

PASTORAL PLAN

School: **St. Vincent de Paul Separate School**

School Mission Statement:

St. Vincent de Paul Elementary School is a community living the Gospel Values. Our mission is to foster an environment where all students reach their academic potential as determined by Ontario Provincial Standards. Our commitment to a comprehensive system of support and a responsive partnership with family and church will ensure this outcome.

School Motto: A Love Of Christ And A Love Of Learning

Our Parish: St. Patrick (Mississauga)

Pastor: **Father John Facey**

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

Message from the Pastor:

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

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Saturday Evening: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:30 a.m.

10:00 a.m.

12 noon

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.

Message from the Catholic School Council:

“The St. Vincent de Paul School Council is an integral part of our school community. Through the active participation and collaboration of parents/guardians, we strive to ensure that all students reach their full potential in a faith-filled environment.” (On behalf of St. Vincent de Paul’s Catholic School Council).

Catholic Education Week – April 30 – May 5, 2023

Catholic Education: We are Many, We are One

L’éducation catholique: À plusieurs, nous sommes un

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

*«Nous qui sommes plusieurs, nous sommes un seul corps dans le Christ, et membres les uns des autres.»
(Romains 12, 5)*

The sub-themes for Catholic Education Week 2023 are:

Monday: **When we see / En voyant**

Tuesday: **When we listen / En écoutant**

Wednesday: **When we reflect / En réfléchissant**

Thursday: **When we learn / En apprenant**

Friday: **When we act / En agissant**

Classes will be engaged in a variety of activities, including outdoor play, religious activities, and ECO School activities.

In addition to our daily activities, the following celebrations have been scheduled to highlight Catholic Education Week:

Journey into Learning: Welcome to Kindergarten Parent Engagement Evening – New Kindergarten Year 1 Families are invited to meet their new FDK Teams, explore their new learning spaces and engage in sharing about how to best support their child's transition to school.

Crowning of Mary Liturgy: A May Crowning of Mary is a traditional Roman Catholic ritual with special devotions made to our Blessed Mother Mary, Queen of Heaven and Earth.

Junior/ Intermediate French Cafe This celebration of the French Culture will be celebrated by all students throughout the school.

X-Movement: X-Movement will be providing activities for students throughout the week, with a Parents Engagement evening on May 3, 2023.

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.

Student Faith Formation:

- School masses: Opening; Advent Mass, Lenten/Easter Season Mass, Year-End mass
- Youth Faith Ambassadors participate in a social justice activities (Food collections, Mitten Tree donations) reading, virtues assemblies and Catholic Education Week/ St Vincent de Paul/ Knights of Columbus events
- Monthly Liturgies/Virtues assemblies
- Collaboration with community partners (Peel Health) to promote safe schools' activities and social justice initiatives; Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week.
- Promoting Inclusivity; Social Justice initiatives (Fundraising for ShareLife, food and toy drives), Black History and various presenters
- Random Acts of Kindness – students' names submitted by staff members (having demonstrated kind acts)
- School-wide Faith Retreat (May 2023)

Adult Faith Formation:

- School masses: Opening/Thanksgiving Mass, Advent Mass, Lenten/Easter Season Mass, Year-end Mass
- Monthly Virtues assemblies.
- Opening Liturgies for Staff and School Council meetings

- Morning Prayer Services held once per month as well as Advent and Lent
- Adult Faith Ambassadors involved in faith Activities offered at the board and family of schools' level – Advent Retreat, planning and preparation of ME Faith Events
- Board opportunities for faith development will be advertised to staff

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
First Reconciliation	TBD	
First Holy Communion	TBD	
Confirmation		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	Wednesday October 26, 2022, 11 a.m.
Advent Mass	Wednesday December 14, 2022, 11 a.m.
Lenten Mass	Wednesday March 8, 2023, 9:30 a.m.
Easter Mass	Wednesday April 19, 2023, 9:30 a.m.
Year End Mass	Wednesday June 14, 2023, 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.

