

# Autumn News

2010

## Catholic Education both a Gift and a Grace

In the Summer 2010 edition of *Principal Connections* NOCCC was invited to include an article. The article prepared by Suzanne Wishak, Executive Director highlighted our Mission Statement; and provided an introduction as to who we are; who we serve; and gave a listing of some of our recent publications which are free to download from our website or can be ordered online. Our Mission Statement basically explains that we are a mechanism to provide direct support to Northern Ontario English Catholic District School Boards, School Authorities and Native Band councils in developing and educating our children to live their lives in the spirit of the Gospels. Over the past few years, the NOCCC has taken a faith-based approach to its curriculum at the request of the teachers that it serves. Some of the Catholic curriculum produced includes the following:

- Advent/Christmas
- We Are An Easter People, Lent, Easter, Spring
- Pope Benedict XVI
- The Beatitudes
- The Rosary
- The Way of the Cross (Intermediate and Primary)
- Peace... A Catholic Approach to Peace
- Guide to Staff Room Prayers
- Christianity and Ecology
- Designing Prayer Centers
- Preserving our Heritage... An Aboriginal Science Resource



## WHAT'S NEW

Over the summer months NOCCC began a revision to our *Celebrating our Faith* resource. We are just about ready to release it to our schools. This condensed version addresses the ten months of the year that we have the occasion to share the Eucharist with our students. Through our use of signs, symbols, words, actions, music and singing we have a wonderful opportunity to nurture their faith. The

older version, written in 2001 is still available and can be purchased outright either in hard copy or on CD. All of our resources remain free to download at [www.noccc.on.ca](http://www.noccc.on.ca) or can be purchased by e-mail or by calling 1-800-461-9355. All our resources are available in CD format.

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## CATHOLIC VIRTUES

This new virtues resource that is soon to be released provides each teacher with a concise resource of our Catholic Virtues. It will go hand-in-hand with the newest NOCCC project, Character Education/Virtue Education, A Shared Reading Approach.

**Catholic Virtues** provides in-depth background information on virtues for our Catholic educators. It is the hope of NOCCC that this resource will assist both Catholic teachers and those entrusted to their care and education, to a deeper understanding and commitment to live their lives based on the Gospel values.

The following virtues are recognized in our Catholic faith:

**Theological Virtues:** Faith, Hope, and Charity/Love

**Cardinal Virtues:** Prudence, Justice, Fortitude, and Temperance

**Eschatological Virtues:** Humility, Gratitude, Serenity, Joy, and Vigilance

## LIVING IN FAITH: A Catholic Approach to Virtue Education Through Shared Reading

Just as virtues are the foundation of who we are as Catholics, in our Catholic schools, virtues are woven and embedded throughout the Ministry of Education's curriculum.

The purpose of this resource was to produce reading texts for grades three and six students that support character development through the focus of Catholic Virtues. Shared reading is an important teaching strategy that explicitly teaches comprehensive reading strategies and is supported through the Guide to Effective Instruction in Literacy, numerous documents produced by the Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat and educational research documentation.

Each text will include a teaching plan that focuses and outlines instruction in the area of reading comprehension, oral language development, written language and media literacy.

The teaching plan for each text will link to the following reading expectations from the Ministry Documents: Reading Specific Expectations; Oral Language Specific Expectations; Writing Specific Expectations; Using Knowledge of Form and Style of Writing; Applying Knowledge of Language Conventions and Presenting Written Work Effectively and Media Literacy Specifications. This document aligns with effective school instruction and the written tasks can be used in teacher moderation and EQAO type preparation.

NOCCC would like to thank Karen Mitchell, Principal, Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board and Anna Bitonti, Director of Education, Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board for all their support and encouragement throughout summer 2010 to see this wonderful resource through to completion.



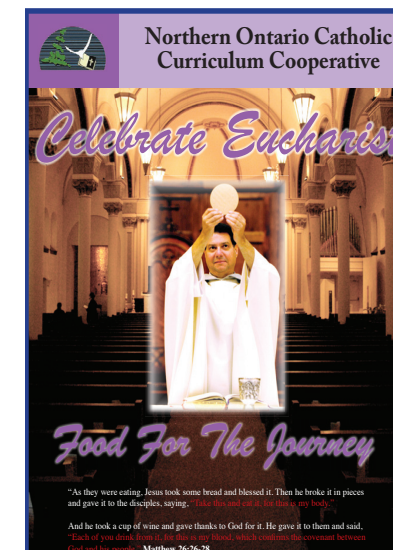
### ADVENT/CHRISTMAS

Presently Noreen Muldoon, CSJ, is preparing an Advent/Christmas prayer service and it will be available on the website in plenty of time before Advent. All teachers are encouraged to get a copy of our Advent/Christmas resource. This is an excellent resource that comes complete with many black line masters to assist teachers in preparing our children for the coming of Christ. If you don't have one in your classroom or in your school, call the NOCCC office today to order.

