

Mary Fix Catholic School Newsletter

**Learning and Living
Through God**

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A Children's Prayer for Easter

Time for joy and time for giving
Time for remembering love while living.
Take this message Easter Day
Show kindness, care at home and play.
It's in our very acts of giving
Easter's joy makes life worth living.
Children round the globe now hear
Keep Easter in your heart all year.
May joy and love spread land to land
Linked heart to heart and hand to hand!"



April 2011

Principal, A. Milanetti

Secretary, M. Kivell

Pastor, St. Catherine of Siena
Fr. Ruggiero (905)272-1454

Trustee, B. Iannicca
(905)270-0536

Superintendent, C. Saytar
(905)890-1221

School Council Chair,
K. Ruffolo

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA PARISH

Congratulations to the Grade twos on receiving the sacrament of reconciliation on Monday, March 28th.

Thank you to Fr. Ruggiero, Fr. Aldo, and Fr. Mardeo who came to Mary Fix School on March 30 for Lenten Confessions for Grades 3-8. Also, on March 30th, we celebrated Pizza with the Priest. Congratualtions to Tiffany A., Michael B., Joseph B., Steve C., Rafael F., Elsie K., Suely P., Stephanie S. & Matthew Z. for being selected by their class room teachers for demonstrating Catholic Virtues. Thank you to School Council for supporting this event with pizza and drinks.

HOLY WEEK Schedule

Confessions

Monday, April 18th	7:30-8:30pm
Tuesday, April 19th	7:30-8:30pm
Wednesday, April 20th	7:30-8:30pm

Holy Thursday April 21st

8:00-11:30am	Confessions	8:00pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper
9:00pm	Holy Hour (English)	10:00pm	Holy Hour (Italian)
10:00pm	Holy Hour (Italian)		

Good Friday April 22nd

8:00-11:30am	Confessions	1:00pm	Stations of the Cross (Spanish)
3:00pm	Celebration of the Lord's Passion (English)	5:00pm	Stations of the Cross (English)
6:30pm	Celebration of the Lord's Passion (English)	8:00pm	Stations of the Cross (Italian)
9:00pm	Celebration of the Lord's Passion (Spanish)		

Holy Saturday April 23rd

8:00pm Easter Vigil Mass

Easter Sunday April 24th

8:30am	Mass (English)	10:00am	Mass (Italian)	11:30am	Mass (English)
1:00pm	Mass (English)	4:30pm	Mass (English)	6:00 pm	Mass (Spanish)

Dates to Remember

Pizza Day Apr 1, 8, 15, 21 & 29
Apr 5 Chess Tournament
Apr 13 School Council Mtg.
Apr 13 Graduation Photographs
Apr 17 Holy Week Begins
Apr 21 Holy Thursday
Apr 22 Good Friday (No School)
Apr 24 Easter Sunday
Apr 25 Easter Monday (No School)
Apr 27 & 28 Rosary
May 1-7 Catholic Education Week
May 10-12 Scholastic Book Fair
May 11 & 12 Seussical Junior
May 14 First Holy Communion
May 18 School Council, 7 p.m.
May 25 & 26 Rosary
May 26 Gr 3—Pioneer Village
May 30 EQAO begins
June 7 Grade 8 Confirmation
June 28 Graduation
June 30 Last Day of School





2011/2012 JK Registration

We will continue to accept registrations for Junior & Senior Kindergarten. Early registration assists us in planning for the new school year.

Eligible Junior Kindergarten children must be born in 2007 and must be 4 years of age by December 31, 2011.


The parent/guardian should bring the following documents when registering his/her child:

- proof of age;
- original Catholic Baptismal Certificate of the Roman, Greek or Ukrainian Rite for both the parent and the child;
- up to date immunization records;
- proof of Canadian citizenship or of Landed Immigrant status;
- Proof of address in the Mary Fix School boundary area

Please note that we cannot guarantee morning or afternoon classes. We will note preferences at the registration and will do our best to accommodate your request. Flex Boundary requests must be in writing.

Celebrating Virtues

In **April** the Mary Fix community will celebrate the virtue of love.

Jesus made one lesson clear above all other lessons—the lesson of love. Love is not about us—it is about forgetting ourselves and looking out for the good of the other. That’s what Jesus did—He forgot about himself on purpose. He chose to give up  for the good of others—us!

A Loving Person...

- Wants the best for others
- Is willing to make sacrifices for the good of others
- Learns from the heroic lives of saints & holy people
- Knows that we are all lovable
- Prays for others

First Holy Communion

First Holy Communion for our Grade 2’s will be celebrated on Saturday, April 14th at 1:00 p.m.

Confirmation

Our Grade 8 students will be Confirmed on Tuesday, June 7th at 7:00 p.m.

