



Message from the Director of Education and Chair of the Board

Living as Joyful Disciples

Celebrating Catholic Education Week

May 5 – May 10, 2019

Toronto Catholic District School Board schools are communities of faith where Catholic beliefs are integrated into the total learning experience. Each Catholic school is a unique, faith-centered community where students' intellectual, physical and spiritual growth is inspired and nurtured. In a very real way, our staff nurture students to "live as joyful disciples".

As the largest publicly-funded Catholic school board in the world, the Toronto Catholic District School Board has a rich history of tradition and partnership with our Catholic community. Our Catholic schools continue to thrive because of the shared commitment of our parent, parish and school communities. Catholic Education Week is a special reminder that publicly-funded Catholic education is a call to service, and it is our duty to bring the message of Jesus Christ into the lives of the students we are privileged to serve.

In this year's Pastoral Plan – *Rooted in Christ: we Belong*, we recognize and appreciate the beauty of our origin from diverse social and cultural backgrounds regardless of gender, race or social status. We are one family. Each member plays an integral role in our community, and together we create an inclusive learning environment that provides equity of opportunity, access and outcomes to all.

Our Mission compels us to educate students to grow in grace and knowledge and to lead lives of faith, hope and charity. Catholic Education Week turns our focus to the good that is inherent in our faith and in our school communities and invites us to

celebrate the many accomplishments of our students, staff, parents, parishes and all others who contribute to our schools and school system.

The week began with our annual Awards Night, which celebrated outstanding achievement within our Board. Congratulations to all the honourees! Throughout the week, we will continue with countless celebrations of our Catholic faith and excellence in education. We thank everyone in our TCDSB community for the part that you play in shaping our Catholic school communities and we wish all of you a happy Catholic Education Week!

Sincerely,

Rory McGuckin

Director of Education

Maria Rizzo

Chair of the Board