TO: Chairpersons and Directors of Education
Religious Education and Adult Faith Consultants
- All Catholic District School Boards

FROM: Brian O’Sullivan, Director of Catholic Education

SUBJECT: Catholic Education: Renewing the Promise
L’éducation catholique: Renouveler la Promesse
May 6 – May 11, 2018

“For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” (Acts 2:39)

“Car la promesse est pour vous, pour vos enfants et pour tous ceux qui sont loin, aussi nombreux que le Seigneur notre Dieu les appellera.” (Actes 2,39)

It is a pleasure to announce the theme for Catholic Education Week 2018:

Catholic Education: Renewing the Promise
L’éducation catholique: Renouveler la Promesse

Catholic Education Week is held each year in May in our 29 Ontario Catholic school boards. It will run from May 6 – May 11, 2018.

The theme for CEW 2018, Renewing the Promise, draws upon previous documents on Ontario Catholic education, namely, “This Moment of Promise” (1989), “Fulfilling the Promise” (1993) and “Our Catholic Schools” (2006-2007). These three documents, while several years apart from each other, all speak of the unique mission of Ontario Catholic education, the importance of its shared leadership by all those involved in Catholic education and the critical role of Catholic education in contemporary society. For 2017-2018, these issues are further explored via an electronic survey organized by the Institute for Catholic Education (ICE) that will lead to a gathering of the Catholic community in the Fall of 2017. From the discussions that emerge for this summit, the Ontario Bishops will be producing a new statement on Ontario Catholic education, “Renewing the Promise,” which is expected out in the Spring of 2018.

PROMOTING AND PROTECTING CATHOLIC EDUCATION
Within the overreaching theme of “Renewing the Promise,” there are five sub-themes for CEW 2018. Please see below for these sub-themes, as well as the extended explanation of each.

The sub-themes for Catholic Education Week 2018 are as follows:

**Monday:** Remembering the Promise  
Faire mémoire de la promesse

**Tuesday:** The Promise is Within You  
La promesse est en toi

**Wednesday:** Praying the Promise  
Prier la promesse

**Thursday:** Living the Promise  
Vivre la promesse

**Friday:** Proclaiming the Promise  
Annoncer la promesse

**Monday/Lundi: Remembering the Promise/Faire mémoire de la promesse**

“The Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you.” (John 14:26)

“…le Défenseur, l’Esprit Saint que le Père enverra en mon nom, lui, vous enseignera tout, et il vous fera souvenir de tout ce que je vous ai dit.” (Jean 14, 26)

**Tuesday/Mardi: The Promise is Within You/La promesse est en toi**

“Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away. 12It is not in Heaven, that you should say, “Who will go up to Heaven for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?” 13Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, “Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?” 14No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe. (Deuteronomy 30:11-14)

Cette loi que je te prescris aujourd’hui n’est pas au-dessus de tes forces ni hors de ton atteinte. Elle n’est pas dans les cieux, pour que tu dises: “Qui montera aux cieux nous la chercher?” Qui nous la fera entendre, afin que nous la mettions en pratique? Elle n’est pas au-delà des mers, pour que tu dises: “Qui se rendra au-delà des mers nous la chercher?” Qui nous la fera entendre, afin que nous la mettions en pratique? “Elle est tout près de toi, cette Parole, elle est dans ta bouche et dans ton cœur, afin que tu la mettes en pratique.” (Deutéronome 30:11-14)
**Wednesday/Mercredi:**  **Praying the Promise/Prier la promesse**

“Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches, finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.” (Matthew 7:7-8)

“Demandez on vous donnera; cherchez, vous trouverez; frappez, on vous ouvrira. En effet, quiconque demande reçoit; qui cherche trouve; à qui frappe, on ouvrira.” (Matthieu 7, 7-8)

**Thursday/Jeudi:**  **Living the Promise/Vivre la promesse**

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.” (Luke 4:18-19)

“L’Esprit du Seigneur est sur moi parce que le Seigneur m’a consacré par l’onction. Il m’a envoyé porter la Bonne Nouvelle aux pauvres, annoncer aux captifs leur libération, et aux aveugles qu’ils retrouveront la vue, remettre en liberté les opprimés, annoncer une année favorable accordée par le Seigneur. (Luc 4, 18-19)

**Friday/Vendredi:**  **Proclaiming the Promise/Annoncer la promesse**

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.” (Philippians 4:4-5)

“Soyez toujours dans la joie du Seigneur; je le redis: soyez dans la joie. Que votre bienveillance soit connue de tous les hommes. Le Seigneur est proche.” (Philippiens 4, 4-5)

We would like to thank the members of the CEW 2018 writing team for their work establishing these themes for our Catholic schools. Many thanks to:

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Further details about CEW 2018 will be forth coming once they are finalized and once we have a chance to meet with our new Ontario Catholic Student Trustee President and Vice-President. In conclusion, we wish you a wonderful CEW 2018 and please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further questions.