



Sacred Heart School

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Principal: Mr. B. Acres Secretary: T. Andree

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ZONE 3



Monday May 3rd, 2021

Dear Parents,

I hope you are all staying well and were able to enjoy the weekend.

As you may have seen, we recently tweeted out a call for support through prayer for the Van Netten family in Simcoe. Mike Van Netten has been battling covid in Hamilton for about three weeks and has been on a ventilator and received other life-saving procedures from the medical staff at Hamilton General. Having several ties to the farming community and children that played sports in Brant, the Van Netten's family connections are far reaching. We have several Sacred Heart families that know the Van Nettens and are aware of their story through social media and CBC and CTV news. Below are a few links that give some personal background and perspective.

https://www.google.ca/amp/s/beta.ctvnews.ca/local/kitchener/2021/4/29/1_5407980.html

<https://www.google.ca/amp/s/www.cbc.ca/amp/1.5999647>

<https://www.google.ca/amp/s/www.simcoereformer.ca/news/local-news/former-nhlers-show-support-for-vannetten-family/wcm/0a46ddd1-26ea-40e1-ab09-43ec6ab45878/amp/>

Mike's wife Sarah has been very open about Mike's battle and has posted several social media posts applauding the efforts made by the healthcare workers that have worked tirelessly to support Mike and others in the ICU battling this horrible disease. Some of the workers supporting Mike and others include, Doctors, RPNs, PSWs, Healthcare Aids, Respiratory techs, Pharmacists, Social Workers, Dieticians, Unit clerks, Radiologists, Housekeeping/cleaners, Physiotherapists, Spiritual Care and Volunteers. Although Mike is from Simcoe, he and others who are seriously ill have been transferred to Hamilton General where they deal with the most serious Covid-19 cases in our region.

Request from Mr. Acres:

I recently reached out to Mike's brother and sister-in-law, Kevin and Cindy, who thought it would be a kind gesture for our students to write letters of gratitude and encouragement to the healthcare professionals who have been going above and beyond at Hamilton General's ICU.

Sacred Heart is requesting, that if you are interested, to send your letters to my email where I will print them in colour and deliver them to Kevin and Cindy on Friday May 7th. They will then deliver the letters to the ICU unit at Hamilton General. You are welcome to take a photo of yourself with the letter or simply take a photo of your letter/creation and I will make sure it gets to the healthcare workers at the hospital. If you aren't able to send an item to me by email then I can make other arrangements with you in order to ensure it makes it to its destination.

I look forward to seeing your letters, pictures and creativity for the support of our healthcare workers.

Below are a few quotes from Sarah's posts that shows how encouraged she is with all the hard work these professionals put in daily and how grateful she is for their ongoing commitment in battling Covid-19.

“.. but it was action today. So much happening, so much unwell, so many such intelligent people knowing exactly how to treat these people.. I only know 4 who I call my crew.. but every 2 rooms are full of a crew. They scurry, they garb up, they leave, they garb up 1 minute later to re-enter. The x-ray machine was back today for my crew in the adjoining room. Mike's roomie had an ultrasound. They do not stop.. and they do not stress. I spoke last night about the age of these new covid patients.. the average age is 40! 40 and on a vent fighting for your life. I'm scared, the health care system is scared.. because they are bursting... “sometimes our lives have to be completely shaken up, changed and rearranged to relocate us to the place we're meant to be” “If you're praying about it, God is working on it”

God bless and take care,
Bill Acres, Principal