

PASTORAL PLAN

School Name: Philip Pocock Secondary School

School Motto or Mission Statement: Let this be a school with spirit!

We, the Philip Pocock community, are rooted in the love of Christ. We are a school with spirit! Out of this love, we recognize the dignity of each person in our diverse community. As staff, we strive to live like Christ the Teacher in our shared vocation as educators. It is the mission of our school community to form and nurture young people who:

1. Know the person of Jesus Christ and strive to imitate Him in the virtues
2. Are strengthened by the Gospel message with a zeal to share it
3. Understand the Catholic faith and appreciate its Truth, Beauty, and Goodness
4. Recognize that they are called by God to use their gifts in His service

Philip Pocock Catholic Secondary School was established in 1981 to support Catholic parents in their responsibility for the spiritual, moral, academic, and physical needs of their children. The school continues to live out the legacy of Archbishop Philip Pocock in its school spirit, commitment to faith and enriching the community. Our school integrates God, Truth and Life into the entire curriculum and life of the school. We are a Catholic educational community guided by the life of Jesus Christ and striving for excellence through commitment to life-long learning, dedication to the celebration of individual differences and being of service to others. We encourage everyone to reach their potential so that they may become responsible and contributing members of the global community.

Theme for the Year for Catholic Education: We are Called To Love

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

Background on this Year's Theme:

The themes for Catholic Education Week 2024 are inspired by the following considerations:

- With joyful anticipation of the Jubilee Year of 2025, we are inspired by Pope Francis announcing the theme of "Pilgrims of Hope." With open hearts of love, we can continue to "fan the flame of hope" for a bright future.
- On the fifth anniversary of Renewing the Promise, we celebrate that Catholic Education is centred on our Christian call to love. This love permeates how we live in the world and as we act with love, we build a better future. As Pope Francis stated in 2023, "He wants

us to be artisans of a new history, weavers of hope, builders of the future, peacemakers.”

- The theme of the synod, “Enlarge the Space of Your Tent,” invites us to listen in love, to be a healing presence to one another and to strengthen relationships.
- In his visit to Canada last summer, Pope Francis gave us hope for our continued work for Truth and Reconciliation. Through prayer and a commitment to love, stronger bonds are forming and a new way forward is emerging.
- Catholic Education Week comes at the same time as Mental Health Awareness Week. Through love and compassion, we continue to support each other’s wellbeing. God is love and we are always called to live out this love.
- In our continued work for Equity and Inclusion in Catholic schools, a focus on love reminds us that all God’s children are loved unconditionally.

We invite all members of our school community to bring their energy, enthusiasm, generosity and all their gifts to the task of building the Catholic community within our school and to continue to shape the vision of our Catholic education. We will execute this theme together with our families, parish, school, and the greater community. We will bring to life Scripture, the celebration of the Sacraments, prayer, outreach opportunities, advocating for justice, in creative ways with a renewed zeal and hope. We look forward to unifying this vibrant community in the Spirit of Jesus Christ, the ultimate leader of this faith community.

Retreats

The Religion classes will be invited to participate in the retreat program. The retreat will have separate themes and be held at different venues. The retreats are facilitated by the chaplaincy leader and supervised by the class teacher.

Grade 9: *2 Corinthians 5:17 – Therefore if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come; the old is gone, the new is here.*

Dates: Tues, Sept 26 and Wed, Sept 27th, 2023.

Our grade nine retreat will take place with the chaplaincy leader at the John Paul II centre with the theme of “New beginnings.” Grade Nine students face the unique challenge of having to reorient themselves to a new school setting in an already challenging year and this retreat aims to help ground them in that transition. Retreat activities will include prayer, icebreaker activities, a drumming circle and leadership students will lead student in activities. Students will write a letter to their future Grade 12 selves and receive the letter at graduation. It will be a mega – retreat with all grade 9 students participating. They will attend with their homeroom teachers who will also help supervise and lead activities.

Grade 10: *Proverbs 16:3 - Commit your work to the LORD, and your plans will be established.*

Dates: Mon, Oct 2nd, Mon, Oct 16th, Mon, Oct 29th, Mon, Nov 27th, Mon, Dec 4th, 2023.

