

PASTORAL PLAN

School Name: St. Paul Catholic Secondary School

School Motto or Mission Statement: Everything with Heart

“Do not worry about anything, let your requests be made known to God.”
(Philippians 4:6)

Theme for the Year: *Catholic Education: Pilgrims of Hope*
L'éducation catholique : Pèlerins de l'espérance



- As pilgrims of hope, we walk alongside Jesus Christ, trusting Him in every decision as we journey in faith.
- Embrace and live out our Catholic identity with intention and purpose.
- Invite the intercession of our Blessed Mother, seeking her guidance for students, faculty, and administration.
- Nurture and form compassionate, creative, disciplined, spiritually grounded, inquisitive, and inclusive individuals contributing joyfully to God's community.
- Cultivate a community where our Catholic traditions, shared values, and common goals are celebrated and upheld.
- Live our mission, "Omnia Cum Corde" ("Everything with Heart"), in every word, thought, and action.
- Encourage a culture of critical thinking, with a commitment to truth, mercy, and justice, that reaches from our school to our local and global communities.
- Inspire servant leadership by providing students with meaningful opportunities to lead with humility and dedication.

Retreats

Grade 9: *Friends with Christ, Friends with Each other*

Groupings: Grade 9 homeroom classes

Date: TBD (dependent upon the church repairs)

Facilitator: S. Byrne

Location: St. Dominic's Parish

Supervision: Grade 9 homeroom teachers

Overview: Grade 9 students will gather at St. Dominic's Church in April for a retreat on Jesus' teachings of the Beatitudes, led by our school chaplain, Shane Byrne. The retreat dates may vary depending on the church repairs.

Grade 10: *Lectio Divina*

Groupings: Grade 10 homeroom classes

Date: Tuesday 12 November 2024

Facilitator: S. Byrne

Location: St. Dominic's Parish

Supervision: Grade 10 homeroom teachers

Overview: On November 12, Cardinal Collins will lead Grade 10 students in a prayer service at St. Dominic's Parish, followed by a chapel blessing and Marian consecration.

Grade 11: *Lectio Divina*

Groupings: Grade 11 homeroom classes

Date: Tuesday 12 November 2024

Facilitator: S. Byrne

Location: St. Dominic's Parish

Supervision: Grade 11 homeroom teachers

Overview: On November 12, Cardinal Collins will lead Grade 11 students in a prayer service at St. Dominic's Parish, followed by a chapel blessing and Marian consecration.

Grade 12: *Who We Were, and What We Have Become*

Groupings: Grade 12 homeroom classes

Date: Monday 14 April 2025, Monday 28 April 2025, and Monday 26 May 2025

Facilitator: S. Byrne

Location: Queen of the Apostles

Supervision: Grade 12 homeroom teachers

Overview: The Grade 12s final retreat, led by our school chaplain Shane Byrne, will take place at Queen of the Apostles on April 14, April 28, and May 26. Students will be transported by bus to the retreat center.

Other retreats

Regional Remote Program: *We are One Body with Many Parts*

Groupings: Regional Remote classes

Date: Wednesday 12 February 2025

Facilitator: S. Byrne

Supervision: Regional Remote teachers

Overview: An online retreat, in collaboration with Regional Remote Program teachers and the Archdiocese of Toronto, will take place on February 12 and will last approximately two hours.

Activities of a Religious Nature

Activities of a Religious Nature with a substantial component of ritual and prayer
Opening School Mass of Thanksgiving – Wednesday 9 October In-person at St. Dominic’s Parish
Sacrament of Reconciliation – Date TBD Advent and Lenten Confessions in Chapel
Advent Mass – Wednesday 11 December In-person at St. Dominic’s Parish
Ash Wednesday Liturgy A liturgy will be broadcast from the Pulse TV studio and shared virtually for students participating from home. Ashes will be distributed at various stations throughout the school.
Stations of the Cross Holy Thursday Grade Level Assemblies in cafetorium
Year End Mass – Wednesday 4 June In-person at St. Dominic’s Parish
Class Liturgies – Wednesdays throughout the school year Homeroom classes will have the opportunity to attend a weekday Mass at St. Dominic's Parish.
Mass of Thanksgiving for Graduate – Thursday 26 June In-person at St. Dominic’s Parish
Morning Reflections

Our morning exercises will begin with announcements of Feast Days and a reflection or prayer rooted in contemporary themes, connecting Church teachings and traditions with the experiences of today's youth. Teachers will also have opportunities to share their faith.

