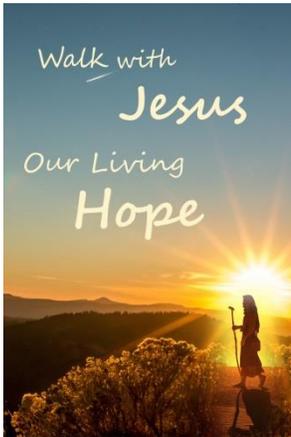


March, 2021
Volume 10, Issue 6

March Newsletter



Walk with
Jesus in
sacrifice

For to this
you have
been called,
because
Christ also
suffered for
you, leaving
you an
example, so
that you
should follow
in his steps.
1 Peter 2:21

Dear Parents,

I am not sure where February went, but here we are in March! Hopefully, as the days get brighter and longer, our spirits will brighten as well. We will spend this month fully ensconced in the season of Lent, marking our days with prayer, sacrifice and almsgiving. We have sacrificed a great deal in this past year, and it

is tempting to avoid adding more difficult things to our lives. We need to remember, however, the suffering that Jesus endured for us: we need to remember the ridicule and judgements that he received during his years of public ministry; we need to remember the final days of physical and mental anguish that he

suffered on his journey to the ultimate degradation of a public crucifixion. Our conscious contemplation of Christ's amazing love for us will give us the courage to take on extra sacrifices – to take on the challenge to make a meaningful journey through Lent. May God bless all of us during this time.

Confirmation Meeting

At this point in time, we are uncertain of the way that Confirmation will be held this year. As a result, we are postponing the grade seven Confirmation parent meeting that was scheduled for March 4. We will inform you of the re-scheduled date after spring break.

Raffle

We will be holding our annual raffle once again this year. More information will be coming soon, so stay tuned!

Green Day for St. Patrick!

On Thursday, March 11, we will have Green Day to celebrate St. Patrick's Day early. On that day, the students may wear green clothing (including St. Patrick's Day garments) instead of their uniforms for a

minimum donation of \$2.00. The money raised on this day will be donated to the Vocations Office, which supports the education and development of seminarians. Thank you for supporting our future priests!

CISVA Spelling Bee

The CISVA schools have decided to continue with the annual spelling bee this year, virtually. Our students in grades four through seven are preparing currently for our own spelling bee. Please help your children to practice spelling new words so that we can have a great event!

Important Dates:

Mar. 11th – Green Day

Mar. 12th – St. Joseph Retreat & Spring Break **Dismissal begins at 11:45am**

Mar. 15-26 – Spring Break

Mar. 19th – St. Joseph Feast Day

Mar. 31st – Stations of the Cross

April 1st – Early Dismissal beginning at 11:45am

Reminder

Please be reminded that parents are not permitted to go to the classrooms. Please restrict your entry to the school to visits to the office.

Thank you

Thank you to those of you who supported our recent fundraising efforts. On Red Day, we raised \$329 for Canadian Blood Services. On our Pyjama and Treat Day, we raised \$705 for the Archbishop's Charities. We are so grateful for your amazing generosity!

St. Joseph Retreat & Spring Break

On Friday, March 12, we will celebrate the patron of our school, St. Joseph, with a retreat. The students will spend that morning learning about and honouring our saint. The students will be dismissed for spring break early on that day (students in the A-M group will be

dismissed at 11:45am; those in the N-Z group will be let out at 12:00). There will be no afterschool club on that day. The students will return to classes with our regular schedule on Monday, March 29. Enjoy your break!

Holy Week

We will make our journey through Holy Week together as a school community. We will walk the Stations of the Cross on Wednesday, March 31. We will have our Lenten retreat on the morning of Holy Thursday, April 1. Please be assured that our Holy Week events will be held in accordance with our COVID-19 School Safety Plan.

New Families

If you know of a family whom you think would like to attend St. Joseph's School, please direct them to the office for an Application Package. If they are accepted, your 2021-22 tuition will be reduced!

Easter

The students will be dismissed early on April 1 (students in the A-M group will be dismissed at 11:45 and those in the N-Z group will be let out at 12:00). The staff will take part in faith development that afternoon, so please pick up your children promptly. There will be no afterschool club on that day. There will be no school on Good Friday, April 2, or on Easter Monday, April 5. The students will return to school on Tuesday, April 6.

Dominican Sisters

Thank you to Father Martin for arranging for Sister Mary Bethany to visit our school on Tuesday afternoons. Sister will visit the classes to share her vocation story and to support the ongoing faith formation of our students. Welcome, Sister Mary Bethany!

Feast of St. Joseph March 19

Even though we will be on spring break at that time, please remember to celebrate the feast of our patron, Saint Joseph. It's a Solemnity!

Participation Hours

The St. Joseph's PEC has made the decision to reduce the number of required participation hours per family to 25 for this current school year. Please be reminded that you need to log your hours on OnVolunteers and that you can sign up for the posted tasks there as well. In addition, please note that, if you exceed your minimum fundraising requirement of \$250, you may apply that additional amount to your participation hours, at a rate of \$14 per hour.