

# PASTORAL PLAN

**School Name:** St. Giovanni Scalabrini C.E.S

**School Mission Statement:** [REDACTED]

To strive to educate each child in its care to his/her potential.  
To recognize and value the diversity of our community in all our activities and procedures.  
To collaborate with home and parish in the development of the whole child.  
To root all our services, programs, and decisions in the Catholic faith.  
To provide relevant, life-related learning experiences.  
To educate environmentally, responsible citizens who will live harmoniously in a global community.

**School Motto:** Rooted in Faith, Educating Each Child, For Global Harmony.

## Believe

Increase, among all learner groups, student application of scripture, sacramental life, and Catholic social teachings to daily life, by increasing opportunities for student spiritual engagement in their faith formation. Even in this virtual world, we will continue to have students do our prayers through voice and video recordings shared for the whole school. We will also begin to recognize a variety of prayers in the many beautiful languages of St. Giovanni Scalabrini School

**Ephesians 4:2-3** "Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."

**We believe that strong partnerships and collaboration among Parish, Home and School are based on mutual respect rooted in our lived Catholic Faith**

- Our school parish has invited the 5 local schools for Advent Mass/Lenten Mass
- Parents are invited to the parish/school for sacraments
- Rosary Club – Run by classroom teachers at lunch
- Wellness. Mindfulness Club and Student Faith Ambassadors

**Hebrew 10: 24-25** *And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.*

### **BELIEVE**

**Enhance positive staff perceptions regarding DPCDSB Catholic Community, Culture and Caring.**

- Our CSC are involved in providing initiatives for all students and the school community
- CSC and volunteers promote ShareLife fundraisers and engagement (ie. Fundraisers, Contests)
- The CCCAT committee has included parents and students to best support the well-being of the school and promote school goals – 2024-2025 focus is Anti-Oppression – celebrating Black Excellence
- Community Evenings: (Masses, CSC events, Parent Nights, Virtue Assemblies and Christmas Celebrations)
- School will participate in Liturgies, Priest Visits and Individual Mass Visits

**Isaiah 1:17** *“Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow’s cause.”*

### **RESPECT**

**Enrich students’ sense of connection to their Catholic community and sense of belonging (e.g., reduce student experience of aggressive behaviours).**

- Our virtue awards and assemblies remind students of how to create a safe, caring and inclusive environment
- Our /Leadership Committee and Well-Being Wednesday (WHOLE SCHOOL) continuing
- Wellness Committee projects committee continue to set examples for the school community to be just as Jesus taught us and to think of others before ourselves.
- *Student Faith Ambassadors (Grade 7 and 8)*

### **Our Parish:**

**Pastor: Rev. Andrej Grecki**

**Parish website: [www.cristo-rei.com](http://www.cristo-rei.com)**

### **Message from the Pastor:**

St. Giovanni Scalabrini CES is under the pastoral care of Cristo Rei Parish. Families are encouraged to register with the parish and consult the parish website for virtual mass times and services.

### Message from the Catholic School Council:

St. Giovanni Scalabrini CES invites parent/guardian involvement, respecting the time and availability of all families in our school community. Please call the school office if you would like to volunteer, in any way, toward supporting the success of our students.

### Catholic Education Week – May 4<sup>th</sup> – May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025

***Catholic Education: Pilgrims of Hope***  
***L'éducation catholique: Pèlerins de l'espérance***

*Throughout Catholic Education Week, we ask you to reflect on the significance of Catholic education's presence and contribution in our Church, and in our society.*

The quote for Catholic Education Week 2025 is:

***"We must fan the flame of hope that has been given to us."***  
(Letter on the Jubilee Year of Hope, February 11, 2022)

***"Nous devons garder allumée la flamme de l'espérance qui nous a été donnée."***  
(Lettre sur le Jubilé de l'espérance; 11 février 2022)

The sub-themes for Catholic Education Week 2025 are:

Monday: **By honouring human dignity / Honorent la dignité humaine**

Tuesday: **By caring for creation / Prennent soin de la création**

Wednesday: **By responding to the poverties in our world / Luttent contre les pauvretés**

Thursday: **By serving in solidarity / Servent en solidarité**

Friday: **By living as peacemakers / Vivent en artisans de paix**

We have started our year with the theme of We are Called to Love as a foundation of our school year. This CEW we will focus on Mental Health, Resiliency, Anti Black Racism and Diversity by creating engaging experiences for our students. We will try to highlight how we will include all peoples. In

addition, we will look into a school wide retreat day where students participate in faith-based activities based on each sub-theme.

Advent and CEW

Family Engagement Evening and BBQ (Catholic Ed Week)

Jade Hip Hop Dance Crew

Matthew Jones – Testament

Brave – Self Esteem

Barbadine Williams – African Drumming

School Games

### **Faith Formation:**

*Forming ourselves in our Catholic faith is a foundational element in helping each of us understand and live in the example of Christ.*

Central to our Catholic Identity is our faith formation. There are many spiritual activities throughout the liturgical year for staff and students to come together to celebrate our faith. There are staff and student liturgies, masses, more formal sacramental preparation in Grades 2 & 7, 3 and 8. They also participate in a retreat to prepare them to receive the sacrament. Grade 8 students participate in a spiritual retreat with opportunities to reflect on their personal faith journey which will continue in a virtual setting this year. Our school community demonstrates its commitment to Catholic education, acceptance, and care for people and the environment through clubs such as our Student Faith Ambassadors (YFA), Equity/Diversity Club and Eco Team. Staff may also participate in board wide celebrations such as adult faith formation and retreats. Staff and students participate in social justice initiatives and contribute to campaigns such as ShareLife and The Terry Fox Foundation.

