

## **NEWSLETTER**

### CATHOLIC SCHOOL CHAPLAINS OF ONTARIO

#### MISSION:

CSCO exists to develop, support, and promote the profession of Catholic School Chaplaincy in Ontario.

#### VISION:

Working in unity with all partners in Catholic education in Ontario, witnessing to the Good News of Jesus Christ.

#### VALUES:

- Being Christ-centered in all our efforts, decisions and encounters
- Unity, joy and collegiality among our members
- On-going faith formation and professional development
- Advocacy for the vocation and profession of Catholic School Chaplaincy
- Collaboration with our partners in Catholic Education





# From the President

It is so close I can almost taste it, of course I am talking about the end of another school year and a seriously needed summer break.

It has been a good year for our ministries and our organization. It was so awesome to be able to gather for our Conference thanks to the EOCDSB group for hosting.

We welcome our new Executive members to the Executive, Leanne and Vincenzo, and say huge thanks to those who are leaving the Executive, Anita and Jeff. We also hosted things virtually which will be a continuing part of our future. Speaking of the future, it looks bright for CSCO with new initiatives and continuing work on the professionalism of our organization and professional development for our members.

We are looking forward to our conference in April of 2024 at Mt. Carmel. Please see further information in this Newsletter. As well as our survey for our Strategic Plan, our Ethical Guidelines, and our Performance Appraisal, also in this Newsletter.

We will have one of our members facilitating a workshop at WFMP in October. We will be offering PD virtually this fall and ask you to watch for more information on this in future.

While many of us are tired and feel burnt out as we near the end of June we also are reminded of the goodness of our God and look forward to the continuing graces in our lives.

May the God of creation and love bless your summer rest and may you all return to your ministries with renewed strength and hope in the fall.

Peace. Dean Woodbeck

## IN THIS ISSUE

President Dean Woodbeck's end of year letter (see page 1).

Vlad Mamaradlo shares something he did for his school during Catholic Education Week that might inspire the rest of us.

Kathleen Thompson, our CSCO Communications Coordinator shares with us some social media resources that we can turn to for our own spiritual formation.

Leanne Davis, newly elected CSCO Member-at-large, shares with us something she continues to do in a postpandemic reality for herself and for her community.

Mariana Bosetti (Chaplaincy Leader in Durham) shares with us five songs on her playlist...great selection Mariana! expanded our potential: Morning Prayers now include texts and images, optimizing

Krista Olivieri had her baby! Congratulations Krista and Eric and little Luca! Our prayers are with Luca as he grows stronger and healthier, and with you and Eric as you begin your parenting journey.

On the Bulletin Board page, you will find the QR codes for the three (3) surveys to complete. Please do so by Sept. 15th! You will also find a teaser for our CSCO Conference 2024! Save that date for sure!

Also offered is a buffet-style offerings of video clips: there is a great 3 minute video by Dr. Terry Nelson-Johnson on grace and being awake. There is a compilation of the Blessing in over 250 languages--it takes my breath away every time I watch it! Finally, for those who like baseball: there is a 20 minute talk by Fr. Jon Polce, S.J. on cultivating a baseball spirituality. I highly recommend it. Simply click the images and it will take you to the video.

May the sabbath rest renew your spirits and re-energize you for next year. Until next time, may God bless you, and keep you, make God's face shine upon you and be gracious

to you. And give you peace.

Cheers, Adriana Rerecich

Grateful, Thankful and Blessed



We are called to work in God's vineyard. (Matt. 20.1–16). We each have been doing this for various lengths of time. Each newsletter will feature one of our members sharing stories and perspective from their area of God's vineyard.

After 13 years of working in Parish Ministry, January 2023 started my new role as Chaplain at Corpus Christi in Burlington. This new season offered opportunities to use my creative skills in new ways:

DIGITAL ANNOUNCEMENTS: As a techie-nerd, it was exciting finding out that Morning Announcements at Corpus are digital. By adding a green screen last February, we have expanded our potential: Morning Prayers now include texts and images, optimizing engagement and participation from students and staff.

SOCIALS IN THE CHAPEL: As the Chapel is rarely used for formal, liturgical prayer, I have re-arranged the chairs and opened it up as a space where students can wind down during lunch. To date, an average of 15-20 students use the Chapel during lunches, offering me the opportunity to meet them more personally and begin to build connections.





Vlad G. Mamaradlo, MDiv, STB (he/him) Chaplaincy Leader | Corpus Christi Catholic Secondary School



O Saving God, your living waters renew us. In Christ we have been born anew to walk as children of God...

O God, after you created the heavens and the earth, you took time to rest. In a spirit of grateful leisure, we pray: Renew our spirits, O God.

For all peoples of the earth, those who cry out to you to make all things new, we pray: Renew our spirits, O God.

For those who harvest the land and seas, that all may enjoy your abundance, we pray: Renew our spirits, O God.

For all who minister in your church, that they may restore others through their service, we pray: Renew our spirits, O God.

