



# St. Michael's School Newsletter

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## Our Virtue focus for December – Hope

During the month of December, we celebrate the virtue of **Hope**. We believe that God comes to us as a real human who can show us the way of life. God has given us the Advent season year after year in order to focus our minds and our hearts on the good all around us.

### *A hopeful person is....*

- † Optimistic
- † inspired and inspires others
- † one who sees the good in the world

Sometimes in life, bad things happen to us that we cannot explain. During these times we tend to get mad at God for putting us through so much pain. We forget God is always there for us and He does not want to hurt us. When you feel sad and alone, remember to never lose **HOPE**, pray to Jesus and things will get better.

Let us pray 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. Amen

## COVID NEWS

With the increase in COVID numbers in the province, the safety committee has decided to add an additional layer of protection by implementing the wearing of masks in certain circumstances.

Please note the following:

- Masks are to be worn by students in the morning once they are dropped off and as they enter the school building and when putting away their belongings in the hallway. Masks are to be worn at dismissal time when students are retrieving their items in the hallway and when they are leaving the school building to go home.
  - Masks are to be worn in the hallways and in washrooms at all times.
- Masks are to be worn when physical distancing is not possible in the classroom, i.e. centres' time.
- Students are strongly encouraged to wear masks when working at their desks if they are able to tolerate them.
  - Students do not wear masks when they are eating or drinking at their desks.
- Students do not need to wear a mask when playing outside during recess and lunch or when participating in PE. When transitioning from the classroom to the gymnasium, the students will be supervised by a teacher to ensure proper physical distancing and, therefore, no masks are needed.

We appreciate your cooperation in supporting the school and we thank you.

## VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT PERFORMANCE

Due to Covid restrictions, there will be no live performances. Instead, the concert will be **filmed**. Our Dress Rehearsal will be on Monday, December 7th and our filming day will be on Tuesday, December 8th. When editing is complete, the concert will be sent to you during the week before Christmas break as a YouTube link for families to watch. The Youtube link is *unlisted*, which means that it cannot be searched for through Youtube. The link will be sent to families by email.

If you do not give the school permission to film your child for the Christmas concert, please send an email to [malberti@smeschool.ca](mailto:malberti@smeschool.ca). If you **do not** give the school permission, your child cannot be part of the Christmas Concert.

### **CHRISTMAS CONCERT SAFETY PROTOCOLS**

- 1) Students are to wear Christmas colours (Green, White, and Red) for their costume on the day of the **dress rehearsal AND on the day of filming**. They may also wear their Black Souvenir T-Shirts. **Students are to come to school wearing their concert clothing on Monday AND Tuesday (this is to avoid the need to change at school).**
- 2) The Grades K & 1 students will be performing their song together. No other students will be in the gym when they are performing.
- 3) The Grades 2 & 3 students will be performing their song together. No other students will be in the gym when they are performing.
- 4) The Grades 4 & 5 students will be performing their song together. There will be six Grade 7 actors on the stage when this happens. The Grades 4 & 5 students will be a minimum of 2 metres away from the Grade 7 actors. The Grades 4 & 5 students will be on the risers in front of the stage while the actors will be on the stage.
- 5) The Grade 6 students will be performing a song on their own on the risers while six Grade 7 actors are on the stage.
- 6) The Grade 7 students will be performing a song on their own.

**WE ARE REQUESTING THAT ALL STUDENTS WEAR THEIR ST. MICHAEL'S SCHOOL MASK WHEN SINGING.** We have also made provisions for the students to be safety distanced from each other.

Actors on stage WILL NOT be wearing masks as they will be far away from the students singing.

The scenes are filmed separately as indicated above and then will be edited together.

### **MINI ONLINE AUCTION FUNDRAISER**

Just in time for Christmas shopping! Please join our Mini Online Auction Parish Fundraiser



<https://www.32auctions.com/stmichaelsBEEauction>

Starts today December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 8:00 am – Ends December 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 pm.

Items will be available for pick up on December 16<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 to 3:30 pm.

Thank you for your support & Happy bidding!

St. Michael's Auction Committee

### **PURDY'S CHOCOLATE PICK UP**

The PICKUP date for Purdy's orders is scheduled for **December 7, 2020, from 2:30pm to 3:30pm**. PICKUP will be drive-by style, from the area in front of the church.

### **CHICKEN SALE**

Cluck cluck! It's time for a Christmas chicken sale! Make sure to find the order form on the school website <http://www.stmichaelschool.ca/chicken-fundraiser-order-form/> so you can stock up on fresh and delicious Hallmark poultry. You're getting the freshest chicken, not the stuff that's been sitting on the shelves in the grocery store. Those who ordered chicken before Spring Break will tell you that there's great peace of mind having a good quantity of meat available for your family. Place your order and rest easy knowing that you've got plenty of chicken in the freezer for the holidays!

