

ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF PARENTS IN CATHOLIC EDUCATION

PARENTS4PARENTS PRESS

NOVEMBER 2022



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Every November we welcome our returning and newly appointed OAPCE Liaison representatives at our commissioning ceremonies across the province.

The commissioning marks the beginning of your journey as an OAPCE representative. During this ceremony, we read our OAPCE commissioning prayer which marks their appointment as an OAPCE Representative.

On the following page we are proud to share our OAPCE Commissioning Prayer. We look forward to sharing this prayer at the CVO Webinar on November 26, 2022 for all OAPCE representatives in attendance.

We are also very excited to offer you the first of our "Parents4Parents 1Pager" every issue we create will highlight different strategies and resources for parents, this month we focus on re-engaging parents and little tidbits that can help you in your community. Parent Engagement has been at an all time low and getting parents involved in your school is the key to all our children's success! We hope you enjoy our Parents4Parents 1Pager! If you have any ideas you would like to share with us please email us and we will include in our next 1Pager!

OAPCE Commissioning Prayer:

The Catholic school is not simply an institution in which children are educated. It is primarily a “community of believers,” bound together by faith in the Holy Trinity, in the power of the Holy Spirit, and devoted to the teaching of students for the life of the world. Parents are a vital ingredient of this “community of believers.” Catholic teaching has always upheld that parents are their children’s primary teachers of the faith. Parental involvement in schools is essential for children to thrive and mature as disciples of Jesus.

In our schools, parents have a unique opportunity to participate more fully and completely in the education of their children by becoming actively involved in Catholic School Parent Councils. Through School Councils, parents have a huge and positive impact on the lives of all children enrolled in Catholic schools and on Catholic school systems, and consequently on the fabric of society. The active collaboration of parents with boards and parishes will transform schools into communities of faith formation that inspire students to search for truth and live virtuously, and thus facilitate students’ social development, spiritual maturity as well as succeed as students in Catholic Education.

As OAPCE Liaison representatives for your schools may your journey lead to the joy that comes from getting to know other parents in your community, in your board, and across the province. Take a moment to realize the special bond that we have with other parents as OAPCE representatives from across the province, we are like no other as we all work together toward our shared goal, to help ensure that we all provide excellence in student achievement in a Christ centered environment and protect the gift that is given to us in Catholic Education.

Compassionate God, in virtue of our baptism we have responded to your invitation by embracing fully our vocation.

Enable us to understand more clearly the challenge and joy of discipleship.

Let us be a constant reminder to one another and to our children of the Spirit of truth present among us.

Bless us with the courage, wisdom, love and strength to live in the light of the Gospel in the faith community.

Empower us to become a clear and truthful voice for Catholic parents, advocating for Catholic Education for the sake of all children and for the life of the world. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our brother and our Lord.

Amen

Parent Webinar



Welcome to
 **CVO**
CATHOLIC VIRTUAL ONTARIO —
GROWING TOGETHER IN FAITH

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER:](#)

Catholic Virtual Ontario will be featured in our upcoming webinar. This session will reveal the various components of CVO and online learning including the latest Catholic online courses, the new CVO website, student voice videos and various Catholic online resources. This webinar will be presented by staff from OCSTA and various teachers across Ontario. We look forward to seeing you at the webinar and together we will journey through all the latest developments and next steps in Ontario Catholic online learning.

**Saturday
November
26th
9:30am**





The Ontario Association of
Parents in Catholic Education

Parents **4** Parents

1Pager

RECLAIMING AND RE-ENGAGING PARENTS AS PARTNERS

PARISH/COMMUNITY

- Post events and information on the main board at church. Ask the Parish Priest to place in weekly bulletin.
- Attend mass and have parent council say a few words inviting parents to the school for meetings, events.
- Invite Parish Priest, Catholic Women's League and Knights of Columbus to attend meetings and events, have them as members on council!



SCHOOL

- Have an informal "meet and greet" for parents. Coffee in the morning at drop off or after-school at pick up. Consider at the beginning of the Parent council meeting or a bbq one evening to meet one another - if not at school at local restaurant or coffee shop.
- Create a brochure or flyer of your role as parents in the school, how to volunteer or help or become a member of the parent council. Consider one specifically for new parents to provide them pertinent info of the school. Consider translating in other languages
- Provide tours of the schools for parents before a meeting or on the weekend. Consider a drop in for parents to meet one another.



ONLINE

- Create social media accounts for parent council or parents of the school (#wisdomwednesday).
- Create an easy webpage to add any info parent related or for the community.
- Create hashtags for the social media accounts (#wisdomwednesday) share info about the school or community.



COMMUNITY

- Invite past parents and student alumni to all events.
- Ask them to be community members on the council to provide guidance and history of school.
- Help with sharing history/tidbits of the school of past events.





Advent season begins the fourth Sunday before Christmas and is a time to reflect on the coming Savior, Jesus Christ. Traditions such as an advent calendar and lighting the advent wreath candles serve as beautiful reminders of God's gift of salvation through the birth of Jesus Christ.

“At this Christmas when Christ comes, will He find a warm heart? Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving the others with God's own love and concern.”

- Mother Teresa, Love: A Fruit Always in Season

