

SECONDARY SCHOOL PASTORAL PLAN

School Name: ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL

School Motto: *"Be not afraid...come follow me!"*

Mission Statement:

The staff and students of St. Joseph believe that our school community is grounded in the Gospel message of Jesus. He is the reason for all that we do at St. Joseph Catholic Secondary 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: *"We are Called to Love"*

Background on the theme: (As provided by The Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association – OCSTA). The theme for Catholic Education Week 2024, **We are Called to Love**, was inspired by the following considerations:

- With joyful anticipation of the Jubilee Year of 2025, we are inspired by Pope Francis announcing the theme of *"Pilgrims of Hope."* With open hearts of love, we can continue to *"fan the flame of hope"* for a brighter future.
- On the fifth anniversary of Renewing the Promise, we celebrate that Catholic Education is centered on our Christian call to love. This love permeates how we live in the world and as we act with love, we build a better future. As Pope Francis stated in 2023, *"He wants us to be artisans of a new history, weavers of hope, builders of the future, peacemakers."*
- The theme of the synod, *"Enlarge the Space of Your Tent,"* invites us to listen in love, to be a healing presence to one another and to strengthen relationships.
- In his visit to Canada last summer, Pope Francis gave us hope for our continued work for Truth and Reconciliation. Through prayer and a commitment to love, stronger bonds are forming, and a new way forward is emerging.
- Catholic Education Week comes at the same time as Mental Health Awareness Week. Through love and compassion, we continue to support each other's wellbeing. God is love and we are always called to live out this love.
- In our continued work for Equity and Inclusion in Catholic schools, a focus on love reminds us that all God's children are loved unconditionally.

GRADE LEVEL RETREATS:**GRADE 9: Riverwood Conservancy, Mississauga**

Facilitator: Riverwood Conservancy Staff

Supervision: Religion classroom teacher and Chaplaincy leader

Grade 9 students will be renewing their commitment to environmental stewardship by exploring Riverwood's hiking trails, wildlife, praying with nature and in nature. Students will engage in a variety of activities such as painting with a special ink that is made from the berries of a plant found on the Riverwood property. Riverwood is a hidden gem in Mississauga that allows students to be still and appreciate God's creations. The theme of this retreat is: "*Be Still and Know that I am God!*" *Psalm 46:10*. Students will bring their own lunch at Riverwood Conservancy. Upon their return to school, there will be an activity in the school chapel where students will be able to reflect upon their experience and their ecological footprint. They will brainstorm ways that they can commit to being true stewards of God's creation.

GRADE 10: Canadian Food for Children, Mississauga

Facilitator: Canadian Food for Children Volunteer

Supervision: Religion classroom teacher and Chaplaincy leader

These religion class retreats are held for the first part of the day at Canadian Food for Children, where students will have the opportunity to learn about the organization and its founders: Andrew and Joan Simone, and their story of service and generosity. The theme of the grade 10 retreats is based on social justice and community outreach. The grade 10 retreats are meant to encourage youth to build a stronger awareness of the poor among us; to encourage the youth to participate firsthand in the work of local charities; and to raise awareness for the suffering of others in developing countries. Students will be assigned various responsibilities that include packing a container with food, clothing and other donations that will be shipped overseas. A pizza lunch will be provided for students. During the second half of the day, students will return to the school chapel and debrief about their experiences through reflection and prayer.

GRADE 11: Hope Stone Retreat Program – St. Joseph's Parish, Mississauga

Facilitator: Hope Stone Catholic Formation Facilitation Team

Supervision: Religion classroom teacher and Chaplaincy leader

This retreat focuses on the themes of Catholic Social Teaching (CST). The retreat will be held at St. Joseph's Church. Students will listen to witness talks by the facilitators, engage in group activities, discussion, and prayer. Students will bring their lunch and remain on the premises. Upon their return to school, students will go to the chapel to share their experiences of the day.

GRADE 12: Regeneration Outreach Community, Brampton

Facilitator: Regen staff

Supervision: Religion classroom teacher and Chaplaincy leader

This retreat includes a site orientation, sorting clothing and food items, participating in daily activities for guests, and group discussions. A pizza lunch will be provided for students. During the retreat, we will reflect on sacred scripture: *Matthew 25:31*. Upon returning to school, students will have an opportunity to go to the chapel to pray and debrief about their experience. Students are encouraged to consider volunteering at Regeneration Outreach Community and donate their gently used clothing, shoes, and housewares to help support their Thrift Store.

