



December 2024

Called by Name: You Are Mine



St. Elizabeth NEWS

Dear St. Elizabeth Families,

The origin of the word 'Christmas' is the Mass of Christ. Christmas is such a beautiful time of year. Friends, family and neighbours are welcome into our homes as we anticipate the birth of Christ. He is the reason for the season! With that in mind; love, togetherness and rejoicing are the things He wants from us. It is time to slow down and take in all the beautiful wonders around us, a strengthened spirit and commitment to Jesus in our lives.

As the Advent season begins, we are reminded that Advent is the period of preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus and its name comes from the Latin word adventus, which means "coming". It is a time of anticipation and spiritual readiness for Christmas day!

Christmas brings family and friends together, it helps us appreciate the love in our lives we can often take for granted. May the true meaning of the holiday season fill your heart and home with many blessings.

Enjoy your journey to Christmas!

Mrs. J. Mangiacasale
Principal

Speakers often ask, "Do you follow me?" to make sure you understand. You can hear someone speaking, but to truly understand them, you have to listen. We often hear the words of Jesus in the Bible, at school, and during Mass. But are we taking the time to really follow what Jesus is saying? Jesus calls each of us to follow Him. Part of following Jesus means listening to His words, understanding His message, and living it out each day. What's one way you can follow



ADVENT PRAYER

Lord Jesus,

Master of both the light and the darkness,
send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas.

We who have so much to do seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day.

We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us.

We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom.

We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence.

We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light.

To you we say,
"Come Lord Jesus!"



SEASON OF ADVENT

In the month of December, we prepare to celebrate the birth of Our Lord, Jesus Christ. Just as our love often seems to grow as we await the arrival of a loved one after a time apart, during Advent we likewise have an opportunity to grow in love for Jesus, the celebration of Whose birth we await this month.

"I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning." (Psalm 130: 5-6)

May Advent be a reminder to us that, though Jesus came to us over 2,000 years ago and continues to come to us in the Eucharist. May we be always eager to imitate Christ, who served us in the most extraordinary way when He took on our human nature. Let us this Advent renew our commitment to serve Jesus in prayer and service to our neighbour.



We are proud to be a part of the Lakeshore Catholic Family of Schools.



INCLEMENT WEATHER/ BUS CANCELLATIONS

As the winter months approach, we would like to take this opportunity to review the procedure:

1. If bus transportation is cancelled in the morning, it means that the children will not be picked up at the end of the day. If you drive your child to school on the day transportation is cancelled, it is your responsibility to pick your child up at the end of the day.

When transportation services are cancelled, only the school remains open, and it is the responsibility of the parent to determine whether or not it is safe for your child to attend school.

If your child is not coming to school, please report the absence using Safe Arrival System. If the entire system is shut down, we will call, email and text your family using School Messenger by 6 a.m. to advise you it's a snow day. You do not need to report your child's absence from school, as schools are closed.

Niagara Catholic communicates decisions about bus and/or school cancellations by 6 a.m. You will find the information in the following places:

- Niagara Catholic District School Board website at www.niagaracatholic.ca. – a red banner appears on the main page when buses and/or schools are cancelled.
- The Board's [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) pages

2. Procedures Relating to Inclement Weather AFTER the School Day starts: In this case either:

- a) Transportation is cancelled and school is kept open.
- b) Transportation is cancelled and the school is closed.

The safety of our children is our primary concern; the school will attempt to contact you by phone should an emergency closing be necessary after children have arrived at school. This will be done solely for the purpose of informing you that classes have been cancelled. The option you, as a parent, have chosen on the Emergency School Form will apply to all emergency dismissals.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS



All parents/guardians are invited and encouraged to attend our CSC meetings. The next meeting is on **Tuesday, January 9th at 6:00 p.m.** This meeting will be Virtual.

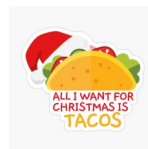


10 DAYS OF GIVING

As we approach the Christmas season we take time to reflect on the needs of our community. **Beginning Monday, December 2nd and running until Friday the 13th**, St. Elizabeth will continue the tradition of our 10 Days of Giving, whereby each day a suggested item for donation will be accepted at the school. These items will be donated to the Wainfleet Fire Department Christmas Baskets campaign, and will be distributed to those in need within our community. Please see the attached flyer for suggested items in need. Again, these are suggested items, every little bit helps. Thank you for all of your support!



CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA



The St. Elizabeth Grade 7/8 class along with our Catholic School Council, is planning an exciting **Christmas Extravaganza!!!**

On **Wednesday, December 4th**, we invite you to join us from **5:00pm-7:00pm** at St. Elizabeth School. There will be **TACOS** available to purchase on **SchoolCash Online**, as well as Christmas festivities and pictures with Santa. We ask that you wear your most excellent **Christmas outfit as there will be a "runway competition" for the most festive outfit.** There will also be a **colouring contest** (students will be given the sheet ahead of time) and the winners will be announced that night. If that's not enough ... how about purchasing a cookie for \$1.50 to decorate for dessert! * **There will also be a \$5.00 games package, food items and other activities available to purchase at the door.** We hope to see you all at this wonderful Christmas event!!

St. Elizabeth's 10 Days of Giving

Day 1	<i>Toys/Games (for all ages)</i>
Day 2	<i>Baby Items (baby food, diapers, wipes, lotion)</i>
Day 3	<i>Canned Fish/Meat/Beans</i>
Day 4	<i>Personal Care (toothpaste, soap, shampoo, laundry detergent, etc)</i>
Day 5	<i>Canned Fruit/Vegetable</i>
Day 6	<i>Pasta & Sauce/Dry Soup & Noodles/Spices</i>
Day 7	<i>Cereal, Oatmeal, Granola Bars</i>
Day 8	<i>Pet Food/Supplies</i>
Day 9	<i>Cheese & Crackers</i>
Day 10	<i>Peanut Butter & Jam</i>





Intermediate Boys and Girls Volleyball News

The intermediate boys volleyball team travelled to St. Michael High School to participate in the board tournament on Wednesday, November 27th. The team displayed great effort and played with integrity. The boys finished 2nd overall in this pool!

Well done Saints!
Thank you coach Habjan!

The intermediate girls volleyball team travelled to Niagara College to compete in the board tournament on Thursday November 28th. The team played with grit and skill displaying great sports conduct!

Well done Saints!
Thank you to coach Habjan!



Triple Ball News

The junior boys and girls triple ball teams travelled to Lakeshore High School on November 18th to participate in the first Triple Ball Family of School's Tournament. The teams played with enthusiasm and great skill and displayed tremendous sportsmanship!

Great job Saints!
Thank you to coaches Mrs. Dayboll and Mr. Parisi!



Wainfleet Agricultural Society Presents
Wainfleet Santa Claus Parade
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13
6:00 PM

Contact dianechase5@gmail.com if you want to donate
Register at wainfleetfallfair.com



OSSD Night & APP INFORMATION for Grade 8 parents and students @ Lakeshore Catholic High School on Tuesday, December 3 at 6pm





Matinee Coffee House for Grades 4, 5 and 6 Feeder Schools - @ Lakeshore Catholic High School on Wednesday, December 4



LAKESHORE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS

CHRISTMAS COFFEE HOUSE



WED. DEC. 4

DOORS OPEN 6PM PERFORMANCES 6:30

Drama Performances by Drama Class &
Mamma Mia Cast

Musical Performances by Jam Band,
Concert Band, Choir & Drumline

Art Show
Craft Sale
Bake Sale

PERFORMANCE ADMISSION

\$5

(SCHOOL CASH OR AT DOOR)

ACCEPTING DONATIONS OF FOOD AND NEW
TOYS FOR THE LCHS TOY AND FOOD DRIVE



NIAGARA REGION PUBLIC HEALTH SCHOOL HEALTH NEWSLETTER December 2024

ROUTINE VACCINATION AND IMMUNIZATIONS



Protect your children from vaccine preventable diseases this school year by ensuring their routine vaccinations are up to date.

If your child missed their opportunity to receive any routine vaccine(s), it is important to get them back on schedule.

Learn more about the [vaccinations for children in school](#) and which vaccine(s) your child may need on our [website](#).

