

# PASTORAL PLAN

**School Name: ST. KEVIN CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

## **School Mission Statement:**

In a spirit of sensitivity, affirmation and celebration, we strive to:

- Encourage and assist in an active faith journey rooted in prayer and the sacraments.
- Strengthen the bond between community involving home, school and parish.
- Maintain excellence through caring, disciplined, person centered curriculum.
- Nurture each individual's potential to become a self-directed, critical thinking problem solver.

**School Motto:** Choose an item. *Faith, Wisdom and Stewardship, rooted in Christ.*

**Our Parish: St. Mary's Parish**

**Pastor: Fr. Peter**

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

## **Message from the Pastor:**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We are blessed to have our Catholic school system and we should cherish it, promote it and defend it.

I have met a number of teacher candidates who have shared with me their desire to work in our Catholic schools, because they wish to pass on to the children their love and faith in Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church that Jesus Himself founded. These teacher candidates have experienced the faith-filled atmosphere of walking into a Catholic school – and atmosphere that does not exist in our public schools. This is a gift that is to be cherished, promoted and defended, is the reality that when a person enters a Catholic school they witness our Catholic faith through the words, actions, artistic work, symbols, etc., that permeate the walls and atmosphere where our children come to learn.

Fr. Peter

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

As the St. Kevin Catholic School Council, we believe in supporting the school community by promoting the vision, values, sacramental life, and the Catholic practices of the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board. We are committed to parent engagement, student well-being, and a positive school climate. To celebrate and recognize the celebration of the Sacraments of First Communion and Confirmation, we present each student with a small token to serve as a reminder of their spiritual journey which is presented at one of the monthly Virtues Assemblies. Our Parish representative is committed to sharing information with council and the community.

### **Catholic Education Week – May 4<sup>th</sup> – May 9<sup>th</sup>, 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.*

The quote for Catholic Education Week 2025 is:

***“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**

*Highlight activities or events planned for the Week:*

CEW Liturgy

French Cafe

## 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.*

Our monthly Virtue assemblies bring us together as a school to celebrate our faith, our gifts, and our talents. Fr. Peter plans to visit St. Kevin on a monthly basis to promote our faith through liturgy and classroom visits.

In addition, we strive to achieve a positive climate that is tempered by an “awareness of practices that support and honour the many cultures, needs and voices of our diverse groups”. Through this focus on faith formation we aim to create a healthy social space that includes student voice, staff voice and community representation; a place where all learners feel safe, involved and supported. Students, staff and families are included in:

- ✝ Daily prayer at the beginning, at lunch and at the end of the day
- ✝ Organization of monthly liturgies for all students (and parents)
- ✝ School wide celebration of Liturgies
- ✝ Adult and Youth Faith Ambassadors
- ✝ Advent Liturgies
- ✝ Weekly Lenten Dedications
- ✝ Holy Week reverence with a focus on Scripture

### 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
Online Registration Opens	September 2024	October 2024
Parent and Priest Meetings	October/November 2024	November/December 2024
First Reconciliation	TBA	TBA
Sacramental Parents Retreat	TBA	TBA

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### Liturgical Celebrations:

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

Celebration	Date
Empathy with Fr. Peter	October 4, 2024
Advent Liturgy with Fr. Peter	December 6, 2024
Advent Confessions at St. Mary's	December 17, 18, 20, 21
Ash Wednesday Liturgy	March 5, 2025
Lenten Liturgy with Fr. Peter	April 28, 2025
Marian Liturgy with Fr. Peter	May 9, 2025
Fairness Liturgy with Fr. Peter	June 6, 2025
Graduation Mass at St. Mary's	June 12, 2025

### 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....*

As a school we have a few activities throughout the year to raise money for ShareLife. Some of which include:

1. ShareLife spirit week activities

2. Staff initiatives
3. ShareLife poster contest

### **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....*

- Classroom focus on OCSGE and Virtues
- Newsletter/Parent Updates/Staff Weeklies
- OCSGE Graduate Awards – (Grad Year)
- Youth/Adult Faith Ambassador outreach

### **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....*

Each classroom is responsible for a virtue each month. Classes have the freedom to be as creative as possible, involving as many students as possible. Parents are invited to attend these assemblies.

## 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, community service*

The altar at the front of the school, is adorned with appropriate cloths and symbols that represent the liturgical calendar. Food drives, sock, and mitten drives, etc., are centered in front of the altar throughout the school year.

We have sacred spaces in all classrooms, library and office. These spaces are meant to be living spaces that change throughout the year to reflect the liturgical seasons and themes students are focusing on in the religion and family life curriculum. Some core items in the space include cross, bible, prayers, cloth (white, green or purple to reflect the liturgical season) along with student created items. Throughout the year student work is displayed reflecting the liturgical season and themes from the religious education and family life curriculum.

## Resource List for Parents/Guardians:

- General Roman 2024-2025 Liturgical Calendar - [2024-2025 Liturgical Calendar](#)
- Religious Education Curriculum - [Ontario Religious Education Curriculum](#)
- New Family Life Curriculum 2023 - [Ontario Family Life Curriculum 2023](#)
- New Family Life Education Curriculum and Support Resources – [Institute for Catholic Education](#)
- Fully Alive Program information - [Ontario Bishops' information on Fully Alive](#)
- [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:**

### **Board**

- General Roman 2024-2025 Liturgical Calendar - [2024-2025 Liturgical Calendar](#)
- Multi-Year Strategic Plan - [Multi-Year Strategic Plan 2023-2027](#)
- Renewing the Promise – [A Pastoral Letter for Catholic Education](#)
- [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](#)

### **School-Based**



**Signature Page**

**Pastor**

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

**Teacher(s)**

**Chair of Catholic School Council**

**Vice Principal(s)**

**Principal**

**Superintendent**