



# ST. BARTHOLOMEW CATHOLIC SCHOOL

51 Heather Road, Toronto, Ontario M1S 2E2

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SEPTEMBER 2020

Mary Catherine Badali

PRINCIPAL

Peter Aguiar 416-222-8282 x2267

SUPERINTENDENT

Garry Tanuan 416-512-3408

TRUSTEE

St. Bartholomew Catholic Church  
416-291-5250

59 Heather Road, Toronto M1S 2E2

PARISH

Charmaine von Vulte & Christine Marshall

CSPC CHAIR

[www.tcdsb.org/cpic](http://www.tcdsb.org/cpic)

CPIC (PARENT ENGAGEMENT - TCDSB)

[www.tcdsb.org/oapce-toronto](http://www.tcdsb.org/oapce-toronto)

OAPCE TORONTO (PROVINCIAL VOICE FOR PARENTS)

97	9:00	11:45-
	3:30	12:45

ENROLLMENT   HOURS OF OPERATION   LUNCH HOUR



## NEW REGISTRANTS WELCOME

Apply online: [soar.tcdsb.org](http://soar.tcdsb.org)

Call 416-393-5334 or the TCDSB Admissions Department at 416-222-8282, ext. 2383.

For general information about the Toronto Catholic District School Board, please visit the website at [www.tcdsb.org](http://www.tcdsb.org)

Stay in touch with the latest news throughout the school year: Follow @TCDSB on Twitter.

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear St. Bartholomew Family,

Welcome back everyone! We would like to extend a special welcome to our new students, parents and staff. Welcome to St. Bartholomew! We hope that you had a restful and relaxing summer, and the opportunity to enjoy special moments with your loved ones. We ask God's blessing for a safe and successful year.

Thank you to all families for your patience and flexibility as we navigate and adapt to a new normal. Our top priorities are the health, safety and well-being of your child(ren) and staff. Please refer to the St. Bartholomew Catholic School Reopening Action Plan for our new COVID-19 protocols.

Mr. Chubb and Ms. Fung retired at the end of June. We thank Mr. Chubb and Ms. Fung for their many years of service to St. Bartholomew and Catholic education. May God continue to bless them as they embark on a new journey.

We would like to introduce and welcome two new staff members to St. Bartholomew Catholic School:

Mr. Tigley	Long Term Occasional Teacher Grade 7/8
Ms. Piga	Long Term Occasional Educational Assistant

Our dedicated staff has been working hard preparing for another school year. A special thank you to our custodian, Mr. Calindas, who has worked hard all summer to ensure our school environment is ready for another year of learning and growing. Many thanks also to Ms. Fernandes for communicating with families over the summer and managing the many tasks required for a smooth start to the new school year.

This year we enter the third year of our three-year pastoral plan: "Rooted in Christ: we Belong, we Believe, we Become." This year our focus turns to Rooted in Christ: we Become. We look forward to collaborating with the St. Bartholomew Catholic School learning community to celebrate our pastoral plan and the transformative gift of Catholic education. The September 2020 Virtue Calendar offers various reflections to manifest the virtue of hospitality in our daily lives. We have also included an attachment entitled "Liturgy of the Word-Virtue of Hospitality." We invite you to share this liturgy with your family to further instill the Catholic virtue of hospitality within your home.

As we begin this new school year, we will once again focus our attention on improving student achievement and well-being within a framework embedded in Gospel values and rooted in the love of Christ. Catholic education is a home, school, parish partnership, and our families play an integral role. Your support, cooperation and input are essential components to ensure your child reaches her/his fullest potential.

