

CORPUS CHRISTI NEWSLETTER

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2023

VOLLEYBALL SEASON REFLECTIONS



Gr. 4/5 Boys

The Grade 4(5) boys volleyball team had great season. For some of the players, it is their first team sport. The boys showed dedication and commitment to learning and improving new skills each practice. Although they did not make it to playoffs, they worked hard to keep up against other grade 5 teams being very close to winning two sets out of 6. No doubt, they will dominate next year when they are all in grade 5!



Gr. 4/5 Girls

This year, our grade 4 and 5 girls teams excelled in developing some important volleyball skills in a very short space of time! Not only did they get better at serving the ball and volleying it over the net but they showed great sportsmanship along the way. After weeks of rigorous training sessions, our grade 4s and 5s enjoyed a practice match against St. Francis de Sales, which was extremely competitive and gave each of our students an opportunity to play the sport in a match setting and in front of an audience (which isn't always easy!).



Our grade 5's did a fantastic job competing in a year 5 Volleyball tournament against St Jude's, Our Lady of Mercy School and St Andrew's elementary schools. We were delighted to win one match and lost narrowly in our other two matches!

To end an enjoyable term, we played a final match against the grade 4/5s boys team which was our most competitive match yet! The boys team won two sets and we won two which we were very happy about.

We would like to thank each of our students for their commitment, perseverance and hard work this term! You have been a pleasure to coach and continue to be supportive, kind and understanding teammates to one another. Keep practicing and who knows how far we can go next year! Ms McAlinden and Mrs Lam.

Gr. 6 Boys

The grade 6 boys bumped and volleyed their way through a successful season. With the help of their coaches and teammates they developed their skills, improved their teamwork and communication and had a ton of fun! The season concluded with their tournament at Holy Cross in which they played against Queen of All Saint and Holy Cross. Way to go boys! We look forward to seeing you on the court next year!



The Gr. 6 Girls

The Grade 6 girls played their best during the CISVA tournament, and after an exciting win over OLM, their spirits were boosted. Each and every player gave it their all this season, improving upon their skills and having fun while doing so. Congratulations to the team MVP Kendelle, and the Grade 6 girls most improved player, Carmela! All three teams were coached by Ms. Bond, Ms. D'Alessandro, and Ms. Cagnoni.



Gr. 7 Boys

The grade 7 boys had an amazing season and they are still not finished! The grade 7 boys were quick learners and displayed great qualities of an athlete by always encouraging each other to try new plays or how to correctly position themselves on the courts. The boys displayed their new skills, amazing teamwork, and sportsmanship at the Holy Cross Zones Tournament and gained 1st place. This qualifies the team into the CISVA top 8 playoffs being held at Harry Jerome Sports Centre next week. Amazing work Grade 7 boys!



Gr. 7 Girls

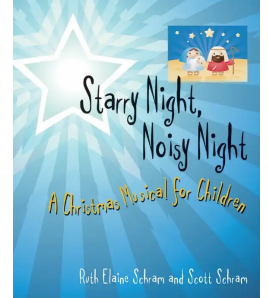
Both the Grade 7 Girls League and Grade 7 Girls Exhibition volleyball teams had incredible seasons. The league team had an outstanding tournament, placing second overall and making it to the playoffs. Their CISVA zone was challenging, but the girls never gave up, resulting in some very close games and ultimately, a lot of exciting wins! Congratulations to the league team MVP's Jenelle and Mikayla, and their most improved player, Sammi! The exhibition team also had an awesome season full of wins! This team had a great season building up their skills, working as a team, and always encouraging one another. Congratulations to the exhibition team MVP's Anna and Juliette and their most improved player, Cassie!



CHRISTMAS CONCERT PERFORMANCES

There will be an important dress rehearsal on Friday, December 15. Students are asked to come to school dressed in their costumes.

Photos and video recording will take place during this rehearsal and it is only for staff and students.



Tuesday, December 19, and Wednesday, December 20 - There will be Matinee performances @ 1:45 – 2:45.

Students are asked to come to school dressed in their costumes.

On Wednesday, December 20 - 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 will receive **two tickets only** for the evening performance. They will be sent to you the week of December 11th. 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.

PURDYS ORDERS

Special thanks to Hang Chou for coordinating the Purdy's Chocolate Sales and to all those parents who were able to participate in this fundraising.



