

December, 2009

# G.R.C.C.S. News

GERARD REDMOND COMMUNITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Grades 5-12

John 14.6 "I am the way and the truth and the life."



## School Information

*Principal-*

Mr. Tim Fafard

*Assistant Principal –*

Mrs. Marlys Phillips

*Family School Liaison*

Mr. Randy Smith

*School Phone Number*

780-865-2820

*Safe Arrival*

780-865-5328

*School Fax number*

780-865-1444

*Website*

[www.grccs.ca](http://www.grccs.ca)

**Memo:**

*The Holy Grill is being run by Mrs. K. Goudrian. The Grill is open daily for lunch.*

Dear Parents,

The word **Advent** means "coming" or "arrival." The focus of the entire season is the celebration of the birth of Jesus. Advent is marked by a spirit of expectation, of anticipation and of preparation. We are reminded to count our blessings, to spend time with our family and to celebrate and give thanks for all of those things in our lives that give us purpose and meaning. Here at Gerard Redmond, we have many things to celebrate and give thanks for; the gold medal placing of our junior girls' volleyball team at zones, silver finish by the junior boys, our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Wake-a-thon and the \$7000.00 it raised for local charities, a successful Scarefest for Halloween, our grade 6 PAT results, and another round of successful Parent-teacher interviews. We are also very pleased and thankful to announce that we have been able to secure a number of dedicated individuals to assist us with our Parent Council group and rejuvenate its membership. If you are interested in learning more about how you can offer your services with this group, their next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30p.m.

Again, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to all the parents who assist us in creating a positive school environment by becoming partners with us in your child's education. It is truly appreciated.

On behalf of the staff of Gerard Redmond Community Catholic School, we would like to wish you all a very resistive and relaxing Christmas break and a prosperous New Year.

Merry Christmas!



Mr. Fafard

Mrs. Phillips

## Christmas Greetings from Father Brian

Dear Friends,

At Christmas, we reflect on how important our faith in God is to us. God has drawn close to us so that we may draw close to Him. He shares our human condition so that we may share His divine life, even now. We hear that we are loved by God. We hear how important it is for us to love one another. At Christmas we say and show in many ways how much we value our family and friends and how blessed we are by their love.

To many who have contributed generously to the life and mission of our parish in the past year, sincerest thanks. God bless you and your loved ones this holy season and in the coming year.

To those who no longer join us each week to thank God for His gifts, you are missed. We are here to welcome you whenever you return.

God bless you all!

Father Brian Inglis



## Our Lady of the Foothills Catholic Church Holiday Schedule 2009

### ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Friday, December 18<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 p.m.

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday, December 19<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 20<sup>st</sup> – 10:00 a.m.

### CHRISTMAS EVE

Thursday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> – 5:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m.  
and Midnight

### CHRISTMAS DAY

Friday, December 25<sup>th</sup> – 10:00am

### FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Saturday, December 26<sup>th</sup> – 7:00pm

Sunday, December 27<sup>th</sup> – 10:00am

### FEAST DAY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Thursday, December 31<sup>st</sup> – 5:00 p.m.

Prayer Vigil - 11:00 p.m. – Midnight

Friday Jan 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010 – 10:00 a.m.

### EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Saturday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010 – 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2010 – 10:00 a.m



## Christmas Concert

The talented students at GRCCS will be performing at their best for Parents this Christmas Season. The Elementary concert is on Monday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM in the gym and the Jr/Sr Band and Choral Group will perform on Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM in the gym. There is no cost for admission but please feel to share the season's spirit by bringing a contribution for the Food Bank.



# Merry Christmas

## Counselor's Corner

December 2009

Shad Valley is a program that allows any students from grade 10, 11, or 12 (ages 15 – 18) get involved in an academic program at one of several universities in Canada. It occurs in the summer from June 27 – July 23, 2010. Why would one want to spend their summer in this program? Students get to experience campus life at a university and study science, technology, or math while gaining invaluable entrepreneurship and leadership skills. This is a great way to learn more about university life and have a better chance of being considered for university admissions as well as scholarship decisions. The deadline to apply is December 9<sup>th</sup> with a second intake available for January 20, 2010. Please request an application form from Mrs. Phillips or go to [www.shad.ca](http://www.shad.ca) for more information.

RE/MAX is offering the Quest for Excellence program to grade 12 students in Western Canada. Students have to submit an essay based on their interest and passion for one of the six areas: Leadership, Sports, Technology & Trades, Performing Arts, Fine Arts, and Community Service. Applications are available at [www.remax-western.ca](http://www.remax-western.ca) by going to the Community Care section and clicking on the Quest for Excellence Logo. The deadline is March 5, 2010.

