

## SECONDARY SCHOOL PASTORAL PLAN



**School Name: ST. THOMAS AQUINAS**

**School Motto:**

*"Faith, Hope, Love"*

**Mission Statement:**

The staff and students of St. Thomas Aquinas believe that our school community is grounded in the Gospel message of Jesus. He is the reason for all that we do and all that we are in our school. We believe all students can achieve success. We believe that all members of our community deserve to feel safe, included, and welcome in our school. We believe that all the members of our school family (which includes staff, students, parents, and our pastoral team) deserve to have an active voice and be heard as we continue to build a school community that provides excellence in Catholic Education.

**Theme for the Year:** Catholic Education: Rebuild, Restore, Renew Together  
L'éducation Catholique: Rebâtir, Restaurer, Renouveler Ensemble

**Background on the Theme:** The theme for Catholic Education Week 2022, "Rebuild, Restore, Renew Together" envelop the theme not just of this week, but the entire school year. It is inspired by four main considerations:

The recent Papal Encyclical entitled, Fratelli Tutti motivates a continued focus on inclusion and equity with all educators and administrators in our continuous striving for serving all of God's children

The continuing reality that is the COVID-19 pandemic, and the themes of the two previous Catholic Education Weeks (2020 and 2021), Igniting Hope and Nurturing

Hope leaves us with one certainty – that in and after these times, there will be much to rebuild, restore and renew and that we will do it together.

The challenges of personal and spiritual well-being posed by the uncertainty and physical isolation of the current global crisis makes the timing and concerns of Mental Health through the year, but Mental Health Week, which also takes place during the same week as Catholic Education Week even more relevant.

Ongoing recognition of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the relevance of Indigenous culture and spirituality will continue to move us forward.

In a section of the 2018 pastoral letter by the Ontario Bishops for Catholic Education entitled *Renewing the Promise*, we see an analogy of St. Paul to Catholic schools – that there is one body, but many parts, in which all must work together in harmony. During this time in which many of us recently have experienced isolation and separation from one another, all educational partners are called to “collaborate and rely upon one another in order to ensure that Catholic Education remains health and strong” (*Renewing the Promise*, 9). The Bishops of Ontario back then wrote of all partners in Catholic Education that we should work “together to form joyful disciples ready and eager to renew the promise as we respond to the challenges and opportunities of the present moment” (*Renewing the Promise*, 15). It was hardly imaginable that these words ring more true as we attempt to rebuild, restore, and renew our schools together.

We invite all members of our school community to bring their energy, enthusiasm, generosity and all their gifts to the task of rebuilding and restoring the Catholic community within our school and to continue to shape the vision of our Catholic education.

Together with our families, parish, and the greater community we will bring to life Scripture, the celebration of the Sacraments, prayer, outreach opportunities, advocating for justice, in creative ways with a renewed zeal and hope and with commitment to serving with faith, hope and love as our school motto.

**Retreats:**

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, retreats will look different, as students cannot go outside of school property. As such the chaplaincy leader has coordinated religion class and grade-based level retreats taking place in the chapel, also trying to ensure that virtual students in Cohort C are able to participate to the best of their ability.

**GRADE 9: Rooted in Christ, We Belong, We are Called**

Grade 9 students will attend an in-person retreat in the chapel facilitated by the Chaplaincy Leader. Students will begin with liturgy and prayer and will engage in getting to know you ice breakers. The retreat will focus on mental health and well being as we navigate who Jesus calls us to be throughout our teenage years and onward. Students will reflect on topics pertaining to the Ontario Catholic Graduate Expectations, Virtues and biblical examples of Saints called to be servant leaders and how they too are called to be the hands and feet of Jesus. Students will have the opportunity to write a reflective letter entitled "Dear Self" which they will collect again upon graduation to see how they have grown spiritually throughout high school.

Should out-of-school retreats become an option, grade 9 students will attend Queen of Peace Catholic Parish in Norval for retreat lead by the leadership students, Chaplain and CYW team.

**GRADE 10: Rooted in Christ – Healthy Relationships**

Grade 10 students will attend an in-person retreat in the chapel facilitated by the Chaplaincy Leader and CYW. Students will begin with liturgy and prayer and will engage in getting to know you ice breakers. The retreat will focus on mental health, well-being, and healthy/positive relationships as we navigate who we are called to be in relation with others. Students will focus on examples of the relationships that Jesus had, how he navigated temptation, those who betrayed him, how he served others, forgave others, and truly cared for everyone. Students will write a reflective piece on who they are called to be and healthy/positive relationships in their own lives. Students will collect the reflection letter upon graduation to see how they have grown and lived out the promise to be the hands and feet of Christ in relation to serving others.