Planning for Independence Retreat: Riverwood Conservancy, Mississauga

Facilitator: Riverwood Conservancy staff

Supervision: PIP Staff and Chaplaincy leader

Students will be engaging in a variety of activities which include art, prayer, visiting the garden, sensory path and taking a short hike. There will be an experienced Riverwood staff member leading us on the walk. The theme is: I am God’s Masterpiece.

Other Retreats:

March for Life in Ottawa – May 2024. This is an opportunity that will be offered to students through St. Joseph’s Parish. Students will be able to join parishioners from St. Joseph’s Parish, the youth minister and chaplaincy leader. Participation will depend on the number of students that are interested in attending. The theme is the sacredness of human life from conception to natural death.

Salesian Retreats:

This is a board wide opportunity for students to attend an overnight retreat. Participation will depend on the number of students who are interested in participating. A maximum of five students can attend. The retreat is fully funded by the Board. Students in grade 11 and 12 will be considered. Students will be responsible to be at the CEC, 40 Matheson Blvd. W. by 7:30 a.m. The retreat will take place at the St. Francis Centre in Orangeville. Parents are responsible to pick up their child at the end of the retreat at the CEC. Our school is scheduled to attend Wednesday April 10, 2024 – Friday April 12, 2024.

Activities of a Religious Nature:

- Each school must identify activities of a religious nature with a substantial component of ritual and prayer (Eucharistic and Non-Eucharistic)

Activities of a Religious Nature with a substantial component of ritual and prayer	
Tuesday, September 26, 2023	Pilgrimage and Opening Mass for Grades 9, 11 and PIP classes at St. Joseph’s Church
Wednesday, September 27, 2023	Pilgrimage and Opening Mass for Grades 10 and 12 at St. Joseph’s Church
Tuesday, December 12, 2023	Advent Liturgy (in the Café)
Wednesday, February 14, 2024	Ash Wednesday Liturgy (in the Café)
Wednesday March 27, 2024 (March 25 – 29) HOLY WEEK	Holy Week – Stations of the Cross Assembly
Wednesday May 1 st , 2024 - <i>St. Joseph Feast Day</i> Thursday May 2 nd , 2024	Closing School Mass – grades 9, 11 and PIP Closing School Mass – grades 10 & 12 (Closing masses will be at St. Joseph’s Church)

Monday May 6 – Friday May 10, 2024 Catholic Education Week/Mental Health Awareness Week	Health and Wellness Fair during all lunches (Thursday May 9 & Friday May 10, 2024) Prayers/Reflections on Catholic Education & Mental Health Feast Day Celebration (Wed. May 8) There will be a variety of activities planned – such as our Dodgeball Buy in and Art Battle.
Tuesday June 25, 2024	Mass of Thanksgiving for Graduates at St. Joseph Parish Parents, students, and staff will be invited into the Church Hall for refreshments after mass.

Other Pastoral/Outreach Activities

- These activities could include but are not limited to: Remembrance Day, Earth Day, Safe School Assemblies, Thanksgiving, Charity, social justice work, including Share Life etc.

Pastoral Activities	
September 2023 – June 2024	Daily prayer led by the Chaplaincy Leader and student faith leaders via the PA system in the morning and at the end of the school day before dismissal.
Monday September 11 – Monday September 25, 2023	Thanksgiving Food Drive – Period 2 classes are challenged to bring in non-perishable food items to support The St. Vincent De Paul Society.
Wednesday September 20, 2023	Club Fair – Our clubs/teams will be showcased in the school Atrium during all 3 lunches. Megan our youth minister from the parish will be joining us for Club Fair.
JAG WEEK OF TRUTH & RECONCILIATION Monday September 25 – September 30 2023	Daily prayer on themes. Staff are encouraged to use the resources provided by the Board. School Wide Activity during all 3 lunches – writing a pledge on the orange shirt cut out. Friday September 29, 2023 – Staff & students are encouraged to wear an orange shirt as a sign of remembrance and respect.
Friday November 10, 2023	Remembrance Day Liturgy
Monday November 20 – 23, 2023	Bullying Awareness & Prevention Week. Morning prayers and reflections that touch upon the theme of bullying. Activities that promote awareness and prevention throughout the week.