Daily Social Media Posts

X and Instagram: @ScriptureDPCDSB @archtoronto @Pontifex @ShareLifeCan

Other Pastoral/Outreach Activities

Pastoral Activities
Breakfast Program – Daily throughout the School Year Daily snacks and hot breakfasts are available for students.
Food Deliveries – weekly food deliveries to local families in need
In-Class Faith Formation Sessions – Rear-round Class visits will address contemporary issues through a faith-based perspective.
Terry Fox Event – Thursday 19 September
Truth and Reconciliation Week – September 23 to 27
Orange Shirt Day – Monday 30 September
Senior Sunrise – Friday 4 October Senior Sunset – Date to be determined
Thanksgiving Cereal Drive – 16 October Collections were donated to LAMP and Canadian Food for Children
Relic of Brébeuf – 30 October Staff are invited to celebrate mass and find inspiration through the relic of St. Jean de Brébeuf
Remembrance Day Service – Monday 11 November
Christmas Fundraisers – December 2 to 20 A Soap Drive collection will be sent to CFFC, and a Staff Gift Basket Fundraiser will support St. Paul families in need
Ordinandi Youth Luncheon – March 2025
Shirt Off My Back – Lent Shirt donations will be given to Canadian Food for Children (CFFC).
March for Life – May 2025
Indigenous Awareness Week – May 2025
CultureFest – May 2 2025
Mental Health Wellness “Hour” – May 2025
ShareLife Fundraising – Year-round
Pastoral Counselling and Ministry of Presence – Year-round
Catholic Leadership Training – Year-round
Liturgical Articles – Year Round Faculty will gather to discuss relevant articles

Catholic Education Week – May 4th – May 9th, 2025

Catholic Education: Pilgrims of Hope
L'éducation catholique: Pèlerins de l'espérance

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.

"We must fan the flame of hope that has been given to us."
 (Letter on the Jubilee Year of Hope, February 11, 2022)

"Nous devons garder allumée la flamme de l'espérance qui nous a été donnée."
 (Lettre sur le Jubilé de l'espérance; 11 février 2022)

The sub-themes for Catholic Education Week 2025 are:

- Monday** By honouring human dignity / Honorent la dignité humaine
- Tuesday** By caring for creation / Prennent soin de la création
- Wednesday** By responding to the poverties in our world / Luttent contre les pauvretés
- Thursday** By serving in solidarity / Servent en solidarité
- Friday** By living as peacemakers / Vivent en artisans de paix

Date	Activity
Monday, May 5	Teachers share reflections on what Catholic education means to them.
Tuesday, May 6	Basketball and confessions with local parish priests
Wednesday, May 7	A live Rosary on the school field with Religion classes
Thursday, May 8	Benediction in the Chapel
Friday, May 9	Celebrating our faith as community with coffee and doughnuts in Chapel office