Mon, Feb 12th, Mon, Feb 26th, Mon, Apr 8th, Mon, Apr 15th, Mon Apr 22nd, Mon, May 27th, 2024.

Our grade ten retreats will take place at Dr. Simone's Canadian Food for Children warehouse (CFFC) and our school chapel. Attending with their religion class and teacher, students will explore how they are made in God's image and how God is calling them to be His hands and feet through volunteering their time and packing donations for children in need. We have a social responsibility to help our brothers and sisters. We also called to be good stewards and to respect the dignity of others. Our Chaplaincy Leader will speak to the importance of service and servant leadership, reflection time, and discussion activities in the chapel after we volunteer at CFFC.

Grade 11: *Psalm 57:2 - I cry to God Most High, to God who fulfills his purpose for me.*

Dates: Fri, Nov 3rd, Wed, Nov 22, 2023. Wed, Apr 3rd, Thurs, Apr 4th, May 2nd, 2024

The retreat's focus is to enrich and deepen students' knowledge of the grade 11 world religions course through exploring the purpose of all religions and our own unique purpose as human beings. No matter what faith we are, we are a human family, and we are made in God's image! This retreat is designed to help form our students' purpose which is knowing, loving, and serving God while exploring the tenets of other faiths. We will be visiting a variety of different places of worship for the various faiths studied including but not limited to SKC Centre Mosque, Solel Synagogue, Ontario Khalsa Darbar, West End Buddhist Temple and Prophet Elias Greek Orthodox Church.

Grade 12: *1 Peter 4:10 - Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.*

Dates: Mon, Sept 25th, Wed, Oct 18th, Fri, Nov 10th, Mon, Nov 13th, Mon, Nov 20th, Mon, Nov 27th, 2023. Mon, Mar 4, Mon, Mar 25th, Mon, May 6th, Mon, May 13th, Tues, May 14th, 2024.

Students will learn about social justice, stewardship, and charity, and how we encounter Christ by serving the poor and vulnerable. The retreat day includes volunteering with Regeneration Outreach Community, making meals for the local community and serving them. Through this retreat, students will learn how to be socially conscious and how we encounter Jesus by serving others. The retreat includes a chance for personal reflection and discussion in the chapel after the students return from Regeneration. The theme of the retreat focuses on 'Social Justice' and the 'Dignity of all Persons' central to Catholic Social Teaching. It also encourages youth to build awareness of the poor among us, encourage youth of the Greater Toronto Area to participate firsthand in the work of local charities, and raise awareness of the suffering of others. The retreat will also serve as a chance for closure as they reflect on their last year, their future and how they can carry forth their faith into the world.

Planning For Independence Program Outreach and Retreat: *Jeremiah 1:5 - Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born, I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.*

Dates: During June exam period.

The chaplaincy leader will lead retreats for our Planning for Independence and Communication students on the theme of “belonging” and being children of God. The retreat will celebrate that each person is unique and that we all are loved. The retreat will be held at Riverwood conservancy where the students will have the opportunity to explore the grounds and learn about the beauty of creation. Throughout the year the chaplaincy leader will lead Planning for Independence students in faith-based art, discussing the saints, virtue of the month, worship music and faith videos.

Other Retreats:

Chaplaincy Retreat: *1 Timothy 4:12 - Let no one despise your youth but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.*

Date: Fri, Oct 27th, 2023.

The student leaders contribute much to our school community with their youthful energy and positive example to the student body. The retreat theme is centered on leadership and will be in the fall, so it is a chance for them to grow in leadership and learn from Jesus, the ultimate leader. Students will grow in self-awareness and learn about servant leadership from the example of Jesus. This retreat is designed to help form a spiritually and mentally healthy student body by providing them with the tools necessary to grow in virtuous leadership.

Activities of a Religious Nature

Please note that any masses will be celebrated in the gym for a schoolwide gathering.

