

PASTORAL PLAN

School Name: Cardinal Leger Catholic Secondary School

School Motto or Mission Statement: Growing in Truth and Love

The students and staff at Cardinal Leger Secondary School, celebrate spirituality and diversity through achieving, believing, and living in an inclusive Catholic environment.

It is the mission of the school community at Cardinal Leger Catholic Secondary School to challenge students to: engage in life-long learning and the pursuit of excellence in reaching their full spiritual, academic, social, emotional, and physical potential; acquire and demonstrate the required skills and attitudes that equip them for the future; to grow in an understanding of Catholic teachings and traditions and to incorporate these into their everyday life.

Cardinal Leger Catholic Secondary School strives to provide an environment where we grow and learn within the context of a cooperative, community team of Family, School and Church. A community where the ideals of mutual trust, responsibility, equality, and respect for all are encouraged and fostered.

Theme for the Year: *Catholic Education: Pilgrims of Hope*
L'éducation catholique: Pèlerins de l'espérance

Retreats

Grade 9: Grade level retreat. All grade 9 homeroom classes and teachers attend this retreat in semester one. "Building community in God's family". Students do a spiritual nature walk in the park grounds adjacent to the school, and then walk over to St. Mary's Parish for a day of community building, spiritual formation, games, and prayer. (1 Retreat Scheduled)

Grade 10: Canadian Food for Children, Dr Simone’s Warehouse. All Grade 10 religion classes will attend. “Providing Hope in a shattered world”. (10 Retreats scheduled)

Grade 11: Temple Tour. All Grade 11 Religion Classes attend. Classes will visit the Hindu BAPS Mandir and Sikh Ontario Khalsa Darbar Gurdwara. Visiting these sacred spaces will enhance the World Religions, Grade 11 Program. (7 Retreats scheduled)

Grade 12: Grade level retreat. All grade 12 homeroom classes and their teachers attend during semester two. “Lifelong Lancer, Lifelong Learner”. Students gather near year end to engage in prayer, celebration, and breaking bread together on the school field. (1 Retreat scheduled)

Other retreats (e.g. student council): Retreats will be provided as needed if budget allows. Our chaplaincy team helps to facilitate retreats and faith events for the Cardinal Leger Feeder Schools and Brampton West Family of Schools.

Activities of a Religious Nature

Activities of a Religious Nature with a substantial component of ritual and prayer
Morning Prayer: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday at 7:50 am, Chapel
Weekly Mass: Wednesday Mornings at 7:45 am, Chapel
Class Mass: By request, the chaplain organizes for interested homeroom classes to attend Mass at St. Mary’s parish at 9:00 am
Opening School Liturgy: Oct 7 2024 at 8:30 am, Great Hall
Advent Liturgy: December 11 2024 at 8:30 am, Great Hall
Sacrament of Reconciliation: During Lent by appointment, Chapel
Ash Wednesday: Distribution of Ashes - March 5 2025 at 9:45 am, Chapel
Lenten Liturgy: March 26 2025 at 9:00 am and 1:00 pm, St. Mary’s Church
Marian Liturgy: May 7 2025 at 9:00am and 1:00 pm, St. Mary’s Church
Graduation Liturgy and Luncheon: June 11 2025 from 11:00 am – 2:30 pm, St. Mary’s Church and hall.
Eucharistic Procession: Late June, date tbd. Fr. Peter Marr processes with the Blessed Sacrament from Cardinal Leger to St. Mary’s Church.

Other Pastoral/Outreach Activities

Pastoral Activities
Chaplaincy Office Open Door Policy: Students and staff are welcome to talk with the chaplain for spiritual care throughout the school day as needed.
Breakfast Club: School breakfast program available to all students every morning at 7:30 am, with hot food being served every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.
Truth and Reconciliation Week: September 23-27, 2024.
Truth and Reconciliation/Orange Shirt Day: September 30, 2024.
Thanksgiving Food Drive: In partnership with students in the advantage program, all homeroom classes collect non-perishable food items to be donated to Knight’s Table. October 1 – October 17 2024.
When Faith Meets Pedagogy: Friday October 24-27, 2024.
Christmas Hamper Drives: Created by homeroom classes in the weeks leading up to Christmas Break.
Clothing Drive: For Canadian Food for Children, weekly.
Lenten Food Drive: Created by homeroom classes in the weeks during Lent leading up to Easter.
Ordinandi Luncheon: TBA, usually in March.
Leger Scripture Society: A student-chaplain alliance dedicated to opening the Scripture and coming closer to God and neighbour.
Faith Finders: A student-teacher coalition dedicated to learning more about the Catholic faith, prayer, and Scripture. Meets weekly in the chapel on Fridays during lunch.
Thrive: Unity Through Diversity: Leger’s Equity and Social Justice Committee, dedicated to creating impactful discussions and actions that promote equity, diversity in the school and across society.

