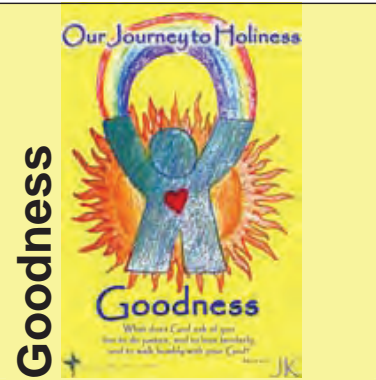

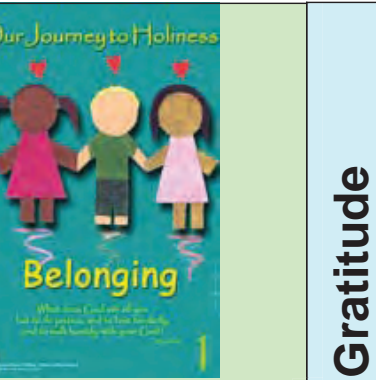
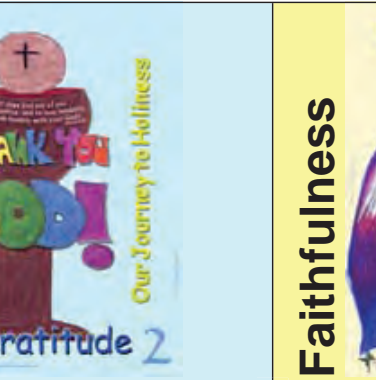





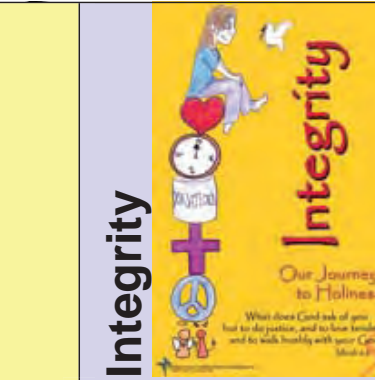

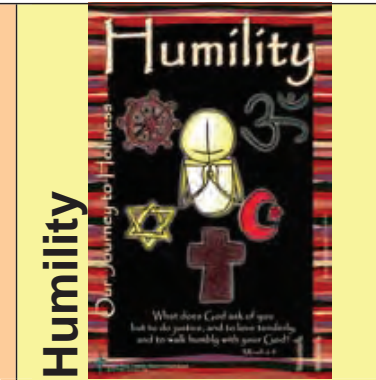
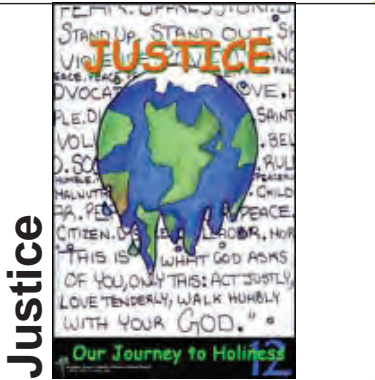



What does God ask of you but to do justice, and to love tenderly, and to walk humbly with your God?

