

ST. ALBERT OF JERUSALEM SCHOOL
FEBRUARY 2008 **NEWSLETTER**



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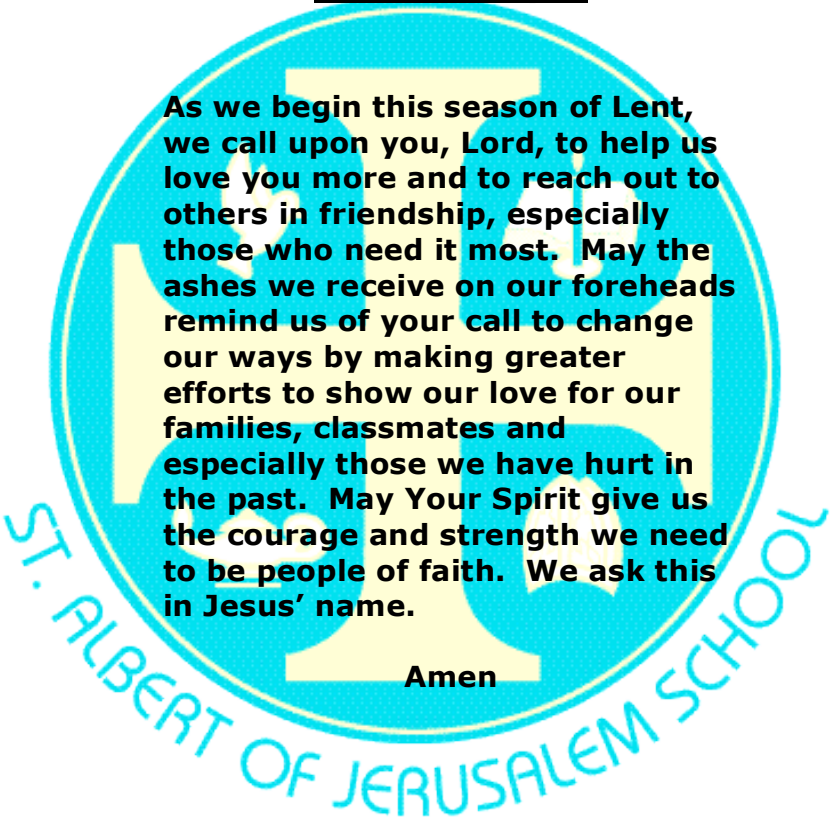
Parish:

St. John of the Cross

Pastoral Team

Fr. Leo Huard
Fr. Abraham Kulanjiyil
Fr. Joseph Kalluvila
Kate Watkiss, Pastoral Associate
Julie Flynn, Pastoral Associate

Lenten Prayer



As we begin this season of Lent, we call upon you, Lord, to help us love you more and to reach out to others in friendship, especially those who need it most. May the ashes we receive on our foreheads remind us of your call to change our ways by making greater efforts to show our love for our families, classmates and especially those we have hurt in the past. May Your Spirit give us the courage and strength we need to be people of faith. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen

“Upon our foundation, we continue to build the Spirit”

Lenten Season

When you send forth your spirit you renew the face of the earth. Psalm 104:30

This year the Liturgical Season of Lent begins on February 6th, 2008, with Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday is the first step on the Lenten Road to Easter. The cross of ashes that we receive on our foreheads is a sign that we have sinned and that God has forgiven us. The ashes are made from the blessed palms used in the Palm Sunday celebration of the previous year. The ashes are christened with Holy Water.

Lent is a time of preparation, reflection, and spiritual renewal. The Church sets aside the forty days of Lent as a special time for us to prepare for the celebration of Easter. Let us all use this time of Lent for personal reflection and prayer as we live our lives to serve and love our God.



Ash Wednesday

On Wednesday, February 6th, 2008, all students from grades 1 to 8 will participate in our Ash Wednesday liturgy. Students will receive ashes, reflect on readings and pray together as a faith community in preparation for Lent and the Easter season.

Black History Month

February is “Black History Month.” This is a time to celebrate the many achievements and contributions of Black Canadians, who throughout history have done so much to make Canada the culturally diverse, compassionate and prosperous nation we know today. It is also an opportunity for the majority of Canadians to learn about the experiences of Black Canadians in our society and the vital role this community has played throughout our shared history.

