



**St. Louis
Catholic School**
<http://www.tcdsb.org/schools/stlouis.asp>

11 Morgan Avenue
Toronto, Ontario
M8Y 2Z7

Principal:
Ms. R. Morris
416 393 5331

Superintendent:
Mrs. C. Tovey-Shackleton
416 222 8282

Trustee:
Mrs. A. Andrachuk
416 512 3402
ann.andrachuk@tcdsb.org

Parish:
Father Giuliano
Pastor
St. Leo Catholic Church
416 251 1100

Current Enrolment:
260

School Hours:
Morning Session 8:45-11:45 a.m.
Recess 10:05-10:20 a.m.
Lunch 11:45-12:45 p.m.
Afternoon Session 12:45-3:15 p.m.
Recess 1:55-2:10 p.m.
Dismissal 3:15 p.m.

Catch the spirit!
Director of Education:
Mr. K. Kobus

Parent Newsletter

Principal's Message



*His name will be called Emmanuel
which means God with us.*

-- Matthew: 1

Because we are a people of faith, we know what it is to welcome the spirit of Christmas into our hearts. What a welcome note it is to hear a message of hope at this time: Christ, our light, is coming! The true light of the world is near! Advent leads us through the long, dark winter nights to the promise of a new dawn: "By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness, to guide our feet into the way of peace." (Luke 1) At St. Louis this month, we have emphasized three gifts of the spirit: faith, hope and love. And through the Advent season, our children have been invited by their dedicated teachers, to be makers of peace, and builders of community that is rooted in love, reconciliation and sincere kindness.

It is my great hope as your school Principal, that your family will experience peace this Christmas, and that the new year will bring the gifts of the spirit that we pray for each day.

The St. Louis Catholic School Advent Campaign: **"Out of the Cold"**

The members of the Liturgical Team at St. Louis, the staff and students at St. Louis, embrace our special Advent project: Out of the Cold. The Out of the Cold program is a volunteer initiative that consists of ecumenical congregations of faith groups who provide safe refuge, hospitality and emergency shelter to those who are homeless in our community. In order to operate throughout the winter season, the program relies heavily on volunteers and donations of money, food and clothing. Students are asked to support the host site—All Saints Anglican Church, with Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, by donating adult gloves, mitts, hats, scarves and socks. As you enter the front doors of St. Louis, you will be greeted by our beautiful bulletin board that proclaims our challenge in this season: "Let's Warm the Hearts of Others: Baskets of Warmth; Coins of Comfort." Let us, each one, bring hope to those in our community who need support and love, so that we all can truly feel God's presence and love in our hearts.

Celebrating the Season of Advent at St. Louis Catholic School

Other notable activities at St. Louis during Advent include:

- * Monday morning prayer service and the community lighting of the Advent Wreath in each classroom.
- * Advent Mass: Friday, December 7th at 9:45 a.m. in the gym
- * Advent Promises: Look for the petitions and prayers posted in the hall.

The Catholic School Advisory Council (CSAC)—See attached Newsletter!

Regular parent council meetings are held throughout the school year. Our next CSAC meeting will take place on January 11th at 7:00 p.m. in the St. Louis Library. We appreciate the support of our parents tremendously. Thank you!

School News...

Since our last newsletter, there is much news to report. Read on!

Remembrance Day at St. Louis

Once again this year, the students and staff at St. Louis honoured those who have gone before us in times of war through the celebration of paraliturgy. With music, prayer petitions and dvd images, students reminded us that we remember how the efforts of those who served Canada in times of war allow us the peace and freedom we enjoy today. Students who serve in the air cadets, scouts, brownie and guides, wore their uniforms as a statement of honour and an honour guard welcomed students to the gym where celebrations took place. A "Book of Remembrance" was carried solemnly in a procession of faith, and poppie posters, made by the children, decorated the halls for two weeks in November. St. Louis children dedicated themselves once again, to be makers of peace, builders of community.

A Prayer for Parents at Christmas

God of hope, faith, joy and love.

We praise You and thank You for the gifts You have given our children.

Light the Advent candles within our hearts.

Grant us a sense of peace and calm amongst the whirl of preparations.

May we see your coming with eyes of simplicity and truth.

May we model for our children.

May our homes be open to your presence.

