RESPECT FOR LIFE WEEK
May 11-15, 2015

Prepared by:
TCDSB Respect for Life Planning Team
RESPECT FOR LIFE WEEK IN TCDSB SCHOOLS

School Guidelines
The policies and practices of the Toronto Catholic District School Board, affirm the sacred character of human life. Respect for Life week is an annual opportunity to celebrate our recognition of the profoundly sacred nature of life. An integrated approach to life issues recognizes two categories of issues as follows: Those which take human life (e.g. abortion, euthanasia, capital punishment; Those which attack human dignity (e.g. individuals with special needs, those suffering from mental illness, bullying, etc.)

Our profound support for respect for life issues is reflected in our commitment to:
- rigorous and thorough implementation of our religious education and family life education curricula
- the richness of Religious Education/Family Life Education professional development activities offered for teachers as support for their ongoing faith development
- the safeguarding and maintenance of school climate that supports respect for life
- the implementation of special events that focus and highlight our ongoing support for respect for life.

Sources
We are called to be creative and supportive of life. The Family Life program, Fully Alive, presents fertility as a blessing from God. It addresses sexuality primarily in connection with the awe and wonder of procreation and it instills in us a respect for new life from the moment of conception.

Respect for life means that all human beings have value and deserve to be treated with dignity from the oldest to the youngest, from those who are strong and healthy to those who are vulnerable because of illness or disabilities, from those who can speak for themselves, to those who cannot.

Commentary
TCDSB celebrates the theme, Respect for Life, during the second week of May each year. Schools are encouraged to plan some activities around this theme.

Respect for life is a recurring theme in the Fully Alive curriculum in both elementary and secondary classrooms. In the higher grades, this theme is enhanced with the integration of theology and spirituality in light of the sanctity of human life from the moment of conception to natural death. The latter has become a more urgent concern since the Supreme Court of Canada legalized Euthanasia on February 6th, 2015.

For the Catholic perspective on Euthanasia, please see the links below:

  Euthanasia in Canada – Response by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) Statement by CCCB President on Supreme Court judgment and physician-assisted suicide (February 6th, 2015)  

  CCCB posts new section about Euthanasia.  
  http://www.cccb.ca/site/?searchword=euthanasia&searchphrase=all&limit=&ordering=newest&view=search&Itemid=99999999&option=com_search
Prayers for Respect for Life Week

Prayer for life by Saint John Paul II

O Mary, bright dawn of the new world,
    Mother of the living,
to you do we entrust the cause of life:
Look down, O Mother, upon the vast numbers
    of babies to be born,
of the poor whose lives are made difficult,
of men and women who are victims of brutal violence,
of the elderly and the sick killed
    by indifference or out of misguided mercy.
Grant that all who believe in your Son
    may proclaim the Gospel of life
with honesty and love to the people of our time.
Obtain for them the grace
To accept that Gospel as a gift ever new,
    the joy of celebrating it with gratitude
throughout their lives
And the courage to bear witness to it resolutely,
in order to build,
together with all people of good will,
    the civilization of truth and love,
    to the praise and glory of God,
    the Creator and lover of life.

Saint John Paul II Encyclical Letter
"The Gospel of Life"
Given in Rome, on March 25,
the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord,
in the year 1995.
Prayer for the Dignity of Human Life

Lord and giver of all life, help us to value each person, created in love by You. In Your mercy, guide and assist our efforts to promote dignity and value of all human life, born and unborn. We ask this through Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live.”
(Deuteronomy 30:19)

Respect for Life Prayers from Fully Alive

Life is a Gift (Grade 4)
God you have given me my life and made me in your image. I thank you Help me to remember always that life is a gift to enjoy to respect, to celebrate, to protect and to love. Amen

The Gift of Life (Grade 3)
We give thanks O Lord for the gift of our lives and for the love of our parents. You were with us from the moment of conception. Send us your Spirit, Lord, to help us live as your children. Amen

Grade 6, Fully Alive
Loving God, everything you created is good.
We have received life from your hands.
We have been created male and female with the power to love and care for each other and to share in your creation.
We thank you for this gift.
We ask your help to cherish and respect what you have created.
We ask your help to use the gift of sexuality in the way you have intended. Amen
Prayer for Parents

Loving Creator, author of life,
we thank you for our special role
in family life and for the gift we
share with you in creating others
in your own image and likeness.
Life is so precious and so beautiful,
m mingling souls in so mysterious and
satisfying ways.

May our human love and friendship
reflect your own divine love.
May we and our children be committed
to being fully alive to your call and challenge,
ever growing in discipleship and friendship
with Jesus who alone is the way, the truth and the life.

May we praise you always.
May we, without seeming to preach,
teach you to our children and to others,
not so much by our words as by our example.

Respect for Life Resources

SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE

The work of Catholic Charity and respect for the human person is rooted in the Bible and the
principles of Catholic Social Teaching. The following Scripture references are foundational to
the principles of Catholic Social Teaching. Some of the core areas include: a) the dignity of
the Human Person; b) the community and the common good; c) rights and Responsibilities;
d) the option for the Poor; and, e) Solidarity
**DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN PERSON**

**The Lord defends the poor**

Injure not the poor because they are poor, nor crush the needy at the gate; For the LORD will defend their cause, and will plunder the lives of those who plunder them.

—Proverbs 22:22-23

**A world of justice**

He has shown might with his arm, dispersed the arrogant of mind and heart. He has thrown down the rulers from their thrones but lifted up the lowly. The hungry he has filled with good things; the rich he has sent away empty.


**Justice for the oppressed**

The LORD does righteous deeds, brings justice to all the oppressed. His ways were revealed to Moses, mighty deeds to the people of Israel.

Merciful and gracious is the LORD, slow to anger, abounding in kindness. God does not always rebuke, nurses no lasting anger, Has not dealt with us as our sins merit, nor requited us as our deeds deserve. As the heavens tower over the earth, so God's love towers over the faithful. As far as the east is from the west, so far have our sins been removed from us. As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on the faithful. For he knows how we are formed, remembers that we are dust. Our days are like the grass; like flowers of the field we blossom. The wind sweeps over us and we are gone; our place knows us no more. But the LORD'S kindness is forever, toward the faithful from age to age. He favors the children's children of those who keep his covenant, who take care to fulfill its precepts.

—Psalm 103:6-18

**The Signs of the Messiah and his followers**

When John heard in prison of the works of the Messiah, he sent his disciples to him with this question, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" Jesus said to them in reply, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them. And blessed is the one who takes no offense at me."

—Matthew 11:2-6
COMMUNITY AND THE COMMON GOOD – SEEK GOOD AND NOT EVIL
Seek good and not evil, that you may live; then truly will the LORD, the God of hosts, be with you as you claim! Hate evil and love good, and let justice prevail at the gate; then it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts, will have pity on the remnant of Joseph.
—Amos 5:14-15

Act justly and walk humbly with God
You have been told, what is good, and what the LORD requires of you: Only to do the right and to love goodness, and to walk humbly with your God.
—Micah 6:8

All things were held in common
They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their property and possessions and divide them among all according to each one's need. Every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple area and to breaking bread in their homes. They ate their meals with exultation and sincerity of heart, praising God and enjoying favor with all the people. And every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.
—Acts2:43-47

Things were distributed to each according to need
The community of believers was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they had everything in common. With great power the apostles bore witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great favor was accorded them all.
There was no needy person among them, for those who owned property or houses would sell them, bring the proceeds of the sale, and put them at the feet of the apostles, and they were distributed to each according to need.
—Acts 4:32-35

Put your gifts at the service of others
Be serious and sober for prayers. Above all, let your love for one another be intense, because love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without complaining. As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God’s varied grace. Whoever preaches, let it be with the words of God; whoever serves, let it be with the strength that God supplies, so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.
—1 Peter 4:7-11
**RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

**Justice is more pleasing than sacrifice**
To do what is right and just is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.
—Proverbs 21:3

**Justice for the oppressed**
Praise the Lord, my soul; I shall praise the Lord all my life, sing praise to my God while I live. I put no trust in princes, in mere mortals powerless to save. When they breathe their last, they return to the earth; that day all their planning comes to nothing.

Happy those whose help is Jacob's God, whose hope is in the Lord, their God, The maker of heaven and earth, the seas and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever, secures justice for the oppressed, gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets prisoners free; the Lord gives sight to the blind. The Lord rises up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous. The Lord protects the stranger, sustains the orphan and the widow, but thwarts the way of the wicked. The Lord shall reign forever, your God, Zion, through all generations! Hallelujah!
—Psalm 146:2-10

**Be doers of God's word**
Do not be deceived, my beloved: all good giving and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no alteration or shadow caused by change. He willed to give us birth by the word of truth that we may be a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

Know this, my dear friends: everyone should be quick to hear, slow to To do what is right and just is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.
—Proverbs 21:3
Justice for the oppressed

Praise the Lord, my soul; I shall praise the Lord all my life, sing praise to my God while I live. I put no trust in princes, in mere mortals powerless to save. When they breathe their last, they return to the earth; that day all their planning comes to nothing. Happy those whose help is Jacob's God, whose hope is in the Lord, their God, The maker of heaven and earth, the seas and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever, secures justice for the oppressed, gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets prisoners free; the Lord gives sight to the blind. The Lord raises up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous. The Lord protects the stranger, sustains the orphan and the widow, but thwarts the way of the wicked. The Lord shall reign forever, your God, Zion, through all generations! Hallelujah!