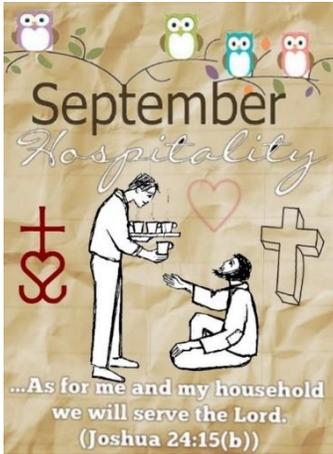
Serving you in Catholic education,

Mary Catherine Badali  
Principal



## Virtue of the Month for September-HOSPITALITY

As we welcome our students back to school, it seems fitting that this month's virtue is **Hospitality**. Hospitality is more than just a welcoming back. Matthew 25: 40 says, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." As we focus on the virtue of Hospitality, we encourage students to always be welcoming and inclusive to others in their everyday words and actions. Simple acts of kindness such as a smile, a warm-felt hello and inviting everyone to play helps others feel welcomed and included.



### Hospitality Prayer

Lord, give us the eyes of Jesus to see our neighbours and the strangers we meet. Teach us what it means to love the stranger as we love ourselves. Forgive us our selfishness, for our silence, for not caring enough for the strangers who come to our communities. Teach us to love and care for the stranger the way you do. Amen.

By: Rebeca Jimenez Yoder

### Virtue of the Month Award

The Virtue of the Month Award is to recognize students' positive characteristics and actions towards other students, staff and parents in our school community. We will congratulate the students who are chosen as recipients of the Virtue of the Month Award for September in the October Newsletter.

## Sacramental Preparation & Sacramental Celebrations

Sacramental preparation and sacramental celebrations will continue to be the responsibility of the Parish where the student/family is registered. If you have a child that is of age to receive a sacrament, please contact your Parish. Families attending St. Bartholomew Catholic School who wish their child to prepare and receive the sacraments at St. Bartholomew Catholic Church, must register as parishioners and attend mass at St. Bartholomew Catholic Church. Furthermore, families must be registered at St. Bartholomew Catholic Church to ensure communication is received about the timelines and dates for sacramental preparation and celebrations. Information regarding preparation for First Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation for this year will follow. A date has yet to be determined for Confirmation for students who prepared for Confirmation last year.

## First Holy Communion

Congratulations to all students who received their First Holy Communion on Saturday, September 12. May you always know the peace of Jesus, the light of His love and the joy of His life within you. Thank you to Father Serrano and the Parish team for a beautiful celebration.

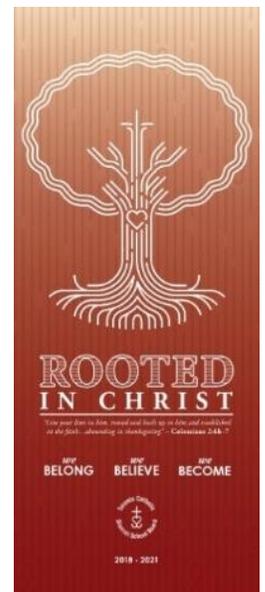
## School Masses and Liturgical Celebrations

We will not be having school masses, liturgical celebrations or assemblies in person until further notice. We will consider alternative options where possible. We look forward to the continuing partnership with Father Serrano and the entire St. Bartholomew Parish Team.

## 3-Year TCDSB Pastoral Plan 2018-2021:

### Rooted in Christ: we Belong, we Believe, we Become

Inspired by St. Paul's Letter to the Colossians, "Live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith...abounding in thanksgiving", our pastoral plan strengthens our sense of belonging to God and one another, expresses our belief in God through our vision and mission, and works to achieve our goals as people on a common mission. This year our focus will be, "Rooted in Christ: we Become."



## Class Placements & Staffing

We are blessed at St. Bartholomew to have a dedicated team of Catholic educators who work tirelessly to help each child reach their fullest potential. As the month of September progresses, enrolment may fluctuate, and it may become necessary to make adjustments in class sizes and composition based on ministry and board expectations. Parents of students involved will be notified if changes become necessary. Accepting parental requests for specific teachers/classes would not be in the best interest of all the children in the school as it could restrict school staff in forming what we consider the most ideal classroom groupings. We ask for your cooperation and patience during this time.