Christmas Hampers – TBD	Christmas Basket Drive – Period 1 classes will be assigned to a family by the Chaplain. The information about families in need will be provided by St. Joseph’s Church. HR classes will be preparing Christmas Hampers for families in need in our local community.
Virtual Rosary Team	Our students will pray the rosary virtually with the seniors at Streetsville Care starting on October 12, 2023, at 3:15 p.m. This provides an opportunity to continue a Catholic tradition for interested residents. Our young people are excited to reach out and be a source of hope for our seniors. We begin in mid-October and continue to the end of May.
Tuesday March 19, 2024	Ordinandi Luncheon (1 staff member, 5-10 students) Students from Catholic high schools all over the Archdiocese of Toronto are invited to lunch and listening to the vocation stories of men that are being ordained to the priesthood.
Wednesday April 10 – Friday April 12, 2024	Salesian Leadership Retreat (Semester 2) to be held at St. Francis Centre (5 students max., & Chaplaincy Leader)
TBD	ShareLife Week
Monday April 22, 2023	Earth Day – St. Joseph Clean-Up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will assist in being stewards of creation by cleaning the area around the school. Classes will be encouraged to participate through morning announcements.
Monday May 6 – Friday May 10, 2024	Various Activities in Connection to Catholic Education Week/Mental Health Awareness Week <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will participate in various activities.
May 2024 Date TBD	Celebrate Life & Family Week The National March for Life in Ottawa <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a school community we promote a culture of life through our prayer and witness. Daily prayers will reflect this theme. Praying the rosary in the Chapel during the month of May as a devotion to Mother Mary and mothers. Students from St. Joseph C.S.S school along with parishioners from St. Joseph Church will have

	the opportunity to participate in The March for Life in Ottawa in support of the unborn.
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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.

Catholicity is integrated and permeated throughout the academic fabric and curriculum of St. Joseph Catholic Secondary School. Catholicity is evident in the works we teach, the prayers that begin each and end each school day, and the resources available to students and staff to facilitate classroom prayer and reflection.

Department	Departmental Activities and/or Events
Academic Resource	<p>In the St. Joseph C.S.S. Special Education Department, we strive to provide a safe and supportive Catholic learning environment where students are part of an inclusive community and are encouraged and challenged to meet their full potential with the support of compassionate and caring educators. They are also encouraged to “be God’s hands” and help within their communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Planning for Independence students and staff are invited to partake in visits to our school’s chapel. Students actively participate in various activities such as listening to and singing spiritual songs. • Students also participate in a Planning for Independence religion retreat organized and coordinated by the school’s Chaplaincy Leader and our Planning for Independence teachers.
Mathematics	<p>St. Joseph’s Mathematics Department is dedicated in integrating our Catholic Faith into the curriculum.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each class begins with prayer/reflection, which serves to infuse our gospel values and discussion around personal and community wellness. • Use language in class that serves to develop positivity, respect, care, and inclusivity. • Learning will incorporate the analysis of real-life data based on current social issues. It is through mathematical reasoning of these issues; teachers will encourage students to develop attitudes and values founded on Catholic social teachings. • Students will also be encouraged to develop a social responsibility of current global issues while developing respectful and responsible use of technology. • Data topics chosen for investigation center around being a responsible consumer and citizen.