Activities of a Religious Nature
Daily Morning Prayer Prayer and reflection for the whole school is broadcast at 8 am
Opening Thanksgiving Mass A whole school mass celebrated by Fr. John Facey.
Day of Confession and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Opportunities for both activities will be organized twice a year.
Advent Mass A whole school mass celebrated by Fr. John Facey.
Ash Wednesday Liturgy The liturgy will take place in the cafeteria in collaboration with chaplaincy student leaders and the music class
Lenten Mass A whole school mass celebrated by Fr. John Facey.
Holy Week - April 6, 2023 Stations of the Cross reflection on Holy Thursday by the drama class led by Ms. Burgess
Year-End Mass A whole school mass celebrated by Fr. John Facey.
Mass of Thanksgiving for Graduates – June 2023

Mass at St. Patrick’s parish celebrated by Fr. Facey with the graduates followed by a reception at the parish hall

Year-End Staff Liturgy – June 2023

Chapel Prayer services – Ongoing – Individual religion classes will be invited to pray the chapel for short prayer services, guided meditation, and brief catechesis. Chaplain will also keep chapel open for private prayer.

Marian Devotion - Rosary in the months of October and May

These months honor the Rosary and honor Mary. At this time of crisis, Pope Francis has called for the praying of the healing of the world as well as for a special devotion to the Blessed Mother, so the rosary is incorporated in staff prayer and prayer with the Planning for Independence students.

Pastoral and Outreach Activities

Thanksgiving Food Drive Donations go to the Mississauga Food Bank. Donations will be left in a large container near the school entrance and atrium.

Canadian Food For Children service trips

The students and chaplaincy leader serve at CFFC by organizing donations and by packing the shipping container.

Christmas Baskets

Parishes identify families in need through St. Vincent de Paul Society. Gift cards delivered to parishes in the community, specifically St. Patrick’s parish in Mississauga and Nativity of our Lord parish in Etobicoke.

Student Wellness and Recognition of Virtues

Promotion of prayer and meditation techniques that encourage peace, gratitude, and trust in God. Wellness Wednesdays during lunch and meditative scripture coloring. Every semester, we will recognize students for the virtues that have been displayed with a certificate and small token of appreciation to encourage virtue among our student body.

Mental Health and Wellness

October kicks off Mental Health awareness month. Our school has an active jack.org chapter which focuses on schoolwide mental health. Support staff have created mental health modules to present to classes and the PA reflections will incorporate practical tips on how to calm yourself down and maintain mental wellness.

Equity Initiatives:

School representation: equity quotes will be painted around the school

Indigenous Reconciliation Initiative: The school will develop opportunities to further strengthen the relationship between Pocock and the Indigenous of Canada. The chaplaincy leader will also explain why we honor and commemorate events such as Orange Shirt Day and Reconciliation Week, and Treaties Recognition Week from November 6-12, 2023.

Black Student Alliance (BSA): The Diversity team and BSA will work with chaplaincy on projects and organized activities that celebrate diversity and black excellence through highlighting different Black role models and saints’ stories and honoring their legacy throughout the year. The BSA will share mental health resources for Black students to ensure equal and meaningful support.

National day for Violence against Women (December 8, 2023): white ribbon campaign for all staff and students along with a reflection praying for the victims and families

Human Rights Day (December 10, 2023): A social media campaign and reflection will be shared

International Women’s Day (March 8, 2023): A reflection and announcements will highlight inspiring women throughout the week along with a curated playlist that will be played all week.

2SLGBTQ+ Awareness (June 2023): Activities will be organized in part with the 2SLGBTQ+ club to highlight the dignity and respect of the 2SLGBTQ+ to our faith and school community.

Online Ministry

The Chaplaincy Leader will maintain an online presence for ministry through Instagram to promote our faith and school events.

When Faith Meets Pedagogy Youth Conference

Chaplaincy Leader will attend with students in October.

Pray and Play

Pray and Play is a youth ministry that is facilitated by Chaplaincy Leader and student leaders. The format incorporates prayer, praise and worship, a talk on a faith-related topic, and break out rooms for small group discussion along with a time for fellowship and board games, snacks and sports like Spike ball and badminton etc.

Black History month – February 2024

Activities will be organized in part with the BSV club to highlight the dignity and respect of our black student to our faith and school community.

Classroom Visits

Chaplaincy Leader will make herself available to teachers to come in and speak on a variety of topics related to Catholicism and the course subject.

Ordinandi Luncheon - March 2024

10 students from our high schools are invited to lunch and listening to the vocation stories of men that are being ordained to the priesthood.

Faith Study – Once per Semester

The chaplaincy leader will run this program after school once a month to allow students an opportunity to connect with their faith and have small group discussions.