**Orders are due Friday, December 11 and pickup is Thursday Dec. 17 from 1:30 – 3:30 in the church driveway.** Safety protocols will be followed; please wear a mask and make sure to prepare your vehicle BEFORE ARRIVING (ex. Make space in the trunk and lay down newspapers or garbage bags).

### **COFFEE FUNDRAISER**

Coffee is great, and it tastes even better when each cup supports your child's school!  
Delicious local coffee roaster 49<sup>th</sup> Parallel, is offering over 35% return to the school on each bag purchased.

**Place your email order through Mrs. Piccolo**

- **Order by Monday, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>**
- **Pick up after school on Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>**

**TWO BLENDS TO CHOOSE FROM:** Order as many bags of each type as you wish.

**1) Old School Espresso (12 oz. bag/ 340g) -Whole beans:** *Old School Espresso is 49th's most traditional espresso, with a Pacific Northwest twist! Roasted medium-dark, it highlights the sweetness and body of the coffee. Old School is ideal for those who prefer low acidity and full-body, with dark chocolate aromas and flavors of cocoa, caramel, and molasses.*

**2) Longitude 123 Blend (12 oz. bag/ 340g) – Drip/ Whole Beans:** *Longitude 123°W is a medium roast, created to be sweet and flavorful throughout the year, reflecting the freshest coffees of the season.*

**COST per 12 Oz bag: \$18 bag** (no tax)

#### **HOW TO ORDER:**

**EMAIL** your request to [andreapiccolo@shaw.ca](mailto:andreapiccolo@shaw.ca) by Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> at the latest.

**PLEASE include the following info in your email order:**

- 1) Name of your child
- 2) Grade
- 3) Phone number
- 4) Number of selected bags
- 5) total transferred

**PAYMENT: E-TRANSFER** the total amount (\$18/bag) to [andreapiccolo@shaw.ca](mailto:andreapiccolo@shaw.ca)

No password needed, but just in case use coffee.

**PICK UP:** After school on Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> at the entrance to the church. Conveniently the same day and location as the chicken pick up, so you only have to make one stop.

#### **How you benefit:**

1. Over 35% the purchase price will go back to your child's school!
2. Relatives will feel hugged when they drink the coffee bought for them for Christmas.
3. You are supporting a local company - roasted here in Burnaby.
4. You won't have to run out to buy coffee over the holidays!

### **STUDENT TRACK SUITS**

If your child ordered a St. Michael's track suit, he or she would have received it on Tuesday. Neat Uniforms has indicated that they have more track suits in stock and they will begin to carry the track suits as a regular item. If you are interested in purchasing one, please visit neat uniforms at <https://neatuniforms.ca>.

### **REGISTRATION FOR KINDERGARTEN 2021-2022**

We are interested in knowing our potential numbers for Kindergarten for the 2021-22 school year. If you have a child who is eligible for Kindergarten next year (born in 2016), please let Mrs. Bird know as soon as possible. Please let your friends know that we are hosting an Open House on **Thursday, January 28<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 pm for any **NEW** family interested in having their child/ren attend St. Michael's School (any grade). There is no need to RSVP for the Open House.

Application packages for new families will be available that evening.

### **WINTER WEATHER CONDITIONS**

With the cold days of winter upon us, please remind your child(ren) to wear clothing appropriate for the weather, (**i.e. boots, warm jacket, mitts, toques**). If weather conditions are reasonable, students will go outside to get some fresh air during recess and lunch breaks.

In the event of inclement weather, such as snow, tune in to **CKNW AM 980 on the radio** for information regarding any school closure. Information can also be found on their web site, [www.cknw.com](http://www.cknw.com) or on our website [www.stmichaelschool.ca](http://www.stmichaelschool.ca). In the case of inclement weather in the morning, closures are usually reported every ten to fifteen minutes.

**You will receive an email to let you know if the school is closed.**

Please do not tie up the school and parish telephone lines by trying to call these offices. The radio station WILL NOT announce if the school is open; therefore, if you DO NOT hear the name of the school then the school is open. Likewise, if you do not receive a call from your class phoning parent then the school is open.

**All calls will be made by 8:00 am.**

**As traveling conditions vary depending on where you live, please use your own judgment regarding sending your child(ren) to school. The staff, however, will always work to keep the school open when safety is not in question.**

### ***Thought of the week...***

**"Jesus replied, you don't understand what I am doing now, but someday you will."**

**~John 13:7**