

PASTORAL PLAN

School: **St. John Bosco School**

School Mission Statement:

As members of the St. John Bosco School community, we share these core values and beliefs:

As a Gospel People:

We are united in Jesus Christ who reveals God's love to the world and shows the way to live a fully human life and to achieve our true potential.

We are lifelong learners on a journey, accepting and respecting the fact that we are at different stages in our faith development.

We as educators have a calling; vocation of service to others, using Jesus Christ as our model in developing human potential.

We strive to provide a climate, perspective and value system based on the teachings of Jesus, as a staff, and to our students, in a time dominated materialism, individualism and relativism.

We do our utmost to provide a community that respects the dignity of each person as a child of God, thereby nurturing the good and providing healing and reconciliation in times of difficulties.

We apply our faith to everything we do and celebrate what we believe in rituals, symbols and sacraments.

We are part of the greater Catholic community which has a vital and important role to play in the total development of a child.

We have an appreciation and respect for the variety of functions, gifts and authorities within our Catholic community, knowing that each individual is empowered with the Holy Spirit.

Learning reflects Gospel values rooted in the Catholic faith, and the morals, ethics and behaviours conducive to respect for self, others and the environment.

As Teachers:

We believe that parents/guardians are the primary educators of their children.

We facilitate and support the development and enrichment of students and work together in partnership.

We believe that each child has the right to the best possible education in the best possible educational environment.

We help each child realize that he/she is loved and worthy of respect.

We encourage each child to recognize and develop whatever talents he/she has an obligation to contribute to that society.

We encourage each child to grow in every respect and support them as they face the challenges of this growth.

We strive to provide a safe and structured environment for children.

We do our best to foster spiritual and intellectual growth in children by modelling the same.

School Motto: Growing together in faith and love to serve one another.

Our Parish: St. Marguerite D'Youville

Pastor: *Rev. Robert Mignella*

Parish website: <http://stmargueritedyouville.archtoronto.org>

Message from the Pastor:

Having grown up in the TDCSB system, I can reflect back on the numerous collaborative efforts made between parish, school, and family home to provide as authentic a Christian faith experience as possible during my upbringing. Accordingly then, my pastoral plan is to continue to offer Jesus...through the preaching of His Word, the Sacraments where he is encountered, and the invitation to share in the mission of his Church of which he entrusts us. Only Jesus keeps Catholic education vital and essential rather than redundant and irrelevant.

Message from the Catholic School Council:

As members of the St. John Bosco Catholic School Council we work in collaboration with the school team, parents and community partners to promote and foster a vibrant Catholic School community with our Faith as the strong foundation. We support the connection between home, school, and church by working together and celebrating our Faith through school and Parish initiatives. In this way we promote the development of the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations while developing responsible, collaborative and compassionate students who will demonstrate their God given talents as lifelong learners.

Catholic Education Week Theme: Igniting Hope

Throughout Catholic Education Week, we ask you to reflect on the significance of Catholic education's presence and contribution in our Church, and in our society.

May 3 – May 8 is Catholic Education Week.

Activities or events planned for the Week:

1. Newsletter sent home outlining the events for the week
2. Individual classroom/grade level/school wide events reflecting the theme for the day: events encourage parent engagement in their child's learning as well as peer sharing
3. Division and school-wide activities
4. School Faith Day: Marian Celebration – Rosary Apostolate
5. Social Justice Initiative led by our Student Leaders
6. Confirmation Retreat (Grade 7)

Faith Formation:

Forming ourselves in our Catholic faith is a foundational element in helping each of us understand and live in the example of Christ.

School activities that support both adult and student faith formation

1. Virtues Program – reflections and connections of our virtues shared on announcements, in assemblies and in all school activities
2. Scripture reading on daily announcements with reflection to help students develop a greater understanding of scripture and its connection to their lives and social teachings of the church
3. Include a diverse range of learning resources to support faith formation, Catholic Social teachings and daily life
4. Include scripture in school activities and in day to day responsiveness to situations/conflicts – this develops an understanding of scripture and how it connects to our Catholic social teachings and virtues
5. School Masses/Liturgical Celebrations – celebrate as a Faith community
6. Celebration of the Sacraments – Communion, Reconciliation, Confirmation
7. Rosary Apostolate – monthly visits
8. Student Leaders – Faith development and social outreach initiatives within the school
9. Collaboration with Parish Priest, the Parish team and the St. Marguerite d'Youville Parish
10. Eco-Team – stewardship of our environment – leaders within the school model and promote preservation of our earth

11. Presentations that promote our Faith and virtues (e.g., Loretta Penny – Eco/Black History/ “We all Belong”, Saidat presentation – making positive choices)

Sacramental Preparation:

As Catholics, we understand sacraments to be "outward signs instituted by Christ to give grace." Together in partnership with our parish, we support the preparation of God's children in receiving the sacraments.