May our lives be quiet enough to hear you when you knock at our door.

May our despair and resentment be turned to hope and joy this Christmastime.

Amen.

Enrichment Activities at St. Louis

One of the goals of every classroom teacher at our school is to enrich the lives of the children as much as possible. To that end, the fall season has offered our children a number of exciting enriched drama presentations, thanks to the generous support of our parents through the **CSAC Parent Council**.

Three wonderful arts experiences have taken place this Fall at St. Louis: **The Tempest** on October 20th; **The Alphabet Show** with Tom Vandeberg on October 2nd; and

The Great Canadian Songbook with Mike Ford on November 7th. These events come to your children through the great generosity of our parent community. Again, thank you!

Eragon—A Celebration of Film at Christmas!

On December 15th, students in grades 6, 7, 7 and 8 will travel together for a special screening of a new Christmas film. Based on Christopher Paolini's book "Eragon—Inheritance Trilogy, Book One", the movie tells the story of Eragon who finds a polished blue stone in the forest which takes him on a journey of discovery with dragons and a legacy nearly as old as the Empire itself. Thanks to the teachers who planned this exciting holiday excursion for our children.

Christmas Concert at St. Louis

This year, our Christmas concert will take place in our gymnasium on December 22nd at 7:00 p.m. Presentations for our Christmas concert will include children from grades Junior Kindergarten to Grade 4 inclusive. The St. Louis Student Choir will also perform, and this will include children from Grades 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8. Due to limited space in the gym, parents are asked to attend the concert only if their children are performing. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Sacramental Preparation at St. Louis

We wish the children in our grade 2 class our prayerful support as they begin sacramental preparation for **First Reconciliation** (April 19th at 9:45 a.m.) and **First Holy Communion** (April 28th at 5 p.m.) at St. Leo Catholic Church.

Our grade 8's receive the sacrament of initiation into young adulthood:

Confirmation—on Friday, May 11th at 7 pm.

We pray for each of you, and your parents, as you take these very important steps!

TRUSTEES 2006 - 2007

Wards

1. Joseph Martino	5. Maria Rizzo	9. Catherine LeBlanc-Miller
2. Ann Andrachuk	6. Christine Nunziata	10. Barbara Poplawski
3. Sal Piccininni	7. John Del Grande	11. Angela Kennedy, Honorary Treasurer
4. Mary Cicogna- Vice Chair	8. Oliver Carroll, Chair	12. Paul John Crawford Ihor Korbabicz, Student Trustee

Toronto Catholic District School Board

www.tcdsb.org

Scholastic Book Fair at St. Louis

Many thanks to the parents and students who came out to support the Scholastic Book Fair, initiated by our Library Technician, Mrs. Ryan. We are pleased to report that the book fair generated considerable interest in literacy for our children and their families. And, the book fair notably generated significant funds for our library! We now have an additional funds available to enrich the shelves of our library. Again, thank you parents for your keen support of this worthy cause.

Reporting of Cancellations of Bus Service Due to Inclement Weather

A note for parents from the TCDSB Communications Office: If wintry snow conditions necessitate the cancellation of buses for a particular school day, you may call the school and receive voice mail information regarding the closure. Alternatively, you may log into the board website at www.tcdsb.org/weather.htm

Some websites of interest for parents and students:

- www.nelson.com -- for mathematics curriculum
- www.readina-z.com -- for early reading support
- www.starfall.com -- for early reading support
- www.typingpal.com -- free typing lessons online
- www.learn2type.com -- free typing lessons online

Our Canadian winter weather is here. Please ensure that your child comes to school – on time- prepared to participate in all activities, including outdoor recess. All students are asked to remove outdoor footwear when in the building and must have indoor shoes to wear during the winter months. For your information, we obtain information daily from Environment Canada, and on extremely cold days we either keep the children indoors (-20 or below), and/or limit the amount of time that students spend outside. In colder weather, we receive some requests to allow children to remain indoors when they have a cold or flu. If you feel your child is not well, please keep your child at home. Thank you for your support in keeping others healthy.

**From each member on staff in the
St. Louis Catholic School community:**

**We wish each of you a very blessed Advent season, as we
approach the great celebration of Christmas.
Peace and Joy are our wishes for you and your family!**