Activities that Support the Catholic Nature of Our School

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	Activities and/or Events
Religion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We created five-minute activities centered on the respective virtue of the month for teachers across all disciplines to deliver to their students. • We introduced a virtue of the month award. We share with students what the virtue of the month looks like, then award someone who exemplifies the respective virtue. • We undertook a Thanksgiving Cereal Drive to support those in need in our own community • We are actively looking for students to participate in celebrating mass (i.e. Grade 9 Religion class carried items from our Cereal Drive to the altar during our Thanksgiving mass
English	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empathy and Respect through Storytelling: Students explore themes of empathy by reading stories that emphasize treating others as we wish to be treated. Through these narratives, students can see themselves in others and learn valuable life lessons. • Integrating Catholic Graduate Expectations: Lessons and activities are designed to reflect and reinforce Catholic Graduate Expectations. • Advocacy and Awareness: Lessons bring attention to important local, national, and global issues, encouraging students to think critically and compassionately about the world around them. • Indigenous Studies: Students deepen their understanding of Indigenous history and culture through works like <i>The Marrow Thieves</i>, <i>Indian Horse</i>, and the <i>Finding Cleo</i> podcast.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faith and Reflection in Class: Each class begins with a prayer, an agenda that includes a biblical quote, a reflective question of the day, and inspirational readings to encourage listening skills and faith formation. • Student Prayers and Reflections: Students are invited to share personal prayers and thoughts in both English and French, fostering a supportive and inclusive environment. • Literacy and Empathy Building: Through the study of historical and biblical figures, students learn empathy. Activities include writing journal entries and reading responses to connect personally with each figure’s experience. • Real-Life Stories and Student Choice: Recognizing that everyone has a story to tell, students can choose books, memoirs (11U), or documentaries (12U) that resonate with them, allowing them to engage with topics they feel passionate about. • Respectful Discussions on Difficult Topics: By studying themes in works like the Harlem Renaissance, <i>Fugitive Pieces</i> (Holocaust), and <i>The Hate U Give</i>, students learn to handle challenging discussions with empathy and respect, finding beauty and resilience in the face of adversity. • Personal Narratives and Speech Tasks: Students share their own stories and experiences in speech tasks, which fosters empathy and respect in the classroom while providing a cathartic experience for all. • Modeling Respectful Leadership: By praying, standing for the national anthem, and participating in land acknowledgments, students witness leadership by example. • Daily Check-Ins: Regular check-ins ensure students feel heard, valued, and cared for, building a supportive classroom community.
<p>Math</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Assessments: Facilitate a student assessment in which the mathematical equations generate an image centred on scripture

<p>Drama</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theatre as a Tool for Empathy and Faith: Theatre encourages empathy and self-reflection through storytelling. Our assignments often begin with stories from the Bible as thematic foundations. For example, students might retell the story of Noah’s Ark through tableau or adapt a parable into a modern-day script. • Experiential Learning Opportunities: We organize field trips to movies, theatres, and community events, giving students hands-on learning experiences and insights into the industry and potential career paths. • Community Events: Our Christmas and spring shows emphasize community, belonging, and faith. These events raise funds to support local Catholic communities, reinforcing our values and sense of purpose.
<p>Business</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Market Project: Students plan and launch a business, with proceeds donated to Catholic charities of their choice. Students research these charities, selecting ones they wish to support. • Monopoly for Financial Literacy: Students play <i>Monopoly</i> to learn essential financial skills, like budgeting, saving, and understanding delayed gratification. The game reinforces curriculum expectations by showing students they must earn and save to afford investments, properties, and expenses.
<p>Technology</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusive Curriculum Development: Design a curriculum that reflects diverse perspectives and cultures, promoting inclusivity and equity. This includes integrating Catholic social teachings, emphasizing each person’s dignity, and highlighting contributions from various ethnic, socioeconomic, and cultural groups. Technology projects, like bridge building, cross-making, and the egg drop challenge, encourage student creativity and practical problem-solving. • Equitable Access to Resources and Support: Develop programs ensuring that all students, regardless of background or learning needs,

	<p>have access to essential academic, emotional, and spiritual support. This includes hands-on courses, outdoor learning experiences, and additional tutoring for underserved students, ensuring equal opportunities for success. Students can also benefit from field trips and experiential learning opportunities.</p>
<p>Science</p>	<p>Our Motto “Science can purify religion from error and superstition; religion can purify science from idolatry and false absolutes.” — St. John Paul II</p> <p>All Sciences Students in grades 9 through 12 will engage in meaningful dialogue on stewardship of our planet, combining curriculum expectations with Catholic teachings. Using <i>Laudato Si’</i> as a foundation, discussions will take place in the Chapel or Marian Garden to foster focused, inspirational thinking. Rooted in Jesus’ teachings, these discussions will highlight initiatives within our school community, such as planting pollinators to support biodiversity, reestablishing carbon-neutral zones, addressing water acidification, restoring waterfront areas, and promoting harmony between humanity and nature as originally intended by God. Partnerships with organizations like Credit Valley Conservation, Riverwood Conservancy, and Silver Creek will enhance these initiatives.</p> <p>Discipline-Specific Initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chemistry: Students explore water neutralization and purification to positively impact local water bodies, ensuring sustainability for future generations. The focus will extend to supporting marginalized and northern Indigenous communities. This study will be anchored in the Chapel, where students can reflect on the contributions of a patron saint related to environmental stewardship. • Biology: Students discuss Earth’s origins and the evolution of life, considering the Church’s perspective through Vatican II. In the Marian