Catholic Education Week – May 4th – May 9th, 2025

Catholic Education: Pilgrims of Hope
L'éducation catholique: Pèlerins de l'espérance

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 must fan the flame of hope that has been given to us."
 (Letter on the Jubilee Year of Hope, February 11, 2022)

"Nous devons garder allumée la flamme de l'espérance qui nous a été donnée."
 (Lettre sur le Jubilé de l'espérance; 11 février 2022)

The sub-themes for Catholic Education Week 2025 are:

- Monday** By honouring human dignity / Honorent la dignité humaine
- Tuesday** By caring for creation / Prennent soin de la création
- Wednesday** By responding to the poverties in our world / Luttent contre les pauvretés
- Thursday** By serving in solidarity / Servent en solidarité
- Friday** By living as peacemakers / Vivent en artisans de paix

Date	Activity
Monday, May 5	Liturgy of the Word in the chapel at 7:50 am and reflection on human dignity for the morning announcements.
Tuesday, May 6	Liturgy of the Word in the chapel at 7:50 am and reflection on stewardship for the morning announcements.
Wednesday, May 7	Morning Mass in the chapel, Marian Liturgy for all students at St. Mary's Church, 9:00 am and 11:00 am, reflection on poverty for the morning announcements.
Thursday, May 8	The Spring Arts Festival in the evening will feature musical, dramatic, artistic performances/showcases put on by students with the theme "Pilgrims of Hope".
Friday, May 9	Liturgy of the Word in the chapel 7:50 and reflection on peacemaking for the morning announcements.

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
<p>Theology</p>	<p><i>For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. (Jeremiah 29:11)</i></p> <p>As we embark on a new school year under the theme <i>Pilgrims of Hope</i>, Cardinal Leger students are continuously reminded of Jesus’ presence and unwavering love for us.</p> <p>It is important that the Theology Department works closely with and assists our school Chaplain in support of the many pastoral initiatives that guide our students to becoming self-directed, responsible lifelong learners-- learners that contribute to their society by making moral decisions which are shaped by Catholic values. Theology courses are compulsory for each grade level. The Catholic Secondary Curriculum includes the study of biblical, historical, ethical, sacramental, theological, and pastoral fundamentals of the Catholic Christian heritage. The Theology department, in its catechetical role, is mandated to teach and model the Gospels and the teachings of the Church. As a Catholic community, the staff and students of Cardinal Leger Secondary School are encouraged to live their daily lives as disciples of Christ. We should practice devotion to the Holy Spirit by striving to be constantly aware of His presence in our souls through grace. By continuing to pray and ask the Holy Spirit for guidance, enlightenment, and strength, we will be able to respond to His inspirations faithfully.</p>
<p>Moderns Department</p>	<p><i>For he who speaks in another language speaks not to men, but to God; for no one understands;</i></p>

but in the Spirit he speaks mysteries. (1 Corinthians 14:2).

Learning a second language is fundamental to building empathy and integral to fostering an inclusive and equitable environment by recognizing God in our brothers and sisters. The moderns and ESL department staff will strive as caring adults to embody inclusivity and equity through instructional practices and through participation in school wide and community events.

One of the Catholic Graduate expectations asks that students “reflect, create and develop holistic thinking skills by participating in class and group discussions, book talks, creating public service announcements, selecting motivational or inspirational quotations, understanding the importance of learning about another culture.” This will be visible in the daily prayers at the beginning of class with student-led intentions, in authentic daily discussions and authentic assessments and evaluations. Our focus will be to continue building an inventory of texts and various media reflective of the diversity of our learners and the school community.