Catholic Education Week

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

Catholic Education Theme: We are Called to Love

Our spiritual quote for Catholic Education Week 2024 is:

“If we love one another, God lives in us.” (1 John 4:12)

The sub-themes for Catholic Education Week 2024 illuminate the path to being many and one. We achieve this unity...

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

Highlight activities or events planned for the Week:

Fundraiser event for Sharelife	Themed Morning Reflections
Instagram prayer challenge	Rosary in the school chapel
Door Decorating Contest	Catholic Educators Celebration
Community Litter Pick Up	Chaplaincy Team Special Events

Catholicity Across the curriculum

Catholicity is integrated and permeated throughout the academic fabric and curriculum of Philip Pocock Catholic Secondary School. Catholicity is evident in the works we teach, the prayers that begin each day and period of study, and the resources available to students and staff to facilitate classroom prayer and reflection.

Classes from across the curriculum will be encouraged to invite the Chaplaincy Leader into the class to speak on any variety of subject topics as they relate to the teachings of the Catholic Church. Topics can include (but are not limited to) the following:

- Catechesis on Church teaching, God, and the Faith (Theology/Religion)
- Healthy Sexuality/Theology of the Body (Physical Education)
- Music in the Life of the Church (Arts)
- The lives of the Saints who changed History (History)
- How Catholicism is practiced in different countries and cultures (Anthropology, Geography)
- Prayer: What to Write, What to Say (English, Theology)
- Does Evolution Contradict the Bible? /How Miracles, Religion and Science Go Together (Science)
- Numbers and the Bible: The Significance of Certain Numbers in the Old and New Testament (Mathematics)

- Catholic Social Teaching including, Preferential Option for the Poor: The Economics of the Gospel Message (Social Science, Economics, Business)

Department	Activities and/or Events
Science	<p>The Science Department will focus on stewardship of the land in the grade 9 and grade 10 science courses. We will look to teach students to respect God’s creation and help maintain the beautiful world that He has gifted us with. We will focus on respect of the Earth and the people that care for it. In the senior classes will we help students see how our faith and God’s plan can be seen throughout science. We will highlight scientists that were Christian and how their discoveries have helped us appreciate God’s work and love. We will also use a Christ centered lens to view difficult topics such as embryonic research. As well as clarify common misconceptions in terms of evolution and the big bang theory.</p>
Social Science	<p>Both the Grade 9 and 12 Geography curriculums widely integrate Catholic values throughout each unit of study. Students develop an appreciation and understanding of both physical and human geography from a local and global perspective. The development of a responsible Catholic citizen is achieved through physical geography, where students gain an appreciation of responsible stewardship by respecting the environment and effectively managing resources. Fostering a respect for our environment and the importance that it has to our existence compels students to appreciate this planet and all its natural wonders, as a gift from God. This connects to the Catholic graduate expectations of creating a reflective, creative and holistic thinker who can examine and</p>

	<p>evaluate our interdependent systems and make just decisions for the common good.</p>
<p>Business Studies</p>	<p>This program will encourage reflection on current business news events through a Catholic lens with the Gospel message that Jesus warns against the pursuit of money. We promote the investigation of corporate social responsibility and ethical practices that respect human dignity. Espousing ethics and doing what is right in the eyes of Jesus in how we treat our employers, employees, customers, and other stakeholders.</p>
<p>Physical Education</p>	<p>Bringing together all 5 aspects of wellness (Social, Emotional, Physical, Environmental and Spiritual) is what we strive to do in all our classes and extracurricular activities. We try our best to create a Catholic-centered approach in addressing these areas and to develop students who have a belief in their abilities and self.</p> <p>Participation in physical education provides students with a variety of opportunities for increasing self-esteem and self-confidence and developing positive interpersonal skills and attitudes including practices of fair play and respect for others.</p> <p>We strive to create a safe and inclusive environment for all skill levels and abilities by allowing students to grow, learn and be their authentic self in all areas of health and wellness. Our department aims to make the connection of mind, body and spirit in a space that can sometimes be overwhelming for some students.</p> <p>Healthy Active Living reflects St. Paul's Letter to the Corinthians that the body is a temple of the Holy Spirit and to treat our bodies with respect and care. Fair play and respect for</p>

