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(1)

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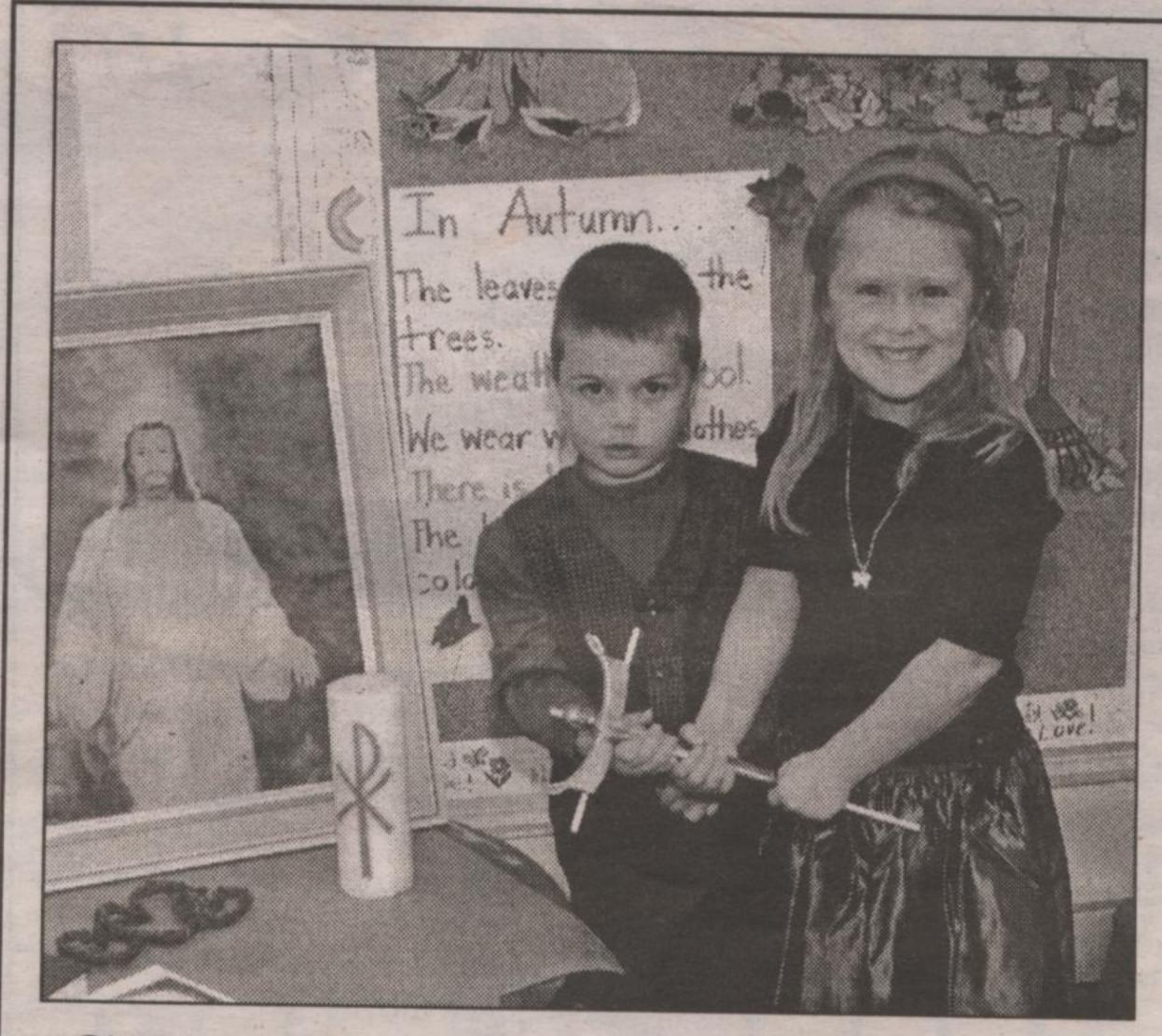
#### \$10 PER TICKET OR 3 FOR \$25 6000 PRINTED

They are available at the United Way's member agencies and various businesses in Halton Hills including, Roos Travel, Boston Pizza, Scotiabank, Halton Credit Union (Acton and Georgetown), National Bank of Canada, Georgetown Volkswagen, The Freckled Lion, Aztec Computers, Sunshine Design, McMaster's Meats, Young's Pharmacy, Christiane Hair Styles and in Acton at Home Hardware and Needle Gnome.

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of CHFI

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Junior Kindergarten students Jasson Lockyer and Kendra Van Der Eyken bring a crucifix to the new Junior Kindergarten classroom during the recent blessing and rededication of the school. The Junior Kindergarten room was one of six new classrooms added to the school. Science and art rooms were also part of the new addition.

> Photo by Herb Garbutt

## St. Joseph's School rededicated

From its humble beginnings in a rented stone school on the Robert Little property, to its renovated modernized school, Jim McGeragle has good reason to be proud of St. Joseph's School.

With the finishing touches being put on the \$2.28-million addition to the school, McGeragle reflected on the strong ties that extend beyond a principal's pride in his school.

"My family was educated in this school and my wife and I, one of us has worked here since it started. It's my family's school. It's not just a place of work," he said.

In keeping with the family tradition at the school, Grade 8 student Shannon Buck read the opening prayer at last week's blessing and rededication ceremony. Her mother was a member of St. Joseph's original graduating

McGeragle was an original staff member, moving with St. Joseph's when its permanent location was built on Mill Street West in Acton in 1982. He taught at the school until 1986 and returned to the school in 1998 as principal.

McGeragle is overjoyed at the completion of the addition.

"Even though it's only 18 years old, a lot has changed in 18 years. We're able to provide a modern facility— as modern as any school—with computers in every classroom and a computer lab," McGeragle said. "And with the landscaping, the school is far more appealing looking and really fits into the community."

Six classrooms were added to the school, which can now accommodate all 390 students without any portables. The new classes include new kindergarten rooms, a science room and an art room. There are also additional meeting rooms, staff workrooms and storage spaces as well as an enlarged office area. The removal of the portables have also created a larger playground and additional parking.

The renovations included an upgrade to the air ventilation system, new heating and air conditioning systems and new lockers.

—By Herb Garbutt, staff writer

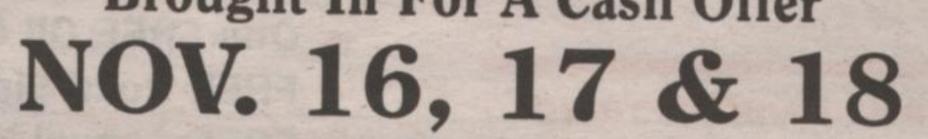
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