



Live, Love, Lead Like Christ

Principal – G. Pizzoferrato
Principal Intern – P. Moscato
Superintendent - T. Kovach

ST. ANN CATHOLIC SCHOOL
15 St. Ann St.
Hamilton, ON
L8L 0B8
905-547-5444



Cathedral Principal – M. Daly
Trustee – T. Perri



“Where is the new-born king of the Jews? We saw His star and its rising and have come to do Him homage.”



The staff of St. Ann School would like to welcome everyone back from the Christmas holidays with the wish that everyone had an enjoyable Christmas Break. It is our sincere hope that the Christmas Season was truly a blessed, peaceful and healthy one spent with family and friends. The Season of Christmas continues with the Epiphany on January 6th. The Epiphany is the highlight of the Advent/Christmas Season. It recalls the coming of the wise men; they brought gifts to the Christ Child and revealed Jesus to the world as Lord and King.

May this year, be filled with God’s blessings to each and everyone. Many exciting challenges and opportunities will be a part of this New Year and your continued partnership will ensure great experiences for our students.

We would also like to wish a Merry Christmas to our Ukrainian students, family and staff as they celebrate Christmas on Wednesday, January 7th!

WELCOME and THANK YOU

In a very special way the St. Ann community welcomes back Mrs. Ann Wettlaufer to our Early Childhood Care team. Her absence has been noticed but her return has been much anticipated and we are happy to finally have her back. With her return, the community offers our most gracious appreciation and thanks to

Miss Samantha Dickson for her limitless contributions to our school community as she continues her professional journey with a new assignment.

SCHOOL MASS

Our next school mass will be Thursday, January 14th at 10:15 a.m. Please come out and join us for our community celebration at St. Ann Church

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

You are reminded that there is a Catholic School Council meeting on **Tuesday, January 26th @ 6:30 p.m.** in the Learning Commons at St. Ann School. **All parents/guardians are invited to attend. Future meeting dates of the CSC are as follows:**

- Tuesday, February 23rd @ 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 22nd @ 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 26th @ 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 31st @ 6:30 p.m.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAY

In January, there will be a Professional Activity Day on **Friday, January 29, 2016.**

JANUARY 7 HABIT FOCUS

During the month of January we will be reviewing the first habit: Be Proactive. Students will learn about responsibility and keeping a positive attitude.

MOHAWK COLLEGE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS CHRISTMAS DONATIONS

On Friday, December 18th, Wayne Aubert a Mohawk College professor along with students from Mohawk's McKeil School of Business dropped by and handed out backpacks and toys to 340 students from our school. Also in attendance were Blair and Kathy McKeil, one of the project's biggest sponsors. The St. Ann Hamilton community is very grateful for this wonderful partnership that has been developed over the past two years and the generous support of all members of the Mohawk College community!

A special note of thanks to our Director of Education, Mr. David Hansen, our Superintendent of Education, Mrs. Toni Kovach and our area Trustee Mr. Tony Perri for their support, participation and attendance at our shared community Christmas Celebration. Their involvement in the great work that happens at St. Ann school helps to ensure a true community event! Thank you!

STUDENT ABSENCES

It is important that all student absences be reported. The school has an answering machine in operation daily from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. where a recorded message may be left about a student's upcoming absence. It is the school's safe entry policy to contact parents of absent students unless we have prior notification about their absence. Parents/Guardians will be phoned at work if we cannot reach them at home.

DROPPING CHILDREN OFF

Parents/Guardians are reminded that children should not be dropped off at any time of the day on St. Ann Street as this is a Fire Zone. Please use the "Kiss and Ride" off of Sherman Avenue. Parents/Guardians turning into the lane way off Sherman Ave. in the mornings are asked to be aware of pedestrians on the sidewalk. Please note: there is no parking on the school property for parents/guardians to walk their children to the playground. Please use the St. Stan's Church Parking lot across the street or the Holy Spirit Parking Lot.

At the end of the day, all students that walk to school or are to be picked up will be dismissed by way of the front doors. *Please obey the no parking and stopping signs on St. Ann Street at the front of the school. The City of Hamilton Bi-law Officers will be enforcing the no stopping and parking signs. Parking in these zones is a safety concern. Your co-operation regarding these signs is expected! Only those students that take the bus will exit from the back doors. Please note: the "kiss and ride"**

area is not available at the end of the day.

FIRST RECONCILIATION, COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION

The date for our Grade 7 students' Confirmation is Saturday, May 14, 2016 @ 5 p.m. @ St. Ann Church. The Grade 2 students will be making The Sacrament of First Communion on Saturday, May 7, 2016 at 5 p.m. at St. Ann Church. Please keep our Grade 2 and 7 students in your prayers as they prepare for these sacraments.