—Psalm 146:2-10

Speak, slow to wrath, for the wrath of a man does not accomplish the righteousness of God. Therefore, put away all filth and evil excess and humbly welcome the word that has been planted in you and is able to save your souls. Be doers of the word and not hearers only, deluding yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his own face in a mirror. He sees himself, then goes off and promptly forgets what he looked like. But the one who peers into the perfect law of freedom and perseveres, and is not a hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, such a one shall be blessed in what he does. If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, his religion is vain. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God and the Father is this: to care for orphans and widows in their affliction and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

—James 1:17-27

Jesus shows compassion and responsibility Jesus summoned his disciples and said, "My heart is moved with pity for the crowd, for they have been with me now for three days and have nothing to eat. I do not want to send them away hungry, for fear they may collapse on the way."

—Matthew 15:32

The Call to Servant hood

But it shall not be so among you. Rather, whoever wishes to be great among you shall be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave. Just so, the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.

—Matthew 20:26-28
OPTION FOR THE POOR

Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?' And the king will say to them in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.

—Matthew 25:35-40

Show justice to the widow and orphan

You shall not wrong any widow or orphan. If ever you wrong them and they cry out to me, I will surely hear their cry. My wrath will flare up, and I will kill you with the sword; then your own wives will be widows, and your children orphans. If you lend money to one of your poor neighbors among my people, you shall not act like an extortioner toward him by demanding interest from him.

—Exodus 22:20-24

Happy are those who take refuge in the Lord

Look to God that you may be radiant with joy and your faces may not blush for shame. In my misfortune I called, the LORD heard and saved me from all distress. The angel of the LORD, who encamps with them, delivers all who fear God. Learn to savor how good the LORD is; happy are those who take refuge in him. Fear the LORD, you holy ones; nothing is lacking to those who fear him. The powerful grow poor and hungry, but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing. Come, children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD. Who among you loves life, takes delight in prosperous days? Keep your tongue from evil, your lips from speaking lies. Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it. The LORD has eyes for the just and ears for their cry. The LORD'S face is against evildoers to wipe out their memory from the earth. When the just cry out, the LORD hears and rescues them from all distress.

—Psalm 34:6-18

Happy are they who are concerned with the lowly and poor

Happy those concerned for the lowly and poor; when misfortune strikes, the LORD delivers them. The LORD keeps and preserves them, makes them happy in the land, and does not betray them to their enemies.

—Psalm 41:1-3
He shows pity to the needy and the poor

O God, give your judgment to the king; your justice to the son of kings; that he may govern your people with justice, your oppressed with right judgment, That the mountains may yield their bounty for the people, and the hills great abundance, That he may defend the oppressed among the people, save the poor and crush the oppressor. May he live as long as the sun endures, like the moon, through all generations. May he be like rain coming down upon the fields, like showers watering the earth, That abundance may flourish in his days, great bounty, till the moon be no more. May he rule from sea to sea, from the river to the ends of the earth. May his foes kneel before him, his enemies lick the dust. May the kings of Tarshish and the islands bring tribute, the kings of Arabia and Seba offer gifts. May all kings bow before him, all nations serve him.

For he rescues the poor when they cry out, the oppressed who have no one to help.

He shows pity to the needy and the poor and saves the lives of the poor. From extortion and violence he frees them, for precious is their blood in his sight.

Long may he live, receiving gold from Arabia, prayed for without cease, blessed day by day.

May wheat abound in the land, flourish even on the mountain heights. May his fruit increase like Lebanon's, his wheat like the grasses of the land.

May his name be blessed forever; as long as the sun, may his name endure. May the tribes of the earth give blessings with his name; may all the nations regard him as favoured.

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wonderful deeds. Blessed be his glorious name forever; may all the earth be filled with the LORD'S glory.

—Psalm 72:1-19

The Lord calls me to bring glad tidings to the lowly

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; He has sent me to bring glad tidings to the lowly, to heal the broken-hearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, To announce a year of favour from the Lord and a day of vindication by our God to comfort all who mourn;

—Isaiah 61: 1-2

Show kindness and compassion toward each other

Thus says the Lord of hosts: Render true judgment, and show kindness and compassion toward each other. Do not oppress the widow or the orphan, the alien or the poor; do not plot evil against one another in your hearts.

—Zechariah 7:9-10

Be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord

Let love be sincere; hate what is evil, hold on to what is good; To do what is right and just is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.

—Proverbs 21:3
Justice for the oppressed

Praise the Lord, my soul; I shall praise the Lord all my life, sing praise to my God while I live. I put no trust in princes, in mere mortals powerless to save. When they breathe their last, they return to the earth; that day all their planning comes to nothing. Happy those whose help is Jacob's God, whose hope is in the Lord, their God, The maker of heaven and earth, the seas and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever, secures justice for the oppressed, gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets prisoners free; the Lord gives sight to the blind. The Lord rises up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous. The Lord protects the stranger, sustains the orphan and the widow, but thwarts the way of the wicked. The Lord shall reign forever, your God, Zion, through all generations! Hallelujah!

—Psalm 146:2-10

Love one another with mutual affection; anticipate one another in showing honour.

Do not grow slack in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, endure in affliction, persevere in prayer.

Contribute to the needs of the holy ones, exercise hospitality. Bless those who persecute (you), bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

Have the same regard for one another; do not be haughty but associate with the lowly; do not be wise in your own estimation.

Do not repay anyone evil for evil; be concerned for what is noble in the sight of all.

If possible, on your part, live at peace with all.

—Romans 12:9-18

Blessed are you who are poor

And raising his eyes toward his disciple she said:

Blessed are you who are poor, for the kingdom of God is yours. Blessed are you who are now hungry, for you will be satisfied. Blessed are you who are now weeping, for you will laugh.

Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude and insult you, and denounce your name as evil on account of the Son of Man.

Rejoice and leap for joy on that day! Behold, your reward will be great in heaven. For their ancestors treated the prophets in the same way.

But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. But woe to you who are filled now, for you will be hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for you will grieve and weep.

Woe to you when all speak well of you, for their ancestors treated the false prophets in this way.

—Luke 6:20-26
Do not rob the poor man of his livelihood

My son, rob not the poor man of his livelihood; force not the eyes of the needy to turn away. A hungry man grieve not, a needy man anger not; Do not exasperate the down trodden; delay not to give to the needy. A beggar in distress does not reject; avert not your face from the poor. From the needy turn not your eyes, give no man reason to curse you; For if in the bitterness of his soul he curse you, his Creator will hear his prayer. Endear yourself to the assembly; before a ruler bow your head. Give a hearing to the poor man, and return his greeting with courtesy; Deliver the oppressed from the hand of the oppressor; let not justice be repugnant to you. To the fatherless be as a father, and help their mother as a husband would; Thus will you be like a son to the Most High, and he will be more tender to you than a mother.

—Sirach 4:1-10

Respect those who are laboring among you

We ask you, brothers, to respect those who are labouring among you and who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you, and to show esteem for them with special love on account of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. We urge you, brothers, admonish the idle, cheer the fainthearted, support the weak, be patient with all. See that no one returns evil for evil; rather, always seek what is good (both) for each other and for all. Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.

—1 Thessalonians 5:12-18

Be rich in good works

Tell the rich in the present age not to be proud and not to rely on so uncertain a thing as wealth but rather on God, who richly provides us with all things for our enjoyment. Tell them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous, ready to share, thus accumulating as treasure a good foundation for the future, so as to win the life that is true life

—1 Timothy 6:17-19

Riches obtained unjustly bring misery

Come now, you rich, weep and wail over your impending miseries. Your wealth has rotted away, your clothes have become moth-eaten, your gold and silver have corroded, and that corrosion will be a testimony against you; it will devour your flesh like a fire. You have stored up treasure for the last days. Behold, the wages you withheld from the workers who harvested your fields are crying aloud, and the cries of the harvester shave reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. You have lived on earth in luxury and pleasure; you have fattened your hearts for the day of slaughter. You have condemned; you have murdered the righteous one; he offers you no resistance. Be patient, therefore, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You too must be patient. Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand.

—James 5:1-8
SOLIDARITY

The Lord is a stronghold for the oppressed

It is God who governs the world with justice, who judges the peoples with fairness. The Lord is a stronghold for the oppressed, stronghold in times of trouble. Those who honour your name trust in you; you never forsake those who seek you, Lord. Sing hymns to the Lord enthroned on Zion; proclaim God’s deeds among the nations! Have mercy on me, LORD; see how my foes afflict me! You alone can raise me from the gates of death. Then I will declare all your praises, sing joyously of your salvation in the gates of daughter Zion.

—Psalm 9:9-15

He who shuts his ear to the cry of the poor will himself also call and not be heard.

—Proverbs 21:13

They shall beat their swords into plowshares

This is what Isaiah, son of Amoz, saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come, the mountain of the Lord’s house shall be established as the highest mountain and raised above the hills. All nations shall stream toward it; many peoples shall come and say: "Come, let us climb the Lord’s mountain, to the house of the God of Jacob That he may instruct us in his ways, and we may walk in his paths." For from Zion shall go forth instruction and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and impose terms on many peoples. They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; One nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

—Isaiah 2:1-5
Be of one mind in Christ

If there is any encouragement in Christ, any solace in love, any participation in the Spirit, any compassion and mercy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, with the same love, united in heart, thinking one thing. Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves, each looking out not for his own interests, but (also) everyone for those of others. Have among yourselves the same attitude that is also yours in Christ Jesus, Who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross.

Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

—Philippians 2:1-1

Justice will bring about peace

Until the spirit from on high is poured out on us. Then will the desert become an orchard and the orchard be regarded as a forest. Right will dwell in the desert and justices abide in the orchard. Justice will bring about peace; right will produce calm and security. My people will live in peaceful country, in secure dwellings and quiet resting places. Happy are you who sow beside every stream, and let the ox and the ass go freely!

