Ontario Catholic Graduate Expectations

A Catholic School Graduate is expected to be:

- A Discerning Believer formed in the Catholic Faith community who celebrates the signs and sacred mystery of God’s presence through word, sacrament, prayer, forgiveness, reflection and moral living.
- An Effective Communicator who speaks, writes, and listens honestly and sensitively, responding critically in the light of gospel values.
- A Reflective, Creative and Holistic Thinker who solves problems and makes responsible decisions with an informed moral conscience for the common good.
- A Self-Directed, Responsible, Lifelong Learner who develops and demonstrates their God-given potential.
- A Collaborative Contributor who finds meaning, dignity and vocation in work which respects the rights of all and contributes to the common good.
- A Caring Family Member who attends to family, school, parish, and the wider community.
- A Responsible Citizen who gives witness to Catholic social teaching by promoting peace, justice and the sacredness of human life.

Religious and Family Life Education Web Resources

TCDSB Religion Department
https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/BoardServices/ReligionFamilyLife/Pages/Default.aspx

Archdiocese of Toronto
https://www.archtoronto.org

Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario
http://acbo.on.ca/englishweb/

Catholic Association of Religious and Family Life Educators of Ontario
http://www.carflo.org/

Catholic Curriculum Corporation
http://www.catholiccurriculumcorp.org/

Institute for Catholic Education
http://www.iceont.ca/

Faith, Hope and Charity Symbols
TCDSB Pastoral Plan 2012-2015
Every three years our board (TCDSB) launches a pastoral plan that helps to nurture our Catholic community. The theme for the 2015-2018 academic years will be “Together with one voice: Harmonizing our Faith through Family, Parish and School”. This partnership of family, parish and school is the strongest foundation of our Catholic system and builds “an inclusive learning community rooted in the love of Christ” (TCDSB Mission Statement). Thus, it is important that parents as the first teachers build a faith-filled home; the church will strengthen and celebrate it; while our Catholic schools will nurture and sustain it.

Catholic Schools are vital and privileged places where students critically engage in a dialogue between faith and culture, not only during Religious Education lessons, but in all curriculum and events of the day.

Excellence In Elementary Religious Education

**Elementary**

Students in our Catholic schools will develop religious literacy and critical thinking. There are six strands within Religious Education which frame what students are expected to know, think, apply, and communicate.

**Believing** – focuses on the knowledge of the Catholic faith, especially the self-revelation of God through Jesus, Scripture and Tradition, the Creed and the Church.

**Celebrating** – focuses on worship and the sacraments, especially the Eucharist, as well as the celebrations, rituals and symbols of the liturgical year.

**Living a Moral Life** – promotes the universal call to holiness and provides Virtues Education and the foundations of Christian morality reflected in critical thinking and decision making rooted in faith.

**Living in Communion** – focuses on belonging and participating in the Church and the local community through one’s call to vocation.

**Living in Solidarity** – focuses on understanding Catholic Social Teachings and one’s commitment to justice that witnesses the reign of God to the world.

**Praying** – focuses on knowing, experiencing and, and reflecting on the various types and forms of prayers that are used to express the faith of the Catholic Church.

For information on preparation for the Sacraments please visit the following website: https://www.archtoronto.org/our-catholic-faith/sacraments-and-sacramentals

Excellence In Secondary Religious Education

**Secondary**

The major areas of study in Religious Education courses in Catholic secondary schools are organized into five strands.

**Sacred Scripture** – focuses on helping students learn the loving presence of God in all creation through reading, listening, and praying with the Bible.

**Christian Moral Development** – focuses on helping students make sound moral choices and judgements in both personal and social spheres of life.

**Prayer and Sacramental Life** – exposes students to the various ways that the Church expresses its faith in worship, whether it be in personal prayer, liturgy or celebration.

**Family Life Education** – promotes the Christian formation of children and adolescents in authentic human values related to personhood.

For more information, please see the following website for course outlines and descriptions: http://www.carfleo.org/res.html

Family Life Education

The Fully Alive Program is endorsed by the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario with input from educators, parents and students. The program in Elementary supports learning in five themes as follows: Created and Loved by God, Living in Relationship, Created Sexual: Male and Female, Growing in Commitment, and Living in the World. In Secondary, the themes vary by course and Grade.

For more information please talk to your child’s teacher or visit these websites: http://achbo.on.ca/englishweb/fullyalive.htm http://www.carfleo.org/res.html