

PASTORAL PLAN

School: **St. Ursula Elementary School**

School Mission Statement:

The mission of the St. Ursula school community is to ensure that home, Church, and school are collaborative partners in the building of an environment that reflects Catholic faith and values by celebrating each person as a member of the Body of Christ and by challenging all to achieve excellence.

School Motto: Where Wisdom Begins In Faith And Wonder

Our Parish: St. Anne

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

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

Message from the Pastor:

Dear Parents and Families,

Greetings in the name of the Lord!

The school year 2022-2023 seems promising because the government has lifted mandatory Covid19 restrictions. However, the civil and religious authorities continue to advise constituents to exercise reasonable caution when performing daily duties and engaging in leisurely activities.

St. Anne's Parish, whose task is to serve Catholic schools in its jurisdiction, will now fulfill pastoral responsibilities practically almost to the pre-pandemic level. Nevertheless, since we are not totally out of the woods yet, we need to implement our parochial and school programs still with everyone's health and safety in mind. Technology and the internet had


come in handy in the past and remain options in case the need arises. In view of our present circumstance, here are some activities we hopefully will be doing:

- In-school Masses will resume but ministers will still sanitize and wear masks during Holy Communion.
- School visitations are now possible.
- Advent & Lenten Confessions have been scheduled.
- Church Sacramental Preparations will be in person.
- Other beneficial suggestions that may come up.

In the meantime, let us continue to practice vigilance as we hopefully continue to move forward to even better circumstances. Always keep your family safe!

May the upcoming Advent and Christmas Seasons bring us hope, peace, and joy! My prayers and best wishes to the families.

God's continued blessings upon you all!


Fr. Joel B. Pabilona, Jr.
Pastor

Message from the Catholic School Council:

St. Ursula Catholic School Council Committee is comprised of parent/guardian volunteers and school representatives who believe that faith and learning go hand in hand. We endeavor, as a council, to encourage the parents/guardians and students to strengthen their bonds between home, school, and church. The goal is to see our school community have the faith and courage to step up to help those in need. To perform selfless tasks to promote volunteerism, understanding and acceptance. Working together as a team, we can support and strengthen each other, as well as affirm our faith.

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**

This year, during Catholic Education Week, St. Ursula Catholic School will showcase the precious gift of Catholic Education through several activities which will include:

- School-wide liturgical celebration based on the theme: We are many, we are one.
- Class/grade level liturgies around the daily themes
- Welcome to Kindergarten Night

Additional activities will be communicated with the community closer to CEW 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.

Adult Faith formation is supported in the following ways:

- Adult faith ambassadors lead staff in liturgies throughout the year

- Weekly staff liturgies during the seasons of Advent and Lent
 - Invitations to the parent community to join in school liturgical celebrations
- Student faith formation is supported in the following ways:
- Youth Faith Ambassador Program which supports and facilitates a wide variety of faith-based activities throughout the school
 - Daily, school-wide prayer
 - Celebration of the monthly virtues and OCSGE through student-led liturgies
 - Student-led liturgies to celebrate relevant feast days and seasons of the liturgical calendar (i.e., Advent, Lent)
 - Student-led presentations and school-wide announcements, teaching students of all ages about important aspects of our Faith (i.e., the liturgical calendar, virtues, saints, tenets of our faith, Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations, stewardship)
 - Student-led class liturgies in the school Chapel
 - School staff work in collaboration with the St. Ursula Parish pastoral team in faith formation and preparation for sacraments
 - Consistent modelling of Gospel-values and faith practice
 - Intentional and explicit inclusion of a distinctive Catholic worldview across all subject areas

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
Sacrament of Reconciliation	Wednesday, March 15, 2023	
Sacrament of Confirmation		Tues. June 6, 2023
Sacrament of First Holy Communion	Saturday, June 10, 2023	

Liturgical Celebrations:

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

Celebration	Date
Opening Mass	October 17, 2022
Confession	November 30, 2022
Advent Mass	December 13, 2022
Lenten Mass	March 24, 2023
Stations of the Cross	April 6, 2023
Crowning of Mary	TBD

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.

As a Catholic school, we respond to the needs of the larger Community through outreach programs which include:

- Share Life Activities by staff and students (Spirit weeks, Dances etc.)
- Terry Fox Walk
- Eco Team Initiatives
- Food Drives • Christmas mitten/hat drive and Christmas Gift Donations to support local families
- Community Invitations to school masses, liturgies, and virtues assemblies
- Faith building opportunities - Retreat Days, School wide monthly liturgies, Prayers in our school prayer room
- School wide visits with members of the Rosary Apostolate
- St. Ursula promotes St. Anne's Church Youth Program

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.

At St. Ursula School, the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations (OCSGE) are integrated in the teaching and learning in all our classrooms, from kindergarten to Grade 8, as Catholic education views human life as an integration of body, mind, and spirit. Our instructional practices reflect the knowledge, skills and mindsets embodied in these expectations, and we recognize the importance of the development of the whole child in terms of values, attitudes, and actions. We strive to fulfill our Vision & Mission by working together with all stakeholders to providing our students with the knowledge and wisdom required to meet the Ontario Catholic 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.

We recognize our Catholic virtues during morning prayers and monthly student led virtue assemblies. Classroom teachers incorporate direct teaching of the virtues throughout their program.

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.

Our call to discipleship and service are evident throughout St. Ursula School. Each classroom has a clearly identifiable Sacred Space in a prominent place which can serve as a focus for classroom prayer and reflection. The seasons of the liturgical year are represented in these sacred spaces. As visitors are welcomed to St. Ursula the Catholic identity of our community is evident immediately upon entry through the altar and sacred space present in the foyer of the building. We have several murals throughout the school building representative of our beliefs and Catholic faith. As well, the St. Ursula

prayer room is a sacred space where students and staff are invited to gather for the purposes of liturgies, reflections, and quiet prayer. Staff and students answer the call to service in many ways as well, including the collection of donations of food, money, clothing, and personal needs items, for various campaigns throughout the year (i.e., Food Drives, Collections for Dr. Simone, Christmas outreach projects, and ShareLife). These visible reminders, and opportunities to serve others, help us to focus our learning and interactions on the key tenets of our shared faith, and to ensure that our Catholic faith is lived out daily at St. Ursula School.

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](#)

Signature Page

Pastor: Rev. Joel Pabilona Jr.

Faith Ambassador: T. Sirizzotti

Co-Chair(s) of Catholic School Council: M. Biagi & T. Bell

Principal: R. Davenport

Superintendent: Tammy-Lynne Peel