

## PASTORAL PLAN

**School Name: Robert F. Hall Catholic Secondary School**

**School Motto or Mission Statement: "To Know, To Love, To Serve God"**

**Theme for the Year: *Catholic Education: We are Called to Love*  
*L'éducation catholique: Appelés à aimer***

Robert F. Hall Catholic Secondary School has a purpose that unifies all within our community: that each student is given every opportunity to fulfill his or her true potential spiritually, academically, athletically, and socially.

It is our belief that students will:

- model themselves in the image of Jesus Christ
- develop a passion for learning, a belief in justice, and increased care for the environment.
- practice the Virtues as they are developed and demonstrated throughout our school community.
- ultimately realize their personal potential to be "fully alive" in the Spirit and to be faithful to their vocation

We believe that the diversity of our community should be honoured, protected, and celebrated.

We believe in the intrinsic worth of each individual.

We believe that a safe and welcoming environment is an entitlement of every student.

We believe that everything we do as a school community that engenders a culture of excellence facilitates community involvement and presents Christian leadership opportunities is done for the greater glory of God.

## Retreats

**Grade 9: "Time of Fulfillment" - Community & Faith Day** – during this program, students will engage in a fun day of community building and competition. The day will begin with the celebration of the Holy Mass celebrated by Father Bob Glynn in our school cafeteria with specific intentions for the grade 9 community. Students will walk over to Caledon Community Centre for the community building activities lead by Wolfpack Student Leadership, and Chaplaincy Senior Students. Lunch will be provided by the school hospitality students and a guest speaker topic "Courage to be a Witness to the Faith" will complete the day. (September 27, 2023)

**Grade 10: "Network"** – this program reflects on decision-making and direction-setting in-light of faith and where God is calling them to be at this point in their young lives. Relationship building is a key focus of this retreat, including fostering new relationships as they grow throughout high school. This retreat will be facilitated by **Hopestone Retreat Group**. Lunch will be provided by the school hospitality students. Students will walk to and from the venue. (October 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 19 and 24, 2023)

**Grade 11: Temple Tour** – Students will visit temples (Western and Eastern faiths) and learn about the practices of diverse world religions, specifically Sikhism, Judaism, Hinduism, and Buddhism. The importance of this experience is to foster tolerance, understanding and appreciation of various religious traditions. Students will travel by school bus. (Semester 1 Dates: September 22, 29, and October 16, 2023 /Semester 2 Dates April 2024)

**Grade 12: "We are Called to Love"** - Students will visit Sara Elizabeth Centre and learn about community, loving relationships, and where authenticity and faith can be found in a post-secondary world. Students will have an opportunity to work with the community at Sara Elizabeth Centre and form new friendships with people living with physical and intellectual challenges. (Semester 1 October 24, November 7 and 13, 2023/Semester 2 Dates April 2024)

**Other retreats (e.g., student council):**

**Chaplaincy Team:** The Chaplaincy Team will participate in two retreat experiences focusing on outreach in the downtown core of Toronto. Students will prepare bagged meals, that they will then distribute to the homeless population in Toronto (Yonge and Dundas, Regent Park, Allan Gardens, and surrounding areas). Students will also visit St. Michael's Cathedral for prayer and reflection prior to lunch. Students will travel by school busette. (Retreats will take place during Advent and Lent)

**Salesian Retreat:** Twice in the school year select students will have the opportunity to participate in the Salesian Leadership Retreat, founded on the teachings of St. John Bosco. This is an overnight retreat. The goal of the retreat is to nurture and grow leadership skills identified in the students prior to going on retreat. The program is rooted in Faith, Reason, and Kindness. (Semester 1 St. Francis Centre October 11-13, 2023/Semester 2 Location TBD April 2024)

**Student Council Retreat:** This retreat is for members of Student Council, and focuses on team building, goal setting, and communication. The retreat incorporates prayer and reflection as students are invited to contemplate their call to leadership and gain a deeper understanding of their potential to serve their school community. (Semester 2 Location TBD May 2024)

