



St. Michael's School Newsletter

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November 25, 2022

Number 14

Dear Parents,

This Sunday brings the beginning of a new liturgical year as we celebrate the holy season of Advent. Advent is meant to be a time of hope, faith, joy, and peace. In Advent, we are reminded that God sent His Son to this world so that we might have a relationship with Him. Throughout Advent, the daily liturgical readings call us to be alert and ready, not weighted down and distracted by the cares of this world (Lk 21:34-36). We are called into a sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas.

Each Sunday, and throughout the following week, we light a candle on our Advent wreath. This week, we will light the first candle. It is purple and symbolizes hope. We are reminded that there is hope because Jesus is coming. Let's practice a hopeful way of being in the world by attending liturgical celebrations as a family this season, and modelling hope through prayer with our children.

Mrs. Grant

CHOCOLATE SALE NEWS

Our final numbers are in. As a school, we sold 8400 bars of chocolate! A huge thank you to everyone who supported this fundraiser as we were able to raise \$11 055 towards our new gym floor. We are truly overwhelmed by the generosity and support of our families.

ST. MICHAEL'S FAMILY CRAFT NIGHT

St. Michael's Annual Family Craft Night
This Monday, November 28 at 6:30pm.

Bring your family and friends for this creative and festive evening out! Get crafty making a Christmas centerpiece for home and adorable keepsake Ornaments. Tickets are \$35 and come with everything to easily make your own Advent Wreath Centerpiece as well as door prizes and yummy goodies to eat.

Children's tickets are \$10 and include 1 DIY Ornament with all the filler to make it, yummy goodies and extra Christmas crafts. Parents must accompany their child for supervision.

Tickets on sale until this Friday Nov. 25 - go to <https://sme.hotlunches.net> or purchase at the office.

Additional Ornaments are \$5. Limited supply of single pillar candle option available for your wreath centerpiece. We provide some decorations for your wreaths but if you have a specific theme, please bring your own. Please bring your own pruning shears.

OPEN HOUSE FOR NEW FAMILIES

Our **open house will take place on Tuesday, November 29th from 9am - 11am** to allow interested families to tour the school while we are in session.

Registration for 2023/2024 also opens on Tuesday, November 29th. Forms will be made available at the Open House and on our website on November 29th and can be submitted online or in-person to the school office. We will be accepting applications into the new year.

PA SKATING PARTY

Our Parent Association is once again hosting a skating party for all students on Tuesday, December 13th at Burnaby Lake Arena. Permission forms were sent home this week and are due back by Wednesday, November 30th with payments for rentals (if required). If you did not receive a permission slip for your family, please contact your child's teacher or the school office.

A CHRISTMAS YARN

Practices are well underway for our Christmas Concert "A Christmas Yarn". We will have 2 performances on Tuesday, December 6th at 1:30pm and 7pm.

As the Fine Arts Department is raising funds to cover the costs associated with this production (lights and sound,) as well as for the upcoming Spring Musical, we really appreciate your monetary donation as the entrance admission. Of course, donations of non-perishable food items for Father Rossi's Food Bank are also most gratefully accepted.

An opportunity for service hours!

Our school stage crew is looking for a few extra hands on **Wednesday, November 30th** in the early morning to set up our stage in anticipation of our Christmas concert. If you might be available to help, please contact martin.blasiak@gmail.com.

AUCTION NEWS

The annual Auction is St. Michael's School's largest fundraiser of the year, and we're gearing up for another great event. Stay tuned for the unveiling of this year's theme!

We Need You!

Looking for opportunities to fill your 60 participation hours? Volunteer for the Auction! Some current members will be leaving the school in the next year, so we're looking for some fresh faces to keep the Auction going. And if you join now, you'll be able to learn from some of our veteran members.

We have opportunities available in these roles: Co-chair, secretary, treasurer, marketing/communications, donation cataloguing, corporate donations, online auction setup, live auction setup, and auction closing.

If you're interested in any of these roles, or want to help out in a different way, please email stmichaels.auctioncommittee@gmail.com. You can get more info by joining our next meeting, which will be held over Zoom on Dec. 12 at 7pm.

Black Friday Sales Are Perfect for Donations

The discounts are always deep during Black Friday sales, so it's the perfect time to get great deals on exciting items you can donate to the Auction!