White Cane Week

The first week of February has been designated as “White Cane Week”. This year the students at St. Albert of Jerusalem School will have the opportunity during the month of February to learn about vision loss and blindness. Informative displays and a variety of

fun and educational activities will be available for all classroom teachers. During the last two weeks of February, we will be raising money for the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, (CNIB). Donations of any amount will be gladly collected on a daily basis and then given to the CNIB at the end of February.

Junior Kindergarten Registration

This information is for students not presently attending school.

The dates for pre-registering your child for Kindergarten for September 2008 are:

Monday, February 25 th	7:00-9:00
Wednesday February 27 th	9:00-11:00 & 1:00 to 3:00
Thursday, February 28 th	9:00-11:00 & 1:00 to 3:00
Friday, February 29 th	9:00-11:00 & 1:00 to 3:00

School Council

The next school council meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 19th 2008, in the school Library. All are welcome!

Early Release Day

There will be an early release day on Thursday, February 7th, 2008. Students will be dismissed at 11:30.

New Statutory Holiday-Family Day

There will be no school on Monday, February 18th, 2008. This is our new statutory holiday.

March Break

A reminder that March Break is from Monday, March 10th 2008 to Friday, March 14th 2008. There will be no school for the students on these days. The students return to school on Monday, March 17th, 2008.

Can you help?

In the spring, as soon as weather permits. The St. Mary’s Church “St. Joseph” Comm., that looks after the maintenance at St. Mary’s church, Brampton, needs the use, for one day, of a small back hoe plus driver, to perform much needed excavation to remove dead trees, etc. from the church grounds. We would prefer it as a donation to the church.

Can any family help? Please contact johutton@hotmail.com

PLASP

The PLASP program operates before and after school programs, in this school, for children up to 12 years of age. The PLASP program at St. Albert of Jerusalem currently has space available. For more information please see the PLASP staff at the school.

School Hours

Morning supervision begins at 8:15. In the interest of health and safety please do not drop your child off before supervision begins.

Student Information

It is important that we have up-to-date records of your address, phone numbers, and emergency contacts in the event that the school must contact you regarding your child. If there have been any changes, please ensure that we have this information.

Cold and Flu Season

Cold and flu season is back and so too are children's illnesses. Please use discretion in keeping your child home to recover. A sick child is not in a state to learn but is in a position to infect others. Remember, if your children are well enough to attend school, they are well enough to go outside at recess. If there is a medical reason why your child must remain indoors, we require a Doctor's note.

Winter Dress

It is imperative that all students come to school ready to participate in all activities, including outdoor recess. Please ensure that your children come to school prepared to go outdoors. Waterproof outerwear, hats, gloves and boots will keep them warm and dry. As well, all students must have indoor footwear. This is imperative in case of an emergency evacuation, since students will not have time to put on their boots if they have to evacuate the building.



Behavior in the Playground

Students are regularly reminded that rough play in the school yard is not acceptable and can lead to injuries. We ask for their co-operation and self-discipline to make wise and safe choices so as to provide a safe and injury free environment for all. Pushing, shoving, snow balls, play fighting and tripping are all forms of unacceptable play that compromise student safety. We appreciate your support reinforcing these rules with your children. Regardless however, of these reminders and precautions, from time to time accidents occur and students are hurt. Please remind your child to let their teacher or the office know in the event they are hurt. Sometimes students do not communicate this information to an adult and as a result they do not get the required care and attention needed.

Public Speaking for Grades 4-8

Once again, as part of the Language Arts Curriculum, our students in Grade 4 through 8 will be involved in planning, preparing and presenting oral presentations-speeches. A student from each classroom will be selected to represent their classmates in the gymnasium. Our school competition will be held on **Friday, February 8th, 2008**. The junior competition will be held in the morning and the intermediate in the afternoon.

One entrant from each division will be selected by a panel of judges to proceed to the Family of Schools Level competition scheduled for **Wednesday, February 20th 2008**, at St. Simon Stock Catholic School. The intermediate competition is scheduled during the morning and the juniors will follow in the afternoon.

Currently all students are diligently preparing their speeches. **Good luck to all.**



