



1-866-336-6139

www.st-clair.net

Director: Deb Crawford

Superintendent: L. Callaghan

Chair of the Board: J. VanHeck

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March 16 to 20
March Break
No School

St. Vincent Catholic School



9399 McNaughton Line East

Chatham, ON

N7M 5J1

(519)354-4066



MARCH 2020

Principal's Message

With the start of term 2 our students have many new goals both academically and in their learning skills to work on. Please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions or concerns. Effective communication between all parties is key to a successful year.

We really appreciate all the parents who have been trying hard to make sure their kids arrive at school before the first bell goes at 8:40! When students are settled in before announcements and ready to learn, it makes their start much smoother. Daily attendance is also a key to success.

This month the virtue is Generosity and February 26th starts the first day of Lent. Generosity is willingness to share time, talent and resources with others. Lent is also a time of preparation and self-sacrifice through fasting, giving up worldly desires and activities. It is an excellent time for us to reflect on our lives on how to become closer to God and a time of renewal. An emphasis is placed on performing spiritual works, like attending Stations of the Cross and Mass, taking time for personal prayer and spiritual reading, going to confession, and offering gifts of time and love to others.



N. Stevens

nicole.stevens@st-clair.net

Virtue of the Month— **Generosity**

Generosity: You glorify God ... by the generosity of your sharing. 2 Corinthians 9:13b (NRSV):

Subject of the Month— **Reading**

Classroom teachers will look at student reading. How are students doing with fluency? Comprehension? Inferencing?

SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATE

Our next School Council meeting will be held Wednesday, March 25 at 5:30 pm in the school library.



INCLEMENT WEATHER REMINDER and BUS CANCELATIONS

Our school is in **ZONES 7 and 8**

Listen to the radio stations CKSY or CFCO or check the Board's transportation website: www.schoolbusinfo.com

Please remember, whether your child is bussed or not bussed, to call the school if your child will not be attending on inclement weather days.

Also, when schools are **closed**, due to inclement weather, do not send your child(ren) to school.

****When the temperature reaches -15° (with or without wind chill) students will not be going outside for recess.**

We have put a plan in place so that they will have activities during these times.



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!

SPORTS UPDATE

Congratulations to the senior girls and boys basketball teams for their awesome season, skill development and sportsmanship.

Boys Team includes: Hewson M., Skyler M., Brady M., Owen H., Logan H., Carmen B., Liam H., Brody V., Reece V., Coulter H., Griffin L.

Girls Team includes: Chloe H., Alyssa M., Trinity G., Emma Z., Ava G., Julia H., Meghan D., Alexandra H.



THANK YOU TO COACHES: Mrs. Ennett and Mr. Serruys

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/>



Help Select a Mascot for the New St. Angela Merici Catholic School!

We are once again utilizing the *Thoughtexchange* online tool. This time, we want to know your thoughts and ideas about what mascot will best represent the new school. Several ideas have been suggested by our students and five have been selected by the St. Angela Merici Catholic School Transition Committee for final consideration.

Through *Thoughtexchange* you can:

1. Share your thoughts about the five mascot choices independently and confidentially;
2. Rate the thoughts shared by others
3. Finally, together we will discover the ideas we have in common and which mascot we most value as a community.

Be sure to select from among the five choices only. All other suggestions will be disqualified. You can review the mascot choices when you go to the *Thoughtexchange* page at <https://my.thoughtexchange.com/#136353804> or use the QR Code below on your mobile device.

Start sharing your thoughts today! The St. Angela Merici Mascot *Thoughtexchange* closes on Friday, March 13, 2020.



WHEN IS SICK 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.

I haven't taken any fever reducing medicine for 24 hours, and I haven't had a fever during that time.

I haven't thrown up or had any diarrhea for 24 hours and didn't need medicine.



Keep me at home if...

If I have a temperature higher than 37.7 degrees.

I have been throwing up or have had diarrhea in the last 24 hours.

