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Trustees' Association

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**TO:** Chairpersons and Directors of Education  
- All Catholic District School Boards

**FROM:** Brian O'Sullivan, Director of Catholic Education

**SUBJECT: Catholic Education Week Kit for the First Week of School**

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The 2019 Catholic Education Week Committee is pleased to make available to our Catholic schools, a **First Week of School Kit** which contains prayers for each day of the opening week of school and possible readings and songs for the celebration of the Eucharist.

Our theme for Catholic Education Week 2019 is:

**Catholic Education: *Living as Joyful Disciples***  
**L'éducation catholique: *Vivre en disciples joyeux***

Pope Francis continually reminds us in word and in action, that in imitation of Jesus, we are called to service in our work in Catholic education.

May I request your assistance in making a copy of the **First Week of School Kit** available to all schools in your board.

Thank you for your ongoing, generous cooperation and support for publicly-funded Catholic education.



PROMOTING AND PROTECTING CATHOLIC EDUCATION

# FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL

## RESOURCE PACKAGE

SEPTEMBER 2018



MAY 5 – MAY 10, 2019

**CATHOLIC EDUCATION:**

*Living as Joyful Disciples*

**L'ÉDUCATION CATHOLIQUE:**

*Vivre en disciples joyeux*

## **INTRODUCTION SEPTEMBER 2018**

The new school year offers us an opportunity to reflect upon our personal, professional and spiritual growth and to set some new goals.

The theme chosen for the upcoming 2019 Catholic Education Week is:

**Catholic Education: *Living as Joyful Disciples***  
**L'éducation catholique: *Vivre en disciples joyeux***

Catholic Education Week is held each year in May in our 29 Ontario Catholic school boards. It will run from May 5 – May 10, 2019.

The theme for CEW 2019, *Living as Joyful Disciples*, was inspired by three sources:

- *Renewing the Promise*, The Pastoral Letter on Catholic Education from the Bishops of Ontario
- *Gaudete et exultate*, The Apostolic Exhortation of Pope Francis on the Call to Holiness<sup>1</sup>
- *Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment*, The Synod of Bishops in October 2018<sup>2</sup>

Mindful of the upcoming Synod on Youth, the theme and sub-themes are very much directed to the young people in our schools, especially in their growth in holiness and their formation as disciples of Christ through the discernment of their vocational pathways.

In the section of *Renewing the Promise* entitled, “A Community that Forms Joyful Disciples,” we read: “*Our Catholic schools help to form joyful disciples as hearts and minds are opened to the transforming love of God and to the flame of faith in action. On a daily basis, Catholic schools demonstrate the joy of believing and witness the Good News to the communities that they serve.*”

I would very much like to thank the consultants from nine of our English and French Catholic boards who worked with me to craft the 2019 CEW theme and sub-themes. These writers will also be producing resources for our Catholic school boards for Advent and for Catholic Education Week in May 2019.

The sub-themes for Catholic Education Week 2019 are as follows:

- Monday:       **Rooted in Prayer / Enracinés dans la prière**
- Tuesday:       **Living in Community / Vivre au cœur de la communauté**
- Wednesday:   **Doing Justice and Creating Hope / Semer la justice et inspirer l'espérance**
- Thursday:      **Journeying Together in Faith / Cheminer ensemble dans la foi**
- Friday:         **Sharing the Good News / Partager la bonne nouvelle**

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<sup>1</sup> [http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost\\_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco\\_esortazione-ap\\_20180319\\_gaudete-et-exultate.html](http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco_esortazione-ap_20180319_gaudete-et-exultate.html)

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.synod2018.va/content/synod2018/en.html>; <http://www.ocytoronto.org/synod/>



## **Overall Theme Prayer for Catholic Education Week 2019**

### **Catholic Education Week Prayer**

Loving God,

We thank you for our Catholic school community where we can journey in faith together. Help us to accompany each other in our learning as we grow, living as joyful disciples of Jesus and bringing good news to the world.

May your love speak to our hearts, helping us to bring hope to others and a commitment to justice in all we do.

We make this prayer through Jesus, our Lord and teacher.

Amen.

### **Prière pour la semaine de l'éducation catholique**

Seigneur,

nous te rendons grâce pour notre communauté scolaire catholique qui nous permet de cheminer ensemble dans la foi. Aide-nous à nous accompagner les uns les autres dans nos apprentissages alors que nous voulons vivre en disciples joyeux de Jésus et porter la Bonne Nouvelle au monde.

