

PASTORAL PLAN

School: **St. Patrick Separate School**

School Mission Statement:

We are a Catholic school whose mission is based on the Good News of Jesus Christ.
We are rooted in a long history of academic excellence and exemplary moral development in a constantly changing world.
We welcome and value the involvement of all who have an interest in our world.

The Catholic Church bonds our community to God.
Together we experience the rich tradition of our Catholic heritage.

Students are the focus of our school.
Together we grow in respect for self, others, authority and property.

Faculty members are the agents of our school community.
Staff are commissioned to be teacher and mentor.

Together we model Catholic values by setting the examples of fairness, respect and a positive attitude.

Parents are the supporters and guardians of our school community.
We share in supporting the education of our children.

We are served by our community through the provision of resources - spiritual, physical and personal.
We are St Patrick School.

School Motto: A Vibrant, Caring, Faith Community

Our Parish: St. Patrick (Brampton)

Pastor: **Monsignor Owen Keenan**

Parish website: <https://stpatricksbr.archtoronto.org/>

Message from the Pastor:

Dear St Patrick Catholic School Community,

I pray all finds you well and enjoying the very best of the beautiful autumn and the new school year. On behalf of Fr Abraham, who regularly visits the schools, and our entire parish community, we look forward to seeing you both here at St Patrick's each weekend, and throughout the year at St. Patrick. The best efforts of our fine teachers and our parish are meant to support you - the primary educators of your children in the Faith - but we cannot replace you. Each of us must do our part: we must "seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all the rest will be given you as well!" (Mt 6:33). If we begin each week with some time together with God, asking for His blessing and guidance, we will reap an unexpectedly blessed and abundant reward. St Patrick's is here for you: come and be here with us. With the assurance of my prayers and with every good wish,

Msgr. Owen

Pastor

St Patrick's Parish

Message from the Catholic School Council:

The St Patrick 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 a faith-filled environment.

Catholic Education Week – May 5th – May 10th, 2024

Catholic Education: We are Called to Love

L'éducation catholique: Appelés à aimer

Throughout Catholic Education Week, we ask you to reflect on the significance of Catholic education's presence and contribution in our Church, and in our society.

"If we love one another, God lives in us." 1 John 4:12

Si nous nous aimons les uns les autres, Dieu demeure en nous. (1 Jean 4, 12)

The sub-themes for Catholic Education Week 2024 are:

- Monday: **As people of hope / Dans l'espérance**
 Tuesday: **As people of faith / Dans la foi**
 Wednesday: **As people of mercy / Avec compassion**
 Thursday: **As people of justice / Dans la justice**
 Friday: **As people of joy / Dans la joie**

Assembly to Kickoff Catholic Education Week – Monday May 6, 2024
 Staff Liturgy - May 7, 2024
 Faith formation activities - announcements, class activities, prayers
 Decorating of school with Catholic Education week activities and Art
 School Wide Retreat including all grades K to 8
 Praying of the Rosary
 School Presentation/Play

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.

At St Patrick School, faith formation is developed daily through prayers, religious and family life lessons. The students will deepen their understanding of Scripture with the consistent use of our religious resources. Faith is developed in all our classrooms daily and all lessons are rooted in our Catholic Faith:

- Virtues assemblies – each month we highlight the Virtue of the month
- Food Drives -Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter Food Drives
- Hat, Glove and Scarf Drive
- Advent Retreat (staff)
- School Wide Faith retreat during Catholic Education Week
- Seder Meal (staff)
- Terry Fox Marathon of Hope
- ShareLife activities
- Youth Faith Ambassadors
- Adult Faith Ambassadors
- Masses/Liturgies

Sacramental Preparation:

As Catholics, we understand sacraments to be "efficacious signs of grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church, by which divine life is dispensed to us." Together in partnership with our parish, we support the preparation of God's children in receiving the sacraments.