Event	Grade 2	Grade 7
<i>Confirmation Retreat</i>		November 14, 2019
Confirmation Practice		May 5, 2020
CONFIRMATION		May 12, 2020
First Reconciliation	February 8, 2020	
Holy Communion Prayer and Activity Day	May 23, 2020	
Holy Communion	May 25, 2020	

Liturgical Celebrations:

The Liturgical calendar is marked by the gathering in community to celebrate the Eucharist and share in prayer.

Celebration	Date
Opening Mass	September 10, 2019
Advent Mass	December 10, 2019
Ash Wednesday	February 26, 2020
Lenten Mass	March 11, 2020
Crowning of Mary	May 1, 2020
End of Year Mass	June 26, 2020

Social Justice / Outreach Activities / Charities:

Catholic Social Teachings of the Church root our actions in supporting human dignity and the preferential option of the poor which calls us to serve the most vulnerable in the world.

1. ShareLife
2. Food Drives to support St. Marguerite d'Youville, Knight's Table
3. Helping Hands/Christmas Baskets
4. Toonie for Autism
5. Relief Funds
6. Terry Fox
7. Donations to Community members in need
8. Jump Rope for Heart

Recognizing Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations:

Framed by the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations (OCSGE), our graduates will be effective communicators, reflective thinkers, lifelong learners, collaborative contributors, caring family members, responsible citizens and discerning believers formed in the Catholic faith community.

To celebrate OCSGE, we as a school community....

- *Presentations to celebrate our thinking and learning – lifelong learners and reflective thinkers*
- *Virtue presentations and teaching – becoming caring members of society*
- *Social Outreach programs – food drives , charitable donations (Terry Fox, Jump Rope for Heart, Helping Hands/Christmas Baskets) – responsible citizens*
- *Student Leaders / Washroom Monitors– collaborative contributors, effective communicators*
- *School Teams – collaborative contributors*

Celebrating Virtues:

A virtue is a habit or established capacity to perform good actions according to a moral standard. When we practice these virtues we strengthen them and thereby make the presence of God more and more visible in the world around us.

1. Daily reflections on announcements
2. Presentations to focus on the virtues
3. WITS (Walk away, Ignore, Talk it out, Seek help) program
4. PALS
5. Fill your Bucket Program – primary classes
6. “Zones of Regulation”
7. Virtues in Newsletter
8. Visible signs via posters and student work throughout the school
9. Classroom retreat days / Liturgies / daily prayers
10. Rosary Apostolate
11. Eco-Stars – leaders of preserving the environment

Visible Signs of our Faith:

Through symbol and service, we are instruments of God’s love whose work within our communities stands as a witness to our faith.

1. Visible signs of our Faith: prayer tables, altars, front foyer display, posters and wall displays, bibles, sacred cloths to match the colour of the liturgical season, crosses, rosaries, statue of Mary, picture of Pope Francis in front hall
2. Faith events and activities highlighted in classroom calendars and school newsletters
3. Daily Faith reflections and prayers on announcements
4. Close collaboration and visits from pastoral team at St. Marguerite d’Youville Parish
5. Catholic Code of Conduct embedded in discipline and restorative practices
6. Library and class resources are representative of our diverse community of learners
7. Anti-bully program using WITS, PALS and school presentations
8. Catholic History pieces included in school newsletters
9. Rosary Apostolate visits (monthly)

Resource List for Parents/Guardians:

- **Religious Education Curriculum** - [Ontario Religious Education Curriculum](#)
- **Family Life Curriculum** - [Ontario Family Life Curriculum](#)
- **Fully Alive Program information** - [Ontario Bishops' information on Fully Alive](#)

Resource List for Schools:

Board

- **Vocations Units**
We have Vocations units as part of the Grades 2, 5, and 8 curriculum. The goal of these supplementary units is to deepen one's understanding of God's call – the “*vocare*” – to various forms of life within the Church.
- **History of the Parish**
Through the resource book *Our Story, Our Tradition, Our Journey*, grade 7 students have the opportunity to learn about the history of our parish.
- [Enduring Gift Video](#)

School-Based

- Children's Daily Prayer