



# **PASTORAL PLAN**

School Name: St. Joseph Secondary School

School Motto: "Be not afraid . . . come follow me."

Mission Statement: The staff and students of St. Joseph believe that our school community is grounded in the Gospel message of Jesus. He is the reason for all that we do and all that we are in our school. We believe all students can achieve success. We believe that all members of our community deserve to feel safe, included, and welcome in our school. We believe that all the members of our school family (which includes staff, students, parents, and our pastoral team) deserve to have an active voice and be heard as we continue to build a school community that provides excellence in Catholic education.

Theme for the Year: Catholic Education: We are Many, We are One

L'éducation catholique: À plusieurs, nous sommes un

**Background on the theme:** (as provided by OCSTA)

The theme for Catholic Education Week 2023, We are Many, We are One, was inspired by the following considerations:

- > The Church worldwide has embarked on a synodal process, "a synod on synodality," which centres on intentional listening: listening to each other and listening to the Holy Spirit. We have each been asked to actively reach out and listen to the voices and experiences of people where they are and consider what steps the Holy Spirit is inviting us to take as we walk together. As the Catholic Bishops of Ontario highlighted in Renewing the Promise, "It is about taking the time to walk alongside one another, to listen and to teach, and in doing so, to transform."
- > Ongoing recognition of the Truth & Reconciliation Commission and the relevance of Indigenous culture and spirituality will continue to move us forward.
- > The Ministry of Education's focus on Inclusion and Equity resonates with all educators and administrators as we desire to serve all of God's children and Pope Francis' encyclical entitled, Fratelli Tutti, will guide us in this good work.
- > The challenges to personal and spiritual well-being posed by the uncertainty of the current global crisis makes the timing and the concerns of Mental Health Week, which takes place during the same week as Catholic Education Week, all the more relevant.

**Grade 11:** Hopestone High School Retreat Program. Gr. 11 Religion classes. Facilitator: Hopestone-Catholic Formation Facilitation Team; Supervision: - Religion class teacher and Chaplaincy leader; The retreat will take place at St. Joseph Parish. Theme: Worthy (Catholic Social Teaching). This is a NEW retreat program for our school.

**Grade 12:** Regeneration Outreach Community, Brampton. Gr. 12 Religion classes. Facilitator: Regen staff; Supervision: –Religion class teacher and Chaplaincy leader; The retreat day includes site orientation; service project: preparation of lunch meal, participation in daily activities for guests; sharing of lunch; group sharing and reflection after service project. Reflection on scripture (Matthew 25:31); Theme. – Living the Promise–Human Dignity. This is a NEW retreat program for our school.

# Students in P.I.P. (Planning For Independence) class -

Location-Riverwood Conservancy, Mississauga; Facilitator: Riverwood Conservancy staff and Chaplaincy Leader; Supervision: Chaplaincy leader & P.I.P staff; Activities: prayer, sharing, enabling garden, hike. Theme: I Am God's Masterpiece.

#### Other retreats:

March for Life Rally in Ottawa occurs on May 11, 2023. It is an opportunity that will be offered to students and participation will depend on the number of students and staff that are available to attend this event. The Theme is the sacredness of human life from conception to natural death.

Should a teacher request an afterschool retreat/twilight retreat for a club, team they will meet with Chaplaincy to discuss possibilities.

# **Other Pastoral/Outreach Activities**

Our works of mercy inspired by Matthew 25:31-40 and Catholic Social Teaching Principles.

#### **Pastoral Activities**

Daily prayer led by Chaplaincy Leader and student faith leaders via the PA system in the morning and at the end of the day before dismissal.

JAG week of Peace-September 19-23, 2022. Prayers on the theme of peace based on recent world events and coinciding with themes for International Day of Peace (September 21, 2022); Community given a daily peace challenge. September 23, 2022-Club Fair

JAG Week for Truth and Reconciliation-September 26-September 30, 2022. Daily prayer on themes. Staff encouraged to use resources provided by the Board. School Wide Lunch Activity: We prepare a banner that will be used for future Truth and Reconciliation weeks. Students and staff contribute to the banner, considering the Pope's Visit during this past summer and the continued work and understanding needed for Truth and Reconciliation.

