

## PASTORAL PLAN

**School Name:** St. Joan of Arc Catholic Secondary School

**School Motto or Mission Statement:** Courage to Believe

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

### Retreats

**Grade 9 Retreats:** Greatness:

When the whole world tells you that you need to be happy, famous and comfortable, the church tells you that you were made for more. You were made to be great, to be bold and to push yourself beyond comfort. Students will be challenged to reflect on their everlasting identities, their authentic personality traits and walking forward with their struggles.

Details: two religion classes at a time / parish hall / external facilitator 'Hopestone'.

**Grade 10 Retreats:** Creation – Care and Wonder

Using the Pope's Encyclical Laudato Si as our inspiration, we will discuss the value of God's creation as a place of encountering God and all His creatures as sacramental signs of God's love, wisdom, and beauty. Students will cultivate an attitude of wonder and care as they experience God's creatures in Ripley's Aquarium. Details: Two or three religion classes per day / supervised and facilitated by chaplaincy leader and religion teachers.

**Grade 11 Retreat:** Christ and World Religions: While touring two places of worship from a non-Catholic community (Sikh Gurdwara and Islamic Masjid), students will reflect on the 'rays of truth' embodied in the various world religions. Details: all grade 11 religion classes at once (per semester)/ supervised by chaplaincy leader and religion teachers.

**Grade 12 Retreat:** Seeing God Through Creation: Classes will go to Rattlesnake Point Conservation area for ice breaker games, a nature hike, and reflection on how God reveals Himself through His creation. Details: two or three classes at once / supervised and facilitated by chaplaincy leader and religion teacher.

**Additional Retreats** will be organized for the 'Planning for Independence' and 'Communications' classes, and optional extra retreats will be provided for VOICE club, student council, and other select groups as needed and insofar as resources allow.

**Activities of a Religious Nature**

<b>Activities of a Religious Nature with a substantial component of ritual and prayer</b>
<b>Daily prayer</b> over the PA at 9:38am
<b>Thanksgiving Liturgy of the Word:</b> Grade-level assemblies in the cafeteria for prayer and reflection on gratitude towards God. October 4 <sup>th</sup> period 1 and 2.
<b>All Saints &amp; All Souls:</b> Prayer in chapel (voluntary). November 1 & 2
<b>Advent Mass:</b> Whole-school assemblies in the gymnasium for Holy Mass on the morning of December 5 <sup>th</sup> .
<b>Ash Wednesday Liturgies of the Word:</b> Feb.14 period 1 and 2. Grade-level assemblies in cafeteria for prayer and distribution of blessed ashes.
<b>Holy Thursday Liturgies and Drama:</b> Morning of March 28 <sup>th</sup> : Grade-level assemblies in cafeteria for 'Stations of the Cross' or Holy Week drama.
<b>Closing &amp; Feast Day Mass:</b> May 30 <sup>th</sup> : Whole school assembly in Gym or local parish church for Holy Mass.
<b>Mass for Graduates:</b> Format and Date TBA
<b>Chapel visits:</b> Religion classes will be invited from time to time to visit the chapel for prayer, silence, and/ or meditation.

**Other Pastoral/Outreach Activities**

<b>Pastoral Activities</b>
'Sponsor a Child' through Chalice (using student donations)
Christmas Gift Cards fundraiser for local families and St. Vincent de Paul.
'School Connections' fundraiser through Chalice during Lent
Optional trip to 'Regeneration' Marketplace to assist at Brampton food bank and thrift store.
Chaplaincy offering workshops for students on faith and wellness.
VOICE club (chaplaincy) meeting bi-weekly to plan charity work and virtue development
Spiritual Direction/Mentoring offered to staff and students
Chapel is open for individual prayer and quiet time.
Thanksgiving Food Drive & Winter Clothing Drive
Essential Care Packages for the Homeless
AFC (Angels for Christ) Christian Youth Group meets twice a month.

**Catholic Education Week – May 5<sup>th</sup> – May 10<sup>th</sup>, 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**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>
Monday, May 6	Create a PA reflection on theme, offering prayer and action challenge.
Tuesday, May 7	Create a PA reflection on theme, offering prayer and action challenge.
Wednesday, May 8	Create a PA reflection on theme, offering prayer and action challenge.
Thursday, May 9	Create a PA reflection on theme, offering prayer and action challenge.
Friday, May 10	Create a PA reflection on theme, offering prayer and action challenge.