Ms. D'Souza has extended her maternity leave to the end of December 2020. Mr. Tigley has been hired as the Grade 7/8 Long Term Occasional Teacher. Due to medical considerations, Mr. Davidson has accepted a position at the TCDSB Virtual School for the academic year. A Long Term Occasional Teacher will be hired to replace Mr. Davidson until June 2021. Due to our low enrolment in Kindergarten, Ms. Garcia has been assigned to a D.E.C.E. position at the TCDSB Virtual School. Should our enrolment increase in the ELKP class, Ms. Garcia will be able to return. Ms. Garcia will be teaching remotely from St. Bartholomew and assisting us with supervision. As Ms. Fung retired in June 2020, our Educational Assistant position remains vacant and should be filled by early October.

## Tentative Staffing for 2020-2021

ELKP	Ms. Kemp
Grade 1/2	Ms. Dippolito
Grade 3/4	Long Term Occasional Teacher will be hired
Grade 5/6	Ms. O'Reilly
Grade 7/8	Mr. Tigley (Long Term Occasional)
French/Special Ed.	Ms. Scali
French	Ms. McIntosh
Ed. Assistant	Ms. Piga (Long Term Occasional)
Phys.Ed./Health	Ms. Pinnock
Vocal Music	Ms. Hayden
Instrumental Music	Mr. Chung
Librarian	Ms. Hall
Head Custodian	Mr. Calindas
Night Custodian	TBD
Nutrition Program Coordinator	Ms. Dadlani
Lunchtime Supervisors	Ms. Dadlani and Ms. Fernando
Secretary	Ms. Fernandes
Principal	Ms. Badali

## School Hours



<b>Start of School Day:</b>	9:00 a.m.
<b>Morning Recess:</b>	10:42 a.m. to 10:57 a.m.
<b>Lunch Hour:</b>	11:45 p.m. to 12:45 p.m.
<b>Afternoon Recess:</b>	2:10 p.m. to 2:25 p.m.
<b>Dismissal:</b>	3:30 p.m.

The school office is opened from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. An automated answering system is available for messages 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Messages can be left on voice mail if calling outside of school hours. Please do your best to call the office when the office is open.

## School Learning Plan

We continue our School Learning Plan with a focus on Mathematics in the area of critical thinking while problem solving. We will begin to implement the new Ontario Math Curriculum which will support our continued work with our School Learning Plan.



## New Ontario Math Curriculum Grades 1-8



For further information on the new Ontario Math Curriculum for Grades 1-8, please refer to the following newsletter attachments:

Key Changes - Elementary Math Curriculum

Social-Emotional Learning Skills (SEL) New Math Curriculum 2020

## Catholic School Parent Council (CSPC) AGM & Elections



We have tentatively set two possible dates for the CSPC Annual General Meeting/Elections: Monday, October 5 or Tuesday, October 13 at 6:30pm. All CSPC meetings will take place on Zoom until further notice. A final date will be confirmed as soon as possible. Anyone interested in becoming a member of the CSPC, whether in one of the Executive positions or as a Member at Large, is invited to complete a self-nomination form or have another parent complete a nomination form. Preliminary ideas for school events and initiatives will be discussed after elections. **Nomination forms are attached to the newsletter.** If you need a paper copy of the nomination forms, please contact the office. Please submit completed nomination forms to the office by **Monday, September 28, 2020**. Please consider joining the CSPC! Be part of a vibrant group of parents who seek to enrich the overall experience of all our students within the school. Let us all work together to further enhance our wonderful school of St. Bartholomew and that of our children and families within our journey of faith and learning. If you have any questions regarding the CSPC, please contact the school or send the parent council an email: [charmaine.vonvulte@hotmail.com](mailto:charmaine.vonvulte@hotmail.com). We look forward to seeing everyone in October.

## Student Agenda Books

Agendas are sold to all students from Grades 1 to 8 for \$5.00 each. Many thanks to our Catholic School Parent Council for subsidizing the cost of the agenda books. These agendas are essential as they function as homework and communication books between the school and home. Additionally, it contains important information such as our Code of Conduct, St. Bartholomew Dress Code, Bussing Policy, TCDSB Acceptable Use Policy (electronic device usage) and Virtues of the Month. Please take some time to familiarize yourself with what is contained therein. Agenda order forms will be sent home the week of September 14. Kindly return the form along with payment to your child's teacher by Wednesday, September 23. A copy of the agenda order form is also attached to this newsletter. There is the option to paying using School Cash Online. Families participating in our Virtual School (distance learning) are also invited to purchase an agenda-please contact the school to schedule pickup.



