

# PASTORAL PLAN

School: **St. Jude Separate School**

## School Mission Statement:

The distinction of Catholic Education lies in the collaboration between the home – school – and the parish in educating the whole child. We celebrate our uniqueness and our similarities as we remain rooted in our gospel values. At St. Jude Catholic School we celebrate together and transform our school into our church – where we know He is. Together with our partners we learn and work together as followers of Jesus – our Master Teacher.

**School Motto:** Hope, Opportunity, Prayer, Empathy (H.O.P.E)

**Our Parish:** St. Francis Xavier

**Pastor:** *Rev. Msgr. Edgardo Pan*

**Parish website:** [www.stfrancisxavierchurch.ca](http://www.stfrancisxavierchurch.ca)

## Message from the Pastor:

Catholic Education aims at forming students into faithful disciples of Jesus. Its three-fold objectives are: a) to provide an environment in which students are enabled to build and deepen their relationship with God. b) To foster an academic culture aimed at the pursuit of truth. c) To actively promote growth in virtue.

Parents are the primary educators of their children through words and exemplary actions, and the school is but an active, yet essential, extension of parental education. I am very happy with the relationship and cooperation among the parish, the school and the parents. However. We should not be contented with what we are all doing now. Let's do more to realize the three-fold objectives of Catholic Education.

Msgr. Edgardo Pan Pastor

## Message from the Catholic School Council:

Our mission as a Catholic School Council is to develop a partnership between our students, school, parents, and Parish, to further develop and strengthen the virtues of Catholic education. Through sacramental preparation, we strive to make our community exemplary models in Catholic Faith.

## Catholic Education Week Theme: Renewing the Promise

*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.*

May 6 – May 12 is Catholic Education Week.

Classroom presentations of the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations (per division)  
Community building activities (i.e., Family Movie Night, 'St. Jude's got talent')  
Social Justice presentations

## 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.*

**"Children need a culture and environment that allows them, in all of the noise of the contemporary world, to hear the whisper of the Spirit, the gentle urging of Jesus, the call of God. This finally is why Catholic schools are distinctive, and why they are schools to believe in. What these schools offer to our children is a gift not only to our Church, but to our society as well."**

**Msgr. Dennis Murphy**

A distinct feature of Catholic Education is the working relationship of the home, school and parish triad. We work together to educate the whole child. The triad of home, school and parish working together to support one another in educating the whole child is what makes Catholic education distinct. Our school blessing which took place on September 28, 2000 celebrated the birth of our new school community and our goal of building a vibrant faith and learning community. Our school mission statement articulates our call as Catholic Educators and was developed in partnership with our staff, parish, parents, and students. It describes a vision of a school that represents a strong foundation in which to create a positive and challenging learning

environment for our school community. Our pastoral plan is an example of how we can learn and work together as followers of Jesus.

**Everyday Life at School**

Christianity and the expectations of our Catholic faith are part and parcel of all actions and activities which occur each and every day in our community. The day begins with our virtue prayer followed by a prayer for community intentions. The students then listen to a reading from the Bible. Prayer is an integral part of our day and children pray with their teachers in a variety of ways and times, such as grace before meals. Prayers are also said at the end of each school day. Rosary Apostolates visit monthly to pray the Rosary.

**Signs & Symbols of Faith**

Various signs and symbols are displayed throughout the school as reminders of our Catholic beliefs and traditions --- at the office, in the front foyer, halls and classrooms: altar/prayer table, bible, candle, crucifix, stations of the cross, banners, pictures, prayer books...

**Liturgical Season Symbols**

Advent Wreath, Nativity Scene, Stations of the Cross, student works...

**Catechesis**

- † Religion Program: Cdn. Catechism
- † Family Life Program: Fully Alive
- † Additional Programs:

- ~ Gr. 4 Sexual Abuse Prevention
- ~ Aids Program for Grades 1 to 8

**Liturgical Celebrations**

Liturgical celebrations are a way of responding to life and acknowledging that our faith needs to be celebrated.

**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
Reconciliation	Friday, January 26, 9:30 am	
First Holy Communion	Saturday, April 21, 10:00 am	
Confirmation		Thursday, April 12, 7:00pm

**Liturgical Celebrations:**

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

<b>Celebration</b>	<b>Date</b>
Feast Day Mass	Friday, October 27, 9:15 am
Advent Mass	Friday, December 8, 9:15 am
Advent Staff Liturgies	Weekly during Advent
Lenten Staff Liturgies	Weekly during Lent
Lenten Mass	Wednesday, February 21, 9:30 am
Stations of the Cross Presentations	Thursday, March 29
Marion Celebration	Friday May 18
Graduation - Year End Mass	Friday June 15, 9:15 am

**Marion Celebration****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.*

Our school participates in:

- ShareLife Activities (Christian Student Council)
- Terry Fox Walk/Run
- Food Drives
- Angel on the Tree (Christmas)
- Adopt a Family

**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 OCSGE, we as a school community....

- Banner display in the front entrance of the school
- Classroom Discussions
- Bulletin Board of students reflection

### **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.*

- Virtue prayer daily over the PA Announcements
- Virtue display board changes monthly based on the Virtue of the Month- Students work is displayed to represent the virtue of the month
- In classroom, students reflections monthly

### **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.*

We have Crosses, Bibles, Prayer Tables, Community Service,

- Foyer Altar
- Framed prints of Religious leaders and Saints
- Library display of Religious Icons and virtue resources
- Banners of our Virtues
- Each classroom has a prayer center set up
- Youth Faith Ambassadors

**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](#)

**Resource List for Schools:****Board**

- **Vocations Units**  
We have Vocations units as part of the Grades 2, 5, and 8 curriculum. The goal of these supplementary units is to deepen one's understanding of God's call – the “*vocare*” – to various forms of life within the Church.
- **History of the Parish**  
Through the resource book *Our Story, Our Tradition, Our Journey*, grade 7 students have the opportunity to learn about the history of our parish.
- [Enduring Gift Video](#)

**School-Based**