

# St. Patrick Catholic School

3889 Wilton Rd., Harrowsmith, Ontario K0H 1V0  
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## December Newsletter

My little Lord Jesus, I love You and thank You for this Advent season. Please help me to understand all that You have done for me. Your loving mother held You in her heart and brought You into this world. Help me to do the same.

My loving Jesus, I choose You, this Advent, as my King and my God. Draw me close to You and help me to see my sins so that I can change the things that You want me to change.

Mother Mary, pray for me this Advent so that I may do all that God wants me to do. You said “Yes” to all that God asked of you. Please pray for me that I may do the same.

Come, Lord Jesus, come!  
I love You, Jesus.  
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 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2:55, 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. In exchange for a jingle bell, 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, 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. Many thanks for your generosity!

**Advent Prayer Services** – From now until the Christmas Break, classes have signed up to lead the school in a weekly Advent Prayer Service each Monday morning at 11:00 in our gymnasium. 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 Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> beginning at 1:00. 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. Just a reminder that Christmas trees are ready for pick up at the Christmas tree farm now and poinsettias can be picked at the school in our library on Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup> from 3:30-5:00.

**Christmas Cards** – Our students have been busy creating Christmas Cards in partnership with our Parish. The Christmas Cards creations will be brought over to St. Patrick Catholic Church in Railton to be sold in bunches at Sunday Mass.

**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 22<sup>nd</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 movie and pizza party. Good luck classes!

**St. Patrick Clothing** - Our school is happy to be able to offer Spirit Wear again this year to everyone. St. Patrick t-shirts and hoodies are available for purchase for a great price through Primetime. All clothing is being offered to friends and family in our school community at cost so that our prices remain as affordable as possible (no profit mark-up). All purchases can be made online directly from Primetime by following the link: [St Patrick Catholic School \(st-patrick-catholic-school.myshopify.com\)](http://St Patrick Catholic School (st-patrick-catholic-school.myshopify.com)) . Please note that all purchases must be made by November 30<sup>th</sup>. Clothing orders will be delivered to the school during the week of December 19<sup>th</sup> for distribution to families. Just in time for a great Christmas gift!

**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.

### **Volleyball**

Volleyball season is upon us and our teams have been busy practicing for their board tournaments. We wish the best of luck to all of our teams as they represent St Pats at the Jr Boys, Jr. Girls, Sr. Boys, and Sr Girls tournaments.

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

Students are outside for recess for 20-30-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.

### **Sydenham High School Band Performance**

Sydenham High School will be visiting St Pats on Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup> as part of their tour of local elementary schools. They plan to play a few songs, introduce the students to the instruments in the band, and answer some questions about being in a band and learning music.

## **Tuk Donations**

Thank you for your generosity while supporting our longtime Parish partnership in collecting donations for Tuk. Our school collected items that were sent to the northern community of Tuktoyaktuk in The Yukon. This is partnership that our Parish and the school have been involved with for many years now, which has been a way to foster a friendship with a faraway Parish while helping families who may need some extra support.

## **Upcoming Dates:**

Thursday, December 1	Sr. Boys vs Staff Volleyball Game
Thursday, December 1	Poinsettia Fundraiser Pick-Up from 3:30-5:00
Friday, December 2	Jr. Girls' Volleyball Tournament
Friday, December 2	Jingle Bell Walk @ 2:55
Monday, December 5	Gr. 7/8 Classes Visit A Day in the Arts @ Holy Cross
Monday, December 5	Advent Prayer Service @ 11:00
Thursday, December 8	Sydenham High School Band Performance @ 10:45
Monday, December 12	Sr. Boys' Volleyball Tournament
Monday, December 12	Advent Prayer Service @ 11:00
Tuesday, December 13	School Mass in our Gym @ 10:00
Wednesday, December 14	Sr. Girls' Volleyball Tournament
Monday, December 19	Advent Prayer Service
Tuesday, December 20	Christmas Concert @ 1:00
Thursday, December 22	Christmas Dinner @ 12:00
Dec 23 – Jan 6	Christmas Break
Sunday, December 25	Christmas
Sunday, January 1	New Years Day
Monday, January 9	Classes Resume

Merry Christmas everyone!

Mr. Minutillo  
Principal

Mr. Wells  
Vice-principal

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Businesses, Groups, and Families  
are invited as a parade participant or as a spectator.

*Harrow Smith & 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.**

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