## NEW RELEASE: Celebrate Eucharist... Food for the Journey

In addition to these outstanding Catholic Resources NOCCC has recently produced a teaching resource on instructing children in their preparation to receive first Eucharist. The Northern Ontario Catholic Curriculum Cooperative makes this resource available to all Catholic

teachers who want to be a light in a dark room, with Christ as that light; teachers who want to impart to their students not simply how to make a living, but how to live their lives; teachers who want to teach that knowledge is to be used in the service of others. We hope that this resource will draw all teachers closer to a better understanding of the celebration of the Eucharist, and that together we can pray the Eucharistic prayer, "And so, Father most holy, we celebrate the memory of Christ your Son... until Jesus, our Saviour, comes again we proclaim the work of your love."

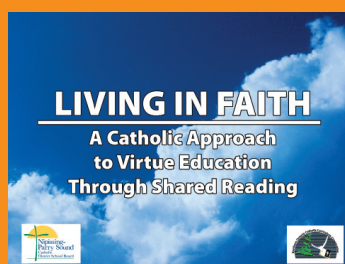
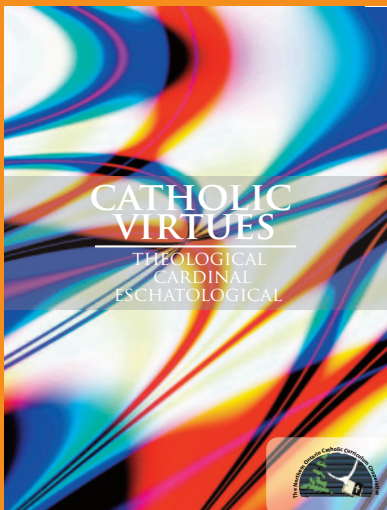


## WHEN FAITH MEETS PEDAGOGY...Awake to Grace...

October 21, 22, 23, 2010

The annual When Faith Meets Pedagogy Conference will be held on October 21, 22, 23, 2010 at the Double Tree by Hilton/Toronto Airport. The keynote speakers this year will be His Excellency the Most Reverend Paul-Andre Durocher, Bishop of Alexandria-Cornwall and Max Eisen a Holocaust Survivor. These are outstanding speakers who will guide, motivate and inspire all of us to live out our Catholic faith as members of the Catholic educational community. The Most Reverend Paul-Andre Durocher will open the conference on Thursday evening, and will preside at the celebration of the Eucharist on the morning of Friday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Max Eisen, Holocaust survivor will be the keynote speaker on Friday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

NOCCC in partnership with the Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board will be a presenter at this conference and their new Living in Faith resource will be highlighted. We encourage all Catholic administrators, principals and teachers to attend this event and hear the keynote speakers and browse the vendor display in the International Ballroom to review new products. I am certain that the keynote speakers, new products and services will enhance both your learning environment and teaching experience.



# Product Catalogue



[www.noccc.on.ca](http://www.noccc.on.ca)

- Huron-Superior Catholic District School Board
  - Kenora Catholic District School Board
- Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board
  - Northeastern Catholic District School Board
  - The Northwest Catholic District School Board
    - Sudbury Catholic District School Board
  - Superior North Catholic District School Board
  - Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board

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UPDATES ON CURRICULUM RELEASES

[WWW.NOCCC.ON.CA](http://WWW.NOCCC.ON.CA)

## Partners in Catholic Education Links

EOCCC (Eastern Ontario Catholic Curriculum Cooperative)

CCC (Catholic Curriculum Corporation)

ICE (Institute of Catholic Education)

OECTA (Ontario English Catholic Teachers Association)

CARFLEO (Catholic Association of Religious and Family Life Educators of Ontario)  
L'Arche

(OCECN) Ontario Catholic Education Communication Network

(OCCB) Ontario Conference of Catholic Bishops

Patrick 4 Life - Resource For HIV / AIDS

Available by clicking "Important Links" on the NOCCC home page "[noccc.on.ca](http://noccc.on.ca)"

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Huron-Superior Catholic District School Board

Kenora Catholic District School Board

Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board

Northeastern Catholic District School Board

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Sudbury Catholic District School Board

Superior North Catholic District School Board

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