

## PASTORAL PLAN ~ 2022-2023

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



**School Latin Motto:**

**"Lux Mentis...Lux Orbis"**

(Light of the Mind...Light of the World)

**School Scriptural Motto:**

**"You are the salt of the earth...you are the light of the world"**

- Matthew 5: 13-14

**Theme for the Year:** Catholic Education: We are many, We are one

***About the 2022/2023 Pastoral Plan:***

***The Pastoral Plan is subject to the current realities being faced regarding Peel Public Health (PPH) guidelines due to the COVID-19 virus. Should any restrictions be reinstated for future precautions that prevent class or grade sized gatherings for most activities (mass, assemblies, retreats, etc.), accommodations will be made, and postponement of activities may be inevitable. It is our intention, as a school community, to deliver as much of our plan as possible. As a living document, updates may be made to support the needs of staff and students during this time of pandemic recovery.***

## **Retreats (See NB regarding Covid-19 update)**

### **Grade 9: Self in Community with Peers**

**During the Grade 9 retreat,** students will be engaging in opportunities of team building, leadership, and community building activities, building on the Catholic Social Teachings of Human Dignity and Rights & Responsibilities. Grade 9 can be a difficult year to transition from elementary school; therefore, this retreat is an opportunity for students to come together in fellowship with their peers. From team-building activities to games, downtime and prayer, students will engage with each other to get to know each other and be in community to build relationships. Our Catholic Leadership class, from both semesters, will facilitate the day so as to participate and create bonds with intermediate level students.

### **Grade 10: Self in Service to the Community**

**During the Grade 10 retreat,** students will have an opportunity to engage in Christian Moral Development and Service. Key components to the Grade 10 curriculum are the Catholic Social Teachings, particularly the Preferential Option for the Poor and Stewardship for Creation. Using Pope Francis' Encyclical Letter, *Laudato Si*, as groundwork, students will have the opportunity to engage in service work in the local and greater community. Peel Region houses many outreach centers that would be able to support bringing in classes of students to help work and make a difference. The hope here would also be to foster leadership and conversation about what students can do to continue being Stewards of Creation and taking care of our common home. Guiding students to social justice clubs or awareness opportunities in the school and greater community would be beneficial to support growth of students in the remainder of their High School careers. An alternate retreat, visiting a local conservancy, to discover and re-confirm our commitment to being stewards of the land may also be considered.

### **Grade 11: Self in Solidarity with All Communities**

**During the Grade 11 retreat,** students will have an opportunity to visit and engage with various places of worship in Peel Region, continuing to grow in Christian Moral Development. Key components to the Grade 11 curriculum are the Catholic Social Teachings, particularly the Promotion of Peace and Global Solidarity. Using the Vatican II Document, *Nostra Aetate*, as a basis of inter-religious dialogue with peoples of non-Christian religions, students will be able to visit (with the utmost respect and dignity)

and dialogue with members of other faith communities at various local places of worship (i.e. Mosque, Gurdwara, Church etc.). The hope would be to foster dialogue and communication, while also diminishing stereotypes of other faiths to build connections to all faith communities. With social media and news reports that promote hate and fear, this retreat will enable students to meet our non-Christian brothers and sisters in a spirit of hospitality to promote love and community.

### **Grade 12: A Growing Self in the Greater Community**

**During the Grade 12 retreat,** students will have the opportunity to reflect on their years of service and commitment to this school community, and where they see themselves in the world outside of their high school, helping them grow in Prayer and Sacramental Life. Key components to the Grade 12 curriculum are the Catholic Social Teachings of Community & The Common Good and the Dignity of Work. Using the Social Encyclical by Pope John Paul II, *Laborem Exercens*, as a basis for understanding ourselves in the world of work and as a contributor to society, students will be helping feed the poor and hungry on a Street Patrol Day in Toronto. Starting with preparing sandwiches and collecting personal hygiene items, students will visit downtown Toronto, and during a 1.5 hour walk around the city, we will encounter and meet with individuals who need food, while also learning about the effects of homelessness and poverty despite the opulence of the City of Toronto. The goal is to help students continue to give back and support their communities at all stages of their lives after they complete high school.

