



**St. Gabriel
Catholic School**
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Toronto, Ontario
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**Principal
A. De Roma**

**Secretary
P. Monaco**

**Head Caretaker
S. Coulter**

**Superintendent:
C. Fernandes
416-222-8282**

**Trustee:
M. Rizzo
416-512-3405**

**CSPC Chair:
D. Meli
416-397-6800
Mailbox #88256
csac.stgabriel@tcdsb.org**

**Parish:
St. Gabriel Catholic Church
670 Sheppard Ave. E.
416-221-8866
stgabrielparish@bellnet.ca
Pastor: Fr. Brando
Hours of Operation:
9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**



St. Gabriel Catholic School January 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

January Virtue: Courage

Happy New Year and welcome to 2020!

I hope that everyone enjoyed a wonderful Christmas and that 2020 brings health, happiness and prosperity to all in our community. God's loving presence in our lives is something palpable when we consider it is found among our parents longing for the best for their children. The spirit of Christmas and Epiphany (Monday, January 6th) will remain with us always as a way of life in faith. Let us be like the symbol of the angels, open and aware of the movement of God's loving, inclusive Spirit!

Thank you to everyone for your generosity during the Christmas season. As a school we displayed the act of charity throughout the month with the various activities such as our Advent reflections, CSPC Christmas activity, collection for our school parish with toiletries, Me To We initiatives and Share Life initiatives. Thank you to all families who attended our Advent Family Mass, the CSPC for treats and all teachers who organized the mass and attended.

If you, or a neighbour, have a child at home who was born in 2016, please see the Board website and newsletter for additional information about Kindergarten registration which begins on Wednesday January 15th, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

The staff of St. Gabriel look forward to continuing to work with you, to best meet the needs of all our students. Our Winter/Spring sees us in preparation for learning more about understanding mathematic vocabulary and reading strategies and applying those principles when answering both open ended and multiple-choice questions. Our school improvement insists we remain focused on equity of outcomes for all, a focus upon student voice, displays of student artefacts which articulate to specific learning goals and success criteria, posted in student-friendly language, with parents engaged in school talk, listening to the student voice so as to guide lesson planning. We are one month away from first term report cards; interviews are on February 11th and 13th.

Please join us for our school mass on Thursday, January 23rd at 1:15 pm to celebrate the New Year.

Yours in Catholic leadership,

Ms. A. De Roma

ST. GABRIEL SCHOOL HOURS
2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR

Start of School Day: 9:00 a.m.
Morning Recess: 10:42 a.m. to 10:57 a.m.
Lunch Hour: 11:45 p.m. to 12:45 p.m.
Afternoon Recess: 2:12 p.m. to 2:27 p.m.
Dismissal: 3:30 p.m.

SAFE SCHOOL ARRIVAL PROGRAM

To report your child as late or absent, please use one of the following options:

Call 1(833)251-3286 (toll-free)

Online go.schoolmessenger.ca

School Messenger Mobile App

Please make sure that all students who arrive late check in at the front office.

Please ensure the school office has your current email address on file.

NUTRITION PROGRAM NEWS

We continue to offer a Nutrition Program under the direction of Yumiko Hashimoto our coordinator and the number of parent volunteers who come to help on a daily basis. Students continue to be nourished and enjoy daily healthy snacks to help them with their growth development and academics. Thank you for your generous support in term one! We will be asking for term two donations shortly. Please remember that if you donate \$20 or more, The Angel Foundation will issue a tax receipt that will be mailed directly to your home. A sincere thank you in advance.

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ST. GABRIEL'S MASS TIMES
AND YOUTH CHOIR

St. Gabriel's Parish mass times:

Saturday 4:30

Sunday 8:30, 10:30, 12:30

MONTHLY VIRTUES

Monthly Virtues are celebrated by all TCDSB's schools. Throughout the year we will be recognizing students each month by honouring those students who have demonstrated the virtue of the month through their words and actions.

September - Hospitality

October - Gratitude

November - Peace

December - Charity

January - Courage

February - Love

March - Forgiveness

April - Justice

May - Compassion

June - Faithfulness

The following students were recognized for their demonstration of **charity**:

- Gia Seo
- Isaac Hur
- Gina Padjip
- Yohan Lim
- Kirian Nju
- Maya Lamb
- Liam Hu
- Rafael Pieroni
- Domenico Perruzza
- Joshua Kim
- Miranda Tirado
- Julia Izzo
- Michela Cologna
- Joonho Kim
- Jungyule Her
- Alan Akosung
- Gwyn Andrade
- Marcus Palermo
- Aidan Cologna
- Hazel Choi



The Facts on Education:

What is the best way for students to learn mathematics?

www.cea-ace.ca/facts-on-education

Starting from early childhood, we make sense of the objects and space we experience. Effective teaching builds on students' mathematical experiences, which differ among individuals and across contexts. High expectations for performance, initiative and independence support achievement. Even young children can reason mathematically.