Should out-of-school retreats become an option grade 10 students will attend a retreat at Chingecousy Park in Brampton facilitated by Hope Stone Catholic Group.

### **GRADE 11: Interfaith Connections & Sacred Space**

Typically, the Grade 11 retreat focuses on interfaith dialogue, and consists of a tour of various places of worship in connection to some of the religious traditions studies in the Grade 11 University-College Preparation and Open Religion courses. During this time of the pandemic however, the opportunity to gather as a community is still restricted to a certain number of people.

The in-class version of this retreat will be navigated around the theme of Sacred Spaces and Sacred Voices. Within the retreat, students will be asked to consider what makes spaces sacred. This is not to prevent students from participating in their respective places of worship, but it is to acknowledge what other places might bring us closer to God. The second portion of the retreat focuses on Sacred Voices and asks students to consider the Golden Rule, a teaching common to most major world religions. Students will be asked to reflect on they have lived the Golden Rule before the pandemic, as well as during the pandemic.

Finally, students will have an opportunity to write personal faith mission statements. After being given instructions, students will reflect on the experience of life and the meaning of mission and express their faith in words which express their thoughts into actions.

Should out-of-school retreats become an option, a proposed plan would be to have students attend various places of worship with the last of these places of worship be our local parish of St. Anthony's Roman Catholic Church.

### **GRADE 12: Community – Servant Leadership**

The Grade 12 retreats will be run by the chaplaincy leader and for some of them co-run virtually by Dean Dettloff, one of the animators for our area for Development and Peace Canada. The theme of these retreats will navigate around Catholic Social Teaching and Sending Students on a Mission. In particular, we will be focusing on the Catholic Social Teachings of Solidarity and Preferential Option for the Poor. Students will find out about a benefactor, Victor Vasquez from

Honduras and what we can do to help his cause and help to build solidarity in the country. In additions students will be given an opportunity for ways they can be animated to work with Development and Peace (if they choose) in their post-secondary years. Finally, students will have an opportunity to write letters and cards to one of the benefactors of Development and Peace/Caritas programming and services.

Alternatively, another retreat option poses the theme of reflection and social justice. Grade 12 students will have an opportunity to reflect on their last four years at Aquinas C.S.S. and at the end will have an opportunity to write letters to the residents of a local nursing home in Brampton.

Should out-of-school retreats become an option students will serve by making meals for guests at Regeneration Community Soup Kitchen in Brampton.

**OTHER RETREATS: During Regular School Year**

- Retreat for Students in the Planning for Independence Program (PIP) – Building Relationships (May 2022) Facilitated in the chapel by Chaplaincy Leader
- Salesian Leadership Retreat (March 2022) TBD with COVID 19 restrictions
- Secondary School Chaplain's Retreat Day (June 2022) TBD
- Student Council Retreat (February 2022) Facilitated by Chaplaincy Leader in Chapel
- Service With a Smile Chaplaincy Retreat (January 2022) - Afterschool retreat for the student Chaplaincy Team to commemorate the Feast Day of St. Thomas Aquinas and reflect on “Rebuild, Renew, Restore”. Held in school library and facilitated by Chaplain.
- Rainbow Squad LGBTQ+ Retreat – After school retreat facilitated in the library by the Chaplaincy Leader for the LBBTQ+ community and allies, focusing on the theme “Made in God’s Image and We Belong.”
- H.E.A.L Bereavement Retreat – December 2021, facilitated by Chaplain. This retreat is held for students who have lost a parent or a sibling.

**Activities of a Religious Nature:**

<b>Activities of a Religious Nature with a substantial component of ritual and prayer</b>	
September 2021	Opening Staff Mass by Cardinal Collins shared to all staff online.

September 2021	Opening Staff Liturgy facilitated by Mrs. Novak (Chaplaincy Leader)
September-June 2021-2022	Prayer & Reflection facilitated by Mrs. Novak (Chaplaincy Leader) at all DH Meetings & Staff Meetings, liturgy held for staff on all PA Days
September – June 2021-2022	Liturgy and Prayer Service by Individual Classes in the Chapel with Mrs. Novak (Chaplaincy Leader)
September-June 2021-2022	Monthly liturgy held in the chapel for students in Planning for Independence
September-June 2021-2022	Monthly liturgy held for students in Service with a Smile Chaplaincy Club and Rainbow Squad – held currently on Google Meets. Facilitated by Mrs. Novak (Chaplaincy Leader)
September – June 2021-2022	Classroom mini-Catechist retreats held on line for all religion classes on a sign up basis. Facilitation by the Chaplaincy Leader.
September -June 2021-2022	Development and Peace Social Justice Club Held in partnership with D&P every Tuesday
September-June 2021-2022	Bi-weekly prayer and reflection with students in the ALPHA program. Facilitated by Mrs. Novak (Chaplaincy Leader)
September-June 2021-2022	Mental Health Awareness Reflections Chaplaincy Leader in conjunction with CYW staff present “Mental Health