Any grade 12 student who have applied for a program in a post-secondary institution, need to see Mrs. Phillips to get a school transcript which will have a list of their midterm marks for this school year. This transcript is accepted by the post-secondary institutions until an official transcript is sent directly to the institution from Alberta Learning.

In closing, I would like to wish each and every one of you a safe and happy holidays. God bless you and your family this Christmas season!

Mrs. M. Phillips  
Career Counselor

***Turkey dinner will be served on December 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am. The cost will be \$7.50 for a complete meal. The order forms will be sent home soon.***

## “Stamp” out Cancer

**Wanted: Used postage stamps.**

Used postage stamps are being collected to help fundraise for the fight against Cancer.

Any stamps that are collected can be brought to the office at GRCCS and will be forwarded from there. *The stamps should have a margin of 1/4 inch or more around them with the postal markings, if possible.*



## Outdoor Shoes

This is a reminder to all students that an indoor pair of shoes may be necessary now that the wet weather has arrived. Please help to keep our school and gym looking great. School custodians appreciate all student efforts to keep our school clean.



## Seasons Greetings from GRCCS School Council/PAC

The School Council wishes the staff, students and families the best of the holiday season. May the true meaning of Christmas bless your heart and your home.

The PAC at GRCCS is looking for parent volunteers that will help with various tasks that will enhance the support for our students. There are many volunteer opportunities through out the year. If anyone can help out, please leave your name at the office.

**PAC Meeting – December 8<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 in Library**

## Raiders Update: Volleyball Wraps Up & Basketball Starts

The Raiders program has seen all new highs achieved during the volleyball season for the 2009-2010 year. Starting with the senior programs, it was once again a successful year for both the girls and boys teams. The senior girls volleyball team achieved new highs with some of the best finishes they have had in recent years. The girls had two third place finishes in tournament play this season and narrowly missed out on qualifying for zones.

The senior boys volleyball team was looking at a rebuilding year during the beginning of the season but it quickly turned into a season where they were continuing where they left off last season. The boys had an influx of new players onto the roster but they used it to their advantaged and turned some big results on the season. The boys had a third place finish in Jasper and then took the gold medal in Swan Hills before qualifying for zones play. It was only at zones where the boys had their very successful rebuilding year come to a close.

The junior Raiders also achieved some great results this season as well. The junior boys volleyball team was coming into the 2009 season as a young team that consisted mostly of boys from grades six and seven. The team only had two returning players from the 1A Banner team of 2008 meaning the team was looking to the future. With a new coach and many new faces the boys worked very hard in practices and games to have a successful finish to the season. During the GYAC Championships the boys played strong through all their preliminary games and carried the momentum into the playoffs. That momentum carried the boys right into the 1A gold medal game where they finished a close second to a more experienced team.

The junior girls program saw expansion with a B team that was made up of first year players and an A team that was mainly returning players with a couple new faces. The girls B team was successful in developing more and more as the season progressed until they went to the GYAC Championship for their strongest finish on the year. During the preliminary round the B girls narrowly missed a playoff birth that would have seen the B and A teams have to play each other. Instead the girls were relegated to the Consolation final where the girls turned their strong play into a Consolation win.

The junior A girls team was looking to continue where they left off last season. They team only had a couple changes from the previous year where the girls had finished third in the GYAC Championships. The goal for the 2009 season was to return back to the GYAC Championship and make it to the Banner final. A big challenge for the girls but one they were capable of achieving. The team saw many ups and downs during regular league play and tournament play. The biggest thing the team had to work on was consistency of play. If the girls could play a consistent game then they had a very good shot at winning the 1A Banner. At the GYAC Championship the A team started out strong and carried it through all their games right into the Banner final. The girls had a brief set back in the first set dropping it to Harry Collinge but rallied in the last two sets to bring home the 1A GYAC Banner for 2009.

The junior A girls team is now looking forward to travelling to Whitecourt, AB for the first ever NCJHAA 3J Volleyball Zone Championship. We wish the girls the best at the Championship and hope they can wrap up their season with another championship banner.

With the completion of the volleyball season comes the start of the basketball season. All teams are in full swing with boys and girls teams in both senior and junior and a boys and girls team also at the grade 5 & 6 level.

**Don't forget to check out the website at <http://sites.google.com/a/grccs.ca/grccs-athletics/> for ongoing updates and schedules.**

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*Mr. Darren Dokken  
Athletic Director  
GRRCS Raiders*

