- ☒ **Work habits**
- ☒ **Special program needs**
- ☒ **Behavior**

In all class situations, present and receiving teachers meet with the Principal and Education Resource Teacher to make the final decision. Parent preference cannot be a determining factor, but if you have a pressing concern regarding class placement, please put your request and reasons in writing to the attention of Mr. Spagnol and hand it into the office for consideration by Friday, May 30th, 2025.

Due to the amount of students that need to be placed, any requests after May 30th will not be considered.

RAFT Donations

In keeping with our Catholic Education Week theme, "Pilgrims of Hope", to honour human dignity, St. John Henry Newman will be collecting items for The RAFT, a local charity that helps teens struggling with homelessness.

Beginning Monday, May 5th until Friday, May 30, students are asked to bring in items to help teens in need. We are asking for a variety of non-perishable food items, toiletries and new gift items (hair accessories, arts & crafts, stationary, etc), as well as gently used TEEN items (clothing, outdoor gear, blankets, shoes etc.). Gift cards can also be donated (Walmart, Shoppers Drug Mart, Canadian Tire, Dollarama, Grocery Stores, etc.). Thank you in advance!

Gift Basket Fundraiser

Each class has been assigned a theme for their basket. We are asking students/families to make a small donation to the gift basket theme that is assigned to their class. We will be collecting donations from May 12th-26th.

Students will have the opportunity to purchase raffle basket tickets on SchoolCash Online. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 3 for \$2.00. There will be approximately 20 gift baskets available to be won. Lucky winners will be announced on June 13th. Proceeds will be directly supporting student technology at SJHN.



Classroom Themes

Kindergarten:- DiPaola/Bray Chocolate Basket

Kindergarten:- DeCicco/Irakoze Candy Basket

Kindergarten:- Prio/McRae Baking

Gr. 1- Sacco Family Fun

Gr. 1/2- Gabriele Beach Day

Gr. 2- Cuiello Movie Night

Gr. 2- Mostowy Pokemon

Gr. 2/3- deRuiter Adventure
Gr. 3/4- Nurton Gardening
Gr. 3/4- Olesen Cooking
Gr. 4- Fortino-Carter Coffee/Tea
Gr. 4/5- Harrold Wellness
Gr. 5- Thompson Canada Day
Gr. 5/6- Avolio Sports
Gr. 6- Mancuso Spa Day
Gr. 6/7- Korce Puzzles/Board Games
Gr. 7- Dyck (Reich) Summer Fun
Gr. 7/8- Quaranta Arts and Crafts
Gr. 8- Tham Chocolate Basket
Gr. 8- Capitano Candy Basket

Thank you in advance for your support.

Junior Boys Handball

Congratulations

to the Junior Boys Handball Team for winning 1st place in the Family of Schools Tournament on Friday, May 2, 2025 at St. Paul High School. The boys were undefeated in the round robin beating St. Vincent, St. Pats and Mary Ward (2). They went on to beat St. Mary's in the Semi-Finals and Mary Ward (1) in the Championship game. Thank you to the all the members of the team for their teamwork and dedication to practices every week. It was a great effort by all. Thanks to the parents and grandparents that came to cheer us on! Way to go!!

Team members were: Marco P, Vincenzo D., Shia V., Oliver S., Jagger L., James V., Evan F., Jack P., Alex B., Adam G., Zinachidi I., Bronson L., Ethan T., Richie P., Franco P., William K., Marcello P. and Ethan R.

