



**St. Gabriel  
Catholic School**  
396 Spring Garden Ave.  
Toronto, Ontario  
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416-393-5256  
FAX: 416 393-5199

**Principal  
A. De Roma**

**Secretary  
P. Monaco**

**Head Caretaker  
S. Coulter**

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

**Trustee:  
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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  
stgabrielsparish@bellnet.ca  
Pastor: Fr. Brando  
Hours of Operation:  
9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**



## **St. Gabriel Catholic School**

### **March 2020**

Dear Parents/Guardians:

#### March Virtue: Forgiveness

The virtue for this month is forgiveness and it is central during the season of Lent. Forgiveness is the cornerstone of our faith and one that Jesus modeled for us in his life and death. We should strive to let go of the burden of resentment through forgiveness and teach and model this to our children as a gift.

#### **Planning for Next Year**

Please contact the school if you expect your child will be transferring to another school before the next school year commences in September 2020. Also, if you are planning an extended summer vacation, whereby your child/children will not be returning until after the first week of September 2020, please let us know as soon as possible. Staffing and classroom organization are directly related to student enrolment and therefore it is crucial that we have the most accurate information possible as we begin to plan for next year.

#### **Dressing Appropriately for the Weather**

A reminder that students need to come to school each day dressed to be outdoors for the regularly scheduled recess periods. Winter coats, appropriate footwear, head and hand protection are all required by all students. It is our school policy to maintain regular outdoor recesses during the winter season except on those occasions when rain or severe cold would require alternative decisions to be made. We regularly monitor the temperature and wind-chill for risk of frostbite. Students are expected to have a separate pair of shoes for indoor footwear.

#### **March Break**

Our Mid-winter Break is scheduled for the week of March 16-20. On behalf of our staff, we wish you a safe and enjoyable March Break. As always, we appreciate the ongoing support given by the St. Gabriel Catholic School community to support our student's learning.

Yours in Catholic leadership,

Ms. A. De Roma



*O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended You,  
and I detest all my sins, because of your just punishment;  
but most of all because they offend You, my God,  
Who are all good and deserving of all my love.  
I firmly resolve, with the help of Your grace,  
to sin no more, and avoid the nearest occasion of sin.*

**Amen.**

**ST. GABRIEL SCHOOL HOURS**  
**2018-2019 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](http://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.\***

**SIGNING IN AS A VISITOR**

Please be reminded that signing in as a visitor and wearing a sticker that identifies you as a "VISITOR" to our school is mandatory!! We encourage and appreciate all our volunteers, be it for the nutrition program, for scientists in school, school excursions, etc. However, the safety of our staff and students is our number one priority and signing in allows us to regulate and monitor who is in our school, when and for what purpose. Full compliance is expected.

**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 **LOVE**:

- Sofia DaSilva
- Beau Shibuya
- Isabella Brennan
- Ernest Cerilli
- David Fadugba
- Tiffany Htut
- Nicolas Groke
- Alicia Jeon
- Vito Costa
- Brian Park
- Manuela Zago
- Ericsson He
- Sunny Kim
- Timilehin Toluhi
- Naja DeLuka
- Junior Brown
- Breann Teskey
- Andrew Lewis

## The Role of Parents - PBS Parents

Although a parent's role in their children's learning evolves as kids grow, one thing remains constant: we are our children's learning models. Our attitudes about education can inspire theirs and show them how to take charge of their own educational journey.

**Be a role model for learning.** In the early years, parents are their children's first teachers — exploring nature, reading together, cooking together, and counting together. When a young child begins formal school, the parent's job is to show him how school can extend the learning you began together at home, and how exciting and meaningful this learning can be. As preschoolers grow into school age kids, parents become their children's learning coaches. Through guidance and reminders, parents help their kids organize their time and support their desires to learn new things in and out of school.

**Pay attention to what your child loves.** "One of the most important things a parent can do is notice her child. Is he a talker or is he shy? Find out what interests him and help him explore it. Let your child show you the way he likes to learn," recommends Dalton Miller-Jones, Ph.D.

**Tune into how your child learns.** Many children use a combination of modalities to study and learn. Some learn visually through making and seeing pictures, others through tactile experiences, like building block towers and working with clay. Still others are auditory learners who pay most attention to what they hear. And they may not learn the same way their siblings (or you) do. By paying attention to how your child learns, you may be able to pique his interest and explain tough topics by drawing pictures together, creating charts, building models, singing songs and even making up rhymes.

**Practice what your child learns at school.** Many teachers encourage parents to go over what their young children are learning in a non-pressured way and to practice what they may need extra help with. This doesn't mean drilling them for success, but it may mean going over basic counting skills, multiplication tables or letter recognition, depending on the needs and learning level of your child. "There may be times to review, but don't take on the role of drill master," adds Diane Levin, Ph.D. "And when you do review it should feel as if your child wants to be a part of the practice."

