



CANADIAN MARTYRS NEWS



APRIL 2024



NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

With the Easter season upon us, we look forward to the continued celebration of Easter and the joy and hope that it represents. There are 50 days of Easter from the first Sunday of the Resurrection to Pentecost Sunday. Without Easter, without the Resurrection, we would face a future of darkness rather than the promise of eternal life. Easter is truly a time of celebration. As we see signs of renewed life all around us in nature, we realize that we can share in that renewal.

At Easter, Jesus brings so much light into the world. Light has overcome darkness. The liturgical colour changes from purple to white for Easter to represent this light.

What a sign of God's love we experience with the Resurrection. We are truly Easter people. Together as a school community we face the future – with all of its challenges and all of its opportunities – with renewed faith and hope as we voice our joyful "Alleluia".

During the month of April, let us see each person in our lives as a gift. Let us focus on caring for all of the families in our lives; at home, at school, at church and the world at large, making the school, community, and world better places to be!

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



EARTH DAY- APRIL 22, 2024

INVEST IN OUR PLANET

Earth Day is an annual event dedicated to raising awareness and inspiring action to tackle the various environmental challenges facing our planet. This day is also a time to celebrate those who have done a lot to help the environment. Over 193 countries



celebrate Earth Day around the globe, with more people getting involved every year. Did you know that Earth Day is marked by more than a billion people a year? Yes, a billion!

This year's theme, Planet vs. Plastics, emphasizes our collective commitment to tackle the plastics crisis head-on, aiming for bold 60% reduction in plastic production by 2040 and aspiring to forge a plastic-free future because recycling is not the answer.

For more information about Earth Day and how you and your family can support Earth Day initiatives, go to earthday.org.



PARENT NIGHT—MENTAL HEALTH

We are pleased to offer a parent engagement event based on the results of the survey sent to families in November 2023.

When: Monday, May 6, 2024
6:30pm

Where: Canadian Martyrs School Gym
At this event, we will offer free child care, refreshments, swag bags and prize draws for all families who attend. More information to follow. We hope everyone can attend.

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



The Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC)

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 the on 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 and are livestreamed. 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
- ◆ must fully participate in the annual Commissioning Ceremony of NCPIC members.

Available parent/guardian positions for the 2024-2025 Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Membership are as follows: St. Catharines/Niagara-on-the-Lake 3 positions

Parent/Guardian Representatives Interested parents/guardians are to complete and submit the parent/guardian nomination form no later than 4:00 p.m., on Wednesday, May 1, 2024. Nomination forms are available at the school and on the Board website.

Please click on the link: [Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee](#)

Reflection #8

A big part of friendship involves sharing words with one other. Thoughts, ideas, feelings. All of these things, when shared, help a friendship to grow. But sometimes friendship consists of simply being with one another. Though no words are shared, it is still quality time spent with someone we care about. In our friendship with God it is the same. Sometimes in prayer we don't know what to say. In those moments, we can simply be with God and recognize His presence with us. We can learn from the words of a simple peasant who explained his prayer to his parish priest, St. Jean Vianney: "I look at Him and He looks at me."

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

We are taking registrations for September 2024. Students who have reached the age of four by December 31, 2024 are eligible for Junior Kindergarten. Stents who have reached the age of five by December 31, 2024 are eligible for Senior Kindergarten. Register Online anytime at <https://niagaracatholic.ca/registration/>

St Alfred Church Corner



With Palm Sunday we enter the holiest week of the liturgical year. The purpose of Holy Week is to reenact, relive, and participate in the passion of Jesus Christ. You are invited to participate in the beautiful celebrations during this sacred time.

HOLY THURSDAY March 28th:

6:00 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper (Spanish)

7:30 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper (English) ~Adoration till 11 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY March 29th :

9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Confession

12:00 p.m. Celebration of the Lord's Passion (Italian)

3:00 p.m. Celebration of the Lord's Passion (English)

6:00 p.m. Celebration of the Lord's Passion (Spanish)

No confessions Holy Thursday or Holy Saturday

HOLY SATURDAY March 30th :

12:15 p.m. Blessing of Easter Food in Chapel

8:00 p.m. Easter Vigil Mass (English)

10:30 p.m. Easter Vigil Mass (Spanish)

EASTER SUNDAY March 31st :

Masses: 7:30 a.m.(English) 9:30 a.m. (Italian)

11:30 a.m. (English). 5:00 p.m. (Spanish)

First Holy Communion for our grade 2 students will take place on Sunday, April 28, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. at St. Alfred Church.

Confirmation for our grade 8 students will take place on Thursday, May 2, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Alfred Church.

Niagara Catholic Accessibility; An Evening Event in Support of Accessibility Awareness

The Niagara Catholic District School Board and the Accessibility Planning Committee are pleased to invite parents, guardians, staff and community partners to a motivational evening featuring Niagara Catholic graduate, public speaker, and activist, Michael Jaques and disability advocate Charlene VanderGriendt, from The Rick Hansen Foundation.

Public speaker, activist, and author Michael Jaques, has written and self-published his book *Can't Read, Can't Write, Here's My Book* using speech-to-text technology. Michael is diagnosed with autism and an intellectual disability and shares his life experiences to help audiences understand accepting and belonging.

Disability advocate, Charlene VanderGriendt, from The Rick Hansen Foundation will discuss how to speak and interact inclusively. Students with disabilities will share their perspectives on building a culture of acceptance through taped video interviews. The words we use carry meaning and power. .

This exciting free event will take place on **Monday, April 15th from 6:00- 8:00 pm** at The Holiday inn and Conference Centre (327 Ontario Street, St. Catharines) and includes light snacks, refreshments and door prizes. Registration is available on a first-come, first-served basis as space is limited. Registration link: <https://forms.gle/Uu4YCCF8e6JkxA96>. Registration for this event will be due no later than April 10, 2024.



NIAGARA CATHOLIC Accessibility

FREE
EVENT!

All Niagara Catholic parents, guardians, staff
and community partners are invited to attend!

Light snacks and refreshments provided

DOOR
PRIZES!

Limited Space! REGISTER HERE Before April 10!



MICHAEL JACQUES

Public speaker, activist, and author Michael Jaques, has written and self-published his book *Can't Read, Can't Write, Here's My Book* using speech-to-text technology. Michael is diagnosed with autism and an intellectual disability and shares his life experiences to help audiences understand accepting and belonging.

RICK HANSEN FOUNDATION

The words we use carry meaning and power. Disability advocate, Charlene VanderGriendt, from The Rick Hansen Foundation will discuss how to speak and interact inclusively. Students with disabilities will share their perspectives on building a culture of acceptance through taped video interviews.



APRIL 15, 2024 • 6:00PM – 8:00PM

HOLIDAY INN HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTRE • 327 ONTARIO ST., ST. CATHARINES



The new Colouring Contest is here!

Great Prizes!

Win a Toys R Us gift card and kids oral health prize packs from Sunstar G•U•M.

cdha.ca/colouringcontest

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