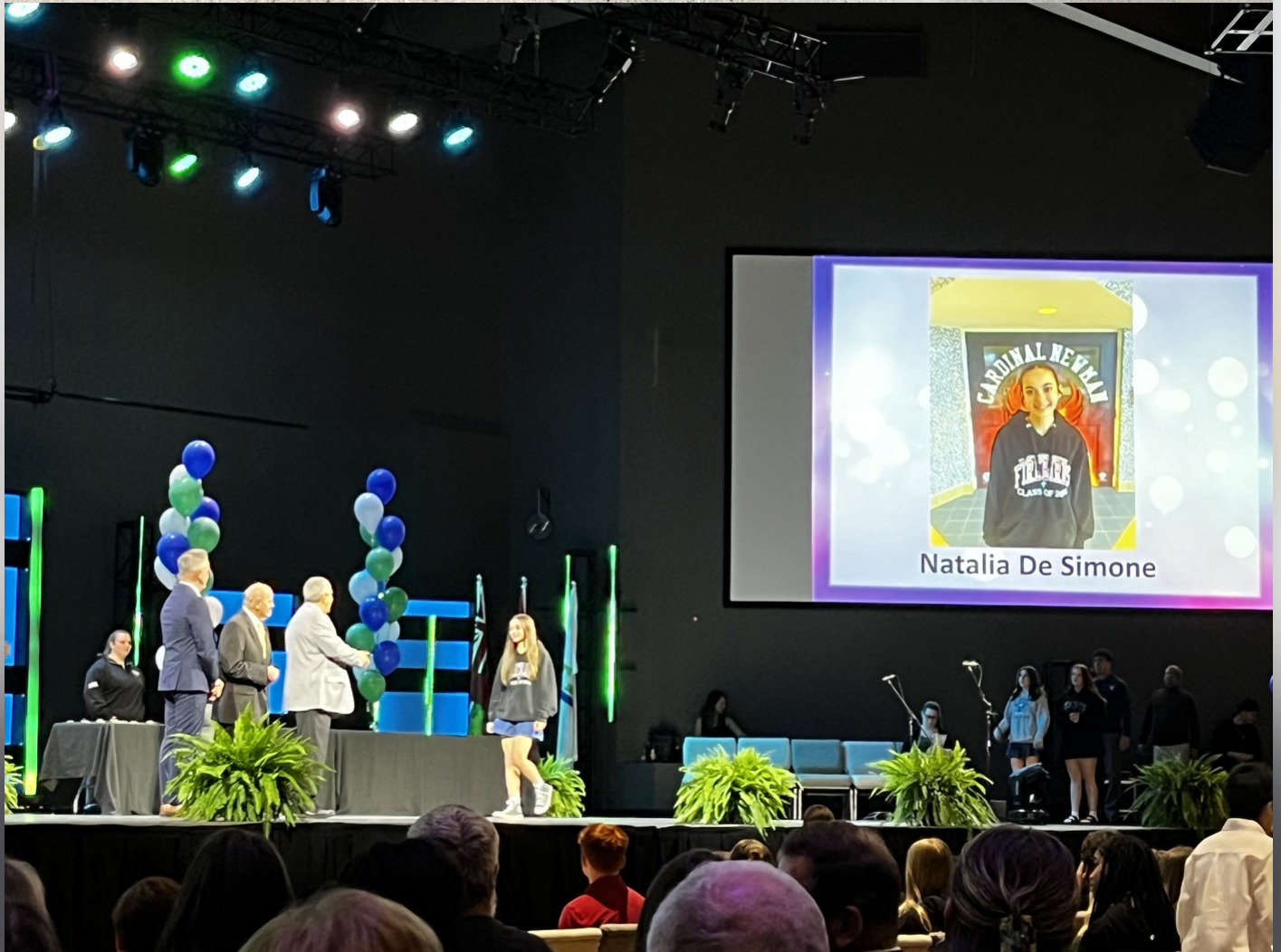


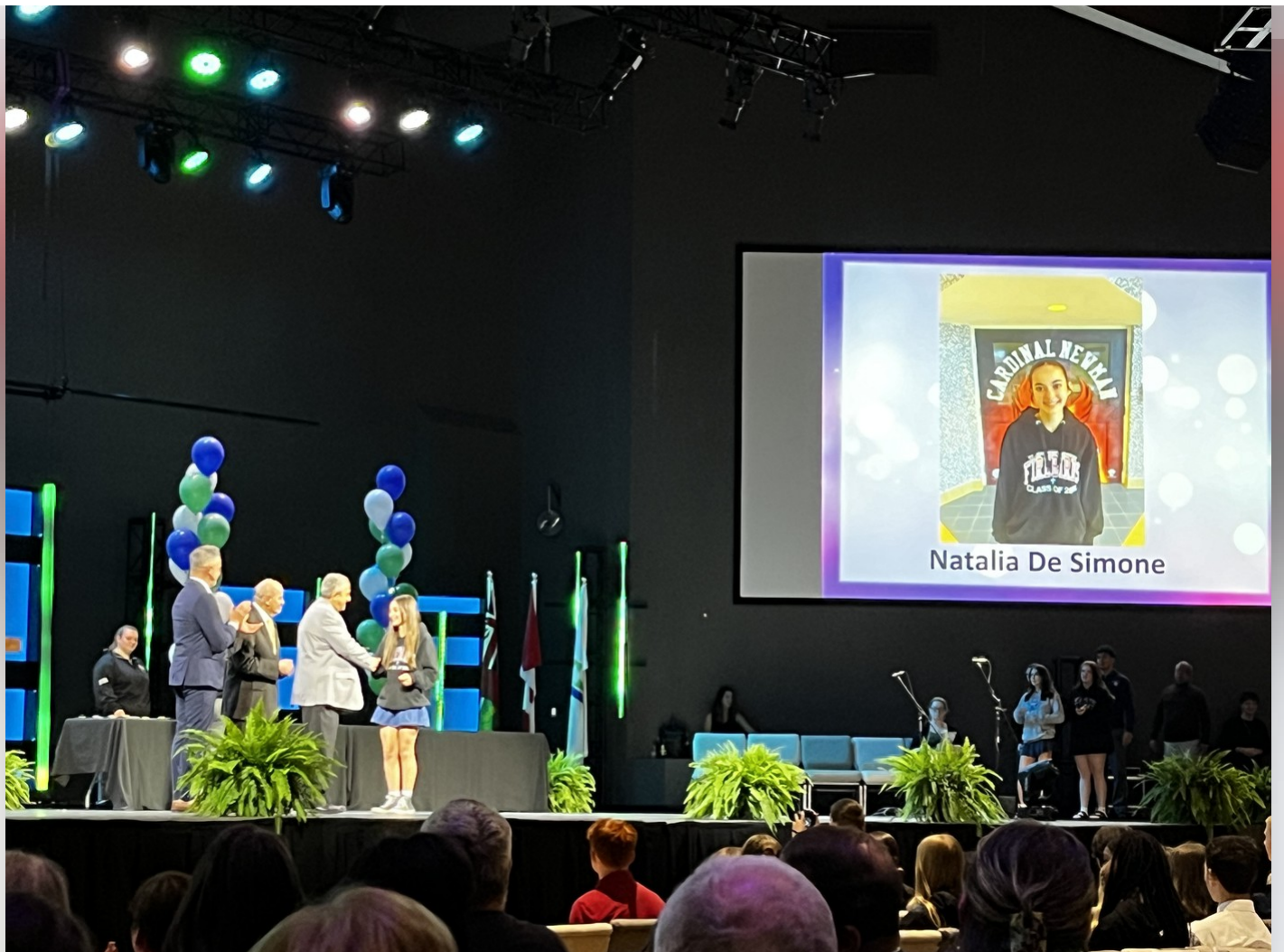
Catch the Spirit

This week NCDSB's Catch the Spirit event took place at Central Niagara in Niagara on the Lake. SJHN was showcased at the event as our Dance Team and Band kicked off the festivities. Their performance left the crowd stunned in amazement and concluded with a round of applause from the audience. SJHN's representation continued with two of our own being celebrated during the event. Mr. Reich was the recipient of the Inspiration Award and Natalia De Simone was the recipient of the Catch the Spirit Award.

Thank you to Mrs. Pietrangelo, Mrs. CuvIELLO, Mrs. Olesen and Mr. Tham for preparing our students for the big event.









New Pope Announcement

The Catholic Church has welcomed a new spiritual leader with the election of **Pope Robert Prevost**, who officially became the 267th **Pope of the Roman Catholic Church** on **Thursday May 9th, 2025**. The new pope brings a unique perspective shaped by years of service in the Church.

As he begins his journey as the leader of over a billion Catholics worldwide, he has called for unity, compassion, and renewed faith. His first public address included a message of peace and hope, encouraging people of all ages to care for one another and the planet.

We join the world in welcoming the new pope and look forward to the positive impact his leadership may bring.



2025 Elementary Music Festival

SJHN recently participated in the 2025 Elementary Music Festival. All of the performances were stellar and showed a lot of work and effort that the students put into preparing the performances. SJHN lead by Mrs. Pietrangelo took to the stage and delivered a memorable performance.





Celebrating Arts 2025



St. Paul High School Student of the Month

Mia Tropea - Gr. 3 Mrs. DeRuiter

Mia shows perseverance when completing work and is empathetic towards classmates. She is always willing to lend a hand and help others.

Clair Inkster-Gr. 2 Mrs. Cuvillo

Claire Inkster on being recognized as one of our St. Paul students of the month. Claire is a kind and hardworking individual. She also demonstrates a commitment to living as Jesus has asked of us by regularly treating others as she wishes to be treated. Claire shares her smile and her knowledge to help others during learning activities. She also works hard to make sure that everyone is included during both indoor and outdoor group activities. Claire respects those around

her by being patient and by using her manners and she respects herself by completing tasks in all subject areas with effort and care. Well done Claire!



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

WELCOMING FAMILIES

TO A **FREE** FUN FILLED MORNING!