Que ton amour nous parle au coeur et nous aide à être porteurs d'espérance à travers notre engagement continu pour la justice.

Nous te le demandons, par Jésus Christ, notre Seigneur et notre maître.

Amen.



## **PRAYERS FOR THE FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL, ELEMENTARY–SEPTEMBER 2018**

### **Tuesday, September 4**

#### **Rooted in Prayer – Enracinés dans la prière**

Loving God,

We come together rooted in prayer, in praise, in thanksgiving, for all the wonderful blessings you have bestowed upon us. We give thanks for the wonderful summer months and we look forward to beginning this new school journey with you as our friend and guide.

Lord, be with us as we learn, pray and worship, now and throughout the school year.

We make this prayer in the name of Jesus, our friend and teacher.

Amen.

### **Wednesday, September 5**

#### **Living in Community – Vivre au coeur de la communauté**

Gracious God,

You created us to be with one another. You use the love of our family, our friends, our school and our parish communities to show us how much you care for us. And it is only through loving them, that we grow. Thank you for the gift of living together in community and help us on our journey of becoming followers of Jesus, so that we might learn to be more loving as we get older. We know that you too, live in the community of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

### **Thursday, September 6**

#### **Doing Justice and Creating Hope – Semer la justice et inspirer l'espérance**

Loving God,

We see Jesus in the faces of others and you help us to live in loving community. Strengthen us to be people of service, bringing God's love to everyone we meet. With your love, we can bring mercy and kindness to others and truly live our faith. Give us hearts of hope and justice so that all may live with joy.

Amen.

### **Friday, September 7**

#### **Journeying Together in Faith – Cheminer ensemble dans la foi**

God of all beginnings and endings,

We give thanks to you today for the school year ahead, with all its promise and possibilities.

Walk with us as we journey together this year. Remind us of the many ways in which we can support each other along the way. Help us to choose words and actions that are kind and welcoming. Inspire us to see with your loving eyes and to listen with your open ears. Fill our hearts with the joy of your presence and guide us to share our joy with one another. Deepen our faith to sustain us throughout the journey.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

## **PRAYERS FOR THE FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL, SECONDARY–SEPTEMBER 2018**

### **Tuesday, September 4**

#### **Rooted in Prayer – Enracinés dans la prière**

Loving God,

We gather together as a faith community rooted in prayer. We offer praise and thanksgiving for the many blessings you have bestowed upon us. As we begin this new school year, we know that with faith and prayer, anything is possible. We look to you Lord, for strength, courage, patience and hope as we grow, learn, love and serve you and others. May we grow in mind, body and soul as we pray each day in the glory of your name.

We make this prayer in the name of Jesus, our friend and companion, along the journey.  
Amen.

### **Wednesday, September 5**

#### **Living in Community – Vivre au coeur de la communauté**

Gracious God,

In the very act of creating us, you made us to be with and for one another. It is through the love of our families, friends, classmates, peers, teammates, school and parish communities, that you reveal your love for us. We thank you for the gift of living together in community. Let it be for us, the ground through which we become joyful followers of your Son, who lives with you and the Holy Spirit in the divine community of the trinity.

Amen.

### **Thursday, September 6**

#### **Doing Justice and Creating Hope – Semer la justice et inspirer l'espérance**

God of all people,

We are disheartened by so much injustice in this world. Give us hearts for mercy and justice. Strengthen us with a spirit wisdom, so that we may bring our faith alive through action. With Jesus as our model, may we be prophets of hope in our community and world.

We make this prayer through Jesus, our Lord.

Amen.

### **Friday, September 7**

#### **Journeying Together in Faith – Cheminer ensemble dans la foi**

God of all beginnings and endings,

Today we give thanks for the promise and possibilities that await us this school year. Be with us as we journey together as a community of faith. Help us to entrust ourselves fully to you. Invite us to a deeper understanding of your love. Give us the wisdom to discern the plans you have for us and the courage to see them through. Remind us of the strength we can provide to one another in challenging times along the way. Inspire us to be sources of light to all those we encounter.

And fill us with the joy that comes from knowing that with you, all things are possible.

We make this prayer in the name of Christ our Lord.

Amen.