We will take part in school events such as Arts Night, Remembrance Day ceremonies, Academic Awards and we will create a French club in which student-voice will help to lead the vision. Inviting students to say prayers in French in the chapel and on the announcements will help to deepen our connection to each other and to our faith.

We will strengthen our connections to the broader school community through our participation in concours oratoire and educational excursions. We will also deepen our fellowship with other members of DPCDSB through participation in activities such as Grade 8 Open House and feeder school visits to Leger. Our goal is to model, by words and actions, the virtues that set our Catholic community apart.

<p>English and Library</p>	<p><i>Give instruction to the wise, and they will become wiser still; teach the righteous and they will gain in learning. (Proverbs 9:9).</i></p> <p>We consider the Church's role, apology and official position relating to Residential Schools in Canada through the texts like, <i>Indian Horse, The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian; The Marrow Thieves; Motorcycles and Sweetgrass</i>. In meeting the T&R Commission's directive to educate students about this dark time in our country's history, we also ask students to consider more thoroughly official Church doctrine/documents concerning this topic. In the past, we have invited our Pastor, to dialogue with our students on these issues.</p> <p>In practice and in general, every text we teach in English is a Catholic text because we consider themes through a distinctly Catholic lens, addressing our virtues and the beatitudes in light of the advancement of our OCGEs.</p> <p>Biographical books of the saints and teenage sexuality consistent with Pope Saint John Paul II's Theology of the Body have been purchased.</p>
<p>Academic Resource</p>	<p><i>In His grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. (Romans 12:6-8).</i></p> <p>ARD supports our diverse learners everyday by encouraging them to access the resource room for academic or social emotional support. Our teachers ignite hope every day to our most vulnerable students.</p> <p>GLE and Advantage classes visit Dr. Simone's and Silvercreek so they have a better understanding of value of charitable work in our community as well as their God given gift of human life by being able to explore any hidden talents they may have, as well as how to build community with one another.</p>
<p>Physical Education and Social Sciences</p>	<p><i>She girds herself with strength, and makes her arms strong. (Proverbs 31:17).</i></p> <p>The Health and Physical Education department, in conjunction with the Social Sciences department, emphasize active participation, peer inclusion and personal wellness in all the courses we teach;</p>

	<p>nurturing the needs of our students physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Students are encouraged to become self-directed, responsible, lifelong learners that are able to develop health and movement skills that they can take with them beyond their years at Leger.</p>
<p>Visual/Digital Arts</p>	<p><i>For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable (Romans 11:29).</i></p> <p>Visual Arts students participate annually in the Candian Legion Remembrance Day Contest and Creative Minds art competition which is an equity-based initiative with the Intercultural Dialogue Institute and the Equity Dept. Students explore topics of Race, Discrimination, Equity and Volunteerism through their art.</p> <p>Visual Arts students lead the Orange Shirt Day school initiative through morning reflections, creating designs/artwork for orange shirts, partnering with Indigenous community members and social media promotion.</p> <p>Digital Arts students lead the MMIWG- Red Feather event commemorating Missing and Murdered Indigenous women, with an art installation, photography and morning reflections.</p> <p>We offer the NAC 10 course, Grade 9 Expressions of First Nations, Inuit and Metis Cultures.</p>
<p>Guidance Student Services</p>	<p><i>You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will receive me with honor. (Psalm 73:24).</i></p> <p>The department actively engages in Christ centered support for students, staff, and parents. In Guidance, the dignity of each person is the focus in all discussions. Our offices are visibly inclusive through the display of posters.</p> <p>Counsellors are caring adults. Pathway planning for all students with a focus on supporting our ARD, ELL, workplace and apprenticeship bound students.</p> <p>The department has individual grade Google Classrooms for the sharing of information that is accessible to all students. We share Open House information with our local Parish. We promote positive relationships via community service opportunities at our local parishes.</p>