	Minutes” on morning announcements with a connection to scripture.
October 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	Opening School Mass
October 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	Thanksgiving presentation/prayer service by Mrs. Novak and Planning for Independence Students for all students
November 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2021	Staff Liturgy in memory of All Souls Day in the Chapel. Based on a first come first serve sign up schedule to adhere to social distancing in the chapel. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Particularly for staff who have lost a loved one (during lunch period)</li> </ul>
November 11, 2021	Remembrance Day Service
November-December 2021	Stations of the Cross in Modern Day times for teens. In the Chapel with Mrs. Novak. Individual classes can sign up.
December 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	Advent Mass
December 2021 (Date TBD)	Sacrament of Reconciliation with Father Joseph (sign up basis in chapel)
January 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2022	Feast Day of St. Thomas Aquinas Liturgy
March 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2022	Ash Wednesday Liturgy
March 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2022	Lenten Liturgy
March 2022 (Date TBD)	Sacrament of Reconciliation (in the chapel on a sign up basis)
April 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2022- April 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2022	Holy Week Service/Dramatization
April 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2022	Holy Thursday Liturgy
May 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2022	Year End Mass
June 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2021	Graduation Mass

June 27th, 2021	Year End Staff Liturgy and Farewells
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**Other Pastoral/Outreach Activities**

<b>Pastoral Activities</b>	
September 10 <sup>th</sup> -October 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	<b>Thanksgiving On-Line Donations and Food Drive</b> Collection of monetary donations using school cash on-line to support families in need in the Brampton community through Regeneration Outreach and Knights Table.
September – June 2021	<b>Life Teen</b> Run in conjunction with four other DP high schools and Chaplains. Training of student leaders to lead monthly sessions on issues pertaining to teens from a faith-based perspective. Wednesday's on Zoom 3-4 pm
September – June 2021 Dates TBD monthly	<b>Outreach Opportunities</b> (Chaplaincy Students, 1-2 staff members) On-line prayers, social games/bingo with seniors with the Brampton Seniors Center.
September 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	<b>Orange Shirt Day Liturgy – School Awareness Display</b> Shared with students and staff
September – June 2021-2022	<b>Service With a Smile</b> Weekly meetings to discuss the pastoral plan, liturgical event planning, outreach planning, fellowship and prayer, community building, servant leadership, social justice
September-June 2021-2022	<b>Ministry of Presence and Pastoral Care</b> Individual one on one pastoral care meetings with the Chaplain
September 2021 - June 2022	<b>Faith Talk – Introduction to Chaplaincy</b> Grade 9 classes Held in chapel, facilitated by Chaplain



September – June 2021-2022	<b>STA_Faith on Instagram</b> Chaplain’s daily prayer and reflection, scripture and inspirational faith-based quotes shared on Instagram.
September-June 2021-2022	<b>Rainbow Squad LGBTQ+ Club</b> Meets bi-weekly in the chapel with Chaplaincy Leader
October 2021	<b>When Faith Meets Pedagogy Youth Conference</b>
November 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	<b>Remembrance Day Presentation and Liturgy</b>
November 15 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	<b>Anti-Bullying Prevention Week Awareness Campaign</b>
November - December 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	<b>Christmas Baskets (connected to the parish)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Classes assigned to a family in need</li> <li>● Collection of monetary donations using school cash online and donations from students</li> <li>● Working in collaboration with CYW, Social Work and Chaplaincy Leader</li> <li>● Baskets delivered to families before Christmas</li> </ul>
March 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2022	<b>Ordinandi</b> (1staff member, 5-10 students) Students from Catholic high schools all over the Archdiocese of Toronto are invited to the vocation stories of men that are being ordained to the priesthood
March 2022 (TBD)	<b>Salesian Leadership Retreat</b> To be held at St. Francis Centre, Mono. (6 students max., 1 staff member) Students are provided an opportunity to be part of a community of faith-filled students, supported by the DPCDSB and under the charism of St. John Bosco
March 7 <sup>th</sup> - March 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2022	<b>Lenten Social Justice Initiative with Knights Table</b>