Some popular donation ideas are:

Electronics

Bottles of wine and fine spirits

New items that can be sold

Hotel and spa gift cards

Sports tickets

Gift cards in denominations of \$25, \$50, and \$100

If you're eyeing an item that's out of your budget, team up with friends or fellow parents so you can all pitch in and get something awesome!

Early Bird Draw

Make a donation worth \$100 or more before the deadline and you'll be entered to win a great prize!

Early Bird Donation Deadline: Dec. 2, 2022

EarlySt. Michael's Youth Group has set up an account with Return-It Depot, with proceeds going to our Parish Food Bank.

Bird Prize

2 tickets with reserved front row seating for the Christmas Concert (evening)

Each donation worth \$100 or more gives you 1 chance to win. You can drop off donations in the box at the main school entrance.

Check out the Facebook page for all the latest info:

<https://www.facebook.com/stmichaelsauction/>

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, please monitor your **email** and the **school website** - www.stmichaelschool.ca.

You will receive an email by 7:30AM if the school is closed. We will also report closures to CKNW who will announce the closure.

Please do not tie up the school and parish telephone lines by trying to call these offices. If you do not receive an email from your school administration email, then the school is open.

All emails will be made by 7:30 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.

BOTTLE DRIVE

St. Michael's Youth Group has set up an account with Return-It Depot, with proceeds going to our Parish Food Bank.

To support the Parish, parents can go to any depot in the area that has the express machines. You simply enter the parish phone number to print out labels for the bags and the refund will go directly to support the Parish Food Bank.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK ORDERS PROGRAM

Class code RC249384

Ordering options:

Online:

Go to scholastic.ca/readingclub

Create an account or log in to an existing account, place order

Enter school code during checkout (RC249384)

Shipping is free when you spend over \$40 and enter the school code; for orders under \$40, the shipping is \$7.50 (to your home).

Free Shipping To School:

If your item is less than \$40 and you wish to save the shipping, your item can be shipped to the school by making a cheque payable to St. Michaels School. Order forms are no longer included in the flyer so please be sure to write all the details below and add tax to your payment.

On a Piece of Paper Please include:

Student NAME AND GRADE, TEACHER

Item number

Name of item

Amount PLUS applicable tax. You have to add the tax manually.

All Books are plus GST 5% and non books (e.g. gift items) are plus GST and PST 5% and 7% (12%).

Place order information (on paper) and cheque payable to St. Michaels School in a secure envelope. Hand in to your teacher or Secretary (front office). The order will be entered on your behalf in order for you to save the shipping for smaller orders.

Items will be mailed to school and delivered to student in the classroom.

Delivery times cannot be guaranteed.

UPCOMING DATES

November 27th	First Sunday of Advent
November 28th	Advent Craft Night 6 - 8pm
November 29th	Confession for Gr. 7; Open House 9AM to 11AM
December 1st	Gr. 2 Advent Assembly 9:15am - 9:45am (Note: Date Change)
December 2nd	9AM School Mass; Used Uniform Sale 3 - 3:30pm
December 6th	St. Nicholas Feast Day Confession for Gr. 5 A Christmas Yarn Performances at 1:30pm and 7pm
December 8th	Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception: 9am Mass

December 9th	9am School Mass
December 11th	8:30am Family Mass with school choir; Pancake Breakfast
December 13th	Confession for Gr. 6 PA Skating Party
December 14th	School Choir Caroling 12:00pm Lougheed Mall
December 15th	Non-Uniform Day
December 16th	12 Noon Dismissal for Christmas Break

The days are coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the ouse of Israel and Judah. (Jeremiah 33:14).

People make promises every day, yet these promises are often broken. Sometimes unintentionally, but broken nevertheless. We human beings are not always able to keep the promises we make. God, however, never breaks a promise. He reiterates his promises throughout time by means of prophets. It is in us that God works justice, which prepares the way for his promises to become reality.

*Heavenly Father. Jesus did what was right and just. As we prepare for His coming in glory, do your work of justice through us. Keep us faithful and full of hope. Make us increase and overflow with love for all your people. We pray in the name of the One whose coming we await, Jesus Christ.
Amen*