**Set aside time to read together.** Read aloud regularly, even to older kids. If your child is a reluctant reader, reading aloud will expose her to the structure and vocabulary of good literature and get her interested in reading more. "Reading the first two chapters of a book together can help, because these are often the toughest in terms of plot," notes Susan Becker, M. Ed. "Also try alternating: you read one chapter aloud, she reads another to herself. And let kids pick the books they like. Book series are great for reluctant readers. It's OK to read easy, interesting books instead of harder novels."

**Connect what your child learns to everyday life.** Make learning part of your child's everyday experience, especially when it comes out of your child's natural questions. When you cook together, do measuring math. When you drive in the car, count license plates and talk about the states. When you turn on the blender, explore how it works together. When your child studies the weather, talk about why it was so hot at the beach. Have give-and-take conversations, listening to your child's ideas instead of pouring information into their heads.

**Connect what your child learns to the world.** Find age-appropriate ways to help your older child connect his school learning to world events. Start by asking questions. For example, ask a second-grader if she knows about a recent event, and what's she heard. Then ask what she could do to help (such as sending supplies to hurricane victims). You might ask a younger child if he's heard about anything the news, and find out what he knows. This will help your child become a caring learner.

**Don't over-schedule your child.** While you may want to supplement school with outside activities, be judicious about how much you let or urge your child to do. Kids need downtime as much as they may need to pursue extra-curricular activities. "If a child has homework and organized sports and a music lesson and is part of a youth group in church or synagogue, it can quickly become a joyless race from one thing to another. Therefore, monitor your child to see that he is truly enjoying what he is doing. If he isn't, cut something off the schedule," advises Michael Thompson, Ph.D.

**Keep TV to a minimum.** "Watching lots of TV does not give children the chance to develop their own interests and explore on their own, because it controls the agenda," advises Diane Levin, Ph.D. "However, unstructured time with books, toys, crafts and friends allows children to learn how to be in charge of their agenda, and to develop their own interests, skills, solutions and expertise."

**Learn something new yourself and have fun!**

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

**Virtue of Forgiveness—March 2020**

March, has been assigned the virtue of FORGIVENESS. We celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus who, while hanging on the cross, he forgave the repentant thief, bringing him back to God. But forgiveness is also an important part of Catholic teaching beyond Christ's Death and Resurrection. The need to forgive and be forgiven comes from our need to be healed, to ask forgiveness and be forgiven. The power of forgiveness comes from being created in God's image. During March, we will emphasize teaching the students about forgiveness. Pope Francis has said that marriage is the sacrament of forgiveness because in it you know a person's strengths and their brokenness and from that, one is called to accept the other person as they are, particularly their vulnerability. We aim to teach the students that being forgiving is a skill that needs to be learned. Our goal—students as champions for forgiveness, real world problem-solvers, responsible citizens. When someone hurts you, you can hold on to anger, resentment and thoughts of revenge — or embrace forgiveness and move forward. Forgiveness means letting go of grudges and bitterness. By embracing forgiveness, we can also embrace peace, hope, gratitude and joy. Recognizes that "sin, human weakness, conflict and forgiveness are part of the human journey" and that the cross, the ultimate sign of forgiveness is at the heart of redemption. Students regularly say to each other, I forgive you when someone apologizes for hurting them while at school.



# Monthly Update from the Board

## March 2020

### Important Information

#### Labour Update

Stay up to date with all the latest news here: <https://www.tcdsb.org/News/othernews/2020/Pages/LabourUpdate.aspx>

#### Coronavirus

News and resources are on our website

here: <https://www.tcdsb.org/forstudents/healthandsafety/pages/coronavirusinformation.aspx>

#### TCDSB Budget Process Starts This Spring

Watch for detailed information on how you can provide your feedback on the draft budget, and identify your priorities.

Visit [www.tcdsb.org](http://www.tcdsb.org) for more information coming soon.

#### Never Miss Out on Important Information

All parents/caregivers are reminded to ensure that your school has up to date telephone and email information on file for your child. This will enable the school to communicate with you about critical matters including student absences, and will also enable the Board to share important information with you including updates on the status of labour negotiations via School Messenger.

### Information for Parents

#### Guard Your Kids Online and Help Them Shine: Social Media Safety Presentation

Internet Safety Information Seminar for parents of tweens/teens (Grades 5-9)

A FREE multi-school parent event brought to you by the Parent Councils of: St. Agatha, St. Boniface, Immaculate Heart of Mary, St. Nicholas, St. Rose of Lima, St. Theresa Shrine, St. Ursula & St. John Henry Newman CSS

**Wed, April 15, 2020 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM at St. John Henry Newman Catholic High School, 100 Brimley Road South**

#### **Toronto Public Library: March Break Programs**

Looking for something to do during March Break? The library offers more than 100 free activities for kids, teens, and the whole family. Browse the programs or use our search tool to find out what's happening at your local branch.

