



St. Philip Catholic School

420 Queen Street, Petrolia, Ontario N0N 1R0 519-882-1520

Principal: J. McCreery Secretary: S. Maxwell

Superintendent: S. Johnson Director: D. Crawford

Trustee: Mat Roop



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

*March 2020 The Fruit of the Holy Spirit for March is **Generosity**.
Generosity is giving without expecting something in return.*

Transportation



In case of inclement weather
we are in **ZONE 4**.

For up-to-date information on
bus delays/cancellations down-
load the schoolbusinfo app:

[www.schoolbusinfo.com/
mymobileapp.asp](http://www.schoolbusinfo.com/mymobileapp.asp)

Peanut Alert



We have students at our school
with severe, life-threatening
allergies to peanuts. **We ask
that you refrain from sending
foods that contain peanuts in
snacks or lunches.**

School Hours

9:05 a.m. – School Starts
10:45-11:00 am – Recess
11:50-12:45 pm - Lunch
2:25-2:40—Recess
3:30—Dismissal

**Please note that
supervision on the yard
begins each morning at
8:50 a.m.**

St. Patrick's Secondary School
519-332-3976

Principal:

Mr. C. Kehoe

Vice Principals:

Mrs. Cynthia Blair

Mrs. Erin Moffat-Sharpe

Mrs. T. Johnson

OUR VISION

Catholic Education + Future Ready

Dear St. Philip Catholic School Families,

Hopefully, now that it is March, mild and sunny weather is just around the corner, but we will still likely see lots of mud for a little while yet. Thanks for your patience!

On Wednesday, February 26, the Gr. 4/5 class led us in our Ash Wednesday Mass which marked the beginning of Lent. Below, you will find some information to help you experience Lent and Easter on a deeper level.

During Lent we are encouraged to engage in almsgiving, fasting and prayer. Our focus this month is on prayer and it's many benefits. God is a source of comfort, strength and love for us. Through prayer we enter into a deeper relationship with God and gain a sense of attachment to Him. Many studies have shown that individuals who pray to a loving and protective God with whom they have a meaningful relationship are less likely to experience anxiety and stress. Prayer offers emotional comfort and reduces stress by:

- ◇ Offering a sense of comfort and hope.
- ◇ Creating a positive frame of mind.
- ◇ Stress Relief
- ◇ Increasing feelings of unity and trust

You can make Lent more meaningful for your child by helping them to understand that we prepare for Lent by *fasting, giving alms (charity) and praying more* to be truly be in communion with God. You can watch a 3 minute video from *Busted Halo*, explaining Lent: bit.ly/2nuAx3o

I would also like to wish you a safe and enjoyable March Break!

Respectfully,

Mrs. McCreery



Clubs and Sports at St. Philip School

The Chess/Rubik's Cube club continues and many students have signed up for this fun activity. Thanks to Mr. Chiasson for leading.

Thanks to Mrs. McGrail, the Crochet club is well under way as well.

The Wellness Team has been helping the school to spread kindness and other Fruits of the Holy Spirit by coming up with amazing ideas and fun school spirit days.

Junior girls and boys basketball is now beginning for students in grades 4-6. Special thanks to coaches, Mrs. Vandenberg (girls), Ms. Donald and Mrs. Stanley (boys). More information will be forthcoming.

Every month is Kindness Month at St. Philip Catholic School!

ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
Catholic Education + Future Ready
Learning together today, transforming tomorrow

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!

Regular Daily Attendance: Attendance is taken twice per day at the school (at 9:05 AM and at 12:45 PM). If your child is going to be late or if he/she needs to leave early, please be sure to contact the office. A note in advance to your child's teacher is greatly appreciated!

Yard Supervision—begins every day at 8:50 a.m. Please do not drop your child at school before that time in the interest of safety. Please remind your child about the special role that yard supervisors and bus drivers have in our school and the need to respect them.

Together with our Petrolia Fire Chief, Jay Arns, St. Philip School is working hard to make drop-off and pick up safe for all of our students. Beginning soon, we will have new signage in front of the school and painted lanes on the pavement designating a bus area. The bus loading/drop-off zone will now be **out of bounds** for cars stopping and parking in order to drop off and pick up students between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Please help to keep our students safe by keeping the bus zone clear!



