

PASTORAL PLAN

School Name: St. Daniel Comboni

School Mission Statement:

The mission of St. Daniel Comboni Catholic Elementary School is to build a community of faith, modeling excellence and leading through innovation, through love and lifelong learning. As a community we will inspire students to lead and excel academically, socially, emotionally, and spiritually.

School Motto: COMPASSION•FAITH•LOVE•HOPE•JUSTICE•EQUITY•DIGNITY•PEACE

Our Parish: Guardian Angels

Pastor: Rev. Ravi Babu Kakumanu

Parish website: <https://guardianangelsbr.archtoronto.org/en/>

Message from the Pastor:

As we embark on this new academic year, it is my joy to share with you the vision for our school's pastoral plan. Our mission is not only to nurture your academic growth but to inspire your hearts and souls to seek God in all that you do. Our school is not just a place of learning but a community rooted in faith, service and love for one another.

Our school is under the pastoral care of Guardian Angles Parish. We praise God for helping us to build a beautiful church, now is the time to build a strong community rooted in God to lead others to God. My hope is to support you in your spiritual journey. Let us work together to create an environment where faith is alive and flourishing in all aspects of our school life. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, I am confident that we can build a stronger, more vibrant school community centered in Christ's love.

May God bless you all abundantly in this new school year. I look forward to walking this path of faith with each of you.

*In Christ,
Fr. Ravi*

Message from the Catholic School Council:

At St. Daniel Comboni we strive to build a strong sense of Catholic community aimed at benefiting our children. Community building must become the heart of any school improvement effort. Whatever else is involved - improving teaching, relating new forms of governance, empowering teachers and parents, increasing professionalism, it must rest on a foundation of our faith and community building. Parents are important in our community and are an integral part of the Catholic community at St. Daniel Comboni Catholic School.

Catholic Education Week – May 4th – May 9th, 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**

For the week of Catholic Education Week we will plan and have:

- Liturgy at the beginning and end of the week
- We will be inviting parents and the community to watch our production of Disney's Lion King Jr
- Faith Ambassadors will visit classes to engage in Catholic Education week themes
- We will have announcements daily sharing our faith and praying together as a school
- Rosary Apostolates will also be visiting our school this week

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.

Please highlight the school activities that support both adult and student faith formation.

In the 2024- 2025 School Year we continue with these faith activities:

- Youth Faith Ambassadors and Staff faith activities led by Faith Ambassadors
- Staff Liturgies/Reflections during Advent and Lent
- School wide Masses, including Opening Mass, Advent, Lent, and Year End
- Catholic Education Week observances
- School Wide Reconciliation
- School wide Remembrance Day Service
- Rosary Apostolate Monthly
- Youth Faith Ambassadors/Classroom lead virtue activities
- Daily school wide and classroom prayer at the beginning of the day, lunch and dismissal
- Sacred spaces in each class for individual prayer and as a focus for class celebrations
- Daily Religious Education and Family Life Education
- Informal living and teaching of our faith throughout our day in our interactions with others
- Celebrating the Virtues Program/Catholic Graduate Expectations daily
- School staff meets to plan faith events, prayers circles, prayers for ill family members or tragedies
- Classroom teachers lead their students in the preparation of Liturgies and Masses
- Staff focus on faith life of the school at monthly staff meetings
- Staff PD opportunities, Religious Ed in-services
- Brampton West Family of Schools Faith Ambassador Meetings and participation in other family level faith activities

Sacramental Preparation:

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
Sacrament of Reconciliation	December 2024	December 2024
Sacrament of Confirmation	N/A	April 2025
Sacrament of Communion	May 2025	N/A

Liturgical Celebrations:

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

Celebration	Date
Opening/ Thanksgiving Mass	October 15, 2024
Advent Mass	December, 2024
Easter Mass	April, 2024
Stations of the Cross	April 17, 2024
Crowning of Mary	May 22, 2024
Year End/ Graduation Mass	June 10, 2024

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. Daniel Comboni School Community actively supports:

- Charity Fundraisers – Terry Fox Run for Cancer Research
- ShareLife
- Christmas baskets, Gift Card Drive for those in need in our community
- Food Drives (Thanksgiving/Christmas) for those in need in our community and The Knight's Table
- Community Response Committee- support of Community members in their time of need and joy
- Eco Lions / Eco Team provides us an opportunity to further reflect on the importance of caring for the Earth and all of God's creatures

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 celebrate the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations, we as a school community make these expectations visible in our offices, hallways and classrooms. We also always use these expectations as tools to help children grow through progressive discipline practices. We celebrate when students exhibit themselves as Self-Directed Responsible Lifelong

Learners, Discerning Believers, Collaborative Contributors, Effective Communicators, Caring Family Members, Reflective and Creative Holistic Thinkers and Responsible Citizens. Further to this as an integral part of our Catholic School Learning Plan, we have purposely linked our goals directly to our Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations.

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.

A virtue is a habit or established capability to perform good actions according to a moral standard. In other words, a virtue is a habit that shows people and God that we are good people. Each month we will look at developing one of these virtues: •FAITH •RESPECT •EMPATHY •KINDNESS •CONSCIENCE •LOVE •HOPE •ACCEPTANCE •SELF-CONTROL •FAIRNESS As a school, we challenge our Youth Faith Ambassadors to bring these virtues alive in our school. We pray about these virtues; we talk about them in the classroom, and we practice them in the hallways and the schoolyard. We will celebrate the progress we make to be a more virtuous Catholic school – a place of safety, caring and inclusivity for all. We also celebrate and honour our Virtues collectively through a Liturgy and Assembly. We highlight through prayer and videos (made by the students) what virtue means to them and community members.

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.

At St. Daniel Comboni Catholic Elementary School we have many visible signs of our faith in our classrooms, hallways and common school areas. These visible signs include: •Display case that brings our virtues to life / artwork throughout the school •Our altar and cross in our most visible hallway

We have made a concerted effort to ensure we highlight scripture in all we do. This aligns with our Catholic School Improvement Learning Cycle and further aligns with the Catholic Board Improvement Learning Cycle goals. In our main office and in the school hallway we have pictures of Pope Francis Our classrooms all have crosses, prayer tables and visible representations of our faith on classroom walls. The most important visible sign of our faith you will see when you come to St. Daniel Comboni, is that teachers, parents and students working together sharing the light of Christ in all their interactions and exemplifying what it means to let the light of Christ shine through our actions.

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](#)

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

Guardian Angels Parish Website

www.guardianangelsparishchurch.org

Signature Page

Pastor: Rev. Ravi Babu Kakumanu

Faith Ambassador(s) (*as applicable*): K. Steflik, T. Stewart

Teacher(s) S. Mezzatesta

Chair of Catholic School Council: D. Samaroo and Marchao

Vice Principal(s): J. Dimaapi

Principal: M. Thompson

Superintendent: V. Varano