

The Crusader

ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

P.O. Box 580, 1930 Wildwood Drive, Bright's Grove ON, N0N 1C0

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Principal: Leonard Fera Secretary: Cynthia Cullis



ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Lighting the Way ~ Rejoicing in Our Journey

<http://www.st-clair.net>

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St. Michael School

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School Hours

8:10 am.	School Begins
8:10 - 9:50	Classes
9:50 - 10:05	Recess
10:05 - 10:55	Classes
10:55 - 11:50	Lunch
11:50 - 1:30	Classes
1:30 - 1:45	Recess
1:45 - 2:35	Classes
2:35 pm.	Dismissal

ALLERGY ALERT!

We have students at our school with severe, life-threatening allergies to peanuts and/or nuts. Please keep this in mind when sending snacks and lunches to school with your child(ren).

MARCH 2018 NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Guardians,

This year, the Liturgical Season of Lent began during February and will continue throughout March. The cross of ashes that we received on our foreheads was a sign that we have sinned and that God has forgiven us. Lent continues to be a time of preparation, reflection and spiritual renewal. We continue to remind our students of the importance of the Lenten Season and how we can use this time to become closer to God. The Church sets aside the forty days of Lent as a special time for us to prepare for the celebration of Easter.

Len Fera, Principal

Lunch Supervisors: We have had the good fortune of having consistent and reliable Lunch Supervisors to assist with our school yard during lunch. If you know of someone interested please have them contact the school.

March Break

This year's March Break begins on Monday, March 12th. Classes resume on Monday, March 19th.

Family Vacation

At this time of year our teachers often receive requests from parents asking for homework for their children while on vacation. With regards to assignments, it is impossible for the classroom teachers to predict what the nature of the assignments will be prior to leaving for vacation. If a teacher has assigned homework to the class prior to leaving and the due dates are during the time you are away, students are still able to complete those assignments while on vacation. Another activity would be to keep a daily journal (text and/or pictures) of "happenings" while on holidays. Their classmates and teachers would be interested hearing about the trip! Of course reading would be beneficial as well!

School Advisory Council

On behalf of the school community we would like to thank our School Advisory Council and volunteers for planning and organizing a wonderful Shrove Tuesday pancake luncheon for our students.

Inclement Weather Reminder for Fog Days

Buses that have been cancelled in the morning due to fog will operate in the afternoon to return students to their homes.

School Teams:

Chess Team

We would like to thank Mr. Zangolli for preparing our school chess team for the upcoming Chess Tournament at St. Matthew Catholic School on March 7th. Congratulations to all of the team members and best of luck!

Basketball Teams

Our Senior basketball teams have had successful seasons and we would like to thank the coaches, Mr. Carroll and Ms. Keys, and Mr. Nead and Mrs. Quinn for coaching our teams!

Our junior basketball teams will begin their seasons shortly.

Reminder: Important Information About Concussions

Under the direction of the Ministry of Education, every school board in Ontario is required to have a concussion policy. At St. Clair Catholic, the Board of Trustees approved *Sec. B. Policy – Concussion* at the February 24, 2015 meeting.

This comprehensive new policy recognizes the importance of the health, safety and overall well-being of our students and directs concrete steps towards injury prevention. It sets out important action plans for coaches, teachers, volunteers and parents, should a student receive a blow to the head, face, neck, or to any part of the body, which may result in a concussion. You can download and read *Sec. B Policy and Procedures – Concussion* by visiting the Board's website at www.st-clair.net Under "Board" click on "Policies" then go to Section B and "Concussion."

For more information on concussions, visit the following websites:

<http://www.concussionsontario.org>

<http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/sports/prevention.html>

St. Michael Catholic Church News:

For further information involving Parish activities please go to the SMC website, www.smsd.dol.ca

St. Michael & Sacred Heart Catholic Parishes New Facebook Page - <https://www.facebook.com/st.michaelandsacredheartcatholicparishes/>

To help spread the word, please visit our page and LIKE and SHARE it. We have some exciting events in the works, and want to quickly build up the number of followers we currently have.

FORMED

FORMED is an amazing web-based library of movies, scripture & Catholic teaching programs, CDs and books. Everyone is welcome to access this great resource using St. Michael and Sacred Heart Catholic Parish's access code for our FORMED subscription. Visit www.formed.org and enter our parish access code D3HHDB. You will need to set up a parish profile on your first visit, but thereafter you may login easily with your email and password. **The best Catholic content – all in ONE place! Check it out today!**

March Break Program- Fear No Monsters

All youth in grades 3 & 4 are invited to attend an exciting new March Break program offering games, crafts, skits, snacks & stories at Sacred Heart Church from March 12th -16th, 10:00a.m. -12:00p.m. Cost for the Session: \$10.00. Registration Deadline: Thursday, March 8th. Contact Christine Bresette to register or for more information at cbresette@dol.ca or 519 344-2992 x28

Focus On Faith – March 2018

Praised be Jesus Christ!

So we are off and running in the season of Lent. This year, Lent began with an apparent paradox. Ash Wednesday fell on the same day as Valentine's Day. Some may have thought that these two things – Love and Lent – are incompatible. Our school community, however, took another approach. I would like to share it with you.

As we saw it, Lent and Love go hand in hand. You see Lent is a time when we turn our focus on ourselves to look for things in our lives that keep us from loving God, ourselves and others better. When we identify these things we then take concrete steps to remove them from our lives so that we can love God, ourselves and others as best we can. In a very real sense, then, Lent is all about Love – it's about rededicating ourselves to the very hard work of becoming the best lovers we can be.

So what do we do when we identify things in our lives limit our ability to love? Well, the Church has typically given three answers. First, we pray. It is in prayer that we receive the grace we need to become better lovers. Second, we fast. When we unite our prayer to personal sacrifice – i.e. giving up food and drink - the grace of prayer is exponentially more abundant. And third, we give alms. We concretely practice love by providing for the needs of others.

This year, our community would like to invite you to see Lent a little bit differently. See it in terms of its invitation to become the best lover you can be. Seen in these terms, we ourselves have found that Lent isn't so much a dark and gloomy time but an exciting and uplifting one.

Praised be Jesus Christ!

Joseph Palko

Chaplaincy Leader – St. Patrick's Catholic High School