My eyes are red and painful with discharge that keeps coming back during the day.

I have been having body aches, fatigue, and headaches.

I have a sore throat with a fever.

I have a harsh cough and don't feel able to participate in school activities.

I have an undiagnosed rash.



Follow up with my Health Care Provider if...

I have had a fever for more than 2 days.

I have had a sore throat and fever for several days. I've been throwing up or have diarrhea for more than two days.

I've had a cough for more than a week, and it isn't getting better.

I have had a fever and now have a rash.



Follow us to
good health!



To reach a public health expert, contact us at:

Main Office, 435 Grand Ave W, Chatham, ON, N7M 5L8, p 519.352.7270

Clinic Services, 177 King St E, Chatham, ON, N7M 3N1 p 519.355.1071

www.ckpublichealth.com

Solidarity Calendar

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 Lenten theme to your students and know what to do at home!

February 26
Ash Wednesday
Let's honour our loving Creator and God and ease 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 people?

February 28
Do you buy things you don't need? Learn the difference between needs and wants so you can live more simply. See a small item that you can do without for a 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)
Sign our Intergenerational pledge for our common home! Let's all commit to living more simply. Discover a CST principle and learn how it helps build the Kingdom of God.

March 3
Intergenerational
Indigenous and traditional peoples in the Amazon are threatened for protecting their land and water. Let us pray for them.

March 4
Elementary
School students are speaking up for the planet. Find out what they have to say!

March 5
Indigenous
The Amazon is home to 1/3 of the Earth's forests. How can we better protect our forests and their guardians?

March 6
It's baking time!
With family and friends, make muffins and sell them in support of Development and Peace! Thank you!

March 7
2nd Sunday of Lent
Lord Jesus, let us pray for the women who courageously defend the land, water and people. Learn about Berta Caceres or St. Dorothy Stang.

March 8
International Women's Day
Learn about Berta Caceres or St. 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
30 years, we will be able to breathe money, drink oil and eat gold!
This is what Yacua Palachi, 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: relationship with nature?
This means: let's co-exist with Mother Earth. What are the relationships between 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 \$0¢ 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 creation, we see all human beings as equal. 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 plastic and buy in bulk. Give 25¢ for every reusable bag your family uses for their own.

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-trained mine. Pray for them and their future.

March 19
The Mura are also threatened by cattle ranching. The barbed wire is destroying their crops and polluting their waterways. 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
Give \$2 to support Development and Peace partners, such as REPAH and CHIL, 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 soil where people grow their food. Some of the metals mined are in our electronic devices. For each one in your house, give \$0¢.

March 25
The seringueiros are defending their ancestral 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 the way of life is preserved.

March 26
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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 to school 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: life 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 peace, dignity and security.

April 2
Secondary school students are speaking up for the planet. Find out what they have to say!

April 3
Ask yourself: around you, how are those 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 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. Pray that we hold it in respect 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 Global South. Confront 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 the 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 who 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!

Solidarity Calendar



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.



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.



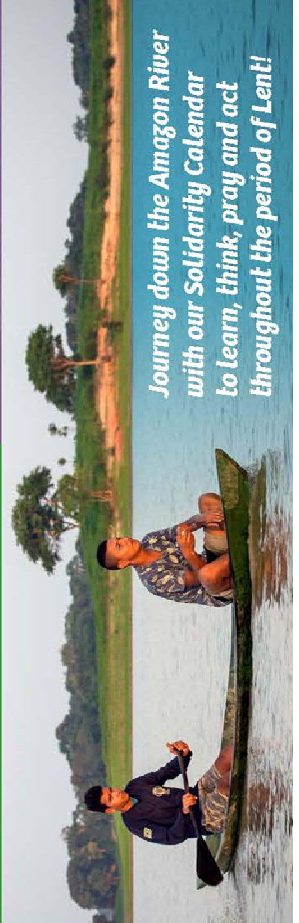
Fasting

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.



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