



ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
*Lighting the Way – Rejoicing in Our Journey*

## **MEDIA RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

*Friday, April 29, 2016*

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### ***LIVE LIKE JESUS: OPENING DOORS OF MERCY IS THE THEME FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK 2016***

Each year, the St. Clair Catholic District School Board and its schools celebrate the gift of Catholic education and its significant contributions – not just to our communities – but to the province and to Canada. This year, Catholic Education Week will be celebrated from May 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>

In recognition of Pope Francis' declaration of the Holy Year of Mercy, the theme this year is *Live Like Jesus: Opening Doors of Mercy*.

“This year’s theme, like the Pope’s declaration in this jubilee year, appeals to us to reflect as Catholics on the acts of mercy, reconciliation and forgiveness,” says Dan Parr. “These are important character traits which, as Catholic teachers and school leaders, we are called to instill in our students.”

“Each year, Catholic Education Week reminds us of the tremendous role that our students and our schools have in the life of our communities,” says John Van Heck, Chair of the Board. “The Ontario Catholic Graduate Expectations challenge our students, through the fundamental values that are the very mission of Catholic education, to become life-long learners, caring family members and responsible citizens.”

Special activities are planned at each of our schools to mark Catholic Education Week. Some activities celebrate our faith; some focus on learning excellence through literacy and numeracy events and celebrations of the arts; and others demonstrate our commitment to service through acts of charity. Attached to this email, please find a list of just a few of the events that have been planned in some of our schools.

Please contact the school principal to arrange a visit.

For more information about Catholic Education Week at St. Clair Catholic, please visit our Board website at [www.st-clair.net](http://www.st-clair.net)



ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC  
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# Catholic Education Week 2016

## “Live Like Jesus: Opening Doors of Mercy”

### List of School Activities for May 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>

<i>School</i>	<i>School Principal</i>	<i>Activity</i>
Christ The King Catholic School	Renée Culverwell 519-627-6745	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> – all afternoon – Parents and grandparents are invited to come to the school for a celebration of learning. The afternoon begins with a mini-concert, with each class performing a song or instrumental piece of music. Also included are reading activities with students in their classrooms and a visit to our book fair.</li> </ul>
Georges P. Vanier Catholic School	Kerry Matthyssen 519-354-6550	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> – 1:00 p.m. – School-wide participation in the Music Monday song <i>We are One</i>.</li> <li>Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> – 9:45 a.m. – Grade 4/5 students will attend the Praise and Worship benefit concert at UCC in support of Syrian refugee families.</li> <li>Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> – All afternoon – Students will wear red and white and participate in Jump Rope for Heart.</li> <li>Sunday, May 9<sup>th</sup> – 12:45 p.m. in the school gym – Catholic Education Week Music Concert. All students will participate in this concert featuring each class, our choir and our famous band <i>The Unknowns</i>. Students will perform a variety of musical works showcasing our keyboard program as well as other instruments. All GPV musicians will sing the Music Monday anthem <i>We are One</i> and our Catholic Education Week theme song for 2016 <i>Opening Doors of Mercy</i>.</li> </ul>
Good Shepherd Catholic School	Sherrie Daudlin 519-692-3644	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> – Liturgy – Opening Doors of Mercy.</li> <li>Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. – Family Community Night. Guest speaker Special Constable Brenda Koldyk on connecting mercy to the topic of bullying.</li> <li>Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> – 1:00 p.m. – Father Ray will speak on Opening Doors of Mercy.</li> <li>Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> – 1:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m. – Mother’s Day Fashion Show.</li> <li>Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> – 12:25 p.m. until 2:05 p.m. – Jump Rope for Heart.</li> </ul>
Holy Family Catholic School	Phil Bedard 519-627-6003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> – 12:45 p.m. – Prayer service to celebrate Catholic Education Week in the gym.</li> <li>Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup> – 12:15 p.m. until 1:55 p.m. – Jump Rope for Heart.</li> </ul>
Holy Rosary Catholic School	Barbara Armstrong 519-845-3471	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> – Grade 1/2 and 3/4 students will be singing in the Music Festival.</li> </ul>

