

# PASTORAL PLAN

School: **St. Edmund Separate School**

## School Mission Statement:

*We, the staff of St. Edmund Catholic Elementary School celebrate spirituality and diversity through achieving, believing and community living in an inclusive Catholic environment.*

*We, the parents of St. Edmund Catholic Elementary School, in partnership with staff and students, are dedicated to our children's spiritual, intellectual, emotional, social and physical development in a secure environment, at home and in class. Working together, we attain success by educating students to their full potential.*

*We, the students, act and learn as a Catholic community. We demonstrate our love for God by respecting each other and by trying to meet the expectations of our parents and teachers.*

School Motto: *Body - Mind - Spirit*

Our Parish: *St. Patrick (Mississauga)*

Pastor: **Rev. John E. Facey**

Parish website: **<https://stpatricksmi.archtoronto.org/>**

## Message from the Pastor:

*We, the Parishioners of St. Patrick's, proclaiming our belief in Christ's message of love, with the support of the Holy Spirit, are committed to building a welcoming faith community for the greater glory of God. Sharing our gifts from God, we strive to grow in service and knowledge and to recognize Jesus in everyone on our journey together. Our school is under the pastoral*

care of Father John Facey at St. Patrick's Parish. We encourage our families to register with the parish, and to join us for mass at the times listed below:

**Saturday Evening:** 5:00 p.m.

**Sunday:** 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 12 noon (Children's liturgy from September to June), 7:00 p.m.

**Weekdays:** Daily (Monday-Friday) - 8:15 a.m.

**Evening Mass:** Tuesday & Friday at 7:00 p.m.

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Tuesday: 6:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.

Saturday: 4:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. & any day by appointment

### **Message from the Catholic School Council:**

*The Catholic School Council on behalf of the parents of St. Edmund Catholic School support the staff in promoting Catholic values and building a sense of Catholic Community.*

### **Catholic Education Week – May 5 – May 10, 2024**

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

Our spiritual quote for Catholic Education Week 2024 is:

***"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**

*During Catholic Education Week, all Catholic School Boards in Ontario will celebrate the*

*significant contribution that Catholic Education has made to the community, the province and to Canada. Our Catholic School Graduate Expectations challenge students to articulate in society those fundamental values that underpin Catholic education. The theme for this year's Catholic Education Week is 'We are called to Love.' During Catholic Education Week the students participate in special activities at all grade levels, including prayer celebrations and service activities. Throughout Catholic Education Week, we ask you to reflect on the significance of Catholic Education's presence and contribution in our Church and in our society. We invite all members of our community, especially our parents/guardians, to support us in the class celebrations and activities planned during this important week.*

### **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.*

*Some of the activities that support both adult and student faith formation at St. Edmund Catholic Elementary School include:*

- *Active Youth Faith Ambassadors*
- *Active Eco Student Club*
- *Recognizing students for the demonstrating the Virtue of the Month*
- *Morning Prayers, scripture readings, reflections and announcements*
- *School masses and liturgical celebrations*
- *Liturgical calendar celebrations (Advent, Christmas, Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday, Lent, Stations of the Cross, Easter)*
- *Adult Faith Ambassadors – liturgies for staff*
- *Sacramental Preparation for First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation*
- *Connecting with Father John and Father Brian from St. Patrick Parish*
- *Highlighting the Rosary*
- *Food/Clothing/Gift Card Drives*
- *Sharelife fundraising activities for staff and students*
- *Daily Religious Education and Family Life instruction*
- *Collaboration with community partners (Peel Health) to promote safe schools' activities and social justice initiatives; Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week, Introduction to Social Media and Anti-Bullying Presentations*
- *Promoting Inclusivity; Social Justice Initiatives (Fundraising for ShareLife, Food Drives in support of the Mississauga Food Bank and Canadian Food For Children*
- *Random Acts of Kindness-students are encouraged to display acts of kindness*

### **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
Confirmation Candidates		TBD
Communion Candidates	TBD	
Sacrament of Reconciliation	TBD	
Sacrament of Communion	TBD	
Sacrament of Confirmation - Enrollment		TBD

**Liturgical Celebrations:**

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

Celebration	Date
Opening School Mass/Thanksgiving Mass	October 30, 2023
Advent Mass	November 7, 2023
Lenten Mass	March 20, 2024
Easter Mass	April 17, 2024
Year End Mass	June 19, 2024