<p>Mathematics, Business and Computers</p>	<p><i>Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure (Psalm 147:5).</i></p> <p>As Catholic educators in mathematics, business and computers we believe that each student is created in the image of God. From this, it follows that we, as educators, strive to appreciate, understand, and nurture the uniqueness of all our students’ varied abilities, viewpoints, learning styles, and perspectives. To this end we endeavor to provide a variety of opportunities for a student to explore, question, and come to an understanding of the concepts that we teach them. Examples include, but are not limited to investigations, the use of technology, and various forms of group discussion of concepts. This not only helps them excel in today’s progressing technological society but, moreover, challenges them to find their identity on how to be responsible citizens in the world.</p>
<p>Science</p>	<p><i>Ever since the creation of the world His eternal power and divine nature, invisible though they are, have been understood and seen through the things He has made. (Romans 1:20)</i></p> <p>As we investigate and study science at Cardinal Leger S. S., we recognize as Catholic educators, that we are inviting our students to develop a sense of wonder of creation and to ponder how to care for it. As we study the natural laws and processes in our world, we work to apply the scientific skills of rational, evidence-based decision making into responsible action. Students will be encouraged to think critically about injustices (both here in Canada and abroad), and to reflect on how natural resources and scientific innovations can be shared and used in a more equitable manner. In Grade 9 Science we will reflect on Pope Francis’ encyclical, Laudato Si, to consider the impacts of human activities on Earth and to problem solve solutions as we care for our common home. Through each grade of the science curriculum, students will be guided to develop analytical skills, to explore scientific innovations and to apply their knowledge, gifts and skills in a way that supports a just society. Students will be given</p>

	<p>opportunities to discern and to use scientific knowledge to make wise choices that respect creation and the dignity of all human life. Together we will strive to develop ways of thinking that are considerate, loving and rooted in the teachings of Jesus.</p>
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School Environment Reflective of Our Faith

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

The ultimate expression of our Catholic identity is the presence of the Blessed Sacrament that resides in the tabernacle within our chapel. We have situated the tabernacle in the center of the chapel so that staff and students may come to the Lord for prayer or spiritual consolation, or simply glimpse the tabernacle as they pass by the chapel doors.

Department saint paintings were created by visual arts students and are hung throughout the school. These are a symbol and a visual reminder of our faith. When we celebrate saint feast days in the chapel during morning prayer, each department does something special. Some examples are, the visual arts students make clay crosses, music students perform a liturgical song, Hospitality makes a baked good to share and digital arts create Mass cards.

Our great hall is adorned with large banners that depict Scripture verses and a prayer. Our chapel is also situated within our great hall and the outer wall of the chapel has an illuminated statue of our lady Mother Mary and paintings of the stations of the cross.

Collaborative School Culture

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

The Art and Tech department contribute to a collaborative school culture in many ways including the Christmas Arts Festival and Spring Arts Festival during Catholic Education Week. These Festivals are the largest parent engagement event at the school where we demonstrate and celebrate Catholic Education. It is a celebration of all the arts, Music, Drama, Dance, Visual Art and Digital Art. Over 400 students are involved.

Hospitality classes contribute with food for numerous school events. Construction/Auto ensure the functioning of vehicles and equipment that support the school.

Breakfast Club provides nutritious breakfast items to students each morning. Staff and students volunteer their time before the start of each school day to welcome students and offer them food.

Parish Connections

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

Cardinal Leger School maintains a close collaborative relationship with St. Mary's Church, Brampton. Our school facilities and programs are available for the parish to use as a resource. We have students volunteering as babysitters and altar servers at Sunday Mass at the parish. Fr. Peter Marr celebrates a weekly Mass in our school chapel, Wednesday mornings at 7:45 am and he will celebrate school-wide liturgies of the Word at the parish in second semester. The Eucharistic Processions to and from St. Mary's Church and Cardinal Leger School, involve students, staff, and St. Mary's Church parishioners. Our Graduate Luncheon is held at St. Mary's Church Hall.

Confessions are also offered by Fr. Peter and Fr. Martin during Lent at the school and throughout the school year by appointment as organized by the chaplain for interested staff and students.

Our school council has a parish representative in order to ensure continued communication between the school and parish, thereby keeping the pastor informed on school initiatives and the school informed on parish issues.

On October 26, 2023, the annual Father Fogarty Awards Dinner will be held recognizing the outstanding contribution of Catholic Students. The Catholic Education Foundation of Ontario recognizes the achievements of one student in each Catholic Secondary School across Ontario. This student will also be recognized at the Cardinal Leger Awards Ceremony.

