



DECEMBER 2023 OAPCE NEWSLETTER
PARENTS4PARENTS
PRESS



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- OAPCE Blog
- Faith Message
- ENGAGE..ADVOCATE..ENHANCE
- OAPCE Survey
- Parent & Partner Spotlight
- Family & Faith Zone

Discover the vital role of collaboration between home, school, and church in our latest blog post. Highlighting the Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education (OAPCE)'s efforts, it emphasizes the importance of this partnership in nurturing children's holistic development. Learn how OAPCE advocates for integrating family values, educational growth, and spiritual guidance, fostering a supportive network for children to excel. A must-read for those in the English Catholic education system in Ontario, seeking to enhance and preserve the value of Catholic education

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ENGAGE



ADVOCATE



ENHANCE

FAITH MESSAGE

December 2023



✠ Yvan Mathieu, SM, shares a poignant Christmas message with the Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education (OAPCE). He reflects on the significance of Christ's Nativity as a celebration of light and hope in a world often shrouded in darkness. Commemorating the 800th anniversary of St. Francis of Assisi's first Nativity Scene, he highlights the joy and humility of the Christmas story. ✠ Mathieu urges us to welcome Christ into our hearts, homes, and schools, enriching our roles as Catholic parents and educators. As we celebrate this season, let's embody the spirit of the Nativity, transforming our communities with the light of Christ. Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas filled with faith and joy

[Learn More](#)

ENGAGE

OAPCE 85: A Celebration of Change, Commitment & Catholic Education

Mark your calendars! Join us for an unforgettable celebration of education and faith in Toronto, on Friday, April 12 and Saturday, April 13, 2024.

We are thrilled to announce that His Grace, Archbishop Francis Leo, will lead us in Holy Mass. Stay tuned for more details, and be sure to subscribe to our distribution list for updates.

Don't miss out on this incredible event – we can't wait to celebrate with you!



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ADVOCATE

OAPCE) values your input as we plan our focus areas for the upcoming year. Your responses will help us better understand the needs and concerns of parents in Catholic education in Ontario and guide our advocacy efforts accordingly. Your feedback is greatly appreciated and will contribute to better serve parents in Catholic education in Ontario. THE SURVEY WILL REMAIN OPEN UNTIL JANUARY 2024 BUT PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO FILL IT OUT AND PROVIDE VALUABLE INPUT TO US!

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ENHANCE

Teresa Hartnett from the Diocese of Hamilton recently led an enriching Advent Retreat for OAPCE parents, focusing on the season's true meaning. Emphasizing the Holy Family's example of faith, she reminded participants of the gifts of Christmas: love, life, and joy. Hartnett urged parents to reflect on these gifts in our traditions and decorations, and to cherish the blessings of the Eucharist and the promise of eternity through faith and trust in God. Her message is a call to celebrate Christmas with gratitude and joy, keeping the spirit of the Holy Family alive in our hearts. Merry Christmas to all!

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PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

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We are excited to share with all parents across the province the new Family Life Education curriculum for grades 1 – 8 in Catholic schools in Ontario from the Institute for Catholic Education. You can find the curriculum documents here as well Frequently Asked Questions - for Parents and Topics at a Glance - Support Resource. As partners with ICE, we fully support their curriculum and continue to advocate for all schools and school boards to use this resource to teach our children these important aspects in their lives.

FAMILY AND FAITH ZONE

Faith-Based Christmas Activities

Christmas is a time that is filled with celebrations with family and friends. Getting caught up in the fun that Christmas and the holiday season brings can also mean that we can forget what it is all about Christ. Check out these faith-based activities that will help ensure that your family prioritizes Jesus as the center of the most wonderful time of the year!

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