



# ST. CHARLES CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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"The Catholic School tries to create, within its walls, a climate on which the pupil's faith will gradually mature.....It will give you pride of place in the education it provides through Christian Doctrine to the gradual formation of conscience in fundamental, permanent virtues...the life-giving spirit which transforms a person of virtue into a person of Christ." (Sacred Congregation for Catholic Education, 1977)

While almost everything in education has changed since those words were written 35 years ago, the vision and mission of Catholic schools remains. In response to the Ministry of Education's 2007 initiative to promote Character Development in Ontario Schools, our Board has launched a program called "CATHOLIC VIRTUES INTO ACTION" in all of our schools. Catholic schools have been founded on the basis of inculcating gospel values and have long nurtured the academic, social, emotional and physical development of students through their spiritual well being. Our Catholic Graduate Expectations embody these values. Importantly, Catholic Education has stressed community involvement as an important means for students to put beliefs into practice and has built on the concept of the family, parish and school triad as the best way to support our children.

A virtue is a habit or established capability to perform good functions according to a moral standard. In other words, a virtue is a habit that shows people and God that you are a good person. Each month, we will develop one of the following virtues:

**September - RESPECT**

**October - FAITH**

**November - JUSTICE**

**December - PATIENCE**

**January - RESPONSIBILITY**

**February - COMPASSION**

**March - HONESTY**

**April - STEWARDSHIP**

**May - EMPATHY**

**June - FORGIVENESS**

Throughout the year, the staff and students will learn about a virtue in the classroom. We will put it into practice in our hallways, classrooms, gymnasium, library and on the yard so that our prayers, lessons, assemblies and liturgies will make this virtue come alive through our actions. We will work closely with our parishes and our Catholic School Council in this regard and encourage support from our families. By modeling these virtues, we can provide numerous opportunities for our students to become faithful, giving members of our Catholic Community. Finally, we will "celebrate the progress we make to be a more virtuous Catholic School - a place of safety, caring and inclusivity for all."

Yours in Catholic Education,

S. St. Denis  
Principal

L. Stirrett  
Vice-Principal