

Catholic School Improvement Learning Cycle 2016 – 2017

St. Rose of Lima Separate School

MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of St. Rose of Lima Catholic Elementary School to challenge students to welcome and value the involvement of all that have an interest in our community, to challenge students to excellence in everything they do spiritually, academically, socially, emotionally and physically, grow in respect for self, others, authority and property and develop Catholic leadership skills.

MOTTO

"Learning Together"

CATHOLIC FOCUS

St. Rose of Lima Catholic Elementary School, which is located at 4590 The Gallops, first welcomed students in December 1986. This suburban Mississauga school has 377 students from the neighbouring community and two specialty programs: a regional Self-Contained Gifted Program for students in Grades 5 through 8 and Extended French for students in Grades 5 to 8.

The school, which is dedicated to St. Rose of Lima, the patron saint of Latin America and the Philippines, was blessed on October 18, 1987, by Fr. D. M. O'Neill of St. Ignatius of Loyola. St. Rose of Lima lives out its motto, "Learning Together," in a variety of programs. Leadership opportunities allow all students to model faith through our Catholic virtues, sponsorship of families at Christmas, and social justice initiatives which include fundraising for ShareLife, Terry Fox, Toys for Tots as well as participation in food drives for Eden Food for Change, Dr, Simone's Warehouse and the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

St. Rose of Lima is a part of Merciful Redeemer Parish. The St. Rose of Lima community is enriched by the spiritual leadership of our Parish priests at masses and to mark our student's initiation into the sacraments as part of their spiritual journey. We also benefit from Church leadership and support for our Intermediate students in various Youth Programs.

In support of the Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board's Catholic Board Improvement Learning Cycle, St. Rose of Lima Separate School is further committed to:

- Deepening the understanding, appreciation and practice of the Catholic Christian lifestyle, with Jesus as role model;

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- Aligning a school-wide approach to Catholicity, whereby all educational practices are implemented through a Catholic lens;
- Developing students who are fully alive in Christ, not only in terms of knowledge and skills, but in terms of values, attitudes and actions;
- Working closely with our Catholic School Trustee Sharon Hobin to ensure our parent community is represented;
- As a diverse educational community responding to God's call, St. Rose of Lima School fosters and nourishes an inclusive atmosphere rooted in tradition and scripture while:
 - Being authentic witnesses to our Catholic Faith;
 - Being responsible stewards of God's grace in the world;
 - Respecting human dignity;
 - Modelling all learners after Jesus, as ministers of compassion.

DUFFERIN PEEL'S STRATEGIC SYSTEM PLAN CORE PRIORITIES

CATHOLICITY

How does the school community model, celebrate and nourish gospel values in the teaching and learning of our Christ-centered programs and services?

The St. Rose of Lima community models, celebrates and nourishes gospel values on a daily basis through:

- * Integration of Gospel values into teaching and learning as we continually follow the example of Jesus and plan for the demonstration of the Catholic Graduate Expectations through our Catholic Community of Culture and Caring Action Team;
- * Fostering of spiritual development through daily prayer, classroom and school-wide liturgical celebrations, sacred spaces in each classroom and through our virtues education program;
- * Provision of social justice opportunities organized by staff and student leaders, including the Christmas Gift Card drive for St. Vincent de Paul;
- * Focus on virtues through daily prayers, student participation in stewardship opportunities: Student Council, Youth Faith Ambassadors and social justice opportunities including food drives, support for St. Vincent de Paul, ShareLife, Dr. Simone's Warehouse, Eden Food for Change and The Terry Fox Foundation.

CATHOLIC LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Summary of the school's most recent (2015-2016) EQAO Primary Assessment Performance

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- Reading 86% of students at or above Provincial Standard
- Writing 90% of students at or above Provincial Standard
- Mathematics 86% of students at or above Provincial Standard

Summary of the school's most recent (2015-2016) EQAO Junior Assessment Performance

- Reading 95% of students at or above Provincial Standard
- Writing 100% of students at or above Provincial Standard
- Mathematics 88% of students at or above Provincial Standard

Describe how the school fosters the continuous development of all through a caring, safe and inclusive environment.

“All people have an inherent dignity because they are loved and created in God’s image.”

