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Trustees' Association

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June 6, 2022

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairpersons and Directors of Education  
Adult Faith Animators and Religious Education Consultants  
- All Catholic District School Boards

FROM: Patrick J. Daly, President

SUBJECT: **Catholic Education: *We are Many, We are One***  
**L'éducation catholique: *À plusieurs, nous sommes un***  
**APRIL 30 – MAY 5, 2023**

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Catholic Education Week is held each year in May in our 29 Ontario Catholic School Boards. Catholic Education Week 2023 is scheduled to take place during the week of April 30 – May 5. It is our pleasure to announce the theme for Catholic Education Week 2023:

**Catholic Education: *We are Many, We are One***  
**L'éducation catholique: *À plusieurs, nous sommes un***

Our spiritual quote for Catholic Education Week 2023 is:

*"We, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members, one of another."*  
(Romans 12:5)

*«Nous qui sommes plusieurs, nous sommes un seul corps dans le Christ, et membres les uns des autres.»*  
(Romains 12, 5)

With the complexities of our world and our communities today, we can stray from the peace that comes when we are in communion with each other. In our unity, we celebrate our diversity, all uniquely created by God. We read in Corinthians that if one member suffers, we all suffer. Unity brings us to peace and understanding. The theme for Catholic Education Week 2023 was inspired by the following considerations:

- The Church worldwide has embarked on a synodal process, "a synod on synodality," which centres on intentional listening: listening to each other and listening to the Holy Spirit. We have each been asked to actively reach out and listen to the voices and experiences of people where they are at and consider what steps the Holy Spirit is inviting us to take as we walk together. As the Catholic Bishops of Ontario highlighted in *Renewing the Promise*, "It is about taking the time to walk alongside one another, to listen and to teach, and in doing so, to transform."

PROMOTING AND PROTECTING CATHOLIC EDUCATION

- Ongoing recognition of the Truth & Reconciliation Commission and the importance of Indigenous culture and spirituality as we move forward together.
- The Ministry of Education’s focus on Inclusion and Equity resonates with all educators and administrators as we desire to serve all of God’s children and Pope Francis’ encyclical entitled, *Fratelli Tutti*, will guide us in this good work.
- The challenges to personal and spiritual well-being posed by the uncertainty of the current global crisis makes the timing and the concerns of Mental Health Week, which takes place during the same week as Catholic Education Week, all the more relevant.

**Catholic Education Week Prayer**

We are many, we are one; we all form one body in Christ.

Lord,

when we see the one before us, let us reverence your presence within;

when we listen to one another, let us hear with our hearts;

when we reflect on each encounter, may we discern to understand;

when we learn from those around us, let us respect our differences with joy;

and when we act, may we be kind and generous to all,

for each person is a member of your body, with all that they are.

We are many, we are one.

Amen.

**Prière pour la semaine de l’éducation catholique**

À plusieurs, nous sommes un; dans le Christ, nous ne formons qu’un seul Corps.

Seigneur,

lorsque nous voyons l’autre devant nous,

puissions-nous reconnaître ta présence qui l’habite;

lorsque nous nous écoutons les uns les autres,

que nous entendions avec le cœur;

lorsque nous réfléchissons à chaque rencontre,

puissions-nous discerner pour comprendre;

lorsque nous apprenons des personnes qui nous entourent,

puissions-nous respecter nos différences avec joie;

et lorsque nous agissons,

que nous soyons bienveillants et généreux envers tous,

car chaque personne est membre de ton Corps avec tout ce qu’elle est.

À plusieurs, nous sommes un.

Amen.

**Sub-Themes for Catholic Education Week**

The five sub-themes for Catholic Education Week illuminate the path to being many and one. We achieve this unity...

|            |                                    |
|------------|------------------------------------|
| Monday:    | When we see / En voyant            |
| Tuesday:   | When we listen / En écoutant       |
| Wednesday: | When we reflect / En réfléchissant |
| Thursday:  | When we learn / En apprenant       |
| Friday:    | When we act / En agissant          |

## **Scriptural Passages for each day of Catholic Education Week**

### **Monday: When we see / En voyant**

*“Blessed are the pure in heart for they will see God.”* Matthew 5:8

*«Heureux les cœurs purs, car ils verront Dieu.»* Matthieu 5, 8

### **Tuesday: When we listen / En écoutant**

*“Be quick to listen and slow to speak.”* James 1:19

*«Que chacun soit prompt à écouter et lent à parler.»* Jacques 1, 19

### **Wednesday: When we reflect / En réfléchissant**

*“I considered these things inwardly, and pondered them in my heart.”* Wisdom 8:17

*«J’ai raisonné ainsi en moi-même, j’ai pesé dans mon cœur les réflexions que voici...»* Sagesse 8, 17

### **Thursday: When we learn / En apprenant**

*“Let the wise also hear and gain in learning, and the discerning acquire skill.”* Proverbs 1:5

*«Que le sage écoute, il progressera encore, et l’homme intelligent apprendra à diriger.»* Proverbes 1, 5

### **Friday: When we act / En agissant**

*“I by my works will show you my faith.”* James 2:18

*«C’est par mes œuvres que je te montrerai ma foi.»* Jacques 2, 18

We would like to thank the members of the 2023 Catholic Education Week writing team for their work establishing these themes for our Catholic schools. Many thanks to:

Janet Bentham, Ottawa  
Pat Carter, csj, Huron-Superior CDSB  
Nancy Davie, York CDSB  
Laura Hughes, Office provincial de l’éducation de la foi catholique de l’Ontario  
Sébastien Lacroix, Conseil scolaire catholique MonAvenir  
Stephanie Maher, Simcoe Muskoka CDSB  
Paul Nalli, Halton CDSB  
Murray Watson, Simcoe Muskoka CDSB  
Julie Webster, Dufferin-Peel CDSB

Please stay tuned for more information pertaining to Catholic Education Week 2023!

If you have any questions, please contact Anne O’Brien, Director of Catholic Education, OCSTA – [aobrien@ocsta.on.ca](mailto:aobrien@ocsta.on.ca).