

## PASTORAL PLAN

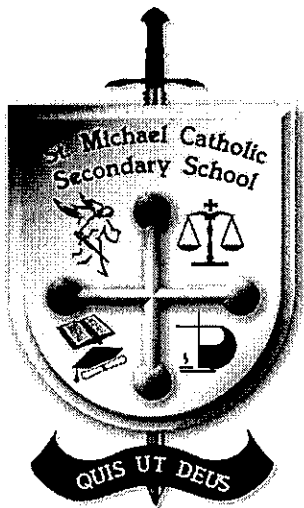
**School Name: St. Michael Catholic Secondary School**

**School Motto or Mission Statement: *Quis Ut Deus – Who is with God***

We the community of St. Michael Catholic Secondary School are committed to the Gospel values as a foundation for student success.

- We believe that every student can and will achieve 8 credits a year.
- We believe that every student can and will be involved in at least one school extracurricular activity.
- We believe that school, home and parish are accountable to one another.

### Coat of Arms



1. The SCHOOL "MOTTO" is that of St. Michael's Coat of Arms: "Quis Ut Deus", which the school has loosely translated as "Who is with God". This is translated from Hebrew for the name *Michael*. This was the war cry of the good angels in the battle fought in heaven against Satan and his followers.

2. The SCHOOL CREST displays a vision for both staff and students to strive to be formed by a faith community that will enjoy academic success based on Catholic values and virtues.

3. The GOLDEN CROSS is in the original coat of arms attributed to St. Michael the archangel in the heraldry of medieval England. This also

represents the sign of our Catholic faith.

4. The image of St. Michael, the archangel, is part of our faith story that shapes the identity of our school community.
5. The scales of justice represent St. Michael's fight against Satan. That in the end we are all judged fairly and that we overcome the temptations of evil.
6. The Dufferin-Peel CDSB emblem roots us into the greater Dufferin-Peel community. We are one of many schools that form this community of faith and learning.

The BIBLE, GRADUATION HAT and DIPLOMA, represents the formation of the whole student that is faith based. Faith and curriculum are infused into our graduates who will embody the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations.

## Guiding Principles of the 2024-2025 Pastoral Plan

### **A. The Second Vatican Ecumenical Council (1962-1965)**

*The influence of the Church in the field of education is shown in a special manner by the Catholic school. No less than other schools does the Catholic school pursue cultural goals and the human formation of youth. But its proper function is to create for the school community a special atmosphere animated by the Gospel spirit of freedom and charity, to help youth grow according to the new creatures they were made through baptism as they develop their own personalities...So indeed the Catholic school, while it is open, as it must be, to the situation of the contemporary world, leads its students...so that by leading an exemplary apostolic life they become, as it were, a saving leaven in the human community*

--Declaration on Religious Education of the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council *Gravissimum Educationis*, para. 8

#### **Our Community of St. Michael's Secondary School fosters:**

- a) The integration of Gospel Values through Christian pedagogy, lived and sustained in classroom instruction and within our school culture;
- b) A Christ-centered culture which thrives through collaborative partnerships between the school community, the local parish community, and Christian families;
- c) An eschatological community that labours to build the Kingdom of God in the sacrament of the present moment through its commitment to the preferential option for the poor, and its efforts to promote Justice.

### **B. The Core Principles of the Encyclical Letter of His Holiness Pope Francis On Care for Our Common Home *Laudato Si* (2015)**

*The urgent challenge to protect our common home includes a concern to bring the whole human family together to seek a sustainable and integral development, for we know that things can change. The Creator does not abandon us; he never forsakes his loving plan or repents of having created us. ... Here I want to recognize, encourage and thank all those striving in countless ways to guarantee the protection of the home which we share.*

--His Holiness Pope Francis in *Laudato Si*, para. 13

Through its Christ-centered pedagogy, Christian formation programme, and caring culture promoted in extracurricular initiatives and supports, the community of St. Michael's Secondary School fosters the core principles of *Laudato Si* in the following ways:

#### **a) Response to the Cry of the Earth, Ecological Education and Ecological Spirituality**

As a Platinum school community, St. Michael's models and promotes stewardship of the Earth's resources through its partnership with Eco-School initiatives, and its focus on the creation narratives through our Nature Walk during student retreats.

#### **b) Response to the Cry of the Poor and Community Resilience and Empowerment**

Our school community actively promotes of food drives and clothing collection initiatives, to share our resources with those in need throughout the school year. St. Michael's also actively participates in opportunities to serve the poor in the local community.

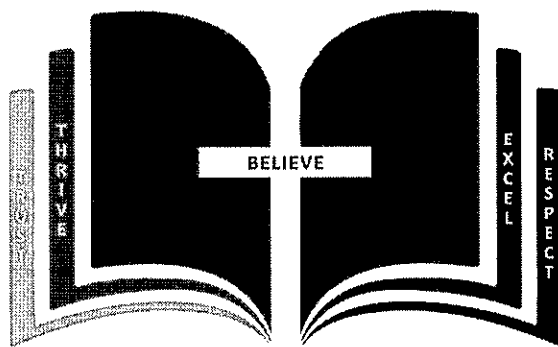
**c) Ecological Economics and the Adoption of Sustainable Lifestyles**






As a Platinum school, St. Michael’s fosters ecological economics through our active participation with Eco-School objectives.