—Isaiah 32:16-17

Solidarity with the outcasts of society

The tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to listen to him, but the Pharisees and scribes began to complain, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

Respect for Life Resources  
Key Principles of Catholic Social Teaching:

1. **The Dignity of the Human Person**  
   Human beings are created in the image of God and, therefore, are endowed with dignity. This inherent dignity carries with it certain basic rights and responsibilities which are exercised within a social framework.

2. **The Common Good**  
   While the dignity of the human person is affirmed, individuals live in common with others and the rights of individuals must be balanced with the wider common good of all. The rights and needs of others must be always respected.

3. **Solidarity**  
   Human beings are social by nature and do not exist merely as individuals. When considering the human community it must be remembered that it consists of individual and social elements.

4. **Subsidiarity**  
   This principle recognizes that society is based on organizations or communities of people ranging from small groups or families right through to national and international institutions. As a rule of social organization, subsidiarity affirms the right of individuals and social groups to make their own decisions and accomplish what they can by their own initiative and industry. A higher level community should not interfere in the life of a community at a lower level of social organization unless it is to support and enable.

5. **The Purpose of the Social Order**  
   The social order must uphold the dignity of the human person.

6. **The Purpose of Government**  
   The purpose of government is the promotion of the common good. Governments are required to actively participate in society to promote and ensure social justice and equity.

7. **Participation**  
   Individuals and groups must be enabled to participate in society.

8. **The Universal Purpose of Goods**  
   The world’s goods are meant for all. Although the Church upholds the right to private property this is subordinate to the right to common use and the overall common good. There is a social mortgage on private property.

9. **The Option for the Poor**  
   This refers to seeing the world through the eyes of the poor and standing with the poor in solidarity. This should lead to action for justice with and on behalf of those who are poor and marginalized.

10. **The Care of Creation**  
    The Earth is God’s gift and all species have a rightful place in it. Humans share this habitat with other kind and have a special duty to be stewards and trustees of the Earth.
Catholic Social Teaching:
Some Core Encyclicals and Documents

*Rerum Novarum: On the Condition of Labour* (Leo XIII, 1891)
Lays out the rights and responsibilities of capital and labour; Describes the role of Government in a just society; Condemns atheistic communism; Upholds the right to private property.

*Quadragesimo Anno: On Reconstructing the Social Order* (Pius XI, 1931)
Condemns the effects of greed and concentrated political and economic power and proposes that social organization be based on the principle of subsidiarity.

*Mater et Magistra: Mother and Teacher* (John XXIII, 1961)
Identifies the widening gap between the rich and poor nations as a global concern of justice; Raises concerns about the arms race; Calls upon Christians to work for a more just world.

*Pacem in Terris: Peace on Earth* (John XXIII, 1963)
Focus on human rights as the basis for peace; Calls for disarmament; stating the need for a world-wide institution to promote and safe guard the universal common good.

Clear recognition that the Church is immersed in the modern world; Condemns poverty; Warns about the threat of nuclear war; Christians must work to build structures that uphold justice and peace.

Focus on human development - 'development is the new name for peace'; Condemns the situation that gives rise to global poverty and inequality; Calls for new international organizations and agreements that promote justice and peace.

*Octogesima Adveniens: An Apostolic Letter: A Call to Action* (Paul VI, 1971)
Calls for political action for economic justice; develops the role of individual local churches in responding to unjust situations and acting for justice.

*Justice in the World* (Synod of Bishops, 1971)
States that "action for justice" is a constitutive dimension of the preaching of the Gospel.

*Evangeli Nuntiandi: Evangelisation in the Modern World* (Paul VI, 1975)
Links the work of doing justice with evangelisation; The Gospel is about liberation from all oppressive structures; Respect for cultures.

Affirms the dignity of work and the dignity of the worker; Affirms the rights of labour; Calls for workplace justice.
**Sollicitudo Rei Socialis**: The Social Concerns of the Church (John Paul II, 1987)
Includes the "option for the poor" as a central tenet of Church teaching;
Also develops the notions of 'solidarity', the 'structures of sin' and 'the social mortgage on
property'; Suggests that the resources used for the arms race be dedicated to the alleviation
of human misery; Nature must be considered in development.

**Peace with God the Creator, Peace with Creation** - Pastoral Letter (John Paul II, 1990)
The ecological crisis is a moral crisis facing humanity; Respect for nature and ecological
responsibility is a key tenet of faith; The integrity of creation must be upheld; Ecological
education to nurture a new global solidarity that takes account of nature.

**Centesimus Annus**: One Hundred Years (John Paul II, 1991)
Reaffirms the principles of Catholic Social Teaching over one hundred years; Celebrates
*Rerum Novarum*; Identifies the failures of both socialist and market economies.

**Caritas in Veritate** —Love in Truth (Pope Benedict XVI June 29, 2009)
Charity is at the heart of the Church's social doctrine. Every responsibility and every
commitment spelt out by that doctrine is derived from charity which, according to the teaching
of Jesus, is the synthesis of the entire Law (cf. Mt 22:36-40).

**INSTRUCTION DIGNITAS PERSONAE: ON CERTAIN BIOETHICAL QUESTIONS**
(Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith), December 8th, 2008.)

Instruction Concerning the Criteria for the Discernment of Vocations with regard to
Persons with Homosexual Tendencies in view of their Admission to the Seminary and
to HolyOrders: *Congregation for Catholic Education* – November 4
[http://www.papalencyclicals.net/Ben16/Instructions.htm](http://www.papalencyclicals.net/Ben16/Instructions.htm).

**GENERAL AUDIENCES: JOHN PAUL II'S THEOLOGY OF THE BODY**: Pope John
Paul II :(Four Year Catechesis 1979-1984) See:
Other General Website Resources:


8. Catholic Social Teaching Slideshow on Youtube: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nhXulbK28oQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nhXulbK28oQ)


14. Encyclicals, Exhortations and other documents:

   (This Summary has been adapted and developed from NETWORK 1998, *Shaping a New World*, pp 5-11) See:

Respect for Life Resources
Sexuality and Anti-Homophobia

The Vatican:
The Truth and Meaning of Human Sexuality: Guidelines for Education within the family

Ontario Catholic Family Life Educators Network:
Homosexuality and the Catholic High School: A compilation of newsletters with new material:
http://www.carfleo.org/Homosexualitypackage.pdf

Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario:
Pastoral Guidelines to Assist Students of Same-Sex Orientation
http://www.acbo.on.ca/englishweb/publications.htm and Archives at
http://www.acbo.on.ca/englishweb/archive.htm

Statement on Sexual Morality (OCCB, 1999) at:
http://www.occb.on.ca/english/SexualMorality.html

Intimacy and Sexuality. A Letter to Catholic Secondary Students in Ontario. (1994) at:
http://www.occb.on.ca/english/intimacy.html

Celebrating an Education for Justice and Peace. (OCCB, 1996) at:
http://www.occb.on.ca/english/celebrating.html

Ontario Catholic School Trustee Association:
Respecting Difference:

Catholic Education Resource Centre:
Prevent Bullying, Promote Kindness: 20 Things All Schools Can do:
http://www.catholiceducation.org/articles/education/ed0486.htm

Our Language, Our Story:
Fostering Equity and Inclusivity Through the Virtues Using Our Language Our Story:
http://rccdsb.edu.on.ca/religiouseducation/files/2010/06/FosteringEquityInclusivity.pdf; General Resources: http://www.ourlanguageourstory.org/; and,

Prayer for Special Students http://www.ourlanguageourstory.org/staff_development.html

Catechism of the Catholic Church (1992) at:
http://www.vatican.va/archive/catechism/ccc_toc.htm

Pastoral Guidelines to Assist Students of Same-Sex Attraction (2005)
(Available from Institute for Catholic Education)
Statement on Sexual Morality (OCCB, 1999) at: http://www.occb.on.ca/english/SexualMorality.html


Resources for Leadership in Education:

Videos (Carfleo)
“On Orientation” and “Orientation”
## Respect for Life
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RESPECT FOR LIFE
CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS IN THE SECONDARY RELIGION PROGRAMS

GRADE NINE – BE WITH ME

UNIT 1: CALLED TO JOURNEY

Unit Description
This unit will serve as both an introduction and foundation to the course. Through the use of The five strands—Scripture, Profession of Faith, Christian Moral Development, Prayer and Sacramental Life, and Family Life—students will investigate what it means to be called to journey. Students will be called to examine the past, called to be themselves, called to relationship, called to understand religious experience, called to make moral decisions, called to break open God’s Word, and called to prayer.

Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations: CGE 1f, 1g, 1i, 2b, 3d, 6b, and 7d.

Related Websites and Resources on Respecting Life
Scarboro Missions – www.scarboromissions.ca
CARFLEO – Dating and Relationship lessons from Intermediate Resources for Family Life www.carfleo.org
Archdiocese of Toronto, Youth – www.ocytoronto.org
Steven Covey- 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens – look for workshops provided through TCDSB Student Leadership camp experiences
Development and Peace – www.devp.org
Mindfulness Meditation – www.mindfulnessmeditationtoronto.com
Christian Meditation - http://www.wccm.org/content/what-meditation

UNIT 2: CALLED TO WHOLENESS

Unit Description
This unit will emphasize the sacredness of life and the sacramentality of all creation through an examination of the creation story. The foundation of this unit will be the creation accounts of Genesis through an understanding of Hebrew cosmolgy. The question of how science informs faith and faith informs science will be explored to further understand the sacredness of life in the creation account. In formed by the tension between faith and science, students will be strongly encouraged to act as faithful stewards of creation.

Images of God and Jesus will lead students to an appreciation of God’s love for them in the Incarnation. Acknowledging that all life is sacred and that they are created by God, students will value their self-worth, femaleness /maleness and sexuality as gifts.

Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations: CGE 1a, c, h, j, 2a, b, c, d, f, 3a, e, 4a, b, g, 5a, 6b, 7f.
UNIT 3: COVENANT: CALLED TO LOVE

Unit Description
This unit explores the biblical foundations of covenant. Students are encouraged to apply the Ten Commandments and Beatitudes to their own lives. The theme of relationships provides the focus for a discussion of covenant in the lives of students. 1 Corinthians 13 is used as the framework for examining healthy and broken personal relationships. Students explore the importance of healing and reconciling broken relationships.

Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations: CGE 1c, 1d, 1f, 1j, 1l, 2b, 2c, 2e, 3c, 3d, 4a, 5a, 5e, 5g, 6a, 7c, 7e.

Related Websites and Resources on Respecting Life
Dating and Relationships – CARFLEO www.carfleo.org Intermediate Resources in Family Life
L’Arche – www.larchetoronto.org
Pink Shirt Day – www.pinkshirtday.ca

UNIT 4: CALLED TO FREEDOM

Unit Description
This unit examines the journey, both personal and societal, from slavery to liberation. Students explore the scriptural journey of Exodus and identify God, who is active in human history and desires to be known both personally and communally. Jesus' temptations poignantly show how life-affirming choices lead to freedom. Globally the students examine the issue of poverty, culturally they examine the issue of consumerism, and personally they examine the influence of peer pressure. Students understand the importance of the formation of conscience and legitimate authority in making choices that liberate. Students investigate negative societal messages that can limit personal freedom and development. Body image and eating disorders are examined as concrete examples.

Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations: 1a,c, g, i, j, 2a,b,c, 3a, c, d, f, 4a, e, f, g, 5a, e, 7a, c.

Related Websites and Resources on Respecting Life
Beit Zatoun – www.beitzatoun.org
Christian Peacemaker Teams – www.cpt.org
Toronto Street Patrol Walk- www.stpatrickstoronto.ca/streetpatrol/index.php Good Shepherd Ministries - www.goodshepherd.ca/
UNIT 5: CALLED TO ACTION

Unit Description
This unit establishes Baptism and Confirmation as the sacramental basis for discipleship. Students understand that discipleship follows from Christian vocation; it is a call to take on the attitude of Christ and a moral imperative for action. A scriptural examination of the prophets, the call of the Apostles, the parables, the washing of the feet, Jesus’ instruction to Peter to —feed my lambs‖ and other related accounts leads to a thorough understanding of the concept of discipleship. Mary is examined as an important model of discipleship. Students examine a modern day call to discipleship by responding with care and compassion to the issues surrounding the elderly, the poor, and people with STIs/HIV/AIDS. These issues include the transmission and the prevention of these diseases and the care given to people living with them.

Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations: CGE 1d, 1f, 2a, 4c, 5c, 5d, 6e, and 7e.
Strand(s): Scripture, Profession of Faith, Christian Moral Development, Prayer and Sacramental Life, and Family Life

Related Websites and Resources on Respecting Life
Seeing their life call as a vocation - www.archtoronto.org/arch_offices/vocations_office.html

UNIT 6: CALLED TO TRANSFORMATION

Unit Description
This unit identifies the Paschal Mystery as the basis of the Christian faith. Through an examination of the elements of youth culture, students identify the value of making choices of life over death. Students critique societal messages, which encourage them to embrace consumerism and objectify human persons, using the Beatitudes as the framework. Students examine the challenges in various relationships, including adolescent male/female relationships and the pressure to become sexually active. Personal values and belief systems and effective communication skills are developed as students evaluate the importance of relationships that are honest, respectful, and equitable.

Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations: 1a, d, f, j, 2a, 3a, 4a, 5e, 6b, 7b, d.

Related Websites and Resources on Respecting Life
Brett Ullman – www.brettullman.com
Development and Peace – www.devp.org
Maquila Solidarity Movement – www.msm.org
1Focus – www.1focus.ca
CARFLEO- video resources and intermediate Family Life resources www.carfleo.org
RESPECT FOR LIFE
CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS IN THE SECONDARY RELIGION PROGRAMS

GRADE TEN – CHRIST AND CULTURE

UNIT 1: CALLED TO JESUS UNIT DESCRIPTION
Through the study of the Gospels in their Judaic roots students will come to know the Jesus of History and the Christ of Faith. Understanding Jesus as the Sacrament of God will lead students to an appreciation of their call to live a sacramental life. This knowledge will form the basis for students to begin to think critically about their world.

Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations: CGE 1a, 1c, 1i, 2a, 2b, 2c, 3a, 5a, 5b.

Life Issues in this unit
• The life of Jesus
• Formation of the Word of God
• From slavery to freedom
• Exploration of belonging
• Witnesses to the life of Jesus

Related Websites and Resources on Respecting Life
L’Arche – www.larche.ca
Maquila Solidarity Network – www.maquilasolidarity.org
Facebook – Darjeeling Mary Ward Social Centre
Brick Field Schools of India - http://vimeo.com/26828853
The Gospels – www.ltp.org
TCDSB Witness Webpage – examples of local witnesses to Jesus

UNIT 2: CALLED TO BE CHURCH

Unit Description
Students enter into a three-way conversation about their own life experience, their experience of parish life, and their encounters with Church teaching in order to answer the core question for this unit: What does it mean to be Catholic? Students first explore their personal faith journey. This experience, along with an investigation of an aspect of parish life, provides the experiential basis for exploring the core question. Then a study of the notion of sacramentality is undertaken. At this point the students investigate the Sacrament of Anointing. This core understanding is then applied to particular aspects of Catholicism, namely: prayer, the communion of saints, Mary, and the Church. Finally, students are challenged to come to an understanding of the Eucharist as a life-giving sacrament. Throughout the unit, students write a journal that traces their explorations of each of the topics. Students compile an artistic response to their experiences and insights throughout the unit. In the culminating activity students integrate their learning by means of an artistic response to the core question of the unit question.
Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations: CGE1a, 1b, 1c 1e, 1f, 1g, 1h, 1i, 1j, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, 2e, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e, 4a, 4b, 4c, 4d, 4e, 4f, 4g, 5a, 5b, 5c, 5e, 5f, 5g, 6d, 7a, 7b, 7d, 7e, 7f, 7h, 7i, 7j.

Life Issues in this unit
- Journey of Life
- Lives of the Saints
- Sacraments/Sacramentality
- Life of Prayer
- Mary as Life giver

Related Websites and Resources on Respecting Life
CARFLEO—www.carfleo.org
Christian Meditation - www.meditatio.ca/enindex.html
Investigate the Parish life of your local Church - Archdiocese of Toronto: http://www.archtoronto.org/

UNIT 3: CALLED TO BE AND RELATE

Unit Description
Steeped in Jesus’ call to love God with one’s whole body, mind and soul, students come to know the sacredness of the human person. Students are challenged to examine the quality of their relationships in light of the profound example of Jesus’ love. Acknowledging the impact of culture on the lives of young people, students compare cultural priorities with the Gospel imperative. A culminating activity sees the production of a media campaign, which promotes a Christian vision of personhood, relationships, and sexuality for teens

Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations: CGE 1c, 1d, 1e, 1f, 1g, 1h, 1i, 1j, 2a, 2e, 3a, 3d, 4a, 4d, 4g, 4h, 5a, 5c, 5e, 5f, 5g, 6a, 6b, 6d, 7a, 7b, 7c, 7d.

Life Issues in this unit
- Relationships
- Keys to healthy communication skills
- Chastity
- Human sexuality – created male and female
- Living with HIV/AIDS

Related Websites and Resources on Respecting Life
CARFLEO—www.carfleo.org for the Intermediate Resources on Family Life—Family Structures; Dating and Relationships; Same Sex Attraction; Sexually Transmitted Infections AIDS: A Catholic Educational Approach to HIV - Ontario Catholic Schools Second Edition Pastoral Guidelines for Students of Same Sex Orientation (through ICE and in your Chaplaincy office)
Pastoral Letter to Young People on Chastity: CCCB Publications Homosexuality and the Catholic High School – www.carfleo.org
UNIT 4: CALLED TO BE HOLY

Unit Description
Informed by Christ's life and the teachings of the Church, students will apply Christian moral principles to moral issues relevant to their lives. Students will be given opportunities to illustrate maturity in their understanding and practice of Catholic moral decision making methods. In addition students will examine the virtue of discipleship and holiness in the scriptures and apply insights gleaned to their own lives of faith.

Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations: CGE 1a, 1c, 1d, 1j, 2a, 2b, 2c, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 4a, 4b, 4f, 4g, 5a, 5e, 5g, 6, 7a, 7b, 7j.

Life Issues in this unit
- Christian Character
- Catholic Social Teaching
- Building a better world
- Moral acts and decision making
- Organ donation
- Pro-life

Related Websites and Resources on Respecting Life
Development and Peace – www.devp.org
Free the Children – freethechildren.ca
One Life, Many Gifts – onelifemanygifts.com Right to Life – righttolife.to

UNIT 5: CALLED TO BE JUST

Unit Description
Through this unit, students grow in their understanding and appreciation of the Gospel call to live justly. After examining Scripture and Church teachings on the Christian obligation to serve others, students carry out a research project on global issues. Dimensions of peace making are then explored. As a culminating activity, students develop and begin to implement a plan of action that addresses a local social justice issue.

Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations: CGE 1d, 1j, 2e, 3b, 3c, 3f, 4b, 5b, 5d, 6e, 7e, 7f, 7i, 7j.