<p>English/ESL/ELL</p>	<p>As Catholic educators in the English Department we will focus on the development of faith, by integrating Catholic principles into our courses as we teach and develop lifelong learners and contributing members of society. The English Department will deliver a strong English program that integrates our Catholic values and faith and to develop our students into Christian leaders in the school community and society.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In our classroom, we will have symbols of our faith displayed, and practice daily prayer before each class. • Teaching the English Curriculum allows for many opportunities our faith and Catholic teachings into be integrated into the program through the study of literature and writing tasks. Students will read and explore a variety of multicultural texts effectively and use the characters and stories they encounter to learn about the human condition and recognize that sin, human weakness, conflict, and forgiveness are a part of the faith journey. • We will use our faith to guide lessons and help students explore material in creative ways that deal with many moral and ethical dilemmas. This allows students to use their faith to be reflective learners, to evaluate situations and to learn how to solve them when one's faith is tested. • Implementing Scripture into the classroom is something that is not only valuable for spiritual growth, but it is also integral in understanding much of Western literature. In studying these texts, teachers are given the opportunity to discuss humanity's struggles and triumphs with faith and the rewards of living a life with Christ. In very realistic ways, students can see how the teachings of the Catholic Church can serve as a moral compass in the decisions they must make as teens and as adults later in life. • Teachers share with one another and with their students how recognizing Christian references in literature enriches the experience of reading the text, which allows teachers the opportunity to teach parts of Scripture to their students. • The English Department will choose our material, novels, plays short stories with specific themes in mind that connect to our Catholic faith. Some of those themes include search for identity, sins, acceptance, and forgiveness. This allows teachers to facilitate dialogue about themes related to our Catholic principles, which includes texts that deal with the theme of discrimination and isolation. This allows for great dialogue about faith
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	<p>to guide the questions that integrate their faith and their critical analysis skills.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will assign writing assignments that require students to use more than just their written skills but require them to think and support their opinions using their values, morals, and faith to guide their responses. This activity is in accordance with curriculum reading and writing strands but also allows for the students to use their Catholic principles which play a role in their learning. In the English program books are the vehicle to connect students to their faith and examine the human condition teaching them to become compassionate and reflective to the marginalized and outcast of society. <p>English Language Learners (ELL):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our school has seen an ever-increasing number of ESL/ELL students within our community. • Students are connected with our Settlement Worker from the Newcomer Centre of Peel. • Prayers and reflections in various languages in class daily. • Themes of anti-bullying, charity and volunteerism are discussed throughout the courses. • Respect for the dignity of the human person and establishing a world view that enables everyone to understand the dignity of all people.
<p>Religion/Theology</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The Religious Education department is committed to being an example of how we can integrate our Catholic Faith in our curriculum, but also in our lives as a school community. •Grades (9/10/12) Focus on the teaching and tradition of the Catholic Church "The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes" Ps 118:22-23. •For all grades and levels, assignments and activities are faith based given the curriculum. In terms of culminating tasks, each grade level focuses on having the students research faith-based resources, such as the Catechism of the Catholic Church, to learn what the Catholic perspective on various topics are. •In addition to this, all courses focus on using one's God given potential to explore contemporary social justice issues: "Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep" Rom 12:15. •All students in religion classes will participate in a grade level retreat which will enable them to grow in their faith. The Religious Education department is also committed to making a parish to school connection. To ensure this, we have the youth minister from St. Joseph Parish come to the

