

Good News Release

RCCDSB Celebrates Catholic Education with Faith-Filled Activities

May 29, 2025

The Renfrew County Catholic District School Board (RCCDSB) is proudly reflecting on a series of recent events that highlighted the importance and vibrancy of Catholic education across Renfrew County. Students, staff, and the wider community participated in a variety of activities designed to celebrate faith, foster community, and deepen their spiritual journeys.

Through May 4-9, RCCDSB schools celebrated Catholic Education Week, along with Catholic schools across Ontario. This year's theme, "Pilgrims of Hope," inspired board-wide participation. Schools engaged in prayer services, attended Mass with local parishes and undertook classroom activities, including crafting projects aligned with the theme.

Additionally, a significant highlight this month was Christian Community Day held on May 16th. This special day commenced with a Mass led by Father Lukas Časta, celebrating Catholic education and shared faith. Remarks were shared by Bob Schreader, RCCDSB Chair, who expressed that Christian Community Day is his favourite day of the year, underscoring the event's importance within the RCCDSB community. After Mass, staff had the opportunity to gather with colleagues for brunch before gathering back at Bishop Smith Catholic High School for a special guest speaker, Hannah Beach, who focused on *The Emotional Roots of Aggression and Anxiety: Supporting Change and Building Resilient Kids*. It was a wonderful day of fellowship, learning, and a celebration of faith.

Further demonstrating their commitment to faith in action, RCCDSB staff and the wider community were invited to a Walking Pilgrimage. Organized by the RCCDSB evangelization committee, participants embarked on a 15.2km journey from St. Michael's to St. James in Eganville. The pilgrimage included prayer at rest stops and culminated with a Mass at 4 p.m., providing a powerful collective experience.

These events are a testament to the board's mission: An inclusive Catholic learning community called to love unconditionally and educate hearts and minds in the way of Christ. Faith-based learning is integral to the educational experience in RCCDSB schools, fostering an environment where faith is lived and celebrated.

The Renfrew County Catholic District School Board remains dedicated to providing an education that is rich in faith and community, preparing students to be thoughtful and engaged citizens.



Catholic Education Week Bulletin Board from Ms. Brown's class at Cathedral



Mass on Christian Community Day





Mass on Christian Community Day



Precession of Banners at Christian Community Day



Hannah Beach Christian Community Day



Walking Pilgrimage on May 10th