Youth Faith Leadership: Class Faith Ambassador program-period one class faith ambassadors work with the Chaplaincy Leader to help animate activities in the pastoral plan within their classroom and to maintain the classroom prayer centers. JAG Chaplaincy Team-students are trained to lead and organize school-wide faith and social justice initiatives. JAG Chaplaincy Team will lead the Development and Peace Campaign and initiate our participation in the Development and Peace Schools Program.

St. Vincent De Paul-St. Joseph Conference outreach: Student volunteers help St.VDP with Parish Thanksgiving Food Drive; We will run Halloween For Hope in support of St.VDP. September and April Bundle Sunday (truck in Parish parking lot).

Rosary Ministry to Seniors-Student volunteers and the Chaplaincy Leader host a virtual rosary for our Seniors at Streetsville Care every Wednesday at 4 p.m. This provides an opportunity to continue a Catholic tradition for interested residents. Our young people are excited to reach out and be a source of hope for our neighbours. We begin mid-October and continue to end of May. This year we look forward to an in-person Rosary with Seniors at the end of the year.

Development and Peace Campaigns and days of recognition in the United Nations Calendar that align with our Catholic Social Teaching will be highlighted through morning prayer and reflection. Campaigns will be posted by the Chaplaincy Leader using the school social media platforms and the JAG Chaplaincy Google Classroom. Chaplaincy will organize both in-person and virtual participation in the campaigns (DP Fall Campaign, Oct.16 Fasting on World Food Day, Lenten ThinkFast, use of ShareLent calendar)

Halloween for Hope-Students are invited to dress up in appropriate Halloween costume on October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022, while also contributing to the those in need of food security in our local community. We will ask for donations of non-perishable food items with all proceeds going to St. Vincent De Paul Society.

Daily prayers and reflections to cohere with the CEW sub themes. We hope to celebrate St. Joseph the Worker Feast Day in this week. This is also the week we conclude and celebrate our Share Life Fundraising. Social Media campaign. Specific activities will be determined throughout the year.

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

| Sunday, April 30: Launching of Catholic Education Week Theme | Wednesday, May 3: When we reflect / En réfléchissant |
|--|--|
| Monday, May 1: When we see / En voyant                       | Thursday, May 4: When we learn / En apprenant        |
| Tuesday, May 2: When we listen / En écoutant                 | Friday, May 5: When we act / En agissant             |

# Celebrate Life and Family Week - May 8 – 12, 2023

We promote a culture of life through prayer and witness. We will use the prayer resources provided for this week by C.O.L.F. (Catholic Organization For Life and Family-Building a Civilization of Love) and the CCCB 2023 National Week for Life and Family. Activities to be determined.

May 11, 2023 is the National March for Life in Ottawa
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                    | Department Activities  |  |
|-------------------------------|--|--|
| Physical Education and Visual | Catholic Graduate Expectations that are part of the  |  |
| and Performing Arts           | curriculum:  |  |
|                               | <ul> <li>Participates in leisure and fitness activities for a</li> </ul>   |  |
|                               | balanced and healthy lifestyle.  |  |
|                               | <ul> <li>Recognizes human intimacy and sexuality as God</li> </ul>   |  |
|                               | given gifts, to be used as the Creator intended; makes   |  |
|                               | decisions considering gospel values with an informed moral conscience.   |  |
|                               | <ul> <li>Demonstrates a confident and positive sense of self<br/>and respect for the dignity and welfare of others.</li> </ul> |  |
|                               | <ul> <li>Sets appropriate goals and priorities in school, work,<br/>and personal life.</li> </ul>                              |  |

- Catechesis on creation
- Message of Pope Francis on migrants and refugees 2015
- Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario, Principles of Catholic Social Teachings
- Parable of the Good Samaritan foundation of social justice
- Letter to the Leaders of G8 Nations NCCB 2013
- Aboriginal Nations presentations to all classes John Paul II,
   Address to the Native Peoples of Canada.

## **History:**

- Examine concepts of "just war" and "pacifism" Archbishop
   P-A Durocher
- Focus on Canadian immigration in the light of "love your neighbor as yourself" presentation by Elly Gotz a Jewish concentration camp prisoner from WWII. This will be a virtual presentation.
- We will host the Holodomor Bus tour exhibit to raise awareness of the plight of Ukraine-past and present. Topics: prejudice, genocide, mass oppression, hope.
- Gr.10 History classes will visit the Heritage Warplane
   Museum to study the involvement of Canada during times of
   war. Focus: preservation of Canadian Heritage; helping and
   caring for one another; relevancy to war in Ukraine
- We are mindful that our school will now have students and families who have left Ukraine.

