

# St. Patrick Catholic School

3889 Wilton Rd., Harrowsmith, Ontario K0H 1V0  
Tel: 1 (613) 372.2251 Fax: 1 (613) 372.2726  
flhpstph@alcdsb.on.ca [www.alcdsb.on.ca/school/stph](http://www.alcdsb.on.ca/school/stph)



## December Newsletter

### Advent Family Prayer

God of Love,  
Your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us.  
He is a sign of your love.  
Help us walk in that love during the weeks of Advent,  
As we wait and prepare for his coming.  
We pray in the name of Jesus, our Savior.  
Amen

### Advent News

The Advent season is upon us as Christmas approaches and St. Pats will be a busy place in the upcoming month. Here is a quick update on our Advent and Christmas initiatives and activities.

**Jingle Bell Walk** – On Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 3:00, our school will be participating in the annual Jingle Bell Walk. The Jingle Bell Walk is sponsored by our local Health Unit to promote an active lifestyle while doing something helpful for our community. Students are encouraged to bring in a non-perishable food item to be donated to our local food bank or local families.

**Advent Food Drive** – Coinciding with the Jingle Bell Walk on December 1<sup>st</sup>, we will be collecting non-perishable food items until the Christmas Break. All donations will be kept under our Christmas tree in our front foyer to be given to the food bank and local families. This year, families also have the option of making a cash donation through School CashOnline. Any monetary donations that we receive will be used to purchase grocery gift cards that will also be donated to our local food bank. Many thanks for your generosity!

**Advent Prayer Services** – , Classes have signed up to lead the school in a weekly Advent Prayer Service each Tuesday morning at 10:45 in our gymnasium (except Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup> as that day is our school Mass). The prayer services are a faith-filled way for us to come together to celebrate this joyful season.

**Christmas Concert** – Great news! Our Christmas Concert is back on again this year! Each class will put on a short performance in our gymnasium on Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> beginning at 1:15. Parents/guardians are welcome to attend. More information to come.

**Poinsettia/Christmas Tree Fundraisers** – Thank you to everyone who purchased poinsettias and/or Christmas trees in support of our Christmas fundraiser. Thanks, as well, to our School Council for all the organizing that went into our fundraisers. Poinsettias can be picked at the school in our library on Thursday, November 30<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 - 4:30.

**Christmas Dinner** – We are very excited to announce that our school is able to offer a Christmas Dinner to all of our students again this year on Thursday, December 21<sup>st</sup> over the lunch period. More information to follow, so stay tuned.

**Door Decoration** – Each of our classrooms will be taking part in a Christmas Door Decoration Contest, much like we did for Halloween. The winning door's classroom will be awarded a special surprise. Good luck classes!

**Nativity Kits** – Our school has ordered a set of Nativity Kits for some of our students. The kits are wooden Nativity Scenes that are assembled in class to represent Jesus' birth.

**Food Bank Bag Decorations** – This year, our students will again be colouring and decoration brown paper bags that our local food bank will be using when they distribute food for Christmas.

### **Volleyball**

Volleyball season has wrapped up and our teams have participated in our board tournaments. Thanks to all of our teams for representing St Pats so well at all the tournaments. Thanks to our coaches for offering their time and talents to our students. Our Sr. Boys' Team have made it to the championship game on Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 at Regiopolis-Notre Dame. Good luck to our team!

### **Dropping off Late Students**

For those who may be dropping off students who are late arriving to school or returning from an appointment, please ensure that students come to the office instead of going directly to class once they arrive. This is particularly important for our Kindergarten classes, which are located right near our main entrance and our students in the portable classroom. This greatly helps us to keep track of who is here at the main office and minimizes distractions in the classroom. The student is able to come to the office to check in and the parent does not need to come into the school. Parents should never be wandering the halls. If a student needs assistance getting to a classroom, our secretary can help them.

### **Remembrance Day Service**

With Remembrance Day falling on the weekend this year and Friday being a PA Day, our school held our annual Remembrance Day Service on Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup>. Each class created their own wreath for the service, which was well-attended by our school community. The service offers us a chance to remember those who have sacrificed on our behalf while reminding us all to be peacemakers in our daily lives.

### **Winter Weather is upon us!**

Students are outside for recess for 15-30-minute intervals throughout the day, so it is important to dress accordingly. We also remind students that throwing snow or snowballs is an unacceptable activity at school.

### **Parish News**

**Tuk Donations-** A big thank you to the generous support of St. Pat's from the church.

**St. Pats Christmas Luncheon** - The Knights of Columbus have confirmed they will donate \$250 towards the school's Christmas luncheon.