## LITURGY PLANNING GUIDE FOR *LIVING AS JOYFUL DISCIPLES* FOR THE FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL

### Suggested Readings

*Readings for the Liturgy of the Day as taken from the Ordo 2017-2018*

	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Thematic Readings
<b>First Reading</b>	1 Cor 2:10B-16	1 Cor 3:1-9	1 Cor 3:18-23	1 Cor 4:1-5	Hosea 12:6
<b>Psalm</b>	Ps 119: 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102	Ps 33: 12-13, 14-15, 20-21	Ps 24: 1BC-2, 3-4AB, 5-6	Ps 37: 3-4, 5-6, 27-28, 39-40	Ps 81 Ps 66 Ps 89 (CBW III)
<b>Gospel</b>	Luke 4:31-37	Luke 4:38-44	Luke 5:1-11	Luke 5:33-39	Luke 24:35 Mark 12:24

### Suggested Music

All Are Welcome ~ Marty Haugen

Blest Are They ~ David Haas

Seek Ye First ~ Karen Lafferty

Shine, Jesus Shine ~ Graham Kendrick

Sing A New Song ~ Dan Schutte

Bread for the World ~ Bernadette Farrell

You Are Mine ~ David Haas

The Servant Song ~ Richard Gillard

Here I Am, Lord ~ Dan Schutte

I've Got That Joy Down In My Heart ~ George William Cooke

He Has Anointed Me ~ Mike Balhoff, Gary Daile & Darryl Ducotte

Love One Another ~ Bob Dufford, SJ

God Has Chosen Me ~ Bernadette Farrell

Lift Up Your Hearts ~ Roc O'Connor, SJ

The Eyes & Hands of Christ~Tom Kendzia

Kindness ~ Brian McLaren

Sing of the Lord's Goodness~Ernest Sands

The Joy of Jesus ~ Rich Mullins

Blessed be the Lord ~ Dan Schutte

### Prayer of the Faithful

Our response to each prayer is: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

As we begin this new school year of learning, be in our hearts and bring us joy, we pray. **R.**

As we begin this new year, help us to live as joyful disciples in our school community, we pray. **R.**

As we begin this new year, help us welcome those new to our school, we pray. **R.**

As we begin this new year, help us to be merciful and forgiving with our family, teachers and classmates, we pray. **R.**

As we begin this new year, help us to embrace new learning and use our gifts and talents as best we can, we pray. **R.**

As we begin this new year, may we look to Jesus to show us how to live with compassion for others, we pray. **R.**

# PLANNING SHEET FOR EUCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Occasion/Feast: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Presider: \_\_\_\_\_

Altar Server(s): \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

Minister(s) of Hospitality: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

Greeting by: \_\_\_\_\_

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

- a) Gathering Song \_\_\_\_\_ Sung \_\_
- b) Greeting and Opening Prayer (Celebrant)
- c) Penitential Rite (Celebrant)
- d) Gloria \_\_\_\_\_ Omitted \_\_ Spoken \_\_ Sung \_\_

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

- a) First Reading \_\_\_\_\_ by: \_\_\_\_\_
- b) Responsorial Psalm \_\_\_\_\_ Sung \_\_
- c) Second Reading (*Optional*) \_\_\_\_\_ by: \_\_\_\_\_
- d) Gospel Acclamation \_\_\_\_\_ Sung \_\_
- e) Gospel \_\_\_\_\_
- f) Homily \_\_\_\_\_
- g) Creed (*may be omitted*) \_\_\_\_\_
- h) Prayer of the Faithful by: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Response:* \_\_\_\_\_

## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

- a) Presentation of the Gifts  
Song \_\_\_\_\_ Sung \_\_  
Gifts Presented by: \_\_\_\_\_
- b) Preface (Celebrant)
- c) Holy Holy \_\_\_\_\_ Sung \_\_
- d) Memorial Acclamation \_\_\_\_\_ Sung \_\_
- e) Doxology \_\_\_\_\_ Sung \_\_
- f) Great Amen \_\_\_\_\_ Sung \_\_
- g) Lord's Prayer \_\_\_\_\_ Sung \_\_
- h) Sign of Peace/Lamb of God \_\_\_\_\_ Sung \_\_
- i) Communion (Eucharistic Minister) \_\_\_\_\_  
Extraordinary Minister(s) of the Eucharist \_\_\_\_\_

## CONCLUSION

- a) Blessing and Dismissal \_\_\_\_\_
- b) Concluding Song \_\_\_\_\_ Sung \_\_