**C. The Guiding Principles of the Multi Year Strategic Plan of the Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board**

Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School

**Multi-Year Strategic Plan  
2023-2027**



-  **TRUST**  
Cultivating Relationships and Accountability
-  **THRIVE**  
Cultivating Well-Being and Hope
-  **BELIEVE**  
Cultivating Faith and Devotion
-  **EXCEL**  
Cultivating Knowledge and Brilliance
-  **RESPECT**  
Cultivating Human Dignity and Social Justice



**Our community of St. Michael’s Secondary School promotes the core mission and values of the Multi Year Strategic Plan of the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board.**

**a) Trust**

Our community of St. Michael’s Secondary School strives to promote trust by promoting the active voice of each key stakeholder in the school community through life-giving relationships sustained through transparency in the decision-making process;

**b) Thrive**

Our community of St. Michael’s Secondary School thrives by its active promotion of spiritual, emotional, physical and psychological well-being;

**c) Believe**

Our community of St. Michael's Secondary School is a believing community, as is clear from its regular and sustained promotion of catholicity its integration of a healthy spirituality infused by the Holy Spirit;

**d) Excellence**

Our culture here at St. Michael's Secondary School promotes excellence by the pastoral accompaniment of all members of our community to be the very best version of themselves;

**e) Respect**

The community of St. Michael's Secondary School fosters respect by promoting justice, especially through the preferential option for the poor and our common labours to address causes of inequality within our society.

**D. Theme for the 2025 Jubilee Year: "Pilgrims of Hope" // Pèlerins de l'espérance**

SPES NON CONFUNDIT. "Hope does not disappoint" (Rom 5:5). In the spirit of hope, the Apostle Paul addressed these words of encouragement to the Christian community of Rome. Hope is also the central message of the coming Jubilee that, in accordance with an ancient tradition, the Pope proclaims every twenty-five years. My thoughts turn to all those pilgrims of hope who will travel to Rome in order to experience the Holy Year and to all those others who, though unable to visit the city of the Apostles Peter and Paul, will celebrate it in their local Churches. For everyone, may the Jubilee be a moment of genuine, personal encounter with the Lord Jesus, the "door" (cf. Jn 10:7.9) of our salvation, whom the Church is charged to proclaim always, everywhere and to all as "our hope"

--Bull of Indiction of the Ordinary Jubilee of the Year 2025 of the Holy Father Pope Francis *Spes Non Confundit*, para. 1

**Thematic Connection of Retreat Program to the 2025 Jubilee Year**

**Grade 9:** Grade 9 students will attend a full grade retreat in September in a designated area at St. Michael's Catholic Secondary School. The day will be led by the chaplaincy leader, Grade 9 Teachers, and Wings of Faith. The major theme of this retreat (Genesis 1: 27)—"**Pilgrims of Hope" Created and Loved by God : Building Humanity within our Community through the Beatitudes**. It will include opportunities for prayer, activities and discussion that will allow students the opportunity to explore their identities as children of God and their growing relationship with God.

**Grade 10:** Grade 10 retreat will consist of a full grade retreat in late October (semester 1) and mid to late May (semester 2) at Albion Hills Conservation Area. The retreat will be led and facilitated by Chaplaincy and the Grade 10 Teachers. **Major theme of this retreat will be Luke**

**9: 28-36—"Pilgrims of Hope" Who are Known and Loved by God.** The retreat will focus on discussing and reflecting on one's everlasting identity as "beloved by God", one's authentic personality traits and walking forward on the pilgrimage of faith with one's "life plan" in order to set personal, communal, and altruistic goals for the future. The retreat includes elements of personal reflective goal setting, games, interactive activities, small group discussion, large group discussion and prayer, a Creation walk upon which we reflect on sacramentality- all centered in the Catholic faith.

**Grade 11:** Grade 11 retreats are single class retreats run through religion classes. **The major theme of this retreat is Matthew 25 : 31-46— "Pilgrims of Hope" who collaborate in Building the Kingdom of God.** Retreats will take place at The Exchange Bolton and will be facilitated by The Exchange staff and the chaplaincy leader. Students will tour The Exchange facility, learn about its programs, assist with sorting food, assist with preparing food and learn about poverty and support resources in the local community.

**Grade 12:** Grade 12 students will attend a full group retreat at Albion Hills Conservation Area towards the conclusion of the school year (late May). **The major theme of this retreat is Genesis 1 : 26-31- Genesis 2 : 1-4—"Pilgrims of Hope" exercising Stewardship for Creation and the fulfillment of Sabbath Rest.** The retreat will be facilitated by chaplaincy and grade 12 teachers, and will focus on cultivating one's relationship with the Lord to discover one's true vocation.

**Other retreats:**

**RAISE Program:** The retreat for students in the RAISE Program will take place at and be facilitated by Chaplaincy Leader and RAISE Program Teachers. Students will take part in inclusive activities, while spending time considering God's unconditional love.

