



# Mary Ward Catholic School

June 2025

## School Information

**Principal:** Mr. A. Cardamone **Superintendent of Education:** Mr. D. Massi

**Parish:** Our Lady of the Scapular Church

**Pastor:** Fr. Gregory Schmidt **Associate Pastor:** Fr. Ronnie Tagnines

Website: <https://schools.niagaracatholic.ca/maryward/>

Location: 2999 Dorchester Road Niagara Falls, ON L2J 2Z9

Phone: 905-354-9221

## Principal's Message

As June draws to a close, we find ourselves reflecting on how swiftly this school year has passed. In the blink of an eye, we've arrived at a moment of celebration—a time to honour the many accomplishments, talents, and blessings that have graced our Catholic community.

With hearts full of pride and gratitude, we give thanks to our Lord, who has walked with us every step of the way. We recognize the quiet, powerful work of the Holy Spirit in shaping the students of Mary Ward into people of virtue, compassion, and faith.

To our dedicated parents and guardians—thank you. Your unwavering support has been a cornerstone of your child's journey this year. The sacred partnership between family, school, and church remains the foundation of Catholic education. We are especially grateful to Fr. Greg and Fr. Ronnie for their spiritual guidance and leadership throughout the year.

To our students, staff, families, and extended community: may your summer be safe, restful, and spiritually enriching. Enjoy this precious time with loved ones, and may God's blessings accompany you wherever your holidays take you.

Mr. A. Cardamone

## End of School Year Prayer

Dear Lord,

With grateful hearts, we thank You for the many blessings You have poured upon us throughout this school year. We lift our voices in praise for the goodness You have worked within us and for all those who have contributed to the life and mission of our school.

We ask You now to bless our students, their families, and our dedicated staff. Grant them rest, renewal, and peace during these summer months. May this time be filled with joy, safety, and the warmth of Your presence.

Amen.

## Kingdom Come Summer Camp



Ages 6-13

~~\$180~~ \$145 Per Week For  
Notre Dame, Mary Ward,  
St. John Henry Newman,  
St. Vincent de Paul, or  
St. Gabriel Lalemant students

**KINGDOM COME  
Summer Camp**

Our Lady of the Scapular Parish  
6557 Thorold Stone Rd

July 2 - August 22

Camp Hours 9AM - 4PM  
Early Drop off at 8AM (\$25/week)  
Late Pick Up at 6PM (\$25/week)  
or \$40/week for both

Sports & Games  
Bouncy Castle  
Music & Dance  
Catholic Mass

NIAGARA  
**INFLATABLES**  
& GAMES INC.  
For entertainment • Big fun • Big money

Scan to  
Register!



kingdomcomesummerncamp@gmail.com  
www.scapular.ca/kingdom-come

The poster is decorated with a border of various summer items like beach balls, sunglasses, and flip-flops. It features a central cross with flowers, a string of blue beads with a cross, and a cartoon boy kicking a soccer ball. An inflatable bouncy castle is shown on the right.

Until we meet again .....

We say goodbye and extend our appreciation to Mr. Wallace, Mrs. Pulido, and Mrs. Mazzarolo as they move on from our Mary Ward community.



We're grateful for the time and effort they've given to our students and school. Their presence will be missed, and we wish them all the best in their new roles.

To all our students, staff, and families—may your summer be safe, relaxing, and filled with meaningful moments shared with those you love. Take time to enjoy the sunshine, create lasting memories, and return in September feeling refreshed and renewed.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back to Mary Ward for another wonderful year together.

Wishing you all a joyful and restful summer!

## **Congratulations to the Graduating Class of 2025!**

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to the Mary Ward graduates of 2025!



As you prepare to take your next steps into secondary school and beyond, we celebrate all that you have achieved and the incredible growth you've experienced—academically, socially, and most importantly, spiritually.

Throughout this year, you've had countless opportunities to demonstrate the values nurtured at Mary Ward: a positive mindset, a commitment to doing your best, and a deep-rooted belief that with Jesus, prayer, and faith, all things are possible.