Our school participates in raising funds and/or donations for

- Food Drives
- The Terry Fox walk for cancer research (Friday September 23, 2022)
- School food drives at Advent & Lent
- Remembrance Day poppies (November 11, 2022)
- ShareLife Spirit Weeks – October, December, February, March, May, June

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.

A Discerning Believer

- Students participate in monthly virtues assemblies, social justice initiatives, school masses and sacramental preparation. Daily prayers and visible signs of our faith (sacred spaces and crucifixes) are found throughout school. In November, students will participate in anti-bullying week activities.

An Effective Communicator

- Students have the opportunity to participate in Eco School, OPHEA Healthy Schools Certification, PALS, Choir, the Arts, Eco Schools, Sports, and YFAs to promote a caring, inclusive school that celebrates diversity, embraces social justice initiatives and evangelizes the teachings of Jesus.

A Reflective, Creative and Holistic Thinker

- Student learning is celebrated throughout school and showcased during Open House, Christmas Concerts, Catholic Education Week, FDK year-end celebrations, Grade 8 graduation and Grade 2 & 7 Sacramental preparation, Crowning of Mary in May/Rosary Apostolates' Program. Students are expected to follow the Catholic Code of Conduct and through progressive discipline, reflect on making good choices. PALS, CCCCAT, YFAs, and Virtues assemblies are vehicles, which support our safe and inclusive school initiatives and guide students to making good choices modeled on

Jesus' actions.

A Self-Directed, Responsible, Life Long Learner

- All diverse learners are encouraged to work to their full potential and be reminded of their God-given talents, which are showcased throughout the year during Bullying Awareness Week, Black History Month, Open House, Christmas Concerts, Catholic Education Week, FDK year-end celebrations, Grade 8 graduation and Sacramental preparation, mindfulness (primary students), as well as opportunities to participate in extra-curricular activities.

A Collaborative Contributor

- CCCCAT, YFAs and Virtues assemblies and liturgies, which support our safe school initiatives and guide students to making good choices modeled on Jesus' actions.

A Caring Family Member

- Students participate in monthly virtues assemblies, social justice initiatives, food drives, school masses and sacramental preparation, and daily prayers.
- PALS, CCCCAT, YFAs, and Virtues assemblies, fundraising for, Terry Fox and ShareLife provide students with opportunities to apply Jesus' teachings to a wider community and witness the connection between School-Home and Parish.

A Responsible Citizen

- Students are expected to follow the Catholic Code of Conduct and through progressive discipline, reflect on making good choices. PALS, CCCCAT, YFAs, and Virtues assemblies are vehicles, which support our safe and inclusive school initiatives and guide students to making good choices modeled on Jesus' actions.

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.

As a Catholic community, we embed the Virtues program in all that we do spiritually, academically, socially, and physically. We incorporate Virtues assemblies prepared and presented collaboratively by students at the end of every month. Assemblies are conducted virtually and face to face. As a school with remote students, we want to include all members of our school community. This year they are shared virtually with classes. Students are provided with examples of stories that display the virtues and the virtues assist us in teaching and guiding students who may be having difficulties throughout their school day

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. Vincent de Paul School has visible symbols of the Virtue of the Month. Our front entrance has the Holy Bible and altar, creating a sacred space for all visitors and members of the community. Each room has a cross, prayer table and student created signs of faith. Our students and staff live our faith in their actions. We remind students to follow the WWJD (What Would Jesus Do) mantra.

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

School-Based

- Information is on the School Website <http://www3.dpcdsb.org/VPAUL>
- Staff Weekly updates “Weekly St. Vincent de Paul Staff Memo”
- Monthly Newsletters and email blasts to the community
- Twitter: @VindPDP

Signature Page

Pastor Father J. Facey

Faith Ambassador(s) Students in Grade 7 and 8.

Teacher(s) Ms. M. Grabowski; Ms. J. Franchino

Chair of Catholic School Council: Ms. Anna Majka-Basso

Vice Principal(s)

Principal: Mr. P. Basran

Superintendent: Mrs. C. MacDonald