



St. John Fisher Catholic School

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ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
Lighting the Way - Rejoicing in Our Journey
<http://www.st-clair.net>

Principal: Mrs. Luana Sfalcin
Director: Mrs. Deb Crawford
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OUR VISION

Catholic Education + Future Ready

OUR MISSION

Learning together today, transforming tomorrow



March 2020 Newsletter



Transportation



ZONE 1: Information is also available at www.schoolbusinfo.com

Peanut Aware



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

School Hours

7:55 a.m. - Supervision Begins
8:10 a.m. - School Starts
9:50- 10:30 a.m. - Break
12:10 - 12:50 p.m. - Break
2:30 p.m. - Dismissal

St. Patrick's Secondary School

519-332-3976

Principal:

Mr. Chris Kehoe

Vice Principals:

Mrs. Cynthia Blair

Mrs. Erin Moffat-Sharpe

Mrs. Tamara Johnson

Student Success Teachers:

Mrs. Colleen Rapaich

Mr. Jay Stewart



A Message from the Principal: *SJF, Your Generosity is Overwhelming...*

During the month of March we will once again celebrate the Fruit of the Spirit of GENEROSITY. This is a virtue that lends itself well with Lent, Holy Week and Easter as we reflect and celebrate on God's generosity. Our SJF school community has once again shown their generosity in giving. This post Christmas food drive for Contact House raised exactly 2000 items of food, toiletries and clothing for those in need within our own community. Congratulations to Miss King's winning 3-4 Class for collecting 561 items. They won a pizza lunch on March 3 donated by Mrs. Sfalcin. Also, special thanks goes to all those who supported Cane Deer and Christmas ornament purchases. Those fundraisers earned \$553.00 that will be presented to the Contact House on Friday, February 28. Your generosity is overwhelming!!!



St. Christopher Parish:

Lent is the season that gives us an opportunity to prepare ourselves for the resurrection of Christ and ultimately us. During Lent we have the opportunity to follow the example of Jesus and enter the desert with Him. The journey in the desert is not an easy one. It will involve hardships, and some of these hardships will be letting go of things of this world to free ourselves for the next. Let the Holy Spirit that dwells within you be your guide for the next 40 days.

In confiding with a close friend, we should strive to seek some external disciplines such as fasting or restricting ourselves from certain pleasures, which intensifies our ability to recognize potential areas of much needed internal or spiritual growth.

Said a different way, we need to try to do better by listening to our parents, teachers, family and friends. We are all part of one family in God. For this reason, every single one of us is expected to try to be better when talking with friends and family members. It also means thinking of others before ourselves.



As we begin our Lenten journey with Jesus, for the next 40 days let us try to shrug off our attachments to things (like video games and such) so that for a few minutes each day, we can truly join Jesus in the desert and try to imagine what it would be like to walk with Him and not knowing where we are going. This can and is sometimes frightful, but there will be comfort knowing that we are walking step by step with the Son of God, and our only source of salvation.

Kindergarten Registration for Classes Beginning September 2020

If you missed our kinderSTART event ... don't worry! You still have plenty of time to register. Parents and guardians can now submit the Kindergarten registration form directly online!

It's another option for you – choose the option that best suits you!

- Visit the Board website at <https://kreg.sccdsb.net/> to complete then submit the registration form online. You will be contacted by the school to confirm your registration.
- Or, you can download and print the registration form, fill it out and bring it to the school.
- Or, make an appointment or drop by the school and pick up a registration package.

We look forward to welcoming your child to Kindergarten next September!

St. John Fisher Happenings...



School Confessions: On Thursday, March 26, our Gr. 3-8 students will be heading over to the church for confessions beginning at 9:00 a.m. Our students participate in confessions twice a year. Once during Advent and this second time is during Lent. Our Gr. 2 students will complete their First Reconciliation at St. Christopher Parish on Saturday, March 28, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

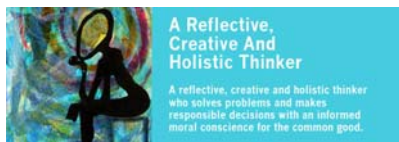
Rosary Club: We have started a Rosary Club with some of our students with the help from 2 members of our St. Christopher Parish CWL. These committed ladies are coming in once a week to work with us. The current group members are training so that we can open this up to new members interested in making rosaries. Rosaries made will be donated to various mission groups in need. Rosary Club will be at second recess break, usually on Monday's.



Spiritual Scene: Thank you to the Grade 2-3 class along with Mrs. Hackett, Mrs. Burnard and Madame Morgan for preparing the Ash Wednesday Mass. On March 12, we will have a Lent Liturgy at 1:00 p.m. in our gymnasium. Our Student Wellness Team will be our leaders. Our next school mass will be on Thursday, April 2 at 9:00 a.m.