Holy Trinity Catholic School	Steve DeGurse <b>519-344-2110</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:30 a.m. – School Mass at St. Benedict Church led by Ms. Leach’s Grade 3/4 class.</li> <li>Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 12:10 p.m. – Fr. Steve to visit and show a video of his mission trip.</li> <li>Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 12:15 p.m. – Praise God with Song – Spring play in the gym.</li> </ul>
Monsignor Uyen Catholic School	Juli Faubert <b>519-352-1880</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> – prayer service.</li> <li>Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> – Jump Rope for Heart.</li> <li>Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> – Grade 5 students will be bowling with their pen pals from St. Ursula.</li> </ul>
Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School	Lisa Demers <b>519-351-4040</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> – 9:30 a.m. – Catholic Education Week Prayer Service in the gym.</li> <li>Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> – 11:00 a.m. – Social Justice Team attending the Syrian Refugee benefit concert at UCC.</li> <li>Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> – 2:45 p.m. – Virtual author visit with the Grade 5/6 class by Andrew Klavan.</li> <li>Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup> – Grades SK – 2/3 will participate in a Jump Rope for Heart activity.</li> <li>Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> – 2:40 p.m. – Student body participating in Jump Rope for Heart activities.</li> </ul>
Sacred Heart Catholic School – Port Lambton	Christine Lambert <b>519-677-5391</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> – Grade 2/3 and 3/4 classes visit Pioneer Heritage Village at the Moore Museum to live a day as it would have been experienced by pioneers.</li> <li>Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> – School families activities.</li> <li>Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup> – Grade 2/3 and 3/4 classes – <i>Swim to Survive</i> at the Moore Sports Complex.</li> </ul>
St. Agnes Catholic School	Tom Baker <b>519-354-0530</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> – FDK class to visit Caleb Village seniors’ residence to bring cards and homemade flowers. They will also sing “What I Am” to the residents.</li> <li>Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> – FDK class to make ‘thank you’ cards for Nurses’ Appreciation Week. They will walk with the Grade 5/6 class to the Chatham-Kent Health Alliance to present the cards to the nursing staff.</li> <li>Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup> – The entire school will participate in a May Crowning Mass led by the Grade 1/2 classroom.</li> <li>Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> – Parable-A-Day will be read and discussed with the Grade 5/6 class.</li> <li>Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> – Crafts Day at the Chatham Cultural Centre for the Grades 4 – 6 classes.</li> </ul>
St. Anne Catholic School – Blenheim	Americo Todino <b>519-676-7352</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leading into Catholic Education Week, we will be gathering in the gym on Friday, April 29 to Pray the Living Rosary, in preparation for the month of May, which is dedicated to Mary.</li> <li>Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> – Speaker/Rapper Duane Gibson will be at the school to speak to students and parents. His message is about accepting and respecting the cultures and people of differing races.</li> <li>Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup> – 5:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. – Intermediate students and staff will host a Math Carnival. There will be 8 stations for parents and students to attend. The goal is to engage parents in their children’s learning mathematics. There will also be several computer-based and technological activities.</li> </ul>

St. Anne Catholic School – Sarnia	Daniela Mezzatesta <b>519-542-2710</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. – Badminton Tournament at St. Patrick’s for Sarnia-Lambton elementary schools.</li> <li>Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> – Presentation by Grade 2/3 “Skitbot” stop-motion animations of a Gospel reading or parable.</li> <li>Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> – 9:45 a.m. – Marian Procession and Service.</li> <li>Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> – 10:30 a.m. – St. Anne Catholic School Volunteer Appreciation Social.</li> <li>Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup> – Social Justice Club will be making “Skitbot” stop-motion animations of Stewardship.</li> <li>Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> – 2:15 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. – Mother’s Day Celebration with our Kindergarten class in the gym.</li> </ul>
St. John Fisher Catholic School	Joanne McCreery Acting Principal <b>519-786-5201</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> – 9:00 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. – Grade 7 and 8 students will participate in the Net Ministries Retreat, with a focus on Confirmation.</li> <li>Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup> – 1:30 p.m. – FDK classrooms will host a Mother’s Day Tea.</li> <li>Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> – 9:00 a.m. – Celebration of First Communion and the Crowning of Mary at St. Christopher Church. Reception for Grade 2 students and their families to follow at the parish hall.</li> <li>All week – Coming to an understanding of the meaning of the Ontario Catholic Graduate Expectations. “Gotchas” will catch students who demonstrate the OCGEs and they will be displayed throughout the school.</li> </ul>
St. Joseph Catholic School – Chatham	Jeanne Girard <b>519-354-4642</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> – Music Monday Webcast at <a href="http://www.musicmonday.ca/2016-webcast/">http://www.musicmonday.ca/2016-webcast/</a></li> <li>Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> – Students to attend the Refugee Benefit Concert at UCC.</li> <li>Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> – 12:45 p.m. in the St. Joseph Theatre – Music Concert featuring St. Joseph students.</li> </ul>
St. Joseph Catholic School – Corunna	Colleen Cogghe <b>519-862-1479</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 12:30 p.m. – School liturgy, led by students. The theme is the virtue of hope.</li> <li>Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. – Variety Show – students will share their talents with the school community and parents.</li> <li>Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. – Family Math.</li> <li>Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> – 9:30 a.m. – School Mass at St. Joseph Catholic Church. The Grade 2 class will lead the school and parish community in Mass.</li> <li>Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> – 1:00 p.m. – Living Rosary, led by the Grade 3/4 and Grade 8 classes. The school community will participate in praying the rosary together, focusing on the Joyful Mysteries.</li> </ul>
St. Joseph Catholic School – Tilbury	Cindy Boyd <b>519-692-2790</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup> – Bike Rodeo with Chatham-Kent Police and Fire Services. Volunteer students and parents will provide a BBQ lunch. All proceeds to the Tilbury Youth Centre.</li> </ul>
St. Matthew Catholic School	Chris Kehoe <b>519-332-4300</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> – 9:30 at St. Benedict Parish – Catholic Education Week Mass.</li> <li>Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> – 1:00 p.m. – “Tune”ies for Tummies. Highlights include an art gallery in the school library/chapel, and an afternoon musical performance from students in FDK to Grade 8. Proceeds to the Student Nutrition Program.</li> </ul>