Micah 6:8

Catholic Virtue	 Goodness JK	 Kindness SK	 Belonging Gr. 1	 Gratitude Gr. 2	 Faithfulness Gr. 3	 Compassion Gr. 4	 Respect Gr. 5	 Knowledge Gr. 6	 Wisdom Gr. 7	 Courage Gr. 8	 Integrity Gr. 9	 Discipleship Gr. 10	 Humility Gr. 11	 Justice Gr. 12	Catholic Virtue
Theme	Created in God's Own Image	A Trace of God	We Welcome One Another As Members of God's Family	We Gather To Celebrate and Treasure Jesus in the Eucharist	We Are Called to Know Jesus Through the Power of the Holy Spirit	We Are Called to Be Disciples of Christ	Uniting Us with God and One Another	Witnessing Jesus' Life, Death and Resurrection	Accepting Our Personal Responsibility as Members of God's family	Through the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, God calls us to live out our Faith	Blessed Are You	Recognizing God in Others	Finding Christ in a Global Community	Living in God's Image	Theme
Statement Of Belief	We believe that God made us special, unique and valued	We believe that God calls us to respect and be kind to all of God's creation	We believe all people belong to God's family	We believe Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist	We believe the Holy Spirit is the Living Presence of God.	We believe that Catholic tradition calls us to be compassionate disciples of Christ	We believe that Catholic tradition teaches us to respect differences among God's people	We believe we are called to reflect the Light of the World, Jesus Christ	We believe that understanding the Creed provides wisdom and affirmation of our personal faith responsibility	We believe that the gift of courage empowers us to stand by God	We believe that the Catholic tradition teaches us to be true to God, self and others	We believe that we are called to be Christ for others	We believe that the message of Jesus prevails within secular and interfaith communities	We believe that our role in the world is to embrace Catholic Social Teaching as we live out "our lifelong journey toward holiness"	Statement Of Belief
Catholic Graduate Expectations	A Caring Family Member A Discerning Believer Formed in the Catholic Faith Community An Effective Communicator	A Caring Family Member A Discerning Believer Formed in the Catholic Faith Community An Effective Communicator	A Responsible Citizen A Self-Directed, Responsible, Lifelong Learner A Collaborative Contributor	A Caring Family Member A Responsible Citizen A Discerning Believer Formed in the Catholic Faith	An Effective Communicator A Reflective, Creative and Holistic Thinker A Self-Directed, Responsible, Lifelong Learner	A Collaborative Contributor A Responsible Citizen A Discerning Believer Formed in the Catholic Faith Community	A Caring Family Member A Self-Directed, Responsible, Lifelong Learner A Reflective, Creative and Holistic Thinker	An Effective Communicator A Self-Directed, Responsible, Lifelong Learner A Reflective, Creative and Holistic Thinker	A Collaborative Contributor A Reflective, Creative and Holistic Thinker An Effective Communicator	A Responsible Citizen A Discerning Believer Formed in the Catholic Faith Community A Reflective, Creative and Holistic Thinker	A Reflective, Creative and Holistic Thinker An Effective Communicator A Collaborative Contributor	A Reflective, Creative and Holistic Thinker A Caring Family Member A Self-Directed, Responsible, Lifelong Learner	A Collaborative Contributor A Responsible Citizen A Caring Family Member	A Discerning Believer Formed in the Catholic Faith Community A Self-Directed, Responsible, Lifelong Learner A Responsible Citizen	Catholic Graduate Expectations
Learning Together Through Faith ~ Examples	Make a "God Made Me Special" class book Dramatize Bible stories Set up a "Good Deeds for Jesus" jar	Create a class prayer of thanks Create a "Random Acts of Kindness" popcorn jar Build Noah's Ark using 2D and 3D shapes	Estimate and count "Jewels for Jesus" using 5 & 10 frames Put on a "Miracles of Jesus" puppet show Plant seeds to show "We all belong to God's garden"	Create a class Eucharist quilt Make bread Collect nutritious food for the hungry Sort canned food	Develop a history bulletin board of saints and their lives Care for an egg until it hatches Write stories of belonging experiences	Create compassion tableaux Write environmental persuasive letters Put together a current events bulletin board of compassionate articles	Survey, tally and graph cultural uniqueness Replace negative media messages with positive messages Role play respectful behaviour	Investigate the role of the Church in New France Create 3D Lanterns Gear questions to higher order thinking	Create "Stand Up/ Social Justice" public service announcements Expose students to modern Christian music Create a newsletter recounting the Exodus story Discuss Church art and elements of design	Develop a "Leadership Lounge" for students Provide intramural leadership opportunities Write persuasive letters to Moses Graph economic inequality Create play/tableau with a religious theme	Develop Drama stations with a religious theme Create opportunities for subject specific social awareness discussions Design a healthy mind and body self image bulletin board Incorporate prayer into every lesson Model the importance of reconciliation	Create an awareness of social injustices – Genocide Promote positive models of forgiveness (Mandela) Infuse specific subject skills into the Liturgy (music, drama, technology, art, etc.)	Use culinary skills to raise funds for charitable purposes Social justice mock trials Create opportunities for appreciation of multi-cultural media Promote leadership and peer mentoring in all subject areas	Honour the spirituality that inspires the theorists of each subject discipline Help to recognize and to nourish the "Catholic Social Teachings" in all subject areas	Learning Together Through Faith ~ Examples
Learning Together Through Service ~ Examples (School & Community)	Visit a nursing home Make a "Grandparents' Day" craft Design "Get Well" cards for children in hospital	Sing songs at a nursing home With reading buddies, make "Stone Soup" for the missions Have a "License for a Loonie" day	Create class gift baskets for needy families Gather hygiene baggies for the homeless Conduct a "Penny Drive" for Cancer	Lead a toothbrush & toothpaste collection campaign Invite a speaker from St. Vincent de Paul Bring crafts to the local nursing home	Write letters to shut-ins Invite RCIA candidates to a belonging gathering Clean the environment at a local park	Establish a recycling "Green Team" Have the choir visit the nursing home Be "Reading Buddies" with a younger class	Prepare ethnic class lunches Prepare Christmas bags for orphanages Clean up school area	Invite parents to lunch Create "Smile It Forward" buttons Demonstrate good stewardship by keeping a neat classroom	Deliver Valentines to the veterans Become "Peer Mediators" to primary grades Increase awareness of exceptionalities by learning to sign "O Canada"	Become a "First Contact" office helper Encourage "Peer Assist" tutoring Volunteer to shovel elderly neighbours' driveways	Participate in a "B'Rad" bullying presentation Develop a class missions project Lead a can drive	Collect coats for the needy Participate in a cancer walk Develop a global mission project	Get involved in an anti – bullying campaign: Promote "Rachel's Challenge" Adopt a family at Christmas to give a food basket Sign up for Terry Fox Run	Conduct a penny drive for Easter Seals Lead a grade schools' sports tournaments Work with the "Homeless Coalition"	Learning Together Through Service ~ Examples (School & Community)