People learn mathematics when they wrestle with problems, connect them with their prior mathematical knowledge, and develop coherent and relevant methods and explanations. Teachers can help students learn mathematics by engaging them in this way. Students understand procedures better if they have the opportunity to manipulate concrete materials to represent mathematical operations (e.g., using blocks to represent place value: a cube to represent one, a stick made of 10 ones, a square made of 10 sticks, etc.), and to talk about reasons for their procedures. Calculators and other technologies can be useful tools for exploration of patterns and relationships, but children still need to be able to perform calculations and understand them without reliance on the technologies.

Regular and effective feedback from teachers and peers supports students' mathematical learning when it focuses on noticing patterns, exploring predictions, and explaining reasoning. Students' errors are best viewed as opportunities to clarify incomplete understanding and can help teachers know what concepts need more exploration. Mathematics curriculum should build topics onto each other. The sequence of these topics is more important than matching age-related stages. An overloaded curriculum can be a barrier to learning. Teachers need to be comfortable with mathematics and have conceptual understanding. Their teaching benefits from collaborative planning that focuses on the central ideas of mathematics.

Language skills are necessary for learning mathematics. Teaching should recognize that a students' first language may be one important resource in their mathematics learning. Children from disadvantaged backgrounds can benefit with intervention in the early years to connect mathematics to their experiences and thus increase their comfort with it.

Conceptual understanding (knowing why something works), fluency with calculations (comfort with basic mathematics facts and procedures), and problem solving work together in mathematical learning. However, no high quality research supports any kind of ideal ratio between such focuses; they are all necessary.

2020-2021 KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Kindergarten registration will begin on Wednesday, January 20, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. EST. Parents/guardians with JK/SK children will have an opportunity to **apply on-line only** using the "Student On-line Application for Registration" platform known as S.O.A.R. Parents will also be able to schedule their meeting with the school on the electronic application. The link for S.O.A.R. is: <http://soar.tcdsb.org>. In preparation for the scheduled meeting with the school, parents will be asked to refer to the information enclosed in this package. The following documents will be required at the time of your meeting with the school:

- Child's Birth Certificate or Passport/Immigration documents if child was not born in Canada
- Child's Catholic Baptismal Certificate (or proof of Catholicity of parent)
- Proof of residency in Toronto (some examples: utility bills, lease agreements, proof of purchase)
- Immunization Record
- Application for Direction of School Support (ADSS) form

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT
SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES
2019 - 2020

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
	Taylor Dallin, Student Trustee	416-512-3413
	Kathy Nguyen, Student Trustee	416-512-3417

PARKING AT ST. GABRIEL

1. **Staff parking only:** please do not park in the parking lot to drop off your child(ren) - use the student drop off to pick up and drop off - use street parking if you wish to walk your child(ren) to the school yard.
2. **Student drop off only:** **do not park in the student drop off/pickup zone** - remain in your car and have your child(ren) exit on the right side of the vehicle.
3. **No idling:** always turn off your car if you have to wait more than 1 minute.
4. **Accessible Parking:** never park in the accessible parking spot without a permit.

Please support us for student safety.



Monthly Update from the Board

January 2020

Important Information for Parents

Labour Update

Throughout the days and weeks ahead, we encourage everyone to watch for regular updates on our website at <https://www.tcdsb.org/News/othernews/2020/Pages/LabourUpdate.aspx>, and to follow @TCDSB on Twitter, check the 24-information line at 416-222-8282, extension 2873 or sign up for E-News (for email notifications) at <https://web1.tcdsb.org/InterestSubscription/subscription.aspx>.

Kindergarten Registration Starts January 15, 2020

TCDSB looks forward to welcoming new students for September 2020. Registration for kindergarten begins **Wednesday, January 15, 2020 at 10 a.m. EST.**

Apply online: **SOAR.tcdsb.org**. Details: <https://www.tcdsb.org/kindergartenregistration>

Registration for Extended French: www.tcdsb.org/extendedfrench

Registration for French Immersion: www.tcdsb.org/frenchimmersion

Registration for Night School Credit Classes

Registration begins January 8th. Classes begin February 24th and 25th. For detailed information, see <https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/ContinuingEducation/Pages/Default.aspx>

Parent & Community Reps Needed:

TCDSB Advisory Committee for Spanish-Speaking Communities

The Toronto Catholic District School Board is pleased to invite members of the community to consider serving on the Advisory Committee for Spanish-Speaking Communities. Interested applicants are invited to indicate their interest by completing the online [application form](#) and submitting it by **January 15th, 2020** to the attention of David Letra by email at: david.letra@tcdsb.org or regular mail: David Letra, Community Relations Department, 80 Sheppard Ave. E., Toronto, ON, M2N 6E8. More info: [click here](#).

Special Education Advisory Committee

The Special Education Advisory Committee is seeking representatives from the community and from local associations dedicated to supporting students with special needs. Details:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/FORPARENTS/Pages/SEACSeeksCommunityRepresentatives.aspx>

Automated Speed Enforcement Systems to be Installed in School Zones

The City of Toronto has announced the installation of Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) systems across the City of Toronto. ASE is intended to enhance road safety in Community Safety Zones near schools. The system captures any vehicle travelling in excess of the posted speed limit. This includes emergency vehicles and municipal fleet vehicles.