**Our Pilgrimage of Hope through Activities of a Religious Nature**

Opening School Mass/Feast Day: <b>Wednesday September 25<sup>th</sup></b>
Provincial Priorities in a Catholic Context Days and Principal’s Days: Staff liturgies and Staff Mass at Holy Family Parish
Penitential Liturgy and Sacrament of Reconciliation (Advent) : To be determined
Advent Liturgy of the Word : <b>Monday December 9<sup>th</sup> 2024</b>
Ash Wednesday Liturgy and distribution of ashes: Wednesday March 5 <sup>th</sup> 2025
Penitential Liturgy and Sacrament of Reconciliation (Lent) : To be determined
Holy Week Liturgy of the Word: Thursday, April 17 <sup>th</sup> 2025
Closing School Mass: <b>Wednesday May 7<sup>th</sup> 2025 during Catholic Education Week (To be determined)</b>
Graduation Mass: Holy Family Parish <b>Tuesday June 24, 2025 (To be confirmed)</b>

**Other Pastoral/Outreach Activities**

<b>Pastoral Activities</b>
Lent initiative – fundraising and informational campaign
Advent initiative – fundraising and informational campaign
Thanksgiving – Food drive campaign late September and early October - Food Drive for The Exchange – organized by the Department of Social Sciences and Canada World Studies - Meals prepared and cooked for the Exchange by Hospitality students and staff
Remembrance Day – A service will take place for staff and students
Street Patrol – after school, on a few occasions to socio-economically disadvantaged communities in the Greater Toronto Area
Catholic School Council Activities— 1. Social Justice work – to provide assistance to families in need; 2. Parent Information Evenings with Parish liaison; 3. Faith displays in the school; 4. Retreats where Parent Council provides bussing for outreach opportunities such as “out of the cold” drives or to the Parish Hall; 5. Icon survey and support; 6. An activity during Catholic Education Week; 7. Competitions or activities with Knights of Columbus or Catholic Womens’ League;

8. Providing a luncheon following a Mass or Liturgy, especially for Wings of Faith members

**Catholic Education Week**

*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.*

The sub-themes for Catholic Education Week 2025 are:

- **Monday / lundi** Pilgrims of Hope By honouring human dignity / Nous sommes pèlerins de l'espérance qui honorent la dignité humaine
- **Tuesday / mardi** Pilgrims of Hope By caring for creation / Nous sommes pèlerins de l'espérance qui prennent soin de la création
- **Wednesday / mercredi** Pilgrims of Hope By responding to the poverties in our world / Nous sommes pèlerins de l'espérance qui luttent contre les pauvretés
- **Thursday / jeudi** Pilgrims of Hope By serving in solidarity / Nous sommes pèlerins de l'espérance qui servent en solidarité
- **Friday / vendredi** Pilgrims of Hope By living as peacemakers / Nous sommes pèlerins de l'espérance qui vivent en artisans de paix

Date	Activities to include
Monday, May 5	Cookies and Pamphlets – Distribute to students and parents upon arriving to school.
Tuesday, May 6	TBD
Wednesday, May 7	Catholic Education Week School Celebration of the Holy Eucharist
Thursday, May 8	TBD
Friday, May 9	Marian Crowning Liturgy in Chapel

**Additional Notes: Aspects of school life that promote our Catholic faith:**

School Environment Reflective of Our Faith

These religious icons, symbols and visible expressions of our Catholic identity are present in the school environment: a) Altar, ambo, and iconography in our chapel, b) Crosses draped in proper liturgical colours in our foyer, c) chaplaincy showcase booth in our foyer, d) prayer tables present in each classroom draped in proper liturgical colours

#### Collaborative School Culture

These activities are organized by the School Catholic Community Culture and Caring Action Team: a) Wings of Faith—to promote catholicity among our student servant leaders, b) Student Council—to promote leadership among our student servant leaders, c) Pastoral Council—to foster collaboration among staff in pastoral initiatives, d) Diversity and Allies—to promote equitability and racial justice within our school community

#### Parish Connections

Planned and existing initiatives that maintain and enhance positive relationships with the local parish communities: a) sporting initiatives (e.g. Ultimate Frisbee) spearheaded by chaplaincy leader and youth minister, b) pastoral visits from our local parish, c) fundraising campaigns for our local parish

#### Staff Faith Development

Spiritual accompaniment and faith formation for our staff: a) daily morning liturgies to promote intercessory presence, b) bereavement / grieving group for staff coping with loss, c) training for extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist, d) Lenten spiritual exercises

#### 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: a) Introduction to chaplaincy at Grade 8/9 “Get Ready Program” b) visitation of chaplaincy leader to grade 9 religion classes to promote discussion on our faith and reception of the sacraments, c) collaborative activities with grade 9s in chapel space to catechize on sacramental and liturgical symbols, d) Invitation to campus ministers at centers of higher education to introduce programming to senior students

#### Vocations

Vocations to religious life and pastoral ministries promoted through; a) participation in the Serra Club luncheon in March, b) invitation to vocations directors for diocese and religious communities to speak about vocations

#### Virtues

Each month teachers are asked to nominate students who exemplify that month’s virtue. Those students are then recognized by our school community and receive a certificate and t-shirt.

#### Athletics



We organize and lead interschool and intramural athletic programs for the inclusion of all students to positively impact their health and well-being. This includes basketball, flag football, volleyball, golf, cross country, Special Events bocce, Special Events basketball, hockey, swimming, badminton, baseball, soccer, lacrosse and track and field. The implementation of our intramural sports programs is geared to the inclusion of all students, not just elite athletes. We believe athletics are a microcosm of life as many Catholic social teachings can be reinforced and passed onto our students through sports.

