

CORPUS CHRISTI NEWSLETTER

February 21st, 2025

IMPORTANT DATES

- Tues., Feb. 25** Holy Communion Talk #2 - Online at 6:45pm for Gr. 2 (Parents only) A zoom link will be emailed you the day of.
- Thurs., Feb. 27** Anti-Bullying Dress Down Day - Pink Day
We encourage everyone to practice kindness and wear pink to symbolize that you do not tolerate bullying. Students that do not wear pink, must wear their school uniform.
- Fri., Feb. 28** School Closed for Teacher Professional Day
- Sat., Mar. 1** Saturday Work Party
- Wed., Mar. 5** Ash Wednesday
- Sun., Mar. 9** **Daylight Savings** 3:00:00 am local daylight time instead. Sunrise and sunset will be about 1 hour later on Mar 9, 2025 than the day before.
- Wed., Mar. 12** Second Written update distributed (Report Card)
- Thurs., Mar. 13** Student Led Conferences
- Fri., Mar. 14** **Green Dress Down Day in Celebration of St. Patrick's Day**
- Mon., Mar 17** Spring Break
- Mon., Mar 31** Return from Spring Break



TUITION TAX RECEIPT 2024

Tuition Tax Receipts 2024 are ready for pick up in the school lobby.

CITY OF VANCOUVER

See attached letter from the City of Vancouver regarding 2325 Claredon St. (2499 E. 8th – Sewer Repair Project)

Cambridge Uniforms 5% Discount Week

To show their appreciation to the CISVA Cambridge Uniforms is pleased to announce their annual 5% discount week will run February 20-28, 2025.

Families attending Corpus Christi School will automatically receive this discount when they place their order online. The discount will be automatically applied at the checkout stage of their online order.

The below email is an automated email that will be sent to all families who have accounts with Cambridge Uniforms and who are subscribed to receive emails from us.

CORPUS CHRISTI NEWSLETTER

February 21st, 2025

STUDENT LED CONFERENCES - SIGNUP

Student Led Conferences will be held in person on **Thursday, March 13, 2025**

Please sign up for your Student Led Conference scheduled time by clicking the link below.

STUDENT LED LINK

Student Led Conferences allow students to take the lead as they provide their parents with examples of their progress and set goals. It encourages students to take responsibility for their learning and to share their work. It also fosters teamwork between the student, parents, and teacher.

Each student will be given fifteen minutes (15 mins) with their parents. Please ensure you are signing up for the correct class/grade and only one slot. Once you select a time slot you cannot change it. All students must be dressed in their school uniform. Also, please be on time for your scheduled time and leave promptly. This will avoid any delays.



DURING LENT

"Give alms ... pray to your Father ... fast, [but] do not look gloomy" ~ Matthew 6:2-16

Why Do We Pray?

As Catholics, we believe that personal prayer is not complete unless our prayers are joined with the community of faith who is the living Body of Christ. The Sunday liturgy is the greatest form of prayer because together we receive the gift of the Holy Eucharist — the very real presence of the Risen Christ. Attending weekly (or daily) Mass is an essential part of a healthy prayer life.

Deepening Prayer

Throughout the season of Lent, we are called to deepen our prayer life. For some of us, this means beginning a habit of daily prayer, setting aside time each day to share our hopes, joys, fears and frustrations with God. Praying first thing in the morning, while the house is still quiet, or talking to God while on your commute to work are simple ways to integrate prayer into everyday life. Praying the Rosary, visiting the Blessed Sacrament or attending a daylong silent retreat may bring you to new places in your relationship with God.

Why Do We Fast?

Lent has traditionally been the season where we give something up, often sweets or a favorite food, in order to focus on the sacrifice Christ made on the cross. But fasting is much more than a means of developing self-control. Fasting is spiritual and physical purification; the pangs of hunger remind us of our hunger for God. Fasting and abstinence help us to participate more fully in the cross of Christ.



CORPUS CHRISTI NEWSLETTER

February 21st, 2025

Fresh Ways to Fast

- In the Western world, fasting from food is a reminder of our abundance and a way to walk in solidarity with people around the world who struggle with daily hunger and starvation. Pause to remember families that face hunger as you fast.
- Limiting social-media exposure or fasting from the 24-hour news networks are ways to quiet our minds and open our hearts to transformation.
- We might also strive to fast from anger, road rage, workaholism, judgment or jealousy.

Lent is a time to fast from those things or habits that may have become a roadblock to our relationship with Christ.

Church Guidelines for Fasting and Abstinence

The law of abstinence obliges those 14 years of age and older not to eat meat on Fridays throughout the season of Lent as well as on Ash Wednesday. The law of fast obliges all those from ages 18 through 59 to refrain from eating between meals and to limit their eating to one full meal and two lighter meals on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Why Do We Give Alms?

Charitable giving is a very ancient practice; almsgiving was normative long before the time of Jesus. The Lenten call to almsgiving means making the needs of other people our own. One of the central lessons of the cross is compassion; the heavy burdens we carry help us to appreciate the suffering in others. Sharing our material goods is often just the beginning of real Christian giving. We are also called to share our time tending to people in need.