Early
ON
Child and Family Center

FAM JAM

JOIN US FOR ONE LAST
NIAGARA CATHOLIC EARLYON ADVENTURE
CELEBRATING OVER 20 YEARS OF PLAY,
LEARNING AND CONNECTION

FREE BOOKS

MOBILE DENTAL CLINIC

SCHOOL BUS REFRESHMENTS



**BROKEN SPOKES
FREE REFURBISHED BIKE
GIVEAWAYS**

**PLAY BALL HOCKEY
WITH THE ICE DOGS**

**CHILDREN'S
OUTDOOR PLAY
PROGRAM**

**MOBILE CLOSET
FREE SHOPPING!**

SATURDAY JUNE 14 • 9:30AM-NOON
MARY WARD CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
2999 DORCHESTER RD., NIAGARA FALLS







POPPIN' INTO KINDERGARTEN

Join our Speech and Language Pathologists & Early Years team



for fun, interactive activities
that support meaningful conversation
and oral language development.



The ABA Team will share tips
for a smooth September transition



Caregivers will receive a package of activity ideas

Light dinner provided from 4:00–4:30 p.m.

Event Time: 4:00 – 6:00 PM



Our Lady of Victory – Monday, June 3

Alexander Kuska – Tuesday, June 4

Saint Vincent de Paul – Tuesday, June 11

St. Denis – Monday, June 17

Our Lady of Fatima (G) – Tuesday, June 18



REGISTER NOW BY SCANNING THE QR CODE!



Calling ALL MOMS!

YOU ARE INVITED A MONTHLY GATHERING!

DID YOU KNOW that close to your child's school, there is a community of Catholic women ready to listen, ready to inspire and ready to cheer you on in your role as a mom?

Our parish has a Catholic Moms Group that meets once a month, to discuss the trials and tribulations of being a Catholic mom.

Motherhood is a vocation, a call from God. Whether you're a mom to a newborn, or your children are in their teens, or even older – there is always a new triumph or challenge to face. Our Catholic faith is filled to the brim with many spiritual tools and resources. Learn about them. Visit our Mothers Group and discover the joys of having good solid Catholic girlfriends.



MEET LIKE-MINDED MOMS IN YOUR COMMUNITY!

WHY JOIN MOTHERS GROUP?

*Make new friends
Become the best mom you can be
Discover a spiritual program
Experience community
Get encouragement
Learn about your faith
Be refreshed by prayer
Get practical parenting tips*



NOTE: This is a program provided by Dynamic Women Association of Ontario (DWAO).

Consider it your monthly retreat



COME WHEN YOU CAN! GET AWAY FROM THE HUSTLE AND BUSTLE OF LIFE TO CONNECT WITH YOUR SPIRITUALITY.

UPCOMING MOTHERS GROUP MEETING DATES

AT Our Lady of the Scapular

MEETINGS:

May 15, 2025 @ 7:30 PM

June 17, 2025 @ 7:30 PM

July 31, 2025 @ 7:30 PM

August 21, 2025 @ 7:30 PM

*Meet in the Ferrando Room in the Parish Hall, accross from the church

Find our group on CatholicMomsGroup.com for details and updates.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE & SIGN UP FOR EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS

Before coming out to a Mothers Group meeting, be sure to visit the website to check the calendar for unforeseen changes in scheduling. Unexpected changes do rarely happen!

Please visit our website at CatholicMomsGroup.com and go to the MOTHERS GROUP link, then click CALENDAR and find your Mothers Group. Put your cursor on your Mothers Group and click on it. Scroll down and sign up! This way you will be notified of upcoming meetings and special events.

Find us on Facebook! Our page is called I Love My Catholic Moms Group. Give us a LIKE! Discover the joy! Read great inspiring articles that come through your news feed. We are on Instagram, Twitter and Pinterest too!

🐦 ILoveMyCatholic
📘 CatholicMomsGroup
🔍 Search: I Love My Catholic Moms Group
📌 DorothyPilarski/i-love-my-catholic-moms-group
📷 CatholicMomsGroup

OUR MOTHERS GROUP CORE TEAM MEMBERS CONTACT INFORMATION

Stephanie Porto

Mothers Group Leader

momsgroup@scapular.ca

BECOME A VOLUNTEER OR DONATE

Our Mothers Groups are always on the lookout for generous, fun-loving, hard-working volunteers! Do you like to write? Submit a blog post. Are you good on the phone? We need telephone helpers! Have you considered starting a Mothers Group at another parish? We do have leadership training programs. If you would love to help or donate, give us a call.



chris spagnol

chris is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters