

*Faith is not a light which scatters all our darkness, but a lamp which guides our steps in the night and suffices for the journey.*

Pope Francis

Welcome Back! I hope that each of you enjoyed a wonderful summer! This year there will be more than 21,000 students receiving a faith-filled education in Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District Schools. Trustees join with Board and School Staff in taking the responsibility of furthering the academic and spiritual growth of each of those students very seriously.

Each year our Board chooses a spiritual theme, and this year it is “Our Story ~ Our Journey”. Stories play such an important role in our Catholic faith tradition. They remind us of God’s love and our responsibility to share that love with others; they are the foundation for Catholic education around the world.

This year’s theme is especially fitting as our country celebrates its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Our nation’s story is one filled with the journeys of so many different cultures, races and religions. Our faith calls us to learn from these diverse journeys as we continue to grow together as one nation.

On October 25<sup>th</sup>, our Board will launch a book entitled “A History of the Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board”, which describes our rich history. We have been providing Catholic education to our students throughout Simcoe County and the Districts of Muskoka and Parry Sound since the 1850’s.

This year, I hope that you and your child will have the chance to reflect upon the stories which shape your family, as we journey together in faith and learning.

God Bless,  
Carol Corriveau-Truchon