Lakers in Sports: Congratulations to both our Sr. Boys and Sr. Girls basketball teams who had a good season this year. Both teams displayed amazing growth and sportsmanship throughout their season. Special thank you goes to Sr. Boys coaches Mr. Van Lieshout and Mr. Reeb and Sr. Girls coaches Mrs. Vynckier and Miss King for their time, dedication and talents as senior coaches. The regular season for Junior Boys and Girls Basketball will start up after the March Break. Again this year the junior teams will be using the new format. Instead of the weekly games, the season will be played in tournament style at the end of April. They will be after school with one day dedicated to the boys and one to the girls. More information to follow after the March Break.

SJF Curriculum Update: We continue to highlight our unique framework for our Catholic learners called the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations. These are integrated into the full Catholic school curriculum. During the month of **March**, the staff and students of St. John Fisher School will focus on being **A Reflective, Creative and Holistic Thinker**. A Reflective, Creative and Holistic Thinker is someone who recognizes there is more grace in our world than sin. The hope is when our learners are facing challenges they base their choice in light of the common good, and think reflectively and creatively to evaluate situations and solve problems. They are also called to make decisions in light of gospel values with an informed moral conscience, and to adopt a holistic approach to life by integrating learning from various subject areas and experience. There are 7 OCGE's. Follow this link if you would like to learn more:



<http://iceont.ca/resources/ontario-catholic-school-graduate-expectations>

Report Cards and Interviews: Thank you to all students and parents who attended our Interview Sessions on February 20th. What an amazing opportunity for parents to see and discuss, with your child in their school environment, their successes and develop their new goals for term 2. If you were unable to attend, please take the time to connect with your child's teacher to see how your child or children are progressing.

March Break: March 16-20: Wishing everyone a safe and restful break. What a wonderful opportunity to change pace and refresh to come back for Term 2. If you are travelling, we wish you safe and wonderful travels. If you are home, what a great break from regular routine. Once we return, it will be amazing how quickly these next few months will pass. Rest well and enjoy the break.



St. John Fisher Band: Our school band will be performing the National Anthem at the Sarnia Sting game on Sunday, March 1st at 4:05 p.m. as against the Owen Sound Attack team. The students will be led by Mr. Donohue. Special thanks in advance for his time with the band, as well as all of the families who will be coming to support the band. A great way to spend a Sunday late afternoon as a school community.



Staffing Update: The SJF Staff would like to welcome once again Ms. Stefanie Shymko to our FDK teaching team. Ms. Shymko is returning back from maternity leave and will be working along side Mrs. DeGroot. Thank you to Miss Tara McGivern for her work with our Year 1 and 2 students. She will be missed! Also, welcome back Ms. Croeze, our school secretary. Please continue to call the office to report students who are going to be late or absent. Leave a message with Ms. Croeze if she happens to be away from her desk.

A Message from the Ontario Fire Marshal:

Push the Button Campaign Continues:

The Ontario Fire Marshal's office is encouraging all families to "push the button" on all smoke alarms in your house to ensure they are working properly. Doing so may be the difference in a safe exit from your home in case of fire. "Daylights Saving Time" Spring ahead with time... and change your batteries on your smoke alarms.



Clothing Items / Lost and Found: We have a number of clothing items that have been collected since the Christmas break. Unfortunately, the items are not labeled and therefore we cannot get them to their rightful owners. Students will be asked to check the collection of items before March break. All unclaimed items will be donated to the St. Vincent DePaul Society.



St. John Fisher:

Magazine /Cookie Dough Orders to Support the Instrumental Music Program and Technology: We are currently looking for a fundraiser to replace the above drive. We have had much success with this fundraiser however, they are not longer able to supply the magazine portion. We are looking for alternatives through our School Advisory Council. Stay tuned!

SJF - School Advisory Council Update: Our next School Advisory Council meeting will be on Monday, March 2 at **6:30 p.m.** Please feel welcome to come out and hear first hand about some of the events and planning of activities happening at SJF. Special thanks to all of the parents who have volunteered to prepare pancakes on Shrove Tuesday. Staff and students truly enjoy these highlighted events! Events like our Christmas Dinner, Shrove Tuesday, Pizza Days and Sub Days have been organized by parent volunteers. Thank you to all those parents who work in the background helping out so our students can have these special event days.

