

PASTORAL PLAN

School Name: St. Augustine Catholic Secondary School

School Motto or Mission Statement:

We, the St. Augustine community, are rooted in the love of Christ, who is “Ever Ancient, Ever New.” Out of this love, we recognize the dignity of each person in our diverse community. As staff, we strive to live like Christ the Teacher in our shared vocation as educators. It is the mission of our school community to form and nurture young people who:

- Know the person of Jesus Christ and strive to imitate Him in the virtues
- Are strengthened by the Gospel message with a zeal to share it
- Understand the Catholic faith and appreciate its Truth, Beauty, and Goodness
- Recognize that they are called by God to use their gifts in His service

Theme for the Year: *Catholic Education: We are Called to Love*
L'éducation catholique: Appelés à aimer

Retreats

Grade 9: – New Beginnings

- **(September 28, October 11, November 14, March 21, April 10, 12,16, 18)**
- **Theme:** Getting to know myself, others, God and new school culture
- **Location:** St. Jerome Parish, Main Hall
- **Time to Location:** Walking to the Church
- **Directed by:** Mr. Puigmarti and Gr. 11 student leaders
- **Supervision:** Mr. Puigmarti and classroom teacher

Grade 10 – Worthy

- **(December 4, 11, March 5, May 6 – two classes per retreat)**
- **Theme:** Relationships with Self, Others and God
- **Location:** St. Jerome Parish, Main Hall
- **Time to Location:** Walking to the Church
- **Directed by:** Hope Stone Catholic Formation Inc.
- **Supervision:** Mr. Puigmarti and classroom teacher

Grade 11 – Places of Worship Tour

- **(November 17, 23, 28, 30, December 7, February 15, 22, April 8, 29)**
- **Theme:** Encountering the Sacred
- **Location:** Ontario Khalsa Darbar. St. Elias the Prophet Parish and Brampton Triveni Mandir
- **Time to Location:** Walking to the Church
- **Directed by:** Directors from each place of worship listed above
- **Supervision:** Mr. Puigmarti and one classroom teacher

Grade 12 – Regeneration Marketplace

- **(November 22, 29, December 8, 15, February 16, 21, 28, March 7)**
- **Theme:** Faith in Action
- **Location:** Regeneration Marketplace Foodbank, 253 Queen St. East, Brampton ON, L6W 2B8
- **Time to Location:** 10 minute bus drive
- **Directed by:** Regeneration Foodbank Retreat Director
- **Supervision:** Mr. Puigmarti and classroom teacher

PIP/Comm Retreats

- Ensure that PIP/Comm students have opportunities to experience retreat programs that mirror retreat programs for mainstream students - as determined by needs of students enrolled in these programs. A few options are listed below:
- Group 1 - this is the group will join in retreats held through their Religion Class.
- All students in the PIP/Comm program will be invited to participate in an outdoor education retreat at YMCA Cedar Glen in June 2024.

Bereavement Group Retreat

Location: St. Jerome's Parish **Theme:** Acknowledging and Growing through Grief and Hope; **Facilitated by:** Chaplaincy Leader and School Social Worker; **Activities:** Group discussion and support, meditation and liturgy; **Supervised by:** Chaplaincy Leader and School Social Worker. **Dates:** February 15, 2024

Salesian Leadership Retreat

Location: St. Francis Center, Caledon and or Teen Ranch **Theme:** Catholic leadership skills **Facilitated by:** Chaplaincy Leaders across our board **Activities:** Organized centrally through School Chaplaincy Leader for selected students; **Supervised by:** Mr. Puigmarti; **Dates:** October 18-20, 2023 and March 20-22, 2024.

Activities of a Religious Nature

Activities of a Religious Nature with a substantial component of ritual and prayer
Opening School Mass – We will begin the year in prayer as a school community by visiting St. Jerome Parish, two grades per day on November 7, 8, 2023.
Chapel Prayer Wall – Students and staff will be invited to write prayer intentions throughout the year on a sheet of paper and place it in one of the gaps in the bricks of the Chapel wall, like the Western Wall in Israel.
Chapel Mass – A priest from St. Jerome Parish will celebrate Mass in our school Chapel three times a year. Two religion classes will attend and assist with the Mass.
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament – Students and staff will be invited to take a stone, enter the school Chapel, and place the stone in a basket placed near the monstrance holding the Blessed Sacrament signifying them laying down their burdens at the feet of Jesus. We hope for this to occur monthly during lunches.
Book of Remembrance – staff and students are invited to write down the names of loved ones who have passed away. The names will be prayed for during the month of November.
Advent Liturgy – December 19, 2023 (20-minute Liturgy per grade in the cafeteria)
Staff Advent & Lent Retreats – Staff are invited to meet during the seasons of Advent and Lent to reflect on the time of year to nurture their ongoing relationship with God.
PIP/Comm Mass or Liturgy – Staff and students from the PIP/Comm program will attend a weekday Mass at St. Jerome Parish once a month. This will provide an opportunity for students and staff to connect with God’s Word and Sacrament of the Eucharist.
Ash Wednesday Liturgy – February 14, 2024 (20-minute Liturgy per grade) in the cafeteria. Date: February 14, 2024
Sacrament of Reconciliation Advent and Lent – We will plan with the priests from St. Jerome Parish to offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation in our School Chapel. Date: TBD
Holy Thursday Liturgy – March 28, 2024 (20-minute Liturgy per grade in the cafeteria)

