



## CORPUS CHRISTI NEWSLETTER December 15, 2025

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### From the Pastors Desk



Dear Parents and Staff,

As we enter this final week of school before Christmas, my heart is full of gratitude and amazement. We stand on the threshold of celebrating the greatest event in human history—second only to the Crucifixion and Easter morning—the Birth of Jesus Christ.

#### **This is why we exist.**

Our parish, our school, our community, and your children's formation all flow from the Child whose birth we are preparing to celebrate. We know this truth, yet we often forget to pause and let ourselves be amazed. Christmas is God's tender reminder that He never grows tired of loving us and desires a relationship with each one of us—and with your children.

As I write this, our Christmas concert has not yet taken place, but I have seen the script. And once you read this letter, I believe the play will strike you even more deeply. This is

not a spoiler—this is an invitation to watch with an awakened heart.

The play focuses on the shepherds, delivering three beautiful messages for every parent, child, and teacher. The shepherds were ordinary people—not powerful or influential—yet God chose them precisely because they were humble and open. Before God, all of us stand as His children. He draws close to hearts that are simple and receptive.

In the final scene, Levi, Micah, Samson, Jude, and Jesse show us **how to welcome Jesus** through four virtues every disciple—and every family—can imitate:

1. **Watchfulness** – Being spiritually awake and attentive. God is always speaking; we simply need space to notice Him.
2. **Prompt Obedience** – Like the shepherds who said, *“Let us go to Bethlehem,”* and moved immediately—the obedience of love.
3. **Willingness to Change** – True growth requires leaving behind routine and comfort because Jesus is worth it.
4. **Becoming Evangelizers** – They returned “glorifying and praising God.” When Jesus becomes real, joy naturally overflows.

We never tire of the Christmas story because love never gets old. Christmas joy flows from one thing: **a personal encounter with Jesus—God-with-us, God-for-us, God-within-reach.** The God who created the universe loves you, your children, and our community so much that He chose to become one of us.

As you enjoy the Christmas concert, prepare for the holidays, and enter this sacred season, I invite you to:

- Pray each day, even briefly.
- Read a Scripture passage as a family.
- Come to Mass—let the wonder deepen.
- Allow yourself to **be amazed again** by the God who never forgets us.

Look into the crib at Bethlehem and be truly amazed when you see the Love that still comes for you—today, tomorrow, always.

My prayer is that this Christmas fills your homes with peace and your hearts with renewed joy in meeting Jesus Christ.

**May the Infant Savior bless you and your families with a holy and grace-filled Christmas.**

**Fr. Bruce-John Hamilton**

## TUITION RATES 2026-2027

### Tuition Information

*The following tuition rates are for the 2026-2027 school year.*

No. of Children	Category 1 Corpus Christi Parishioners	Category 2 Non-Parishioners	Category 3 Non-Catholics
1 child	\$455	\$611	\$810
2 children	\$850	\$1,116	\$1,519
3 children +	\$990	\$1,282	\$1,865

More information will be given at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) that will be held on January 20 2026 at 6:30pm in the school gym.

### CHRISTMAS CONCERT

**Tomorrow, Tuesday, December 16, and Wednesday, December 17** - There will be Matinee performances @ 1:30 – 2:45. Students are asked to come to school dressed in their costumes.

**Wednesday, December 17** - There will be an evening performance at 7:00pm. Students are expected to be in attendance. Students are asked to arrive at school by 6:45pm dressed in their costumes and wait under the covered area. Staff will bring students in from the covered area.

Admission is by donation to help raise money for Catholic Charities.

### CHRISTMAS CONCERT COSTUMES

Please see below

### EVENING CONCERT AUDIENCE PROTOCOL

In keeping in line with safety protocols, each family received **two tickets only** for the evening performance.

Younger siblings (four years old and under) must sit on adult laps as chairs are reserved for adults.

Please inform extended family members about seating restrictions and invite them to attend the matinee performances. Only those with tickets will be allowed admittance to the Gymnasium for the evening performance.