Grocery Committee Update: We would like to thank everyone for your continued support! Funds from the sale of grocery certificates are used to support the purchase of new technology for our school. Please contact one of the individuals listed below if you require more certificates. St. Christopher's Church 519-786-5243 or Jodi Roelands (519) 330-9283.

Muskoka Woods 2021 Parent and Student Meeting: We have scheduled our first meeting for our **Grade 6 students and parents** on Wednesday, March 25 at 6:30 p.m. This will be our kick off meeting for our fundraisers for Muskoka Woods 2020.

Safe School Arrival: Please continue to call and let us know if your child is going to be late or absent. Just leave a message for Ms. Croeze. Under our Safe School Arrival Policy, we have to account for all of our kids daily. If we happen to have a bus cancelation day, please call in your child's absence if they are a walker.

Our newsletters and monthly calendars are on-line, on Edsby and emailed to those who have signed up to have communications sent via email. Go to our Board website and click on "Visit our Schools".

SAFE ARRIVAL



Kettle and Stony Point & Forest Kineto are honoured to host the Kehewin Native Dance theatre once again!

March Break Community Performance

There will be two performances on March 17, 2020. The Forest Kineto will host at 1:00 p.m. and the Kettle and Stony Point Hillside gym will host that evening at 6:00 p.m. This is a free event and all are welcome to attend. "Sisters" is a storytelling and dance performance that speaks to the plight of missing and murdered First Nations women using the traditional story of Corn, Beans and Squash as a premise.

For more information, contact:

Forest Kineto: Ruth Illman- illmanruth@gmail.com

Kettle Point: Kylie Bressette- 519-786-2125 or kylie.bressette@kettlepoint.org

follow us on **twitter** 

Stay up to date with St. Clair Catholic by following us on Twitter.

When is my child too sick for school?



Send me to school if...

- I have a runny nose or a mild cough, but no other symptoms and can participate in school activities.
- No fever is present for 24 hours and no medication taken to reduce symptoms during those 24 hours.
- No throwing up or diarrhea for 24 hours and no medication taken to reduce symptoms during those 24 hours.



Keep me at home if I have...

- A temperature higher than 37.7° C (99.9. ° F)
- Been throwing up or had diarrhea in the last 24 hours.
- Painful red eyes with discharge that keeps coming back during the day.
- Body aches, headaches and feel fatigued.
- A sore throat with a fever.
- A harsh cough and don't feel able to participate in school activities.
- An undiagnosed rash.



Follow up with my Health-Care Provider if I have...

- A fever for more than 2 days.
- A sore throat and fever for several days.
- Been throwing up or had diarrhea for more than two days.
- A cough for more than a week and it isn't getting better.
- A fever and now have a rash.
- Any urgent medical concerns.

For more information contact our infectious disease prevention and control team at 519-383-8331 or 1-800-667-1839. Resource adapted and revised with permission from Chatham-Kent Public Health.



**Lambton
Public Health**

Follow us:



LambtonPublicHealth.ca

Lenten Calendar for March

PREPARE YOURSELVES!
Follow our Solidarity Calendar on Facebook and Instagram! Visit: depy.org/bencalendar for more info.

Piece our Solidarity Jar sticker on a recycled container and use it to collect money during Lent, which you can then donate to Development and Peace!

When you see these icons: or go to depy.org/bencalendar Teachers: each Friday, explain the weekend actions so your students know what to do at home!

Solidarity Calendar

February 25
Can you reduce your use of disposable packaging (even reusable)? Donate 25¢ for every item you recycle on.

February 26
An **Wednesday** Lent's house our loving Creator God and care for our common home.

February 27
Watch our **artemis video** Home, Where Can We Live? Can you do to care for our common home?

February 28
Do you have a group you are different from most? Explore the theme: **Empower Our People!**

March 1
1st Sunday of Lent Let us be with our Lord Jesus, be with us in our common home and as its heralds.

March 2
Canon's (CST) Learning (CST) from the world of Development and Peace. Each Monday, discover a CST principle and learn how it helps build the Kingdom of God.

March 3
Sign our **intergenerational pledge** for our common home! Let's all commit to being more simply.

March 4
Indigenous and traditional peoples in the Amazon are threatened for protecting their land and water. Let's pray for them.

March 5
Secondary school students are searching for the planet. Find out what they have to say!

March 6
The Amazon of Brazil is the Earth's forests. How can we better protect our forests and their guardians?

March 7
It's **babbling time!** With family and friends, make mounds and see what you can do. Think you?

March 8
2nd Sunday of Lent International Women's Day Let's pray for the women who courageously defend the land, water and people of St. Dorothy Shungu.

March 9
Prayerful Option for the Poor This means that we must pray for the poorest of our solidarity.