**Activities of a Religious Nature**

<b>Activities of a Religious Nature with a substantial component of ritual and prayer</b>
School masses will take place in the school gym.
Morning exercises to begin our day will include an announcement of Feast Days and a reflection/prayer rooted in contemporary themes to connect Church teaching and tradition more deeply with the experiences of young people today.
Praying of the Rosary will take place weekly throughout the school year in the chapel and is open to all who wish to participate.
Practice of Christian Meditation will take place regularly in the school chapel and upon request for any classes choosing to participate.
Father Bob Glynn, our local pastor, is welcomed regularly to the school for general blessings over the PA system, including Thanksgiving, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi (our patron saint), and during special school events such as fundraisers and awareness campaigns.
The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be made available during Advent and Lent in our chapel.
Ash Wednesday will take place in the gym and include the entire student body.
A Holy Thursday Liturgy will take place.
Praying of the Stations of the Cross will take place throughout Lent, and with greater focus during Holy Week.
A petitions box will be made available in the school chapel for the offering up of personal prayer requests.
Through morning prayer and reflections, prepared and read by a variety of staff, students, and administrators.
The possibility of Eucharistic Adoration in the school chapel will be explored.
A school-wide Rosary Club will be established, and participation encouraged, particularly during the months of October and May, both of which are dedicated to the Blessed Mother.
<b>PRAYER</b> Prayer is a daily conversation with God, facilitated in the following ways at our school:
Through morning prayer and reflections prepared and ready by a variety of staff, students, and administrators.
Through classroom practice that sees prayer begin every period of study.
Through prayer that begins before staff meetings, meetings with parents, and all meetings that concern the well-being of our school community, especially the kids in our care.
Through words that reflect the diversity of contemporary topics that directly address the reality of life here at Robert F. Hall, including the virtues, current events, prayers for the sick and suffering in our community, the lives of the Saints, Feast Days and Solemnities of the Liturgical Calendar.
Through observance of the theme of Catholic Education Week and the presence of prayer as a companion to education.

**Other Pastoral/Outreach Activities**

<b>Pastoral Activities</b>
ORANGE SHIRT DAY to commemorate the children who experienced the Residential School Program and whose unmarked graves continue to be stark reminders of Canada’s dark past will take place on September 30th on a school-wide level of participation.
“SCARE AWAY HUNGER FOOD DRIVE” We will participate with the Orangeville Food Bank and coordinate a Food Drive within the school in conjunction with this campaign.
Thanksgiving will be marked by a school blessing from Father Bob Glynn, our local pastor.
The TERRY FOX RUN will continue this year as the school community takes part in a run along the Caledon Trailway, with donations given to the Terry Fox Run campaign fight against cancer.
“CHRISTMAS GIFT BASKETS CAMPAIGN” Families identified anonymously through community agencies will benefit from collected gifts courtesy of paired homerooms. This event will be coordinated with Caledon Community Services and will take place to assist needy families during Advent.
Establishing a deeper connection with Family Transition Place and providing help and assistance for the women who access their services.
A ShareLife campaign will be launched throughout Lent with the possibility of targeting specific causes (i.e., youth homelessness, drug addiction, assisting the elderly, etc.).
Remembrance Day will be marked by the school community and with possible coordination with the local Legion of Caledon East.
“THE RF HALL ANNUAL SOCK DRIVE FOR THE HOMELESS” A sock drive will be held school wide, and all socks collected will be donated to the Good Shepherd Men’s Refuge and Shelter in downtown Toronto.
The WOLFPACK CARES MENTAL HEALTH GROUP will continue offering resources and safe spaces to students seeking to relieve anxiety and stress during the school day.
THE PACK will continue to offer activities and group focused initiatives that seek to promote inclusion and community spirit throughout the student body, including seasonal based promotions and involvement.
PEER TUTORING will be offered to foster student-to-student relationships in academics.
The RF HALL SAGE group will provide safe spaces, advocacy and outreach to students who identify as LGBTQ2+ and their allies within the school community.
The ABC GROUP will provide safe spaces, advocacy, and outreach to students in the African, Black, and Caribbean community within the larger community of RF Hall.

