

PASTORAL PLAN

School: St. Catherine of Siena Separate School

School Mission Statement:

As a Catholic community of St. Catherine of Siena, we are called to foster a safe, caring, and inclusive Catholic learning environment. Our Faith is embedded in all we do. In collaboration with the home, school, and parish, we model the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations, allowing our students to live the gospel values. Our goal is to meet the diverse needs of our students through effective instruction while promoting student achievement and well-being.

School Motto: | Many Hands, Many Lands, One Heart, One God

Our Parish: St. Catherine of Siena

Pastor: Father Gabriel Forero, C.S. and Father Tiziano

Parish website: stcatherineofsienami.archtoronto.org

Message from the Pastor:

Please accept my greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ on behalf of our parish community.

I would like to welcome you to this new Academic Year at St. Catherine of Siena Catholic School. As the pastor of St Catherine of Siena Church, I am very happy to say that we at the parish are eager to walk together with the school on *“our journey of Faith”*. We are confident that the school staff are committed to educating your

children in all areas of life: academic, spiritual, social, and physical. We want your children to grow as Jesus did *"increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour"* (cf. Luke 2.52).

We trust and believe that the school, as a Catholic school, has and continues to strive to live out the commitment to instill in all students the lessons that will prepare them not only for academic and professional success, but also, and especially, for success in life.

I take this opportunity to remind you that our Catholic faith requires a personal relationship with Jesus whom we must know how to recognize in all those around us. The challenge is for us to work together for the good of *"the least of these"*, as family, school, and parish so that with our witness they may grow in all areas cultivating a personal relationship with Jesus and a community sense of responsibility.

Thank you for considering Catholic formation for your children. I trust that all of you will discover and experience God's blessings by faithfully practicing your faith.

I take this opportunity to assure you of my prayers for you, and a warm welcome at St. Catherine of Siena Church, where we also offer opportunities as well as formation groups where we can grow and deepen our faith.

Message from the Catholic School Council:

St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Council is an integral part of our school community. The Catholic School Council continues to strive for parents/guardians to actively participate and collaborate in all aspects of the student school life. We encourage the relationship through home, school and church and strive to enhance the accountability of the education system to parents/guardians. Together with the school Principal, Vice principal and Teaching family, our focus

remains to ensure that all students reach their full potential in a diverse, inclusive, and faith-filled environment.

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

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

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

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

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

The sub-themes for Catholic Education Week 2024 are:

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

- Focused morning prayer highlighting Catholic Education
- Crowning of Mary Celebration
- Virtues Assembly Acceptance
- Welcome to Kindergarten Evening
- Parent Engagement Evening- Faith based Craft Night
- Equity Showcase

- Eco Team led activities
- Activities celebrating Catholic Education and Diversity in Classrooms

Faith Formation:

Forming ourselves in our Catholic faith is a foundational element in helping each of us understand and live in the example of Christ.

Adult Faith Formation is supported in the following ways:

- Adult Faith Ambassadors gather with the Mississauga South Family of Schools
- Advent and Lent Celebrations with the Mississauga South Family of Schools
- Parent community invited to attend school liturgical celebrations
- Staff Liturgies
- Spirit Week Activities- donations to Share Life

Student Faith Formation is supported in the following ways:

- Students prepare and say daily morning prayers over the announcements
- Class prayers throughout the day (before lunch and end of the day)
- Monthly Virtues Assemblies
- Activities that Honour Truth and Reconciliation
- Virtue Awards and Wall
- OSCGE announcements/ Medallion Program/ Wall
- Whole school Faith Retreat
- Youth Faith Ambassadors
- Weekly Christian Meditation lead by the Wellness Crew (Student group)
- Social Justice Activities (food drives)
- Intentional and explicit inclusion of a distinctive Catholic worldview across all subject areas
- Consistent Modeling of Gospel values and faith practice
- School staff work in collaboration with the St. Catherine of Siena Parish pastoral team in faith formation and preparation for sacraments

- Stations of the Cross student led
- Youth Minister from the Parish visits classrooms
- Informal living and teaching of our faith occurs throughout the day in our treatment/ respect of others
- Spirit Week Activities- donations to Share Life

Sacramental Preparation:

As Catholics, we understand sacraments to be "outward signs instituted by Christ to give grace." Together in partnership with our parish, we support the preparation of God's children in receiving the sacraments.