Outside-the-Box Ideas for Giving

- Volunteer at a neonatal center, giving premature babies a human touch
- Tutor a child or mentor a college graduate
- Increase your donation to your local parish

Lent is a time to prepare for Easter; it is a necessary prelude. The sacrificial practices of Lent prepare and purify us in body, mind and spirit for the passion of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

LENT

The Season of Lent: When Catholics Repent

The season of Lent is one of the most significant events of the year for the Catholic Church. Lent starts on Ash Wednesday and continues for forty days (excluding Sundays), ending on Holy Saturday, the day before Easter Sunday.

A Word About Lent

The word "Lent" comes from the Old English meaning, "spring." Like so many other holidays, Lent is a season-based holiday that, over the centuries, has become almost

CORPUS CHRISTI NEWSLETTER

February 21st, 2025

synonymous with spring. In other languages, the holiday is referred to as "Quadragesima," a term that means "the 40 days."

A Season That's 40 Days Long

The season of Lent lasts for forty days because this is the biblical number of days necessary for preparation. For instance, Moses stayed on Mt. Sinai for forty days and Jesus spent forty days in the wilderness, praying and fasting.

For Catholics, Lent is a period of ongoing prayer, fasting and abstinence. It's about commemorating Jesus Christ's death for our sins and His ultimate resurrection for our salvation. Traditionally, Lent has been a period in which Catholics "give up" something they enjoy. Surrendering a particular pleasure (such as a favorite food or drink or going to the movies) is done in the name of repentance. It also serves as a means of imposing a discipline on our wills—to prove (to ourselves) that we are not slaves to pleasure. It's important to note that this Lenten denial of pleasure is not an end in itself, but rather a *means* to an end.

Fasting is Voluntary

Fasting and abstinence during the season of Lent is done on a strictly voluntary basis. The fasting is not strict by any means. According to a definition as specified by the Catholic Church, Lenten fasting allows the faster to consume one complete meal and up to two snacks a day, as long as those two snacks do NOT add up to one meal.

It is important to note that fasting is NOT allowed to take place on Sundays because Sunday is the day Christ rose from the dead. It is therefore inappropriate to fast or atone for our sins on such a glorious day. In the Christian faith, Sundays—even Sundays during the season of Lent—are cause for celebration.

What Lent Means Today

Today, Lent has evolved from its strict time of penance into a statement of solidarity for those about to be baptized. Those already baptized can use the Lenten period to reaffirm their baptismal promises as well. The point on all counts is to affirm—or reaffirm—one's connection and commitment to Jesus Christ. Accordingly, during Lent, believers must bring their questions, their sinfulness, their hunger and their thirst—through the Lenten sacrifice—to attest to their need to grow spiritually and their longing for God.

As stated earlier, the season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2024. On Ash Wednesday (the Day of Ashes) the foreheads of Christians are marked with ash in the sign of the cross to symbolize their devotion to God. The ashes used on Ash Wednesday are the burned remains of the palms from the previous year's Palm Sunday.

Other significant days that occur during the season of Lent are:

- **Palm Sunday** occurs on the Sunday before Easter and marks the beginning of Holy Week. April 13
- **Holy Thursday** (Maundy Thursday) is the day of the Last Supper (or the First Mass). In addition, this meal was a celebration of Passover. April 17

CORPUS CHRISTI NEWSLETTER

February 21st, 2025

- **Good Friday** occurs the Friday before Easter and commemorates Christ's crucifixion. April 18
- **Holy Saturday** is the day Christ was laid in the tomb. It is the last day of Lent, the day before Easter. April 19
- **Easter Sunday** marks the day of Christ's Resurrection and is the first day after Lent. April 20
- **East Monday** – School Closed – April 21

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.

To help alleviate parking lot congestion, we ask that parents pick up their children and leave promptly, freeing parking spots for other families.

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 on Nanaimo St. and Waverley, as well as, the corner of 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, guiding vehicles out of the parish parking lot and upper parking lot, and watching for pedestrians.

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.

Parking Lot Supervision Responsibilities (Please Review)

- Always keep students in sight.
- Maintain safety.
- Encourage a positive atmosphere.
- Anticipate potential dangers and initiates preventive action by informing teacher supervisor.
- Guide vehicles out of the parish parking lot and upper parking lot.
- Any debris or damaged equipment must be reported to supervising teacher.
- Report serious injuries as they will be attended by the supervising teacher.



CORPUS CHRISTI NEWSLETTER

February 21st, 2025

- Assist supervising teacher in applying school rules and ensures the teacher is informed when school rules have been violated.
- Exercise a certain amount of understanding, good judgement, good example, impartiality, an absence of discrimination.
- Ensure that students remain within the limits of the designated areas.
- 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, OR take photos or videos.**
- Supervisors' children cannot accompany parents during supervision.
- Supervisors must be on time, sign in and wear safety vest.

WEATHER MEMO...

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

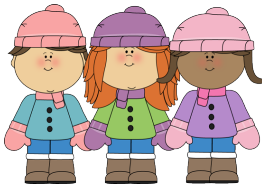
1. Check your email
2. Visit the school website- <https://www.cchristi.ca/> (6:30 AM) approx.
3. Follow our school Instagram page **@corpuschristielementary**.



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.

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.



2025 VOCATION BIBLE SCHOOL

See school website for the following information:

- 2) A promotion letter from 2025 Corpus Christi VBS team
- 3) A poster
- 4) Child Registration Form
- 5) Youth Info, Application Form and Promise of Good Behavior "Form 1"