	St. Thomas Aquinas will support the Knights Table through a school clothing donation drive
Monday, March 29 <sup>th</sup> – Friday, April 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2022	<b>ShareLife Week</b> (will include a virtual video that showcases the work of one of the ShareLife organizations)
Monday, April 11 <sup>th</sup> - April 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2022	<b>Various Activities in Connection with Holy Week</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Morning reflection</li> <li>- Liturgy for school</li> </ul>
April 2022 (TBD)	<b>Catholic School Chaplain’s Association Regional Conference</b>
April 1st - April 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2022	<b>Toiletries Drive</b> (organized by the Chaplaincy Team) in support of Regeneration and Knights Table
May 2021	<b>Chaplaincy Transitions Visits to Elementary Schools facilitated by Chaplain to all feeder schools /Gr8</b>
May 2nd – May 8th, 2022	<b>Various Activities in Connection to Catholic Education Week</b>  <b>Student Council and Chaplaincy</b>
May 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2022	<b>National Anti-Homophobia Day Liturgy and Reflection (shared to staff/students online)</b>

**Catholic Education Week**

Sunday, May 1 - Friday May 6, 2022 is Catholic Education Week with the theme of “Rebuild, Restore, Renew Together”

Monday, May 2, 2021 – Rediscover

Biblical Verse: “I have found the coin that I lost.” (Lk. 15:9b)

Tuesday, May 3, 2021 – Rebuild

Biblical Verse: “Rebuild the house of the Lord.” (Ez. 1:3)

Wednesday, May 4, 2021 – Restore

Biblical Verse: “The God of all grace will restore, support, strengthen, and establish you.”

(1 Pt. 5:10)

Thursday, May 5, 2021 - Renew

Biblical Verse: “The Lord your God ... Will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love.” (Zeph. 3:17)

Friday, May 6, 2021 - Rejoice

“Be glad and rejoice, for the Lord has done great things!” (Joel 2:21)

Highlight activities or events planned for the Week:

- Introduction to Week and Each Respective Daily Theme through morning reflections and videos created by students that are aligned with the theme of each day
- Providing Social Media Posts significant to Catholic Education Week Daily Themes on Chaplaincy Instagram
- Opportunities for Virtual Guest Speakers and in-person Guest Speakers (if applicable) incl. the Vocations office and Regeneration Ministries
- Prayer Cards (in thanksgiving to parents for supporting Catholic Education)

**Catholicity Across the School**

Catholicity is integrated and permeated throughout the academic fabric and curriculum of St. Thomas Aquinas Secondary School. Catholicity is evident in the works we teach, the prayers that begin each period of study, and the resources available to students and staff in order to facilitate classroom prayer and reflection.

Classes from across the curriculum will be encouraged to invite the Chaplaincy Leader into the class to speak on any variety of subject topics as they relate to the teachings of the Catholic Church. Topics can include (but are not limited to) the following:

- Healthy Sexuality/Theology of the Body (Physical Education)
- Music in the Life of the Church (Arts)
- Prayer: What to Write, What to Say (English, Theology)
- Does Evolution Contradict the Bible?/How Miracles, Religion and Science Go Together (Science)

- Numbers and the Bible: The Significance of Certain Numbers in the Old and New Testament (Mathematics)
- Catholic Social Teaching incl. Preferential Option for the Poor: The Economics of the Gospel Message (Social, Science, Economics, Business)

Department	Departmental Activities and/or Events
<b>Academic Resource</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create and display posters that represent the Catholic Graduate Expectations</li> <li>• Explicitly discuss examples of how we live out the CGEs on a daily basis</li> </ul>
<b>Technological Studies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each technology class will focus on one Catholic Graduation Expectation. Each expectation will be designed into a puzzle piece. The puzzles will be assembled with others to form a St. Thomas Aquinas student. The whole design will be displayed on the technological education department webpage and will also be reflected in all our display cases around the school.</li> <li>• The technology department will come together to focus on community involvement in and outside the school through use of the outdoor classroom.</li> </ul>
<b>Business and Computer Studies; Co-operative Education</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business classes will develop attitudes and values founded on Catholic social teaching and acts to promote social responsibility, human solidarity and the common good through local and global case studies</li> <li>• Witness Catholic social teachings by promoting equality, democracy, and solidarity for a just, peaceful, and compassionate society through local and global case studies</li> <li>• Cross-departmental collaboration with the school Chaplain so students can create advertisements to promote Chaplaincy-related causes, groups and/or clubs</li> <li>• Use and integrate the Catholic faith tradition, in the critical analysis of the arts, <b>media, technology and information systems</b> to enhance the quality of life</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Articulate the connection between technology and the Catholic Church’s view on technology</li> <li>● Examples of project-based learning whereby we can achieve the highlighted goals:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ We have an assignment that instructs students to examine the Church’s view on technology and how we can apply this view in business scenarios</li> <li>○ In the Accounting courses and accounting units within other business courses, there is an ethics strand that aligns with virtues</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>English / ELL</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Students will be encouraged to exemplify the CGE through short answer questions, essay responses, presentations, tableaux and graphic posters, power points and Prezi, both in a virtual classroom setting and in-person sessions</li> <li>● Teachers will be encouraged to share their personal faith experiences with students as a tie-in to the experiences of characters studied in the literature covered</li> <li>● Course of study will incorporate current affairs into the study of literary works in light of CGEs (e.g., BLM movement; the plight of indigenous peoples, COVID-19 response/protocols, personal and government honesty/integrity: re., US Presidential election) all within the context of our responsibilities towards our various communities (home, school, city, etc.)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Mathematics</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Use and integrate the Catholic faith tradition, in the critical analysis of the arts, <b>media, technology and information systems</b> to enhance the quality of life</li> </ul>
<p><b>Moderns and Social Science Department</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Include CGE’s as part of the civics curriculum on a daily basis</li> <li>● Experiential learning that emphasizes the CGE’s through tree planting trips, take home parenting dolls, the Tour For Humanity Bus visits, and the</li> </ul>