#### Civics:

- Faith in God as in the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*
- Civic responsibility founded on the Christian moral compass and spirituality
- Mock election, student vote is run each year

## Law, Parenting, Food and Nutrition, Anthropology:

- Raise questions on how to create a just society based on Christian principles
- Christian virtues are discussed throughout the curriculum along with the Beatitudes

## **Modern Languages:**

- For French and Spanish classes, prayers and reflection are done in various languages in class on a daily basis
- The themes of anti-bullying, charity, volunteerism is well embraced throughout the courses

- and ecosystems are taught; Respect for life from conception to natural death.
- In ecology, we discuss the wealth of North America in terms of food supplies - not only do we need to be good stewards of the environment and conserve rather than waste, but we also should share our abundance, as these are gifts from God, with less wealthy nations.
- Connected to this year's CEW theme students will be kept up to date with the latest developments regarding the testing of vaccines and treatments for covid-19.

Students will be taught the importance of wearing a mask during the current pandemic, not from the perspective of protecting oneself but as a Christian obligation to act in a manner that protects others.

# **Business/Cooperative Education/Technology**

#### **Business:**

- 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

#### **Cooperative Education:**

During integration day, volunteer work, not-for-profit sector;
 Responsible citizen: showing humility, willingness to learn and promote "what would Jesus do" in the workplace.

## **Technology:**

 Automotive - generosity of spirit-> e.g. repairing and service staff cars.

#### **Hair and Aesthetics:**

 To focus on developing the inner and outer beauty of all of our students through student-client participation.

## **Computer Engineering/Design:**

 Inviting students to create and design in the spirit of Jesus Christ, the greatest of all builders.

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

thinking; sharing faith experiences; showing compassion; empowering others.

## **Student Success/Peer Tutoring Program:**

 This is a mentorship and academic assistance program aimed at junior students with the aim being academic success and a successful transition into high school.

## **Child and Youth Worker Support:**

 The Child and Youth Worker supports students' mental health and well-being. She works with individual students as well as our Black Student Alliance Club and the Mental Health and Well-Being Club.

# Safe Space QSA:

- All are welcome to participate in the Safe Space QSA Club that supports the well-being of 2SLGBTQ youth in our school and promotes inclusivity and success of all students.
- This club is especially relevant for the youth of today as they participate in events under the social justice umbrella bullying prevention, safe schools initiatives, field trips and community events.
- A recently completed "How to Guide for Educators" for supporting 2SLGBTQ + Alliances in our DPCDSB is made available to all schools.

# **Grade 8 Transition Planning:**

- Through several initiatives, guidance and other departments work together to support the transition of Grade 8 students to high school.
- In the fall, we host a Grade 8 Open House evening event for all students in Grade 8 who want to attend our school.
- In late November, Guidance Counsellors visit feeder schools to provide an overview of high school regarding course selection and the registration process.
- In August, Grade 8 students are invited to the participate in the Get Ready Program for high school.

## ESL/ELL

 The guidance department has a significant connection with the Settlement Worker from the Newcomer Centre of Peel.
 Our school has seen an ever-increasing number of ESL/ELL

- Guiding questions are strategically written to allow for the connection between their choice novel and the Ontario Graduate Catholic Graduate Expectations.
- This is direct line with the Reading Strand of the Ontario Provincial curriculum, which indicates that students must "raise important questions about the human condition, now and in the past.
- As students increase their knowledge of accomplished writers and literary works, and vicariously experience times, events, cultures, and values different from their own, they deepen their understanding of the many dimensions of human thought and human experience." (The Ontario Curriculum)
- This encouragement of students establishing a worldly view enables them to understand the dignity and value of all people, and it is in direct alignment with the Vatican's General Directory for Catechesis, No. 16.
- Professional development will begin for the integration of Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation Christus Vivit in Grade 12 University-Preparation class happening 2019-2020. The letter is focused on young people and to the entire people of God

# **English Language Learners (ELL)**

- Prayer and reflection in various languages in class on a daily basis.
- Themes of anti-bullying, charity, and volunteerism are discussed throughout the courses.