For all visual and verbal artists, that the products of their inspiration may refresh us all, we pray: Renew our spirits, O God.

For those who bless us with new insights by their research and study of your creation, we pray: Renew our spirits, O God.

For ourselves, that we may rest from our labours and abandon all that distracts us from your plan for us, we pray: Renew our spirits, O God.

\*Intercessions of Mercy: Prayers by Members of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas. Compiled, edited and expanded by Joy Clough, RSM. 2009.



#### For all the faithful departed:

<u>For Sr. Shelley Lawrence, RSCJ</u>, who passed away May 25, 2023.

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace.



#### MILESTONES

My husband, Eric, and I are happy to share the arrival of our little man, Luca Ezekiel Olivieri. He was born on May 4th weighing just 475g (just barely 1lb). We'll be in the NICU for a few months while he continues to grow and stabilize his breathing but he's a feisty little guy and he's doing really well despite his tiny size. We're hoping to be home before the end of summer. Please keep little Luca and his continued good health and growth in your prayers.













We are called to work in God's vineyard. (Matt. 20.1-16). We each have been doing this for various lengths of time. Each newsletter will feature one of our members sharing stories and perspective from their area of God's vineyard.

(Cont'd from page 2)

LABYRINTH IN THE CHAPEL: For CEW and Mental Health Week, we added a Labyrinth in the Chapel. One of our Gr 10 students did a remarkable job creating it! As the labyrinth represents life's journey, it is rainbowcoloured, reminding students of God's faithfulness amidst life's storms. At its start is our Lady, since the East calls her "Hodegetria -She who points the Way." At its end is the Heart of Christ; Life, like the Labyrinth, can often seem like a confusing maze but from a greater perspective, is truly a journey to God. Throughout CEW, classes are coming in at 15min intervals to walk the labyrinth. In light of Mental Health Week, we're also focusing on how walking the labyrinth can help calm anxiety, reduce stress, and reframe one's

It's been an exciting journey so far, and as they say on the Camino de Santiago, "Ultreia et Suseia - Forward and Upward!"



outlook on life.



# A little bit of this, a little bit of that...

<u>'The Extravagant Gesture'</u>
<u>a Grace Note from TNJ for</u>
<u>Beloved - YouTube</u>

The Blessing (World version)
2023

June: National Indigenous History Month;

**Pride Month:** 

Italian Heritage Month;
Filipino Heritage Month;
Portuguese Heritage Month.
June 8 & 13: Executive Meetings

June 18: Father's Day

June 21: National Indigenous Peoples Day

June 30: Summer break begins!

Dates for Next Year (2023-2024):

Sept. 15: survey responses are DUE

Oct. 26-28: WFMP

Oct. 26: WFMP Youth Forum April 16-18: CSCO Conference

May 5-10: Catholic Education Week





Are you bursting with excitement to share your news?
Please scan the QR code, let us know who you are and go straight to #8!



Scan the QR code if you would like to offer prayer intentions, milestone news, or to contribute to the CSCO

Newsletter!

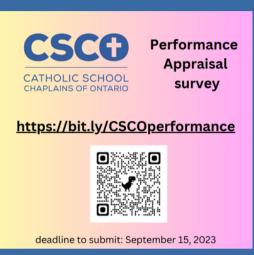


### Bulletin Board









Monthly Mass will be celebrated/has been celebrated for CSCO members:

Friday, January 20, 2023 @ 1 p.m. Holy Redeemer Parish, Sudbury.

Thursday, February 16, 2023 @ 12 Noon Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King,
Hamilton.

Saturday, March 11, 2023 @ 5 p.m. -St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Cathedral, Kingston.

Wednesday, April 12, 2023 @ 9:30 a.m. -Notre Dame L'Assomption Cathedral, Hearst.

Wednesday, May 17, 2023 @ 12 Noon St. Peter's Cathedral, London.
Friday, June 16, 2023 @ 12:10 p.m. St. Peter-in-Chains, Peterborough.

Monthly Mass will be celebrated/has been celebrated for CSCO members:

July - in the works

Thursday, August 17, 2023 @ 12:10 p.m. Cathedral of St. Columbkille, Pembroke.
Sunday, September 10, 2023 @ 11 a.m. Holy Redeemer Parish, Sudbury.
Saturday, October 14, 2023 @ 12:10 p.m. -

St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica, Toronto. **Sunday, November 19, 2023 @ 11:30 a.m**.
Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria,

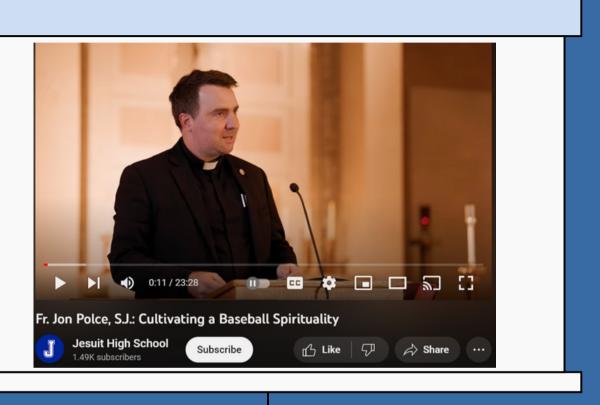
St. Catharine's.