#### **Other retreats:**

- Catholic Leadership Class to prepare activities for a PIP retreat during second semester. Visit to a public park allows for an outdoor setting for the retreat (i.e., Chinguacousy Park)
- Continued work with intermediate students (grades 9 and 10) to foster community building through the Catholic Leadership Class to foster connections throughout the year.
- Grade 8 'orientations' – Catholic Leadership students invite the incoming grade 8 students from our feeder schools to visit St. Roch and engage in fun activities through the day.
- Classes are invited for small group 'retreats' that are planned out by the chaplain throughout the year during different liturgical seasons of the year

(i.e., All Saints and Souls Day; Advent; Lent; Easter etc.) with themes and activities focused on building a stronger faith life and learning about various liturgical seasons – by request in the chapel

- Any other retreat for a group or club as needed and requested

**Activities of a Religious Nature:**

<p align="center"><b>Activities of a Religious Nature with a substantial component of ritual and prayer</b></p>
<p>We are very excited to continue our relationship with St. Jerome’s Parish with Monsignor Michael Bush, and Associate Pastor</p>
<p>We have three whole school masses during the year. We celebrate them in the gym with the student body. Our Pastor and/or Associate Pastor from St. Jerome’s will celebrate our masses. Our music students and our chaplancy students help facilitate our worship service. Our school masses may be as a whole school in the gymnasium, or smaller divisional masses in the cafeteria. Discussion with parish team is ongoing. Dates TBD</p>
<p>We may celebrate a “Vocations Mass” in second semester by extending an invitation to Father Matt McCarthy and his Vocations team - TBD</p>
<p>We celebrate a Graduation Mass during the last week of June prior to the Graduation Ceremony. This will take place at St. Jerome Catholic Church. Date TBD</p>
<p>We celebrate Advent, Ash Wednesday and Holy Thursday in prayer services in the gym, the whole student body sitting on the floor. Again, music and dance students, contribute to our worship, as well as PIP students.</p>
<p>We have Remembrance Day celebrations and Black History Month celebrations organized by the Social Science Dept. Black Student Union,</p>

and the Media classes on Roch TV. Liturgical readings and/or reflections to coincide with these activities.

Our Lenten project this year will focus on collecting baby items for *Birthright Brampton*, a local non-profit. "At Birthright, we understand the challenges related to unplanned pregnancies. Birthright is available to women for as long as they need us. We offer love, friendship, and support to women who are pregnant or think they may be pregnant. Birthright is interdenominational and is not involved in any political activities, or lobbying. Birthright's focus is on loving the mother, reminding her that there is hope and ensuring she is not alone".

<https://birthright.org/brampton>

A prayer intention box will be in the chapel, as well as during the Month of November, the Book of the Names of the Dead will be present for students and staff to remember and pray for family members who have deceased.

### **Virtues of the Month**

Each month, staff will be asked to nominate a student who exemplified the month's virtue. Students will be awarded a certificate and a virtue pencil to commemorate their work in living out our virtues. A virtues breakfast will take place in June, honoring all the students who were nominated throughout the course of the school year.

- **Other Pastoral/Outreach Activities:**

<b>Pastoral Activities</b>
<p><b>National Day for Truth and Reconciliation/Orange Shirt Day:</b></p> <p>Working with Chaplaincy Team to spread awareness of the end of the residential school system, and participating by wearing an orange shirt on September 30<sup>th</sup></p>
<p><b>Anti-Bullying Awareness Week:</b></p> <p>Chaplaincy Team is planning awareness activities throughout the week in the cafeteria, promos on ROCHtv and on Social Media.</p>
<p><b>Feminine Hygiene Product Collection:</b></p> <p>A clothing drive held in March surrounding <i>International Women’s Day</i> will be for the benefit women’s shelters in our community to support those they serve. Catholic Leadership class ran a <i>Menstrual March</i> campaign which sought to collected feminine hygiene products to be donated to Covenant House in Toronto, and to also support our school community.</p>
<p><b>Christmas Baskets Collection:</b> As the needs of our school continue to grow, this year our campaign will focus on our local families within our school community. Online donations made through SchoolCashOnline will benefit and support vulnerable families during the holiday season, and toy donations will be collected to support local and parish families.</p>
<p>Liturgies and prayer to open Staff, Parent Council and Dept. Head meetings – subject to PPH guidelines</p>
<p>Morning reflections using scripture, interviews with students and staff. These reflections are done live on Roch TV.</p>
<p>Music students performed outside during the Grade Nine retreats.</p>

Prayer to open Girls’ and Boys’ Nights Out, as well as Athletic Banquet, and Awards’ Ceremonies .