# **Academic Resource**

# Planning for Independence:

- Students and staff use the chapel on a regular basis for reflection time.
- Bible stories and prayers are part of the daily curriculum.
- Students attend a yearly retreat which is coordinated with the Chaplaincy Department.
- Students volunteer with Chaplaincy initiatives.

#### **Building Potential in a Community Oriented Manner:**

- While curriculum supports meeting their academic needs the delivery method celebrates their successes and allows them to acquire confidence.
- The staff ensure they are connected in the school community by reminders of events, ensuring they know the appropriate

- The main doors of the chapel are adorned with stained-glass windows that depict the
  Holy Family. A side door to the chapel includes a stained-glass window depicting the Holy
  Eucharist as this door is closest to the tabernacle. Inner doors for sacristy and storage
  room have stained glass windows with the artist's image of angels. We thank Ilia
  Tzvetanov for his stained-glass artistry.
- A Cross with the Crucified Christ, given to us by a former teacher, is on the wall and above a small prayer table. Icons of the Saints of the day or month are placed on this prayer table.

# **Chaplaincy Office (Room 319)**

- Image of the Prodigal Son just above seating area (Rembrandt)
- Images of former students in prayer (taken by Michael Swan), YSN writers (now alumni) and their articles, faces of our young people.
- In the bookshelves of the chaplaincy office are icons of various Saints and a library of Catholic resources, literature, prayer cards, music, etc.
- Development and Peace Posters and Scarboro Mission Posters: Catholic Milestones in Interfaith Dialogue and Catholic Social Thought
- Shelf with Care Notes by Abbey Press containing brochures for help with personal issues
  of students, prayer resources, prayer cards, booklets (Right Wall)
- Shelf of Resources from Covenant House, Catholic Organization for Life and Family, Kids
  Help Phone, Catholic Family Services of Peel-Dufferin, Catholic Campus Ministry, Office of
  Catholic Youth, YMCA, Mississauga Food Bank, and Vita Centre. These are updated and
  are used for pastoral care and outreach to students/staff.
- ShareLife, ThinkFast, and other fundraising plaques highlighting school contribution to Catholic charities.

#### Classrooms and Other Rooms in the School

- Each Classroom contains a wall Cross of the Resurrected Christ and prayer-table. Each
  classroom has also been provided with a prayer box of items to place on the prayer-table,
  some of which include the Catholic Youth Bible, prayer books, rosary, LED candle, Advent
  wreaths and candles, and antependium of the liturgical colour (cloths are in green, purple
  and white).
- Each classroom has a magnet for the door with the lyrics to the school song: "St. Joseph, Pray for Us."
- Rooms such as the library, attendance office, main office, staff room and department workrooms have a prayer table.
- The library has a Marian statue and prayer table.
- The main office has a large wall cross handmade by students and staff.
- Outside of each department office adhered to the wall, is a cross with verses from scripture.
- The staffroom is host to the original school statue of St. Joseph.
- Photocopy Rooms have a faith-based bulletin board.

- Being aware of our most vulnerable students regarding financial needs and supporting them through funds to assist on sports teams, food, field trips, graduation, etc.
- Spirit announcements that recognize the contributions of students will continue this year.
- Awareness of Indigenous Peoples of 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, 2022. This year we will recognize the second National Day of Truth and Reconciliation with organized activities during lunch.
- November and April-Bullying Prevention Week/Pink Day-these days will be recognized with p.a. reflections. We will provide resources for teachers for use in class.
- Mental Health and Wellness awareness-this will be ongoing and included directly in teachers' curriculum planning. Themes will be highlighted through morning reflections and during chapel retreats. Links to resources are found on the school website and will be made available through various school social media platforms.
- Hospital and funeral home visits.
- Integration of Black History Month themes throughout the year will be encouraged this year as we lay the foundation for the Black Student Alliance. Prayer Cards of Black Saints are in the chapel.
- Parent Ministry prayer cards for parents, parent resources for families/teens provided at parent gatherings (Open House, PT Interviews).
- Virtues/Recognition We recognize and connect with those students who live out the virtues in our school community. This year we will also promote living virtuously with t-shirt and religious book giveaways from Chaplaincy department.

