



# ST. JOHN VIANNEY SCHOOL

393 INNISFIL STREET  
BARRIE, ONTARIO L4N 3G7  
(Phone) 726-6782 • (Fax) 726-2189

Church website: [stjohnvianney.ca](http://stjohnvianney.ca)  
School website: [www.smcdsb.on.ca/sjv](http://www.smcdsb.on.ca/sjv)

**FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER - 2010**



...*Rooted in Faith, Hope & Love*

## Prayer of Hope



Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with Thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me and the God of peace will be with you.  
Philippians 4:4-9



## NEWS FROM THE PEWS

### The Season of Lent

The holy season of Lent began this week with Ash Wednesday. Lent is the yearly celebration by the Church of her corporate conversion in Christ. During this season, the liturgy prepares catechumens for their Christian initiation, and prepares the faithful for Easter by encouraging them to do penance as they approach the greatest feast of the year. Lent has two main purposes: it recalls baptism or prepares for it, and it emphasizes a spirit of penance. Through forty days of closer attention to God's word, more fervent prayer, acts of self-denial and charity, believers are prepared to celebrate the Paschal Mystery of Christ's death and rising.

### Suggested Lenten Penances

**Prayer:** More regular daily prayer; grace at meals; daily Mass; weekly Holy Hour; family rosary; Stations of the Cross; visits to the Blessed Sacrament; spiritual reading  
**Self-denial:** abstaining from certain foods we enjoy or forms of entertainment; giving up snacks, eating in between meals; desserts; cutting down the amount we eat; more careful observance of Friday as a day of abstinence from meat; giving up smoking, alcohol, movies, a favourite television program, computer games.  
**Charity:** begins at home; visiting the sick; volunteer work at a hospital; more sacrificial giving to the church and ShareLife; help the poor in the community through the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Stations of the Cross: join your fellow parishioners in this time-honoured devotion which is especially relevant to the Lenten Season. Stations of the Cross will be held each Friday in Lent at 7:00 p.m. beginning tonight.

### New Times for Confessions:

Beginning next weekend, the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation will be available for approximately 15 minutes before all the Sunday Masses and on Saturdays from 4-5 p.m.

## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Starting Kindergarten is an exciting and special time for parents and children. Our entire school community looks forward to welcoming our youngest students as they begin a lifelong journey of faith-filled learning. We believe there is something truly unique and special about learning that is rooted in faith and spiritual growth. By choosing a faith-filled education, we know you will share that belief with us. To help guide you and your child through this exciting experience, we encourage you to visit the Kindergarten Registration section of our website at [www.smcdsb.on.ca](http://www.smcdsb.on.ca). You will find useful information about what you will need in order to register your child, details about the Full Day Kindergarten program at our Board as well as our award-winning Getting Ready for Kindergarten package. This package includes a guide for parents, a delightful book for your child and an engaging welcome DVD that you can watch together. You can view this information on the Web or request a copy from our school.

**We are here to answer questions and help you prepare. Please contact us at 726-6782 for more information and to set up an appointment to register your child.**

### LICE SQUAD

If you have just gone through the most frustrating experience in your parental lifetime, call Mrs. Leavitt at the school to let her know when your child plans to return and she will arrange to have a member of the Lice Squad available to check your child's hair before re-entry to class.

To help prevent the spread of head lice and in keeping with our Board's Policy: SJV students who return to school after being treated for head lice will now be carefully checked when they return, thanks to our team of volunteer moms: Mrs. O'Brien, Mrs. Vella, Mrs. Rodrigues and Mrs. Griffith will be at your service.

### HAITI Earthquake Relief

**Thanks to the generosity of our SJV families, we have collected a total of \$750.00. Thank you for your support.**

### "Reading Olympics"

In spirit of the upcoming Winter Olympic Games, students will be challenged to READ, READ, READ throughout the duration of the Games and then some. Our Reading Olympics will 'open' Wed. February 17th and 'close' Fri. March 5th. Top readers in each division will be recognized as well as the class with the most books read. Please record the titles of all books read in the agenda along with parent/guardian initials, as teachers will be keeping track of books read by each student on a daily basis. Good luck to all students and may the best class win! Let's go for GOLD!

