

Appendix A - Annual School Pastoral Plan

SCHOOL PASTORAL PLAN

Please complete and send to the board chaplaincy leader by October 1st.

SCHOOL

Principal

Pastor(s)

Chaplaincy leader

School Faith: Strengths

School Faith: Goals
(Area for Improvement)

SUPPORT

Where do you feel your school needs support from the board chaplaincy leader and religion & family life consultant to meet your faith goals for this year? Please be specific.

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

A community that builds relationships

“Catholic schools are places where the ‘New Evangelization’ can take root by inviting students and their families into a deeper relationship with Christ. The experience of community within the school can gently fan the embers until they burst into a flame of faith.” (Renewing the Promise, 8)

Liturgy

Throughout each academic year, Niagara Catholic schools are expected to hold at least six liturgical celebrations that align with both the liturgical and academic calendars. Recognizing the infinite value of the Eucharist for the salvation of souls, it is strongly recommended that a minimum of two of these celebrations be Holy Mass.

A liturgy can be the celebration of Mass, Liturgy of the Word, Prayer Service, Stations of the Cross, or the Rosary.

Celebration	Type of Liturgy	Location	Date
Opening			
Advent			
Ash Wednesday			
Easter			
Catholic Education Week			
Closing			

Sacraments

		Date(s)
Reconciliation	Advent (or Sept-Dec)	
	Lent (or Jan-June)	
Elementary	First Reconciliation	
	First Communion	
	Confirmation	

CATECHESIS

A community that accompanies

“Catholic schools are communities of accompaniment where the story of salvation is known and shared, offering the encouragement that comes from knowing that Jesus walks with us. In addition to being places of teaching and learning, Catholic schools live the Emmaus experience as they witnessed the Risen Lord. It is important to recognize that people are at different stages on that Journey. Jesus provides the model for how our schools and parish communities need to accompany students and families with great respect, patience and love, inviting all to deepen their understanding of Christ and his Church.” (Renewing the Promise, 7)

Student Faith Formation

Activity		Date
ELEMENTARY	SECONDARY	
Gr. 8 Journey Retreat		
Chaplaincy Visit 1	Gr. 9 Retreat	
Chaplaincy Visit 2	Gr. 12 Retreat	
Chaplaincy Visit 3		
Theological Theme <i>How will your school community embrace & celebrate this year's theological theme:</i>		

Staff Faith Formation

1 School-based staff faith formation opportunity should be offered annually outside of Faith Day or board facilitated opportunities.

Examples: Weekly Staff Mass or liturgy, Lenten scripture study, social justice project, Food & Faith, Stations of the Cross, Rosary, Catholic guest speaker

OUTREACH

A community that encourages engagement and instills hope

"The Christ-centered mission of each school, by its very nature, contains a call to service in the greater community. Catholic schools form disciples with a social conscience who put their faith into action. Students and staff help to promote engagement with the local and global community through their many acts of charity and by their witness to social justice and environmental stewardship." (Renewing the Promise, 10)

Solidarity, Social Justice & Evangelization

(Pilgrimage, Development & Peace, food drives, fundraisers, Truth & Reconciliation initiatives)

Connecting with our Parish

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK

Our Catholic schools are, by definition, faith-based schools, firmly birthed in the gospel values of Jesus Christ. It was this conviction, that at the very beginning of publicly funded education in the province, that the Catholic community in the Diocese of St. Catharines and some very dedicated Catholic trustees, doggedly sustained a fight for the right of Catholics to their own publicly funded Catholic schools. What we enjoy today, is due to a history of sacrifice and determination and the extraordinary works of bishops, sisters, brothers, priests, and lay men and women, to build and preserve Catholic education in the face of all forms of opposition, both political and legal. The challenges to the existence of publicly funded Catholic education are alive today. In an increasing secular Ontario, there are those who see publicly funded Catholic education as anachronistic and discriminatory. But Catholic education has contributed significantly to Ontario and to Canada in the contributions of all those wonderful graduates of our Catholic system.

This week we continue to celebrate a school system, which celebrates and defines itself on faith and mercy and embraces the message of salvation for all peoples preached by Jesus.

Niagara Catholic elementary and secondary schools celebrate Catholic Education Week (CEW) in conjunction with Mental Health Week (MHW), during the first full week of May. This is an opportunity to highlight the strong connection between our Catholic faith and mental health and well-being in Niagara Catholic schools.

NOTE: The following Catholic Education & Mental Health Week Planner should be completed and submitted to your superintendent by the third week of April. The theme for Catholic Education Week and its subsequent daily themes, will be announced by OCSTA in the fall.

Niagara Catholic District School Board

**CATHOLIC EDUCATION
& MENTAL HEALTH WEEK PLANNER**

SCHOOL		
	Catholic Education Week	Mental Health Week
SUNDAY		
MONDAY		
TUESDAY		
WEDNESDAY		
THURSDAY		
FRIDAY		

Please submit a completed planner to your family of schools' superintendent by the third week of April.