Event	Grade 2	Grade 7
Sacrament of Reconciliation	May 1, 2024 7:00-9:00 p.m. @ The Parish	
Sacrament of First Holy Communion	May 25, 2024 10:00 a.m. @ the Parish	
Sacrament of Confirmation		May 28, 2024 7:00 p.m. @ the Parish
Sacrament of Reconciliation (Grade 3-Grade 8) February 28, 2024 @ St. Catherine of Siena Catholic School		

Liturgical Celebrations:

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

Celebration	Date
First School Mass/ Thanksgiving	October 2, 2023 @ 9:30 a.m.

Advent Mass	December 7, 2023 @ 9:30 a.m.
Ash Wednesday Distribution of Ashes- Liturgy of the Word	February 14, 2024
Reconciliation	February 28, 2024 @ 9:30 a.m.
Easter Mass	April 11, 2024 @ 9:30 a.m.
Closing Mass/ Graduation Mass	June 20, 204 @ 9:30 a.m.

Social Justice / Outreach Activities / Charities:

Catholic Social Teachings of the Church root our actions in supporting human dignity and the preferential option of the poor which calls us to serve the most vulnerable in the world.

St. Catherine of Siena Catholic School participates in a variety of Social Justice Projects and Outreach Activities:

- Share Life Spirit Weeks
- Monthly Social Justice Announcements (student led)
- Terry Fox Marathon of Hope
- Thanksgiving and Christmas Food Drives
- Winter Clothing Giveaway
- Breakfast for Kids (Siena Breakfast Club)
- Eco Club activities that promote responsible stewardship of God's creation
- Truth and Reconciliation Liturgy and activities

Recognizing Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations:

Framed by the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations (OCSGE), our graduates will be effective communicators, reflective thinkers, lifelong learners, collaborative contributors, caring family members, responsible citizens and discerning believers formed in the Catholic faith community.

St. Catherine of Siena Catholic School celebrates the OCSGE:

- Every month focus on a specific OCSGE- Announcements and in classrooms
- OCSGE featured in monthly newsletter to the community
- OCSGE Medallion Program- A student from each class receives an award each month
- OCSGE bulletin board
- Post visible signs of the OCSGE around the school land classrooms
- Promote forgiveness, caring and respect when conflicts arise
- Promote self reflection in both staff and students
- Focus on respecting the thoughts and opinions of others
- Celebrate our gifts give to us by God

Celebrating Virtues:

A virtue is a habit or established capacity to perform good actions according to a moral standard. When we practice these virtues, we strengthen them and thereby make the presence of God more and more visible in the world around us.

St. Catherine of Siena Catholic School Celebrates the Virtues:

- Daily prayers including the virtue of the month
- Monthly Virtues Assemblies (school wide) prepared by students
- Monthly virtues awards given to students in each class
- Bulletin board display
- Teachers use the virtues as the foundation of their teaching and the learning experiences created for students

Visible Signs of our Faith:

Through symbol and service, we are instruments of God's love whose work within our communities stands as a witness to our faith.

Visible Signs of Our Faith at St. Catherine of Siena Catholic School:

- Front foyer alter, bible, cross
- Alcoves in front foyer displaying Saints
- All classes have crosses, bibles, and prayer tables
- Spiritual sayings and displays throughout the school
- Stairwells have inspirational signs (i.e., Mother Theresa Quote)

Resource List for Parents/Guardians:

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

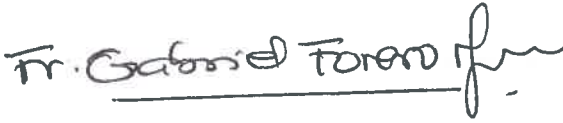
Resource List for Schools:

Board

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

School-Based


Signature Page

Pastor Fr. Gabriel Torero 

Faith Ambassador(s) (as applicable)

N. Menezes 

Teacher(s)

Mr. Brennan 

Chair of Catholic School Council



Vice Principal(s)

A. Smith - Foster

Principal

S. Pompei: Bosco

Superintendent Silvana Jos