Liturgical Calendar and Saints of the TCDSB

Take the time to learn more about the life of a Saint whose special day is being celebrated this month. Acknowledge a friend, family member or neighbour who shares a Saint’s name this month and make a point to recognize the personal talents and gifts that they bring to your community!

Liturgical Calendar -- ADVENT

Advent, the beginning of the liturgical year in the Catholic Church, is a time of preparation for the coming of Christ at Christmas. It was historically known as "little Lent," because, like Lent, it is a time of repentance, with prayer, fasting, and Confession. Advent begins four Sundays before Christmas, and therefore varies in length between 22 days and 28 days.

The "liturgical year" includes the first Sunday of Advent and the last week in Ordinary Time. The liturgical year consists of two times: one can call the first time “strong times” and the other is known as ordinary time. The strong times are, Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter, during which a particular mystery of salvation is celebrated. Ordinary Time, in turn, does not hold any particular mystery, but rather the same mystery of Christ in His fullness, especially on Sundays. Ordinary Time is divided into two parts throughout the liturgical year and in total lasts 33 or 34 weeks.

Saint Days of the Toronto Catholic District School Board

- St. Edmund Campion – December 1
- St. Francis Xavier – December 3
- St. Barbara – December 4
- St. Nicholas, St. Nicholas of Bari – December 6
- St. Ambrose – December 7
- Immaculate Conception – December 8 (and any of the schools named after St. Mary)
- Bishop Marrocco/Thomas Merton – December 10
- Our Lady of Guadalupe, St. Jane Frances – December 12
- Mother Cabrini, Monsignor Percy Johnson – December 22
- Nativity of Our Lord, Holy Child, Divine Infant, Prince of Peace – December 25
- St. Stephen – December 26
- Holy Family, St. John, St. John the Evangelist – December 27
- Marshall McLuhan – December 31