**Catholic Education Week – May 5<sup>th</sup> – May 10<sup>th</sup>, 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**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>
Monday, May 6, 2024	Opening student lead Liturgy of the Word
Tuesday, May 7, 2024	Cookie Drive In–Thank you for Choosing Catholic Education
Wednesday, May 8, 2024	Faith Witness Visits by Chaplaincy Team
Thursday, May 9, 2024	Banner Signing (Act of Love and Justice) Parent Engagement Night (Catholic School Council)
Friday, May 10, 2024	School Band - Praise and Worship Music

## 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	The Religion Department addresses world issues through a Catholic lens, using Scripture paired with teachings on morality and conscience. This focus serves to assist in forming Catholic students into discerning young adults and contributes to the overall goals of the Catholic Graduate Expectations.
ENGLISH	In the study of English, books and passages from Holy Scripture are read, analyzed, and discussed, leading to key understandings that impact students' understanding of colonialism, human and divine morality, and tolerance and intolerance. These understandings assist in developing the capacity for students to communicate their positions and elaborate effectively.
ACADEMIC RESOURCE	The Academic Resource Department uses Catholic contemplative and reflective activities, including meditation and breathing exercises, which are utilized in the Resource room setting. Visible, tangible signs of Catholicity are reinforced through prayer tables present in the Resource room and used as models of motivation and affirmation for the students present there.
MATHEMATICS	Catholic teaching of the Trinitarian presence is taught in the introduction to variables. The terminology of the Holy Trinity forms the basis of understanding that highlights mystical realities as they are presented in mathematical studies.
SCIENCE	Science consistently incorporates the idea of the Grand Designer (God) in explaining the origins of the universe. Ethics and morality are also discussed in biology as they pertain to evolution and genetics, including the study of race and skin colour, genetically modified origins of products, and resource disparity. Climate change is also discussed considering Catholic teaching, with a focus on stewardship of the earth.

## School Environment Reflective of Our Faith

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

At Robert F. Hall, we foster a deep connection with the glory of God’s creation and recognize daily our place within the magnificent creation of the universe itself. To this end, we faithfully follow the model of our patron saint, Francis of Assisi, in nurturing a continued stewardship of the earth and caring for our environment.

This is particularly evident through:

- Murals on the wall depicting the life of St. Francis of Assisi, along with connections to contemporary life.
- Our Franciscan Garden that welcomes the community as they enter the school, decorated with statues of St. Francis and greenery that serves as a naturally beautiful reminder of the wonder of God’s creation.
- Crosses that hang in every classroom, signifying the foundation of our education system that is rooted in Christ Jesus.
- Reflections and prayers with a distinctively Franciscan theme and overt emphasis on the teachings of the Magisterium.
- Access to the chapel with an invitation to contemplative prayer.
- The Franciscan cross and icon of our patron saint that hangs outside the chapel doors.
- Our peace garden memorializes staff and students who have passed away.
- Stations of the Cross will be installed and blessed along with our new school altar that was installed last year.

## Collaborative School Culture

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

*The mandate of our CCCC Team is conducted through the following school groups and initiatives:*

The WOLFPACK CARES MENTAL HEALTH GROUP will continue offering resources and safe spaces to students seeking to relieve anxiety and stress during the school day.
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## Parish Connections

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

Our school maintains a close, intimate connection with the parish of St. John the Evangelist, Caledon East. This connection includes:

- Inviting and including Father Bob Glynn in as many school “gatherings” as possible, including the school blessing for the new year, scheduling guest speaking opportunities for theology classes, and events that may begin with a benediction (i.e., exposition of the Blessed Sacrament).
- Encourage students to attend Holy Mass at St. John the Evangelist Parish in Caledon East.
- Advocate for ShareLife causes in conjunction with the Parish ShareLife drive.

