



# St. Alexander – Newsletter



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ON, L0S 1E0  
905-892-3841

Principal: Mr. M. Venzon  
Vice Principal: Mrs. C. Pozzobon  
Superintendent: Ms. Kim Kinney  
Parish Priest: Fr. Paul MacNeil

*St. Alexander Catholic Elementary is proud to be part  
of the Notre Dame Catholic Family of Schools*

## **OCTOBER 2024**

### **FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK**

#### **Called by Name: "Come Follow Me"**

"I have even called you by your name" (Isaiah 45:4) Do you feel left out sometimes? Lonely or sad? That's ok, because God is always with you and He knows exactly what you are going through. No matter what challenges you face, or seemingly impossible situations you get into; God will never leave you. He will make everything good for you and you can soak in His divine light. God calls each one of you by name. Jesus knows you by name! What a privilege! And what a comfort to those of us who place our faith in Christ! God loves us more than we can imagine. He has sworn never to let us go. Do you hear Him calling you?

Our food drive with donations to Pelham Cares is just one of the ways that our community is demonstrating its ability to serve others. On behalf of the staff at St. Alexander Catholic School, I would like to thank you for your support. More details will follow soon!

St. Alexander is truly a great place to be and we are thankful, as a staff, that you share your most important gift with us, your children. September has brought a number of activities, including our opening Mass with Fr. Paul and our Terry Fox walk.

This month we have a full slate of events including our **Dance-a-thon Fundraiser**. We are looking forward to an awesome Fall season!

Sincerely,  
Mr. M. Venzon

## **PRAYER FOR THANKSGIVING**

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the lands!  
Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into God's presence with singing!  
Know that the Lord is God! It is he that made us, and we are his;  
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.  
Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!  
Give thanks to him, bless his name!  
For the Lord is good;  
his steadfast love endures forever,  
and his faithfulness to all generations.



## **CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL**

Our next Catholic School Council meeting is Tuesday, November 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm. We thank Kristin DeDevitiis and Alycia Tallman for agreeing to Co-Chair this year. We would also like to thank the rest of our Catholic School Council members: Andrea Policella, Jade Jones-Walker, Allison Caporicci, Victoria Jaski, Ashley Barron, Teide Zimmerman, Caitlin Cirocco, Shannon Sutherland, Julie Della Ventura, Angela Fredrich . Sarah Musso and Larissa Bader. Fr. Paul MacNeil is our Parish Representative and Tara Principi is our School Representative.

## **THANKSGIVING MASS + OTHER MASSES**

Father Paul will be having our Grades 1-8 students over at St. Alexander Parish on October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10am for a Thanksgiving Mass. Family members are always invited to join us!

Classes are also signing up each Wednesday Morning to attend masses at St. Alexander Church at 9am.



### **HOLY CHILDHOOD WALK**

On Friday, October 18<sup>th</sup> St. Alexander School will be taking part in the Holy Childhood Walkathon. Throughout the week, students will be listening to information and prayers on the announcements. Participation in this walk is intended to help students grow spiritually and develop a better understanding of the needs of other children around the world. Classes will walk at individual times based on the classroom schedule. The Kindergarten classes will walk around the grounds of the school. The Grade 1-8 classes will walk up Station Street to Port Robinson Road and back the same way to the school. If for any reason you would not like your child to participate in the Holy Childhood Walkathon, please notify the school.

### **OCTOBER & HALLOWEEN!**

As Halloween approaches and St. Alexander Catholic School moves towards maintaining a safe and healthy environment, we are asking that parents be mindful of food allergies when packing lunches and snacks for their kids. Halloween will also be a dress down day, and students are able to wear an appropriate costume or to be out of dress code for the day. We will be going on our parade route around the yard of the school. Thank you in advance for ensuring that all costumes are appropriate. (Nothing too scary or violent - no blood or weapons). Classrooms will be participating in curriculum-based Halloween activities throughout the day.

### **HALLOWEEN DANCE-A-THON FUNDRAISER!!!**

The Student Council will once again be assisting with the organizing of a Halloween Dance-a-thon fundraiser for the students of St. Alexander on Halloween Day. This will be an opportunity for classes to come into the gym and dance for a period of time during the day. This activity will serve to increase school spirit, and raise funds for the purchase of Technology. Students will be able to raise money by collecting pledges from people they know in the community. A note with the Dance-a-thon schedule and information will be sent soon, along with pledge forms. Payments for pledges collected can be made through SchoolCashOnline. Thank you for assisting with this fundraiser!

## **INDIVIDUAL EDUCATION PLANS (IEPs) – PARENT INVOLVEMENT**

The Term 1 IEP is currently in the development stages. You are welcome to arrange a time to talk with your child's teacher to discuss their goals and learning expectations for the upcoming term. IEP development is a collaborative process. Educational priorities that families feel are important to their child's learning experience are integral to the Individual Education Plan. You can access information online at

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/individual-education-plans>

The parent's role in the IEP process is as follows:

- 1) Collaborate in the IEP process.
- 2) Advocate for their child's best interest.
- 3) Provide up-to-date medical information about their child.
- 4) Provide important information about their child's likes, dislikes, learning styles, interest and reactions to situations, and about the talents and skills their child demonstrates in the home and community.
- 5) Reinforce and extend the educational efforts of the teacher by providing opportunities to practice and maintain skills in the home.
- 6) Provide feedback on the transfer of skills to the home and community environments.
- 7) Maintain open communications with the school.

We look forward to working in collaboration with you through this IEP process.