[Click here for other March Break programs at Toronto Public Libraries](#)

#### *Save the Date: Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education (OAPCE) Parent Summit and Annual General Meeting*

**Speakers:** James T. Mulligan CSC, "A Pastor's Journal" and Rob Gallo "Living our Virtues in a Virtual World"

**Saturday May 2nd, 2020 at Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School, Oakville. Registration Opening Soon**  
[summit.oapce.org](http://summit.oapce.org).

### Opportunities and Information for Students

#### Centreville Amusement Park Toronto Islands JOB FAIR

Friday March 20, 2020 and Saturday March 21, 2019 10 am – 3pm

Centreville Amusement Park (Head office), 84 Advance Rd, Toronto

**Positions Available include...**Ride Operator, Games Attendant, Retail staff, Facilities, Cashiers, Food Concessions, Line & prep cooks, Farm Staff & more

Please bring a copy of your resume. Interviews will be conducted on site. Drop ins welcome.  
If you require accommodation due to disability during the interview and selection phase, please contact [hr@centreisland.ca](mailto:hr@centreisland.ca) a minimum of 3 business days before the job fair.

## Summer Student Jobs with the Ontario Government

Student job opportunities in Agriculture and Livestock, Business, Enforcement, Engineering, Environment, Information Management, Science, Social Services and more. All student jobs are now posted online at [www.gojobs.gov.on.ca](http://www.gojobs.gov.on.ca). Closing dates vary, depending on the job type. The first closing date is **February 28, 2020**, with closing dates staggered one week apart until **April 3, 2020**.

## *The University of Toronto Department of Philosophy presents* THE ARISTOTLE CONTEST

A high school philosophy essay contest recognizing the finest philosophical work by current Canadian high school students  
First Prize: \$500

**Deadline for submissions: May 25, 2020**

For details on eligibility, submission guidelines, and prizes, please visit [uoft.me/aristotle-contest](http://uoft.me/aristotle-contest).

## The Rotary Club of Toronto 2020 Scholarship

The Rotary Club of Toronto Scholarship is a four-year tuition scholarship of up to \$10,000 a year. It is awarded to an outstanding student graduating from a Municipality of Toronto High School with an Ontario Secondary School Diploma. The applicant must demonstrate financial need, academic excellence, leadership, breadth, and depth of community service.  
Deadline: April 6, 2020. Details:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/FORSTUDENTS/OpportunitiesForStudents/Pages/RotaryClub.aspx>

## Steubenville Toronto Registration Now Open

Catholic youth in grades 9-12 are invited to Steubenville Toronto, happening from July 3-5, 2020, at the Ontario Tech University in Oshawa, Ont. The Office of Catholic Youth, in partnership with the Franciscan University of Steubenville, is bringing some of North America's best Catholic speakers and musicians to the Ontario Tech University. [Click here to register](#)

## Athletics

Find schedules, scores and standings

here: <https://www.tcdsb.org/programsservices/schoolprogramsk12/healthoutdoorphsyed/pages/tcdsbathletics.aspx>

## Events and Information

### March is Celtic Canadian Heritage

Month <https://www.tcdsb.org/FORCOMMUNITY/HeritageCelebration/CelticCanadianHeritage/Pages/default.aspx>

### March is Nutrition Month

### March 2—Education Support Staff Appreciation Day

### March 2-8 – National Social Work Week

World Day of Prayer March 6, 2020 <https://www.tcdsb.org/board/nurturingourcatholiccommunity/pages/world-day-of-prayer.aspx>

Lift Jesus Higher Rally March 7, 2020 <https://www.tcdsb.org/board/nurturingourcatholiccommunity/news/2019-2020/pages/lift-jesus-higher.aspx>

International Women's Day March 8, 2020

Winter Break March 16-20, 2020

International Day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination March 21, 2020

<https://www.tcdsb.org/news/othernews/2019/pages/international-day-for-elimination-of-racial-discrimination.aspx>

World Down Syndrome Day March 21, 2020 <https://www.tcdsb.org/news/othernews/2019/pages/world-down-syndrome-day.aspx>

World Water Day March 22, 2020 <https://www.tcdsb.org/board/environment/water/pages/worldwaterday.aspx>

Earth Hour March 28, 2020 (Schools recognize earth hour on March 27th)

<https://www.tcdsb.org/board/environment/earthhour/pages/default.aspx>

**ShareLife Week March 30-April 3, 2020**

**Civvies Day for ShareLife April 3rd**

## **Board and Committee Meetings:**

- Governance and Policy March 2, 2020
- Catholic Parent Involvement Committee March 2, 2020
- Student Achievement March 5, 2020
- Corporate Services March 12, 2020
- Filipino Advisory March 23, 2020
- Special Education Advisory March 25, 2020
- Board March 26, 2020

*For more news and information, visit [www.tcdsb.org](http://www.tcdsb.org), follow [@TCDSB](https://twitter.com/TCDSB) on Twitter or subscribe to *ENews* <https://web1.tcdsb.org/InterestSubscription/subscription.aspx>*