Goodness Kindness Belonging

Our Journey To Holiness

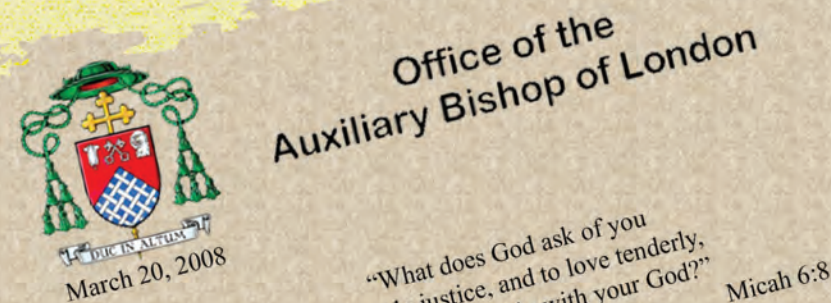
The Character Development Initiative was launched in October 2006 at a provincial symposium attended by educators, students, parents, trustees and community members. It is the Ministry of Education's expectation that all publicly funded school boards in Ontario will implement the Character Development Initiative during the 2007 – 2008 school year. The Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board set up a focus group consisting of Senior Administration, School Administration and Teachers to take a lead on this project. As a publicly funded Catholic school system this initiative provided for us an opportunity to celebrate our uniqueness as Catholics, while at the same time to revisit and rename what we already have in practice – Catholic Character Development.

In the Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board, our faith is the haven for all other curriculum. Through the development of our theological theme "Our Journey To Holiness," faith is infused into every aspect of our school life. Our teachers provide classrooms that reflect a gospel atmosphere of respect and a life-long commitment of service to humanity.

Our Journey To Holiness highlights an overall Catholic Theme, a Virtue, and a Statement of Belief that find their source from the individual Religion programs from Junior Kindergarten to Grade Twelve. In keeping with our Board's motto, the *Learning Through Faith* and the *Learning Through Service* components provide examples of how we actively live out our call to holiness at school and in the community at large.

All elementary and secondary teachers are encouraged to use the suggestions provided to guide their program planning and delivery. Applying the Catholic themes will provide strong connections between the pursuit of academic excellence and religious education. Catholic education is a gift and as Catholic teachers, we believe strongly that each student deserves the formation of mind, body and soul. Therefore, daily plans should visibly reflect the grade appropriate theme along with the Catholic Graduate Expectations.

As Catholic Educators, we respond to the call to lead our students to live lives that reflect the gospel teachings. Our curriculum is a means of evangelization when viewed through the lens of faith. Through *Our Journey To Holiness*, we will strive, as a partnership of school, family and parish, to provide our students with a quality Catholic education rooted in gospel teachings and drawn from the social teachings of the Catholic Church, enabling all to grow to their potential.



"What does God ask of you but to do justice, and to love tenderly, and to walk humbly with your God?" Micah 6:8

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

During his Pontificate, Pope John Paul II declared more people to be saints than all other popes combined. This was deliberate. Our late Holy Father wanted to remind us in a most powerful way that holiness is possible for everyone and, if we think otherwise, we underestimate ourselves and God's grace.

I am pleased to promote the Catholic Character Development Initiative of the Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board. This initiative, based on solid principles such as a strong home-parish-school relationship; the important role of parents and teachers as witnessing disciples; and the importance of a Catholic education, leads our students through a series of reflections and exercises designed to assist in developing a strong Christian foundation on which to build their lives. This initiative is, in fact, a pathway to holiness.

I assure you of my prayers for the success of this initiative and invite you to join in prayer for this worthy undertaking. I remain,

+ *Anthony Daniels*
Most Reverend R. Anthony Daniels
Auxiliary Bishop of London



A Message from the Director of Education...
These are special times for Catholic education in Ontario. With the inception of the Catholic Character Development initiative, we are blessed to be able to provide our students with our rich Catholic tradition in a new form. Our Catholic curriculum has always reflected a shared conviction that there are no neutral courses in our Catholic school programs because our faith story has meaning and implications for all of life, for all subjects and disciplines. Our Catholic faith forms the solid foundation on which we build all other educational programs, curriculum and policies.

