



Director's Message

As we begin the liturgical season of Lent we are reminded once again that we are called to reflect on our lives and return to the Lord with hopeful hearts. We are invited into prayer, fasting and sharing to help others. Lent is a time to grow into the persons we were created to be. If we focus on the Hope to which these forty days lead us, the Resurrection, we can persevere.

With the disaster in Haiti, the loss of a good friend to Catholic education Msgr. Burns, our colleague, Rita DeMarco and the loss of another of our local heroes Sgt. John Faught, it would be easy to become despondent and cynical. Instead, I am overwhelmed and hope-filled with the out-pouring of generosity and compassion toward all within our Huron-Superior Catholic School Board community.

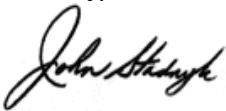
Our staff and students continue to work to help bring hope to those who are suffering in Haiti. The Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace, which will receive over \$20,000 as our combined donation, will make sure the efforts to rebuild Haiti become a reality. I was also extremely touched and proud when I witnessed our students line the streets to honour and pay respect to our fallen hero, Sgt. Faught. We are teaching much more than character values. We are being, as St. Theresa says, the hands and feet of Jesus in the world. We are the body of Christ.

In January, we experienced another great loss in one of our mentors in faith, Sam Colizza Sr., whose witness of his faith journey with our staff this past October inspired us and caused us to re-evaluate our priorities. The loss is great to his family and to our Catholic community. However, there is a lesson from Sam in his dying, which is that he is sharing in his life-long belief that he now lives with Jesus.

As I witness the paradoxes of life, I am beginning to see that difficult things allows us to more fully experience joy, find greater hope and reach out with greater compassion and love.

As we begin this Lenten journey may our prayers, our doing without and almsgiving help us to grow in hope and love. May each of us strive to become the person God created us to be.

Sincerely;

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jack Stadnyk'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jack Stadnyk
Director of Education

Feb. 2010