

## A Message of Thanksgiving

With the approach of Thanksgiving, we again are reminded of how fortunate we are to have so much when many in the world have so little. We are truly blessed, and it is fitting that we give thanks for the blessings and more importantly that we reach out to those who are less fortunate, particularly this year which is our Year of Charity.



Thanksgiving is a wonderful time to participate in food drives and clothing drives, to donate time to local shelters, retirement homes and soup kitchens, or simply to take time in silence to reflect on the many things that we can be thankful for—family and friends, health, employment, the opportunity to learn and travel, and the privilege of living in a country that is free from war, oppression and famine. Let us never take these wonderful gifts for granted.

Here at Toronto Catholic we give thanks for the enthusiastic young people who are at the heart of the work that we do; you challenge us and bring us joy. We are grateful for our staff who inspire and motivate our students to become the best they can possibly be; you make us very proud. We have a deep appreciation for our parents and our parish partners who support our school communities in so many ways; this triad of home, school and parish is the foundation of our success.

This Thanksgiving we thank everyone in Catholic education for the important role they play in helping our students to succeed.

As you spend time this Thanksgiving, we should keep the words of Pope Frances in mind: *“If families can say these three things, they will be fine. ‘Sorry,’ ‘excuse me,’ ‘thank you.’ How often do we say ‘thank you’ in our families? How often do we say ‘thank you’ to those who help us, those close to us, those at our side throughout life? All too often we take everything for granted!”*

We wish all of you a joyful Thanksgiving celebration. Have a safe and happy weekend!

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Director of Education

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Chair of the Board