Safety Alerts Bus Cancellation At times, the Transportation Department needs to cancel busing for the students due to inclement weather. In the case of fog, the buses are usually cancelled in the morning and run in the afternoon. In the case of snow or ice, when the buses are cancelled they are cancelled for both the morning and afternoon runs. The school is open for the students on these days beginning at 8:50 am. **Please do not drop your children off earlier as there is no supervision before this time.**

Students Safety on the Bus: As many of our students ride the bus it is important to review with your child the bus safety rules as out-lined in our student planners. Walking to and from the bus, staying in your seat, listening to the bus driver, keeping your voices down and respecting the driver and all passengers are rules that must always be remembered.



Spiritual Scene

First Reconciliation Mass at 6:00 p.m. at St. Philip's Church on Thursday,
March 26, 2020

A MESSAGE FROM DEACON JOHN

Lent is the season that prepares us for the resurrection of Christ and ultimately us. During Lent, we have the opportunity to follow the example of Jesus as He gets led by the Spirit into the desert for 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.

Weekend Masses are held **Saturday 5 p.m., Sunday 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.**
Brother in Christ John Lammers Deacon

St. Philip School Advisory Council had a very successful Fundraising venture with Little Caesar's Pizza kits. Your generous orders provided the school with \$1,320.00 to put towards student activities and yard improvements.

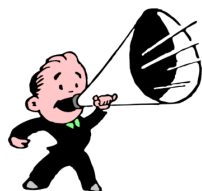
Pickup of orders will be March 3, 2020 between 2:30 and 4:30 p.m. at St. Philip School.

Thank you to Mrs. Terpstra for working on this initiative!

Our next School Advisory Council meeting date will be, **Monday, March 2, 2020 at 6:30p.m.** Please come out and see what we are all about!



St. Philip Catholic School is very much in need of Yard Supervisors. We are looking for people who would be available to work on an on-call basis . If you have a little bit of time to spare during the school day, please contact Ms. Maxwell at the office for more information.



Help Wanted!

At St. Philip Church – Sunday School is Awesome!

St. Philip Sunday School Teams invite you to join the fun at the 11 o'clock

Sunday Mass to explore the child friendly Gospel and sing some songs! We sometimes act out the gospel, we do an activity and we always have fun! Come add a star to our "Let Your Light Shine" bulletin board and a personal picture or writing to our "God Loves You" board. Hope to see you there!



Give your child the gift of learning about our Lord every Sunday!

Additional Pick Up Information: The end of the day (between 3:00 and 3:30) can be very busy at the school for teachers and staff as we prepare to send the students home each night. Often these end of day routines require that our secretary leave the office area to deliver messages within the building. This being the case, we kindly ask that you notify the school well in advance if you plan to pick your child up early. Please consider waiting until 3:30 dismissal to pick up your child to minimize interruptions.

If you have any questions, please contact the school.

Building Practical Money Skills

In a time of credit cards, internet banking and online shopping, children don't often see people buying products with physical money like coins and bills. Not seeing coins and bills exchanged for purchases makes it harder for kids to understand what things cost. They might see this invisible money as an abstract and unlimited resource rather than real money coming in and out of a bank account.

To help your child manage money:

Explore coins and bills

- Name coins and money amounts
- Go shopping together
- Create a budget together
- Help them to save to make a special purchase
- Estimate the amount of a purchase
- Calculate the tax
- Check the change



Practical Money Skills Canada - "Practical Money Skills is a free financial literacy program to help Canadians understand the fundamentals of money management. Created by Visa, the program offers money management resources including calculators, games, and lesson plans tailored for use by Canadian families and educators." <https://www.practicalmoneyskills.ca/games/>

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Please remember to check the weather conditions/bus situation at: www.schoolbusinfo.com/mymobileapp.asp

If your child is a walker, please contact the school if they will be absent on bus cancellation days. **We will only call the walkers on bus cancellation days. If your child is a walker and will be staying home, it will save time if you could leave a voicemail on the school mailbox. We appreciate you taking the time to notify us.**

The school is open for the students on these days beginning at 8:50 am. Please do not drop your children off earlier as there is no supervision before this time.

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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

PREPARE YOURSELVES!

Follow our Solidarity Calendar on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)! Visit: devp.org/lentcalendar for more info.

Place 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:



go to devp.org/lentcalendar

Teachers, each Friday, explain the weekend actions so your students know what to do at home!

Solidarity Calendar

February 26

Ash Wednesday
Let's honour our loving Creator God and care for our common home.



February 27

Watch our animated video *For our Common Home*. What can you do to care for the Earth and its peoples?



February 28

Do you buy things you don't need? Learn the difference between needs and wants so you can be a smart consumer! Explore this theme through our fun group activity!