As a school community The Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations (OCSGE) are considered in all our actions. We strive to foster an environment where students gain an understanding of the curriculum and how they can contribute to the community as: Self-Directed Responsible Life Long Learners; Discerning Believers; Collaborative Contributors; Effective Communicators; Caring Family Members; Reflective and Creative Holistic Thinkers and Responsible Citizens. The OCSGE are visible in all areas in our school – in our classrooms, hallways and offices. We are aligning our Grade 8 Graduation Awards with the OCSGE’s and connecting student goal setting to Learning Skills and Catholic Graduate Expectations.

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

How does the school demonstrate that it values the involvement of community through partnerships and collaboration?

St. Rose of Lima has strong community partnerships with Peel Public Health which supports our community with several initiatives including Welcome to Kindergarten, PALS and as a representative on the Catholic Community of Culture and Caring Action Team. Our liaison with Peel Police includes programs within the classroom and visits to Peel Safety Village for Grades 1, 2 and 3 as well as Toys for Tots at Christmas. Youth Faith Ambassadors also support partnerships with the St. Vincent de Paul Society, Eden Food For Change, Doctor Simone's Canada Food for Children, The Terry Fox Foundation, Healthy Eating Active Living Symposium and the Peel Public Health Programs. The Y.M.C.A. Child Care team works closely with administration and staff to collaborate regarding our shared students and space.

PARISH – HOME – SCHOOL RELATIONSHIPS

Describe how the school demonstrates strong partnerships and collaboration among Parish, Home and School are based on mutual respect rooted in our lived Catholic Faith.

St. Rose of Lima continues to foster active engagement with Merciful Redeemer Parish. This is achieved in several ways including timely communication with parents regarding parish sacramental meetings, The Edge Program, teen masses and parish events. As a school community we support St. Vincent de Paul Food Drives and The Annual Christmas Gift Card Drive. Invitations are extended to parish priests Fr. Vid Vlastic and Fr. Scott Birchall, Youth Ministry Coordinator Marc Puigmarti and Sister Diane DiCarli to visit classrooms and join in school liturgies, events and celebrations to support all students on their spiritual journey and especially those students involved in sacramental preparation. Members of the Rosary Apostolate visit students once a month to pray the rosary with our students. We have parish participation in our Healthy Eating Active Living Day. Our Pastoral Plan is developed

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in collaboration with the parish team and shared with the school community to highlight liturgical and sacramental dates at Merciful Redeemer Parish.

STEWARDSHIP OF THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Describe how the school is committed to healthy and safe learning and working environments that enhance well-being, engagement and achievement.

St. Rose of Lima continues to be actively engaged in opportunities to promote a healthy and safe learning and working environment. We have an active Catholic Community of Culture and Caring Action Team which works with School Council, Student Council, Adult and Youth Faith Ambassadors to provide multiple opportunities for students and staff to come together including Bullying Awareness Spirit Week, numerous academic and athletic teams and competitions, clubs, retreats, field trips and overnight excursions to Camp Muskoka and Ottawa. There are monthly school-wide liturgies based on virtues and the liturgical seasons. Students participate in HEAL Day (Healthy Eating, Active Living Day), the Big Crunch and healthy eating initiatives.

TECHNOLOGY

How is the school committed to a responsible approach in addressing the technology needs of our learners in a global context?

At St. Rose of Lima all stakeholders are provided with many opportunities for life-long learning. Students are engaged in a rich learning environment that incorporates technology and current methodology in their curriculum. We have iPads and Chrome Books used daily to support students in their quest for knowledge. The school website is up to date on all school and board news. The school Twitter account is used daily to tweet out inspirational and timely information.

SACREDNESS OF OUR ENVIRONMENT

How does the school encourage the respectful and sustainable environmental practices of reducing, reusing and recycling?

St. Rose of Lima continues to be actively engaged in opportunities to promote good stewardship of resources including active participation in a school-wide recycling program with both students and staff. Our Eco-team fully engages in Eco School initiatives including the use of refillable water bottles at our filling station and we have achieved certification as an Eco School at the Gold Level. We continue to increase electronic opportunities to communicate with staff and parents in an effort to reduce the amount paper used at St. Rose of Lima. We have been part of a pilot for LED lighting and should have all classrooms outfitted with new lights by the end of this school year.

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