	<p>promotion of social justice issues such as Orange Shirt Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● The promotion of CGE's through the department helping run Eco-week, Remembrance Day, and the vegetable garden at St. Anthony's church</li><li>● Reinforcement of the CGE's in Environmental Geography and Gr.9 Geography courses through several units</li><li>● Include the CGE's on assignments and handouts to highlight where they fit within the graduate expectations</li></ul>
<b>Religion/Theology</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● All courses will explicitly link curriculum and Catholic Graduate Expectations on tests and exams</li><li>● Teachers will display and connect to CGE throughout classroom activities and in Learning Goals</li><li>● Success Criteria will clearly link CGE to lessons and activities</li><li>● The department will share with the school community/parents (via website) updates on our retreat program and Catholic school culture.</li><li>● Increased awareness of vocations and closer connection to local parishes.</li><li>● Collaboration between home and school via newsletter.</li></ul>

<p><b>Guidance/Library</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A service-oriented initiative that allows Alt Ed students to take on a leadership role in the community that will provide service to people, but also serve as a growth and learning opportunity for the students</li> <li>● Post visuals of the Catholic Graduate Expectations</li> <li>● Create a link to the expectations on the Guidance area of the school website</li> <li>● Create and display posters that represent the Catholic Graduate Expectations</li> <li>● Explicitly discuss examples of how we live out the CGE's on a daily basis and through student counseling.</li> <li>● Acculturating First Nations, Metis and Inuit Spirituality and culture into school-wide liturgies</li> <li>● An FMNI-focused social justice project to create</li> <li>● community awareness and a connection to our Indigenous</li> <li>● community</li> <li>● A service oriented initiative that allows Alt Ed students to</li> <li>● take on a leadership role in the community that will</li> <li>● provide service to people, but also serve as a growth and</li> <li>● learning opportunity for the students</li> <li>● Post visuals of the Catholic Graduate Expectations</li> <li>● Create a link to the expectations on the Guidance area of</li> <li>● the school website</li> <li>● The Co-Operative Education department will allow</li> <li>● students to examine and reflect on their personal values, abilities and aspirations through reflections</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Physical Education and Visual Arts Department</b></p>	<p><b>Art</b></p> <p>We have crosses hung above our doorways and in our classroom so that Jesus' presence is always with us.</p> <p>We have designated prayer spaces within each of our classrooms to create an environment where spirituality has room to flourish thereby creating a reciprocal environment of being open to God and knowing that he is there for us. The prayer table oftentimes is a conduit which helps to facilitate conversation within the classroom between teachers and students.</p> <p>In each of our classrooms there hangs an artists prayer which helps our students to understand that no matter what, their unique talents/abilities are seen by God. God cherishes all his children and celebrates each individual.</p> <p>We utilize the Catholic Graduate Expectations by embedding them in our curriculum and invite students to strive towards achieving these expectations during the time we have them with us in each of our courses. Graduate expectations are present on each of our course outlines.</p> <p>Due to the nature of our current student schedule, having all of us meet as a school community is not feasible under these circumstances. The liturgies and prayers provided by Chaplaincy have proven to be integral in bringing the Aquinas spiritual initiatives to the students.</p> <p>In the arts, we often take class time and dedicate it towards having our students use their God-given talents towards sacred and spiritual initiatives in the school (e.g. providing music for mass, using drama and dance to add to liturgies, visual artists creating their own interpretation of the Stations of the Cross, media scenes promoting virtues, etc.)</p> <p>We use our classrooms to develop our student's skills and bring out the inner artist in all of them. We specifically set up our classes to be safe spaces, where students are free to express themselves and share their gifts. We make our classrooms free from judgment, put-downs and negativity and instead foster a community of support. Students in our</p>
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	<p>arts classes are expected to show compassion, empathy and respect at all times.</p> <p>Physical Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Have students reflect on the connection between Healthy Active Living and the Catholic Graduate Expectations</li> <li>● Display posters that represent the Catholic Graduate Expectations (CGEs) in all change rooms</li> <li>● Have students self-identify how they currently meet the CGEs as part of their assessment “as” learning</li> </ul>
<p><b>Family Studies</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Focus on promoting the Catholic Graduate Expectations</li> <li>● Listing the CGE poster in the classroom and online</li> <li>● Focus on daily prayer</li> </ul>
<p><b>Science</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Focused activities and class discussions on ethical and moral applications of scientific principles that are designed to help students become reflective and creative thinkers</li> <li>● Develop lifelong learners through goal setting</li> <li>● Demonstrate responsible citizenship through environmental stewardship</li> </ul>