Catholic Education Week Closing Year Mass – Date: TBD May 2024

Mass of Thanksgiving for Graduates– June 2024

Other Pastoral/Outreach Activities

Pastoral Activities

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – Our school community will be invited to honour the survivors of residential schools by wearing an orange shirt, a pin and writing on a banner in the forum. Date: September 29, 2023.

Remembrance Day – We will gather as a school community for a Remembrance Day ceremony including prayer, video and reflection time to honour those who have served.

Life Teen – Supervised by Teachers and Chaplaincy Leader. Student-led group to grow in Faith.

Thanksgiving and Christmas Food Drives – Students and staff are invited to bring a non-perishable food item to the Chapel or donate through School Cash Online. All donations will benefit Knights Table or Regeneration Outreach and families within our school community.

When Faith Meets Pedagogy Youth Forum – October 26, 2023

Alpha – Students gather to watch the Alpha Youth Video series. It provides a safe space for students to openly share their questions, thoughts and opinions about life, faith and God. It is supervised by Chaplaincy Leader and other staff and runs weekly.

Chaplaincy Team Meetings – meet weekly after school to discuss the various initiatives taking place within Chaplaincy.

Christmas Food Drive – Nov 20 – Dec 18, 2023

Staff Faith Advent Retreat – Staff will meet for an Advent retreat in the Chapel. The theme this year is finding peace amidst uncertainty. This will be offered so that we can grow in faith together and build community. – December 11, 2023

Take the Shirt Off My Back / Share Fast Day – May 10, 2024

Youth Ordinandi Event – 10 students from our school will be invited to enjoy a meal and activities, and listening to the vocation stories of men that are being ordained to the priesthood. Date: March 19, 2024

Lenten Toiletries Drive – Feb 27 – March 25, 2024

Staff Faith Holy Week Retreat – Staff will meet in the Chapel for a Lenten retreat. The theme this year is based on the Catholic Education Week: We are Many, We are One. – March 25, 2024

Salesian Leadership Retreat – The purpose of this retreat is to provide select students from our school the opportunity to grow in Christian leadership skills and in community with students from other schools. **Date:** March 2024

Take the Shirt Off My Back / Share Fast Day – May 10, 2024

Grade 8 Faith Retreat – hosted by Mr. Puigmarti to help build community and transition students from Grade 8 to high school. This will be offered in collaboration with our feeder schools and our elementary guidance and experiential learning teachers. June 2024

Catholic Education Week – May 5th – May 10th, 2024

Catholic Education: We are Called to Love
L'éducation catholique: Appelés à aimer

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.

"If we love one another, God lives in us." 1 John 4:12

Si nous nous aimons les uns les autres, Dieu demeure en nous. (1 Jean 4, 12))

The sub-themes for Catholic Education Week 2024 are:

- Monday: **As people of hope / Dans l'espérance**
- Tuesday: **As people of faith / Dans la foi**
- Wednesday: **As people of mercy / Avec compassion**
- Thursday: **As people of justice / Dans la justice**
- Friday: **As people of joy / Dans la joie**

Date	Activity
Monday, May 6	Staff Liturgy on Catholic Education Week Theme
Tuesday, May 7	Catholic Education Week Closing Mass
Wednesday, May 8	Catholic Education Week Closing Mass Life Teen – lead a session on the theme of Catholic Education Week
Thursday, May 9	Rosary in the Chapel – staff and students invited
Friday, May 10	Vocations Day – Guest speakers share their journey of faith with students and staff Shirt-Off-My-Back clothing drive Share Life Civvies Day – all contributions will go towards Share Life