Event	Grade 2	Grade 7
<i>Sacrament of Reconciliation</i>	<i>April 22-April 26, 2023</i>	
<i>Sacrament of Communion</i>	<i>April 30, 2024</i>	
<i>Sacrament of Confirmation</i>		<i>May 7, 2024</i>

Liturgical Celebrations:

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

Celebration	Date
Opening Mass/Thanksgiving Mass	October 2, 2003
Advent Mass	December 4, 2023
Easter Mass	March 26, 2024 (Tentative)
Closing Mass	June 3, 2024 (Tentative)
Liturgies	Last day of each Month
Catholic Education Week Liturgy	May 6, 2024

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.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>ShareLife</i> ● <i>Terry Fox</i> ● <i>Food Drives</i> ● <i>Clothing Drives</i> ● <i>Remembrance Day Celebration and Collection</i> ● <i>Supporting students/Families in need from our School</i> |
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- During Advent, we will be working in partnership with St Patrick's Parish to identify and provide food, gifts and gift cards to help families and children in need to have a beautiful Christmas. Donations will be joined to those of the parish and forwarded to those who ask, to maximize our impact and demonstrate the care of the Catholic community
- *Jump Rope for Heart (pending)*

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 celebrate the Virtues in a prayer service each month and highlight the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations during these prayer services.

- Embed the OCSGE into all the learning that takes place
- Post visible signs of the OCSGE around the school and classrooms
- Promote forgiveness, honesty, and respect when conflicts arise
- Listen to the word of God through morning Scripture and prayers
- Focus on respecting the thoughts and opinions of others
- Celebrate the gifts given to us by God
- Care about our school, parish, community, and the world around us
- School Eco-Team focuses on being stewards of the earth

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.

Teachers use the virtues as the foundation of their teaching and learning experiences

- Monthly assemblies are held celebrating the virtues and recognizing students who exemplify the virtues with Virtue certificates
- Inclusion of virtue in quarterly newsletter
- Visible signs in the front foyer highlighting the virtue of the month
- Front display case reflects our Catholic Faith

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 Prayer Tables in each classroom that highlight our Faith. There are prominent symbols of our Faith in the foyer and throughout the school such as crosses, Bibles, and images of Saints.

Working in collaboration with St Patrick Church to serve our community.

In addition:

- *Altar: dressed in Liturgical seasonal colours and themes*
- *Faith Board in Staff room to assist with resources*
- *Bible, Pascal Candle, and Crucifix are front and centre of Altar*
- *Religious Banner is displayed*
- *We have a Peace/Prayer Garden for students and Staff to use for quiet reflection and small liturgies*
- *A sacred space in each room, including all offices and classrooms*
- *Crucifix in each classroom*
- *Daily announcements include Gospel and Scripture readings*
- *Catholic School Code of Conduct embedded in Progressive Discipline and rehabilitation*
- *Faith events highlighted in newsletters and website to keep community aware of our faith-based activities*
- *Scripture quotations and Catholic inspirational devotions embedded within the newsletters*
- *Pastoral support from administration and staff to community*

Resource List for Parents/Guardians:

- General Roman 2023-2024 Liturgical Calendar - [2023-2024 Liturgical Calendar](#)
- Religious Education Curriculum - [Ontario Religious Education Curriculum](#)
- Family Life Curriculum - [Ontario Family Life Curriculum](#)
- Fully Alive Program information - [Ontario Bishops' information on Fully Alive](#)
- Encyclical Letter “Fratelli Tutti” - [Fratelli Tutti](#)
- National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation - [National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation](#)
- Catholic Education Week 2024 – [Catholic Education Week 2024](#)
- Synod on Synodality – [Synod 2021 - 2024](#)

Resource List for Schools:**Board**

- General Roman 2023-2024 Liturgical Calendar - [2023-2024 Liturgical Calendar](#)
- Multi-Year Strategic Plan - [Multi-Year Strategic Plan 2019-2023](#)
- Renewing the Promise – [A Pastoral Letter for Catholic Education](#)
- Encyclical Letter “Fratelli Tutti” - [Fratelli Tutti](#)
- National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation - [National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation](#)
- Catholic Education Week 2024 – [Catholic Education Week 2024](#)
- Synod on Synodality – Synod 2021 - 2024