December 2019
St. Jerome Catholic School
790 Paisley Blvd West
Mississauga, Ontario
L5C 3P5
(905) 273-3836 Fax# (905) 273-9539
Follow Us on Twitter@stjeromedpcdsb

Principal
C. Gale

Head Secretary
R. Nogueira

School Council Chair
N. Carey

Superintendent
C. MacDonald
Mississauga South

Trustees
B. Iannicca - Ward 7
905-270-0536

Parish
St. Martin of Tours
1290 McBride Avenue
Miss., Ont. L5C 1M8
905-279-5742

Pastor
Fr. Gijo

Associate Pastor
Fr. Jose

School Website
www.dpcdsb.org/JEROM

Advent

Advent is a special time! It is a time where we prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus. After all, Advent means “coming” or “arrival”.

Advent is far more than simply marking a 2000 year old event in history. It is a reminder that there is much more to Christmas than toys and gifts. It is up to us to keep Christ in Christmas. We must remember that on that amazing night we received the greatest gift ever known to humankind – the gift is God’s son, Jesus.

Christmas is a time for celebration and joy. Advent is a time for waiting and preparation for this special event.

Scripture reading for Advent will reflect on themes of accountability for faithfulness at His coming, judgement on sin and of eternal life. Prayers and our attendance and participation at mass enrich our waiting for Jesus.

May God bless you all in this Holy Season.

An Advent Reflection

Come, long-expected Jesus.
Excite in me a wonder at the wisdom of power of your Father and ours. Receive my prayer as part of my service of the Lord who enlists me in God’s own work for justice.

Come, long-expected Jesus.
Excite in me a hunger for peace; peace in the world, peace in the home, peace in myself. Come, long-expected Jesus. Excite in me a joy responsive to the Father’s joy. I seek His will so I can serve with gladness, singing and love.

Come, long-expected Jesus. Excite in me the joy and love and peace it is right to bring to the manger of my Lord. Raise in me, too, sober reverence for the God who acted there, hearty gratitude for the life begun there, and spirited resolution to serve the Father and Son.

I pray in the name of Jesus Christ, whose advent I hail. Amen.

O God, as light comes from the candles of our Advent wreath, may the blessing of Jesus Christ come to us, warming our hearts and brightening our way. May Christ our Savior bring life into the darkness of this world, and to us, as we wait for His coming.

Amen
Principal’s Message

December is upon us! It is a very special time of waiting and a sacred month. During this Advent season, let us keep in mind the needs of everyone in our community, as we focus on family and Christmas traditions. Christmas Day is a day to celebrate and enjoy family and friends. I look forward to being with my family celebrating our traditions together. The warmth of the season, and the Christmas spirit have begun. Let us all remember the true meaning of Christmas and reflect on the spirit of giving. We will be supporting St. Martin of Tours Parish with our Hat and Mitten Tree. Please consider donating to help this worthy cause. I hope you will join us for our Advent Mass at 1:30 on December 5th in our school gym. Please join us for our Christmas Concert on Dec. 10th at St. Martin’s High School at 7:00 pm. We are pleased to highlight the talents of your children. I will be completing my assignment as acting principal on Dec. 20th. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to serve at St. Jerome School.

Thank you to Mr. Bruno Iannica, our school trustee, for his dedication to this school community. Thank you to an awesome staff for all your support and a particular thank you to Mrs. Noguiera. The St. Jerome School Council has been an amazing, collaborative group of people who have worked diligently to serve the school and for that I am truly appreciative. School returns in the New Year on January 6th. I hope all will be rested and rejuvenated. I wish all of you a Happy and Holy Christmas.

Connie Gale

THE VIRTUE OF THE MONTH

During the month of December, we will focus on the virtue of hope.

We believe that God comes to us as a real human who can show us the way of life.

We understand that both the world and its people are from God and so are essentially good. Furthermore, God has given us this Advent season year after year in order to focus our minds and our hearts on the good all around us.

Year after year, we are reminded that God chose to send his Son to us because we are worth it. God knows how great we can be when we all come together.

When we look at the world through the eyes of God, we see it becoming more and more like the reign of God that Jesus describes.

People of hope...

- keep up a positive attitude
- can bounce back from tough situations
- set and stick to their goals
- see the good in others even when they make mistakes
- work to include others
- let others know that they are good people

Let us pray this month, for the grace and courage to be people of hope – people who can see, participate in and contribute to God’s goodness emerging around us. Please join us on Tuesday December 17 at 10:00 AM at St. Jerome School for our Virtue of Hope assembly.
1290 McBride Avenue  
Mississauga, Ontario  
L5C 1M8  
Tel: (905) 279-5742  
Fax: (905) 279-5743  
Pastor: Father Gijo  
Email: stmartins_mississauga@yahoo.ca  
Website: http://www.stmartinoftourschurch.ca  
For all events and full schedule, please visit our website: http://stmartinoftourschurch.blogspot.ca/
### COLD WEATHER DRESS

In anticipation of the weather getting progressively colder, we ask that students begin preparing for outdoor play. This includes proper gloves, hats, scarves, jackets, coats and boots. Board Guidelines indicate that students will generally be outside for lunch and recess when temperatures do not fall below –20 degrees Celsius, with the wind chill. As such, appropriate clothing is essential. Please note that students should have indoor shoes during the winter months. We also suggest sending spare clothes for younger students. Thank you in advance for your continued support and cooperation.