### Wings of Faith

Student leadership group that promotes and encourages the faith life of the school through leading liturgies, assisting with Masses, facilitating retreats and other opportunities for student faith development.

### Student Council

Thunder Council creates activities and event to bring the school community together and provide students an opportunity to demonstrate our Catholic values. These include the facilitation of Feast Day activities, fundraising campaigns, and spirit-promoting initiatives throughout the school year.

### Diversity and Allies Club

The Diversity and Allies Club is a student-led club that was created to meet regularly to provide an opportunity for all Black students to engage the St. Michael's community through the celebration of Black resilience and empowerment, and the elevation of Black excellence.

### MicTV

Student run, teacher led video broadcasting, helping spread community through video morning announcements and the visual medium. The daily broadcast of MicTV includes the morning reflections led by the chaplaincy leader which provides the school with an opportunity to engage with the daily Gospel readings from the Church's liturgy. Through Spotlight initiatives, MicTV also provides the learning community with opportunities to showcase school run activities throughout the academic year.

### Eco- Council

As Stewards of Our Land, Eco Council is a student group that has committed to protect our land and reduce our carbon footprint, by reducing and cleaning up waste, limiting use of plastic, waste free lunches, and giving back to our community by growing our own vegetables, donating used clothes, and creating a sustainable environment.

### Library Wellness Wednesdays

Once a month themed days for students led by library staff, for students to participate in an activity that promotes wellbeing.

## **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	Departmental Activities and/or Events
<p>Mathematics, Business and Computer Studies</p>	<p>The Mathematics Department will focus on the theme “Pilgrims of Hope”. One of our main focuses is to prepare our grade 9 students for writing their EQAO test. Last year we implemented several changes in our teaching strategies whereby we exposed students to EQAO questions from previous years, implemented Numeracy Blitz periods, and ran after school Numeracy sessions. As educators, we aim to instill a growth mindset within our students. We will encourage them to be hopeful throughout their math journey; to persevere when faced with obstacles. We will walk alongside our students as pilgrims while they venture through the celebrations and challenges, they have with mathematics. As a department, we recognize that not all students have had the same opportunities for success within mathematics and we strive to welcome this diversity. The Mathematics Department recognizes that all humans are created in the image and likeness of God, and through our inclusiveness, we will aim to improve the math experiences of our students.</p> <p>The Business and Computer Studies Department will also focus on the theme “Pilgrims of Hope”. We will give students the opportunities to discuss real-life situations in Business and Computer Studies and how to recognize the human impacts this will have while focusing on our hope for the future.</p> <p>For students who are passionate about learning Mathematics, Business or Computers they can participate in the University of Waterloo Canadian Computing Competition to enhance their passion for the subject. We will also have conversations with these students regarding future career aspirations and what goals need to be met to pursue their passion.</p>
<p>Arts and Guidance</p>	<p>The Arts Department uses both the visual and performing arts to promote Catholic Education and the teaching of the Gospel Values. Students are encouraged to continue to be “Pilgrims of Hope” and to develop their personal faith journey through creative participation in retreats, liturgies and school performances that showcase their talents to our school community. Using sacred music, liturgical dance, dramatized scripture and artwork displayed in the chapel, students are encouraged to explore the Arts in Catholic Education and give back to the school community through their love of the Arts. Students in the Arts Advantage Majors are encouraged to actively participate in outreach programs in the area that provide opportunities to share their talents with the community. Activities</p>

	<p>include: Christmas Showcase for the community; vocal music singing for residents of a local nursing home.</p> <p>The Guidance Department continues to build unity and community by creating an inclusive and safe environment where students feel comfortable discussing their future goals and ways to overcome the obstacles that may be in their way. Individual counselling with students allows for staff and students to recognize each student’s individual needs, abilities and diversity and how to use these unique qualities in an effective manner. Personal and career counselling services assist students in infusing their Catholic values through responsible citizenship while continuing to nurture their faith formation as lifelong learners. The Guidance Department strives to nurture responsible citizens who develop and demonstrate their God-given potential each day. The graduation requirement of community service hours and volunteer opportunities in the local community also promotes Christian outreach and demonstrates their Christian values and their call to serve others in everyday life.</p>
<p>Co-Operative Education and Technological Studies</p>	<p>The Technological Education Department has developed opportunities to explore Christian Leadership through outreach projects in our community. Our Hospitality SHSM program has collaborated with local businesses and Caledon Community Services to provide ready-made meals to the food bank at The Exchange. Our Hospitality Program actively participates in food drives and meal preparation for the food bank. These projects allow students to explore Christian outreach and develop their faith journey. These activities allow our students to contribute to those in need in the community and exemplify the theme of “Pilgrims of Hope”. In participating in social justice initiatives, students understand their Catholic responsibility to care for others in the community. Our Communications Technology programs actively participate in school-wide events including masses, liturgies and graduation exercises. Our MicTV program promotes the importance of building a strong Christian Identity in Bolton. It builds unity and community by promoting the school, sporting events, clubs, and our success story.</p> <p>Co-Operative Education: In Cooperative Education, there is a concerted effort to place students in work placements that encourage the principles of the Catholic faith and Social justice – for example, Catholic school placements, placements at the Food bank, Habitat for Humanity, and Caledon Community Services. Students are encouraged to use the skills they develop in the community to become more caring and compassionate individuals in their families, communities, and parishes. Students are encouraged to reflect how their career goals contribute to</p>

