PASTORAL PLAN

School: St. Leonard Elementary School

School Mission Statement:
We the Community of St. Leonard Elementary School, aspire to nurture and develop a faith-filled, co-operative learning environment that embraces the many cultures of our community that will empower each child on their life-long journey towards knowledge, self-esteem and fulfillment of their Christian values.

School Motto: Let’s Do Something Beautiful For God

Our Parish: St. Leonard

Pastor: Rev. Paul John Nosan

Parish website: https://stleonardsbr.archtoronto.org/

Message from the Pastor:
Our school is under the pastoral care of St. Leonard Parish. We encourage our families to register with the parish, and to join us for Sunday mass Saturday at 5:00 PM or Sunday at 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM or 12:00 noon. In St. John Paul II’s Letter for the Third Millennium, we find a sevenfold pastoral plan for the Church:

1. We are called to holiness
2. Importance of daily prayer
3. Importance of the Sunday Eucharist
4. Making use of the Sacrament of Reconciliation
5. Primacy of grace in our life
6. Listening to the Word of God (may it form us)
7. Proclaiming the Word of God (especially by our life)
Message from the Catholic School Council:

The St. Leonard Catholic School Council is an integral part of our school community. Through the active participation and collaboration of parents/guardians, we strive to ensure that all students reach their full potential in an inclusive, faith-filled environment.

Catholic Education Week Theme: Igniting Hope

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 3 – May 8 is Catholic Education Week.

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” (Romans 15:13)

The sub-themes for Catholic Education Week 2020 are as follows:

- Monday: Our Hope in Christ
- Tuesday: The Hope Within Us
- Wednesday: The Hope Among Us
- Thursday: Hope for the World
- Friday: A Future Full of Hope

- Welcome to Kindergarten Night
- Community Welcomed to Talent Show
- Assembly – Focused on Ontario Catholic Graduate Expectations in Action at St. Leonard School
- Crowning of Mary Assembly with Rosary Apostolates
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.

School activities that support both adult and student faith formation:
- Social Outreach (e.g., food drives – for St. Vincent de Paul and Knights Table, Angel on a Tree, Peel Regional Police/Student volleyball game)
- Celebrate monthly liturgical events and Mass with the community
- Morning prayer & Virtues Promotion
- Staff gatherings for weekly liturgies during Advent and Lent
- Sacred Space in each classroom and throughout the school in common areas
- Daily Religion and Family Life instruction in each classroom
- Relationships, conflict resolution and discipline all occur within the context of Gospel values
- Expansion of Faith Ambassador Program to share responsibilities for promoting Adult Faith in our School
- Eco initiatives in light of Good Stewardship
- PALs Program / Drawing Club offered by CYW
- Leadership opportunities for Intermediate Students through Youth Faith Ambassadors
- Daily/Seasonal Prayer on PA and to begin meetings and gatherings
- Visits from Rosary Apostolate
- Elevated OCSGE as a school focus connected to Learning Skills

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.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Grade 2</th>
<th>Grade 7</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sacrament of Reconciliation</td>
<td>Thursday, February 6, 2020 @ 9 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sacrament of First Holy Communion</td>
<td>Saturday, May 9, 2020 @ 10:30 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sacrament of Confirmation</td>
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<td>Wednesday, May 13, 2020 @ 7 p.m.</td>
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Liturgical Celebrations:

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

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<tr>
<th>Celebration</th>
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<tr>
<td>Opening/Thanksgiving Mass (church)</td>
<td>October 22, 2019 @ 9:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Remembrance Day Liturgy (school)</td>
<td>November 11, 2019 @ 8:45 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Advent Mass (church)</td>
<td>December 17, 2019 @ 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ash Wednesday Liturgy (church)</td>
<td>February 26, 2020 @ 9:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>Lenten Mass (church)</td>
<td>March 31, 2020 @ 9:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>End of Year Mass (church)</td>
<td>June 19, 2020 @ 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Confession (church)</td>
<td>May 7, 2020 @ 9:00 a.m.</td>
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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 enthusiastically in various social justice initiatives throughout the year including ShareLife, Terry Fox Run, seasonal food drives, Legion Poppy Campaign, specific disaster relief requests, etc.

Each grade level/combined class has committed to a social justice project so that each child has a different social justice experience as they move from grade to grade during their time at St. Leonard School (e.g., Gr 8 – Dr. Simone; Gr. 4/5 – Personal Care Shoeboxes for Knight’s Table; Gr. 6 – Weaving Milk Bag mats)
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._

We as a school community have interwoven the OCSGE into our teaching of curriculum and special school events. We have showcased this learning through student-led liturgies, class and school presentations. We adopted the PALS Program to actively engage and welcome students through inclusive play and use restorative justice to solve conflicts. Student voice activities and leadership through Youth Faith Ambassadors are used as opportunities to develop OCSGE.

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._

Our virtues are noted on our weekly Staff Update and emails to the community to build a common language for all adults involved with our students. All students participate in the Virtue prayer for the month and are engaged in focused lessons and discussions about that Virtue. Visual displays highlighting the meaning of the monthly Virtue can be found in our foyer and in the sacred space of each classroom. Virtues are also a central part of our Religion and Family Life classroom instruction and are referenced in situations of conflict and discipline, and in recognition of exemplary behaviour.

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._

As well as a classroom crucifix and a prayer space in each classroom, displays of student work often serve as visible signs of our faith embedded throughout the curriculum. Common areas also reflect our faith commitment including our altar space in our foyer and classrooms. Our virtues bulletin boards outside each classroom displays our lived experience.
of the Gospel. During liturgical seasons, additional visual displays reflect of faith commitment.

We continue to recognize that “We are a Treaty People” and to respect and honour the treaties of our fellow Indigenous brothers and sisters. We have our land recognition poster prominently displayed in our front foyer, and is stated as part of our school gatherings and morning announcements. During Treaties Recognition Week we focus on teaching students the importance honouring the Treaties that are part of our country’s history. We are also developing our students understanding and use or respectful language referring to our Indigenous brothers and sisters.

This year we continue elevate the connection between the OCSGE, Learning Skills and the Virtues. We continue to read and reflect on scripture passages with our students over the announcements and providing time for discussion and reflection upon the passages. Our goal is that students learn to interpret the scripture passages in a way that is meaningful and can connect the message of the passage to their own lives.

**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**

- **Life of our Patron, St. Leonard**
  [http://www.catholic-saints.info/patron-saints/saint-leonard.htm](http://www.catholic-saints.info/patron-saints/saint-leonard.htm)