**We ask that parents remain in the gymnasium for the duration of the concert.**

After grade performances, students will wait for parents in their classrooms and will be supervised by school staff. Once picked up students cannot be taken into the gymnasium.

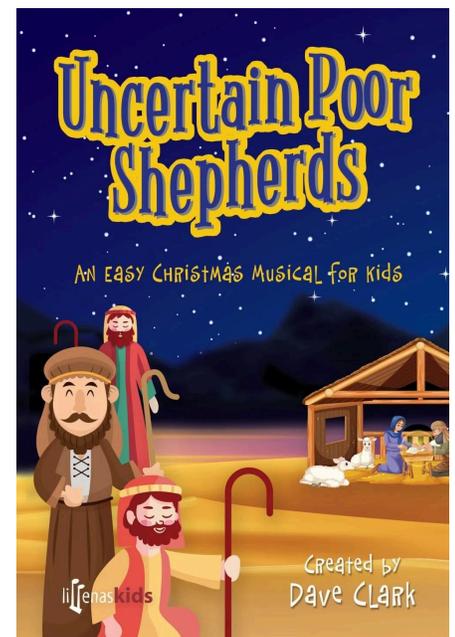
### UPCOMING DATES

**DEC. 16** Christmas Concert Dress Rehearsal – Matinee Performance @1:30pm

**DEC. 17** Christmas Concert: Matinee @1:30pm & Evening Performance @ 7:00pm

**DEC. 18** Dress Down Day: Pajama Day for Students and Staff

**DEC. 19** School Mass - **Early Dismissal 11:30am : Last Day of School before Christmas Break**



## **ABOUT ADVENT**

Advent is a time of observing the coming Christmas holiday, Jesus' Birth, and is celebrated by Catholics and Orthodox Christians throughout the world. The observance of Advent has its roots in ancient times. Advent means "coming," referring to the coming of Christ. The season of Advent is four weeks before Christmas. Advent calendars are commonly used as a "countdown" to Christmas. Small toys or candies are placed inside little doors or windows, and one door is opened each day to count the days till Christmas. The advent wreath counts down the weeks left until Christmas, starting with the 4th Sunday before Christmas.



An advent wreath contains 4 candles, 3 purple, and 1 pink. Purple signifies penitence and fasting in preparation for the coming of a King. The pink candle is for the 3rd Sunday (also known as the Sunday of Joy). A candle is lit on the advent wreath during the Sunday evening meal. This candle will be lit every evening during the evening meal in many cases. Each week an additional candle is lit, until the last Sunday before Christmas, when all four candles burn. A portion of the Christmas story may be told each week and a devotional completed as part of the observance.

### **Prayers for Lighting the Advent Wreath**

#### **Blessing of the Wreath**

God of love, may this wreath and its light remind us that Jesus came to save us from our sin. Bless this wreath and all who gather around it as we prepare our hearts to celebrate Christmas. Come, Lord Jesus, bring hope, faith, and life to our world. Amen.

#### **Week 1, Hope**

Dear Jesus, you are the hope in our messy world. This Advent, help us slow down, listen to your voice, and focus on what's really important. We place our hope in you as we prepare our hearts to celebrate your birth on Christmas. Amen.

#### **Week 2, Peace**

Dear Jesus, you entered our world on Christmas as the Prince of Peace. This Advent, as we strive to become the-best-version-of-ourselves, fill us with a deep and abiding peace. Help us share that peace with everyone we encounter, especially those who need it most. Amen.

#### **Week 3, Joy**

Dear Jesus, help us focus on you during this busy season. May we stay aware of the joy you bring into our lives. We want to find you in the everyday moments and come with hearts of gratitude to your manger on Christmas. Amen.

#### **Week 4, Love**

Dear Jesus, may the light of your love always shine in our hearts. As Christmas draws closer, we marvel at your great love for us. Let your love transform every aspect of our lives and touch everyone we encounter. Our hearts are open to you, Jesus. Amen.