## Students, Staff and Essential Personnel Only

Due to COVID-19 protocols, only TCDSB staff, students and essential personnel are permitted into the school building and on school grounds. Should you wish to speak with a staff member, kindly call the school to make a phone appointment.

## SchoolMessenger

The TCDSB uses the **SchoolMessenger** system for parental outreach, emergency broadcasts, and other electronic communications. **SchoolMessenger** enables each school to communicate with families using an automated system to phone and send emails to parents. **We will use the email contact information on file to send messages to you exclusively via SchoolMessenger beginning Thursday, October 1, 2020.** If your contact information has changed, please advise the school as soon as possible. The SchoolMessenger system will replace emails we send via Ms. Fernandes' TCDSB email address. You can also download the **SchoolMessenger Mobile App** to receive messages (available on Apple App store or Google Play store).



SCHOOLMESSENGER®

## Attendance and Punctuality

Regular school attendance and punctuality are important for student success. Children should be kept home only when they are ill. Appointments, whenever possible, should be arranged outside of school hours. The bell rings promptly at 9:00 am for the start of the day. Being on time for the start of class is important. Your child should be in the school yard by this time so that s/he can assemble with her/his peers and be involved in all activities from the beginning of class.



## SafeArrival Program

Please report any absences or lates using any of these convenient methods, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week:

- Call: **1-833-251-3286 (toll-free)**
- Online: **go.schoolmessenger.ca**
- **SchoolMessenger Mobile App** (available on Apple App store or Google Play store)



Future absences can be reported at any time up to a maximum of 10 consecutive days. It is important to note that when setting up your account, you must register using the email address and phone number associated with your child's student record. When a child's absence is not reported, the School Messenger automated notification system will contact parents at multiple contact points until a reason is submitted to the absence. If the SchoolMessenger system is unable to reach a parent/guardian, the office staff will follow up. We strongly encourage you to use this new system; however, parents/guardians will still have the option of calling the office at (416) 393-5334. Please continue to make sure that all students who arrive late check in at the front office.

## School Buses & Safe Departure Program



Thank you to everyone for your patience and flexibility with our school buses. We will continue to implement a "Safe Departure" program at St. Bartholomew. Attendance will be taken on each bus prior to departure at the end of the school day. Please note that if your child is registered to ride the school bus, s/he must ride the bus daily. **Should your child not be taking the bus on a particular day, please write a note to your child's teacher or contact the office no later than 2pm.** This will allow us to accurately update our bus attendance prior to bus departure. Furthermore, students are only permitted to ride the bus for which they are registered. Delays in bus service are beyond our control. For the most updated information regarding bus delays, you are invited to access the transportation portal at: [www.torontoschoolbus.org](http://www.torontoschoolbus.org) and select the "Parents" link in the top right hand corner of the page. You can create an account, look up your child's specific transportation information and subscribe to the late bus notification. Please masks are required on the bus.

## Drop-Off and Pick-Up



Parents/guardians may only use the St. Bartholomew Catholic Church parking lot for drop-off and pick-up before, during and after school. We are grateful for this privilege and we thank Father Serrano.

Please park in the designated parking spaces in the centre area of the Church parking lot behind the Church and walk your child(ren) over to the gate. **Please refrain from parking along the Church fence or along the Church building.** Please respect physical distancing protocols in the Church parking lot and along the fence area. Once you drop-off or pick-up your child, please step away from the fence, return to your car and exit the Church parking lot. Supervision in our school yard begins at 8:40am—a staff member will be at the gate to greet you and your child(ren). Please do not drop-off your child(ren) prior to 8:40am. Due to COVID-19 protocols, parents/guardians are not permitted in the school yard or in the school building.

