



# BLESSED JOHN PAUL II CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL APRIL 2014 NEWS



600 Acadia Drive  
Hamilton, Ontario  
L8W 3A8  
905-525-1300

- Mrs. I. Fortino  
Superintendent of Education
- Mr. P. Daly, Trustee
- Mr. J. Coons, Principal

St. Jean de Brebeuf Catholic  
Secondary School  
Mr. M. Daly, Principal  
(905) 388-7020

Corpus Christi Church  
1694 Upper James St.  
Hamilton, Ontario  
L9B 1K6

Father E. Mahoney  
(905) 389-2472

Weekend Mass Times:  
Saturday 5:15 p.m.

Sunday 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

**Before and After  
School Program  
For information,  
please contact  
905 518-4694**

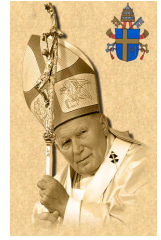
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No school  
Good Friday April 18  
Easter Monday April 21

*On the Cross, Jesus died for each one of us.  
The Cross, therefore, is the greatest and most  
eloquent sign of his merciful love,  
the one sign of salvation  
for every generation and for all humanity.*

*Homily by Pope John Paul II, April 4, 2004 (Palm Sunday)*



## LENTEN MESSAGES

Years ago, Pope John Paul II delivered his Lenten message and emphasized the theme of charity. From the Acts of the Apostles he quoted: "It is more blessed to give than to receive." He said that "Lent is a season of intense prayer, fasting and concern for those in need. It offers all Christians an opportunity to prepare for Easter by serious discernment about their lives, with particular attention to the word of God which enlightens the daily journey of all who believe." He spoke about how many people in today's society become caught in selfishness; the media in particular exalt the ephemeral and the hedonistic and in general "it is difficult to build a culture of solidarity." He strongly denounced the thirst for gain, which is often at the price of exploitation of others, and the "quest for profit at any cost and the lack of effective, responsible concern for the common good." He said: "our goal should not be the benefit of a privileged few, but rather the improvement of the living conditions of all."

A Lenten Message, 2014 (an excerpt) from Jerry Creedon, Faith Animator of the HWCDSB  
Pope Francis' Lenten Letter, like all his messages since his election to the See of Peter, is a call for solidarity with the poor: "In imitation of our Master, we Christians are called to confront the poverty of our brothers and sisters, to touch it, to make it our own and to take practical steps to alleviate it." Our Holy Father is clearly beckoning us to simple life-styles, to narrowing the gap between us, Catholic educators, and the many needy students whom we teach as well as the needy parents who depend on us to educate and take care of their children. He is urging us to use the power we necessarily have as teachers, supervisors, managers, coaches, **not over others but for them and with them.** He is directing us to "draw near" to the broken-hearted and to "our brothers and sisters experiencing darkness," to console them and offer them hope. He is reminding us that "God's wealth passes not through our wealth, but invariably and exclusively through our

On behalf of the Staff of Blessed John Paul II we wish you a Happy Easter. Easter is a time of great sorrow and celebration. The story of the Passion of Our Lord reminds us the depths of our human frailty (false accusation, betrayal, denial, loss of faith, fear that God is not there for us, and brutality in the beating and crucifixion of Jesus). Yet, there is more to celebrate in the acts of compassion (of Jesus to the Women of Israel, of Veronica, of Simon), courage (of Jesus facing death, of Joseph of Arimathea asking to allow Jesus to be buried in his tomb, of Mary Magdalene) and Faith. Jesus died for our sins so that we can be saved. Jesus is the example of how our humanity will lead us to Heaven. In death we have Eternal life with God in heaven.

**WATCH THE CANONIZATION OF BLESSED JOHN PAUL II AND  
BLESSED JOHN PAUL XXIII ON SUNDAY APRIL 27, 2014**



The Sacrament of First Communion will be celebrated on Sunday may 25, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. at Corpus Christi Church. God Bless the children and their families on this special day in their Faith life.

## C.Y.O. Marydale Park



***Please help us reach our fundraising goal!***

We are asking everyone to be a champion for Marydale Park. If you know any person, company and/or organization that might be able to help us reach our fundraising goal, please send them

this link to our web- site [www.marydalepark.ca](http://www.marydalepark.ca) - or have them contact our office at 905 528-0011, ext 3608, [info@marydalepark.ca](mailto:info@marydalepark.ca).



## JK Registration for September 2014

Children born in 2010 are eligible to attend JK in September 2014. Please phone the school at 905-525-1300 to make a registration appointment. The following information is required to register your child: **Birth Certificate, Baptismal Certificate, Immunization Card and proof of residency in our school boundaries** (i.e. utility bill).

## FIRE DRILLS and LOCKDOWNS

During the course of the school year we practice both Fire Drills and Lockdown Drills. Rehearsals take place at various times but always involve alternate days to ensure that all staff and students are able to go through training, review and active practice. Safety for all is the priority.

Fire Drills involve us exiting the building while Lockdowns are used to secure the building within (or to not allow others to enter from outside).

Should both events occur the following direction is provided by our Board in co-operation with both the Fire and Police Departments. It is important to note that each response involves clear communication and best judgement of staff and students. Staff are updated on these procedures yearly.

I am always impressed with the manner in which our school conducts these drills. Should you have any questions please speak with your child to ensure they understand their role.

Please contact Mr. Coons should you have any questions or concerns.

## CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

**Take a break from sandwiches at least once a week.** Try cutting up pitas and serve it with their favourite dip or salsa! Cut bread into slices or pieces and then roll up the lunch meat and slice up some cheese.

**Catholic School Council Meeting**

**Monday April 12, 2013**

**6:00—8:00 p.m.**

**Please come out and support.**



**CATHOLIC EDUCATION  
WEEK May 4—9, 2014**



**SERVING IN THE  
LOVE OF CHRIST**

Catholic schools are Catholic communities. Catholic schools are faith communities. We – parents, students, teachers, administrative and support staff – walk and grow together in the faith which we received at our Baptism. And it is the ‘together’ that we grow. And as we learn from nature, growth relies on sun and water and nutrition. Otherwise, it may fade away and even die. Our growth is primarily a relationship with God, who at our Baptism, called us by name. But the response of each of us to that growth is both personal and communal. We grow in our faith in the nurturing atmosphere of our Catholic community be that of our local parish, our home, or our Catholic school community.

Our school community will celebrate Catholic Education Week 2014 in ways that are appropriate to our students’ age. We invite you to participate in one or other of these activities as your personal time and work schedule may permit.

There are five sub-themes for each day of Catholic Education Week:

- Monday – *Serve with Faithfulness***
- Tuesday – *Serve with Humility***
- Wednesday – *Serve with Compassion***
- Thursday – *Serve with Justice***
- Friday – *Serve with Joy***

Every year, the Ontario Catholic School Trustees’ Association (OCSTA) provides our Catholic schools with a resource kit to help schools prepare for Catholic Education Week. Using these resources as well as our own developed activities we have prepared a series of activities which will highlight how our school is ‘Growing Together in Faith’.

We hope to see many of you during our school celebration of the Canonization of Blessed John Paul II . An open House and Faith Fair is scheduled for Thursday May 1, 2013.

**OPEN HOUSE  
MAY 1, 2014**  
Come and visit our classes to see how we  
celebrate our Faith

Celebrating the Canonization of Blessed John Paul II  
Families are invited to attend an Open House to celebrate this special event.  
Liturgy to begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Gymnasium  
Refreshments offered and our Glee Club performs from 7:15-7:30 p.m.  
Classes open to visit from 7:00—8:00 p.m.