FREE EYEGLASSES

If you do not have coverage for your child's eye exam and/or glasses, Lenscrafters will provide these for you free of charge. Please request your letter at the office.

JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION for 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR

Parents wishing to register their child in Junior Kindergarten (FDK Year One) for September 2016 are asked to contact Mrs. Ragonetti, to make an appointment (905)547-5444. Mrs. Ragonetti will schedule an appointment in February for you to visit the school, complete the necessary forms and submit the required documentation.

If your child is currently in Junior Kindergarten (FDK Year One), you do not need to register him/her again.

Kindergarten Registration for New Students however will require Parents/Guardians to provide:

- Baptismal Certificate
- Birth Certificate
- Proof of Residency
- Proof of up-to-date Immunization
- Immigration papers, if applicable

Age of Admission: Children are required to be 4 years of age on or before December 31, 2016

DID YOU KNOW?

The ILC Homework Help website located at <http://homeworkhelp.ilc.org> is designed to enhance students' learning skills and contribute to academic success in math. This project focuses on providing free on-line math assistance to students in Grades 7, 8 and 9. The key features of the website contain interactive tutorials, examples, exercises and EQAO test preparation. The site also includes the *Ask a Teacher* one-on-one tutoring, available only after school from 5:30- 9:30 p.m. from Sunday to Thursday, and is designed to help students with their homework. Parents can also register as guests but cannot participate in the chat sessions. This is

a fully monitored site with several protective measures where students remain safe and anonymous and can return to the site as often as they need. All grade 7, 8 and grade 9 students can access these supports, by logging into Homework help at <http://homeworkhelp.ilc.org> using the Username and Password they generated during the o-line registration process facilitated by the school. The Homework Help website is fully monitored with several protective measures in place to ensure student safety.

FALL/WINTER WEATHER

Please ensure that your children dress warmly for school during the upcoming cold months. Hats, mitts, heavier coats, etc. will be in order. You should expect that students will be outside for recess except for excessively cold days. During this season students will **not** be permitted to wear their **outside footwear** into the classrooms. Students should bring an extra pair of runners or slippers to wear around the classroom and school. Also, during the upcoming winter months when schools are closed or buses cancelled due to extreme weather conditions, details will be announced on the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board website (www.hwcdsb.ca) and Hamilton-Wentworth Student Transportation Services website

(www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca/public_v2/index.aspx) as well as the following Hamilton and area media outlets:

900 CHML / VINYL 95.3 / Y108 FM
CKOC 1150 / K-Lite 102.9 FM / CHAM 820
CHCH TV Morning Live (Channel 11)
CBC Hamilton www.cbc.ca/hamilton
The Hamilton Spectator www.thespec.com
Twitter <https://twitter.com/HWCDSB>
Facebook www.facebook.com

Schools closures and bus cancellations will be posted on the HWCDSB and HWSTS websites and communicated to the local media by 7:00 a.m., whenever possible. If schools close early, the information will be posted on the HWCDSB and HWSTS websites and sent to the media for dissemination.

MONTHLY AWARDS

Congratulations to December's award winners.

CATHOLICITY

Grade 1: Carter J. Jadakiss W.
Grade 2: Cory L.
Grade 3: Sofia R. Julie T.
Grade 4: Keira P.
Grade 5: Jack H.
Grade 6: Gabriel A. Jessica B.
Grade 8: Allison F. Lucas P.

LEADERSHIP

Grade 1: Cathy C.
Grade 2: Jordan Z. Keith M. Sarah T.
Grade 3: Jessica T.
Grade 5: Adelaide G. Angelina M. Noah R.
Grade 6: Damien A.B.
Grade 8: Kristofer A. Chad R.

VIRTUE/CHRISTIAN - Hospitality

Grade 1: Elizabeth S. Dawson F.
Grade 2: Angelica D. Delmar C.
Grade 3: Aria H.
Grade 4: Malina G. Ace J.
Grade 5: Matej D.
Grade 7: Stefan M. Katarina C.
Grade 8: Laura F.

FRENCH AWARD

Grade 4/5: Vincent P.
Grade 4/5: Angelina M.
Grade 5/6: Sierra A.
Grade 6/7: Jackson B.
Grade 7/8: Phuong Vy P.
Grade 7/8: Austin S.

PIZZA/CASUAL DAY

Pizza day is on **Thursday, January 28th** and orders will be taken on **Tuesday, January 26th** in the morning (\$1.75/slice). This will also be a Casual Day's.