At the end of the school day, all students being picked up will be escorted to the Church parking lot gate for pick-up. Should you need to drop off your child after 9:00am or pick up before 3:30pm, kindly call the office when you arrive in the Church parking lot and proceed to the front doors of the school. A staff member will greet you at the front doors of the school or escort your child(ren) to the front doors of the school.

**Please do not use the staff parking lot, walkway or Heather Road for drop off or pickup. Use of these areas creates safety concerns for everyone.**

On inclement weather days (rainy days, extreme cold), students will enter the school yard from the Church parking lot and proceed directly to the East Doors of the school for screening and then proceed directly to their classroom. A staff member will be at the Church parking lot gate for assistance.

## Anaphylaxis Alert

We would like to inform you that we are an **allergen aware school**. There are students in attendance who suffer from severe and life-threatening allergies to certain foods such as **peanuts and nut products**. **Anaphylaxis is a severe and life-threatening allergic reaction.**



Please refrain from sending any lunches or snacks that may contain peanuts or nut products, including Nutella. Please remind your children not to share food in the classroom. As well, please check prepared foods for traces of peanut oil or nut products. These items could potentially harm a child. We thank everyone for being diligent in following this request. We must maintain a safe environment for our students. Since all our students share the school building space in their daily activities, we need to take precautions to minimize any cross-contamination issues.

## Dress Code

All students are expected to come to school daily appropriately dressed, and in a manner that reflects the aims and atmosphere of a Catholic school. St. Bartholomew School has a **NAVY BLUE AND WHITE DRESS CODE**, which consists of the following: a solid navy blue bottom (pant, skirt, shorts, dress); a plain white or navy blue shirt or top; and a white or navy blue sweater or pullover. Some examples of items not permitted are: leggings or tights, lycra pants, spaghetti strap or tank tops, jeans/denim material, white pants, black pants, pants with stripes in any colour and short-shorts.

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## Pizza Days

Due to COVID-19 protocols, all pizza lunches will be suspended until further notice.

## Dress Down Days



We will hold various Dress Down Days throughout the school year. On these days, students may wear appropriate, regular clothes to school. There may be special themed Dress Down Days as well, for example, Orange Shirt Day, Red Shirt Day, etc. Students are encouraged to donate \$1 for each Dress Down Day. All funds collected will be given to our CSPC to support school initiatives.

## Orange Shirt Day-Wednesday, September 30



Our first Dress Down Day will be "Orange Shirt Day" on Wednesday, September 30. For \$1.00 students and staff are invited to dress down, and if you have one, wear an orange shirt. On this day we honour the Indigenous children who were sent away to residential schools in Canada. This was the time of year when government agents would take First Nations children from their families. The colour orange refers to the new shirt worn by six-year-old Phyllis Webstad on her first day at a residential school in Williams Lake, B.C., in 1976.

## Lunch Routines

Please refrain from bringing student lunches to school after 9am. Please ensure your child has packed a lunch prior to leaving home. Students are permitted to leave the school building for lunch **accompanied by a parent/guardian only**. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to screen their child for COVID-19 symptoms prior to returning to school at 12:45pm. Please provide your child with a note or write a note in their agenda book indicating they will be going home for lunch.

## Nutrition Program

Many thanks to Ms. Dadlani for continuing to be our Nutrition Program Coordinator. The Nutrition Program will begin on Monday, October 5. Each student will receive a snack before morning recess. Due to COVID-19 protocols, all food provided will be "grab and go" only. Nutrition Program forms are being sent home the week of September 14. Kindly return the form along with payment to your child's teacher by Wednesday, September 23. There is also a copy of the form attached to this newsletter.

