

# ST. ALBERT OF JERUSALEM CATHOLIC SCHOOL OCTOBER 2010 NEWSLETTER



A Tradition  
of Excellence  
in Catholic  
Education



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Board web site: [www.dpcdsb.org](http://www.dpcdsb.org)

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S. Steer

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## **Superintendent:**

D. Oude-Reimerink

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Miss. Wards 9, 10  
905-812-5163  
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## **Parish:**

St. John of the Cross  
6890 Glen Erin Dr.  
(905) 821-1331

## **Pastoral Team**

Fr. Leo Huard  
Fr. Abraham Kulanjiyil  
Fr. Joseph Kalluvila

## **Thanksgiving Prayer**

*O Gracious God, we give You thanks for Your  
overflowing generosity to us.*

*Thank you for the blessings of the food we eat and  
especially for this feast today.*

*Thank you for our home and family and friends,  
especially for the presence of those gathered here.*

*Thank you for our health, our work and our play.  
Please send help to those who are hungry, alone, sick  
and suffering war and violence.*

*Open our hearts to Your love.*

*We ask Your blessing through Christ Your son.*

*Amen.*

## **Sunday Mass Schedule St. John of the Cross Church**

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

**OCTOBER'S VIRTUE ~Empathy**  
 God has given us the ability to form connections with each other - to live together. Empathy helps us to connect and live together in safe, caring, inclusive communities.

An *empathetic* person believes that we all share one Spirit; that we are many parts of one body because we are all created in the image and likeness of God. We know that God has given us the virtue of empathy so that we can learn to appreciate, accept and care for one another.

**An *empathetic* person...**

- **Listens attentively**
- **Watches people's body language**
- **Notices and responds when someone is upset**
- **Can name her/his feelings**
- **Can see a situation from another person's point of view**
- **Knows that different people may feel differently about the same thing**

Gracious and merciful God,

You desire us to live together in peaceful communities.

We are nothing without relationships. You have given us the virtue of empathy to ensure that we are able to identify with and feel other people's concerns.

We come to you now asking for the grace and strength to follow Your plan and to form a caring community here at St. Albert of Jerusalem. May Your gift of empathy lead us to know and feel Your presence among us.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, your Son, who lived to show us your way.

Amen.

The St. Albert of Jerusalem staff must bid farewell to Ms. Frackowiak who completes her long term occasional contract on Friday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010. As we welcome Ms. Murphy back to school following her maternity leave, we also thank Ms. Frackowiak for the tireless efforts she has extended to her students and we wish her the best as she prepares for the birth of her baby. Staffing changes have also occurred within our junior and intermediate divisions. We welcome Ms. Giannini who takes over the teaching portfolio of Ms. Maiato, who has been reassigned to the grade seven program. As Ms. Giannini adjusts to her teaching assignments in primary planning time and junior FSL, we hope she realizes how welcome and appreciated she is as she joins the St. Albert of Jerusalem community.

**FAITH LIFE**

Our first mass was celebrated on September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Father Abraham led our school community in worship and faith. Our feast day liturgy also focused on our virtue for September, Faith. Our opening mass initiated the first of the ten virtues we will celebrate this year.

Students in grade two and eight have begun the process of preparing for their sacramental year by registering at the church. Our connection with St. John of the Cross parish is never more appreciated than during these very important sacramental moments.

**In The Spirit Of Thanksgiving, let us give thanks to...**

The students of St. Albert of Jerusalem School and their families. For the community support for our Terry Fox Walk. Our Volunteers, staff, coaches, leaders and all other persons who give unselfishly of their time to children and are sometimes taken for granted.

The many staff and students involved in preparing for our opening mass.

Thanks for our family and friends who we hold dear. St. Albert of Jerusalem staff wish everyone a blessed Thanksgiving weekend.



**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD DRIVE**

For many years St. Albert of Jerusalem has assisted The Society of St. Vincent de Paul's food drive for our less fortunate neighbours. Once again we will be collecting non-perishable foods. Students may bring in any canned foods, Macaroni and Cheese, soup, stew, Hamburger Helper ext. Our goal is to surpass the amount of food we collected last year. Without the generosity of the St. Albert community this will not be possible. This year our food drive started on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2010. We ask that families send any donations to school with your son/daughter. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

## ACTIVE STUDENTS

### SAFE WALKING ROUTES TO SCHOOL

We launched our Safe Walking Routes to School Program on October 6th, 2010. Helpful volunteers from the school, Peel Regional Police and the City of Mississauga were on hand to mark the first day of this initiative.. Keep fit, encourage activity and Save the environment...**walk to school!**

### SCHOOL AGENDAS

As is our tradition, the students in Grades 1 - 8 will be using school agendas to help develop organizational skills. Please take some time to look over the agenda with your child(ren). It is particularly important to emphasize that the agenda is to be **used daily** to assist your child in organizing his/her time and to keep parents informed on what is happening in class and in the school. Agendas are subsidized with monies raised through the School Council's fundraisers.