### **Advent Confessions**

Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup> 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup> 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

**Knights of Columbus Bingo** - Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup> in the parish hall at 7 p.m.

**Gr. 8 Graduation, Liturgy of the Word - Thursday, June 20th at 5:30 pm**

**Parish Office will be closed From December 25<sup>th</sup> until January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

### **First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion – Parents only need to attend one session**

Registration forms for First Reconciliation & First Holy Communion and Confirmation must be **handed in at the church, not the school**. The information sheets and registration form can be downloaded from the parish website: <https://www.stpat-stmary-railton-odessa.com/> Parents will then need to complete the forms and attach a copy of their child's baptism certificate. **The paperwork must be handed in at the church or brought to the parent's meeting.**

Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 12:30 p.m. Parent's meeting for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.

Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. Parent's meeting for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.

### **Confirmation – Parents only need to attend one session**

Information sheets and the registration form for Confirmation will be uploaded on the parish website soon. Parish website: <https://www.stpat-stmary-railton-odessa.com/> Parents will then need to complete the form and attach a copy of their child's baptism certificate. **The paperwork must be handed in at the church or brought to the parent's meeting.**

Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 7 p.m. Parent's meeting for Confirmation.

Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024 at 12:30 p.m. Parent's meeting for Confirmation.

### **St. Patrick Catholic School**

3889 Wilton Rd., Harrowsmith, Ontario K0H 1V0

Tel: 1 (613) 372.2251 Fax: 1 (613) 372.2726

flhpstph@alcdsb.on.ca [www.alcdsb.on.ca/school/stph](http://www.alcdsb.on.ca/school/stph)

## Parish Christmas Mass Schedule

Here is the 2023 Christmas and New Year's Schedule for St. Patrick's Church.

December 24	Sunday Mass at 11:00 a.m.
<b>December 24</b>	<b>Christmas Eve Mass at 5:00 p.m.</b>
<b>December 25</b>	<b>Christmas Day Mass at 11:00 a.m.</b>
December 31	Sunday Mass at 11:00 a.m.
<b>December 31</b>	<b>New Year's Eve Mass at 5:00 p.m.</b>
<b>January 1, 2024</b>	<b>New Year's Mass at 11:00 a.m.</b>

## School Masses

The following dates were selected for school Masses for 2023-24. They will all take place in the church at 10:00 am on these dates:

Tuesday, December 19th

Tuesday, January 16th

Wednesday, Feb 14th (Ash Wednesday)

Tuesday, March 19th

Tuesday, April 16th

Tuesday, May 28th

## Upcoming Dates:

Fri, Dec 1	Staff Vs. Sr. Boys Volleyball Game @ 2:40
Fri, Dec 1	Jingle Bell Walk @ 3:00
Sun, Dec 3	Advent Begins
Sun, Dec 3	International Day of Persons with Disabilities
Tues, Dec 5	Advent Prayer Service @ 10:45
Wed, Dec 6	Sr. Boys' Volleyball Championship Game @ 7:00
Fri, Dec 8	Sydenham High School Band Performances
Tues, Dec 12	Advent Prayer Service @ 10:45
Wed, Dec 13	Gr. 5-8 Class Trip to See Cinderella @ RND
Fri, Dec 15	Gr. 3-4 Class Trip to the Nativity Exhibition
Mon, Dec 18	Red, Green, & White Day
Tues, Dec 19	Christmas Socks Day
Tues, Dec 19	School Mass @ 10:00 at St. Patrick Catholic Church
Wed, Dec 20	Christmas Hat or Headband Day
Wed, Dec 20	Christmas Concert @ 1:15
Thurs, Dec 21	Christmas Sweater Day
Thurs, Dec 21	Christmas Dinner @ 12:00
Fri, Dec 22	Pajama Day
Dec 25 – Jan 5	Christmas Break

Merry Christmas everyone!

Mr. Minutillo

Mr. Wells

### St. Patrick Catholic School


3889 Wilton Rd., Harrowsmith, Ontario K0H 1V0

Tel: 1 (613) 372.2251 Fax: 1 (613) 372.2726

flhpstph@alcdsb.on.ca [www.alcdsb.on.ca/school/stph](http://www.alcdsb.on.ca/school/stph)

Principal

Vice-principal



Businesses, Groups, and Families  
are invited as a parade participant or as a spectator.  
Harrowsmith & District Social & Athletic Club's  
**"PARADE OF LIGHTS"**  
*Drive-Through in Centennial Park*  
**December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021**  
**5:30 pm – 7:00 pm**  
**\*\*Please enter via Colebrook Rd. to Notre Dame St.\*\***  
*If you would like to do a 'Light Up' Christmas themed display, please contact  
the Club by email 'harrowsmithsanda@gmail.com' ATT: Parade Committee.  
PARADE PARTICIPANTS NEED TO BE SET-UP NO LATER THAN 4:30 PM.*  
**It is recommended that residents not park on the streets  
to allow for cars to line up to see the parade.**  
**Non-perishable food donations will be collected along route by SFCSC.  
Monetary donations to the Club would be most welcome as well.**