	<p>God’s work. In their placements, students are encouraged to reflect on their faith and use Catholic principles when making decisions. Students are asked to research the Patron Saint of their chosen profession and to pray to that Saint when they are challenged in their work placement. Students go into the workforce understanding that they have a responsibility to be Catholic role models wherever they may be. Students are encouraged to be responsible citizens and representatives of our faith.</p>
<p>Science</p>	<p><b>Believe</b></p> <p>Building a science curriculum that integrates scripture, sacrament, and Catholic school teachings involves a thoughtful blend of faith and academics, where spiritual principles inspire scientific inquiry.</p> <p>We use Scripture as a source of reflection, by beginning lessons with scripture passages that reflect themes of awe, wonder, and creation, and thus provides students with a spiritual framework that fosters scientific curiosity.</p> <p>This year, our science department will align scientific topics with the liturgical calendar. For instance, during Lent, focus on lessons about growth, transformation, and renewal in nature, drawing parallels to spiritual growth.</p> <p>We will continue to involve students in service-learning projects that connect science to the Church’s mission, such as environmental stewardship initiatives, clean water projects, or health awareness campaigns, reinforcing the Catholic call to serve others through knowledge and action. This year, we will hold two seed planting days to kick start greenhouse gardens. We will grow a variety of herbs and vegetables to share with our hospitality classes but also with our new community garden. We will work through God’s hands, by composting, conserving water, and growing vegetable gardens. We are working with our community partners to help us start a NO PLASTIC BOTTLE campaign, to reduce our carbon footprint.</p> <p><b>Excel</b></p> <p>We strive for excellence by building a program that is both comprehensive and inclusive. Our curriculum is rich in assessment, evaluation, and descriptive learning, ensuring that it meets the diverse needs of all learners. Through close collaboration with our educational</p>

consultants, we offer specialized programming in coding, STEAM, and Grade 9 de-streamed resources.

We are proud to partner with esteemed organizations such as Amgen and the University of Toronto. These collaborations provide our students with the opportunity to work hands-on with high-skill laboratory equipment and cutting-edge biotechnology tools, enriching their learning experience. Additionally, our ongoing partnership with the Science Teachers' Association of Ontario (STAO) allows us to continuously enhance our delivery of curriculum and assessment practices. Together, these efforts ensure that students receive a relevant, engaging, and growth-oriented educational experience.

**Respect**

Focus on inclusive curriculum development by having students engage in projects that incorporate the contributions of scientists from underrepresented groups (women, BIPOC, LGBTQ+, people with disabilities). Highlight scientific achievements and discuss the barriers they faced due to systemic oppression.

We as a science community are working on sustainability projects that help vulnerable communities suffering from environmental degradation or climate change, particularly those with limited resources. Students will work on the community gardens but will also start a collection of old jeans and textiles to help limit textile waste and support communities that can benefit from gently used items. In our plastic-free campaign, students will understand and appreciate sustainability, stewardship, and respecting natural resources.

**Thrive**

Students will continue to maintain our pollinator and lavender garden, creating a serene space where students can sit and enjoy the beauty of nature. In partnership with the Student Success Team and our Child and Youth Worker, we will design a dedicated "sit spot" within the garden. This space will provide students with an opportunity to connect with nature, reflect, and ground themselves in the calming environment of the natural world.

**Trust**

	<p>We aim to continue collaborating with our community partners, including Eco Caledon, Town of Caledon Action Fund, Jane Goodall Foundation, and Learning for a Sustainable Future (LSF), to promote environmental stewardship. Additionally, we are committed to working closely with our Chaplaincy Leader and parish to deepen our faith while fostering a strong connection between science and environmental responsibility.</p>
<p>Theology</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Participating in food drives, clothing drives and other Social Justice initiatives that will encourage students to practice the teachings of our faith such as Preferential Option for the Poor, caring for our brothers and sisters and the Catholic Social Justice teachings. This will also provide students with the opportunity to demonstrate Catholic Leadership (CGE – <i>A Collaborative Contributor, A Responsible Citizen</i>).</li> <li>2. Retreats: Students will participate in retreats through their religion classes and provide them with an opportunity to reflect on their faith journey and center their thoughts and deeds with God and grow spirituality as they continue to grow and nurture their faith and begin to develop an understanding of their place and life and their interactions with others (CGE – <i>A Caring Family Member, A Responsible Citizen</i>).</li> <li>3. Celebrating Mass: Participation in mass nurtures the spirit and the student’s Catholic faith and identity. It will also strengthen their sense of community (CGE – <i>A Discerning Believer</i>).</li> <li>4. Daily Prayer. Daily prayer will allow students the opportunity to bring their intentions to God and deepen their relationship with Him (CGE – <i>A Discerning Believer</i>).</li> <li>5. Studying the Gospel narratives and teaching of Jesus. This gives students an opportunity to inform their conscience and make decisions that reflect the values of their faith (CGE – <i>A Reflective, Creative and Holistic Thinker</i>).</li> </ol> <p>In every course, the Catholic Graduate Expectations will be woven into the curriculum, daily lessons, and assessment tasks. This will ensure that upon graduation, students will have successfully met the Catholic Graduate criteria and have a strong faith foundation as they continue their journey beyond St. Michael and become “Pilgrims of Hope” for others.</p>
<p>Academic Resource / ELL</p>	<p>Academic Resource Department and ELL strives to build unity and community by creating an inclusive and safe environment for all. Through our instructional support and monitoring of students, the academic resource department focus on welcoming students and providing an overview of the services we provide in the resource room. The Academic Resource room is a safe and inclusive environment where we provide students with academic supports.</p>