Your graduation ceremony at the DoubleTree was a beautiful and memorable celebration. From the inspiring liturgy and the proud presentation of diplomas and awards, to the joyful dinner and dance—it was a night to remember!

A special thank you to Mrs. Wojtastik and Mr. O'Neil for their thoughtful planning and organization, and to all staff who supported and attended the event.

To our graduates: may God bless you and guide you always. Continue to grow in faith and lead with truth, justice, and love.

Congratulations, Class of 2025! The future is yours.

## **Final Report Card 2024-2025**

The Kindergarten Communication of Learning Reports and Grades 1 to 8 Provincial Report Cards are now available in the Niagara Catholic Maplewood Parent Portal at [www.niagaracatholic.ca/reportcards](http://www.niagaracatholic.ca/reportcards) by selecting Mary Ward.

For those students that have an Individual Education Plan and/or Alternative Report, paper copies have been sent home.

Although there are no formal parent-teacher interviews for this reporting period, you are always welcome to contact teachers about your child's learning, progress and achievement.

## Class Placement for 2025/2026

Information regarding your child's class placement for the upcoming school year will be shared via the **Parent Portal at the end of August**.

Please know that a great deal of thought and care goes into creating balanced and supportive classroom environments. Our goal is to ensure the best possible learning experience for every student.

When forming classes, we consider a variety of factors, including:

- Academic ability
- Individual learning needs
- Behaviour and work habits
- Age and learning styles
- Class size
- Social dynamics and friendships

**Please note: Once class lists are finalized, no changes will be made.**

How Can Parents Help?: Your support plays a vital role in helping your child transition smoothly into the new school year.

Here are a few ways you can help:

- Speak positively about the upcoming year and the new opportunities it brings.
- If your child is placed with a different group of peers, encourage them to see it as a chance to build new friendships and grow socially.
- Reassure them that change can be a positive and exciting part of learning and growing.

Thank you for your continued partnership in supporting your child's education!

## School Day Schedule & Morning Supervision

We'd like to remind families of our daily schedule to help ensure a smooth and successful start to each school day.

- **Morning Bell:** 8:35 AM
- **Dismissal Bell:** 2:55 PM
- **Morning Supervision Begins:** 8:25 AM

Students are welcome to enter the school starting at 8:25 AM, when staff supervision is in place to ensure a safe and welcoming environment.

Our **balanced day schedule** is thoughtfully designed to support student learning, promote healthy routines, and encourage regular physical activity throughout the day. By arriving on time and ready to learn, students can make the most of every opportunity our school day offers.

### **Balanced School Day Schedule at Mary Ward**

8:25 a.m.—Supervision Begins

8:35 a.m.— Morning Bell

8:45 – 10:05 a.m. – 80 instructional minutes

10:05 - 10:25 a.m. – 20 minutes nutrition break

10:25 - 10:45 a.m. - 20 minutes activity break

10:45- 12:45 p.m. – 120 instructional minutes

12:45 – 1:05 p.m. – 20 minutes nutrition break

1:05 p.m. - 1:25 p.m. - 20 minutes activity break

1:25 – 2:45 p.m. – 80 instructional minutes

2:55 p.m. - Dismissal Bell

## **The Importance of Arriving to School On-Time**

We kindly remind all families of the importance of ensuring that students arrive at school on time each day. Punctuality is not only essential for a smooth start to the school day, but it also teaches valuable life skills such as responsibility, time management, and respect for others.

When students arrive late, it can disrupt the flow of the classroom and impact both their learning and that of their peers. Teachers often begin the day with important instructions, announcements, or activities that help set the tone for learning. Arriving late means your child may miss out on these key moments, making it harder for them to settle in and stay on track.

In addition, frequent tardiness can place added strain on office staff and educators who must adjust routines to accommodate late arrivals.

We understand that occasional delays are sometimes unavoidable. However, we encourage all families to make punctuality a priority and to establish morning routines that support timely arrival.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us create a positive and productive learning environment for all students.