Life Issues in this unit
- Stewardship of the earth
- Peace and Non-violence
- Taking Social Action
- Principals of Social Justice
- Preferential Option for the Poor

Related Websites and Resources on Respecting Life
Development and Peace – devp.org
Christian Peacemakers Teams – cpt.org
Connect with TCDSBStudent Leadership and CSLIT for local justice initiatives Adventure Learning Experiences – adventurelearningexperiences.com
Ontario Coalition Against Poverty – ocap.ca
RESPECT FOR LIFE
CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS IN THE SECONDARY RELIGION PROGRAMS

GRADE ELEVEN – WORLD RELIGIONS

UNIT 1: ENCOUNTERS WITH THE SACRED

Unit Description
This unit begins with an exploration of the sometimes conflicting values expressed through secular and religious cultures. Study of the themes of prejudice, stereotyping, and multiculturalism lead students to a deeper understanding and appreciation of the need to move from basic tolerance to acceptance of others. Students examine the earliest religious belief systems and archeological clues that point to prehistoric encounters with the sacred. Students become aware that contemplation of creation leads to an awareness of mystery. The overall course pattern of studying the sacred story, creed, moral code and rituals, and practices are introduced in this unit.

Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations: CGE2b, CGE3c, CGE1h, CGE4a, CGE5e, CGE2a, CGE4b, CGE2b

Life Issues in this unit
• Multiculturalism
• Images of God
• Rites of Passage rituals
• Dreams and Sacred Story

Related Websites and Resources on Respecting Life
Scarboro Missions – scarboromissions.ca
Canadian Aboriginal Spirituality - www.canadaandtheworld.com/aboriginalspirituality.html
The Awakening Universe – Thomas Berry, Brian Swimme, 15 min. video on the universe story.

*See Course Profile for extensive lists of web resources.

UNIT 2: JUDAISM

Unit Description:
Students explore the beliefs and practices of the Jewish people with an emphasis on the Historical connection between Judaism and Christianity. The overall course pattern of studying the sacred story, creed, moral code and rituals and practices will be the vehicle used to investigate Judaism. Students examine how Christianity has interacted with Judaism through reflection on the shared history and religious similarities and differences. The practice of student-led prayer service will conclude this unit, with prayer focusing on Jewish-Christian relationship and dialogue.
Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations: CGE 1a, c, h, i, 7e, f, CGE 1d, e, h, i, 2a, 3c, d, f, 4a, 6b, 7e, f, h

Life Issues in this unit
- Stages of Life and Family Life/Family Tree
- Addressing the Holocaust
- Jewish – Palestinian relations
- Role of Women in Judaism
- Jewish Festivals

Related Websites and Resources on Respecting Life
Directory of Synagogues - iamcs.mjaa.org/dir/Canada/ Beit Zatoun – beitzatoun.org
Simon Wiesenthal Centre - www.friendsofsimonwiesenthalcenter.com/ Jewish Festivals - Chabad.org

UNIT 3: CHRISTIANITY

Unit Description
It is assumed that students have some understanding of their faith tradition and story from the two previous years of formal religious education. Historical figures and events assist the students in deepening their knowledge of the nature and development of Christian thought and tradition.

Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations: CGE2a, CGE1g, CGE2b, CGE2c

Life Issues in this unit
- Jesus’ message of love
- Vatican II
- Contemporary issues facing the Church

Related Websites and Resources on Respecting Life
Christianity Today Magazine articles - Christianitytoday.com Vatican II - vatican2voice.org/
Issues facing the Church - thursdaynightgumbo.blogspot.ca/2007/05/vehige-10-most-important-issues-facing.html

UNIT 3: ISLAM

Unit Description:
Students explore the beliefs and practices of the Islamic faith with an emphasis on the common focus on conversion shared by Islam and Christianity. The overall course pattern of studying the sacred story, creed, moral code and rituals and practices will continue to be the vehicle used to investigate Islam. Students examine how Christianity has interacted with Islam through reflection on the shared beliefs and religious similarities and differences. The practice of student led prayer service will conclude this unit, with a liturgy focusing on inspiring elements of Islam and focusing on improving relationships between Christians and Muslims.
Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations: CGE 1c, h, i, 7e, f

Life Issues in this unit
- The life of Muhammad and denouncing of female infanticide
- Milestones of Life and Family Life – birth, naming, family structures
- Family, friendship, romantic relationships and the influence of faith
- Current issues- the Taliban, female genital mutilation, wearing the Hijab, passages from the Qur’an regarding the role of women

Related Websites and Resources on Respecting Life
Scarboro Missions YouTube Interfaith Lecture Series: http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL301E2CFDBB2D000D
Imam denouncing of Honor Killings - http://cnews.canoe.ca/CNEWS/Canada/2012/02/03/19336226.html

UNIT 5: EASTERN RELIGIONS (HINDUISM, BUDDHISM, SIKHISM)

Unit Description
The various activities in this unit on Eastern Religions introduces the student to the beliefs and practices of Hinduism, Buddhism and Sikhism. Students have many opportunities to work creatively in groups and individually to study the sacred story moral code, creed and current challenges facing these religions.

Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations: CGE 1h, CGE 1i, CGE1f, CGE 2b, CGE 7f, CGE 7g, CGE 3e

Life Issues in this unit
- The afterlife and reincarnation
- The ultimate questions about life
- The soul
- Gandhi and non-violence, other world figures and the movement of non-violence and conflict resolution
- Vegetarianism and respect for all forms of life

Related Websites and Resources on Respecting Life
Toronto Vegetarian Association – veg.ca
RESPECT FOR LIFE
CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS IN THE SECONDARY RELIGION PROGRAMS

GRADE TWELVE—CHURCH AND CULTURE

UNIT 1: WHO, US?
This unit is organized into four clusters of activities: Who are we?; What does it mean to be human?; Being Christian…Being Church; and Called to serve. The first two clusters involve students in a variety of investigations of what it means to be a human person, as well as surveys dealing with self-understanding and identity. The second cluster explores the idea of self and human personhood as understood in the light of Catholic Christian faith. In this cluster, students learn about the person of Jesus as God incarnate, and how the experience of this person informed the values and practice of the early Christian community. The last cluster leads students through a process of discernment. This process enables them to assess their skills, traits, and understanding of themselves as Christians, and apply those to a particular Christian service in the community.

The title of the unit, Who, Us? is rooted in the understanding that self-esteem issues provide the basis for many of the problems faced by young people in our modern society.

Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations: CGE1d, 5e, CGE1i, 4a, CGE1j, 3c 5e 7a, d, CGE1g, 2a, c

Life Issues in this unit
• Catholic Social Teachings—dignity of the human person, the common good
• Importance of community
• Love of God demands that we work for justice and peace
• Discovering self/personhood as fully human, fully alive
• Promotion of equality and solidarity
• Organ donation

Related Websites and Resources on Respecting Life
Development and Peace – devp.org L’Arche Canada – larche.ca
One Life, Many Gifts – onelifemanygifts.com Catholic Social Teachings – educationforjustice.org

UNIT 2: WHY, US?
The title of this Unit—Why Us? addresses one of the basic questions asked by many students, —Why should I care? The unit attempts to answer this with a clear presentation that our—caring is part of who we are as created beings and members of the Catholic Church.

Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations: CGE1d, CGE1e, CGE1g, CGE1i, CGE3a, CGE3b, CGE3c, CGE3d, CGE3e, CGE4a
Life Issues in this unit

- Creation Stories
- Prophetic voices in a contemporary culture - Dorothy Day, Oscar Romero, Mother Theresa, Martin Luther King Jr., Terry Fox, Jean Vanier, Mohandis K. Gandhi, Pope John Paul II, Pope John XXIII, Pope Paul VI, Rev. Martin Royackers, Naomi Klein, Noam Chomsky, Bernard Lonergan, Sr. Joan Chittister, Thomas Merton, Craig Kielberger, Sr. Helen Prejean, Rev. John Dear, Rev Daniel Berrigan, James Loney etc.).
- Exodus experience
- Slavery, Oppression and Freedom today
- Service oriented learning

Related Websites and Resources on Respecting Life
Universe Story - [http://www.thomasberry.org/Film/](http://www.thomasberry.org/Film/)
Romero House – [romerohouse.org](http://romerohouse.org)

UNIT 3: WHAT CAN WE DO?
The title of this Unit —What Can We Do? addresses one another of the basic questions asked by many students, —Even if we care, what can we do? Students come to understand that they can, and do, make a difference. They are called to be advocates, and effect change. This, in some small way, can address the sense of personal powerlessness we so often feel in our current world.

Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations: 1c,1d,1e,1l, 3a, 3b,3c,3d,3f, 1d,5a, 7a,7d

Life Issues in this unit

- The Beatitudes as life guide-lines
- Speaking the language of life, life as an unearned gift
- Ecological crisis and need to respect the earth as life giver
- Human dignity
- Developing one’s conscience as part of a healthy faith life
- Sacredness of life
- Social services agencies as community life givers

Related Websites and Resources on Respecting Life
Right to Life – [www.righttolife.to/](http://www.righttolife.to/)
Ontario Network for the Protection of Elder Abuse - [onpea.org](http://onpea.org/) Canadian Mental Health Association - [ontario.cmha.ca](http://ontario.cmha.ca/)
Campaign to End the Death Penalty - [nodeathpenalty.org](http://nodeathpenalty.org/)
UNIT 4: HOW DO WE DO THAT?
The title of this Unit —How do we do that? continues with the *discernment* nature of the course. Students are given an opportunity to see the vital role of prayer, sacrament, and ritual in maintaining one's vision and practice as a Catholic Christian, and maintaining balance in one's life. In the culminating activities in this unit, students plan a ritual, Mass, or retreat which can deal with issues relevant to their lives, and at the same time build trust and community among the group.

**Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations:** 1f, 6d, 1i, 4a, 4g, 5a, 5f, 7d, 3c, 3e, 7j,

**Life Issues in this unit**
- Prayer, Ritual and Sacraments as that which helps support and sustain life
- Community and belonging as essentials to a balanced life

**Related Websites and Resources on Respecting Life**
Prayer and Liturgies – educationforjustice.org
Prayers for the Journey, Les Miller and Lisa Freemantle L'Arche Canada – larche.ca

UNIT 5: WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?
This unit explores the gift of love and human sexuality and examines the decision making process of how sexuality is shared in the context of our lives and our Catholic beliefs. The various forms of love are explained, and how to navigate through some of the everyday opportunities and challenges that human relationships offer.

**Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations:** 1d,1e, 1g, 3c, 3d, 4a, 4g, 6a, 6b, 1g, 5e, 6b, 6c, 7d

**Life Issues in this unit**
- The gift of sexuality
- Love and human intimacy
- Chastity
- Marriage
- Same Sex Orientation
- Pleasure

**Related Websites and Resources on Respecting Life**
Intimacy and Sexuality - acbo.on.ca/englishweb/publications/intimacy.htm CARFLEO – carfleo.org
Respect for Life Week
Considerations for students with disabilities

The Mission of the Toronto Catholic District School Board is to “be an inclusive learning community rooted in the love of Christ. We educate students to grow in grace and knowledge and to lead lives of faith, hope and charity.”

Our vision is to “transform the world through witness, faith, innovation and action.”

In order to achieve this mission and vision, some key values that have been identified include the belief in the worth and dignity of every person and that equity, diversity, accessibility and inclusivity are integral to the Catholic community.

During Respect for Life week, it is important to consider the most vulnerable members of our Catholic School community and to recognize and honour the importance of all of these students in our schools. These students enrich our lives, and embody the core values of our Catholic community. This is illustrated in the following quotes:

“All life has inestimable value even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God’s creation, made in his own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect.”

— Pope Francis, Message to Catholics taking part in annual Day for Life in Britain and Ireland July 28, 2013

“We are called to reach out to those who find themselves in the existential peripheries of our societies and to show particular solidarity with the most vulnerable of our brothers and sisters: the poor, the disabled, the unborn and the sick, migrants and refugees, the elderly and the young who lack employment.”

— Pope Francis, Message to the 10th General Assembly of the World Council of Churches dated Oct. 4, 2013

Every child, every person needs to know that they are a source of joy; every child, every person, needs to be celebrated. Only when all of our weaknesses are accepted as part of our humanity can our negative, broken self-images be transformed.”

— Jean Vanier, Becoming Human
Respect for Life
Mental Illness-Health and Wellness

“To be lonely is to feel unwanted and unloved, and therefore unloveable. Loneliness is a taste of death. No wonder some people who are desperately lonely lose themselves in mental illness or violence to forget the inner pain.” — Jean Vanier, Becoming Human

Dignity and respect is an essential component to living with and working with those who suffer from mental health illnesses. Many students and staff in our schools may suffer from a type of mental health illness, whether it be depression, anxiety, bi-polar or schizophrenia. We are called to respect all regardless of their physical or mental illnesses. It is our responsibility to learn more and to find out more about this serious issue. Listed below are several organizations that may help in your education. Where a speaker has been named, they have been contacted and agree to have their names in the booklet. They are willing to be contacted to speak to students in schools.

CAMH—Centre for Addiction and Mental Health--http://www.camh.net/
- CAMH Main switchboard (416) 535-8501
- For information or support for a mental health or addiction concern (416) 595-6111 or 1-800-463-6273 (toll free).
- Directory of CAMH Services. For general information info@camh.net.
- To comment, question or complain about CAMH services call (416) 535-8501 ext. 2028 or 2027.

(To find other mental health or addiction services across the province contact Connex Ontario at 1-866-531-2600 or www.connexontario.ca)

Mood Disorders Society of Canada----http://www.mooddisorderscanada.ca/index.php
3-304StoneRoad West, Suite 736
Guelph, ON N1G 4W4
Tel: 519-824-5565 Fax. 519-824-9569
E-mail: info@mooddisorderscanada.ca Website: http://www.mooddisorderscanada.ca

Mood Disorders Association of Ontario---http://www.mooddisorders.ca/
Mood Disorders Association of Ontario
36 Eglinton Ave.West, Suite 602, Toronto, ON M4R 1A1
Tel: (416)486-8046
Toll-free:1-888-486-8236 Fax: (416)486-8127
Office hours: 9:30 am to 5:00 pm, Monday to Friday
For media inquiries, please contact Jennifer Fouls, 416.486.8046 ext. 232.

COPE: A Student Mental Health Initiative c/o MSU Clubs Administrator
MUSC 215 - McMaster University, 1280 Main Street West, Hamilton ON L8S 4S4
Website: http://copex.weebly.com
Email: cope@mcmaster.ca

Share Life Agency: Our Place Community of Hope-- http://www.ourplacecommunityofhope.com/
1183 Davenport Road, Toronto, Ontario
416-598-2919

Autism Awareness-- http://www.theglobeandmail.com/partners/advautism0415/
Homelessness and Poverty in Toronto

“To love someone is to show to them their beauty, their worth and their importance.”
— Jean Vanier

There are thousands of people living in poverty and many in our city who are homeless. How do we respond? How do we react when we see the eyes of the stranger who is suffering and in need? Respect for Life calls us to love all even those who are living in poverty and those who are homeless. Below is a brief list of the many organizations in our city who are responding to the needs of our brothers and sisters. There are opportunities to donate the gift of your time through volunteering or to donate money or goods. Contact the organizations to invite them to speak to your students about how to respond to the dignity of the person.

The Good Shepherd Ministries: [http://www.goodshepherd.ca/](http://www.goodshepherd.ca/)
Telephone: (416)869-3619
Good Shepherd Ministries
412 Queen Street East
Toronto, Ontario M5A 1T3

St. Stephen’s Soup Kitchen: [http://www.sssoupkitchen.ca/](http://www.sssoupkitchen.ca/)
St. Stephens Soup Kitchen
103 Bellevue Ave
(College and Bellevue)
Toronto, ON M5T 2N8

The Scott Mission: [http://www.scottmission.com](http://www.scottmission.com)
502 Spadina Avenue
Toronto, Ontario M5S 2H1
416-923-8872

Seaton House: [http://www.toronto.ca/housing/sock/seaton.htm](http://www.toronto.ca/housing/sock/seaton.htm)
339 George Street
Toronto M5A 2N2
416-392-5522/5527

Covenant House: [http://www.covenanthouse.ca/Public/Home.aspx](http://www.covenanthouse.ca/Public/Home.aspx)
20 Gerrard Street East
Toronto, Ontario M5B 2P3
416-598-4898
1-800-435-7308
Street Haven: [www.streethaven.com](http://www.streethaven.com/)
416-967-6060

(416) 926-8267

St. Felix Centre: [http://www.stfelixcentre.ca/](http://www.stfelixcentre.ca/)
25 Augusta Avenue M5T 2K7
Phone: 416-203-1624

Mustard Seed: [http://www.csj-to.ca/What_we_do/Fontbonne/mustard_seed.php](http://www.csj-to.ca/What_we_do/Fontbonne/mustard_seed.php)
791 Queen Street East
Toronto, Ontario M4M 1H6
Phone: 416 – 465 – 6069
Fax: 416 – 465 – 6744
infomustardseed@csj-to.ca

To contact the director, Sister Gwen Smith, send an email to: gsmith@csj-to.ca
or call: 416- 465-6069.

Evergreen Centre/ Yonge Street Mission: [http://www.ysm.ca/about-us/contact-us/](http://www.ysm.ca/about-us/contact-us/)
381 Yonge Street
Toronto, ON M5B 1S1
Phone: 416-929-9614
Fax: 416-977-2890

St. Francis Table / St. Clare Centre: [http://www.capuchinoutreach.org/](http://www.capuchinoutreach.org/)
1322 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario M6K 1L4
Phone: (416)532-4172
Contact: Contact: Br. John Frampton OFM Cap. Animator
Email: brjjmf@yahoo.ca
Secondary Right to Life Resources

THE SISTERS OF LIFE
“Consecrated for the protection and enhancement of the sacredness of all human life.”

Pregnancy Help: (416) 463-2722  
Young Adult Retreats: (203) 329-1492  
www.sistersoflife.org

RIGHT TO LIFE CANADA
The Right to Life Association of Toronto and Area is a volunteer, non-sectarian human rights organization dedicated, through education, to providing a sure and certain voice regarding the care and protection of the unborn, women hurt by abortion, the infirm, persons with disabilities and the aged. We oppose the violence of abortion, fetal and embryonic experimentation, embryonic stem cell research, unethical reproductive technologies, infanticide, assisted suicide and euthanasia.

Toronto Right to Life encourages pro-life projects and initiatives in the community. We monitor and respond to bias in the media, popular culture and government policy that promotes attitudes and practices that are not life affirming.

http://www.righttolife.to/

BIRTHRIGHT

HELPS
...any girl or woman regardless of age, race, creed, marital or economic status, who feels distressed by an unplanned pregnancy.

MAINTAINS
...a 24-hour free hotline: 1-800-550-4900.  
...hundreds of local crisis telephone and drop-in chapters.  
http://www.birthright.org/

YOUTH CAMPAIGN LIFE COALITION
CLC Youth is a network for pro-life young people to help them get involved and stay informed about life and family issues.

Young people have a special role to play in influencing politicians, activism, education and changing the culture. CLC Youth is a branch of Campaign Life Coalition, the largest and oldest pro-life organization in Canada. CLC works at all levels of government to secure full legal protection for all human beings from the time of conception to natural death.

