

MARCH 2019

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

Each year our Lenten journey brings us to a crossroad. We have a decision to make. Which path will we choose to travel?

If you've grown up in the Catholic faith, you have heard that we are an Easter people, and that Christ's sacrifice for the atonement of our sins; his suffering, death, resurrection and ascension have made the salvation of all mankind possible. The celebration of Holy Mass is a living witness to this.

And so, as we journey through this Lenten season, we can choose to travel the way of the cross; and walk the path that will bring us to eternal salvation, or we can choose to travel the ways of this world. We cannot serve two masters.

No one can ever be absolutely certain of the cross that they may be asked to bear, but we do know that Christ carries that cross with us. Life may not always be fair, nonetheless we should never forget how much God loves us. We may never qualify for the Olympics, but each of us is encouraged to fight the good fight and finish the race. Today, we have a choice to make. Tomorrow when we wake up, we will be given a chance to choose again. Are we courageous enough to live in this world with our eternal destiny always in our hearts and on our minds?

Our Lenten observance should include a commitment to daily prayer, sacrifice (fasting), and service (alms giving). A commitment to lose 10 pounds and to get in shape, while commendable is actually self-serving. Giving up something is not really complete without also giving back to someone as well.

May God bless you always for everything you do for others. May he guide each of you on your journey; and day-by-day bring you closer to realizing His kingdom. May this Lent help you to choose the way of the cross for the rest of your life.

Dates to Remember:

Tuesday, March 5th – Shrove Tuesday – Pancake Breakfast

Wednesday, March 6 – Ash Wednesday – School Mass 9:15a.m.

Sunday, March 10th – Daylight Savings Time begins. (Set your clocks forward one hour)

Tuesday, March 12th – Speech Arts Festival - Group Events @ SFX

Wednesday, March 13th – Speech Arts Festival - Individual Events @St. Patrick's

Wednesday, March 13th - Report cards will be distributed to students in their classrooms before dismissal.

Friday, March 15th – Spring Break begins! **1:00 Dismissal**

Spring Break – March 18th to March 29th

Monday, April 1st - School Re-opens at 8:45a.m.

Registration & Tax Receipts

All Re-registration should now be complete. Hopefully you have picked up your tuition tax receipts for the 2018 tax year. We are very pleased to advise you that we are able to provide a tax receipt for 99% of the tuition you paid last year. This is because of the commitment we make to religious instruction. The Canada Revenue Agency considers the value of these receipts as a charitable donation. This will help offset the tuition increase for the 2019– 2020 school year. We trust parents appreciate that our tuition rates for families with two or more children are significantly discounted below CISVA recommendations. We are fortunate that our parent participation program continues to save the operational budget of the school a considerable amount of money each year; but we need to insure that every family is also actively supporting our fundraising activities. Thank you for being faithful and supportive. This is a tremendous advantage to our community, and helps maintain affordable tuition for all of our families. Finally, we must advise parents that re-registration cannot be confirmed until all tuition and fees are up to date.

Kindergarten

We anticipate some space in our Kindergarten program for next year. If you have family or friends who may be considering Catholic education and St. Patrick's School for their children, please encourage them to contact the school office as soon as possible (604 879 4411). Application forms can also be downloaded from the school website (www.spev.ca). There are also few spaces open in some of our other grades.

Preschool

Our Preschool program is open to 3 and 4 year olds. Parents are invited to submit their applications and meet with our preschool supervisor, Mrs. Rachel Reade to discuss enrolling their child in one of three available programs; two, three and five mornings each week. Our enrolment is full for September, but we are accepting applications for our waiting list. Applications will be considered on a first come basis in respect to our admission guidelines.

After School Care Program

We are accepting applications for our after school care program. Space is limited, and Applications will be considered on a first come basis. We will maintain a waiting list when enrolment is full.

Catholic Independent Schools
of Vancouver Archdiocese

Office of the Superintendent

PRESS RELEASE

February 25, 2019

The Catholic Independent Schools of Vancouver Archdiocese (CISVA) is pleased to announce that Rev. James Hughes and the Parish Education Committee of St. Patrick Elementary School in Vancouver have hired Mrs. Diane Sorochuk as Principal, effective September 1, 2019.

In 2002, Mrs. Sorochuk began her teaching career at St. Peter's Elementary School in Victoria, Australia where she taught all the primary grades. Immigrating to Canada in 2004, she spent a year as a Teacher on Call at several CISVA schools teaching Kindergarten through grade 7, as well as music, French, physical education and special education. For the past twelve years she has served as classroom teacher, librarian and then Vice Principal at St. Francis Xavier School. In the role of Vice Principal, she has been involved in chairing the school's Professional Learning Community and Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee to ensure a safe working environment, as well as managing the duties of the bookkeeper and Special Education Assistants. She is an accomplished educator who has balanced well her classroom responsibilities with administrative duties.

Mrs. Sorochuk obtained a Bachelor of Teaching and a Bachelor of Arts in 2002 from the Australian Catholic University in Melbourne, Australia. She graduated from St. Mark's College in Vancouver in 2017 with a Master in Catholic Educational Leadership. These educational accomplishments have provided her with a strong formation in Catholic leadership that espouses the belief to lead by example through being a servant leader.

Mrs. Sorochuk and her family are active parishioners of Exaltation of the Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic Church in Surrey. The three Sorochuk children all attend Immaculate Conception School in Delta. The CISVA congratulates Mrs. Sorochuk on her new appointment and welcomes her to the St. Patrick School community.