### Grade 3 Math Club:

Are you in Grade 3? Then come on out to Math club! Every Monday and Wednesday at last recess the math club will be meeting in the library to solve math problems together. This will be great practice for the upcoming EQAO test. ALL grade 3 students are welcome! Hope to see you there!

### SJV Parent Council

Your children celebrated Shrove Tuesday this week with a Pancake luncheon hosted by your SJV Parent Council. The staff and students wish to **thank** our "roving" chefs for the awesome pancakes: S. van Am, J. Mifsud, E. Cremin, A. Ford, K. Spurrell, S. Piette-Walton and S. Manatch. Special thanks to Mary van Am and the Grade 8 class for their help.

A very special thank you goes out to Debb Moore of Debb's Place, 352 Huronia Rd. who donated the batter and syrup. If you go the Debb's Place, mention our Pancake Day!

**Fun Facts:** We ate our way through 1,000 pancakes, 9 litres of syrup and 20 cans of juice. Parent Council volunteers are looking forward to a repeat performance next year.

**Movie Night** - Thank you for your support of this Parent Council initiative. A round of applause goes to volunteers: S. Shrubsole, T. Southwick, S. van Am, C. Harvey, J. Smith, R. Heffernan, J. Paradis, G. Melo-Page, S. Piette-Walton, J. Savand and Gr. 9 SJV Alumni.

# “LITTLE DRESSES FOR AFRICA”



In response to our Board's mission and the ever growing need of families in other parts of the world, the St. John Vianney School community is taking part in a Lenten project known as "Little Dresses for Africa" along with the Catholic Women's League of St. John Vianney Church. "Little Dresses for Africa" is a non-profit organization providing aid to the children of Central Africa by distributing simple dresses, made from pillowcases, to young girls in orphanages - young girls who otherwise have perhaps one threadbare dress to their name and few of the basic necessities that we take for granted. Recently, due to the crisis in Haiti, the "Little Dresses" project is redirecting its efforts in support of Father Rene Giroux 's mission in Haiti. Father Giroux is a priest from Windsor, Ontario who survived the earthquake.

There will be two phases in this project.

## **PHASE 1: GATHERING SUPPLIES**

From February 22 through March 22 we are asking for donations of the following items in order to make these dresses:

- new or gently used pillowcases, any colour or pattern
- pieces of fabric approximately pillowcase width and length
- thread
- 1/4 or 1/2 inch elastic
- double width binding tape
- ribbon any width
- lace
- child size t-shirts which can be put together with fabric to create these dresses

## **PHASE 2: SEWING BEE**

On **Thursday, March 25** our community will be getting together from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the school to assemble these items into dresses. Everyone is needed regardless of skill level. Please bring a friend, parent, grandparent or simply a neighbour and your sewing machine if you have one, fabric scissors, an iron (for folding/pressing), and a willing heart. Help out with this worthy cause as part of your Lenten experience. Let's bring a smile to as many girls faces as possible.

*In order to serve God we must serve the least of our brothers and sisters.*

If you are available to assist in any way please return this tear off portion to your child's teacher by **Monday, March 1st.**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ I am able to participate March 25th

\_\_\_ I have a sewing machine

\_\_\_ I have an iron

I am able to donate: \_\_\_ pillow cases \_\_\_ fabric \_\_\_ small t-shirts \_\_\_ thread  
 \_\_\_ elastic \_\_\_ binding tape \_\_\_ ribbon \_\_\_ lace \_\_\_

**ALL DONATIONS MUST BE SENT IN TO THE SCHOOL**

**NO LATER THAN TUESDAY, MARCH 23RD.**