BOOK FAIR UDATE

Special thanks to Ms. Plachta and Ms. Rossi for coordinating the Book Fair this year. We would also like to thank, Joyce Chen and Jeannie Woo and all parents who volunteer their time to help

in making the book fair such a big success. With everyone's efforts we reached a net sale of \$9507. Partial proceeds will go towards the school library and classroom libraries.

TRACK SUIT SALES FUNDRAISER

Support Corpus Christi through our Tracksuit Sale. Corpus Christi hoodies and matching sweatpants are now available in both Youth and Adult sizes.

Click the Corpus Christi logo below (link) to make an order online. This link will be available until **Monday, December 4, 2023**.



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



WEATHER MEMO...

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

1. Visit the school website—<http://www.corpuschristi-school.ca>
2. Check your email
3. 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.

CHRISTMAS BREAK

The school will be closed for Christmas break from Monday, December 24, 2023 to Friday, January 5, 2024. The school will reopen on Monday, January 8, 2024.

RC CHALLENGE

We entered 5 Roman Catholic Challenge teams this year to compete in two trivia tournaments. The 22 dedicated students studied and practiced on Mondays and Thursdays after school, learning a wide array of facts about the Roman Catholic religion.

The two grade 7 teams were called, "Sanctus Agnus" and "Corpus Christi Evangelists". The three grade 6 teams were called, "CC Doctors of the Church", "CC Body and Blood of Christ", and "CC Archangels".



The first tournament was the Sister Mary John Morriss Invitational held at Holy Cross Elementary in October. The second tournament was the Monsignor Donald Neumann Championships in November. Congratulations to the CC Doctors of the Church who achieved 3rd place in both tournaments! CC Body and Blood of Christ placed 4th out of 16 teams in the first tournament and CC Archangels placed 4th out of 22 teams in the second tournament!

There were several close games and come-from-behind matches; there were wins and there were losses. However, with the help of the Holy Spirit, our students displayed resiliency and supported each other. Most of all, they grew in their knowledge of our Catholic religion - such a wonderful way to live, celebrate and proclaim our faith! The coaches, Mrs. Lam and Ms. D are very proud of all the RC Challenge teams.

From the Pastors Desk **November 27th, 2023**



Greetings to all the parents of Corpus Christi School.

We are in the last week of the Liturgical Year. The Liturgical (Church) Year begins with the 1st Sunday of Advent and goes through to the Solemnity of Christ the King. Hence, we are going to begin a new Year in the Church beginning this coming Sunday.

This time of Advent is given to us by the Church so that we might prepare ourselves for the celebration of Jesus Christ's birth.

There are many things that we all can do in order to prepare for Jesus's birth. I would like to recommend attending the Advent Mission that will be only 2 days! This Mission will be given by a great teacher: Dr John Bergsma. It will begin on December 8th with Mass for Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception at 5:30pm. The first talk will be at 6:30pm and the second talk at 7:30pm.

Saturday morning the third and fourth talks will begin at 9:00 and 10:00am respectively. I encourage you to **save the date**. Dr Bergsma will open the scriptures for you – for all of us – like no other! It will be worth the investment of your time.

One of the 4 Core Values of our 10 Year Vision is Rooted in Tradition. We define this at Corpus Christi this way: **“We see a faith community that is passionately committed to the Living Tradition of the Catholic Church.”**

There are many ways that we are striving to live this Core Value. One way that is easily heard is the improvement to all 3 of our choirs. All Masses – under the under the directorship of Kevin, Dominica and Scholastica - have seen an intentional effort to bring greater beauty to the Mass.

God has truly blessed us at Corpus Christi! I will speak about Alpha in the next newsletter. There have been so many good things, blessings, changes in the lives to people that have occurred through our Alpha ministry.

United in prayer,
Fr Hamilton

Corpus Christi Parish Celebrates

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Blessed Virgin Mary

with Parish Mission by Dr John Bergsma

**Friday:
December 8**

Solemnity Mass Times:

8 am & 5:30 pm

followed by:

Parish Mission: "Getting Ready for the Messiah: The Jewish Roots of Advent"

**6:30 pm - 7:30 pm,
30 minute break,
8 pm - 9 pm**

**Saturday morning:
December 9**

Mass: 8 am

Parish Mission:

9:00 - 9:45 am,

30 minute break,

10:15 - 11:00 am & Q&A

There will be light refreshments in the vestibule.
No cost but a collection will be taken up.



Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. Isaiah 7:14



6350 Nanaimo Street Vancouver

**Parish Mission by
Dr John Bergsma**



Professor of Theology at the Franciscan University of Steubenville, in Steubenville, Ohio.