

CORPUS CHRISTI NEWSLETTER

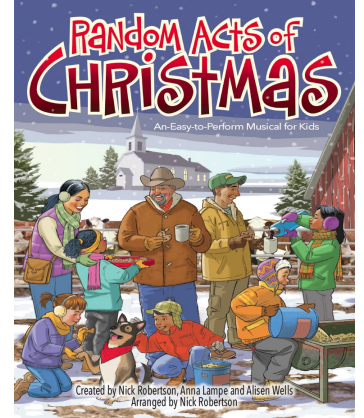
December 13, 2024

CHRISTMAS CONCERT PERFORMANCES

Tuesday, December 17th, and Wednesday, December 18th - There will be Matinee performances @ 1:45 – 2:45. Students are asked to come to school dressed in their costumes.

On Wednesday, December 18th - There will be an evening performance at 7:00pm. Students are expected to be in attendance. Students are asked to arrive at school by 6:45pm dressed in their costumes and wait under the covered area. Staff will bring students in from the covered area.

Admission is by donation to help raise money for Catholic Charities.



EVENING CONCERT AUDIENCE PROTOCOL

In keeping in line with safety protocols, each family has received **two tickets only** for the evening performance. They have been sent home today with your eldest child. Younger siblings (four years old and under) must sit on adult laps as chairs are reserved for adults.

Please inform extended family members about seating restrictions and invite them to attend the matinee performances. Only those with tickets will be allowed admittance to the Gymnasium for the evening performance.

After grade performances, students will wait for parents in their classrooms and will be supervised by school staff. Once picked up students cannot be taken into the gymnasium.

IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday, December 19th – **DRESS DOWN DAY** Students are welcome to come to school dressed in their Christmas Pajamas.

Friday, December 20th – **Early Dismissal at 11:30AM.**

The school will be closed for Christmas break from **Monday, December 23rd, 2024, to Friday, January 3rd, 2025.** The school will reopen on **Monday, January 6th, 2025.**

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From the Pastors Desk
December 13th, 2024



Greetings to all the parents of the Corpus Christi Parish School Community.

This Sunday is Gaudete Sunday (Joy Sunday). The Entrance Antiphon states: **“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.”** (Phil 4:4-5) So, what happens on this Sunday? On this one Sunday of Advent, we are allowed to have flowers in the sanctuary and the priest can wear rose colored vestments – both of these symbolize and convey the joy that we should have as children of God and members of the Church. Why? Because, as St Paul goes on to say, the Lord is near! The birth of Jesus is very soon!

I really encourage everyone to keep Advent as Advent. Wait for Christmas to celebrate Christmas. An example of this would be try and play only Advent music/hymns. To help you keep Advent a parishioner has put this list of Advent hymns together for us. Thank you, Frank Hangler. <https://tinyurl.com/music-for-advent>

Strive to be intentional to make room for Jesus Christ during this season. Here are some practical suggestions to help make this happen. Make a well prepared, carefully prayed examination of conscience, before going to Confession. Here is a link with an examination to assist you:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1AcvJLNe4dQX5POkSpome74oo73JFv2OJguMv5i5nwlg/edit?usp=sharing>

Each day share one blessing of the day with family members – a great thing to do at the dinner table or in the family room. Pray one decade of the rosary each day (this only takes about 3-4 minutes).

Let us pray for each other during this Advent season. May we all be prepared to celebrate Christ's birth with open hearts to his saving message.

Fr Hamilton

THANK YOU

On behalf of the entire staff, I would like to thank all the parents who participated in the staff gift. We truly appreciate your kindness and thoughtfulness. Thank you for the beautiful card that was made! See card below.



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ABOUT ADVENT

Advent is a time of observing the coming Christmas holiday, Jesus' Birth, and is celebrated by Catholics and Orthodox Christians throughout the world. The observance of Advent has its roots in ancient times. Advent means "coming," referring to the coming of Christ. The season of Advent is four weeks before Christmas. Advent calendars are commonly used as a "countdown" to Christmas. Small toys or candies are placed inside little doors or windows, and one door is opened each day to count the days till Christmas. The advent wreath counts down the weeks left until Christmas, starting with the 4th Sunday before Christmas.



An advent wreath contains 4 candles, 3 purple, and 1 pink. Purple signifies penitence and fasting in preparation for the coming of a King. The pink candle is for the 3rd Sunday (also known as the Sunday of Joy). A candle is lit on the advent wreath during the Sunday evening meal. This candle will be lit every evening during the evening meal in many cases. Each week an additional candle is lit, until the last Sunday before Christmas, when all four candles burn. A portion of the Christmas story may be told each week and a devotional completed as part of the observance.