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connecting scripture and God’s message to daily life • Praying with individual students • Use the Chapel as a calming space
Physical Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course activities have CSILC focus. Lessons incorporate a focus on social justice issues that welcome students to examine church teaching that resonate with them. Some themes include indigenous athletes, black activism in sport, how the earth’s natural resources impact human health and dignity. • Students are provided with the scaffolding to engage in activities that allow them to THRIVE. Church teachings about respect for self and others anchor lessons on health wellness and goal setting. • Human relationships are examined in both health and physical activity classes. Faith based connections are central to the dynamics of properly functioning relationships from infancy to adulthood.
Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catholic values of inclusivity – Incorporate inclusive language into both oral and written communication (lesson PPTs, assignments) with students. • Use of drama and other hands-on activities to demonstrate honesty and integrity in conducting different types of business transactions and establishing partnerships. • The Parable of the Talents- Used to bring out the concepts of acquiring assets and the use of these assets in our personal and business life. Do we worship them? Why? How? Do we give thanks to the giver of all gifts? • Using Business Plans that demonstrate Faith and Trust in God to supply all your needs. in your business • Use of Financial Statements: We carefully examine the financial statements to ensure that as accountants we are not misleading investors and owners, and we should NOT “Cook the Books” because that is seen or equated to misleading others or we are guilty of leading others to sin
Humanities, Canadian World Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catholic social teachings, Catholic moral teachings and catechism references are intentionally brought forward in courses such as Civics, Law, Humanities and Politics.
Family Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on the family and the role of the family in society- Modeling Christian values within the home. • Caring for the child by using simulated babies in parenting which demonstrate the virtues of patience and long-suffering during care.
Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Math is a beautiful way for students to discover the complex and intelligent design of our created world. Students can be introduced to famous Catholic mathematicians such as Blaise Pascal, who through

	<p>their life and work demonstrate the complementariness of faith and reason. Math reveals the intelligent design of our world.</p>
Religion & Moderns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The entire theology curriculum is built around helping students to know, love, and serve God, and to develop a relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church. Students should be introduced to the intellectual, spiritual, and communal nature of the Catholic Church through her moral teachings, history, scripture, liturgy, sacraments, and ecclesiology. There are several resources available for this online and through the school. • In the French classroom, teachers are invited to lead prayer in French each morning (Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, etc.). Teachers can also introduce students to a number of French saints and their spirituality, such as St. Therese of Lisieux, St. Louis de Montfort, and St. Bernadette. • The religion and moderns department seeks opportunities to enrich student experience while living in the Catholic faith. It strives to celebrate diversity and stand in solidarity with marginalized members within our community.
Guidance Technological Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidance is responsible for the following courses: Careers, and Leadership. Virtues Education inherently flows through these courses. Virtues Education has long existed in the Guidance Offices at St. Augustine. Guidance Teachers also collaborate with our support service staff: Child and Youth Worker, Social Worker, Mental Health Resource Worker, Mental Health Nurse, Chaplaincy Leader, Settlement Worker, and Psychologist. Guidance approaches student care holistically. • Technological education is our students' opportunity to shine and share their God-given gifts and talents. Skills they build today through technology are skills they can share with the world.
Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Ever since the creation of the world, His eternal power and divine nature, invisible though they are, have been understood and seen through the things he has made." - Romans 1:20 <p>1. The Catholic faith and science are in harmony; in science, students discover the richness of the created world and see God's creative design behind it. Through their study of the various branches of science in the classroom, students should be introduced to this amazing reality of the complementarity of faith and science. Learning about outstanding contributions of Catholics to the field of science - such as Father Georges LeMaitre, Father Gregor Mendel, Sister Mary Kenneth Keller, Blaise Pascal, and Father Roger Bacon - can help</p>

	<p>students to realize how faith and science work together. Stewardship is also a guiding principle of science classes at St. Augustine, and students participate annually in the Peel Water Festival which educates participants about water conservation.</p>
--	---

School Environment Reflective of Our Faith

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

- In our Forum: 7-foot statue of St. Augustine; Scripture painted on the walls; a diversity painting with Jesus in it; a 15-foot cross; Virtues stained-glass windows; Virtues banner; liturgical banner based on church calendar (green, purple, gold)
- In our Cafeteria: faith-based painting
- In our classrooms: crucifixes,
- Peace garden: during the month of May we hope to move one statue of Our Lady to the garden space in front of our school to increase visibility and presence
- Sacred space (Chapel) with liturgical season colours, prayer aids, statue of Mary from Africa; stained glass memorial window of deceased students of staff from our school community; stained glass window; 5-foot statue of the Risen Christ
- Six diverse saint prints in the Chaplaincy office
- Prayer tables in each of our classrooms
- Posters that celebrate life and Catholic values and ethics
- Large stickers of the Blessed Virgin Mary, quote from St. Augustine, Anyways prayer by Mother Teresa in various stairwells
- School Chaplain is invited into classrooms to facilitate discussion or present
- A very large mural in the gym with scripture as well as a composite of previous students from the school
- All admin offices include images that profess the Catholic nature of our school
- Main office has diverse images and quotes that reflect the Catholic nature of our school
- Advent banners to be on display in Forum