#### **Advent Prayer for Families**

Heavenly Father, your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us, a great sign of your love. Guide us as we strive to walk in that love together as a family this Advent. As we prepare our hearts for Christmas, bring us closer to each other and to your son. Give us the grace and strength we need every day. Help us to always trust in you. Come, Lord Jesus, lead all people closer to you. Come and dispel the darkness of our world with the light of your love. Amen.

#### **Blessing the Advent Wreath with Children**

Dear Jesus, as we light the candle(s) on this Advent wreath, may the light of your presence bring joy to our hearts. Bless our family and our friends and be with all those who are in need this holiday season. Amen.

## **APPROPRIATE OUTDOOR WINTER CLOTHING**

For colder weather, especially during snowfalls and rain, please make sure your children are dressed suitably (winter coats, hats, mitts, boots) for outside recess times.



## **WEATHER MEMO...**

Please review following procedures should the school close due to weather conditions.

1. Check your email
2. Visit the school website— <https://www.cchristi.ca/> (6:30 AM) approx.
3. Follow our school Instagram page [@corpuschristielementary](#).

It is the parent(s) responsibility to verify if the school will be open due to the weather based on the information sources noted above.

## **CHRISTMAS BREAK**

The school will be closed for Christmas break from **Monday, December 22, 2025, to Friday, January 2, 2026**. The school will reopen on **Monday, January 5, 2026**.

## **UNIFORM REMINDERS**

Parents, please label all uniform items (shirts, pants, kilts, shorts, etc.) with a permanent black marker. If your child's name has faded, please re-write the name.

Please check uniform labels (your child may be wearing someone's golf shirt, sweater, shirt, pants, kilt, gym shirt, or gym shorts) If you notice another student's name, please return the item to your child's classroom teacher.

Please ensure that uniform items are neat in appearance. You may need to hem pants or kilts and patch any tears in clothing items. Also, if your child has outgrown uniform items, they will need to be replaced with a bigger size so that they are comfortable at school.

The length of your child's kilt must not be shorter than an inch above the knee.



"Uncertain Poor Shepherds"  
 Christmas Musical 2025-2026 Costumes

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Song Title</u>	<u>Top</u>	<u>Bottom</u>	<u>Accessories/Extras</u>
Grade 7A Band	1. "Jolly Old St. Nick" 2. "Jingle Bells"	Christmas sweaters	Black pants (no leggings or tights)	Santa hats
Grade 7B Band	1. "Ode to Joy" 2. "Jingle Bell Rock"	Christmas sweaters	Black pants (no leggings or tights)	Santa hats
Choir	"Shepherd Boy"	Classroom/Cast costumes		
Grade 2	"The Song of Christmas"	Red tops (No logos)	Black pants/skir ts	Winter scarves, gloves
Grade 4	"Did You Hear What They Heard?"	<u>Shepherds</u>  White/Beige tops (No logos)	Brown pants or (dresses or skirts) Black dress shoes	Robes, bathrobes or vests (solid color) -Brown/beige or white cloth, or scarf, or thin towel over head with elastic headband to secure to head  
Kindergarten	"Hark the Herald Angels Sing!"	White tops (No logos) or white dresses for girls	Black pants, White dresses or skirts	Garland halos (Provided)

Grade 1	<i>"Let's Go, Let's Go!"</i>	<u>Shepherds</u> White/Beige tops (No logos)	Brown pants or dresses/skirts - Black dress shoes	Robes, bathrobes or vests (solid color) -Brown/beige or white cloth, or scarf, or thin towel over head with elastic headband to secure to head  
Grade 3	<i>"Uncertain Poor Shepherds"</i>	Yellow (No logos)	Black pants/skirts	Stars (Provided)
Grade 6	<i>"Worthy of it All"</i>	Purple (No logos)	Black pants/skirts	Candles (Provided)
Grade 5	<i>"Tell it Again"</i>	Green (No logos)	Black pants/skirts	Winter scarves/gloves