	<p>During our transitional visits, our aim is to include faith-based learning in our presentations and during transitional visits from incoming students.</p>
<p>RAISE Program</p>	<p>The Catholic Graduate Expectations are embedded into the RAISE Program. Students regularly participate in chapel visits where they will do a reflection and spiritual activity with the chaplaincy leader. The chaplaincy leader will also set up community building activities with the students.</p> <p>Throughout the year they celebrate the liturgical year with activities and lessons according to the time of the year, while we incorporate faith and prayer into our lives at school. Every Tuesday and Thursday the students review and work on the reading from the liturgical calendar. The students learn and review the patron saint of the day.</p> <p>The program provides a safe and welcoming space for our students and staff in each of our RAISE Program classrooms. The staff model virtues of the month in daily interactions with each other and with the students.</p> <p>We will continue to promote Catholic values by including our students into all aspects of the student life. Students will continue to be a visible presence in all school activities. Students are involved in the eco council, breakfast club, thunder café and other special events offered at St Michael. RAISE Program students are included in all aspects of the schools faith life by participating in school Masses, liturgies and other chaplaincy events.</p>
<p>English/ Moderns/ Library</p>	<p>The program infuses Catholic teachings of love through creating spaces of empathy with our students in the choice of culturally responsive texts representing all voices (i.e. course texts, library purchases of new catalogue texts, etc.)</p> <p>We create opportunities to demonstrate love to others in need through charitable events (i.e. Food for Fines, Remembrance Day postcards/ donations to veterans, etc.)</p> <p>We foster positive relationships within the school and the community that demonstrate love and acceptance of diversity and inclusion (i.e. classroom environments that foster self-love, love for peers and love for others within the community through daily reflections, journals, class expectations, lessons, engagement with the RAISE Program students and the community outside of our school).</p>
<p>Health and Physical</p>	<p><b>'Pilgrims of Hope'</b></p>

Education /  
Social Sciences /  
Canadian and  
World Studies

This year’s message for the Jubilee Year is ‘Pilgrims of Hope’. We can espouse this belief through our phys ed/athletics program since sport is a great mechanism to help break down barriers and support inclusion of students from various backgrounds and cultures. Sport and athletics can help bring communities together, whether it’s playing them or supporting a common team – it brings people together.

Much of the Social Science curriculum, teaches gospel values, addressing issues of equity, past injustices, fairness and inclusion. Through mock trials, student vote, food drives, multicultural fairs, Remembrance Day and more, we model Gospel values and engage our students.

**Responsible Citizen**

In the past, we as a Physical Education department strove to provide students with the opportunity to take a leading role in school community initiatives that enhanced the morale, climate, and Catholicity of our students. Activities such as the Terry Fox Run, Wellness Day and organizing of intramural activities, were student led/run activities that helped students achieve these goals. Another activity we organized or helped organize, will be Friday Night Lights in support of a local youth center which helped bring not only our school community together, but also the entire Bolton community. All these activities promoted responsible citizenship and created a healthy climate in our school.

Many of our Social Science teachers are involved in Equity and Diversity initiatives, bringing awareness and involvement to Indigenous issues, LGBTQ, and many more. Student council activities/programs promoting student engagement and involvement in the school community through spirit weeks, color wars where donations are made to Sick Kids, our Feast Day celebrations, Terry Fox walk and more.

**Collaborative Contributor**

Our goal is to promote fair play and sportsmanship daily in our classes. As educators we provide opportunities and a framework for students to work in groups/teams encouraging respect amongst our diverse groups. This is done to create an inclusive and safe learning environment, so that ALL students can develop their God-given talents to their fullest potential.

In social sciences many opportunities exist, like mock trials, debates, constructive conversations, and more where students must work together and display caring, respectful, and compassionate responses.



**Discerning Believer**

Typically, we start off class with a prayer, as it helps set the moral tone of the class. As part of our Grade 9 leadership activities (where students lead a warmup activity), students are asked to lead their peers in a reflection about our God given gifts and talents. This helps us act out and live our faith and as an application-based course brings to life Jesus' teachings. The blended classroom environment provided opportunities for posted prayers and links to important faith centered on our virtual classroom learning environment so that students would have access to them.

**Self-Directed, responsible, lifelong learners**

Students are to not only participate but take charge for their own learning and the importance of leading a healthy active lifestyle. Infused in the phys ed curriculum are opportunities for students to push themselves outside of the comfort zones and realize their fullest potential.