ROSALIE HALL
Rosalie Hall shares in a heritage of more than 150 years of service by the Misericordia Sisters to young single pregnant women, their children and families – serving Toronto communities since 1914. We are part of an international family providing health and social services as a living expression of the compassionate mission of the Misericordia Sisters. We envision young single women and men, their children and families, leading healthy, meaningful and productive lives. Rosalie Hall, with compassion and respect, assists young parents in need and their children to realize their potential through the provision of a wide range of community, residential, educational, and child development services.
http://www.rosaliehall.com/

MARGUERITE BOURGEOYS
Program for 9–10 and 11–12 - Sex and Sexuality; What the World Says and What Our Faith Teaches.

For the older students we include a section on family planning and for the younger more about leadership, chastity and abstinence. In each we speak about natural law and move into the church’s teaching as it naturally progresses from there. Contact the following link for more information or to book a presentation. http://www.fertilitycare.ca/services/youth-services/

FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO: HELPFUL LINKS
http://www.archtoronto.org/organdonation/index.htm
http://acbo.on.ca/englishweb/catholiclinks.htm
http://www.ocsta.on.ca/links.aspx

ECO RESPONSIBILITY
Kairos Re-energize campaign - www.re-energize.org

Resources for changing ourselves, our church and school communities, and the world.
Teacher resources K -12 at www.zerofootprintkids.com
Greening Sacred Space www.faith-commongood.net/gss

David Suzuki Foundation www.davidsuzuki.org/Climate_Change/ Background information, fact sheets, news updates, action ideas.
Canadian Youth Climate Coalition www.ourclimate.ca
Youth uniting and taking action in schools and communities across Canada. Creative ideas!
Ontario EcoSchools www.yorku.ca/ecoschl

TCDSB Go Green http://www.tcdsb.org/environment/
ONE LIFE… MANY GIFTS

Trillium Gift of Life Network offers support and materials to raise awareness about organ and tissue donation. There is an exciting initiative we have right now, that we are offering all TCDSB high schools.

The University of Toronto Transplant Institute, in partnership with Trillium Gift of Life Network (TGLN) is excited to offer TCDSB secondary school students the unique opportunity to hear from world class healthcare professionals about organ and tissue donation and transplantation. This group consists of healthcare professionals from the three top tier transplant hospitals in Toronto: SickKids, University Health Network and St. Michael's. A donor family member or recipient can also attend to talk to students about their own personal experience with organ donation.

Presentations are informative, engaging and flexible; they can be to the entire school, senior classes, subject-specific classes such as Civics, etc., and can range in length from 30 to 70 minutes. In our experience, longer presentations are ideal to leave more room for Q&A with the students. TGLN will provide information materials for students to take home to share with parents/guardians. We can also facilitate an information session with parents, if that is of interest.

Every three days someone in Ontario dies because there is no organ available. It doesn't have to be this way. One organ and tissue donor can save up to eight lives and enhance the lives of 75 others. Help us educate Toronto's students on how they can make a difference and save lives.

Presentations will be booked on a first come, first serve basis for April (National Organ and Tissue Donation Awareness Week is April 22-28). We can also support your assembly or classroom presentations in May or June.

The University of Toronto Transplant Institute and TGLN look forward to working with you on this exciting educational opportunity.

Please let me know if we can come into your classroom or school to discuss this important topic. I look forward to hearing back from you.

CARRIE HOTO
Communications Advisor
Trillium Gift of Life Network
Register today at BeADonor.ca
One donor can save up to eight lives and improve life for up to 75 others.
choto@giftoflife.on.ca
Respect for Life Resources Anti-Violence and Safe Schools

The Roman Catholic Tradition offers a consistent position concerning non-violence.

See: The Roman Catholic Tradition and Passive Resistance
http://www.nyu.edu/classes/gmoran/NONVIOLENCE.pdf

Catholic Social Teaching and Gospel Nonviolence
See: http://www.johndear.org/pdfs/Catholic_Social_Teaching.pdf

The TCDSB has been dedicated to creating a culture that promotes peace and non-violence. To this end and to support new legislation developed by the Province of Ontario, each school has a School Action Team consisting of students, school staff, parents & police officers. Each Action Team provides relevant events and programs that address the health and safety needs of the school. The goal is to engage students in the issues and solutions that impact them, which is the key to maintaining a safe, loving and caring learning environment.

The TCDSB Safe Schools Department has been committed to collaborating with Toronto Police Services, Canadian Centre for Threat Assessment and Trauma Response, Victim Services and RCMC mediation circles to provide training for TCDSB personnel city-wide. As a board we oppose violence and wish to promote life-giving and peaceful communities. In addition to consulting the church teaching and contacting the School Action Team Committee, there are anti-violence websites associated with each of the TCDSB community partners.


Speakers available to TCDSB Secondary Schools

AID TO WOMEN is a crisis pregnancy centre that offers alternatives to abortion as well as healing for those who have experienced the pain of an abortion. It provides proactive consultation and counselling for the women who are experiencing challenges and struggles with their decision. It addresses the psychological, physical and spiritual effects that abortion has on women and assists them with whatever needs they present.

BIOS:

Aid to Women currently has three staff:

- **Enza Rattenni**, Executive Director
- **Frances Keets**, Fundraising Co-ordinator and Counsellor
- **Heather Nail**, Volunteer Co-ordinator and Counsellor.

**Enza** worked as a legal assistant for two criminal law firms for 10 years. With a growing passion to serve others, she pursued a career in event planning, and involved herself as a coordinator in the young adult group at St. Michael’s Cathedral. It took a return to the Faith for her to understand the importance and sanctity of life. She describes her position at Aid to Women as a—vocation, not a job and strives to bring awareness and life-affirming assistance to women in crisis pregnancies.

**Frances** previously volunteered at Birthright and was also involved in Ontario Students for Life. Her family, active supporters of life, have taught her the importance of standing up for those who are unable to do so for themselves. As a mother of a young child, Frances understands the challenges that motherhood brings and brings her everyday experiences to Aid to Women.

**Heather** has been a counsellor at Aid to Women since November. She was previously a volunteer counsellor for a year at Birthright. She has been attending pro-life events since childhood; including Life Chain and National March for Life. Heather was one of the founding members of her university’s campus pro-life club. She graduated with a B.A. in Psychology, Religion & Theology in 2010.

One of their own clients, **Marcela Lopez** will come to speak about her recent experience of the pressures of abortion. Marcela chose life when everyone around her pressured her to choose abortion. Her strength and courage is inspiring. You won’t want to miss her story! *(Photo of Marcela and Maria Camilla)*

**BIRTHRIGHT**

**Contact:** Margaret McKay at (416) 469-1111 or via e-mail at info@birthright.org

**Availability:** any time during Respect for Life Week
CANADIAN FOOD FOR CHILDREN:

Dr. Simone and Joan Simone

After closing their bank accounts and cancelling their life insurance in the early 80s, Dr. Andrew Simone and his wife Joan Simone, founded CFFC in 1985 with the encouragement of Mother Teresa of Calcutta. At that point in time they had already raised 13 children and been foster parents to 24 others. In 1982, Dr. Simone began his mission of helping ease the hunger of children and their families by arranging company food donations to Mother Teresa’s Sisters in Tanzania and Ethiopia; gradually this mushroomed into clothing donations and assistance to the poor in other countries as well. Like Mother Teresa, the Simones never engaged in fundraising, totally relying on God’s providence to supply what was needed. In 2001 the Simones received the Order of Canada for their work and in 2006 their charity, CFFC was awarded the annual Saint Anthony International Prize by the Messenger of Saint Anthony, a monthly magazine with a wide international readership published by the Franciscan Friars of the Pontifical Basilica of Saint Anthony of Padua in Italy. Today, the Simones continue to work hard on behalf of the poor.

Missionary groups in 30 countries receive food and supplies shipped by CFFC. In 2011 alone, 396 containers were sent overseas.

Contact Mary Reid (Co-ordinator of Speakers in the Schools) at (905) 459-9019 between 6:00-9:00 p.m. weekdays or via e-mail at reidski@yahoo.com

For additional speakers:
Contact Jeanene Luckhart at (905) 822-6039 or Tony Loginow at (416) 267-8463

CCRL (CATHOLIC CIVIL RIGHTS LEAGUE)
Established in 1985, the Catholic Civil Rights League promotes dialogue with the media to encourage the fair portrayal of Catholicism, and works with courts and legislatures to participate in public debates on moral issues.

THE DEVEBER INSTITUTE

The deVeber Institute for Bioethics and Social Research is an independent institute committed to interdisciplinary research in biomedical ethics and the effects of technology on family and social life. The deVeber Institute is the only Canadian organization continuously studying the long-term effects of induced abortion on women's health. The Institute believes that a sense of the inherent value and dignity of human life and of the human person as an end and not a means is a foundational perspective to bring to bear on its work.

Title of Talk: The Untold Story: Uncovering the Effects of Abortion on Women’s Health

Contact Kathy at (416) 256-0555 (deVeber Institute) or via Email: bioethics@deveber.org
EUTHANASIA PREVENTION COALITION

At the forefront of the battle to protect the rights of the disabled and vulnerable in our society, the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition addresses issues such as euthanasia, assisted suicide, disability rights, hospice/palliative care, pain control, current practices such as withholding/withdrawing medical treatment, medical futility thinking, and other end of life issues. The Euthanasia Prevention Coalition is a welcome watchdog and truthful and compassionate voice for vulnerable Canadians and others around the globe.

Executive Director Bio:
Alex Schadenberg, Executive Director of the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition and Chairman International, writes for various publications, maintains a blog and is a tireless advocate for the right to life of vulnerable individuals. For more detailed info, see alexschadenberg.blogspot.com

High School Speaker Bio:
Steve Passmore is no stranger to struggle. Born with cerebral palsy, he was placed in a home in England by his mother at the age of 2. He would remain there for seven years. Between the ages of 9-18 he underwent one major surgery per year in a race against time. He credits God with enabling him to persevere through it all.