February 29

Can you reduce your use of disposable packaging (even recyclables)? **Donate 25¢** for every item in your recycling bin.



March 1

1st Sunday of Lent
Lord Jesus, be with us in our commitment to care for our common home and all its inhabitants.



March 2

Catholic Social Teaching (CST) is central to our faith and the work 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 living more simply.



March 4

Indigenous and traditional peoples in the Amazon are threatened for protecting their land and water. Let us pray for them.



March 5

Elementary school students are speaking up for the planet. Find out what they have to say!



March 6

The Amazon is home to 1/3 of the Earth's forests. How can we better protect our forests and their guardians?



March 7

It's baking time!
With family and friends, make muffins and sell them in support of Development and Peace! Thank you!



March 8

2nd Sunday of Lent
Lord Jesus, let us pray for the women who courageously defend the land, water and people. Learn about Berta Cáceres or Sr. Dorothy Stang.



March 9

Preferential Option for the Poor
This means that we must prioritize those most in need of our solidarity.



March 10

Let's reduce food waste! Buy ugly fruits and 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 breathe money, drink oil and eat gold?" This is what Yesica Patiachi, member of the Harakbut Indigenous community in Peru, is asking companies using the Amazon for profit. **Pray for ecological justice all over the world.**



March 12

Indigenous peoples believe that: **Mother Earth must be respected.** Learn more about the Harakbut's relationship with nature and their vision of the world.



March 13

Can you say: **nākatēyimātān kikāwīnaw askkī** This means, "Let us take care of our Mother Earth" in Cree. What do you know about **Indigenous communities in Canada?**



March 14

The Amazon spreads over 9 countries. Development and Peace works in 6 of them. Visit our website to find out which ones and **give 50¢** for each country.



March 15

3rd Sunday of Lent
Lord Jesus, help the whole human family care for our planet Earth, so that we may sow beauty rather than pollution and destruction.



March 16

Human dignity
As God's children, we are all made in His image. This means we have an inherent dignity that must be respected no matter where we come from 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. **Give 25¢** for every reusable bag 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-financed mine. Pray for them and their future.



March 19

The Muras are also threatened by cattle ranching. The buffalos are destroying their crops and polluting their waterways. Watch their testimonial.



March 20

The Muras 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

Give \$2 to support Development and Peace partners, such as REPAM and CIMI, who are helping poor communities have their rights respected.



March 22

World Water Day
4th Sunday of Lent
Lord Jesus, may your light offer strength to the Indigenous and traditional peoples of the Amazon. Please protect their drinking water from contamination by companies.



March 23

Solidarity
Loving our neighbour has global dimensions. We are 'all in this together' and as such, we are all part of a human family that is interconnected. Development and Peace stands with our partners as equals.



March 24

In many countries, mining companies dump toxic chemicals into the water, which contaminates the soil where people grow their food. Some of the metals mined are in our electronic devices. For each one in your house, **give 50¢.**



March 25

The *seringueiros* are artisanal rubber tappers in Brazil who have lived in harmony with nature for decades. Their rubber trees are now being cut down by logging companies. Pray that their sustainable way of life is preserved.



March 26

The *seringueiros* are defending their land against illegal logging. Watch their message.



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, poor people have their land taken away. Our partner CPT in Brazil is helping them claim their right to have access to land. **Donate \$2** to show your support.



March 29

Solidarity Sunday
Bring your jar of donations to mass today for the Solidarity Sunday collection or give online at devp.org/give. THANK YOU!



March 30

Rights and Responsibilities
Each person has the right to access what they need to thrive, like water, food and shelter. 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, eggplants or peppers this summer? Now would be the time to start your indoor seeding!



April 1

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



April 2

Secondary school students are speaking up for the planet. Find out what they have to say!



April 3

Ask yourself, and those around you: *How are struggles of Indigenous peoples in the Amazon similar to those faced by Indigenous people here in Canada?*



April 4

Do you have enough toys? For your next birthday, ask for donations to Development and Peace to help our sisters and brothers in need in the Global South.

April 5

Palm Sunday
Lord Jesus, give us the courage to be advocates for those who suffer unjust situations.

April 6

Care for Creation
The Earth is sacred. We have a responsibility to protect and cherish its ecological diversity, beauty and life-sustaining properties. Together, we must hold it in trust for future generations.



April 7

Be inspired in your ecological conversion! Join our **Facebook group** *For our Common Home* for tips on how to live simply and in harmony with nature.