As Catholic educators, we believe in the dignity of persons. Through sport we aim to educate our students in the Catholic virtues espoused by the DPCDSB. We feel we are in a fortunate position to promote all the virtues daily in our curriculum. These include Faith, Empathy, Conscience, Hope, Self-Control/decision making, Respect, Kindness, Love, Acceptance, and Fairness. Through our Catholic curriculum we can weave through many of these virtues daily. The goal is to use sport and activity to help students develop a healthy self-image through a Catholic lens.

Our Health and Physical Education motto, posted on our department website, is: You do not belong to yourself, for God bought you with a price. So, you must honor God with your body. (Corinthians 6:19-20). Students use their God given abilities to participate actively, develop skills and positive self- image, and to make lasting commitments to the St. Michael school community.

Civics teaches responsible citizenship, how to be active in your community through volunteering and giving back to those in need. Our geography classes organize seasonal food drives, teaching empathy and compassion. Our Equity and social justice class focuses on issues that will bring an awareness and a sense of fairness and belonging to our students, aims to focus on a concern for people's needs.

**Parish Connections**

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

- School Masses throughout the school year celebrated by Pastor or Associate Pastor of Holy Family Parish;
- Parish supports the school through various extra-curricular activities.

### **Staff Faith Development**

*Spiritual accompaniment and faith formation for our staff:*

- Professional Activity days include faith development opportunities;
- Promote faith development opportunities hosted by the board and the Archdiocese.

### **Transitions**

*Students supported in transitioning from Grade 8 to Grade 9, from Grade 12 to Post- Secondary as well as from one grade to another:*

Promoting the Ontario Catholic Graduate Expectations is of the utmost importance, and they will be in all aspects of transitions to our current and future students.

#### **TRANSITIONING FROM GRADE 8 TO GRADE 9**

##### **Grade 8 Visits , Tours and "Get Ready"**

Guidance counsellors visited all grade 9 homeroom classes to welcome students to a new school year and to provide an overview of the services offered in the Guidance Department. The goal of these presentations is to inform students about the importance of building community through inclusive and safe environments. To better assist in students' transition to high school, grade 8 students from all feeder schools are invited to spend a day at St. Michael. This year, tours will be arranged and grades 8 will be guided around the school by senior students in order to demonstrate the advantages of Catholic education, to familiarize themselves with the programs offered at the school, and to allow them to experience a day in the life of a high school student in a Catholic education environment.

##### **Grade 8 Information Evening**

This is an evening where all departments in the school showcase their programs to the grade 8 students and their parents. The evening begins a showcase of all that St Michaels has to offer. Teams, clubs, events will all have displays in the matrix. Following the showcase, a presentation that gives an overview of the St. Michael Secondary School goals, specialized programs, levels, extracurricular opportunities and excursions will be presented to families of incoming grade 8s. An emphasis is placed on the advantages of choosing Catholic education and includes live testimonials from current students and parents of students who attend the school. Following

the presentation, guided tours around the school are offered by student leaders while teacher representatives from each department showcase their programs and student work.

#### All Grades

Throughout the year, students meet with their counsellors to discuss education and career planning. This promotes life-long learning and encourages faith formation and goal setting. Counsellors strive to infuse Catholic values and responsible citizenship in these plans. Part of the discussion focuses on providing students with volunteer opportunities in our local community, which promotes Christian outreach, along with a call to service. Although students are unable to meet the counsellors in person this year, counsellors still connect with students regarding their education and career planning on the telephone or via email.

#### Grade 11 - Post-Secondary Planning

Students will be connected to post-secondary information and pathways options through online resources. The Guidance team is collaborating with the Caledon Chamber of Commerce as an active partner for workplace-bound students to make connections to employment opportunities within the community. The goal is that no student will be left behind and will be prepared to embrace their future goals and be contributing members of our community. The Guidance team will continue to connect to local service clubs for Christian outreach opportunities and volunteer hour fulfillment opportunities for students.

#### Grade 10 to 12 - Spring Post-Secondary Fair

In the spring, students in grades 10- to 12 will have access to an interactive Spring Post-Secondary Fair presentation so they can start exploring post-secondary pathways and programs.

#### FROM GRADE 12 TO POST-SECONDARY

#### Grade 12 - Post-Secondary Pathways

Counsellors meet with all grade 12 classes at the beginning of October for a post-secondary pathways presentation. This presentation provides students with useful information regarding their desired post-secondary pathway; apprenticeship, college, university or workplace.

#### Grade 12 - Fall Post-Secondary Fair

In keeping with the practice to ensure that students have a post-secondary plan, every effort will be made to reach students pursuing all pathways; university, college, apprenticeship, and the workplace. The goal of building unity and community, one student and one family at a time, will continue to be the focus as students, families and counsellors work together through this global pandemic to plan for a successful future for the graduates of St. Michael CSS.

## Grade 12 – Graduation

Students who have successfully completed requirements to achieve their Ontario Secondary School Diploma are invited to attend a graduation ceremony. At this ceremony, students are recognized for their accomplishments and are encouraged to use their knowledge and their faith on their post-secondary pathway.