Within this new initiative, each grade level is highlighted with its specific faith focus in the form of a Catholic theme, a virtue, and a belief statement, interwoven into the Ontario Catholic Graduation Expectations.

The Catholic Character Development initiative has afforded us a fresh opportunity to highlight our dedication to produce responsible, discerning believers formed in the Catholic faith community.

As Catholic educators let us embrace this new faith initiative and continue to lead our students to live lives that reflect our gospel teachings on *Our Journey to Holiness*.

Joseph Berthiaume
Joseph Berthiaume
Director of Education

"What does God ask of you but to do justice, and to love tenderly, and to walk humbly with your God?" Micah 6:8

CATHOLIC GRADUATE EXPECTATIONS

A Discerning Believer Formed in the Catholic Faith Community

- illustrates a basic understanding of the saving story of our Christian faith;
- participates in the sacramental life of the church and demonstrates an understanding of the centrality of the Eucharist to our Catholic story;
- actively reflects on God's Word as communicated through the Hebrew and Christian scriptures;
- develops attitudes and values founded on Catholic social teaching and acts to promote social responsibility, human solidarity and the common good;
- speaks the language of life... "recognizing that life is an unearned gift and that a person entrusted with life does not own it but that one is called to protect and cherish it." (Witnesses to Faith)
- seeks intimacy with God and celebrates communion with God, others and creation through prayer and worship;
- understands that one's purpose or call in life comes from God and strives to discern and live out this call throughout life's journey;
- respects the faith traditions, world religions and the life-journeys of all people of good will;
- integrates faith with life;
- 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. (Witnesses to Faith)

An Effective Communicator

- listens actively and critically to understand and learn in light of gospel values;
- reads, understands and uses written materials effectively;
- presents information and ideas clearly and honestly and with sensitivity to others;
- writes and speaks fluently one or both of Canada's official languages;
- uses and integrates the Catholic faith tradition, in the critical analysis of the arts, media, technology and information systems to enhance the quality of life.

A Collaborative Contributor

- works effectively as an interdependent team member;
- thinks critically about the meaning and purpose of work;
- develops one's God-given potential and makes a meaningful contribution to society;
- finds meaning, dignity, fulfillment and vocation in work which contributes to the common good;
- respects the rights, responsibilities and contributions of self and others;
- exercises Christian leadership in the achievement of individual and group goals;
- achieves excellence, originality, and integrity in one's own work and supports these qualities in the work of others;
- applies skills for employability, self-employment and entrepreneurship relative to Christian vocation.

A Reflective and Creative Thinker

- recognizes there is more grace in our world than sin and that hope is essential in facing all challenges;
- creates, adapts, evaluates new ideas in light of the common good;
- thinks reflectively and creatively to evaluate situations and solve problems;
- makes decisions in light of gospel values with an informed moral conscience;
- adopts a holistic approach to life by integrating learning from various subject areas and experience;
- examines, evaluates and applies knowledge of interdependent systems (physical, political, ethical, socio-economic and ecological) for the development of a just and compassionate society.

A Caring Family Member

- relates to family members in a loving, compassionate and respectful manner;
- recognizes human intimacy and sexuality as God given gifts, to be used as the creator intended;
- values and honours the important role of the family in society;
- values and nurtures opportunities for family prayer;
- ministers to the family, school, parish, and wider community.

A Self-Directed, Responsible, Lifelong Learner

- demonstrates a confident and positive sense of self and respect for the dignity and welfare of others;
- demonstrates flexibility and adaptability;
- takes initiative and demonstrates Christian leadership;
- responds to, manages and constructively influences change in a discerning manner;
- sets appropriate goals and priorities in school, work and personal life;
- applies effective communication, decision-making, problem-solving, time and resource management skills;
- examines and reflects on one's personal values, abilities and aspirations influencing life's choices and opportunities;
- participates in leisure and fitness activities for a balanced and healthy lifestyle.

A Responsible Citizen

- accepts accountability for one's own actions;
- seeks and grants forgiveness;
- promotes the sacredness of life;
- witnesses Catholic social teaching by promoting equality, democracy, and solidarity for a just, peaceful and compassionate society
- respects and affirms the diversity and interdependence of the world's peoples and cultures
- respects and understands the history, cultural heritage and pluralism of today's contemporary society;
- exercises the rights and responsibilities of Canadian citizenship;
- respects the environment and uses resources wisely;
- contributes to the common good.