	<p>Garden, they will identify and reflect on Catholic scientists’ contributions to biology, emphasizing the harmony between faith and science.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physics: Physics reveals God’s creation through natural laws that sustain balance and growth. Students will engage in hands-on applications to deepen their understanding of these laws and their connection to God’s design. At St. Dominic’s parish, students will explore how physicists’ contributions to architecture and engineering reflect our commitment to stewardship, worship, and gratitude.
<p>Visual Arts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art Through Equity and Catholic Perspectives: Art is not just a specialty subject; it’s essential for understanding the world, exploring culture, and addressing unconscious bias. We integrate projects that reflect diverse perspectives, promoting inclusivity and equity. For example, a student from Morocco may choose artistic content from their culture to share with the class. • Additionally, we explore “sacred art” to show how the Church expresses the transcendent mystery of God, aiming to “evoke the mystery of the Word made flesh.” This year, we’re participating in the board-wide “Holy Doors” project to further connect students with this tradition. •
<p>Health and Physical Education</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ride to Conquer Cancer • Prayer before games • Outdoor Education: Teaching students about Earth stewardship • Respect for God-Given Gifts: Encouraging students to appreciate and care for their bodies as God intended • Catholic Graduate Expectations: Emphasizing communication, collaboration, and self-directed, responsible learning in daily activities
<p>Guidance and Career Education</p>	<p>Elementary to Secondary Transition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leading transition meetings and information-sharing sessions with elementary teachers

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting the Get Ready Program, Take Our Kids to Work Day (TOKTWD), and Grade 8 Parent Information Sessions <p>Grade 12 to Post-High School Transition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Posting university and college information sessions on a shared Google Classroom to streamline communication • Hosting Grade 12 sessions on post-secondary options, posted on the school website and Google Classroom • Monitoring graduation requirements and updating students on any changes • Offering individual student counseling and coordinating team meetings for at-risk students <p>Departmental Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborating with the principal to create a schedule that meets each department’s needs and requirements • Providing mental health resources and prepared lessons for use in all classes <p>Welcoming Office Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating an accommodating office space, including "The Den"—a safe area for staff and students to reflect.
<p>Academic Resource</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Academic Resource Room exemplifies the Catholic model by serving as a universal space for all learners. • Differentiated learning in the GLE class focuses on individual student needs. • Student skills are enhanced, and diverse learning needs are supported within the classroom through the assistance of Board personnel. • These practices help us recognize the sacredness of each student and strive to treat them as God would treat His children. • Through "Safe City Mississauga – School Watch," we engage community partners to support our learners, fostering responsible citizenship and kindness towards all. • Our partnership with OECTA provides resources that promote active citizenship and inclusion for diverse groups within our communities.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Academic Resource Room (ARD) is “necessary for some, but beneficial for all,” as we work towards inclusion for all students, regardless of their learning needs. We welcome everyone to use the space for academic and personal growth. • We support student mental health through our guidance staff, support services, and SERTs (Special Education Resource Teachers). • We promote opportunities for diverse learners and their families through social media and email outreach. • By collaborating with all departments, we enhance cross-curricular connections and accommodate the learning needs of every student.
<p>Social Sciences and Humanities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly Prayer Activity: Led by both teachers and students, this practice includes students sharing prayer intentions with the teacher, who leads the prayer. Students also offer personal prayers for peers, family, community, and global issues, helping us grow in awareness, connection, and relationship with the Holy Spirit. • Grace Before Meals: We bless the food we prepare and share in class as a community, offering intentions for those who are suffering or in need, especially regarding food security. • HPW Course: The Real Care Baby experience fosters empathy and caregiving skills, teaching students about the beginning of life, healthy development, and the emotional and spiritual needs of children.

