



## Renfrew County Catholic Schools: *Schools to Believe In!* Educating People of Character

### ***Educating the Whole Person***

Catholic schools educate the character of the whole person: physically, intellectually, socially and spiritually. Our unique mandate allows us to provide students with quality instruction that reinforces a vision of life rooted in the Gospel message of Jesus Christ.

### ***Knowledge in the Service of Love***

While promoting knowledge, skills and abilities, we stress the importance of witnessing a life of faith through commitment to the worshipping community, to family and civic responsibility. We encourage young people's self-discovery through Christ-like self-giving love and service to others:

The Catholic school has as its specific duty the complete Christian formation of its pupils... It knows that this integration of faith and life is part of a life-long process of conversion until the pupil becomes what God wishes [them] to be. Young people have to be taught to share their personal lives with God. They are to overcome their individualism and discover, in the light of faith, their specific vocation to live responsibly in a community with others. The very pattern of the Christian life draws them to commit themselves to serve God in their [brothers and sisters] and to make the world a better place for [humankind] to live in.

*The Catholic School*, Sacred Congregation for Catholic Education, 1988. No. 45



### ***Sharing in the Church's Evangelizing Mission***

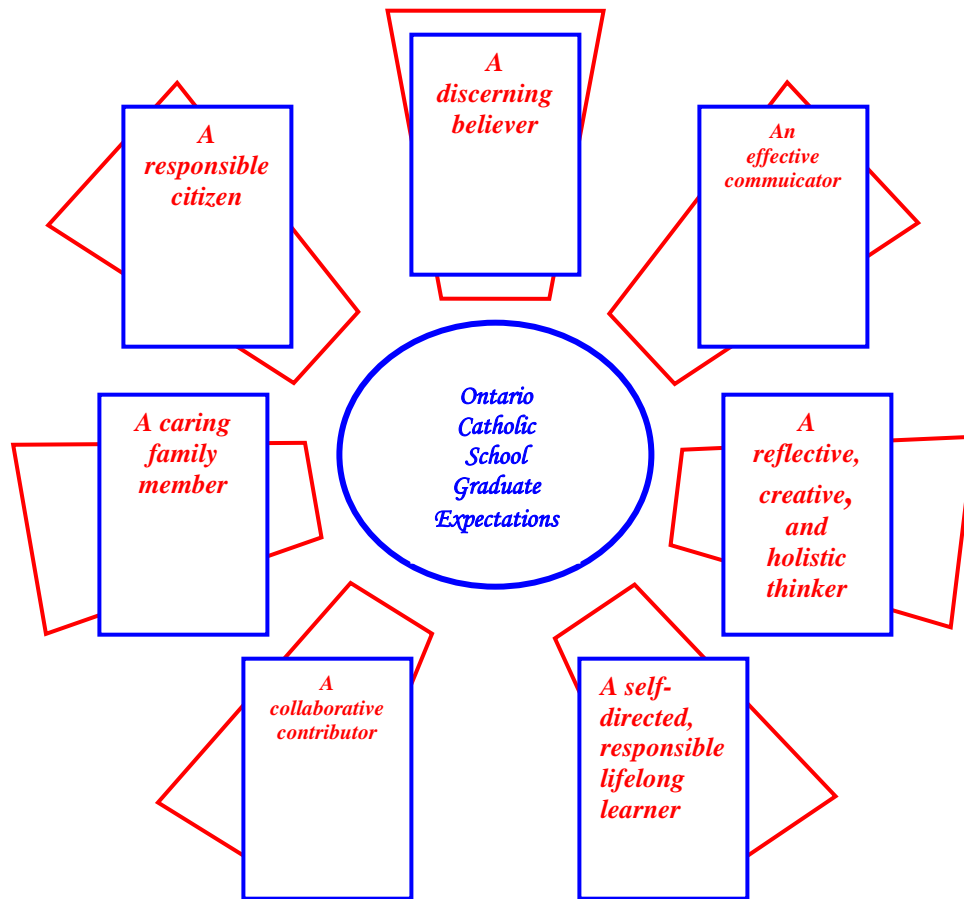
Catholic education shares in the Church's mission to preach the Gospel. Working closely with parents and the parish community, our schools provide a distinctive curriculum that is animated by the Gospel of Jesus. Every subject area is a means through which we announce the Good News to our students, to help them live out their call to discipleship responsibly, and grow in the freedom of God's children.

### ***A Relevant Message for Today's World***

The Gospel message of Jesus is ever new, bringing clarity and light to every age. The questions, issues and concerns we address in and outside of the classroom are an opportunity for us to make the Gospel and its values present and relevant to the questions and issues that clamour for our students' attention on a daily basis. We recognize that only in Jesus do we find the answer to every heart's desire for truth, meaning and happiness.

## **The Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations: Values and Attitudes Defining the Character of Catholic Education**

Catholic education in Ontario identifies fifty-two core expectations which shape the character of its schools, the curriculum they deliver, and the students they teach. These *Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations* embody the Gospel values at the heart of Catholic education, and portray the ideal characteristics of young men and women graduating from our schools. These fifty-two expectations are divided into seven life-giving arenas:



### **Renfrew County Catholic Schools Our Vision: Making a Difference in the World**

The Renfrew County Catholic District School Board's Vision Statement guides what we do in each subject area and dimension of school life. Rooted in the Gospel values expressed in the *Catholic Graduate Expectations*, our vision provides for a distinctive learning experience which honours the God-given dignity of each student entrusted to our care. This same vision encourages them to reach their fullest potential -intellectually, spiritually, physically and socially. Based on the *Catholic Graduate Expectations* and guided by our Vision Statement, the distinctive character of education in our schools is preparing students for successfully meeting the challenges of the twenty-first century in every aspect of their lives!

#### **OUR VISION**

INSPIRED BY OUR RICH HERITAGE AND CHALLENGED BY THE STRUGGLES OF OUR PAST, WE ARE AN INCLUSIVE CATHOLIC EDUCATIONAL COMMUNITY CALLED TO EXPRESS OUR MISSION AS CHURCH AND TO PASS ON THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST, TO MAKE IT RELEVANT IN THE WORLD TODAY, AND TO BE THE HOPE FOR THE FUTURE.