

# PASTORAL PLAN

School: **St. Hilary Elementary School**

## School Mission Statement:

We the staff of St. Hilary Catholic Elementary School celebrate spirituality and diversity through achieving, believing and community living in an inclusive Catholic environment.

We, the parents of St. Hilary Catholic Elementary School, in partnership with staff and students, are dedicated to our children's spiritual, intellectual, emotional, social and physical development in a secure environment, at home and in class. Working together, we attain success by educating students to their full potential.

We, the students of St. Hilary Catholic Elementary School, act and learn as a Catholic community. We demonstrate our love for God by respecting each other and by trying to meet the expectations of our parents and teachers.

School Motto: Living by Faith

Our Parish: St. Francis Xavier

Pastor: **Rev. Andrew Cyruk**

Parish website: **<https://stfrancisxavierchurch.blogspot.com/>**

### **Message from the Pastor:**

Dear Catholic Elementary School Families,

As we embark on our new pastoral plan, I want to extend my warmest blessings to each and every one of you. This school year promises to be filled with exciting opportunities for learning, sharing friendships, and deepening our Catholic faith.

I pray that this year brings you health, joy, and an abundance of hope. Together, let's support our students and teachers as we grow in faith and community. May our journey be filled with love and inspiration.

Wishing blessings to all our wonderful students, dedicated teachers, and cherished families. Here's to a fantastic year ahead!

With heartfelt blessings,

Fr. Andrew

Please be aware that our Church sanctuary is on livestream from 7 am to 9 pm and all Sacraments celebrated at St. Francis Xavier church. This will help you to join us if you are homebound or sick. Please visit: [www.stfrancisxaviermi@archtoronto.org](http://www.stfrancisxaviermi@archtoronto.org)

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

As members of the Catholic School Council, we recognize that we have the opportunity to influence the path on which children journey towards realizing the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations and ultimately, Christ-like service in the global community. The Council provides the principal with advice in a variety of areas including school goals and procedures. The Parish Representative serves as a liaison between the school and the parish while providing support for faith formation within the school community.

**Catholic Education Week – Sunday May 4 – Friday May 9, 2025**

### Catholic Education: **Pilgrims of Hope**

*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"*

***"If we love one another, God lives in us." 1 John 4:12***

The sub-themes for Catholic Education Week 2025 are:

Monday:	By Honouring Human Dignity
Tuesday:	By Caring for Creation
Wednesday:	By Responding to Poverties in our world
Thursday:	By Serving in Solidarity
Friday:	By Living as Peacemakers

Staff, students and the Rosary Apostolate Team will organize the Crowning of Mary Liturgy for each division. Each class will also engage in a variety of activities highlighting the week's themes aimed at enriching students' understanding of "Pilgrims of Hope" Honouring Human Dignity, Caring for Creation, Responsible for Poverty, Serving in Solidarity and Loving as Peacemakers.

### **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.*

Staff and Students participate in daily prayer, liturgies, Masses, Sacramental preparation (all of these activities will be conducted face to face this year by appointment at St. Francis Xavier Parish. The Adult Faith Ambassadors Program, Youth Faith Ambassadors Program, and the Eco-Schools Team will meet to plan viable activities for 2024/2025 school year. There is community leadership from a parish representative on the school advisory council (SAC). Staff are encouraged to foster their faith formation through participation in Board-wide initiatives and professional development opportunities (ex. When Faith Meets Pedagogy). Staff also participate in MBC Advent and Lenten Liturgical events.

The Catholic School Council Parish Rep serves as liaison between the Parish and the school. Students in the Sacramental years will enjoy training/preparatory programs. Youth Faith Ambassadors engage the school in social justice initiatives such as food and clothing drives for St. Vincent de Paul, lead classes in the Stations of the Cross during Holy Week and involve staff and students listening to Prayers during morning announcements. We are familiarizing all students with parts of the Mass and learning the appropriate responses. Our Rosary Apostolate team from St. Francis Xavier Parish visit St. Hilary 10 times throughout the year training the entire student body on the meaning and importance of the Rosary and how to pray the Rosary. Fr. Ed will be visiting our classes every two weeks sharing the work and meaning behind our Faith. Fr. will meet with all grades 2 and grade 7 students preparing for First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Fr. will celebrate Opening School Mass/Advent Mass/Confessions and Closing/Year End Mass with the entire student body.

### 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>		
<i>First Holy Communion</i>	<i>April 29 and 30 4 to 5:30</i>	
<i>Confirmation</i>		<i>Dates TBD with Church</i>

### Liturgical Celebrations:

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

Celebration	Date
Opening Mass	Tue Oct 1, 2024
Advent Mass	Thur Dec 12, 2024
Confessions	Tue Apr 1, 2025
Closing/Grad Mass	Thur June 19, 2024

*** <b>Additional boxes can be added as needed.</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.*

*Our school participates in ShareLife....*

**Christmas Basket Campaign**

**International Book Exchange**

**Toys for Tots**

**Clothing donations – Red Cross**

**Halloween Candy Donation – Dr. Simonies**

**Terry Fox Marathon of Hope**

### **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.... Celebrate the promotion of students from grade to grade and the graduation of our grade 8 students who move on to High School to continue their studies. We have a ceremony and a mass with parents/family/teachers/friends/Parish Priest. Students celebrate with a lunch the day of the graduation ceremony.*

## 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.*

*We have monthly assemblies....celebrating the virtue of the month. Weekly bulletins are shared highlighting biblical quotes guiding us through life and reminding us what God wants us to do and how to behave. The virtue of the month is celebrated individually in each classroom in a variety of ways (inspiring walls, recognizing acts of kindness, peer buddies, reflection etc).*

## 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.*

*We have ...Crosses, Bibles, Prayer Tables, Stations of the Cross, Virtue Cross, Virtue Tree, Virtue posters, (Chapel) converted classroom, community service and outreach-Dr. Simones and St. Vincent de Paul), eucharistic ministers, altar servers, student faith ambassadors.*

## 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](#)

## **Resource List for Schools:**

### **Board**

- Multi-Year Strategic Plan -
- Renewing The Promise - [Renewing The Promise](#)
- Encyclical Letter “Fratelli Tutti”- [Fratelli Tutti](#)
- National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation - [National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation](#)

### **School-Based**

#### **St. Hilary Catholic School Improvement Plan**

#### **School Agenda**

#### **Weekly Bulletins**

**Signature Page**

**Pastor**

**Faith Ambassador(s) (*as applicable*)**

**Teacher(s)**

**Chair of Catholic School Council**

**Vice Principal(s)**

**Principal**

**Superintendent**