### SCHOOL WIDE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT WEEK

Our Youth Faith Ambassadors have organized for our students activities for our Spirit Week, December 16-20, 2019. This year we are using the theme of **CHRIST** to engage all of our students in activities that encourage community and Christmas spirit. Each morning, we will be running our annual **Name That Christmas Carol Contest.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CH Monday</td>
<td>Christmas Hats – We are asking everyone to wear their best Christmas Hat.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R Tuesday</td>
<td>Red &amp; Green Day – come to school wearing Christmas colors.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I Wednesday</td>
<td>Invitations – students will be budded up to share A Christmas story</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S Thursday</td>
<td>Star The Movie</td>
<td>Our students will enjoy the wonderful movie The Star.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T Friday</td>
<td>Together we will enjoy the last day with Christmas Carols in our pajamas. We will gather in the gym in the morning for our Annual Christmas Caroling.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CUSTODY OF CHILDREN

On rare occasions, we are faced with difficult situations in which non-custodial parents arrive at school asking to visit their child or to take their child home after school. We are best able to serve and protect students when we are made aware of legal custody arrangements, visitation rights, and other special instructions. If legal custody matters affect your family, please ensure that our office and classroom teachers are aware of custodial arrangements between parents that may affect your child during school hours. Please ensure that a copy of the Court Order is filed at the school office.

### SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL CORNER

Thank you to all of our families who purchased poinsettias. We appreciate your support! Planning is underway for the end of year annual family BBQ and other Council events. If you are interested in helping us organize these activities, please let us know. If you have ideas or suggestions to share, do not hesitate to contact us through the school.

If you would like to help with any of the special events, or would like to have input on the various initiatives that are being planned for this year, please join us at our next meeting on **Wednesday, January 15, 2020 at 6:30 pm.** All St. Jerome School parents are invited to join us. Future School Council Meeting dates are TBA. A notification will be sent for future dates, once they are decided on.
ALLERGENS

We would like to inform you that St. Jerome School is an allergen aware school. We have a number of students in our school who have severe allergic life threatening reactions to peanuts, peanut butter, peanut oils, any peanut/nut by-products and dairy products. As in the past, we are asking you to not put any child at risk, therefore, are requesting that PEANUTS, PEANUT BUTTER, PEANUT OILS, ANY PEANUT/NUT AND COCONUT BY-PRODUCTS NOT BE BROUGHT INTO THE SCHOOL. We ask that you read the labels of all food items sent to school. A letter was sent home the first day of school which addressed this concern. We are asking parents not to send food items to school when celebrating your child’s birthday since there are many alternatives such as pencils, stickers, etc.

ENCLEMENT WEATHER, SCHOOL CLOSURES AND BUS CANCELLATIONS

During the winter months inclement weather may cause disruption of bus transportation and regular school operations. A decision to cancel school transportation and/or to close schools is usually made by 6:00 a.m. and will be announced on the following radio and television stations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Radio Station</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VIRGIN RADIOFM99.9</td>
<td>AM640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CFNY FM102.1/AM640</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEWSTALK1010 AM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FM Z103.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHIN FM100.7/AM1540</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLOBAL NEWS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CFRB – (Bell Media)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BREAKFAST TELEVISION</td>
<td>AM590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CJLC AM590</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EZ ROCK FM97.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FM93.1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBC99.1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CITY NEWS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEWS AM680</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHFI FM98.1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CJBC (FR) AM860</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FM Q107</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CITYPULSE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CTV</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please see the attached memo for specific announcement closures. Parents who drive their children to school in the morning must arrange to pick them up at the end of the day since buses are cancelled for the entire day.

REQUEST FOR VOLUNTEERS

Interested in volunteering at St. Jerome Catholic School for 2019/2020? During the school year, volunteers support programs and activities at the school. We appreciate and rely on parents who can devote a small portion of their time to help.

People who volunteer in schools and attend trips are required to have a completed Criminal Reference Check, which can be picked up from our school office and taken to Police Headquarters listed on the form. Once the form is completed, your volunteer service can begin. We look forward to working with you for the betterment of all students at St. Jerome School.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN

In the unforeseen event that we should have an emergency at our school, we will evacuate to:

Huron Park Recreation Center
830 Paisley Blvd. West
Mississauga, Ont.
L5C 4P1
905-615-4820

Safety regulations and Board Policy require us to have this contingency plan in place. In the event of an evacuation to the high school, your child will remain at Huron Park Recreation Center until we are able to contact you and make arrangements for pick up.

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE PAYMENT SYSTEM

Our SCHOOL CASH ONLINE Board Online Payment option is now up and running. Please take the time to click on the following link and register your children:

https://dpcdsb.schoolcashonline.com/
HEALTHY EATING AND ECOSCHOOLS

At St. Jerome Catholic School, we will be promoting Healthy Eating throughout the school year by encouraging our students to bring in healthy snacks and lunches. Students will be able to participate in activities in their classrooms and projects that encourage healthy eating.

