



# St. Jerome Journal

December 2017

## The Work of Christmas

When the song of the angel is stilled, When the star in the sky is gone, When the kings and princes are home, When

the shepherds are back with their flock, The work of Christmas begins, To find the lost, To heal the broken, To feed the hungry, To release the prisoner, To rebuild the nations, To bring peace amongst brothers and sisters, To make music in the



heart. <Fill our hearts with Hope for Your coming>

## From the Principal's Desk

December is upon us! It is a very special and sacred month. Advent, a time of waiting, is filled with many activities and events that lead us to our most precious day, the birth of Jesus. Christmas Day is a day to celebrate and enjoy family and friends. The warmth of the season, as well as the hustle and bustle, has begun! Our **Advent Mass at Holy Name of Jesus Parish on December 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:45 a.m.** will be followed by a Turkey Lunch in our school's gymnasium for students and staff, catered by the Federal Tavern. Let us all remember the true meaning of Christmas and reflect on the spirit of giving. We will be supporting the local Food Bank and collecting pasta sauce our weekly school Advent celebrations.

When we return in the New Year, I hope we will be all rested and rejuvenated.

Thank you for your continued support of St. Jerome School and I wish all of you a Happy and Holy Christmas!

## DEVELOPING CHARACTER THROUGH LOVE

The goal of this virtue:

- To love out our first commandment
- To deepen our relationship with Christ
- To base our actions on "unlimited kindness toward all others"
- Being selfless and sacrificial in our daily Activities
- A willingness to sacrifice for someone else's well being
- Making other people a priority
- Sharing our time, talents and treasures for the benefit of others
- Forgiving others

**"It is more blessed to give than to receive"**  
Matthew 7:2

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## And the greatest is LOVE

Jesus' most important message while he was on earth can be summed up in one word: love. In the gospel of Paul, we can read and reflect on love: "Be under obligation to no one—the only obligation you have is to love one another. Whoever does this has obeyed the Law. The commandments "Do not commit adultery; do not commit murder; do not steal; do not desire what belongs to someone else" - all these, and many others besides, are summed up in the lone command. "Love your neighbor as you love yourself." If you love others you will never do them wrong; to love them is to obey the whole law. (Paul 3:8-10)

We are on the web: <http://www.ncdsb.on.ca/>  
Please "Like" our Facebook Page - St. Jerome School

## **Cold Weather**

Please ensure that your child comes to school prepared to go outside for recess and lunch hour breaks. It is the expectation that each child comes dressed appropriately to go outside to enjoy the weather and get some fresh air and exercise. With the arrival of colder weather, students are reminded to dress warmly (hats, mitts, boots, etc.) A second set of mitts is recommended for grade 1-3 students who are outside three times throughout the day. We encourage outdoor play and all students will be expected outside for recesses unless the wind chill factor drops below -25°C. We appreciate your continued support.



## **Snow Days**

Please listen to the radio, check our website at [www.ncdsb.on.ca](http://www.ncdsb.on.ca) or find us on Facebook with respect to bus cancellations on inclement weather days. You also have the option to register through our website to receive an email in the event of bus cancellations. Our school will remain open but the programs available at school may be modified. Parents are asked to use discretion whether or not their child should attend school, and are reminded that once buses are cancelled they are cancelled for the whole day, so parents are responsible for transportation at the end of the day and should be at the school by 3:00 p.m. to pick-up their child. Also, please note that Subway Lunch and Pizza Days are cancelled on snow days as well.

## **Fund-raising**

Our MacMillan's fundraiser raised \$ 2,138.50 towards our student funds. The **Evening with Santa** was great fun and generated over \$ 2,000.00 in profits. Fresh from the Farm raised \$ 869.00. Thank you for your participation and all of your fund-raising efforts.

## **Advent Celebrations**

Please join us for Advent celebrations taking place on Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9:00 a.m. in the gymnasium. We will also be collecting pasta sauce for the Kirkland Lake Food Bank and invite students to bring donations to our celebrations.

## **Christmas Basket Draw**

Tickets are on sale for a Christmas Basket Draw. Tickets are \$1.00 each and can be purchased at the office. The draw will take place on **Thursday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at our annual Christmas Concert.**

## **HOT DOG DAY**

On Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, Catholic School Council will be organizing another Hot Dog Day. Please make sure to complete the order form that will be going home.

## **Save the Date!**

December 19<sup>th</sup> also marks our Family Scavenger Hunt from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. We hope you can join us!

## **Christmas Concert – TWO DATES!**

The students of St. Jerome School are working diligently on our annual **Christmas Concert**. There will be two performances. One on Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. and one on Thursday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at 1:00 p.m. We hope that having two times will alleviate some of the congestion in the gym and make it easier for everyone to enjoy. Make sure to mark your calendar and we hope that you can join us!



## **FLIPGIVE - Our newest fundraiser...**

Shop your favorite brands and our fundraiser will earn up to 50% cash back on purchases. Join our team and shop now at: <https://www.flipgive.com/teams/116638-st-jerome-school> Help support St. Jerome School!

Stop fundraising. Shop with your team and earn up to 25% cash back on restaurants, travel and everyday items.

## **Milk and Pizza...**

The **Milk Program** will start-up again on **Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018**. Again, we regret that will be unable to provide students with milk from Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018 to Friday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018. **Pizza Days** will resume on **Friday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018**.

## **Christmas Break**

The last day of school is Friday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>. School will resume on Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018. We hope that everyone has a safe and enjoyable holiday season.



**Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!**