## **Parish Connections**

"As bishops, we are committed to working together with parents and educators to realize this new possibility of becoming more of a Church community for the sake of our young people. Together we face the task of developing schools into communities of faith in which the requirements of good citizenship will be learned in a vital way from the perspective of the message of the Gospel and the teachings of the Church." (This Moment of Promise, p. 2)

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

- Two school Masses at the beginning and end of the school year which usually take place in the parish church.
- Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated during Advent and Lent. This year students and staff will be encouraged to attend what is being offered at their local Parish. We will also

- Staff will be invited to all liturgical events and faith speaker's series hosted by the DPCDSB.
- The Chaplaincy Leader in coordination with Adult Faith Ambassadors will invite staff to participate in all Family of Schools faith building events (including Advent and Lent Family of Schools gatherings).
- Each department and office (secretarial, custodial and library) has a Department Faith Ambassador (DFA) who serves as a liaison with Chaplaincy. Will resume in Semester II.
- Faith based resources from Chaplaincy, the CEC, Archdiocese are given to the DFA to share with their department/office colleagues. Resource materials are also available in the Chaplaincy office, staff room and posted on the Chaplaincy bulletin boards in each photocopy room.
- Each department office has a prayer space (prayer table/faith resources).
- Mass Cards are given to staff members (on behalf of the school community) who have experienced the death of a parent/spouse. The Chaplaincy Leader reaches out to acknowledge one-year death anniversaries.
- Religious items for staff: Prayer card and holy medal for Year of St. Joseph for staff who
  have returned to in-person after medical leave; holy water as requested; other-in
  conversation with Principal.
- Staff are encouraged to attend courses and conferences at St. Michael's College, Regis College, When Faith Meets Pedagogy Conference, local parish initiatives and St. Augustine's Seminary
- Staff are invited to attend training to become Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist
- The chapel is opened to staff all day during the day. They are encouraged to spend time before the Blessed Sacrament.
- Staff who are retiring will be acknowledged at the year-end staff Mass, Graduation ceremonies and in yearbook.
- The Chaplaincy Office has a library of books and resources accessible for borrowing/taking by the staff.
- Chaplaincy Leader is available for individual pastoral care of staff.

#### **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:

- Jaguar Mentors are senior students who will work with Grade 9 students during various activities and events throughout the year to ensure a safe, caring, and inclusive transition to high school.
- Peer-Tutoring Program consists of senior students who will work with Grade 9 and 10 students to provide academic support, both virtually and in-person throughout the year.

# **Signatures**

| Deidre Pereira, Chaplaincy Leader              |
|--|
| Rosina Ariganello, Principal                   |
| Steve Cescolini Department Head of Social      |
| Science/Moderns                                |
| S. Cescoli                                     |
| Shannon Casey-Department Head of Math (Acting) |
| V. Casey                                       |
| Adriana Romao-Mepartment Head of English/      |
| ESL  |
|  |
| Kelly Dawson-Department Head of Special        |
| Education/ARD                                  |
| 2. Dawson                                      |
| Bill Welch, Vice Principal                     |
| Sy Felch-                                      |
| Michael Smolders, Co- Chair of Catholic School |
| Council  |
| Antonio D'Souza, Co- Chair of Catholic School  |
| Council  |
|  |

# PRESENCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Our pastoral plan remains flexible and open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit.



# Signatures

| Fr. Paul Dobson, Pastor of St. Joseph Parish                  | Deidre Pereira, Chaplaincy Leader                         |
|---|---|
| Lori Theriault, Faith Ambassador                              | Rosina Ariganello, Principal                              |
| Cheryl McCann-Department Head of Physical Education/VPA       | Steve Cescolini-Department Head of Social Science/Moderns |
| Sue Febbraro-Department Head of Religious Education           | Shannon Casey-Department Head of Math (Acting)            |
| Armando Simeone-Department Head of Business/Co-op/ Tech       | Adriana Romao-Department Head of English/<br>ESL          |
| Garry Robitaille-Department Head of Guidance/Library (Acting) | Kelly Dawson-Department Head of Special Education/ARD     |
| David Chu-Department Head of Science                          | Bill Welch, Vice Principal                                |
| David Parisotto, Vice Principal                               | Michael Smolders, Co- Chair of Catholic School<br>Council |
| Silvana Gos, Superintendent of Mississauga<br>South           | Antonio D'Souza, Co-Chair of Catholic School Council      |

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