

Curriculum Support for Catholic Schools: Enhancing the Religious Dimension of Catholic Education (2005) (Eastern Ontario Catholic Curriculum Cooperative)

Presentation of Handouts

Below, you will find a list of handouts with a brief description of each, and how these relate to use of *Curriculum Support for Catholic Schools: Enhancing the Religious Dimension of Catholic Education*.

1) Three Entry Points

Information in this resource is accessible through one of three entry points:

- *52 Catholic Graduate Expectations* (divided into 7 arenas)
The *ICE Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations* illustrate the qualities of an ideal graduate from Ontario's Catholic school system. Ontario's Catholic school curriculum maintains its dual mandate (implementing Ministry of Education curriculum expectations and announcing the Gospel of Jesus) by anchoring its message in Gospel values as expressed in the *Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations*. These values are integral to the academic and faith formation of every Catholic student in Ontario.
- *21 Anchor Concepts*
Anchor concepts are thematic organizing tools around which a lesson or unit may be built. They are cross-linked to the CGEs and larger Themes. When looking to build an activity or lesson using this resource, reviewing the Anchor Concepts is a good place to start. Find an Anchor Concept that reflects the intent of what you are planning; use it as a starting point to begin your work with this resource.
- *12 Catholic Themes*
The twelve Themes bring together a wealth of information that can be used by Catholic educators for a wide range of purposes. They will help clarify and deepen understanding around issues and concepts related to Catholic faith and education. Each *Theme* is organized as follows:
 - Title (e.g. *Dignity of the Human Person*)
 - Scriptural Story (Story illustrating Theme)
 - Description & Related Concepts (Describes Theme, provides related concepts)
 - Scriptural References (For further reading)
 - Church Teachings (Vatican II, Catechism of Catholic Church, Encyclicals etc.)
 - Canadian/Ontario Documents (Bishops' Conferences; Ont. Catholic Ed.)
 - Quotations
 - Web Resources (For further reading and investigation)
 - Links to Ontario CGEs (CGEs matched to *Theme*, links back to all CGEs)
 - Reflection Questions (For further discussion and integration with life experience)

2) Navigating the CD

Provides an overview of how to access the information in this CD resource, in schematic form. Also illustrates how users can freely move between entry points (i.e. Themes, Anchor Concepts, CGEs) to find information.

3) Making Effective Use of School and Curriculum Planning Templates

Flow-chart showing how to choose the appropriate template for the activity you are planning, and then moving into the CD resource to work with that template.

4) **Some Practical Tips for Using Curriculum Support for Catholic Schools: Enhancing the Religious Dimension of Catholic Education**

A step-by-step guide for building school and education-related activities using *School Planning* and *School Activity Templates* in conjunction with resources found on and accessed through the CD and Ministry of Education curriculum expectations.

Curriculum Support for Catholic Schools: Enhancing the Religious Dimension of Catholic Education has become a useful tool for planning classroom, school-related and staff development activities within Catholic school systems. It will assist Catholic educators, administrators, and pastoral animators in forming students and staff who embrace their role in the Church's evangelizing mission, to be leaven for society, salt and light for the sake of the Gospel, to transform history in Christ.

In the words of Pope John Paul II:

Only a faith that sinks its roots in the Church's sacramental life, whose thirst is quenched at the sources of God's Word and Tradition, that becomes new life and a renewed understanding of reality can make the baptized effectively capable of withstanding the impact of the prevailing secularized culture.
Pope John Paul II, Address to 20th Plenary Assembly, Pontifical Council for the Laity
Saturday November 23, 2002

It is our hope that ***Curriculum Support for Catholic Schools: Enhancing the Religious Dimension of Catholic Education*** will assist Catholic educators seeking to deepen this kind of faith in their own lives and in those entrusted to their ministry.