EQAO Testing

This year’s EQAO assessments for Grade 3 and Grade 6 students will take place between May 30 and June 10, 2011. Attendance at school will be very important during this time for these students. Therefore, parents/guardians are asked to refrain from arranging appointments or taking vacation days during this time.

Graduation Photographs

will be taken on Wednesday, April 13, 2011.



Seussical Junior

Rehearsals are now kicking into high gear for our musical, Seussical Junior, which will be presented May 11th and 12th. Tickets will go on sale towards the end of April.



Thank you very much to Mrs. Belisle, Ms. Buhajczyk, Mrs. Fera, Ms. Furlan, Mrs. Gaipo, Mr. Hanson, Mrs. Patten and Mrs. Pilling for giving so generously of their time to prepare the **over 100 children** for this production.

Iona Presents Eric Roher

Iona is pleased to present a very informative session for the community on Cyberbullying and the Law and how it links to our children. Eric Roher will present to the parent community on the evening of April 13th, 2011. The presentation will be in the cafeteria at 7:00 p.m.

Student Placement Requests

Our staff is beginning to prepare tentative class lists for the 2011/2012 school year. Every effort is made to assess the individual needs of each student and place them accordingly

If you would like to participate in the placement of your child, we ask that you put your concerns and/or request in writing. Please state the environment/setting which will enable him/her to develop to his/her fullest potential. The names of specific teachers should not be mentioned. Any request which states a specific teacher will not be entertained as we cannot guarantee staffing assignments. Please remember that all staffing is tentative and that changes can take place between the time of placement and September. Every effort will be made to meet your child’s needs.

If you are moving or renewing your Flexible Boundary Request, please see the office for a form.

Please submit requests in writing to the office by the end of April.

DUFFERIN-PEEL CYBER-SAFETY EDUCATION FAMILY BROCHURES

In response to growing concern over student safety in online environments, Dufferin-Peel is providing monthly information, tips and strategies to students and parents. In March you should have received “*How Dangerous is the Online World?: Myth vs. Fact*” and this month you will be receiving “*Protecting Your Privacy Online*”.

Mary Fix Chess Club

Congratulations to the Mary Fix Junior Chess Team for their fabulous 9th place finish at the Mississauga South Family of Schools Chess Tournament held at St. Mark School on Tuesday, April 5th. Our team members included: Ryan A, Michael B, Marco B, Anthony B and Joel C. Mrs. Dinga thanks the team for their time, effort and excellent sportsmanship.



Catholic Education Week, May 1-6

In our schools the Spirit of God is alive! When you next walk through the halls, stop and listen. You will hear the marvelous work of the students and staff reflecting God's graciousness in their learning and teaching. This year's Catholic Education Week (May 1-6) gives us an opportunity to shine a light on our schools with this theme:

Catholic Education: Celebrating the Spirit. The scriptural text comes from St. Paul's letter to the Romans: "All who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God." (Romans 8:14) St. Luke also refers to the Spirit when he writes, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me." (Lk 4:18) The Psalmist calls on God's Spirit to renew the face of the earth. During this Catholic Education Week, let's open our doors to God's Spirit in a special way and celebrate how the Spirit is renewing the face of our schools!

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

Monday - The Spirit of Hospitality
 Tuesday - The Spirit of Understanding
 Wednesday - The Spirit of Wisdom
 Thursday - The Spirit of Justice
 Friday - The Spirit of Gratitude

We have planned a number of events and more details regarding the week's activities will be sent home closer to Catholic Education Week.



Thank you to the **Mississauga St., Michael's Majors** for providing tickets to students and their families during the 2010-2011 season. Congratulations to Joseph B. (gr. 1), Joseph B. (gr. 8), Kevin E. (gr. 5), Dylan C. (gr. 5), and Alexandria L. (gr. 4), who won tickets for the March 18th home game. A special thank you to the business partners for their support and made the **Adopt-A-School Program** such a huge success at Mary Fix.

Toothy Tips for Parents

Current information on dental health in Peel indicates that more than 1 in 3 children have been affected by cavities. Cavities can lead to infections in the mouth, pain, poor eating habits, speech problems and expensive dental treatment. Parents can play an important role in helping give their child a healthy smile.

Here are some tips for you and your children:

1. Have your children brush their teeth two times a day for at least two minutes each time. The most important time to brush is before bed time.
2. Supervise and help your child with brushing and flossing until they are able to tie their own shoelaces.
3. Use *Eating well with Canada's Food Guide** to choose healthy foods and snacks. Healthy food choices can help to prevent the start of cavities.
4. Take your child to the dentist regularly.

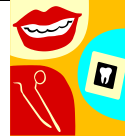
Children in Need of Treatment (CINOT) Program

If you can't afford to take your child to the dentist, you can bring them to a Peel Public Health dental screening clinic for a free dental screening. You may qualify for dental care through the CINOT program if you meet eligibility criteria.