	<p>others reflect our Catholic principle of social justice and the call to family, community, and participation.</p>
<p>English</p>	<p>The recent update of our course literature reflects equity and genuine student voice, allowing teachers to infuse gospel values in their lessons, encouraging students to speak, write, and listen honestly and positively. In the teaching of the novel <i>Marrow Thieves</i>, teachers can reflect on and respect the faith traditions and life journeys of all people of good will. Through the creation of de-streamed grade 9 English course material, teachers will create and adapt current ideas in the light of the common good. In the interests of well-being, both for the students and teachers, teachers will focus on setting appropriate goals and priorities in school, work, and personal life.</p>
<p>Theology/Religion</p>	<p>Religion teachers will be working with the chaplaincy leader to help with catechesis and faith development. This will help our students grow their faith and become discerning believers. Our core curriculum is based on the ICE documents, which connect all the Catholic graduate expectations throughout each unit. Human Dignity and the value of human life is an underlying theme in many of our units. It promotes being a responsible citizen and recognizing the value and sacredness of every human being.</p>
<p>The Arts</p>	<p>The Music department will lead worship during school masses and prayer services. Dance class will create a 'liturgical' theme dance to perform at one of the prayer service assemblies. The Drama classes will explore and perform scenes with Christian messages and values (for example scenes from Skit Guys, or Christmas plays). They will also</p>

	<p>perform a Tableaux of the Stations of the Cross.</p> <p>The Visual Art students will engage in the Royal Canadian Legion's annual Remembrance Day poster contest to help them to become a reflective, creative thinker who recognizes that there is more grace in this world than sin and that hope is essential in facing all challenges.</p>
<p>Guidance</p>	<p>Personal and career counselling services help students become a self-directed, responsible, lifelong learner who develops and demonstrates their God-given potential. Guidance runs a Wellness group. This group of Guidance staff and students help promote mental health initiatives to the greater school community. It brings awareness so students do not feel alone in their mental health journey.</p> <p>Guidance also runs Black Student Alliance. This group exists to have Black student voice heard and for Black students to feel included in the fabric of the school.</p> <p>Our department ran a club fair. This event gets students connected to an extra-curricular to feel included in the school community.</p>
<p>Mathematics</p>	<p>The new Grade 9 De-streamed Mathematics curriculum provides opportunities for learning about human rights and creating equitable outcomes for those who typically face systemic barriers in the study of Mathematics. As we tell the story of the development of a mathematical concept, such as a geometric concept or measurement system, and its use in a specific culture, we affirm the diversity of the world's</p>

	<p>people. Students begin to see themselves represented in the mathematics curriculum.</p> <p>Through math conversations, students listen and respond to their classmates considering Gospel values. Minds on activities such as “What do you notice? What do you wonder?” and number/dot/algebra talks allow students to acquire mathematical language and elevate student voice and lived experiences within the mathematics classroom.</p> <p>Problem solving is a central focus in the study of mathematics. Curriculum and non-curriculum related problems encourage engagement by fostering multiple entry points. Students become reflective, holistic, creative, and critical thinkers as they select appropriate strategies, estimate, evaluate, classify, recognize patterns, conjecture, and make judgements. Students draw connections to their lived experiences, prior mathematical learning, and develop their own mathematical identity as they investigate rich tasks such as the border problem, painted cube problem, and apple orchard problem. Rich tasks provide an opportunity for students to work collaboratively to share ideas, and strategies in a setting which respects the contributions of others.</p>
Technology	<p>Technological studies focus on the service sector. In preparing our students to become responsible citizens, we focus on promoting social justice by way of: being fair and ethical workers as we serve others; donating time and skills on projects run by charitable organizations; taking care of our environment by curbing waste and reducing pollutants during construction and repair projects; instill the importance of becoming responsible</p>