**Sacramental Preparation: DATES NOT SET – Fr. Andre just arrived**

*As Catholics, we understand sacraments to be "outward signs instituted by Christ to give grace." Together in partnership with our parish, we support the preparation of God's children in receiving the sacraments.*

Event	Grade 2	Grade 7
<i>Sacrament of Reconciliation</i>	<i>November 12, 2024</i>	

### **Liturgical Celebrations:**

*The Liturgical calendar is marked by the gathering in community to celebrate the Eucharist and share in prayer.*

Celebration	Date
First Holy Communion	April 26, 2025
Confirmation	April 27, 2025
*** <i>Additional boxes can be added as needed.</i>	

## Social Justice / Outreach Activities / Charities:

*Catholic Social Teachings of the Church root our actions in supporting human dignity and the preferential option of the poor which calls us to serve the most vulnerable in the world.*

*St. Giovanni Scalabrini participates in many events that support the local community and charities throughout the year. Donations collected for school dances and events are used to support ShareLife. At various times of the year students collect food donations that are delivered to local area food banks to support the local community. The Youth Faith/Wellness Ambassadors for Christ will work together to promote our Catholic values within the school and greater community.*

- Thanksgiving Food Drive
- Advent Boxes/Christmas Boxes
- Family Christmas Support
- Knights Table Food Drive (Thanksgiving/Remembrance)
- Green Eco Team
- Nutritional Support Program
- Christmas Market Fundraiser
- Terry Fox Foundation Walk
- P.A.L.S./Peace Keepers
- Student-led, Anti-bullying initiative SFA COMMITTEE (Gr 7 and 8)
- **ShareLife Collection**

## Recognizing Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations:

*Framed by the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations (OCSGE), our graduates will be effective communicators, reflective thinkers, lifelong learners, collaborative contributors, caring family members, responsible citizens and discerning believers formed in the Catholic faith community.*

*To recognize and celebrate the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations (OCSGE) St. Giovanni Scalabrini has aligned many of the lessons of the Religion and Family Life program to reflect the expectations. Highlighting the expectations in everyday activities and during monthly assemblies have*

*brought awareness to the OCSGE in the lives of the students. The Youth Faith Ambassadors are asked to model the graduate expectations for the school community.*

- Classroom focus on OCSGE and Virtues
- Newsletter/Parent Updates/Staff Weeklys
- OCSGE Graduate Awards – (Grad Year)
- Adult Faith Ambassadors
- Student Faith Ambassadors

### **Celebrating Virtues:**

*A virtue is a habit or established capacity to perform good actions according to a moral standard. When we practice these virtues, we strengthen them and thereby make the presence of God more and more visible in the world around us.*

Announcements and daily prayers highlight the Virtue and remind students what each virtue looks like, feels like, and sounds like in the classroom and in the school yard. We have monthly Virtue assemblies. Each class signs up to do a presentation based on the Virtue of the Month. Morning prayers and announcements also help to highlight the Virtues and students are recognized for demonstrating the Virtues. A student in every classroom is recognized each month for demonstrating in both their words and actions the Virtue of the Month. We are excited to continue our virtue assemblies virtually this year with each classroom being able to participate as a class.

### **Visible Signs of our Faith:**

*Through symbol and service, we are instruments of God's love whose work within our communities stands as a witness to our faith.*

***Philippians 4:9*** What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—  
practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

We have sacred spaces in all classrooms, library and office. These spaces are meant to be living spaces that change throughout the year to reflect the liturgical seasons and themes students are focusing on in the religion and family life curriculum. Some core items in the space include cross, bible, prayers, cloth (white, green or purple to reflect the liturgical season) along with student created items. As you enter the school we have a diverse welcome wall designed by students representing our school. Throughout the year student work is displayed reflecting the liturgical season and themes from the religious education and family life curriculum. We take pride in showcasing diverse iconography and images of faith through the halls of St. Giovanni school.

### **Resource List for Parents/Guardians:**

- General Roman 2024-2025 Liturgical Calendar - [2024-2025 Liturgical Calendar](#)
- Religious Education Curriculum - [Ontario Religious Education Curriculum](#)
- New Family Life Curriculum 2023 - [Ontario Family Life Curriculum 2023](#)
- New Family Life Education Curriculum and Support Resources – [Institute for Catholic Education](#)
- Fully Alive Program information - [Ontario Bishops' information on Fully Alive](#)
- **Encyclical Letters** : ‘[Laudato Si’](#), ‘[Laudato Deum](#)’ and ‘[Christus vivit](#)’
- National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation - [National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation](#)
- Catholic Education Week 2025 – [Catholic Education Week 2025](#)
- Jubilee Year 2025 – [Pilgrims of Hope](#)

### **Resource List for Schools:**

#### **Board**



- **General Roman 2024-2025 Liturgical Calendar** - [2024-2025 Liturgical Calendar](#)
- **Multi-Year Strategic Plan** - [Multi-Year Strategic Plan 2023-2027](#)
- **Renewing the Promise** – [A Pastoral Letter for Catholic Education](#)
- **Encyclical Letters** : ‘[Laudato Si’](#), ‘[Laudato Deum](#)’ and ‘[Christus vivit](#)’
- **National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation** - [National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation](#)
- **Catholic Education Week 2025** – [Catholic Education Week 2025](#)

### **School-Based**

**Signature Page**

**Pastor**

**Faith Ambassador(s) (*as applicable*)**

**Teacher(s)**

**Chair of Catholic School Council**

**Vice Principal(s)**

**Principal**

**Superintendent**