### LOST ARTICLES

Due to the sheer volume of misplaced articles, we do not regularly make announcements regarding lost items. We highly recommend that you not allow your child to bring valuable items to school. Toys and special momentos often interfere with the teaching environment, especially when staff have to solve disputes over their disappearance or appearance during classroom learning times.



### CASUAL FRIDAYS

You may have noticed that the staff dress in a casual manner on Fridays. Through donations made on these Fridays, we are supporting the many charities affiliated with the United Way of Peel (Christian charities) and Share Life.

### TERRY FOX WALK

This year, the students and staff had a very successful Terry Fox Walk and Pray on Thursday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010. The weather co-operated and all students supported this very worthy cause. Congratulations to K. Havens, I. Maiato, P. Ashworth and P. Golin for organizing this very successful event. We especially thank the pastoral team at St. John of the Cross for allowing us to gather at the church and offer our prayers for those people in our lives who have been touched by cancer. The final tally of pledges thus far surpasses \$7000! Thank you to all who supported this event, especially the parent volunteers who assisted.

### PETS AT SCHOOL



Many parents take the opportunity to bring their pets with them to school when dropping off or picking up students. As more and more pets are now joining us in the schoolyard, safety concerns have begun to arise. For safety reasons, if you have brought a pet with you when meeting or dropping off your child, we ask that you please wait on the sidewalk east or west of the school, on Rosehurst Drive and not on the school grounds.

### FUNDRAISER UPDATE:

Our students have already shared the Fall Fundraiser Initiative. The brochures that have been forwarded offer a variety of products that may interest you as you consider your Christmas shopping list. Orders will be accepted until October 18, 2010 and we anticipate that the orders will be filled well in advance of Christmas. The funds raised through this event will be used this year to support school based learning initiatives.

### VOLLEYBALL

Our intermediate girl's and boy's volleyball teams have been actively preparing for Family level competitions. We know that these young athletes will be excellent representatives of St. Albert of Jerusalem Catholic School as they host and travel to their upcoming matches. We thank our dedicated coaches, Mr. Wu, Mr. Vis and Ms. Maiato for sharing their leadership with our team.

#### Boy's Team

Tyler A., Michael D.,  
Marcel Z., Jacob D.,  
Federico L., Spencer G.,  
Michael C., Jason F.,  
Dominic L., Dwayne F.,  
Nathaniel A., Christian L.,  
Anthony C.

#### Girl's Team

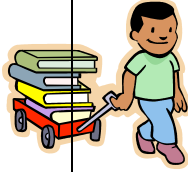
Cecilia K., Nikysha C., Gloria L.,  
Osonye O., Tu N., Carmella B.,  
Monika R., Rachel A.,  
Jessica W., Taylor V.,  
Jessica M.,  
Chriselle V.



## SCHOOL BOOK FAIR

Many thanks to Mr. J who has led a successful Fall Book Fair and thank you to all staff, parents, and students who have supported our school.

All proceeds go directly to the school library and will be used to supplement our selection of fiction and non-fiction texts.



## HALLOWEEN DRESS UP

Halloween will soon be upon us, and although it is a fun time of the year for our children, there are some rules and safety that need to be remembered.

Students grade 1-3 may dress up in costumes on Friday, October 29th, 2010. Children may not wear masks, bring any type of weapon or wear a costume which has a violent theme. We ask that they not bring makeup to school since they will not be dismissed from class to apply it and no one is available to assist in its application. Students in Grades 4-8 are encouraged to wear black and orange on that day.

## RECESS

All students are expected to dress appropriately for weather conditions and go outdoors for recess. Please ensure that your child has a pair of boots for the winter months. For many children, a spare pair of socks, gloves, or clothing may save a parent a trip to the school. In the event of inclement weather, students will be kept indoors. In the event of wet, muddy or icy conditions the students will remain on paved areas. During recess, supervision is restricted to the playground areas. If your child is not well enough to participate in outdoor recess, please consider keeping him/her at home. Personnel on yard duty are easily recognizable to students as they carry recess bags, megaphones and/or wear brightly coloured vests.

## STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Student leaders are a small team of people that meet and inspire each other in an effort to make school a fun place to be. These individuals will work to build community, raise the voice of students, and celebrate life, learning and each other.

Student leaders will contribute in the following ways:

- Promoting faith and the 10 virtues
- Serving others
- Initiating school spirit
- Embrace responsibility through outreach programs and correspondence

Our candidates applied for these key positions and are prepared to take on the challenge of being a Catholic Leader. I know you join me in congratulating the 2010 / 2011 Student Leaders

### Grade 7

Brian P., Calandra L.,  
Rebecca B, Dylan G.

### Grade 8

Gloria L., Alessia Z.,  
Kevin G., Rachael A.,  
Olivia G., Izabella B.,  
Samantha T., Victoria V.



## CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

Thank you to our dedicated cross-country team coaches, Mr. Belizzi, Ms. Piccuito, Ms. Dulhanty, Ms. Habre and Ms. Fazzari. The team members have been practicing and training long and hard for our Family of Schools event on October 18<sup>th</sup> 2010 at Lake Aquitaine. We have seen a very commendable group of young athletes who are dedicated to their training and who are committed to attending their practices. Congratulations on your spirit and enthusiasm. Good luck on the 18<sup>th</sup>! The members of our Cross Country team are:

Sarah V., Casey V., Lauren V., Ashley P., Alana W., Ashley A., Vivian S., Christina M., Isela G., Eric C., Christopher M., Brian P., Adam S., Evan C., Patrick S., Ian O., Matthew L., Evan O., Aaron M., Ashton F., Maurizio M., Jonathon S., Michael C., Eric M., Tyler H., Marcus J., Ricardo A., Sophia B., Sonia S., Rochelle P., Lauren M., Sarah M., Angela N., Renata P., Carmella B., Alexandra S., Raquel S., Lauren P., Megan H., Rebecca B., Domenic L., Emmanuel J., Joshua F., Ryan C., Spencer G., Keenan N., Jacob T., Jordan D., Alexander C., Joshua A., Nathania S., Danika N., Izabella B., Gloria L., Sherral W., Obeki O., Dwayne F., Nathaniel A., Jerome J., Jason F., Timothy M., Brandon F., Andrew V., Alexander H.



PLASP

operates Before and After School Programs for children up to 12 years of age, at St. Albert of Jerusalem.

**Registration is now taking place.**

Want to know more? See the PLASP staff at this school, or call the PLASP head office 905-890-1711, or visit our website at [www.plasp.com](http://www.plasp.com)

**MEDICATION REMINDER**

If your child is prescribed to take medication during school, we must adhere to the following protocol:

1. Parents are to complete an "Authorization for Storage and Administration of Prescribed Medication" form, available at the school office. This form does require a physician's signature. Medications cannot be distributed by school staff without the proper Board documentation. The school cannot modify or alter the prescription in any way.
2. Send the medication in the proper over the counter prescription or (OTC) container, no baggies, envelopes or tin foil please.
3. For OTC medication, advise when and what dosage your child requires. Parents are responsible for ensuring that all medication and forms are updated annually. Please be aware that school staff **cannot** administer medication. The student must be able to take the medication independently, you or your designate should come to the school to assist them if this is not possible.



**CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL**

Our Catholic School Council executive for the 2010-2011 school year is as follows:

<u>Chairs:</u>	R. Van Vlaenderen
<u>Secretary:</u>	K. Panza
<u>Treasurer:</u>	C. Mascaro
<u>O.A.P.C.E.:</u>	open
<u>Teacher Rep:</u>	L. MacNeill, C. Dulhanty
<u>Non-teaching Rep.:</u>	P. Golin, D. Carpe
<u>Parish Rep:</u>	I. Doma
<u>Community Rep:</u>	open
<u>Fundraising Rep:</u>	P. Oliveira
<b>Members:</b>	N. Augustine, P. Muzzi, L. Querin, J. Souther, B. Maljevac, E. Wilson.

We very much appreciate our active, dedicated and supportive Catholic School Council. We are grateful for your insights and child-centered approach to all cooperative decision-making.

**The next meeting of our Catholic School Council will be on Wednesday, November 17, 2010 at 6:45 p.m. All are warmly invited to attend. Please be an active participant in the decision-making process here at St. Albert of Jerusalem.**



**THANK YOU TO BBQ/CURRICULUM NIGHT VOLUNTEERS**

Thank you to all our volunteers who did such a great job of organizing our Family BBQ Night during our open house. From collecting forms, to counting money, thank you for all of your hard work, and dedication to making this



Parents and guardians of Dufferin-Peel students can stay up-to-date with the latest board news and information by joining the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board E-Community. Members will receive the latest news and

information by email, including media releases, school activities and events, board highlights, school and transportation cancellations, plus useful tips for parents.

