

PASTORAL PLAN

School: *St. Bernadette Elementary School*

School Mission Statement:

St. Bernadette Catholic School is a community of teachers, parents, pastoral workers and children called to work together in an atmosphere of mutual respect.

Together, we believe it is our responsibility to foster intellectual, spiritual, moral, physical and social growth within our Catholic-Christian community.

Students will be encouraged to develop their talents to the best of their abilities.

Each child will grow in respect for all members of the community and the environment.

Teachers will endeavor to foster a sense of self-worth and personal responsibility in each student.

We are committed to the development of our children into responsible members of society who follow the teachings of Christ.

School Motto: Together We Are One

Our Parish: St. Martin of Tours

Pastor: *Rev. Gijo Muthanattu, O.Carm*

Parish website: <http://www.stmartinoftoursmi.archtoronto.org>

Message from the Pastor:

Our goal is to prepare our children for life and to make them disciples of Jesus Christ as He commanded the Church to do. As our Holy Father, Pope Francis stated, Catholic schools are much more than a place to expand intellect. It is a place where one learns that God loves us, that each and everyone are gifted by God and every life matters. School is one of the educational environments where one grows by learning how to live, how to become grown-up, mature men and women. It means having grand ideals, the desire to achieve great things in response to what God asks of us and, precisely because of this, doing everyday things. May the Lord continue to

guide us and bless our school to be a loving caring community where all feel loved, accepted, and empowered to grow.

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr Gijo Muthanattu George

Message from the Catholic School Council:

The St. Bernadette Catholic School Council continues to support students in their faith-based learning journey, in dialogue with school administration. Our objectives include planning and setting priorities for fundraising and events which will support students, advocating for parents who wish to be more involved in the school and ensuring effective connections with the Parish and School Board.

Catholic Education Week – April 30 – May 5, 2023

Catholic Education: We are Many, We are One
L'éducation catholique: À plusieurs, nous sommes un

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.

"We, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members, one of another." (Romans 12:5)

*«Nous qui sommes plusieurs, nous sommes un seul corps dans le Christ, et membres les uns des autres.»
(Romains 12, 5)*

The sub-themes for Catholic Education Week 2023 are:

Monday: **When we see / En voyant**
Tuesday: **When we listen / En écoutant**
Wednesday: **When we reflect / En réfléchissant**
Thursday: **When we learn / En apprenant**
Friday: **When we act / En agissant**

During Catholic Education Week, we highlight the partnership that remains the foundation of Catholic Education between our Catholic School, our Parish and our Parents.

- Catholic Education Week prayers every morning over the PA
- Virtue of the Month: Acceptance
- School Musical
- Each classroom will invite parents for an activity

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.

St. Bernadette School supports both adult and student faith formation through our school masses, liturgies, virtues assemblies and outreach initiatives. The Gospel values are encouraged and modeled daily by both staff and students. Scripture is an integral part of our program.

Staff and students demonstrate their faith through positive interactions with others. The Virtues program reflects Catholic faith practices.

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
Sacrament of Reconciliation	Saturday March 25 th , 2023 at St. Martin of Tours Church	
Sacrament of First Holy Communion	Saturday April 22 nd , 2023 at St. Martin of Tours Church	
Sacrament of Confirmation		Wednesday April 19 th , 2023 at St. Martin of Tours Church

Liturgical Celebrations:

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

Celebration	Date
School Opening Mass	September 29 th , 2022
Remembrance Day Liturgy	November 11 th , 2022
Advent Mass	December 7 th , 2022
Ash Wednesday Liturgy	February 22 nd , 2023
Lenten Mass	March 23 rd , 2023
Year End/Graduation Mass	June 27 th , 2023

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.

- Terry Fox Walk for Cancer Research
- Thanksgiving Food Drive
- Christmas Outreach Activities/Food Hampers/Gift Baskets
- Angel Hat and Mitten Tree
- Christmas Food Drive
- United Way/ShareLife
- ECO Initiatives

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 the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations, we as a school faith community participate in monthly Virtue Assemblies, as well as referring to the elementary school version of the Expectations.
We honour our Grade 8 graduates by giving awards to students who exemplify each of the OCSGE.

Click here to en

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.

Christian Virtues are celebrated and emphasized throughout our school community through monthly virtue assemblies, where virtuous behaviours are prayed for and celebrated by staff, students and parents. All students receive a “virtue bracelet” by the end of the school year. Virtues are emphasized and taught throughout the curriculum, as well as reflected/reviewed in discipline and conflict resolution when addressing behaviours at school.

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.

Visible signs of our Faith here at St. Bernadette School include the following:

- Youth Faith Ambassador activities – food drives/visit to the aged in our community
- School wide liturgical celebrations, prayer services
- Christian Meditation in our school prayer room
- School virtue assemblies
- Student led morning prayers
- Foyer display/altar/bulletin board displays
- Statues of Mary and Jesus
- Classroom prayer table/corner
- Daily Religious/Family Life Education
- Class/School visits to St. Martin of Tours Parish
- School Council Prayer at each meeting
- Sacramental Preparation
- Staff Adult Faith Ambassador initiatives

School prayer room for student and staff liturgies, prayer and reflection

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](#)
- Encyclical Letter “Fratelli Tutti”- [Fratelli Tutti](#)
- National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation - [National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation](#)
- Catholic Education Week 2021 – [Catholic Education Week 2022](#)
- Synod on Synodality – [Synod 2021 - 2023](#)

Resource List for Schools:**Board**

- Multi-Year Strategic Plan - [Multi-Year Strategic Plan 2019-2023](#)
- Renewing The Promise - [Renewing The Promise](#)
- Encyclical Letter “Fratelli Tutti”- [Fratelli Tutti](#)
- National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation - [National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation](#)
- Catholic Education Week 2021 – [Catholic Education Week 2022](#)
- Synod on Synodality – [Synod 2021 - 2023](#)

School-Based

- Religion Textbook and Teacher’s Resource: Born of the Spirit (FDK-Grade 8)
- Family Life Textbook and Teacher’s Resource: Fully Alive (FDK-Grade 8)
- Bibles, library books, media resources

Signature Page

Pastor



Faith Ambassador(s) (as applicable)



Teacher(s)



Chair of Catholic School Council



Vice Principal(s)

Principal



Superintendent