April 8

Our world is interconnected. The pollution from industrialized countries like Canada impacts people in the Global South. *Convert our hearts, O Lord, that we may consume less.*



April 9

Holy Thursday
Did you know that Pope Francis wrote a letter about our common home? Learn more on his encyclical *Laudato Si'* by watching this animated video.



April 10

Good Friday
Pope Francis is asking us to listen to the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor. As we walk with Christ to Calvary today, let's reflect on how those cries are interconnected.



April 11

Holy Saturday
Let us pray: "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on Earth as it is in heaven." Ask your parents if they'd like to become monthly Development and Peace donors to help build God's kingdom of justice and peace on Earth. devp.org/shareyearround

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 may live the abundance of life.

Thank you for your solidarity!



Meet Susan Mariela

14 years old

"Hi! My name is Susan Mariela and I'm from Puerto Luz, Peru, which is in the Amazon. I speak the Harakbut language and am happy to come from an Indigenous community. I like how different we are. The Amazon, for me, is important. It's where I come from and where I feel at home. I'm always surrounded by animals and fruit trees, and I'm constantly learning new things.

I can see that contamination is increasing and logging is becoming excessive. Oil extraction is also polluting our rivers. I think people don't realize they are hurting others with their actions. There are Indigenous people who go out and fish but find the waterways polluted. They can't find drinking water or places to wash.

I want us to protect nature. My community and I are asking that we all take care of the forest. Please spread the word and let others know about us. We Indigenous peoples need to ensure that our way of life will not be destroyed and our people will not become extinct."

In Peru, Development and Peace – Caritas Canada is working with the Amazon Center of Anthropology and Practical Application (CAAAP) to protect the Amazon rainforest and the rights of its Indigenous communities.



See what Susan Mariela and her peers at the Santa Cruz school in Puerto Maldonado, Peru, have to say about the Amazon and our common home.

Let's play!

1. What are the threats to the Amazon? Circle all correct answers:

A. Cattle ranching



B. Industrial agriculture



C. Logging and deforestation



D. Mining



E. Hydroelectric dams



2. How can we live more simply? Colour in **red** what you and your family can do less or use less. Colour in **green** what you can try to do more often.

A Ride a bike



B Take your car everywhere



C Ride the bus



D Take a plane



E Eat lots of meat



F Eat local fruits and vegetables



G Take quick showers (and don't overfill your bath)



H Recycle your well-rinsed containers



I Update electronics as soon as you can



J Reuse - Repair



K Buy many things (more than you need)



L Waste leftover food



Answers: 1. A, B, C, D, E. 2. In red: B, D, E, I, K, L. In green: A, C, F, G, H, J.

Draw your solidarity



As part of the *For our Common Home* campaign, we are asking Canadians to stand in solidarity with the Murs and the *seringueiros* of Brazil. **You are invited to sign our Solidarity Letter at devp.org/act, or draw your own message of solidarity.**

Scan or take a picture of your drawing and send it to: action@devp.org by April 30, 2020.

The drawings will be published in a Flickr photo album and then given to the communities in **July 2020** by a Development and Peace youth delegation.



Share
Lent 2020



Development
and Peace
CARITAS CANADA

Lent calls us to three actions:
praying, fasting, and almsgiving.



Praying

We pray to grow closer to God - the source of our strength and the inspiration for how we live in the world.



Fasting

We fast from things that distract us from God, or make a sacrifice to give up things we enjoy.



Almsgiving

We give alms because we are inspired by God's love for every part of His creation. We respond with charity - helping others in their need - and with justice - bringing transformation into systems, policies, and ourselves. We do this in participation with God, to build His kingdom on Earth.

Solidarity Calendar

For our
**COMMON
HOME**

The Earth is full of beauty and wonder and of one of its natural wonders is the Amazon rainforest.

The Amazon is the largest tropical rainforest, spanning nine countries in South America. It is home to half of all living plants and animals on the planet, and to more than 30 million people, of whom three million are Indigenous. The Amazon also helps to cool the planet and plays an important role in limiting climate change.

Yet, the Amazon and its people are under threat. Big companies want its natural resources because they can sell them or use them to make other products. They are building highways and railroads, cutting down trees and polluting the waterways. Indigenous and traditional peoples are trying to protect the Amazon, which is important for all of us, but they are facing intimidation, persecution and violence.

This Lenten season, Development and Peace - Caritas Canada invites you to stand in solidarity with the guardians of the Amazon, as we care for our common home.

Let's put our love for the world and our love for our neighbours into action by living in harmony and caring for nature.



Journey down the Amazon River with our Solidarity Calendar to learn, think, pray and act throughout the period of Lent!