March 10
Let's reduce food waste! By using frozen vegetables, they are just as tasty! Donate \$1 to your Solidarity Jar for your good deed!

March 11
"In 50 years, will we be able to eat what we have planted and raised?" This is the question that is asking companies using the Amazon for profit. Pray for ecological justice all over the world.

March 12
Indigenous peoples deserve their **Water**! Let's learn more about the **Indigenous Water** in the world.

March 13
Indigenous water Can you say: "I have heard the voice of our Mother Earth in the world of Development and Peace. Each Monday, discover a CST principle and learn how it helps build the Kingdom of God."

March 14
The Amazon is a treasure for our planet Earth, so that we may slow beauty rather than pollution and destruction.

March 15
3rd Sunday of Lent Let's take care for our planet Earth, so that we may slow beauty rather than pollution and destruction.

March 16
As God's children, we are all made in His image. This means we have an inherent dignity no matter when we were born or how much money we have.

March 17
Simple changes can help reduce pollution and slow global warming. During Lent, avoid single-use plastics and buy in bulk. Save big! Your family owns.

March 18
The indigenous Mura people in the Brazilian Amazon live by fishing, hunting and gathering. Their sustainable way of life is threatened by a Canadian farmer and his factory.

March 19
The Mura are also threatened by deforestation. The effects are poisoning their crops and polluting their watersheds. Watch their testimonial.

March 20
The Mura were not asked when a company made plans to mine on their territory. How would you feel if this happened to you and your home?

March 21
Development and Peace partners, such as **DEPA** and **OPD**, who are helping poor communities with their rights.

March 22
4th Sunday of Lent World Water Day Light offer strengths and as such, we are all traditional peoples of the Amazon. Please protect their drinking water from contamination by companies.

March 23
Solidarity Loving our neighbor We get left in the "back" of a human family that is interconnected. Development and Peace stands with our partners, as equals.

March 24
In many countries, during Lent, Christians are encouraged to give up their food. Some of the media framed are of our electronic devices for each one in your house, give \$10.

March 25
The **struggles** are ancient! (rubber stamps in Brazil) workers have been down by logging their sustainable way of life is preserved.

March 26
The **struggles** are ancient! (rubber stamps in Brazil) workers have been down by logging their sustainable way of life is preserved.

March 27
Climate change affects us all, but it is the poorest communities who suffer the most. We must buy less and use what we have. How can you live more simply?

March 28
In many countries, the poorest communities who suffer the most. We must buy less and use what we have. How can you live more simply?

March 29
Solidarity Sunday Bring your jar of donations to the Solidarity collection or give online at depy.org. THANK YOU!

March 30
Rights and Responsibilities Each person has the right to grow their own tomatoes, to ensure the water, food and drink. We also have the responsibility to ensure those rights. And don't forget the rights of the Earth!

March 31
Would you like to grow your own tomatoes, to ensure the water, food and drink. We also have the responsibility to ensure those rights. And don't forget the rights of the Earth!

April 1
Everyone has the right to a dignified life. It is our responsibility to respect our neighbors and our common home. They that we may all live in dignity, peace and security.

April 2
Solidarity Everyone has the right to a dignified life. It is our responsibility to respect our neighbors and our common home. They that we may all live in dignity, peace and security.

April 3
Ask your students: How are you speaking up for the planet? Find out what they have to say!

April 4
Do you have enough toys? For your next birthday, ask for donations to Development and Peace to help those who are in need. Pray for the Amazon in the Great South.

April 5
Rain Sunday Lord Jesus, give us the courage to be advocates for those who are in need. Pray for the Amazon in the Great South.

April 6
Care for Creation The Earth is sacred. We have a responsibility to protect and care for our common home. Ask for tips on how to live simply and in harmony with nature.

April 7
Be inspired in your ecology! Learn more about the common home! Learn more about the common home! Watch the video: depy.org/whatyousee

April 8
Our world is interconnected. The pollution from industrialized countries affects people in the Great South. Convert our hearts. O Lord, that we may consume less.

April 9
Herb Do you know what Pope Francis is asking us to do? Learn more about the common home! Watch the video: depy.org/whatyousee

April 10
Good Friday Pope Francis is asking us to do? Learn more about the common home! Watch the video: depy.org/whatyousee

April 11
Holy Saturday Come, try will be done on Earth. It is our responsibility to respect our neighbors and our common home. They that we may all live in dignity, peace and security.

April 12
Happy Easter! Alleluia, Alleluia. Lord Jesus, as we celebrate your rising, may we be a joyful Easter People who help you usher in a kingdom where all abundance of life.

Thank you for your solidarity!