## Activities that Support the Catholic Nature of Our School

### Catholicity Across the School

*In collaboration with each department head, departmental activities and/or events that infuse Catholic teaching, faith formation, and Catholic culture into the curriculum and the classrooms are highlighted.*

Department	Activities and/or Events
Social Science	The Social Science department will support the pastoral plan as it highlights the Catholic Graduate Expectations, the Board's Virtue program, and the sub-themes associated with the pastoral theme: Nurturing Hope. Through the Civics, History and Politics courses, students will discern their roles and responsibilities in active citizenship rooted in Christ. The Geography courses invite students to examine the importance of stewardship, as outlined in <i>Laudato Si</i> , as they learn about issues that impact our environment.
Religion/Theology	The Religion department recognizes the opportunities available within our curriculum to help form discerning believers through the study of the Beatitudes, Gospel Narratives, Catholic Church tradition as well as implementation of the virtues in their daily lives. Through prayer, retreats, social justice and popular media connections, we strive to ensure that our learners become collaborative contributors formed through the Catholic faith community at St. Joan of Arc.
Science	Teachers focus on environmental stewardship and medical ethics.
English	Teaching English lends itself to the principles of Catholicism directly. As English teachers, it is our job to instill students with the necessary qualities of life outlined in the Catholic Graduate Expectations, specifically being an effective communicator and a reflective creative and holistic thinker. The challenging nature of the course material gives the students a chance to reflect on their own lives, solidify their beliefs, and build the courage to communicate their faith effectively. Also, collaborating in teams the students are given the opportunity to create and explore social justice projects in an area of their interest to use their voice and become responsible citizens.
Technological Studies	There is a common thread through all the Tech Studies courses where we encourage students to recognize and give thanks for the gift and talents of working with their hands. The students are also emboldened to use this God-given ability to do good for others in our community and to work ethically and honestly so that the light of gospel values shines through each of them.
Guidance	We recognize and appreciate that each student has God given talents, and thus we advocate for students who need a voice. Working as a Guidance team and with parents/guardians we hope to address our students' unique academic, spiritual, emotional and psychological needs. Our mission is to help students feel empowered to pursue academic and personal goals in the classroom and through career exploration. We believe that with committed effort all students can meet success. In addition, we celebrate their dignity as human beings created in the

	<p>image of God and strive to guide them to fulfill their potential as lifelong learners and individuals who will seek to better their community. Specifically, we encourage students to live out their faith by being active members of the school community and by giving back to the community through service to others.</p>
<p>Special Education</p>	<p>Catholic Graduate Expectations are naturally infused throughout the General Learning Strategies (GLE) course, as students are called to examine and reflect on their own personal values, abilities and aspirations throughout the units of study. The Virtue of Acceptance is emphasized in the Special Education Department through individual discussions with ARD students about their beliefs that address judgements and biases about stereotypes and embracing learning in different ways.</p> <p>In alternative education programs such as Planning for Independence and Communications daily chapel visits are made every morning. They begin their school day saying a prayer and offering intentions for family members and friends. The Senior Communications teacher incorporates Catholic Graduate Expectations into the Work Experience program, and through experiences in the workplace our special needs students can become a collaborative contributor who finds meaning, dignity, fulfillment and vocation in work, which contributes to the common good. Our department organizes the annual 'Autism Awareness Week' activities and celebrates other days of uniqueness and individuality. The two programs also participate in a retreat at the end of the school year, which incorporates making rosaries.</p> <p>The Virtue of Acceptance is again focused on through reverse integration/inclusion with events such as Best Buddies and Special Olympics.</p>
<p>Mathematics</p>	<p>In Math, Catholicity is paramount to all that we do. We teach students how to make fair and just decisions based on thorough analysis. However, we emphasize that good decisions, at times, are not always based on numbers as we must remember our Catholic values. We infuse Catholic values, such as the Beatitudes, into our instruction, our examples and our assessment. We see Mathematics as an important tool to help our students go into the world and try to live just lives.</p>

### School Environment Reflective of Our Faith

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

- School Prayer posted in every class. Liturgical banners for each season in Matrix and Chapel. Prayer cloth and table in most classes. Advent wreaths available.
- New icon prints of 'Virgin Mother and Child' from various countries, highlighting diversity
- Votive candles and statue of Blessed Virgin Mary in the school chapel.
- Papal flag in the chapel and front foyer.
- Distributing rosaries and pocket bibles to students.

## **Collaborative School Culture**

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

## **Parish Connections**

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

- Parish priest invited to preside at Holy Mass in the school for Advent and our Feast Day.
- Christmas fundraiser contributes to parish St. Vincent de Paul

## **Staff Faith Development**

*Spiritual accompaniment and faith formation for our staff:*

- Staff liturgies on all P.A. days.
- Individual and small group spiritual direction opportunities.
- Faith development resources provided according to liturgical season.

## **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:*

- Grade 9 religion classes given tour of the chapel and an introduction to the chaplaincy leader role (either in person or virtually).
- Optional grade 12 retreat on discerning God's will in making decisions about post-secondary.

## **Vocations**

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

- Virtual or video presentations to gr12 religion classes (from archdiocese Office of 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:**

  
Reverend Mark Villanueva

**Department Heads:**

  
Anthony Cacchiarro

Tara Harrison 

Rui Andrade 

Brendan McDowell 

Natalie Meier 

  
David Primier

David Serafini 

Jennifer Smith 

**Chaplaincy Leader:**

  
Scott Smalridge



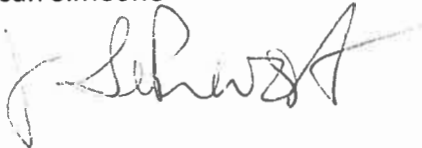
**Chair of Catholic School Council:**



**Vice Principal(s):**




Susan Simeone



Joanne Le Prevost-Groves

**Principal:**



Adriano Bomben

**Superintendent:**

Laura Odo