

January 9, 2020

Dear Staff, Parents, and Students at St. Michael Catholic Academy:

I wish to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy and Holy New Year.

Thank you to those members of our Children's Choir and others, who participated in our Christmas Nativity Pageant which was held on Christmas Eve. It was a beautiful presentation with our choir director, Eugenie Landry. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the children for the wonderful job that they did. Thank you also for your continued commitment to our 9:00 am Sunday Mass; your lovely voices help to enhance our celebration each week.

Ash Wednesday: Ash Wednesday is on February 26th, and ashes will be distributed to all staff and students at a special Liturgical Celebration at 10:30 am here at Good Shepherd. We invite all parents who are able to attend. Ashes will also be distributed here at Good Shepherd at the Masses at 8:30 am and 7:00 pm.

First Reconciliation & First Eucharist: Preparation classes for those children registered for these sacraments began this past Saturday morning, February 1, and will run until May. Children will receive First Communion with their families at the 11am Sunday Mass on June 14th, 2020.

Confirmation: Preparation classes for students in Grade 7 and above who registered for Confirmation began on Monday, November 4, 2019 and will run until May, 2020. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated at 3pm on Sunday, May 30th.

I wish to remind everyone, especially those preparing for the reception of the Sacraments, about the importance of attending Mass on a regular basis.

And finally, my best wishes to all of you for a Happy and Holy New Year. May the New Born Christ Child, whose birth we celebrate, bless you in your efforts to bring these little ones closer to Him.

In God's peace and love,

Fr. Anthony
Fr. Anthony



The Catholic Women's League of Canada Good Shepherd Parish

The **CWL Youth Awards Program** is a combination of contests which are intended to support Catholic youth to hone their skills in becoming people of faith dedicated to following in the footsteps of Christ to serve God and Canada. These contests are good confidence builders for the students and an opportunity for them to share their views and values on important Catholic teachings.

For the Education component of Catholic Women's League of Canada Education and Health Committee, one of the educational based projects that continue to be a major focus across the Toronto Diocese the program is comprised for Gr. 7 to 12 of the following contests:

- **Mary Matthews Public Speaking** ~ Gr. 7 & 8
- **Mary Dobell Pro-Life Essay and Poetry** ~ Gr. 7 to 12
- **Jean McCann Youth Service Award** ~ age 15 to 18
- **St. Michael's College Scholarship** ~ Gr. 12 Females only

All registrations besides St. Michael's College Scholarship need to be received by Jan. 19, 2020. Good Shepherd Parish contest for **Mary Matthews Public Speaking** will be held on **Sunday, Jan. 26, 2020 right after the 11:00 am Mass.**

For each contest package and any further questions, please reach parish contact, Catherine Ger at catherine.ger@outlook.com.

May our Lady of Good Counsel guide us in all that we do.

Your sister in the League,

Catherine Ger

Catherine Ger
Good Shepherd Parish Education and Health Committee
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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS®

Dear Parent and Guardians of St. Michael's Catholic Academy,

On behalf of Good Sheppard's Knights of Columbus, I invite you and your children to the Basketball Free Throw Challenge open to all boys and girls ages 9 to 13. The children are welcome to participate at the local level by attending the in-school competition on Thursday, January 23, 2020 between 6pm-8pm in the gymnasium.

This program provides an excellent way to motivate your children's engagement in physical and extra-curricular activities. We kindly ask if the parents of those children who wish to participate to remain at the school to aid with supervision. The children are not obligated to stay for the whole duration of the competition, they may choose to leave after they have taken their fifteen official shots.

Each child will compete within their own age and gender category, with three warm-up shots prior to the fifteen consecutive shots. The winners have the opportunity in advancing to successive levels of competition later this year.

We look forward to seeing both you and your children partake in this exciting event! Please feel free to contact me for more information regarding contest details at dalton.dhopkins@gmail.com.

Yours truly,

Dalton Hopkins, Knights of Columbus 8340