	<p>lifelong learners to match the ever evolving technology surrounding us; involve students in repairing and/or renovating classroom and office furniture in the school.</p>
<p>Academic Resource & ASD support</p>	<p>Each of us – each staff member, each student – is created in the image of God and gifted by God with unique individuality. With support and guidance, our students are provided with the tools and strategies to work towards becoming ‘a self-directed, responsible, lifelong learner.’ Too often, especially for those who have trouble or who are identified as having special needs, these differences are seen as problems and used as excuses to treat these persons as less than full members of our community. Within our Pocock Community one of our Graduate Expectation Goals is to build within each of our students confidence, resilience and a positive sense of self and respect for the dignity and welfare of others. Because we work with so many differently abled students, ARD staff members are uniquely positioned to model acceptance and inclusion of every unique member of our diverse community, to create opportunities for and to facilitate true inclusion, and to witness, with our own lives and work, to the inclusive, unconditional love that is at the heart of our Catholic faith. It is our mission that upon graduation every student within our community demonstrates as lifelong learners the characteristics of acceptance, flexibility, and adaptability.</p>
<p>ELL English as a Second Language</p>	<p>The ELL program focuses on students learning to effectively communicate in a variety of social settings. Students are new to Canada, and some may have experienced traumatic circumstances. Keeping this in mind our goal is</p>

	to make sure all students feel welcomed and supported and reminded that we are all created in the image and likeness of God. We celebrate both our differences and what we share.
Moderns	The French curriculum emphasizes that an effective reader not only grasps the ideas communicated in a text but is able to apply them to new contexts. Also, students need to be disciplined thinkers to communicate their ideas effectively. In Pocock’s FSL, EF and FI programs students are encouraged to respect the rights, responsibilities and contributions of self and others through the various texts, articles, novels that they read and reflect on. The language classrooms are a natural venue to promote appreciation for the target language culture as well as appreciation for Pocock’s and Canada’s diversity. Students study the Philosophical thinking of writers such as Antoine de Saint -Exupery in (<i>Le Petit Prince</i>) The Little Prince. Students reflect on the fact that the writer was a devoted Catholic and his writing reflected his Faith and Spiritualism: “Lord I’m not praying for miracles and visions. I’m only asking for strength for my days. Teach me the art of small steps. Students engage in a rich dialogue about how this writer and others studied like Voltaire tie into our Faith and Social Justice beliefs. It also lends itself to discussions about what it means to be a Catholic Graduate: A responsible citizen, a contributing member etc.

School Environment Reflective of Our Faith

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

Sacred Space	Details
School Displays	Visual displays in the atrium, the chapel, and in designated display cases will feature symbols, bible verses and reminders of our faith and of major

	<p>events of the liturgical calendar and social justice initiatives (Advent wreath display, Remembrance Day display etc.).</p> <p>Prayer tables and cross in the classrooms</p> <p>Scripture is painted in the hallway walls and virtues of the month and the Catholic School Graduate Expectations are posted around the school</p>
Sacred Cyberspace	<p>We update the Chaplaincy social media and school website regularly.</p> <p>A Chaplaincy Instagram account posts inspirational messages and bible verses as well as school updates such as events, fundraisers, and programs.</p>
Chapel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament is an open opportunity to everyone in the chapel and the candle is lit to signify Jesus’ presence in the tabernacle. • The Stations of the Cross are displayed above panels in the chapel. • A prayer box for intentions is also available at the back of the chapel. • The chapel includes a statue of Mary, Mother of God, and St. Joseph along with a framed image of the Divine Mercy and the Prodigal Son. • Chapel also includes one stained glass window of a cross behind the main sanctuary, and a holy water font.

Collaborative School Culture

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

- Each bereaved student and family are given a small sympathy/bereavement card. This year we will continue to journey with students who have lost a parent/loved one through individual and small group check-ins.
- The school Team consists of the Student Success Teacher, School Psychologist, Academic Resource Department Head, Guidance Counselor (based on student name), Child and Youth Worker, School Social Worker, Administrator (based on student name) and most recently the Chaplaincy Leader. This team provides an opportunity to consider strategies for assisting at-risk students holistically in their life at school and at home.
- General collaboration with support staff to meet the general needs of students
- Being aware of our most vulnerable students’ financial needs and supporting them through funds to assist them on sports teams, food, field trips, graduation, etc.
- Our school provides snacks for students who might not have brought lunch with them or need breakfast.
- Extra Uniforms - we have always provided students in need with donated uniform pieces.
- Awareness of Indigenous Peoples in Canada (First Nations, Inuit, Metis) - Students and Staff raise awareness of Residential Schools, and the concepts of Truth and Reconciliation on Orange Shirt Day on September 30, where students and staff learned about residential schools and offered prayer intentions for survivors of residential schools and the struggles of indigenous people in our country.