**School Environment reflective of our Faith**

*These religious icons, symbols and visible expressions of our Catholic identity are present in the school environment:*

- The school's symbol represents our distinct Catholic identity and includes the following features:
  - The school colour of black, white, and red
  - The angel is a representation of the Holy Spirit, that guides the actions of the mission of the Church in our school
  - The raven can be interpreted as the students entrusted in our care, which we help to grow diligently in faith and love.

- The graduation scroll to represent the Catholic Graduate Expectations and God's divine grace in leading students through the faith life and academic success as well as harvesting of young people of good moral character, especially love and charity
- The crest of "Faith, Hope, Love" exemplifying Catholic virtues in forming the whole student in body, mind, and spirit.

**School Foyer**

- In the foyer of the school is a wooden cross
- A large statue of St. Thomas Aquinas is present in the foyer.
- The prayer by St. Thomas Aquinas written on the book of the statue
- At the front of the school is the picture of Pope Francis, upright banner with the Catholic Graduate Expectations and the School Mission
- Beautiful banners for Lent, Advent, Christmas

**Chapel**

- As with all chapels in every secondary school in the board, the presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament is open to everyone in the chapel. Stations of the Cross are displayed throughout the chapel. Holy water is available to bless oneself with upon entrance into the chapel and a prayer box for intentions is also available at the back of the chapel.
- The school chapel includes various statues and icons, including Jesus, Our Holy Mother and Children at the feet of Jesus.
- A student painting of the last supper
- Chapel also included two rear entrance doors with one stained glass window dedicated to Father Tobin.
- Two stained glass windows behind the alter representing Alpha and Omega
- Pictures of the students and staff who have passed away to remember souls and for prayer on All Souls Day
- Beautiful banners of stations of the cross, banners for Advent, Lent, and Christmas
- Decorative prayer table outside of chapel under stained glass window, prayer table is decorated for the liturgical seasons of the year
- Inspirational scripture quotes for students to take daily
- Diverse representation of the Nativity Scene in chapel the month of December

**Chaplaincy Office**

- Image of Jesus just above seating area, representation from various cultural backgrounds
- Images of Former Students in Prayer and Religious Figures

- In the bookshelves of the chaplaincy office are icons of St. Kateria Tekakwitha, St. John Bosco, St. Francis of Assisi, St. Terese of Lisieux, St. Padre Pio and St. John Paul II, a statue of Mary and Saint Padre Peo, various prayer books and prayer cards
- Development and Peace Posters and Scarboro Mission Posters: Catholic Milestones in Interfaith Dialogue and Catholic Social Thought
- Rack of Care Notes by Abbey Press containing brochures for help with personal issues of students, prayer resources, prayer cards, booklets
- Rack of Resources from Covenant House, Catholic Organization for Life and Family, Kids Help Phone, Catholic Family Services of Peel-Dufferin, Catholic Campus Ministry, Office of Catholic Youth, YMCA, Mississauga Food Bank, and Vita Centre
- Rosaries for students and staff
- Crucifix on the wall

#### **Classrooms and Other Rooms in the School**

- Each Classroom contains a wall Cross and prayer-table. Each classroom has also been provided with a prayer box of items to place on the prayer-table, some of which include the Bible, prayer books, rosary, LED candle, Advent wreaths, and antependium of the liturgical colour of the time of the Liturgical Year (cloths are in green, purple, and white).
- Each classroom also has posted in the classroom the school prayer
- Other rooms such as the main office and department workrooms also have a prayer table.
- The main office has a large cross
- Prayer table outside of chapel
- Chaplaincy Bulletin Board outside of chapel displaying scripture, praise and faith based resources. The bulletin is decorated for the liturgical seasons of the year.
- Classroom advent banners