Staff Faith Development

Spiritual accompaniment and faith formation for our staff:

Every Wednesday morning at 7:45 am, all staff are invited to attend weekly Mass in the chapel in order to nourish their faith life and experience the highest expression of Catholic life alongside colleagues and students.

Morning prayer is celebrated daily in our school chapel at 7:50 am. We praise God and present our intentions in communal prayer. We have several staff associated with the Dufferin Peel Catholic Teachers Guild. Advent and Lenten Retreats are provided by this organization. We begin our department meetings with prayer.

DPCDSB Adult Faith Formation opportunities are promoted by the chaplain and the administration team and forwarded to staff via email. All staff are invited to register for sessions that they feel would enhance their faith journey.

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:

The Get Ready Program serves to welcome incoming grade 9 students through a multi-day set of events and activities with teachers and current Cardinal Leger Lancers.

The Cardinal Leger Chaplaincy Leader visits feeder schools at the invitation of Elementary School Principals and the SO of Brampton West Family of schools. The many clubs and afterschool activities help support students such as Art Club, Drama Club, Junior and Senior Band, Dance Team, Auto Club and HOSA.

The Grade 9 Night In is an opportunity for all grade 9 students to experience an evening of team building activities, collaborative games, and team spirit. Students make meaningful memories as they pray and socialize.

Each subject area has their classroom open and has live demonstrations for Grade 8 open house.

There are several transition to post-secondary initiatives such as, Arts and Culture SHSM where students earn industry experience, Performing Arts students perform on Leger's stage and at competitions, Visual/Digital Artists participate in art competitions such as the The Royal Canadian Legion's Remembrance Day Contest, Creative Minds and Images: Board-wide art exhibit. The chaplain also offers to connect graduating students with college and university chaplaincies through the promotion of Chaplaincy Connect, an archdiocesan campus ministry initiative.

Other transition initiatives include:

- Take My Kid to Leger Day – Grade 8 transition
- Post-Secondary Information Night
- Post-Secondary Pathway presentations
- Course selection for Grade 9-11 transitions
- Partner with Chaplain during Grade 8 transitions to connect with a carding adult
- Career exploration through our Career Studies classes and coop classes

Vocations

Vocations to religious life and pastoral ministries promoted through:

The chaplain will relay information regarding vocations and retreats offered through the Office of Catholic Youth and the Director of Vocations at the Archdiocese of Toronto.

Cardinal Leger participates in the Serra Club Ordinandi Luncheon in March each year. We have invited Sr. Helena Burns and The Sisters of Life to participate in school events in the past.

Students have the opportunity to participate in the Co-op program where they are given different volunteer placements with the intention of uncovering possible vocations and career paths.

The chaplain encourages the students to recognize that they are called by God to a unique and unrepeatable purpose that is interwoven with the destiny of humankind, the planet and the inevitable arrival of the Kingdom of God.

Resource List for Parents/Guardians

- General Roman 2024-2025 Liturgical Calendar - [2024-2025 Liturgical Calendar](#)
- Religious Education Curriculum - [Ontario Religious Education Curriculum](#)
- Encyclical Letters '[Laudato Si'](#)', '[Laudato Deum](#)' and '[Christus vivit](#)'
- National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation - [National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation](#)
- Catholic Education Week 2025 – [Catholic Education Week 2025](#)
- Jubilee Year 2025 – [Pilgrims of Hope](#)

Resource List for Schools

- General Roman 2024-2025 Liturgical Calendar - [2024-2025 Liturgical Calendar](#)
- Multi-Year Strategic Plan - [Multi-Year Strategic Plan 2023-2027](#)
- Encyclical Letters '[Laudato Si'](#)', '[Laudato Deum](#)' and '[Christus vivit](#)'
- Renewing The Promise - [A Pastoral Letter for Catholic Education](#)
- National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation - [National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation](#)
- Catholic Education Week 2025 – [Catholic Education Week 2025](#)
- Jubilee Year 2025 – [Pilgrims of Hope](#)

Signature Page

Pastor

Chaplaincy Leader

Faith Ambassador(s) *(as applicable)*

Department Heads *(as applicable)*

Chair of Catholic School Council

Vice Principal(s)

Principal

Superintendent