## Transition to Grade 9 - Academic Resource Department

In late winter/early spring of each year the Academic Resource Dept, Student Success Teacher and Guidance Counsellors set up meetings with feeder school teams to discuss and plan for incoming Grade 9 students in our Catholic Feeder Elementary Schools. At these meetings, every student is discussed at length. Notes are taken, recommendations are made, and staff share any other valuable information to help with the transition to Grade 9 to promote opportunities for students to visit.

While all students are invited to a transitional day prior to "Get Ready," its main objective is to provide a smaller group of students who would benefit from the one-to-one interaction with a caring adult the opportunity to visit our Catholic learning environment. "Get Ready" students are given their schedules and locks ahead of time and are also provided with a tour of the building and shown each of their classes.

"Get Ready" takes place the week before school begins and is open to all new grade 9s. On this day students are also given schedules, locks, and a tour of the building. There are also icebreaker activities and lunch are provided. Students are encouraged to meet some new friends and hopefully ease some of their worries about starting high school. Once school begins, students with an IEP (Individual Education Plan) are invited to visit the resource room and meet their resource teacher. The resource teacher reviews transition notes, informs staff of student accommodations and updates IEP accordingly. The Academic Resource Department (ARD) also reaches out to families within the first week of school to introduce the team and explain how their child can access support throughout the school year.

The goal is to connect students with at least one caring adult so that they can feel comfortable going to see if they have any concerns or issues.

## Vocations

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

- Presentations by the Office of Vocations to grade 12 religion classes;
- Ordinandi Luncheon (To Be Determined)– Students attend with Chaplaincy Leader.

## Resource List for Parents/Guardians

- [The Holy See: Dicastery for Evangelization Jubilaeum MMXXV \("Peregrinantes in spem"\)](#)
- [Archdiocese of Toronto Archdiocese of Toronto](#)
- [General Roman 2024-2025 Liturgical Calendar - 2024-2025 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 2025 – Catholic Education Week 2025](#)
- [Synod on Synodality - Synod 2021 - 2024](#)

**Resource List for Schools**

- [General Roman 2024-2025 Liturgical Calendar - 2024-2025 Liturgical Calendar](#)
- [Multi-Year Strategic Plan - Multi-Year Strategic Plan 2023-2027](#)
- [Religious Education Curriculum - Ontario Religious Education Curriculum](#)
- [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 2025 – Catholic Education Week 2025](#)
- [Synod on Synodality – Synod 2021 - 2024](#)
- [The Holy See: Dicastery for Evangelization Jubilaeum MMXXV \("Peregrinantes in spem"\)](#)


Signature Page



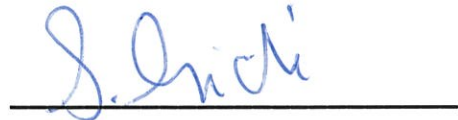
Fr. Joseph Nguyen, Administrator, Holy Family Parish



Eric Luscombe, Youth Minister, Holy Family Parish



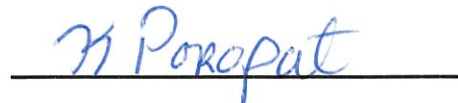
Ian Saliba, Acting Chaplaincy Leader



Sandy Sicoli, Department Head of Social Science



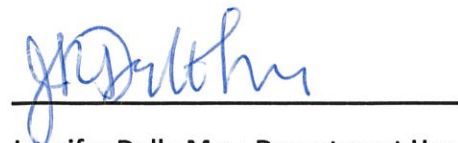
Greg Firth, Department Head of Academic Resource, RAISE Program and English Language Learner



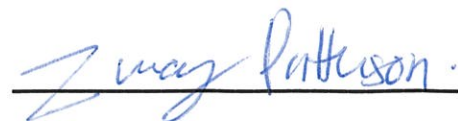
Kristina Poropat, Department Head of Theology



Jennifer Moreira, Department Head of Science



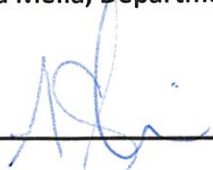
Jennifer Della Mea, Department Head of English and Moderns



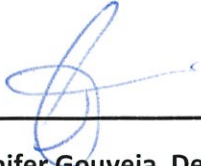
Lucy Patterson, Department Head of Mathematics, Business and Computer Studies



Laura Melia, Department Head of Technological Studies and Co-Operative Education



Andrea Schrei, Department Head of Health and Physical Education



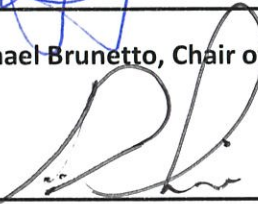
Jennifer Gouveia, Department Head of Arts and Guidance



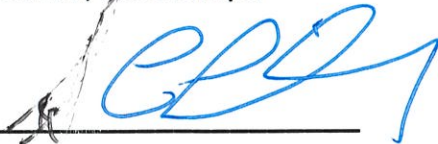
Mary D'Adderio, Parish Representative



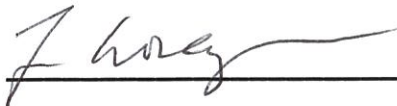
Michael Brunetto, Chair of Catholic School Council



Shawn Clarkin, Vice Principal



Catherine Lindsay, Vice Principal



Josie Lorenzon, Principal



Adrian Scigliano, Superintendent of Education of Brampton East/ Caledon/ Dufferin/ Malton