## Registration for New Students 2020-2021

Registration applications for new students wishing to attend Kindergarten to Grade 8 in September 2020 are to be submitted using the following website:

<https://soar.tcdsb.org/Login.aspx>

## Outdoor Play

Outdoor activity is a regular part of each school day. If there are rainy conditions/extreme cold, outdoor activity will be limited or curtailed. Children need to be dressed and prepared for some outdoor activity each day. Dressing in layers is a good practice given variable weather conditions. Hats and sunscreen are strongly recommended throughout the year. **Please identify your child's clothing so that it can be returned should it become lost.** To support COVID-19 protocols, each class will be given a designated area of school yard to play in. Staff will be monitoring these spaces to ensure the safety of your children. Students may take off their masks while outdoors; however, physical distancing protocols must be followed while outdoors. **Until further notice, students are not permitted to bring sports/play equipment to school.**



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### Student Injuries

Children sometimes get accidentally injured at school. We do our best to make our students comfortable and staff trained in first aid will attend to injuries. In most cases, parents will be informed of a minor injury through the agenda or through a phone call. If a child has an injury that is more severe, parents will be notified by telephone immediately. Please ensure that home, work and emergency numbers are up to date.

### School Cash Online

St. Bartholomew has implemented the School Cash Online system. Please see the attachment in our newsletter attachments for registration information. School Cash Online is an easy to use, safe and convenient way for parents and guardians to pay for their children's school activities. Families can still pay by cheque or cash for school activities; however, cheque is the preferred option to help minimize cash in the school. You may also refer to the TCDSB School Cash Online website for more information:



<https://www.tcdsb.org/forparents/schoolcashionline/pages/default.aspx>

### Student Personal Devices



Any type of technology/personal communication device (iPad, laptop, cell phone) is to be used only with teacher permission for instructional purposes and under direct adult supervision. Otherwise, all technology/personal communication devices must be powered off and stored out of view throughout the school day. Students and parents are reminded that in the case of an emergency, the office phones are always available. Due to COVID-19 protocols, students are not permitted to share any personal devices.

### Progressive Discipline

When inappropriate behaviours occur, disciplinary measures are applied within a framework that is corrective, supportive and restorative. The school will utilize a range of interventions, supports and consequences that include learning opportunities for reinforcing positive behaviour. Utilizing the progressive discipline approach represents an opportunity to tailor solutions based on individual student need, her/his circumstances, and the nature and severity of the behaviour. On most occasions, parents will be notified.

### Secondary School Open Houses

All Toronto Catholic District School Board secondary schools welcome grade 8 students and their families to open houses each fall. This is an opportunity to meet some of the staff, check out school facilities and learn more about the various programs, services and activities as you prepare for Catholic secondary school education. A complete schedule will be communicated as soon as it is received.



### Child Care Addition Update

Due to COVID-19 delays, Toronto City Council has not yet approved the additional funding required for the project. We are waiting for this approval to re-tender the project, which we anticipate to will be in the next few weeks. As a result, construction will be delayed until further notice.

## Student Forms



A number of student information forms will be sent home the week of September 21 for review and completion. Please return these forms to your child's teacher by October 5.

## Inclement Weather

School closures due to inclement weather will be reported through news releases to all media outlets in Toronto, through the Board's 24-hour information line at 416-222-8282 (ext. 2873), Twitter @TCDSB and [www.tcdsb.org](http://www.tcdsb.org).

## St. Bartholomew on Twitter



St. Bartholomew is now on Twitter. You are invited to follow us at our Twitter handle: @StBartholomewCS



### **TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES 2020 - 2021**

#### **Wards**

- |  |              |
|--|--------------|
| 1. Joseph Martino, Chair                 | 416-512-3401 |
| 2. Markus de Domenico                    | 416-512-3402 |
| 3. Ida Li Preti                          | 416-512-3403 |
| 4. Teresa Lubinski                       | 416-512-3404 |
| 5. Maria Rizzo                           | 416-512-3405 |
| 6. Frank D'Amico                         | 416-512-3406 |
| 7. Michael Del Grande                    | 416-512-3407 |
| 8. Garry Tanuan                          | 416-512-3408 |
| 9. Norm Di Pasquale                      | 416-512-3409 |
| 10. Daniel Di Giorgio                    | 416-512-3410 |
| 11. Angela Kennedy, Vice-Chair           | 416-512-3411 |
| 12. Nancy Crawford                       | 416-512-3412 |
| Keith Andre Baybayon,<br>Student Trustee | 416-512-3413 |
| Kathy Nguyen, Student Trustee            | 416-512-3417 |