

# PASTORAL PLAN

**School Name: St Simon Stock**

## **School Mission Statement:**

It is the mission of St. Simon Stock Catholic Elementary School to enable students to:

- \* Become self-motivated life-long learners who strive to reach their full spiritual, academic and physical potential;
- \* Acquire and demonstrate the skills and attitudes that will enable them to make informed choices for their future;
- \* Grow in an understanding of Roman Catholic teachings and Gospel values, and incorporate these into their everyday life.

By providing an environment:

- \* Where we learn and grow within the context of a cooperative, community team of the Family, School and Church;
- \* That is nurturing and safe, where the Christian ideals of mutual trust, responsibility, equality and respect for all are encouraged

**School Motto:** | “Rooted in Christ”

**Our Parish: St Josephine Bakhita**

**Pastor:** *Rev. Mark Villanueva*

**Parish website:** [www.stjosephinebakhita.ca](http://www.stjosephinebakhita.ca)

## **Message from the Pastor:**

Greetings in the Lord!

St. Josephine Bakhita Parish recognizes the strong parish-home-school connections are foundational to supporting the development of students in the Ontario Catholic School System. We will continue to guide and support the work of schools in Sacramental

preparation. Through the continuation of sharing best practices with our elementary schools, students will affirm their Catholic faith in work and action through a variety of initiatives. We wish the students of St. Simon Stock a blessed and fruitful school year and moving forward, look ahead to the success of all students.

Sincerely yours,  
Rev. Mark Achilles Villanueva - Pastor

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

The St. Simon Stock Catholic School Council proudly supports faith formation in our community. The Catholic School Council collaborates with the school to support faith formation and outreach work. We will continue to support various activities to raise funds for local charities and sacramental gifts. We look forward to a fantastic and enjoyable year.

Xue-Li Robinson,  
Chairperson, Catholic School Council 2023-2024

### **Catholic Education Week – May 5<sup>th</sup> – May 10<sup>th</sup>, 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**

The students at St. Simon Stock will be demonstrating a spirit of awareness and reflection during Catholic Education Week on the significance of Catholic Education's presence and contribution in our Church, and in our society. We will invite all members of our community to participate in the celebrations and activities that will mark the celebration of Catholic Education Week 2023/24 in our school.

**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.*

St. Simon Stock Catholic School participates in various activities that support both adult and student faith formation. These activities have included student retreats, masses and student and staff liturgies. We have active Faith Ambassadors as well as Student Youth Faith Ambassadors. Our plan for faith formation this school year will include the teachings from the Catholic Education week themes.

**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
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation</b>	<b>February 19<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Communion</b>	<b>April 27, 2024</b>	
<b>Reconciliation</b>		<b>April 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Confirmation</b>		<b>April 25, 2023</b>

**Liturgical Celebrations:**

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

Celebration	Date
<b>Opening School Mass</b>	<b>October 4, 2023</b>
<b>Advent School Mass</b>	<b>December 6, 2023</b>
<b>Lenten Mass</b>	<b>April 12, 2023</b>
<b>Year End Mass</b>	<b>June 12, 2023</b>

**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.*

**On going ShareLife Contributions.****On going food bank donations during Thanksgiving, Advent, and Easter celebrations.**

Our school participates in various outreach activities and supports organizations such as Share Life, St. Vincent de Paul, Eden Food for Change! etc. Our Youth Faith Ambassadors organize food drives throughout the school year as well as raise funds to support various Catholic agencies and charities. Staff also contribute to Share Life by participating in casual dress days and special events throughout the school year. Further details will continue to evolve as the 2023-2024 school year progresses. School council in collaboration with the student council continue to raise money for social justice agencies throughout the seasons.

**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.*

***To celebrate OCSGE, we as a school community....***

The St. Simon Stock Catholic School community demonstrates a commitment to realizing the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations. Classrooms focus on the Catholic Graduate Expectations and Virtues education. We address the Catholic Graduate Expectations and Virtues at bi-monthly assemblies and through announcements and the Family Life program. Our plan to recognize the OCSGE this school year will continue as this is the root of why Catholic Education exists

**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.*

Our community has regular celebrations of virtues. Our school Virtue program recognizes students daily on our morning broadcast for outstanding displays of kindness and love.

We have a weekly Diversity/Equity/Inclusivity team that organizes announcements daily and monthly projects for the entire school to celebrate our differences and skill sets.

### **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.*

**St Simon Stock has ...***Crosses, Bibles, Prayer Tables, community services throughout our building. Biblical quotes painted on the walls in the halls and stairwells of the school. As you enter the front foyer you will see our school altar front and center.*

### **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**

Instagram: @stsimonstock23.24

Signature Page

  
Pastor: Rev. Mark Villanueva (Pastor)

Faith Ambassador(s) (as applicable): Dora Fattore/Anila Joseph

Teacher(s)

 

Chair of Catholic School Council: Xue-Li Robinson



Vice Principal(s): n/a

Principal: Geraldine Roy



Superintendent: Laura Odo