For more information, or to book a dental screening appointment, call Peel Public Health at: (905)799-7700.

*Eating Well with Canada's Food Guide is available at:
www.healthcanada.gc.ca/foodguide

Region of Peel
 Working for you
 Public Health



School Council News

The Mary Fix School Council is thrilled to have sponsored so many special events this year for our Mary Fix Community.

Our first ever Mardi Gras/Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner was a huge success. We provided pancakes, bacon and treats for over 100 Mary Fix families! It was a great opportunity for fun and fellowship. Thank you so much to all the volunteers who donated prizes, set up the room, flipped pancakes, fried bacon, served food and cleaned up. Thank you to Mrs. Milanetti and the many other staff members who supported this event. We would like to offer a separate shout out to J. Tomczak whose vision, organizational skills and hard work helped to make the evening such a hit.

Thanks also to our families for their generosity in the donation of food for the parish's Easter Food Drive.

On March 29th the School Council sponsored Chris Vollum, Facebook and Twitter expert who spoke with Grade 4-8 students in the afternoon and many of our parents and Bruno Iannicca, our Trustee, in the evening. See the insert in this newsletter for tips on managing and monitoring your child's Facebook activity.

This year's OAPCE (Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education) conference will be held on May 13th and 14th. This year's theme is 'Celebrating Parent Partnerships in Catholic Education'. More information to follow.

On behalf of the School Council, let me wish everyone a holy and blessed Easter season. Make sure you check the front page of the newsletter for a schedule of Easter celebrations at St. Catherine of Siena Church.

Please join us for our next meeting, Wednesday, April 13th at 7 p.m.

K. Ruffolo

School Council Chair





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YOUTH FAITH AMBASSADORS

The Youth Faith Ambassadors are taking on a number of initiatives over the next few weeks.

Wednesday, April 6 was the first day of our weekly popcorn sales. Bags of Kernels popcorn will be sold each Wednesday for \$2 with the proceeds going to support **ACCESS** charity.

Since March 2006, ACCESS has raised thousands of dollars to help hundreds of children in schools in the developing world by providing uniforms, shoes, school supplies, and more. Additional funds have been allocated towards needs such as classroom supplies, stipends for teaching assistants, transportation, construction of classrooms, and school renovations.

The inspiration behind this organization came from a trip to the developing world in early 2006. Daniel Francavilla traveled to the Dominican Republic as part of a student Exposure Experience program. While on the trip students was exposed to the extreme poverty that the people of this beautiful country face. Visiting the isolated communities and experiencing the children surrounding him asking for simple things such as paper and pens was the trigger of the desire to help these children obtain a better life.

ACCESS started off as a collection at a Brampton church, after Daniel presented his trip experiences to the congregation. Because of the generosity of the parishioners, the organization started off strong and continues to grow into what it is today.

On Monday, April 4 Daniel Francavilla joined us at Mary Fix and shared his experiences with us. Over the next few months we will work as a school community to raise funds that will support this worthwhile organization, **ACCESS: Allowing Children a Chance at Education.**

We are also collecting pop tabs. Students will be asked to bring in pop tabs that will be collected by the Cooksville Legion's Tab for Wheelchairs Campaign and taken to a local metal recycling depot. The funds paid for this aluminum will be used to purchase wheelchairs. It takes a staggering 2,500,000 tabs to purchase one average wheelchair, so please start saving your pop tabs at home and at school for this great cause.

Students will also be supporting the Mats for Haiti program by collecting milk bags. The plastic bag which holds our milk bags takes approximately 15 years to breakdown in landfill sites. Volunteers around Ontario have been cutting these bags into one inch wide loops, tying them together into long 'yarn' and crocheting them into very useful sleeping mats for Haiti.

This strictly Canadian initiative is two fold, one it keeps the bags out of our landfills while giving a child a place to rest their head other then the dirt. These bags which would otherwise end up in landfills or recycling depots have become an exclusive Canadian project as only Canada has these milk bags. This program was started in 2009 and has grown rapidly across Canada and we are happy to support this cause. Please support all of our initiatives and send in your pop tabs and milk bags!

SHARELIFE WEEK IS APRIL 11th—15th

Lent is a time to focus on almsgiving; at Mary Fix we are encouraging the students to give. During ShareLife week we will be having student inspired spirit days. In order to take part in these activities, we are asking each student to donate \$1 per activity. All monies raised will be donated to ShareLife charities.

Activity Schedule

- Monday, April 11th Gum Day (chew your gum in class!)
- Wednesday, April 12 Hat Day (wear a hat of your choice, all day long!)
- Friday, April 15 Game Day (bring in your non-electronic games to play during a free time period)



*Helping the whole community
through Catholic agencies*