**Sign up online today!**

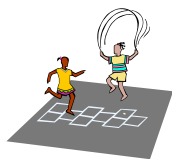


**INTRODUCING the Dufferin-Peel INFOpage - an online resource for information about awards, scholarships, fundraising opportunities, educational resources, professional development opportunities, parent/guardian resources and community events. Access the INFOpage at [www.dpcdsb.org](http://www.dpcdsb.org)**

## SAFE SCHOOL INITIATIVES

At St. Albert of Jerusalem School we have developed a series of measures that help to ensure the safety of your children. With the support of our students, teachers, administrators and parents, a commitment has been made to make the school a safe place for all. We are certain that our combined efforts will make a safer environment for everyone. Some of the many measures we have taken are...

**Line –Painting:** There are a variety of games painted on the tarmac of our schoolyard. These include hopscotch, four-square, pump rings, hand ball squares and circles. Basketball nets are also available to our primary, junior and intermediate students. Staff have begun to review the instructions to these games so that our children can enjoy active, safe and fun recesses.



**Parent Areas:** We have initiated an area where our parents can wait for their children without interrupting play or being mistaken as a school supervisor. Parents are asked to look for these areas and remain outside of the student areas.

**Student In-service:** Our students will be trained on the signs, symptoms and dangers of food allergies. We hope they become our strongest allies in keeping the school safe for all.

**Peace Pals:** Many of our grade five students have volunteered to act as Peace Pals. Mrs. DiFazio, Mrs. Pandullo, Mrs. MacIntosh and Mrs. Mol provided training for our students on October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010. The Peace Pals are available at morning and afternoon recess to lead our primary students in co-operative games.

**Yard Schedules:** In order to provide fairness in the use of the soccer goal posts and field, we have provided intermediate students honors at lunch recess and the junior students have access to the goal post during the morning and afternoon periods.

**Restricted Access to the School:** All entrances other than the front doors, are locked during the school day.

**Visitors to the School:** All parents and visitors entering the school are expected to stop at the office, sign in and receive an identification tag. We respectfully ask that you do not accompany your child or go unannounced to the door of his/her class. If you have to pick up your child, speak to the teacher, or drop something off, we will be glad to assist you in the office. All doorways are clearly marked with signs indicating that **all** visitors must report to the office. Staff and students are expected to report any visitors without identification tags to the office immediately.

**Washrooms:** Washrooms are checked for intruders before the start of the school day. Students are informed and trained that only children have access to their assigned washrooms. All adults use the washrooms specified as adult. Primary aged children travel in pairs when using the washroom during class hours.

**Kiss-N-Ride and Buses:** Safe arrival is paramount at our school. Parents using the Kiss-N-Ride lanes are assured that a safe drop off for the children is provided when they follow the direction of the Kiss-N-Ride volunteers. Bus students are trained in school bus safety. Teacher supervisors are assigned to safely load and off-load the buses.

**Emergency Evacuation:** Teachers and students regularly practice emergency evacuation procedures. These include safe exit from the building in the event of fire, precautions in the event of bomb threat and safety actions to be taken in the event of an intruder alert. In the unforeseen event that we must evacuate the school for emergency purposes, our students will evacuate to St. Therese of the Child Jesus Catholic School.

**Attendance:** As mentioned in an earlier newsletter, our attendance phone line is our connection with the safe arrival of your child. All children that have not been reported as absent are confirmed absent by our safe entry protocol.

**Criminal Reference Checks:** Parents are reminded of the Ministry and Board Policy that requires all volunteers to provide the school with a Criminal Reference Check before they begin working with students. For the upcoming year we request that all parents volunteering for field trips also provide a Criminal Reference Check.

Parents who have previously volunteered at St. Albert of Jerusalem School are required to complete an Offence Declaration form before beginning their duties at the school. **For more information or forms, please contact the school.**

## SOME SCHOOL YEAR AND SAFE ALL-SEASONAL TIPS and NOTES

**Tell** your children to always tell you where they are going and with whom.

**Tell** your children never to go anywhere with a stranger.

**Tell** them never to talk to strangers or take anything from them.

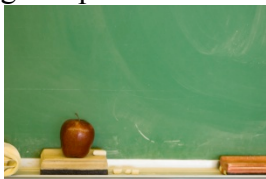
**Teach** your children what a “safe” stranger is, in the event they need help...i.e.:...a police officer...a fire fighter...a teacher....etc...