**Scare Away Hunger** Food Drive during October. Beneficiary of the food drives is Ste. Louise Outreach, a local Brampton food bank that serves more than 3500 families in Brampton, Mississauga, and Caledon

**Candy Collection:**

Post Halloween candy drive to collect and donate to Dr. Simone’s Canadian Food for Children

**Out of the Cold Winter Accessory Drive**

In December, chaplaincy team will lead a collection for winter accessories (mitts, gloves, winter hats, scarves etc.). All donations will be donated to local shelters (Knights Table, ReGeneration etc.) to support vulnerable individuals during the winter months.

**Street Patrol** will be a Chaplaincy Team excursion, focusing on helping homeless in Toronto by providing a meal through handing out sandwiches made at school – also during grade 12 retreats.

**ShareLife @ St. Roch:** Various fundraising opportunities happen throughout the school year.

In June, we have our ShareLife Carnival, which is a fundraising opportunity for students to donate funds towards our school’s efforts for ShareLife. A minimum \$5 donation enables students to participate in the festivities of the day. Overall, it is a day of awareness, donating, and community building to support ShareLife.

**Our EcoSchools initiative continues, with emphasis on connections between our sacred stewardship of the earth and practical, everyday action that promotes a clean environment. A reduction and gradual elimination of plastic water bottles school-wide continues to develop, days of action where students pick up litter on school property will continue to be promoted, and the growth of a mindset on the pitfalls of**

**consumerism and how consumerism is detrimental to a healthy lifestyle that respects the earth will be examined.**

### **School Environment reflective of our Faith**

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

- **Plans to continue to provide liturgical décor throughout the halls of St. Roch continue, building on the art featured in the main foyer**
- **Displays for the liturgical seasons of Advent and Lent will be prominent in the foyer entrance of the school**
- **Chaplaincy will have a specific focus on multimedia presentations, with a concrete presence on Roch TV, during the morning announcements, and other initiatives formed by the new Roch Chaplaincy Team. Connecting with the students via social media (*Twitter, Google Classroom, and Instagram*) will become a special feature of Chaplaincy and foster greater connectivity between aspects of faith life and student life amongst the student body.**



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**Catholic Education Week – April 30<sup>th</sup> – May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Catholic Education: We are Many, We are One**

**Our spiritual quote for Catholic Education Week 2023 is:**

“We, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members, one of another.”  
(Romans 12:5)

**The sub-themes for Catholic Education Week 2023 are as follows:**

Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup>: **Launching of Catholic Education Week Theme**

Monday, May 1<sup>st</sup>: **When we see** – “Blessed are the pure in heart for they will see God.” Matthew 5:8

Tuesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>: **When we listen** – “Be quick to listen and slow to speak.” James 1:19

Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>: **When we reflect** – “I considered these things inwardly, and pondered them in my heart.” Wisdom 8:17

Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup>: **When we learn** – “Let the wise also hear and gain in learning, and the discerning acquire skill.” Proverbs 1:5

Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup>: **When we act** – “I by my works will show you my faith.” James 2:18

## 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. The content within the CGE Faith Planner may be used to support this portion of the Pastoral Plan.*

Department	Departmental Activities and/or Events
<b>Physical Education</b>	We take care of the whole person. Our department is a community. We work at being inclusive. Our students set goals and priorities in school, work, and personal life. Our students participate in leisure and fitness activities for a balanced and healthy lifestyle.
<b>English</b>	At St. Roch, an effective communicator is a student who listens, reads, writes, and speaks clearly and critically. With our foundation in Catholic faith traditions, our students can understand and articulate ideas in a way that is sensitive, just, and reflective of the Gospel.
<b>Mathematics</b>	<p>The concentrated shift toward student well-being (with a focus on students in applied Mathematics) will continue from the work that was started with the TLLP in 2016. With a focus on assessment 'for' and 'as' learning, the focus is on giving students feedback while they learn, nurturing them throughout the learning process, and guiding them to reach their full potential. We look at helping students understand their potential and the power they must reach their goals by looking at what it means to have a <i>growth mindset</i>.</p> <p>As outlined in the Catholic Graduate Expectations, our graduates need to be reflective, life-long learners who use their gifts for the benefit of others and who understand their ability to affect change both within their lives and the greater community.</p>
<b>Science</b>	Our focus in science is embedded in the vision of the learner as outlined thus: We encourage reflective, creative, and holistic thinkers who solve problems and make responsible decisions with an informed moral conscience for the common good.
<b>Guidance</b>	By relaying volunteer opportunities to our students and encouraging them to complete their community hours we help them recognize the importance of community involvement. Students can recognize connections between themselves and their community and this contributes to the common good. We encourage students to create a career path that matches their potential for success as individuals. We assist students along the way with their life-long plan, through level and course recommendations, monitoring student success, and post-secondary and career planning while working alongside parents and community partners.
<b>Religion/Theology</b>	Students learn to respect the faith traditions, world religions and the life journeys of all people of good will. The Theology Department invites people of other faith traditions to come and share their life experiences with our students. Theology classes also hold multi-faith and cultural days. Students plan ceremonies and