	<p>school to speak to the grade 9 and 10 classes and we have Deacon George from St. Joseph Parish come in to speak to the grade 11 and 12 classes about their role in the parish. This is a way for students to see the various ministry roles that the church has to offer.</p>
<p>Guidance</p>	<p>The Guidance Department of St. Joseph Catholic Secondary School is committed to recognizing each student as a Child of God: created in the image and likeness of God. Our mandate is to support students in their self-discovery as a person of dignity who can choose to use their gifts and talents for the good of others and to love. We fulfill this goal by creating a welcoming, and safe environment that accommodates and celebrates the diversity present in our faith community. Our call to participate in a faith community modelled after the Holy Trinity inspires us to seek out the most vulnerable amongst us and treat them with respect and dignity.</p> <p>We do this by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taking a lead role in the transition process. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ From Grade 8 to Grade 9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition meetings • Sharing of information meetings with our elementary teachers • Supporting the Get Ready Program • Facilitate the Registration process. • Parent information Nights • Encourage and train students on “My Blueprint.” ○ From Grade 12 to post High School <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University and College information sessions • Grade 12 information sessions about post High School opportunities. • Monitor Graduation requirements. • Remain updated on post-secondary requirements. • Individual counselling • Facilitating at risk students scheduling and programing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Identify and monitor students’ marks and attendance. ○ Network with special services to support student with specific needs beyond the High School ○ Individual counselling • Supporting Departments in their scheduling and programming <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Working with SAAC, Guidance creates a schedule to accommodate the needs and requirements of each Department.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provide a clear calendar of needs and expectations for the departments. ○ Mark entry dates ○ Dates for students to change courses and programs (applied, academic and locally developed) ● Coordinate the preparation of Report Cards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Monitor the submission of marks. ○ Facilitate the promotion meetings. ○ Develop and implement the process for Report Card distribution. ● Create a welcoming and accommodating Office Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The visual representations in the Guidance Office are reflective of our community. ○ There is a clear process for students to meet with their Guidance Counsellor. ○ We are vigilant in providing fair and equitable processes for meetings, counselling, and course and program changes. ● We have created a flexible environment to efficiently respond to the school community and personal issues.
<p>Social Science and Moderns Department</p>	<p>The Social Science and Moderns Department is dedicated to integrating our Catholic Faith into all facets of teaching and learning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Social Science and Moderns department courses lend themselves to discussions infused with Catholic social teaching. ● Student led reflections/prayers to begin class. ● Student led liturgies on topics directly related to the particular course (liturgy topics may include - Parenting - sacredness of human intimacy and sexuality; Geography & Environment Studies - stewardship of the environment; Challenge & Change and Law - poverty, discrimination, diversity, interdependence of the world's peoples and cultures) ● Every course has built into them specific Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations (to name only a few: thinking critically as an interdependent team member, respects rights, responsibilities and contributions of others, values and honours the important role of the family in society, respects and understands the history, cultural heritage and pluralism of today's contemporary society, respects the environment, contributes to the common good, exercises the rights and responsibilities of Canadian citizenship, read, understands and uses written material effectively, and presents information and ideas clearly and honestly with sensitivity to others). ● A welcoming and inclusive environment for all students.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Geography and Environment class students actively involved in the school's Green Society teaching them of Catholic social teaching relating to the environment. • Students coordinate the Remembrance Day liturgy in conjunction with our Chaplaincy leader. • Catholic teaching brought into all discussions but especially related to Canada's role and expectations in relation to Indigenous Rights and the Holocaust. • Holocaust survivor Elly Gotz is invited to speak to the students about his experiences stirs the consciousness of our young people. <p>French:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prayers and reflections are done in French in class daily. • Respect for the dignity of the human person is embraced. • Students learn the benefits of learning another language in being able to communicate with others and respect for different languages.
<p>Physical Education/ Visual and Performing Arts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focusing on the 1 hour of daily activity. • Creating Catholic conditions for well-being, learning and leading. • Teaching practices and lessons that demonstrate and encourage a positive sense of self and respect for the dignity and welfare of others. • Using fair, equitable and transparent assessment practices, informed by our Christ-centered approach to professional judgement in order to create hope, engagement and growth for all to realize their full potential. • Designing and implementing effective lessons that are Christ-centered, purposeful, engaging and inclusive that will reflect success for all. • Teaching the importance of teamwork and respect for all. <p>ARTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual Arts will be displaying student work at our Coffee House (Fall/Spring), Open House (Fall) and Parent Teacher Interview Night (Fall/Spring). • The Choir will continue to be an integral part of all our school masses and liturgies.

<p>Science</p>	<p>The Science Department is dedicated to integrating our Catholic Faith into all facets of teaching and learning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our department's biblical motto is and "God saw that it was good" from the Book of Genesis. • Prayer tables in each classroom • Begin class with prayer/reflection. • Class discussion on the various theories of evolution and the Big Bang Theory including how the Bible can play a role in our understanding as to the origins of the universe and humanity. • Class discussion on the bioethical implications of various topics including (but not limited to) stem cell research, reproductive technologies in biology classrooms (when appropriate) • Class discussion on our role as environmental stewards throughout the entire curriculum. • Providing opportunities for students and staff to participate in activities that integrate Science curriculum with Catholic Social Teaching. • Students learn about the importance of stewardship and their role in protecting creation. • There is a focus on the devastating effects of climate change. • In the grade 10 curriculum there is an entire unit which focuses on climate change.
<p>Business/Cooperative Education/Technological Studies</p>	<p>As a department we focus on the ability of each student to create with their minds and build with their hands.</p> <p>Business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflection on current business practices through a Catholic lens with the Gospel message that Jesus warns against the pursuit of money. • We investigate corporate social responsibility and ethical business practices that respect the dignity of the human person. • Acting morally and ethically is what is right in the eyes of Jesus. This is how we are to treat our employers, employees, customers, and other stakeholders. <p>Cooperative Education:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We investigate what it means to be a responsible citizen, showing humility, willingness to learn and acting as Jesus would in the workplace. <p>Technology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide auto service to our community of staff. This is in the spirit of generosity.

- Murals painted in the cafeteria displaying the virtues, and images of Jesus are prominently displayed in our cafeteria.
- A box for student and staff prayer requests is in the Chapel.
- A crucifix is present in each classroom.
- A cross is present outside each department office with a biblical inscription on it.
- Classrooms and other rooms such as the library and main office have a prayer table. Each prayer table also has two-sided linen (purple and green) with the school's motto embroidered on the cloth.
- A chaplaincy bulletin board outside of the chapel displays information for students including upcoming events, social outreach opportunities, virtues education, information on mass and liturgies.
- Development and Peace Posters and Scarboro Mission Posters: Catholic Milestones in Interfaith Dialogue and Catholic Social Thought.