- Full school involvement in food and clothing drive initiatives that help aid students and families in need, as well as local organizations and food banks.
- The inception of a Diversity, Equity and Inclusivity Club promote the beautiful diversity of our school community, to listen to the stories of marginalized students and staff who may not have a voice and to move forward ensuring that all voices are heard regardless of race, religion, orientation, or gender.
- During the month of December, the school will support our school families in need with gift cards for their families. This is coordinated by the Child and Youth Worker and other members of the Support Staff such as the chaplaincy leader.

Parish Connections

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

The Chaplaincy leader works closely with the youth minister of St. Patrick’s parish in running school-based catechesis opportunities, advertising parish youth group events and running Alpha together every week. The youth minister has also helped run our grade 9 mega retreat and will be collaborating with our Chaplaincy Leader to run faith based events.

School Council

The Chaplaincy leader attends a school council meeting to explain the pastoral plan for the year and solicit recommendations on how to strengthen the bond between school and home. Contact information will be given at that time and the chaplaincy leader will encourage parents to become involved in school through fundraisers, drives or parish events.

Staff Faith Development

Catechesis and faith formation among our staff:

- **Weekly Staff Prayer** – Staff meet weekly in the Chapel to participate in rosary, reading and reflecting on scripture. This will allow staff to have a space to grow in faith together and build community every Wednesday morning at 7:30 am.
- **Providing inspiring Resources:** prayers, inspiring videos, DVDS, CDs and books
- **Prayer at Staff events:** prayer at PD days, staff meetings, and staff liturgy.
- **Counselling:** Chaplaincy leader will offer herself to journey with staff and be present to them in their struggles and joys
- **Social media prayer events:** liturgies or rosary on chaplaincy Instagram
- **Catholic discussion form:** discuss key topics regarding faith and culture for teachers to equip them to answer tough questions.
- **Prayer support:** A Mass Card from the Society of the Little Flower is given to staff members (on behalf of the school community) who have experienced the death of a loved one.

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:

- Our grade 9 retreat focuses on ‘Beginnings’ and transitioning into high school in a grounded, faith-filled way.
- Our grade 12 retreat encourages students to develop a sense of mission, and vision for their future once they graduate from high school.
- Mass of Thanksgiving for Graduates will help graduating students gain closure and transition out of high school in June 2024.
- Chaplain will have meetings with at risk and new to board students to check in on their transition.
- Get-Ready Program to be re-established in the 2023-2024 School Year to assist new Grade 9 students in the transition into high school.
- Chaplaincy leader to assist students in transition from other schools and into the country – opportunity to meet and greet with these students, introduce them to student clubs and obtaining service hours.
- We will have an Open House for prospective students interested in learning about our school.

Vocations

Vocations to religious life and pastoral ministries promoted through:

Our school will invite ordained and religious to speak about vocations. Chaplaincy leader will contact the diocese to have priests such as the vocations director for the Office of Vocations at the Archdiocese of Toronto, and sisters from the Sisters of Life available for a vocation day. Our school will commit to:

- Provide an opportunity to attend Ordinandi Luncheon and hear the seminarians’ stories.
- Promotion of Vocation events held by archdiocesan and religious communities.
- Encouragement of students involved in their parish ministries to take leadership in school faith-based ministries.
- Offering information in the chapel office on vocations in the Church and post-secondary opportunities for maintaining faith development.

Signature Page

Pastor – Father John Facey

Chaplaincy Leader – Andria Bancheri

Faith Ambassador Representative – Enza Mazzotta

Chair of Catholic School Council – Catherine Rivera

Vice Principal – Daryl Brady

Vice Principal – Lina Iacobucci

Principal – Frances Campese

Superintendent – Dulcie Belchior

Department Head Signature Page

Religion – Raisa McKenna

English and Library – Patrick Downey

Social Science and Technology – Diana Gotal

Moderns, ELL – Emanuela Polin-DeLuca

Science – Monika Willand

Physical Education and Arts – Adriana Finelli

Math, Business and Computers – Jessica Gonsalves

Academic Resource – Angela Catapano

Guidance – Santina Iannetta