	<p>illustrate rites of passage for different religious faiths. This is done with the aid of prayer, traditional food, garments, and artifacts.</p> <p>Students recognize that sin, human weakness, conflict, and forgiveness is at the heart of redemption. Through discussion, students realize the importance of prayer in dealing with life issues.</p> <p>Students actively reflect on God’s Word as communicated through the Hebrew and Christian scriptures. Students begin class with a prayer or liturgy that they organize themselves. They use video, song, and dance to do so.</p> <p>Students are invited to join our social justice club (ROCH CNXT) where they will develop attitudes and values founded on Catholic social teaching and learn to promote social responsibility, human solidarity and the common good.</p>
<b>History</b>	<p>Addressing our call to be peacemakers, we examine the Just War theory; in learning to value human life we examine the dehumanization of people in the past from a faith perspective. We teach informed voting, we promote Catholic social teaching in areas of social justice, and we examine the preferential option for the poor in concrete situations. We look at large systemic injustice, advocating for the greater common good in the light of Gospel values.</p>
<b>Geography</b>	<p>We promote stewardship of the earth, in line with our Eco school’s initiative that was begun in 2016. We identify the sacramental in all of God’s creation; we promote an ethical approach to technology and its impact; we promote the common good over self-interest; we promote respect for all life; we advocate for global conscience formation; we address the geographic scope of the universal church.</p>
<b>Family Studies</b>	<p>We discuss a vocation to family life; we explore human sexuality and reproduction in the context of Theology of the Body; we explore sacramental marriage as a strong, supportive environment for raising healthy children; we promote respect for life from the moment of conception to natural death, grounded in Catholic teaching and supported through the biology of prenatal development; we evaluate reproductive technology from a faith perspective, we promote a holistic and faith approach to child development and rearing.</p>
<b>Moderns</b>	<p>We promote a universal church which extends beyond language barriers; we address intolerance, promote tolerance and respect for others.</p>
<b>Special Education</b>	<p>By teaching students about their exceptionalities and their learning styles, we are empowering students to recognize their strengths and build upon their unique gifts. In addition, students are reminded that they have diverse needs, and they can access accommodations and services to best suit their needs. Students learn to self-advocate within their classes and are more confident in expressing what they require. Within the Resource Room students feel valued and respected as they have an alternative environment which provides a quieter setting with support from an Academic Resource Teacher. This contributes to an increased level of confidence and a positive sense of self as the student realizes they can learn and achieve success if they access the appropriate support.</p>

	<p>The Academic Resource Room is a safe, quiet, and respectful environment for exceptional students with an Individual Education Plan. Students can write their tests or work on their assignments and feel comfortable asking questions or getting clarification from a Resource Teacher. By being in a smaller setting, the students feel supported and can take risks without the pressure of their peers who may not understand their individual learning challenges.</p> <p>In addition, Academic Resource Teachers provide mainstream teachers a <b>Student Profile</b> for <u>every student with an IEP (Individual Education Plan)</u> in their class. The Student Profile is a snapshot of their IEP, which highlights students' strengths, needs, and accommodations necessary for success. Teachers are also provided strategies to enhance student learning through differentiated instruction to meet the unique learning needs of exceptional learners.</p> <p>The students in our Planning for Independence Program are provided opportunities both within the school and the community to develop their social skills and live out their faith. The students feel dignified and respected as they are integrated for a part of their day into a mainstream class, and they are always included in school events. In addition, their in-school work placements such as collecting attendance, gathering recycling, and tidying or library and the chapel, create opportunities for students to engage with others, hence creating a sense of community at St. Roch. Finally, the Planning for Independence students attend St. Mary's regularly to participate in mass. In addition to the above, the Special Education (Academic Resource) Department also:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Includes a prayer on the exam cover page.</li> <li>2. Includes a header on our tests and exams which reads: <b><i>A variety of gifts but the same spirit. 1 Corinthians 12:4 (It is also on our department door)</i></b></li> <li>3. Include a question related to Gospel values on ARD final culminating tasks.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Library</b></p>	<p>Through Catholic teachings, students are taught to develop critical thinking and gospel-based values, using several types of media. Information literacy is defined as the ability to access, select, gather, critically evaluate, create, and communicate information through a constant stream of ideas, information online, in print, and through electronic games and mass media. Students become risk-takers and develop their spiritual and intellectual lives by collaborating with peers, and with their Catholic teachers. As students move through their years of Catholic education, they encounter an ever-widening range of texts. They will need skills to determine where to direct their attention and how to interpret messages and use them appropriately. Catholic education provides youth with strong values that will lead them to success in their post-secondary school years.</p>
<p><b>Arts</b></p>	<p>The Arts teaches students to recognize and develop the different gifts that God has given us. Growing together in a community to support one another as we share our gifts is a hallmark of our department. We strive to use our talents to</p>