School Environment Reflective of Our Faith

These religious icons, symbols and visible expressions of our Catholic identity are present in the school environment:

- Prayer Centers in every classroom
- Chapel with the Blessed Sacrament and Stations of the Cross
- The Chaplaincy Office is equipped with books for prayer and reflection, a meeting room, and space for fellowship
- Religious Statues in the Chapel
- Crucifixes in all classrooms and common areas, including the gymnasium, cafeteria, and other shared spaces
- Murals in hallways and the cafeteria represent the Catholic identity of the school
- Hallway and Cafeteria TVs display relevant information and reflections
- Marian Garden located outside
- Patron Saints featured on course outlines for various departments and subject areas
- Daily Reflections led by the Chaplaincy Leader and Student Leadership

Collaborative School Culture

These activities are organized by the School's Catholic Community Culture and Caring Action Team:

- Catholic Education Week
- Orange Shirt Day Display
- CYW Workshops
- Safe Schools Meetings
- Mental Health Awareness & Wellness Initiatives
- Catholic Leadership Student Club
- Compassionate Care Ministry (year-round)
- Black History Month (prayers, reflections, and displays)
- Food and Clothing Drives
- Anti-Bullying Awareness (Day of Pink)
- ShareLife Fundraiser
- Club Fair
- Diversity Day
- Eco-Schools Awareness Week

Parish Connections

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

- Open invitation for Fr. Terry and Youth Ministers to visit the school
- School Masses
- Class Masses
- Promotion and support for parish events, activities, and initiatives
- Advocacy for ShareLife initiatives

Staff Faith Development

Spiritual accompaniment and faith formation for our staff:

- Begin all meetings with a prayer or liturgy
- Invitation to Catholic Guild for faith formation
- Advent and Lent discussions of religious articles during these seasons
- Opportunities for morning prayer in the chapel
- Conference opportunities (i.e., Faith Meets Pedagogy)
- Prayer and reflections shared during morning announcements
- Sharing of spiritual reading resources

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:

Students transitioning from Grade 8 to Grade 9 will be invited to participate in our Get Ready! Program and Transition Program. This orientation will include the Principal, Vice-Principal, Child & Youth Worker, Social Worker, Heads of the Guidance and Academic Resource Departments, the Chaplaincy Leader, and student leaders. The sessions aim to foster a welcoming and reassuring environment by dispelling myths about high school, identifying support resources, clarifying their roles, and creating an inclusive atmosphere where every student is recognized as a valued and gifted creation of God. Additionally, our St. Paul CSS Transitions Committee will organize a Grade 8 Shadow Day in the spring for students from our feeder schools: St. Edmund, St. James, St. Timothy, St. Dominic, and Queen of Heaven. These students will experience various departments and pathways offered at St. Paul CSS through activities and sessions across the school.

Students transitioning from Grade 12 to post-secondary will be informed of support systems beyond high school to help them pursue their God-given vocations. This includes highlighting post-secondary support services that nurture students' unique talents, assist with academic or social challenges, and foster continued spiritual growth (e.g., Chaplaincy offices at universities and colleges).

Vocations

Vocations to religious life and pastoral ministries promoted through:

- Morning reflections and prayers
- Discussions in religion classes
- Witness and vocation talk by religious speakers during Catholic Education Week
- Ordinandi Youth Event
- Fr. Terry's visits to the school

Resource List for Parents/Guardians

- **General Roman 2024-2025 Liturgical Calendar** - [2024-2025 Liturgical Calendar](#)
- **Religious Education Curriculum** - [Ontario Religious Education Curriculum](#)
- **Encyclical Letters 'Laudato Si', 'Laudato Deum' and 'Christus vivit'**
- **National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation** - [National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation](#)
- **Catholic Education Week 2025** – [Catholic Education Week 2025](#)
- **Jubilee Year 2025** – [Pilgrims of Hope](#)

Resource List for Schools

- **General Roman 2024-2025 Liturgical Calendar** - [2024-2025 Liturgical Calendar](#)
- **Multi-Year Strategic Plan** - [Multi-Year Strategic Plan 2023-2027](#)
- **Encyclical Letters 'Laudato Si', 'Laudato Deum' and 'Christus vivit'**
- **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](#)
- **Jubilee Year 2025** – [Pilgrims of Hope](#)

Signature Page

Pastor – Fr. Terence Dias, St. Dominic Parish _____

Chaplaincy Leader – Shane Byrne _____

Faith Ambassador(s) –

Daniella Almeida (student) _____

Bianca Almeida (student) _____

Department Head, Theology – Sam Lettieri _____

Chair(s) of Catholic School Council –

Kyla Lepore _____

Michelle Pueda Nucci _____

Vice Principal – Tiziana Klin _____

Principal – Peter Cusumano _____

Superintendent – Drago Radic _____