

# PASTORAL PLAN

**School Name:** ST. Bonaventure

**School Mission Statement:**

We are a Catholic School whose mission is based on the Good News of Jesus Christ. We believe that by providing children with a forum to develop their faith and Christian knowledge they will grow as learners and build Christian communities. Students are the focus of our school. We challenge them to excellence in everything they do spiritually, academically, socially, emotionally and physically. We welcome and value the involvement of family, church and community so every student and family will become a valued and contributing member of society. We believe we must foster an atmosphere of mutual respect to help children grow in self-esteem and self-confidence. We believe that a supportive, nurturing Catholic environment will help each child to grow into a positive role model for other members of the community. Together we grow in respect for

**School Motto:** The voice of the heart must be heard in all we do.

**Our Parish:** Guardian Angels

**Pastor:** Rev. Ravi Babu Kakumanu

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

**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.

### **Message from the Catholic School Council:**

The St. Bonaventure Catholic School Council is an integral part of our school community. Through the active participation and collaboration of parents/guardians, we strive to ensure that all students reach their full potential in a faith filled environment.

### **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**

For Catholic Education Week, St. Bonaventure will provide daily prayers, activities, and events, to support the daily themes during Catholic Education. The school will highlight the gifts of our students and staff.

## 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.*

St. Bonaventure School will continue to form a partnership with Guardian Angels Parish. Father Ravi will be celebrating masses with our students this year. Our administration and teachers will meet with parish clergy to plan, review, and discuss liturgical events.

In partnership with the Rosary Apostolate, students will learn and deepen their understanding of how to pray the rosary. Students have been provided with their own rosary this year.

### Student Specific Faith Formation:

- School masses: Opening/Thanksgiving Mass; Lenten Mass, Year-End Mass.
- Student led prayers and reflections over the announcements.
- Youth Faith Ambassadors and social justice activities (Food collections, fundraisers, ECO TEAM).
- Collaboration with community partners (Peel Health) to promote safe school activities such as PALS
- Promoting inclusivity & virtues acknowledgments.

### Specific Adult Faith Formation:

- School masses: Opening/Thanksgiving Mass, Lenten Mass, Year-end Mass
- Virtue recognition.
- Opening Liturgies for Staff meetings.
- Adult Faith Ambassadors
- Board opportunities for faith development will be offered to staff.

## 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	Saturday, APRIL 5, 2025   Time: TBA	
Sacrament of First Communion	MAY 3 or 10 or 17, 2025   Time: 10:30 A.M. - <i>Specific date for your child will be communicated to you via email by the Ministry Coordinator</i>	

Sacrament of Confirmation		A weekday between April 22 to April 25 - <i>Specific date for your child will be communicated to you via email by the Ministry Coordinator</i>
---------------------------	--	--

### 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	Oct 30, 2024, at 8:30 am
Lent Mass	An evening celebration during lent (community mass) – Date to be provided by the parish
Closing Mass	June 18, 2025, at 8:30 am

### 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.*

To celebrate OCSGE, we as a school community show our empathy and respond in practical ways to the needs of the larger community outreach programs. These include:

- Gospel messages are incorporated into daily prayers over the announcements and in class and through curriculum.
- Being welcoming and inclusive of all.
- Students and staff are encouraged to follow Jesus example in daily activities.
- The Virtues program.
- Community outreach programs which include food drives, ShareLife, Terry Fox Walk and more.
- Community invitations to masses.

## 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.*

As a school we work to include the OCSGE in the lessons being taught in the classrooms. Each month in the school newsletters we highlight a section of the OCSGE. The OCSGE are highlighted in the main entrance of the school and we highlight the expectations with our Virtues program. Additional ways OCSGE are highlighted throughout the school include:

- Embedding OCSGE into all the learning that takes place.
- Posting visible signs of the OCSGE around the school and classrooms.
- Celebrating mass/virtues as a school community.
- Promoting forgiveness, honesty, and respect when conflicts arise.
- Listening to the word of God through morning scripture and prayers.
- Focusing on respecting the thoughts and opinions of others.
- Celebrating our gifts given to us by God.
- Caring about our school, parish, community, and the world around us.
- The School Eco-Team focuses on being Stewards of the Earth.

## 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.*

As a Catholic community, we embed the Virtues program in all that we do spiritually, academically, socially and physically. We recognize the monthly virtue through our daily prayers organized by staff and students. Each month, the virtue is highlighted, and students are recognized in class by teachers for exemplifying the 'Virtue of the Month'.

## 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.*

Visual signs serve as impressions and reminders of our Catholic faith, beliefs and traditions to all who visit our school. These signs include:

- our cross of our patron saint, crucifixes, bibles, stations of the cross, artwork and displays, banners, liturgical season, symbols, sacramental themes and banners,
- display cabinets reflecting religious themes according to the season or virtue, devotions to Mary,
- wooden altar and cross in the front foyer which is clearly visible and reflects the liturgical seasons of the year,
- Partnership with Rosary Apostolates,
- Faith events and activities are highlighted in classroom calendars and school newsletters,
- evidence of prayer areas in each classroom,
- making the sign of our faith and saying prayers to begin the day, before meals and before we leave school,
- daily announcements include gospel and bible readings,
- saint feast days are included in our daily prayer,
- being welcoming and inclusive to all,
- showing active participation in the masses and liturgies,
- helping our wider community through donations and acts of kindness, setting a good example for others in how we practice our Catholic faith

## 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**

- Children’s Bible and Daily Readings
- Novalis Advent and Lent resources
- Teacher Faith Based personal resources
- Weekly staff reflections during Lent and Advent

Signature Page

Pastor

REV. RAVIBABU KAKUMANU

Faith Ambassador(s) (as applicable)

Teacher(s)

Hayward

Chair of Catholic School Council

Rioscia

Vice Principal(s) N/A

Principal

E. Stevens

Superintendent