**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.*

*As a school community, we are committed to supporting those among us who are in greater need. Through our Youth and Adult Faith Ambassadors, Mental Health Team, and our Eco Team we ensure community participation in social justice activities and programs, and a particular focus on the sustainability of our environment and Diversity and Equity.*

*Our Youth Faith Ambassador and our Eco Team programs continue to provide students with a voice and on-going opportunities for student leadership.*

*Throughout the school year we are involved in social justice initiatives such as Share Life, The Mississauga Food Bank, Dr. Simone's Canadian Food for Children initiatives, St. Vincent de Paul sponsorships, Stewards of the Earth initiatives, Terry Fox Walk, etc.*

### **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.*

*The Ontario Catholic Graduate Expectations are highlighted daily through visual signs, announcements, whole school and classroom experiences. Teachers embed the expectations into daily curriculum learning opportunities, while modeling the same for all students. Students engage in leadership and live our Catholic values through our Youth Faith Ambassador Program, Eco Teams, Wildcat Leadership opportunities, Virtue Monthly Recognition Certificates, Social Justice initiatives and announcements. Our front foyer will become a space for displaying student-initiated work linked to our OCSGE through our Media display, and a space for highlighting our Virtues.*

### **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.*

*The St. Edmund school community gathers regularly to focus our attention on ten virtues. The virtues are an area of daily focus through our announcements, prayers, and interactions. We celebrate our accomplishments and give thanks for God's presence in our daily lives. We highlight the Monthly Virtues in many forms, from morning announcements, virtue certificates and student recognition. The virtues we celebrate are:*

Sept. - Faith	Feb. - Respect
Oct. - Empathy	Mar. - Kindness
Nov. - Conscience	Apr. - Love
Dec. - Hope	May - Acceptance
Jan. - Self Control	June - Fairness

### **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.*

*We promote unity within our St. Edmund school community by gathering together in a variety of contexts and sharing common prayers. Prayer is experienced daily as a whole school community, as a class and as an individual. Readings are shared with the whole school. Classroom prayer is also part of dismissal routines for lunch and end of day. Teachers use sacred spaces, virtue signs, as well as faith artifacts in the classrooms, hallways and front foyer to promote our Catholic values. As a school, we are involved in many student driven social justice initiatives, eco-school projects and well-being activities (extra-curricular, prayer, liturgical, social activities and leadership experiences). Virtues Program, Family Life and Religious Education programs are integrated in curricular and extracurricular activities; the Ontario Catholic Graduate expectations are part of daily school life.*

*Our Youth Faith Ambassadors work together to help the students understand the gospel stories. Our YFA organize and coordinate social justice initiatives and community building events.*

*Our Adult Ambassadors help to enrich the spiritual lives of the adults in our school community. Our Adult Faith Team help organize Family of School Events such as the Advent Retreat and the Stations of the Cross. As well, our ambassadors organize prayer and liturgy opportunities for staff.*

*Our Eco Team highlights a passion for sustainability of our environment, creating school wide initiatives that inform, reflect and motivate.*

*Prayers specifically for Bullying Awareness Week and Black History Month*

### **Resource List for Parents/Guardians:**

- 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 2023 – [Catholic Education Week 2022](#)
- Synod on Synodality – [Synod 2021 - 2023](#)

### **Resource List for Schools:**

#### **Board**

- Multi-Year Strategic Plan - [Multi-Year Strategic Plan 2019-2023](#)
- Renewing The Promise - [Renewing The Promise](#)
- Encyclical Letter “Fratelli Tutti”- [Fratelli Tutti](#)
- National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation - [National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation](#)
- Catholic Education Week 2023 – [Catholic Education Week 2022](#)
- Synod on Synodality – [Synod 2021 - 2023](#)

#### **School-Based**

- **Adaptive Kits** for Sacraments of Reconciliation; First Communion & Confirmation
- **Vocations Units**

We have Vocations units as part of the Grades 2, 5, and 8 curriculum. The goal of these supplementary units is to deepen one’s understanding of God’s call – the “*vocare*” – to

various forms of life within the Church.

- **History of the Parish**

Through the resource book *Our Story, Our Tradition, Our Journey*, grade 7 students have the opportunity to learn about the history of our parish.

- **Enduring Gift Video**



**Signature Page**

**Pastor:** *Father John Facey*

**Teacher(s):** *St. Edmund Staff*

**Chair of Catholic School Council:** *Ms. Szasz*

**Vice Principal(s):** R. Patterson

**Principal:** *T. Podobnik*

**Superintendent:** *D. Belchior*