Steve began advocating for the rights of the disabled in 1993. In 2007 he met Alex Schadenberg and began volunteering at the Euthanasia Prevention. An articulate and engaging speaker, whose powerful message students will not soon forget, Steve has been on Crossroads, CHCH and Listen Up TV. He is a consultant on disability issues for the Guelph Right to Life Board and since 2008 has spoken at several Catholic high schools.

Contact Steve Passmore at (905) 529-9689 or toll free at 1-877-439-3348 or Alex Schadenberg at euthanasiaprevention@on.aibn.com

NOTE: STEVE REQUIRES A MINIMUM OF 45 MINUTES FOR HIS PRESENTATION (WITH STUDENTS ALREADY SEATED AND SETTLED) BUT 60 MINUTES IS OPTIMAL AS HE LIKES TO INCLUDE A SHORT DVD.

AV NEED: DVD PLAYER. A MICROPHONE WOULD ONLY BE REQUIRED FOR A LARGE VENUE. IF SESSIONS ARE TO BE BACK-TO-BACK, HE WOULD VERY MUCH WELCOME A 10-MINUTE REST BREAK IN BETWEEN.
www.euthanasiaprevention.on.ca

THE SISTERS OF LIFE
“Consecrated for the protection and enhancement of the sacredness of all human life.”

Pregnancy Help: (416) 463-2722
Young Adult Retreats: (203) 329-1492
www.sistersoflife.org
GOD, SEX AND THE MEANING OF LIFE MINISTRY
The late Pope John Paul II provides an insight into why God made us human, what it means to be human, how we can achieve true love and happiness through our bodies, and why God made us male and female. Blessed Pope John Paul's insights are having great impact on all. However, the impact will not be felt fully until young people hear his message about the true meaning of their sexuality, the value of the person, the value of life, and the physical, psychological and spiritual benefits to the body that are involved.

God, Sex and The Meaning of Life Ministry is a lay ministry recognized by The Archdiocese of Toronto. Susan Kennedy (Team Leader), Tom Kennedy, Janice Noonan and Rosemary Heron started the ministry in 2006, and have been hosting workshops for teens and adults since that time. More information about their mission/activities can be accessed at: http://www.godsexandthemeaningoflife.com/Newsletters.html

THEOLOGY OF THE BODY PRESENTATION
This introductory presentation on the Blessed Pope John Paul II's teachings will include a presentation and discussion/activities.

Length: One classroom period (can also be adjusted to suit your needs).
Contact Susan or Tom Kennedy at (905) 427-6137 or gsmlministry@gmail.com

SILENT NO MORE
The first Silent No More Campaign event held outside the USA took place in Ottawa on Parliament Hill on May 13, 2004 in conjunction with the National March for Life. Women and men told their stories of regret, raising awareness about the physical, spiritual and emotional harm caused by abortion. Since then, men and women from all walks of life continue their annual witness on Parliament Hill.

Angelina Steenstra is the National Coordinator of the Silent No More Awareness Campaign. She has presented at numerous venues here and in the United States including EWTN, Salt & Light TV, 100 Huntley St., Food for Life, CBC Radio, Radio Maria, Radio Tiopoli, etc. in order to raise awareness about the physical, spiritual and emotional harm caused by abortion to women, their children and their families. Working with Regional Coordinators, she promotes the spread of the Campaign throughout Canada, letting those who are hurting from abortion know that help is available.

For many years, Angelina has continued to bring a message of hope and healing to countless individuals around the world through her own personal testimony. Having had an abortion at the age of 15 after becoming pregnant through rape, her journey of healing, forgiveness and reconciliation, along with her background in Social Services led her to co-found Second Chance Post Abortion Healing in 1991 with Fr. Vince Heffernan, SFM. An outreach ministry in the greater Toronto area, it serves the spiritual needs of women and men suffering the aftermath of abortion through a weekly support group and personal one-on-one ministry.

Contact Mrs. Angelina Steenstra at (905) 430-7990 or via email at Toronto@SilentNoMoreAwareness.org
TORONTO RIGHT TO LIFE

Paul Klotz is Executive Director of the Toronto Right to Life Association. His interest in life issues began when his parents hosted pro-life meetings in their home, but grew during a career in hospital administration and volunteer work in retirement homes. Paul has participated in pro-life events since the age of 7, and is dedicated to raising awareness of the sacredness of life through education.

Debbie Fisher, past board member of the Marguerite Bourgeoys Fertility Care Centre, is a Right to Life speaker, member of Silent No More Awareness and active participant in the Missionaries of the Gospel of Life. She is currently the CWL president of her parish and the Humber Valley Regional Christian Family Life Convenor. She speaks regularly to adults and youth about her own experience of abortion and the tragic consequences of that choice in her life.

Toronto Right to Life Association Contact Paul Klotz at (416) 483-7869 E-mail: office@righttollife.to Contact Debbie at (905) 840-3213.

VIDES CANADA (VOLUNTEERS INTERNATIONAL FOR DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION AND SERVICE)

Part of an international volunteer organization inspired by young people and founded by the Salesian Sisters in 1987, Vides Canada is a non-governmental organization (NGO), active in 25 countries and committed to empowering and equipping young people 18 years and older by providing them with the opportunity to engage in a meaningful international volunteer experience via various team projects.

The central focus of VIDES Canada is the education and development of underprivileged children, youth, and women around the world. Volunteers are trained in the Salesian style of Don Bosco in a family-like environment that upholds and enhances the good in each person. Following their leadership formation, the young men and women are sent out for periods of three months to two years to service needy children and youth in Africa, Asia or South America. Through mission trips, volunteers have brightened countless lives of individuals residing in Argentina, Bolivia, Cambodia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ethiopia, Haiti, India, Kenya, Madagascar, Mexico, Nicaragua, the Philippines and Rwanda, all the while being nourished by on-going support from VIDES Canada.

Reflecting on the meaning of mission, Monica, a 2008-2009 VIDES volunteer in Cambodia said “...A mission is to be there, to live time as space, and to feel God’s presence through the people you interact with. It is time to take a break for a moment and remember what is important in life....”

Sister Jeannine Landry FMA, is the Director of VIDES Canada which recently relocated to 178 Steeles Ave. E.

To arrange a visit by Sister Jeanine and young adults involved in the VIDES program, contact:
Sr. Jeannine
Home: (289) 597-2208.
Cell: (416) 803-3558
Email: jeanninefma@videscanada.ca
BEV HADLAND – TURNER - “STRAIGHT TALK ON SEX, LOVE & DATING”

Every year 650,000 teens become pregnant in Canada and the U.S.A. The consequences range from dropping out of school, welfare, becoming a single parent, abortion, loss of reputation, broken relationships, and the transmission of STDs.

Using balanced and well-documented information, Beverly discusses with students:
• The contrasting manner in which males & females relate to each other.
• Approaches to managing these differences in a relationship
• Responsibilities attached to sexual activity
• Creative dating strategies and resisting peer pressure
• How abstinence prevents medical, social and emotional con-sequences
• Types and stages of love

A question and answer period at the end of the presentation gives students an opportunity to express themselves and receive informed, honest feedback to their questions and concerns.

Presentation Format:
Multi-Media PowerPoint presentation frames her personal journey with abortion, secondary virginity and saving sex for marriage (will bring own HD projector and laptop plus sound system if necessary). Go to her website homepage to view a one-minute video clip of sample work.

Bio:
Bev Hadland-Turner is a renowned speaker and best-selling author who has addressed over three million teens in thirteen countries encouraging chastity as a positive alternative to the mass culture’s promotion of sex as an "anywhere, any- time and no consequences" activity. She is the author of three books (the most recent being How to Find Authentic Love) and has produced six videos. Bev is also a certified counsellor who has appeared regularly on the Dini Petty show, 100 Huntley Street, and CBC. She speaks on Creative Dating, Rape, Post-Abortion Recovery, Chastity, and Secondary Virginity. Bev was awarded the Woman of the Year Award in 2003 by Real Women of Canada. Bev has a heart for teenagers. Having housed 34 youth over the past 21 years, she well understands the complexities of being a teenager in today’s world. She constantly strives to make it clear to kids that they have value, need to make wise choices in life and that every choice, good or bad, will affect them for years to come.

Contact Bev at (289) 235-9887 (Grimsby) or via e-mail at: beverlyhadland@yahoo.ca
DR. FEN. QUIRANTE-FLORA

Finding Answers to Anxiety, Fear and Depression

Dr. Flora grew up in the Philippines in an extended family. Her parents had already had two young children – Fe aged 5 and her brother 2, when tragedy struck and her mother was murdered. A year later her father married a single mother with two children and their union was later blessed with a child.

Dr. Flora completed her four-year undergraduate program at Far Eastern University in Manila earning a Bachelor of Science degree. Medical school took up the next five years and included a year of clinic clerkship and a year of internship. She married the love of her life in 1973. Two years later the couple immigrated to Canada with their 22-month old child. They would have three more children. After two years of post-graduate training at two Toronto hospitals, St. Joseph's and North York Branson, Dr. Flora became a family physician in 1987 and has been practicing medicine in East York ever since. Each patient encounter presents a rich learning experience and as a devout Catholic, Dr. Flora draws strongly on her faith and the Bible when making decisions. Her patients especially appreciate her joie de vivre and passion for her profession.

Presentation Format:

Dr. Flora invites students to write their questions on a piece of paper and then answers them during the course of her interactive presentation.

Contact Dr. Flora Tuesday-Friday from 9:00-1:00 at (416) 421-1240 (office) or evenings at the same number