



NPS OAPCE REGIONAL REPORT

Region: Nipissing Parry Sound CDSB

Director: Dianne Pawlowski

Date: January-February 2025

On January 29, 2025, Director Pawlowski attended the **Best Practices CSAC Event at SJSH**, for Nipissing Parry Sound Catholic School Board, presenting to parents, principals, trustees, and board members about the critical role OAPCE plays in parent engagement in Catholic education. She also reviewed the role of parent OAPCE liaison representatives and shared resources to support parent advocacy. **An outcome of this meeting was the shared OAPCE link now posted on EDSBY for all parents to see!**

On **Saturday, February 1**, Director Pawlowski 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**, Director Pawlowski attended the **OAPCE All Regions Virtual Event**. 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,



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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.

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 NPSC OAPCE CSAC 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 CSAC parents AND school admin to *send out to the school community*

Read and share the [OAPCE Blog](#) posts. The month of January features an article I wrote, a reflection on how we as parents can share our talents. If you feel inspired to share an idea for a forthcoming article - please send it to me

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. If parents are seeking more information or guidance, please reach out.

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!

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