Prayers for Lighting the Advent Wreath

Blessing of the Wreath

God of love, may this wreath and its light remind us that Jesus came to save us from our sin. Bless this wreath and all who gather around it as we prepare our hearts to celebrate Christmas. Come, Lord Jesus, bring hope, faith, and life to our world. Amen.

Week 1, Hope

Dear Jesus, you are the hope in our messy world. This Advent, help us slow down, listen to your voice, and focus on what's really important. We place our hope in you as we prepare our hearts to celebrate your birth on Christmas. Amen.

Week 2, Peace

Dear Jesus, you entered our world on Christmas as the Prince of Peace. This Advent, as we strive to become the-best-version-of-ourselves, fill us with a deep and abiding peace. Help us share that peace with everyone we encounter, especially those who need it most. Amen.

Week 3, Joy

Dear Jesus, help us focus on you during this busy season. May we stay aware of the joy you bring into our lives. We want to find you in the everyday moments and come with hearts of gratitude to your manger on Christmas. Amen.

Week 4, Love

Dear Jesus, may the light of your love always shine in our hearts. As Christmas draws closer, we marvel at your great love for us. Let your love transform every aspect of our lives and touch everyone we encounter. Our hearts are open to you, Jesus. Amen.

Advent Prayer for Families

Heavenly Father, your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us, a great sign of your love. Guide us as we strive to walk in that love together as a family this Advent. As we prepare our hearts for Christmas, bring us closer to each other and to your son. Give us the grace and strength we need every day. Help us to always trust in you. Come, Lord Jesus, lead all people closer to you. Come and dispel the darkness of our world with the light of your love. Amen.

Blessing the Advent Wreath with Children

Dear Jesus, as we light the candle(s) on this Advent wreath, may the light of your presence bring joy to our hearts. Bless our family and our friends and be with all those who are in need this holiday season. Amen.

APPROPRIATE OUTDOOR WINTER CLOTHING

For colder weather, especially during snowfalls and rain, please make sure your children are dressed suitably (winter coats, hats, mitts, boots) for outside recess times.



WEATHER MEMO...

Please review following procedures should the school close due to weather conditions.

1. Check your email
2. Visit the school website— <https://www.cchristi.ca/> (6:30 AM) approx.
3. Follow our school Instagram page **@corpuschristielementary**.
4. Listen to CKNW (980 AM) or watch Global News.



It is the parent(s) responsibility to verify if the school will be open due to the weather based on the information sources noted above.

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

The AGM will be held on Tuesday, January 21st, 2025 @ 6:30 pm.

TRAFFIC/PARKING LOT SAFETY

Regulations in the parking lot are in place to ensure the safety of the children. It is essential that parents follow the instructions of staff and yard supervisors on duty. Parents are expected to follow instructions respectfully and comply.

Be aware of residents parked on Nanaimo Street who need to merge. Please stop and allow them access to Nanaimo Street.

MORNING AND AFTERSCHOOL TRAFFIC AND PARKING LOT DUTY PROTOCOLS

Upon arrival check in with other supervisors to ensure that there is one parent at each crosswalk, Nanaimo St. and Waverley Ave. When at all possible two parents should stand at the crosswalks. There should also be a parent at the mid-point slowing down traffic and watching for pedestrians. If the

Parents must not use this time to socialize. Morning and afterschool supervision is one of our most important participation responsibilities as it impacts the safety of children. Parents are asked to supervise carefully, free of distractions.

Cancellation: Remember that cancelling your spot should be done 48 hours before your supervision (2 days in advance) and that it is the parent's responsibility to find a replacement.

It has come to our attention that "no shows" are signing in. If you did not supervise or complete your hours, do not sign in. There will be a \$25 no show penalty.

Supervision Responsibilities (Please Review)

- Always keeps students in sight.

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- Maintains safety.
- Encourages positive atmosphere.
- Anticipates potential dangers and initiates preventive action by informing teacher supervisor
- Any debris or damaged equipment must be reported to supervising teacher
- Report serious injuries as they will be attended by the supervising teacher
- Assists supervising teacher in applying school rules and ensures the teacher is informed when school rules have been violated.
- Exercises a certain amount of understanding, good judgement, good example, impartiality, an absence of discrimination.
- Ensures that students remain within the limits of the designated areas.
- Remain always with the students to be supervised.
- Supervisors must ensure they circulate in the school yard within their assigned zones. Or follow the directions of the supervising teacher
- **Supervisors are not permitted to eat or smoke while supervising students, or use Cellphones, take photos or videos**
- Supervisors' children cannot accompany parents during supervision
- Supervisors must be on time, sign in and wears Safety vest