



# CANADIAN MARTYRS NEWS



# MARCH 2024



NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new right spirit within me. (Psalm 51:10)

During the season of Lent, we are reminded that this distinctive time provides all of us with an opportunity to prepare for the heart of our faith—the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Throughout the Liturgical Season of Lent, let us keep our Lenten promises in the forefront. They are a reminder that Lent is a time to create change in our lives so that we become closer to Jesus. Some may have chosen to give-up something like fast food, chocolate or television. Each time we deny ourselves, we remember the huge sacrifice that Jesus made for our sins. Others may have chosen to do something extra in their daily lives that will bring them closer to Jesus, like more time in prayer or volunteering in the community. We know that keeping our Lenten promises is challenging and that sometimes we may slip, but it is a good lesson for our students to keep on trying.

It is our hope that by all of us taking time out from our busy lives to develop our connection with God, we can use the Lenten season to develop a greater appreciation of the life that God is calling each of us to lead.

The season of Lent is a perfect time for children to take on the challenge of learning a prayer by heart. Here is a Prayer for Lent:

*Lord, let everything I do this day and in this season of Lent come from you and be inspired by you. Heal me, Lord, and help me to acknowledge my failures. Let me reach out of the darkness of sin and into the safety of your guidance and mercy. Amen.*

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

**March Break**  
**March 11th to 15th**

## Lenten Food Drive

We will be accepting donations for our Lenten Food Drive for The St. Alfred's Church beginning on March 18th until March 27th. Any non-perishable food items would be most appreciated. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

## BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND...

We are excited to announce that we will once again be offering the **Cobs Bread Fundraiser in April**. All proceeds from this fundraiser will go towards the purchase of additional technology to support teaching and learning at Canadian Martyrs. More details to follow.

## EARTH HOUR

Just a reminder that Earth Hour is taking place on Saturday, March 23 from 8:30 - 9:30pm. We will honor Earth Hour at school on Friday, March 22 at 10:30am. This will also be our Out of Dress Code Day for March. Students are invited to wear **green** for Earth Hour.

## Reflection #7

Is hearing God's voice good enough? Or does God want more than for us to acknowledge that He speaks to us? God tells us to "be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves" (James 1:22). Listening to God is the first step. From God's word, we are called to move to action. Sometimes this can feel overwhelming. "You mean, God wants me to do His work? Isn't there someone more qualified?" The reality is, without God, no one is qualified. God gives us everything we need to hear and do what He calls us to. God, help me to be a doer of the word. When I am discouraged, help me to remember that "I can do all things through him who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13).

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



### KIDS HELPING KIDS

Thank you to everyone for their participation in the Kids Helping Kids Campaign and for their contributions to the fundraiser to support the Niagara Children's Centre and Niagara Foundation for Catholic Education. We raised \$1048.65!

### KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Registrations for September 2024 are ongoing. Students who have reached the age of four by December 31, 2024 are eligible for Junior Kindergarten. Students who have reached the age of five by December 31, 2024 are eligible for Senior Kindergarten. Please register online at niagaracatholic.ca.



### TOONIE TUESDAYS!

Beginning on March 19th, we are excited to be offering Toonie Tuesdays. Students will be able to purchase popcorn, vanilla frozen yogurt and/or orange sorbet for \$2.00 each every Tuesday. These items will be sold at lunch time directly to students. We are accepting cash only for these purchases. All proceeds are going towards graduation expenses for our grade 8 students.

### CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATE

Our next Catholic School Council Meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 22, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the library. All parents/guardians are welcome to attend as guests.

### HOLY CROSS CORNER

Second semester is in full swing here at Holy Cross. Our Senior Girls' Volleyball team won the NCAA AA Championship while our Girls' Hockey team completed back to back undefeated seasons and are looking for another OFSSA medal. The Junior Boys' Basketball team and Boys' Hockey team both finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in AA and we had two swimmers qualify for OFSSA. All in all, a great winter sports season. Our students also completed their course selections for next year. Speaking of course selections, our Grade 8s are reminded that they must return their signed course selection sheets to their teacher if they haven't already done so. Have a great March Future Raiders!

### PARKING LOT SAFETY

Thank you to all drivers who are dropping off and picking up students in the Kiss and Ride lane. Please **do not stop and park in this lane**. We must keep a continuous flow of traffic. The City of St. Catharines has issued a **No-Idling Order** for all schools.

Thank you to those drivers who continue to be courteous when using our parking lot. Please note that cars are not allowed to drive or park in the bus lane. This is to ensure the safety of all children who exit the buses as well as those students crossing from the Kiss and Ride lane. Also, parents are asked to park in a parking spot, not in the driveway areas. These are no parking zones and cars may be ticketed by the by-law officer. Please continue to be cautious and aware as you enter and exit the parking lot. Please ensure that everyone who picks up and drops off your child(ren) is aware of the procedures in our parking lot.

#### **Accessible Parking Spaces:**

Drivers are kindly reminded to only park in the accessible parking spaces if they have a **valid permit displayed in the front window** of their vehicle. We thank everyone for respecting this expectation and for their ongoing cooperation.

#### **YMCA Day Care Pick-Up:**

Parents are reminded to **please use a designated parking space** when picking up students from the YMCA Day Care doors. Please be advised that the front lane is a fire lane and there is a sizable fine should a bylaw officer be present and issue a ticket.

#### **Drop off tips:**

For parents of older children, consider dropping your child off at the back entrance of the school on Northwood Drive or drop your child off at the short pathway on Royal Manor Drive. Supervision is available starting at 8:20 am. Please do not drop your child off prior to this time.

#### **Parking tips:**

Having trouble finding a parking spot? Consider parking next door at the Scottlea Gospel Chapel or across the street at Scottlea Presbyterian Church.

**Thank you for keeping our students safe!**