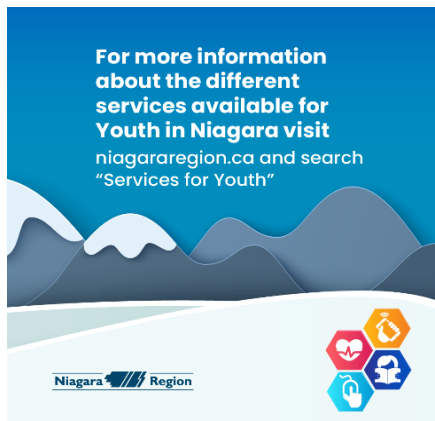
All vaccines for children under 18 years of age must be [reported to Public Health](#). Every time your child receives a vaccine, you must report it:

- [Online](#)
- Phone: 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7425

*Please note, you **do not** need to report any COVID-19 or influenza (flu) vaccination details.*

HOLIDAY EXPECTATIONS

The holidays may be a difficult time for your child. A change in routine and different holiday expectations can be stressful and isolating. Here are some tips and resources to share with your child throughout the holiday season:



- 1. Validate Feelings:** Let your child know it's okay not to feel happy during the holidays. Their thoughts and emotions are valid. Encourage open conversations about any concerns.
- 2. Find Quiet Relief:** When things get overwhelming, suggest to your child that they find a quiet place to take a break. This can help alleviate anxious feelings.
- 3. Explore Support:** Help your child discover available support services and guide them in accessing what they believe will be most beneficial.

For more information about the different services available for Youth in Niagara visit: <https://www.niagararegion.ca/health/schools/youth-services.aspx>

DISCOVER THE BENEFITS OF YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY!



Looking for a safe and welcoming space to relax, learn, and connect? Libraries offer more than just books—they're a free resource for promoting mental wellbeing, accessing technology, and engaging with your community. Whether you're seeking a quiet spot to unwind, attending a workshop, or discovering new hobbies, your library has something for everyone. Visit your local library today!

Learn more about libraries in your area and the services they offer by visiting: [Public Libraries Niagara](#).

GIVING BACK

Supporting families in need during the holiday season is a wonderful way for the community to come together and make a positive impact. Here are some charities and organizations in the Niagara Region, or those that have a presence in the area, that you can consider supporting:

A charitable organization affiliated with your church

[St. Vincent de Paul](#)

[Community Care](#)

[Newark Neighbours](#)

[Salvation Army Community and Family Services](#)

[Pelham Cares](#)

[The HOPE Centre](#)

[Project SHARE](#)

[Grimsby Benevolent Fun](#)

[Port Care Reach Out Centre](#)

[Open Arms Mission](#)

[United Way Niagara](#)

[Niagara Nutrition Partner](#)



The Niagara Catholic District School Board is proud to offer parents and students the opportunity to enroll in a French Immersion (FI) Program. This program is designed specifically for students whose first language is not French. French Immersion in the Niagara Catholic District School Board is an **optional** program.

All 5 French Immersion Catholic Elementary Schools will accept registrations for Grade 1 along with Kindergarten for September 2025.

Listed below are the designated elementary schools that provide the French Immersion Program:

- Notre Dame Catholic Elementary, Niagara Falls – Begins in Kindergarten
- Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary, Niagara Falls - Begins in Kindergarten
- Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary, St. Catharines - Begins in Kindergarten
- Alexander Kuska Catholic Elementary, Welland – Begins in Kindergarten
- St. John Catholic Elementary, Beamsville – Begins in Kindergarten

Transportation

All students enrolled in the French Immersion Program will be provided with transportation to their local Family of Schools designated French Immersion School site in accordance with the Board's Transportation of Student Policy #500.2. Designated Family of Schools French Immersion schools can be located at the following link www.niagaracatholic.ca.

French Immersion On-line Open Pre-Registration

- On-line open pre-registration window for students **new** to French Immersion in September 2025: **Monday, January 13th, 2025 at 7:30 a.m.** through to **Friday, January 31st, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.**
- Pre-registrations outside of this window will **not** be considered.
- There are a limited number of spots available for students wishing to enter the French Immersion Program.
- Pre-registrations are on a first come, first serve basis. Each pre-registration will receive a time-stamp.
- Please visit www.niagaracatholic.ca and click the first thumbnail-Registration. Then, click the **Let's get you registered!** link at the bottom of the page.
- An account must be created first through edsembli CONNECT to access the registration forms. This account can be created ahead of time.

Selection Process

In accordance with the Board's Admission of Elementary and Secondary Students Policy #301.1, there are a limited number of spots available for students entering the program. Eligible spots will be determined on a first come, first serve basis for each elementary French Immersion school site. Applicants will receive notification by **Monday, March 3rd, 2025** to inform them if their children have been placed in the French Immersion program **OR** if their children have been placed on the school's waitlist. Applicants who have not received notification by **March 3rd, 2025** are to contact the elementary French Immersion school site directly.