## Staff Faith Development

*Spiritual accompaniment and faith formation for our staff:*

Staff Faith Development is an integral part of the Pastoral Plan for Robert F. Hall. We have approximately one hundred Teachers and Support Staff.

- Prepare Liturgies for Staff – i.e., Advent Service, Holy Week Service, Liturgies to begin and end the year and for faith days, Liturgy of the Word for staff meetings, department heads’ retreat, school council meetings and major school events.
- Book speakers for Faith development.
- Ongoing resource distribution (around liturgical seasons, reflections etc.).
- Ministry of Presence.
- Attendance at School Socials.
- Work with Faith Ambassador and Liturgy Team to implement staff faith initiatives.

## 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 a three-day introduction to Robert F. Hall. Included in this orientation will be the Principal, Vice-Principals, the Child & Youth Worker, Social Worker, Head of the ARD Department, and the Chaplaincy Leader. This orientation will have a direct focus on fostering a spirit of welcome and

reassurance, including dispelling myths about high school, identifying sources of support, and clarifying their roles, and creating an inclusive environment where all students are greeted and recognized as wonderful and gifted creations of God.

- In November on Take Your Kid to Work Day when grade 9 students are in the workplace for the day, Grade 8 students come to R F Hall and experience a day in the life of Secondary School.
- An additional transitioning orientation will be provided to identified students for the express purpose of addressing concerns and acknowledging specific challenges related to mental health for these students when dealing with moving to secondary school education.
- Students transitioning from grade 12 to post-secondary will be made aware of support systems beyond high school that will help them to pursue their God-given vocation, including identifying support at post-secondary institutions that nurture innate gifts and talents, assist students with various challenges (either academic or social) and continue to foster spiritual growth and development (i.e., Chaplaincy offices at Universities and Colleges)

## **Vocations**

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

Students will have the opportunity to explore a discernment of vocations, primarily through chapel presentations, and guest speaking engagements with Father Bob Glynn, our pastor, and with the Office of Vocations from the Archdiocese of Toronto.

### Resource List for Parents/Guardians

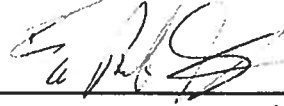
- **General Roman 2023-2024 Liturgical Calendar** - [2023-2024 Liturgical Calendar](#)
- **Religious Education Curriculum** - [Ontario Religious Education Curriculum](#)
- **Encyclical Letter “Fratelli Tutti”**- [Fratelli Tutti](#)
- **National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation** - [National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation](#)
- **Catholic Education Week 2024** – [Catholic Education Week 2024](#)
- **Synod on Synodality** - [Synod 2021 - 2024](#)

### Resource List for Schools

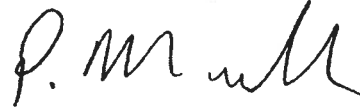
- **General Roman 2023-2024 Liturgical Calendar** - [2023-2024 Liturgical Calendar](#)
- **Multi-Year Strategic Plan** - [Multi-Year Strategic Plan 2019-2023](#)
- **Encyclical Letter “Fratelli Tutti”**- [Fratelli Tutti](#)
- **Renewing The Promise** - [A Pastoral Letter for Catholic Education](#)
-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

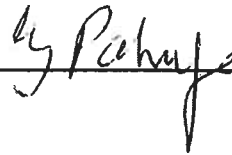
**Pastor:** Father Bob Glynn



**Chaplaincy Leader:** Patrick Marcolla



**Faith Ambassador:** Gregory Pahulje



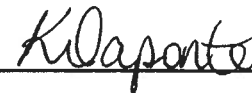
**Department Head Representative**

**Head of Religion:** Anna Mancini



**Catholic School Council**

**Co-Chair:** Karrie Daponte



**Co-Chair:** Marina DeMelo-Glinski

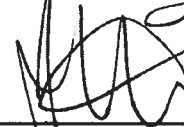


**Vice Principals**

**A-M:** Filomena Littlejohn



**L-Z:** James Vitale



**Principal:** Diana Speranza



**Superintendent:** Sue Steer