C.Y.O. NEWS

Best of luck to the Junior and Senior Girls' Volleyball and Senior and Junior Boys' Basketball Teams, as they begin their seasons during the next few weeks. Please refer to the team schedules provided by each coach. Remember all of our teams play in our school gym. Please come out and support our teams!

Sr. Girls Volleyball

Due to not having enough girls to submit a team for CYO, we will be offering a volleyball clinic. We will perform drills for ½ hour and then a fun game.

SCHEDULE OF DATES WHEN SCHOOL IS NOT IN SESSION

The following is a list of dates when school is not in session:

Monday, February 15th – Family Day
Monday, March 14th – 18th - March Break
Friday, March 25th – Monday, March 28th - Easter Weekend
Friday, April 29th – P.A. Day
Monday, May 23rd - Victoria Day
Friday, June 10th – P.A. Day
Friday, June 24th - P. A. Day
Thursday, June 30th - Last Day of School

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

Thank you again for everyone's patience as we continue to perfect the cash online system. Our continued efforts will ensure a seamless and accountable way to track payments and maintain financial integrity. If you have not already registered for this service, please contact Mrs. Ragonetti at 905-547-5444 to arrange for a quick walk through the easy registration process. Shortly, we will be moving school trip payment methods as well as special lunch orders to take place using this tool more thoroughly.

CATHEDRAL SECONDARY SCHOOL ORIENTATION

On **Monday, January 25th**, the Grade 8 students will be going to Cathedral High School so that they can familiarize themselves with the school and staff.

ST. ANN (HAMILTON) 7 HABITS LEADER IN ME FACEBOOK PAGE

Our Catholic School Council is supporting a Facebook page designed by one of its members Mrs. Allen-Cillis. You are encouraged to visit it as our hope is to keep our parents/guardians informed with what is happening at the school with regards to the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People. Please visit the link www.facebook.com/stannhamilton.

NUT SENSITIVE ENVIRONMENT

Please be reminded that St. Ann School is a NUT SENSITIVE ENVIRONMENT. This year, we have a student and staff member that have such a severe allergy that any food with nuts in it that is airborne will cause a reaction that could be life threatening. Please ensure that your child does not bring food items that contain any nuts or nut byproducts. We thank you in advance for your cooperation.

St. Ann Hamilton is a place where all children feel safe and have a sense of belonging. To ensure the safety and well-being of all children, please note below important information from Anaphylaxis Canada:

- Anaphylaxis is a serious allergic reaction that is rapid in onset and may cause death;
- Signs and symptoms of a severe allergic reaction can occur within minutes of exposure to an allergen (a substance capable of causing an allergic reaction)
- Very small amounts of certain foods can cause severe reactions when eaten. This may happen if a person at risk touches an allergenic substance and then subsequently touches the mouth. Even a very small

amount 'hidden' in a food or transferred to a serving utensil has the potential to cause a severe allergic reaction. Direct ingestion of an allergy-causing food poses the greatest risk for people with food allergies.

Cooperation from parent and guardians in adhering to the guidelines below is most appreciated:

- There are students at this school who are allergic to the following foods and items: **any food with nuts**.
- Parents will be advised of allergens specific to a classroom, and are asked to adhere to the accommodation(s) requested.
- Reinforce hand washing practices: wash hands before and after eating.
- Remind children not to share or trade food, food utensils, or food containers.
- Please do NOT bring any home-made food products into the school; with permission, non-food items are permitted for various celebrations and special events and activities.

Thank you for your help in keeping all our children safe.

ST. ANN EARLY LEARNING AND CARE CENTRE

We offer a full day Toddler program for children aged 18 months – 2.5 years, a Preschool Program for children 2.5 years – 5 years of age, and a Before and After School Program for ages 3.5 – 12 years of age. We are currently accepting registrations for all programs.

Fees are as follows:

Toddlers \$43.00

Pre School \$37.00

Before & After \$20.00(J/K, S/K) \$17.00 (Gr 1-7)

Before school only \$11.00(J/K, S/K) \$10.00 (Gr 1-7)

After school only \$15.00(J/K, S/K) \$14.00 (Gr 1-7)

C.C.A.S. ADOPTION AND FOSTER PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT

The Catholic Children's Aid Society of Hamilton is presenting a Foster Information Night on Wednesday, January 13th at 6:30 p.m. at the Catholic Children's Aid Society, 735 King Street East Hamilton, Ontario

Hamilton and an Adoption Information Night on Thursday, January 21, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Matthew Parish, 1150 Monks Passage, Oakville, Ontario