Wednesday, December 13, 2023 @ 9 a.m. Precious Blood Cathedral, Sault Ste. Marie



## Now playing...





SAVE THE DATE

## CSCO CONFERENCE 2024:

APRIL 16-18, 2024

(Tuesday - Thursday)

MT. CARMEL SPIRITUAL CENTRE

www.carmelniagara.com

# Faith Formation

## Social Media Stuff

by Kathleen Thompson

Social media sites to check out:

- 1. Instagram: @nbccongress: National Black Congress (NBCC) represents African American Roman Catholic through many Catholic Organizations throughout the United States.
- 2. Facebook: Clergy Coaching Network: It is a Christian base site that provides online content in inspirational messages, useful articles that would provide good support to Chaplaincy leaders as they minister to their school communities.
- 3. Twitter: @thepopevideo : The Pope Video is a global initiative carried out by the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network.
- 4. TikTok: @prayasyougo\_Official: Pray as you Go is a multi-platform and Tiktok is their latest. It provides numerous daily examens, scripture, reflections & music.

If you have a social media site that you want us to check out... send it our way

Twitter: @csco.social Facebook: @csco\_social Instagram: @csco.social TikTok: @csco.social





**Podcast:** 

"Preach: The Catholic Homilies Podcast"

There are many... I mean, many podcasts that relate to the Catholic Church. When I was glancing through them "Preach: The Catholic Homilies Podcast" peaked my interest.

"Preach" is a new (so far only 4 episodes) weekly podcast from America Media. In each episode, the show's host, Ricardo da Silva, S.J., invites you to listen to their guest preach their Sunday homily (delivered to the podcast – not actually live in a parish) and learn more about their community and unpack their homily.

While many of us may not have the opportunity to preach a homily at our School Eucharistic liturgies, these homilies can offer wonderful insights for those times we have to prepare our own reflections for liturgical services, retreats and daily prayer.

If I had a few words to describe Preach, it would be that it is culturally diverse, engaging and relevant. Of course, sharing the Good News is important too! Each episode is 30 minutes in length and has you wanting for more.

**Available on Apple & Spotify** 





# THE GIFT OF MEDITATION AND CONTEMPLATION IN (POST) PANDEMIC CHAPLAINCY MINISTRY

~ by Leanne Davis (Ottawa Catholic)

During the summer of 2020 I struggled with how I was going to be a chaplain/do chaplaincy in a pandemic. We hadn't been at school since March 2020 and we had no idea how 2021 was going to unfold. I knew that staff and students would be very stressed returning to school with masks, modified schedules, limited movement, and no extracurricular activities. I wanted to introduce them to the benefits of guided meditation as something they could add to their spiritual toolkit and something I could continue to nurture with them should we have to pivot between in-person and virtual. I made glitter jars as a visual example of what happens interiorily when we meditate and how our thoughts calm down as we sit still and become more centered and contemplative.

I introduced <u>'guided meditations'</u> to each religion class within the 1st month. Students engaged in the simple structure of weaving together their senses with scripture so they could experience a connection to prayer and spirituality that could be effective and creative. The feedback was very encouraging, but many said that they preferred it when I led the meditation and not a youtube link. I purchased a new mic, registered for <u>Soundcloud</u>, and started recording. I continue to this day.

This summer, I am reading <u>Mindful Silence</u> and hope to deepen my understanding and practice of contemplation so I can guide students and staff through the awkward silence of prayer that can sometimes feel like "God's felt absence and grueling silence. Like an old transistor radio, I just needed to learn how to tune into this frequency" (p.13). After this busy year, I am ready to spend some time this summer tuning into God.

Holiness Is...Reflections on the fruits and the tree (Fr. John Catoir)
We are holy. And all who strive to be part of Christ's Mystical Body share in the common holiness of the faithful. The following reflections on this truth may help you appreciate your own holiness.

Holiness is not something that comes from doing good; we do good because we are holy.

Holiness is not something we acquire by avoiding evil; we avoid evil because we are holy.

Holiness is not something that follows from prayer; we pray because we are holy.

Holiness is not the result of kindness; we are kind because we are holy.

Holiness is not something that blossoms when we are courageous; we are courageous because we are holy.

Holiness is not the result of character building; we build character because we are holy.

Holiness is not the private possession of religious people; we are religious because we are holy.

Holiness is not something that comes from being more joyful; we are joyful because we are holy.

Holiness is not a gift we obtain after a lifetime of service; we give a lifetime of service because we are holy.

Our holiness is God with us. Emmanuel.

And while it's true that holiness carries with it both

the Cross and the Resurrection, it is more a gift than a reward.

Praise be to Jesus Christ!