Special catechetical moments take place during the liturgical seasons of Lent and Advent

Collaborative School Culture

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

- Anti-Bullying Week Activities: Suicide Prevention Awareness, Child Abuse Awareness, Substance Abuse Awareness, Islamophobia Awareness, Homophobia Awareness, Violence Against Women Awareness
- Bereavement Support Group
- Black Student Association
- Chaplaincy & Alpha
- Eco Team
- Catholic Education Week
- Guys Night In
- Girls Night In
- Gr. 8 Retreat
- National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
- National Treaty Awareness Week
- Peer Learning Hub
- Student Council
- Wake-A-Thon: Social Justice Education and Catholic Social Teaching
- Mental Health Awareness Week/Youth Empowering Students 4 Mental Health (YES4MH)

Parish Connections

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

We continue to invite the pastoral staff, priest, and Youth Minister from St. Jerome Parish to connect with our school community. This may include the celebration of the sacraments of the Eucharist or Reconciliation within our school chapel, connecting students to the parish Life Teen youth ministry program, and ministry of presence.

Staff Faith Development

Catechesis and faith formation among our staff: twice a week, once after school once before school, staff are invited to the Chapel for morning prayer with a Scripture reading and discussion. Advent and Lenten retreats offered through Family of Schools. Opportunities for staff to practice charitable giving through Food Drives and Share Life campaign, responsive to community needs. Each staff meeting and PA day begins with prayer or Liturgy. Prayers and

reflections each morning have a lesson to be taken from them for staff and students alike. Chaplain to share regular updates about pertinent issues from the local and global Catholic Church community via email. In November, staff are invited to write down the names of deceased friends and family members in a of Book of Remembrance in the Chapel. Prayer resources are available in the school chapel for those who come in to pray.

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:

Students supported in the area of Transitioning from Grade 8 to Grade 9 and from Grade 12 to Post-Secondary: Gr. 9 chapel visits will be offered to teachers to aid students to familiarize themselves with our sacred space. This will allow students to feel welcomed, to connect and get to know one another, and be encouraged to connect with God often.

Grade 12 student retreats are done in religion classes and focus on moving forward in their lives and vocation. Materials are made available to students from the colleges and universities around Chaplaincy in their post-secondary institution.

Vocations

- We hope to attend the annual Ordinandi Luncheon, March 19 2024, put on by the Archdiocese of Toronto whether in person or virtually.
- We plan to host a Vocations Day during Catholic Education Week 2024.
- Vocations material available by the Chaplaincy Office
- We hope to invite Vocation Director Fr. Matt McCarthy to come to our school to speak about vocations

Resource List for Parents/Guardians

- General Roman 2023-2024 Liturgical Calendar - [2023-2024 Liturgical Calendar](#)
- Religious Education Curriculum - [Ontario Religious Education Curriculum](#)
- Encyclical Letter “Fratelli Tutti”- [Fratelli Tutti](#)
- National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation - [National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation](#)
- Catholic Education Week 2024 – [Catholic Education Week 2024](#)
- Synod on Synodality - [Synod 2021 - 2024](#)

Resource List for Schools

- General Roman 2023-2024 Liturgical Calendar - [2023-2024 Liturgical Calendar](#)
- Multi-Year Strategic Plan - [Multi-Year Strategic Plan 2019-2023](#)
- Encyclical Letter “Fratelli Tutti”- [Fratelli Tutti](#)
- Renewing The Promise - [A Pastoral Letter for Catholic Education](#)
- National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation - [National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation](#)
- Catholic Education Week 2024 – [Catholic Education Week 2024](#)
- Synod on Synodality – [Synod 2021 - 2024](#)

Signature Page

Pastor – Msgr Michael Busch _____

Chaplaincy Leader – Marc Puigmarti _____

Department Heads:

Marisa De Oliveira - _____

Elena Aristova - _____

Mary Scamurra - _____

Niall Brennan - _____

Krista Erwin - _____

Aileen McDowell - _____

Matthew Hibbitt - _____

Erin Kane - _____

Chairs of Catholic School Council

Laurie Anne Clark- _____

Vice Principals:

Teddi Lowie - _____

Yonas Lijam - _____

Principal – Sophia Maloney - _____

Superintendent – Adrian Scigliano - _____