

# PASTORAL PLAN

School: **St. Maria Goretti**

## School Mission Statement:

St. Maria Goretti is the patron saint of children. Together with parents, St. Anne's parish, and the community we work together to provide a safe, caring and inclusive learning environment where models of Gospel values and Catholic doctrines, teachings and beliefs are an integral part of the daily life of our school.

**School Motto:** Children are our focus. Their good is at the centre of all that we do.

**Our Parish:** St. Anne

**Pastor:** *Rev, Joel Pabilona, Jr.*

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

## Message from the Pastor:

Please refer to attached.

## Message from the Catholic School Council:

The St. Maria Goretti Catholic School Council is an integral part of our 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.

**Catholic Education Week Theme: Living as Joyful Disciples**

*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.*

May 5 – May 11 is Catholic Education Week.

St. Maria Goretti will mark the beginning of Catholic Education Week with an opening liturgy before the dress rehearsal to our school musical *"Do You Wanna Dance?"*. Each day will begin with morning prayers and announcements that highlight the themes of Catholic Education Week. There will be two play production evenings where families will have the opportunity to witness the sense of faith-filled community, inquiry based learning and well-being that is central to all that we do. Teachers will continue to bring to life each sub-theme in their classrooms that were first introduced during Bullying Awareness Week and that have been referenced throughout the year.

### **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.*

*Please highlight the school activities that support both adult and student faith formation*

- School liturgies
- Youth Faith Ambassadors lead liturgies and say prayers during weekly announcements
- Food and Clothing Drives
- Prayer Club
- Adult Faith Ambassador leads Staff Advent Liturgies
- School Masses
- Monthly Staff Liturgies
- Remembrance Day Liturgy
- Daily prayers and Gospel reflection on announcements
- Staff attend Brampton Advent Liturgy
- Grade 8 students re-enact the Last Supper
- Grade 8 students re-enact Stations of the Cross
- Student lead closing prayers on daily announcements

- Sacred spaces in each classroom
- Monthly Virtue Assemblies
- School wide Reconciliation
- Religion and Fully Alive Programs are taught daily
- All staff meetings/gatherings begin with prayer/liturgy and all events with the school community open with Land Acknowledgement and prayer/liturgy
- Youth Faith Ambassadors lead liturgies for students, lead social justice initiatives and lead Bullying Awareness Activities
- School maintains a positive relationship with St. Anne School Parish

### 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
<i>Sacrament of Reconciliation</i>	April 2019	
<i>Sacrament of Communion</i>	May/June 2019	
<i>Sacrament of Confirmation</i>		April/May 2019

### Liturgical Celebrations:

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

Celebration	Date
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Opening Mass	October 9, 2018
Remembrance Day Liturgy	November 9, 2018
Advent Mass	December 11, 2018
Ash Wednesday Liturgy	March 6, 2019
Lent Mass	March 26, 2019
School Confessions	November 23, 2018
Stations of the Cross	April 18, 2019
Resurrection Liturgy	April 26, 2019
Celebration of Mary	May 16, 2019
Year End Mass	June 21, 2019
Virtue Liturgies	Monthly (September – June)

### **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 ....*

- Annual Terry Fox Run
- Food Drives
- Cram-A-Cruiser Christmas Food Drive
- Clothing Drives
- Dr. Simone's Outreach Program
- Giving Tree
- ShareLife Activities (Peel Police vs SMG game, Bag2School, Staff soup lunch)
- St. Maria Goretti School promotes St. Anne's Church Youth Programs

### **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....***

make these expectations visible in our classrooms, offices, and hallways. We always use these expectations as tools to help children grow through progressive discipline practices. We celebrate when students exhibit themselves as Self-Directed Responsible Life Long Learners, Discerning Believers, Collaborative Contributors, Effective Communicators, Caring Family Members, Reflective and Creative Holistic Thinkers and Responsible Citizens. Further to this as an integral part of our Catholic School Learning Plan, we have purposely linked our goals of student Inquiry directly to our Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations.

### **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.*

When we practice these virtues we strengthen them and thereby make the presence of God more and more visible in the world around us. We celebrate the Virtue of the month at an assembly each month. Classes present the virtue of the month so that students are able to see how living the Virtues reflects the values and teachings of Jesus Christ. Students are awarded a certificate and Virtue necklace. Families are invited to attend. We incorporate the Virtues into our daily announcements and Colour Group activities as well. In addition, we use our Virtues to guide discussions around performing good actions according to a moral standard.

### **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.*

- Crosses
- Bibles
- Virtue Tree

- Human Face of God display (all of our Colour Groups visible)
- Altar and Cross in Atrium
- Altar and large cross are prepared for each Liturgical season
- Advent wreath, Jesse Tree and Giving Tree visible during Advent and Christmas
- Front Display Cabinet has statue of St. Maria Goretti
- Faith Inspired Art around school
- Visual Representation of our Colour Groups
- Sacred Spaces in classrooms and library
- Books and resources that represent our faith and virtues
- Community Service
- Land Acknowledgement Plaque

The staff and students of St. Maria Goretti make every effort to make our school a welcoming community.

### **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](#)

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

#### **Board**

- **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](#)

### **School-Based**

School website: <http://www.dpcdsb.org/GORET>

School Twitter: @StMariaGorett