

*Go out into the world today and love the people you meet. Let your presence light new light in the hearts of people.*

*Saint Teresa of Calcutta*

In November the Catholic Parent Involvement Committee held the Catholic School and Community Council Commissioning Service in Barrie. The evening began with Mass celebrated by Bishop Kirkpatrick, followed a number of information sessions. The topics included First Nation, Metis and Inuit Education; Inclusion, Mental Health and Wellness; Renewed Math Strategy; and Volunteerism & School Council Best Practices. I attended a session on the New Religious Education Curriculum, which was really informative! Board Office staff facilitated all of the discussions and I'm sure that many of them would be available to come to individual schools should you wish to hold a Parent Evening sometime this year.

I am looking forward to attending as many Christmas Concerts and Events as possible again this year. It is wonderful to have the opportunity to Celebrate God's Family through their excitement.

I would like to close with a blessing that I found and shared at our Trustee Christmas Dinner.

God of all gifts, we thank you for the many ways you have blessed us this day. We are grateful for each of those who are gathered around this table. We ask you to bless us and our food and to bless those we love. In our gratitude and love we remember your humble birth into our lives and pray for those who are without enough to eat. We remember the stable in which you were born and pray for those who have no place to live. We remember your challenging message of caring and giving and we pray for peace in families and nations throughout the world. We bless you and give you thanks in your Spirit who brings our hearts to life this Christmas season and forever. Amen.

Merry Christmas!

Carol Corriveau-Truchon