#### **Cafeteria**

- A chaplaincy bulletin board in the cafeteria will be used to display information for students including upcoming events, social outreach opportunities, virtues education, information on mass and liturgies, etc. The bulletin board also includes a place where students can ask faith-related questions to either the chaplaincy leader or to the pastors in our parish.
- Large wooden cross used for liturgical events, placed at front of cafeteria

**Hallways**

- Random Acts of Kindness Bulletin Board just outside the chaplaincy office, social justice initiatives posted, student reflections posted, prayers, lives of the Saints
- Our Common Home Earth banners are present outside the Chapel
- Along the second and third floors, are various photos and posters of a religious nature
- Scripture painting on walls on each floor

**Collaborative School Culture**

*These activities are organized by the School Catholic Community Culture and Caring Action Team:*

- Compassionate Care is a joint venture between Chaplaincy and the Guidance Department. This focuses on assisting students through the bereavement process – often easing a student’s transition back to school after the loss of a loved one and by providing support and connection with the classroom teacher (when needed). Memorial events such as All Soul’s prayer box, the Christmas Tree of Life and Spring Planting ceremony connect students, staff and parents.
- Each bereaved student/teacher and family are given a prayer card and candle. This year we will continue to journey with students who have lost a parent through individual and small group check-ins.
- The School TEAM consists of the Student Success Teacher, School Psychologist, Academic Resource Department Head, Guidance Counselor (based on student name), Child and Youth Worker, School Social Worker, Administrator (based on student name) and most recently the Chaplaincy Leader. This team provides an opportunity to consider strategies for assisting at-risk students holistically in their life at school and at home.
- General collaboration with support staff to meet the general needs of student
- Being aware of our most vulnerable students in terms of financial need and supporting them through funds – to assist on sports teams, food, field trips, graduation, etc. room outside the chapel provides student options for breakfast and lunch. (Currently snacks being provided to home rooms with health and safety restrictions in place)
- Student Club Fair is an opportunity for student clubs to be showcased and shared with students and staff for promotion and sign-up. This assists in meeting student interests and needs and utilizing the distinct gifts and talents of all students

- Awareness of Indigenous Peoples of Canada (First Nations, Inuit, Metis) - Students and Staff raise awareness of Residential Schools, and the concepts of Truth and Reconciliation on Orange Shirt Day on September 30, 2021 Daily reading of the Land Acknowledgement read by Chaplaincy Leader.
- November and April-Bullying Prevention Week/Pink Day and collaboration with Rainbow Squad Student Club and LGBTQ+ Community
- October Mental Health Week-Focus on mental health awareness; organized by CYW staff and Chaplaincy Leader.
- November Health and Wellness Week-promoting healthy active living, providing students with spiritual and mental health strategies.

### **Parish Connections**

*Planned and existing initiatives that maintain and enhance positive relationships with the local parish communities:*

Our school maintains a close and intimate connection with St. Anthony of Padua Roman Catholic Church:

- Two school masses at the beginning and end of the school year take place Fr. Joseph will drop-in to visit students/staff this year.
- Mrs. Novak teaches Grade 9 students to pray the rosary during each semester in the chapel.
- Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated during Advent and Lent by Fr. Joseph (and will be by appointment only)
- Father Joseph will record a special message to include in Advent and Ash Wednesday Liturgies of the Word, Advent mass to be recorded at St. Anthony's for the school
- Students from the school volunteer in various ministries including altar serving, choir and Children's liturgy, Youth Ministry
- Parish volunteer opportunities are communicated to us regularly: lectors, children's liturgy program, Missionaries of Charity luncheon, Sacramental preparation program requests student volunteers
- A mutual support of events through the parish bulletin and our school's social media accounts
- Chaplaincy Leader volunteers with Life Teen at the Parish and Youth Ministry.
- The youth minister attends the Chaplains Chaplaincy Club by invitation.
- St. Thomas Aquinas School Council has a Parish representative.

- Chaplaincy, Salesians, and a Youth Alpha program will work closely with St. Anthony of Padua to help in the development and attendance of a Youth Ministry program at the church.