Transportation services is installing 50 portable ASE systems near schools, and it is anticipated that they will rotate every three to six months within city wards.

An educational campaign will be launched to inform drivers of the presence of an ASE system. During the initial period, the plate owner will simply be issued a warning letter to confirm that the vehicle was moving faster than the posted speed limit. No response to these warning letters is required.

The City expects to move to issuing tickets in spring 2020. No demerit points will be issued nor will the registered owner's driving record be impacted. For more information, please visit toronto.ca/ASE or contact the ASE team at ASE@toronto.ca.

Updates on Weather Related Cancellations or Closures

Traffic congestion and varying road conditions can impact the flow of traffic in Toronto, and this is particularly true during the winter months when snow and ice can be a major factor. The Toronto Student Transportation Group provides information about school bus delays digitally through [their website](#). Update on delays: <https://busplannerweb.torontoschoolbus.org/Cancellations.aspx>. Parents are encouraged to subscribe to the transportation portal to get real time information about any transportation issues: <https://busplannerweb.torontoschoolbus.org/Subscriptions/Login.aspx> and to follow @TCDSB and @TOSchoolBus on Twitter.

General Information

Caucus Results

- Ward 1 Trustee Joseph Martino was elected Chair
- Angela Kennedy, Trustee for Ward 11 was elected Vice-Chair.

More: <https://www.tcdsb.org/News/NewsReleases/newsrelease20182019/NewsRelease-Nov29-2019.pdf>

Financial Statements

The Audited Financial Statements for 2019 have been posted to the board's website:

https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/BudgetandFinance/Documents/Toronto_Catholic_District_School_Board_0831_2019_FINAL_FS.pdf

Director's Annual Report

Check out some of the many highlights from the past school year in the 2019-2020 Annual Report:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/BoardAdministration/DirectorofEducation/Pages/AnnualReport-2018-2019.aspx>

Rooted in Christ: we Believe

You are invited to explore the resources and information relating to our pastoral plan at

<https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/NurturingOurCatholicCommunity/rooted-in-christ/webelieve/Pages/weBelieveResources.aspx>

Suggested Activity for the Year: Consider who inspires you, who nurtures your faith, who acts as a mentor and role model of Catholic living. Is it your school chaplain? A parent or other family member? Your pastor or other member of your parish? A teacher or other staff at your school? A colleague or friend? Share your stories through a STEAM project, written work (poem, story, article), a short video, art, music or technology. Celebrate those who have guided you on your own journey of faith. Share your ideas and initiatives on social media (@TCDSB #TCDSBelieves). Send your submissions to ncc.team@tcdsb.org.

TCDSB Working Towards Net Zero Status

The Toronto Catholic District School Board believes in the critical role that our Catholic schools and facilities play in promoting environmental responsibility and providing leadership and direction for the protection and conservation of the environment. The TCDSB's Environment Committee is committed to working with all TCDSB stakeholders in their continued efforts to create a culture of conservation at TCDSB, consistent with the ideas expressed in Pope Francis' 2015 *Laudato Si*. More:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/environment/NetZero/Pages/default.aspx>

Nominations are Invited for the 2020 TCDSB Awards

Awards Night is our traditional celebration to launch Catholic Education Week and an opportunity to recognize the accomplishments of our alumni, students, staff and friends of Catholic education. Nominations are invited for the following awards:

- [Download the TCDSB Alumni Award Nomination Form here.](#)
- [Download the TCDSB Award of Merit Nomination Form here.](#)
- [Download the TCDSB Friends of Catholic Education Award Nomination Form here.](#)

The deadline for all nominations is January 31.

Calendar of Meetings for 2020

Click here <https://www.tcdsb.org/Calendar/Documents/AnnualCalendarOfMeetings2020.pdf> for the draft calendar of board and committee meetings. Please note that dates and times of meetings are subject to change.

Events/Meetings:

- January's Virtue is Courage
<https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/NurturingOurCatholicCommunity/VirtueoftheMonth/Pages/Default.aspx#January>
- January is Tamil Heritage Month
- January 1, 2020 World Day of Peace
- January 6, 2020 Epiphany
- January 7, 2020 Eastern Rite Christmas
- January 7, 2020 Governance and Policy Committee Meeting
- January 7, 2020 Portuguese Advisory Committee Meeting
- January 9, 2020 Student Achievement Committee Meeting
- January 13-24, 2020 EQAO-Grade 9 Assessment
- January 14, 2020 Eastern Rite New Year
- January 15, 2020 Filipino Advisory Committee Meeting
- January 16, 2020 Corporate Services Committee Meeting
- January 17, 2020 System-wide PA Day (elementary schools only)
- January 20, 2020 Dr. Martin Luther King Day
- January 20, 2020 Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting
- January 22, 2020 Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting
- January 23, 2020 Regular Board Meeting
- January 27, 2020 Family Literacy Day
- January 27, 2020 International Holocaust Remembrance Day
- January 27, 2020 Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education Meeting
- January 30, 2020 Bell Let's Talk Day

For more information, visit www.tcdsb.org.