**Develop** a “what if” game to get children thinking about how they would respond if they felt threatened or afraid.

**Teach** your children to TALK to you immediately when someone does anything that makes them feel uncomfortable.

**Encourage** your children to use a buddy system as an alternative to walking alone.

**Avoid** having your child’s name clearly visible on any piece of clothing or accessory. A stranger may read their name and call it out to your child, fooling your child into believing this person knows them.



### KISS & RIDE

Our Kiss & Ride program is off to a very successful start. Please note that during the school day there is “No Parking” allowed in the driveway at the front of the school.

**A Helpful Hint:** Parents who arrive no earlier than 3:03 p.m. have found that their children are generally ready and waiting for them at this pick up area.

## HALLOWEEN SAFETY

Please remind your children of safety guidelines for Halloween:

- ☺ Not to wear a face mask, so your child will be able to see clearly.
- ☺ Wear light coloured clothing, so drivers can see them.
- ☺ Carry a flashlight, so your child will be able to see on dark streets.
- ☺ Go out with an adult, or an older brother or sister, if under 10 years of age.
- ☺ Stay away from cars, and friendly strangers in cars.
- ☺ Watch for cars, and look both ways when crossing the street.
- ☺ Wear their costumes above their shoes, so they will not trip.
- ☺ Not to eat any treats until they are home, and their parents have checked them.
- ☺ Not to damage anyone else's property.
- ☺ Start trick or treating early, and be home by 8:30 p.m.

### DATES TO REMEMBER....

**October 7:** Peace PALs training

**October 8:** Last day for Food Drive & Picture Day

**October 12:** Thanksgiving Liturgy

**October 18:** Mississauga North Cross Country Meet Lake Aquitaine

**October 25:** Federal Elections at St. Albert

**October 28:** Board Cross Country Meet at Erindale Park

**October 29:** Halloween Dance –primary/ Jr grades in am/ intermediate pm

**November 2:** Report Cards sent home

**November 4:** Student, Parent and Teacher Interviews

**November 17:** School Council 6:45 p.m.

**November 26:** P.A. Day, No classes

### ATTENDANCE

Our Attendance phone line is our connection with the safe arrival of your child. All children that have not been reported as absent are confirmed absent by our safe entry protocol.

Please remember to call our 24 hour attendance line should your child be absent from school at 905-785-9298. Push option 1.

***Please help us out: Supervision begins at 8:15 a.m. Please do not bring your children to school earlier than this time. We know that this may inconvenience many parents due to work schedules. Given today’s safety concerns, it is never a good idea to leave your child unattended. Please make alternative arrangements for the care of your children prior to 8:15 a.m.***

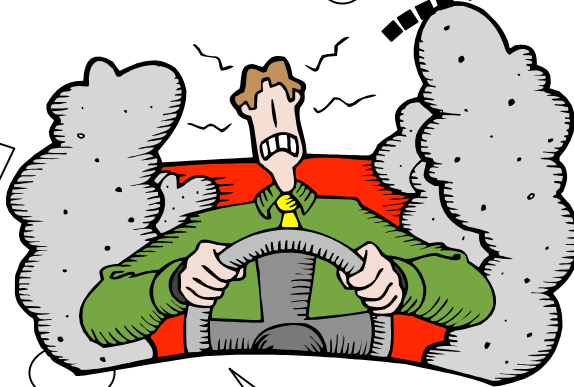
**Frustrated with the wait....** Make a point to only turn right when exiting the school parking lot. If you need to travel south bound, turn right out of the parking lot and then left on Terragar Blvd. You can then go left or right on Ninth Line.

Are your children ready to exit the car???

When you are near the volunteers, unbuckle seatbelts and ensure that backpacks are ready to go and on your child's lap. If your child requires assistance to unbuckle, please consider parking along Rosehurst Drive rather than backing up the drive through lanes.

## “HELP US OUT

Gotta Love our Volunteers... But they did sign up just for 15 minutes, please try not to arrive after 8:30 am



Please give our volunteers a smile and a big thank you. Better yet, come out and lend a hand.

**Good for you, good for the environment...**  
**If you live within 2.0 km of the school, please consider walking... even on cold days. Not only will this help us manage the busy Kiss & Ride, it's also good for your child. Don't forget those Safe Walking Routes to School!!!**

Still frustrated with the wait... the busiest time of the morning drop off is between 8:25 and 8:30. Come right at 8:15; but please remember, if the Kiss & Ride sign isn't out or there are no volunteers, you may have arrived too early. Supervision only begins at 8:15. Children should not be left unattended prior to 8:15.