Chaplaincy Office (Room 319)

- Bulletin board outside of the Chaplain's office highlighting important events.
- Table outside of Chaplain's office containing prayer cards for students.
- Prayer resources are available in the Chaplain's office for help with personal issues.
- Shelf 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. These are updated and are used for pastoral care and outreach to staff and students.
- ShareLife and other fundraising plaques are on the office walls highlighting the school's contribution to Catholic charities.

Parish Connections

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

Our school maintains a close and intimate connect with St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church:

- The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated during Advent and Lent.
- School Masses are celebrated by Fr. Paul Dobson & Fr. Anish Alex.
- Students participate actively in the volunteer opportunities available at St. Joseph Parish. Chaplain will inform students of various opportunities through the CHAPLAINCY GOOGLE CLASSROOM and morning announcements.
- INSTAGRAM ACCOUNT: STJOSEPHCHAPLAINCY – provides information about upcoming school events.
- Deacon George leads us in The Advent Liturgy and Ash Wednesday Liturgy at the school.
- Our youth minister at St. Joseph Parish, Megan Domingues, is actively involved in the school by doing classroom visits in religion classes, attending our Club Fair, and attending all school liturgies.
- A mutual support of events through the parish bulletin and our school's social media accounts. Daily announcements made to the school community about upcoming church events such as youth group meetings (LIFE TEEN).

Staff Faith Development

Catechesis and faith formation among our staff:

- The Chaplaincy Leader in coordination with our two Adult Faith Ambassadors will invite staff to participate in all Family of Schools faith building events throughout the year.
- Staff liturgies to mark the beginning of the school year and the end of the school year.
- Staff Prayers for all staff meetings and department head meetings.
- Staff will be invited to all liturgical events provided by the DPCDSB.
- Special liturgies will be planned to address unexpected events as needed.
- Mass cards from the Society of the Little Flower are given to staff members (on behalf of the school community) who have experienced the death of a loved one.

Transitions

Students supported in the area of Transitioning from Grade 8 to Grade 9 and beyond.

- Chaplaincy supports transitions, such as attending the Open House and providing support or students transitioning to grade 9. The chaplaincy Leader meets the students in the Get Ready Program in August.
- Jaguar Mentors are senior students who work with Grade 9 students during various events throughout the year to ensure a safe, caring, and inclusive transition to high school.

Vocations

Vocations to religious life and pastoral ministries promoted through:

- St. Joseph C.S.S. is very fortunate to have the strong presence of our Pastor from St. Joseph's parish. Father Paul Dobson and Father Anish Alex are examples for our students of vocational life.
- The Chaplaincy Leader facilitates interactions between students expressing vocational interest and the parish pastor or related events (i.e., Ordinandi Lunch, etc.) and retreats promoted by the Archdiocese of Toronto through the Office of Vocations, the Office of Formation for Discipleship, and the Office of Catholic Youth.
- Student participation in Salesian retreats also serves to promote religious life and lay pastoral ministries.
- On October 26, 2023, some of our students will be participating in a Youth Conference which promotes vocations and learning about social justice initiatives.

Signatures

Rev. Fr. Paul Dobson
Pastor, St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church

Rev. Fr. Anish Alex
Associate Pastor, St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church

Rosina Ariganello
Principal

Antony Pallotta
Vice Principal

Bill Welch
Vice Principal

Simona Dei-Rocini,
Acting Chaplaincy Leader, 2023-2024

Sue Febbraro
Department Head of Theology

Lori Theriault
Faith Ambassador

Kelly Dawson
Department Head of Academic Resource

Adriana Romao
Department Head of English & ESL/ELL

Pasquale Vasile
Department Head of Guidance

Joseph Spano
Department Head of Mathematics

Steven Cescolini
Department Head of Modern Languages and Social Science

Chery McCann
Department Head of Physical Education and Visual and Performing Arts

David Chu
Department Head of Science

Armando Simeone
Department Head of Business, CO-OP and Technological Studies

Michael Smolders
Co-Chair of Catholic School Council

Antonio Dsouza
Co-Chair of Catholic School Council

Silvana Gos
Superintendent,
Mississauga South Family of School