## Staff Faith Development

### *Catechesis and faith formation among our staff:*

- Liturgies at the beginning of the year, at the end of Semester 1/beginning of Semester 2 and during Professional Development days are used to bring staff into a prayerful time and space for reflection.
- Mass is celebrated for staff at the end of the 2020-2021 academic year.
- Prayers for all staff meetings, department heads meetings and social gatherings based on theme for the year.
- Liturgy for staff in memorial of All Souls Day
- Special liturgies will be planned to address unexpected events as needed
- Staff are invited to participate in creating or reading reflections over the PA during the morning exercises.
- Staff will be invited to all liturgical events provided by the DPCDSB
- The Chaplaincy Leader in coordination with our two Adult Faith Ambassadors and will invite staff to participate in all Family of Schools faith building events (including Advent and Lent Family of Schools gatherings)
- Each department member and office (secretarial, custodial and library) have a Department Faith Ambassador who acts as a liaison with Chaplaincy.
- Faith based resources from Chaplaincy, the CEC, Archdiocese are given to the SFA to share with their department/office colleagues. Resource materials are also available in the Chaplaincy office and staff room.
- Each department office has a prayer space (prayer table/faith resources).
- Cards and Candle given to staff/student who have experienced the death of a loved one.
- Staff are encouraged to attend courses and conferences at St. Michael's College, Regis College, local parish initiatives and St. Augustine's Seminary.
- Staff are invited to attend training to become Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist.
- Staff that are retiring will now be acknowledged at the year-end staff mass and gathering and at Graduation ceremonies, as we acknowledge and bless their contribution to Catholic education publicly.

## Transitions

*Students supported in the area of Transitioning from Grade 8 to Grade 9, from Grade 12 to Post Secondary as well as from one grade to another:*

- The Mentors Crew maintains student led leadership regarding transitions, especially for Grade 9 students. Grade 9 students have Chapel orientation visits with Chaplain.
- Extra help tutoring provided by staff at the school
- Grade 8s and Mentors engaging in activities, visiting classrooms, and being welcomed on Take Your Kids to Work Day (for Grade 9s) TBD
- Chaplaincy supports transitions, such as in the grade 9 retreat and as needed.
- Chaplaincy leader visits grade 8 classes for a Chaplaincy Leader faith talk( virtual 2021)
- Chaplaincy leader to assist students in transition from other schools and into the country – opportunity to meet and greet with these students, introduce them to student clubs and obtaining service hours.
- Visits to feeder schools (bringing a contingent of student ambassadors who represent our school, the diverse learner and the multiple opportunities for engagement at St. Thomas Aquinas.)
- Working with our feeder school administration as well as Grade 8 teachers and support staff to gather information on students who will need continued support in their academic and personal life as they transition into high school.
- University Fair – This evening provides Grade 12 students and their parents with opportunities to consider their post-secondary education (Guidance Google Classroom)

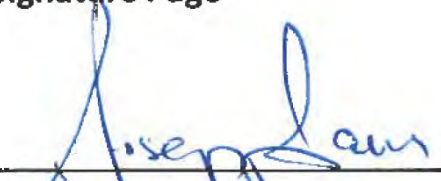
## Vocations

*Vocations to religious life and pastoral ministries promoted through:*

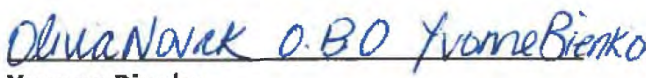
- The Chaplaincy Leader facilitates interactions between students expressing vocational interest and the parish pastor or related events (ie. Ordinandi Lunch, etc.) and retreats and other events promoted by the Archdiocese of Toronto through the Office of Vocations, the Office of Lay Ministry and the Office of Catholic Youth
- Encouragement of students involved in their parish ministries to take leadership in school faith-based ministries
- Vocation posters
- Workshops for student liturgical ministers
- Ordinandi Luncheon – (March 2021)
- Promotion of Vocation events held by archdiocesan and religious communities
- Class visits by Father Joseph on vocations visits our religion classes


- Information is provided on vocations in the Church and post-secondary opportunities for maintaining faith development
- Re-Generation (from the Office of Catholic Youth) and Birthright Brampton will be taking to students in Grade 9 Physical Education classes and Grade 10 Religion classes respectively about topics concerning positive body image, chastity and sexuality and pregnancy
- Student participation in Salesian retreats also serves to promote religious life and lay pastoral ministries
- Professional Development Days are used to invite guest speakers that are Catholic Witnesses of our baptismal call, live out their faith in hope and love and are an overall source of inspiration for our staff

**Signature Page**


  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Rev. Joseph Pham**  
Pastor, St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church

  
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**Olivia Novak,**  
Acting Chaplaincy Leader


  
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**Yvonne Bienko**  
Department Head of Theology

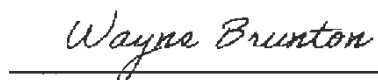
  
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**Olivia Novak**  
Staff Faith Ambassador

  
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**Kevin Sylvestre**  
Vice Principal

  
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**Lorain Feres**  
Vice Principal

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Julie Arseneau**  
Vice Principal

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Adriano Bomben**  
Principal

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Wayne Brunton**  
Superintendent,  
Brampton North/East Family of Schools