We are also encouraging our students to pack a “Litterless Lunch” using reusable containers to pack their lunch and snacks and to try to use refillable water bottles and to use our filling station.

REGISTRATION FOR KINDERGARTEN 2020/2021

Kindergarten registration for the 2020/21 school year will begin on January 6, 2020.

Parents/guardians have the option to register online or in-person at their designated Catholic school. Online registration will begin on January 6 at www.dpcdsb.org. The Online Registration Form should be completed prior to in-person school meetings where documentation will be received. If parents/guardians wish to register in-person, they may do so during school hours. For those unable to register at the school during school hours, a registration evening has been scheduled for Tuesday, January 14, 2020 (Snow Date: January 16, 2020). Schools will receive registrations and documentation until 6:30 p.m. that evening.

Extended Evening Registration: Tuesday, January 14, 2020 9:00 am – 6:30 pm

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SNOW DATE: Thursday, January 16, 2020 (9:00 am – 6:30 pm)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Day Registration:

Monday, January 13, 2020  9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Wednesday, January 15, 2020  9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Friday, January 17, 2020  9:00 am – 3:00 pm

For more information about registration and the Kindergarten program, call St. Jerome School 905-273-3836 or visit www.dpcdsb.org.

The following documents are required for registration:

- proof of age of the child (birth certificate or passport)
- Original Roman Catholic baptismal certificate (for child and/or parent/guardian) or baptismal certificate from an Eastern Church in full communion with the Holy See of Rome. If the child has not been baptized, and the parent/guardian is a baptized Roman Catholic or has been baptized in an Eastern Church in full communion with the Holy See of Rome, the parent/guardian must bring their own baptismal certificate.
- updated immunization records (Immunization Card, Peel Health Form or Letter of Exemption)
- proof of Canadian citizenship (Birth Certificate/Passport) or permanent resident status
- proof of home address (two of the following: property tax bill, current utility bill, real estate document or Government of Canada issued forms)
- emergency rural address numbers for identifying your property, if applicable (residents of Caledon and Dufferin County)
- proof of English Separate School Support (may be done at the time of registration by completing an Application For the Direction of School Support and/or a Separate School Lease Agreement available at the school)

Admissions are open to Catholic children and children of Catholic parents. Kindergarten students must be at least 4 years of age by December 31, 2020.
REMINDERS AND RESOURCES FOR COLD AND FLU SEASON

As cold and flu season approaches, the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board continues to be vigilant in ensuring that our schools are clean and that our school communities are educated regarding good hand hygiene and cough etiquette. These practices are promoted on an ongoing basis, but as the prevalence of colds and flu increases, our Board increases the cleaning of contact surfaces, as well as reminds schools to review cold and flu prevention with students and staff. Many resources are utilized from our regional health units. A reminder, as well, that communicable diseases can be contracted in public places throughout the year. For example, cold-related viruses, such as Enterovirus, are transferred from person to person through hand contact. Cold and flu viruses typically peak from December through February, but can start as early as October. Please assist us by reviewing good hand washing procedures, as well as other preventative measures, as outlined in the various Peel Health and Wellington Dufferin Guelph (WDG) resources available to you through their websites. As always, children who are unwell, should be kept at home. Flu Clinics: Also available on the Peel Health and WDG websites, are the schedules of local Flu Clinics. For more information, visit the health unit websites:

Peel Health website: [http://www.peelregion.ca/health](http://www.peelregion.ca/health)
Wellington Dufferin Guelph Health website: [www.wdgpublichealth.ca](http://www.wdgpublichealth.ca)

Direct links to the above information can be found in the Parent Section of the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board website at [www.dpcdsb.org](http://www.dpcdsb.org)

ST. JEROME DATES TO REMEMBER

DECEMBER 2019

- Sunday December 1, 2019 Advent Begins
- Tuesday December 3, 2019 Bedtime Stories with Santa evening 6:00 – 8:00 pm
- Thursday December 5, 2019 1:30 pm Advent/Christmas Mass at St. Jerome School in the gym all are welcome
- Thursday December 5, 2019 Whole School Advent Retreat
- Saturday December 7, 2019 Grade 2 First Reconciliation @ St. Martin of Tours Parish @ 10:30 am
- Tuesday December 10, 2019 School Christmas Concert in our gym @ 1:30 pm
- Tuesday December 10, 2019 School Christmas Concert @ St. Martins S.S. @ 7:00 pm
- Monday December 16-19, 2019 Spirit Week
- Monday December 16, 2019 Christmas Hat Day
- Tuesday December 17, 2019 Virtue Assembly of Hope @ 10:00 am in the gym...All are welcome
- Tuesday December 17, 2019 Wear Red & Green Day
- Wednesday December 18, 2019 Invitation making day
- Thursday December 19, 2019 School wide retreat – watching The Star
- Friday December 20, 2019 PJ Day & Caroling in the gym...all are welcome
- Monday December 23, 2019 – Friday January 3, 2020….CHRISTMAS BREAK – Have a Merry Christmas & a Happy and Safe New Years