## **Maddalena's Spirit Wear**

### **Spirit Wear is Now Available!**

Show your school pride in style! Visit Maddalena Uniforms to order your **2025–2026 Mary Ward spirit wear**. To order spirit wear please go to Maddalena's website <https://www.maddalena-uniforms.com/>

### **Grad Hoodies are in stock now!**

Don't miss out—grab yours while supplies last! Please note that all grad hoodies come in adult sizing.

## **Yearbook Arrival**



As the 2024–2025 school year comes to a close, we look back with joy and gratitude at the memories made throughout the year. These special moments will be beautifully captured and celebrated in the Mary Ward Catholic School Yearbook—a treasured keepsake for students and families alike.

The yearbook is expected to arrive in mid-September.

Current Grade 8 students who have ordered a copy are encouraged to return to the school at that time to pick up their yearbook.

A heartfelt thank you to Mrs. Zappia and Miss Marinelli for their creativity, dedication, and countless hours spent bringing this special book to life.

## Message From Niagara Student Transportation 2025-2026

To all current Niagara Catholic families, and families of students registered to begin school at Niagara Catholic in September 2025. Beginning June 18, 2025, Niagara Student Transportation Services (NSTS) is launching an updated NSTS Parent Portal to provide a more secure and convenient way to access your child's transportation information for the 2025-26 school year.



We've updated the system to:

- ✓ Improve security – only verified school contacts can access student transportation information.
- ✓ Simplify access – no need for student OEN or birthdate.
- ✓ Ensure accuracy – automatic linking to school records provides real-time updates.

What's New? Your email on file with the school is now the only way to access your student's transportation information. Manually adding students to your account is no longer supported. Students are automatically linked to your account if your email is listed in their school contact record.

What You Can Do in the Portal:

- ✓ View transportation details. PLEASE NOTE: Current transportation details are preliminary. Finalized transportation information will be available through the Portal in August 2025.
- ✓ Verify your 2025-26 student school, grade, home address, pick-up/drop-off address (verified childcare only)
- ✓ Opt-in or Opt-out of transportation for 2025-26
- ✓ Indicate your child's intention to use eligible busing

Step-by-Step: How to Access the Updated NSTS Parent Portal

- Please select bottom left, School Year 2025-26
- Log in or create an account at NSTS Portal using your email on file with the school.

New account? Check your email (including spam/junk folders) to verify your address via the link provided.

Once verified, the system will automatically match your email to student records. When you log in, you'll instantly see your child(ren)'s transportation details.

Example: If [smith1234@email.com](mailto:smith1234@email.com) is listed on school records for three students, all three will appear in the NSTS Parent Portal account using that email.

Missing a Student in the Portal? If a child does not appear in your NSTS portal account, please contact the school to confirm that your email is:

- ✓ Listed as a Contact 1 or Contact 2 OR
- ✓ Spelled correctly (matches your Portal log-in)

Just Want Bus Delay Notifications? You don't need an NSTS portal account to get route updates. Anyone including caregivers, family or friends can download the free BusPlanner Delays App from the Apple Store or Android Store to receive real-time route notifications.

NSTS USER GUIDE Need Help? We're here to support you: NEW NSTS PARENT PORTAL JUNE 2025  
[www.nsts.ca](http://www.nsts.ca) ✉ [general@nsts.ca](mailto:general@nsts.ca)

## Delta Bingo & Gaming VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

A Heartfelt Thank You to Delta Bingo & Gaming!

Mary Ward Catholic School extends sincere gratitude to Delta Bingo & Gaming on Drummond Road for their generous support of our school's fundraising initiatives. Their contributions make a meaningful difference in enriching the educational experiences of our students. Interested in Volunteering?



We're always looking for enthusiastic volunteers to support our efforts. If you'd like to get involved, please reach out to Robyn Pearson at [robbyndpearson@gmail.com](mailto:robbyndpearson@gmail.com).

Thank you in advance for your time and support—it truly takes a village!



**Mr. A. Cardamone**

Principal

