



OAPCE REGIONAL REPORT

Region: Algonquin & Lakeshore CDSB, Brant Haldimand Norfolk CDSB, CDSB of Eastern Ontario, Durham CDSB, Huron-Perth CDSB, Huron-Superior CDSB, Kenora CDSB, Northeastern CDSB, Northwest CDSB, Renfrew County CDSB, Sudbury CDSB, Superior North CDSB, Thunder Bay CDSB and Waterloo CDSB.

Date: January-February 2025

On **Saturday, February 1**, all OAPCE Directors attended the OAPCE Board of Directors Meeting in Toronto. The meeting included a virtual blessing and greetings from Bishop Mathieu, who emphasized the importance of spiritual guidance and parental involvement in Catholic education. OAPCE Directors shared regional updates, and the commissioning of new OAPCE Directors for Niagara, London and Dufferin-Peel.

On **February 13, 2025**, **OAPCE All Regions** meeting took place. The keynote speaker, Dr. Josephine Lombardi, gave an inspiring presentation on ***The Jubilee Year and Pilgrims of Hope***, encouraging parents to embrace their roles as spiritual leaders and advocates in Catholic education.

Dr. Josephine Lombardi led an insightful session on the Jubilee Year of Hope, exploring its significance in Catholic faith. She discussed the Virtue of Hope, based on St. Paul's teachings, and the importance of joy in enduring difficult times. Dr. Lombardi explained the origins of the Jubilee Year, from its Jewish roots of reconciliation and forgiveness to its establishment in Catholic tradition by Pope Boniface VIII in 1300. She emphasized the importance of confession, indulgences, and the symbolism of the Holy Door as a pilgrimage act. To participate in the Jubilee Year, Dr. Lombardi recommended spiritual practices like fasting, almsgiving, and visiting sacred sites.



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Key Points:

- The Virtue of Hope involves joy and perseverance through challenges.
- The Jubilee Year of Hope has roots in Jewish tradition and was established in Catholicism in 1300.
- The Holy Door symbolizes seeking Christ and spiritual renewal.
- Confession and indulgences are central to receiving God's grace and forgiveness.
- Spiritual actions include pilgrimage, fasting, almsgiving, and exploring sacred sites.

CALL TO ACTION for ALL OAPCE Reps!

OAPCE Conference

Saturday, May 24, 2025, in Niagara Falls at St. Michael's High School—Check the OAPCE website for updates and registration information.

OAPCE Parent Survey

OAPCE is surveying parents across the province to help advocate for parents in Catholic education and provide feedback to the Ministry of Education. Please encourage **all parents** in your school communities to participate and complete [the survey form](#).

Ensure to **subscribe to receive these newsletters** and other communication from OAPCE click [HERE](#)



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Share our Newsletter [Parents 4 Parents Press](#) with your parents AND school admin to *send out to the school community*

Read and share the [OAPCE Blog](#) posts.

Encourage Connections:

OAPCE representatives are encouraged to share activities happening within their local parish, including Lenten preparations and upcoming sacraments like reconciliation and First Communion.

Cool Schools in Your Region:

We'd love to hear about the great things happening in your schools! Share photos and a short description!

Reminders:

- Follow OAPCE on Social Media to stay up to date on new posts and events - ask your school to reshare!

Instagram [@OAPCE85](#)

X [X @OAPCEONTARIO](#)

Facebook [_OAPCE85!](#)

Thank you for your continued support!