St. Michael Catholic School – Bright's Grove	Len Fera 519-869-4204	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All week – we will be furthering our understanding of the Catholic saints as we work within our school families. Our findings will be displayed throughout the school and in the design of a poster and a chalk emblem on the tarmac.</li> <li>We will also be sharing the mentor text <i>Beautiful Hands</i>, and students will be asked to make connections to their lives.</li> </ul>
St. Michael Catholic School – Ridgetown	Julie Knight 519-674-3475	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. – <i>Run, Hide, Survive</i> – An original play written by the Grade 8 class, and featuring students from Grade 4 to 8. It is the fictional story of a Syrian refugee family. Proceeds to support a refugee family locating in Ridgetown.</li> <li>Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> – 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. – Grandparents' Day. Grandparents are invited to join students to learn what Catholic education is like today.</li> </ul>
St. Peter Canisius Catholic School	Mona McKeown 519-876-3018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> – Class retreats with Net Ministries.</li> <li>Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> – FDK class visits the Watford Library.</li> <li>Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> – Grade 3/4 to present their inventions for the year 2050. Parents are welcome!</li> <li>Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup> – Recycle Your Electronics Presentation. Grades 4 to 8.</li> <li>Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> – Emergency Preparedness Day for Grades 4 to 7 at Clearwater Arena.</li> </ul>
St. Philip Catholic School	Mark Renaud 519-882-1520	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup> – 2:00 p.m. – Holy Communion for the Grade 2 class at St. Philip Church.</li> <li>Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> – 1:00 p.m. – Celebration of the arts with Mr. Sonier.</li> <li>Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> – Grade 5 to 8 students will be working on blogs.</li> <li>Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup> – May Crowning. 9:30 a.m. Grade 4 to 8 with the Rosary Group; 1:00 p.m. in the gym.</li> <li>Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> – Grades 5 and 6 will travel to Boler Mountain, London for the Tree Top Adventure.</li> </ul>
St. Ursula Catholic School	Kelly Van Boxtel 519-352-3620	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> – 9:30 a.m. – Prayer Service.</li> <li>Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup> – <i>Circus Circus</i> musical. Performances at 1:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. FDK to Grade 4 students.</li> </ul>
St. Vincent Catholic School	Nicole Stevens 519-354-4066	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> – 12:30 p.m. – Each class, the school choir and our famous band, <i>The Vinnies</i>, will perform a variety of musical works showcasing our keyboard program, as well as other instruments. Also, all St. Vincent musicians will sing the Music Monday anthem <i>We Are One</i> and our Catholic Education Week theme song <i>Opening Doors of Mercy</i>. They will be accompanied by Grades 6, 7 and 8 students from <i>The Vinnies</i>.</li> </ul>
St. Patrick's Catholic High School	Robert Cicchelli 519-332-3976	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> – 9:30 a.m. – Catholic Education Week Mass, with Most Rev. Joseph Dabrowski, Auxiliary Bishop of London, celebrant. Family members are invited to join us.</li> <li>Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup> – Cosmo Day – St. Patrick's cosmetology class provides manicures and temporary henna art on fellow students and staff for a "toonie." Proceeds to local charity, which will be selected by the students.</li> <li>Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup> – Guest Presentations by Lia Mills on Pro-Life Apologetics. Lia speaks on the value and dignity of all human life.</li> <li>Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> to Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> – The annual Muskoka Woods Experience. St. Patrick's student leaders host their elementary partner school Grade 7 students at Muskoka Woods Camp. Students experience outdoor activities, leadership training, cooperative skills, personal growth and confidence-building in a Catholic environment that is supportive and encouraging.</li> </ul>

Ursuline College Chatham Catholic Secondary School	Ray Power <b>519-351-2987</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Period – Catholic Education Week Mass.</li><li>• Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> – Praise and Worship benefit concert for the Syrian Refugees, featuring the Life Teen group from Wallaceburg.</li><li>• Students are also preparing a video which reflects the Catholic Education Week theme: <i>Opening Doors of Mercy</i>.</li><li>• All week, morning prayers will focus on our Catholic faith and a celebration of Catholic education.</li></ul>
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