	<p>support and give back to the school through performances, Mass celebrations, and school events. The material that we create and perform helps us live out the plan that God calls us toward.</p>
<p><b>Business</b></p>	<p>In business we teach about corporate social responsibility through respecting the rights, beliefs and opinions of others and placing people and planet above profits. We look at global responsibility and the challenges that businesses face regarding outsourcing, sweatshops, child labour and environmental stewardship as well as equality and representation in the workplace by connecting our Catholic values to these topics.</p> <p>We strive to incorporate the Catholic Graduate expectations in all parts of the curriculum i.e., being an effective communicator through marketing campaigns and presenting the correct messaging in advertisements.</p> <p>We encourage students through our teaching and assignments to look at successful businesses and entrepreneurs who have had a positive impact on society and how it is the responsibility of businesses to make the world a better place for all global citizens.</p>
<p><b>Technology</b></p>	<p>Technological education, by its nature, is experientially based. Our goal is to further “real world” modeling to the area of practical morality. We will strive to instill values that are based on our Catholicity.</p> <p>We work to ensure that our students demonstrate respect for the dignity and welfare of others. We also are actively contributing to the Catholic community by using our talents to produce works and artifacts that symbolize and embrace our Catholic faith.</p>

**Collaborative School Culture**

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

- Guest speakers to be featured regarding Virtues of the Month as they are carried out in our local community and internationally, specifically by Catholic charities (with a specific focus on SHARELIFE, and CHALICE) where appropriate and following appropriate PPH guidelines

## Parish Connections

*Planned and existing initiatives that maintain and enhance positive relationships with the local parish communities, all subject to PPH guidelines.*

- Graduation Mass to be at the parish.
- The Parish team are invited into the school to preform mass as a whole or in smaller scale in the chapel should the need arise.

## Staff Faith Development

*Catechesis and faith formation among our staff, following PPH guidelines and social distancing*

Christian Meditation instruction will be provided to staff, both during a PD day session and after school in accordance with demand and interest.

Communal prayer will also take place during Heads Meetings, Staff Meetings, and extended liturgies of the Word will take place on Professional Development days throughout the school year.

Morning prayer for staff will be offered each day (apart from Tuesdays) in the chapel

A weekly rosary may be offered after school throughout the year.

## 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, subject to PPH guidelines.*

A Transitions Committee and our Catholic Leadership students organizes three retreat days for our Grade 8 students from our feeder schools, with the purpose of informing students about life in high school and the role that faith, ethics and morals from a Catholic perspective plays in everyday student life.

## Vocations

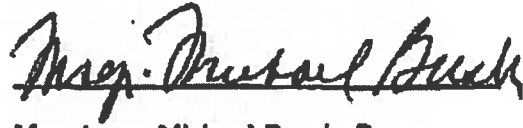
*Vocations to religious life and pastoral ministries promoted through, subject to PPH guidelines*

- Contact to be made with the Vocations Office of the Archdiocese and further planning will take place with the purpose of facilitating a visit from Fr. *Matthew McCarthy*, Director of Vocations, and the celebration of the Eucharist with the homily focusing on Vocations.
- Class presentations may also be facilitated through the Program Coordinator of the Office of Vocations

**Signatures**



J. Quenneville, Principal



Monsignor Michael Busch, Pastor



S. Simeone, Vice Principal



Fr. Prem Addagatia, Associate Pastor



D. Radetic, Vice Principal



Tammy-Lynne Peel, S.O. Brampton  
West



K. Senra, Chaplaincy Leader



A. Fray-Bowen, School Council Co-Chair



A. Camara, D.H. of Theology



J. Celenza, School Council Co-Chair