



All Saints Catholic Secondary School



In the Beginning

All Saints Catholic Secondary School opened its doors on Tuesday, September 4, 2001, the long-needed second Catholic secondary school in Whitby. The school was built to alleviate overcrowding at Father Leo J. Austin Catholic Secondary School and was designed to accommodate the Catholic secondary school students on the west side of Whitby as well as French Immersion students from across Durham Region. The founding principal, Andy Fedak, was appointed in February 2001, and was given the task of hiring the new staff and readying the school for classes in September. The school opened with 770 students in Grades 9 to 11. The school blessing and

official opening took place on All Saints Day, November 1, 2001, with Bishop Robert Clune presiding.

Members of the founding staff look back on this first year with many happy memories. A great sense of community developed, as would be expected with a smaller number of staff and students – and so much work to do to get the school up and running. This staff worked hard under Mr. Fedak’s leadership to start many of the traditions that continue today. In 2002, the school added Grade 12; and the first graduation ceremony took place in October 2003. The school has grown over the years to a school of over 1,500 students, with more than 19 portable classrooms to accommodate the student body. Mr. Fedak retired at the end of the 2007–2008 school year, and Gloria Kramp, a former vice-principal at All Saints, became principal at the beginning of September 2008. The work started by Mr. Fedak and the founding staff members in 2001, and continued under the leadership of Mrs. Kramp, has paid off tremendously. Today, All Saints Catholic Secondary School is a vibrant community of learners engaged in challenging academic programs with the opportunity to pursue co-curricular activities in a variety of fields, such as the arts, athletics and social justice.

Catholic School Council

Starting a new school and beginning new and rich traditions requires dedicated and capable individuals. From the very start, the principal of All Saints has been able to draw on the support and expertise of the parent community through our Catholic School Council. The Council is an advisory group to the principal that deals with issues aimed at helping to improve student achievement and accountability of the education system to parents. As part of the Catholic School Council, the Parent Service Guild has, over the years, raised money and provided support for school activities for the benefit of our students and the community. In recent years, the Council has been able to access Parents Reaching Out grants from the Ministry of Education to increase parental involvement in the school community. With these funds, the Council has produced a DVD to welcome students and parents to the community and hosted evening workshops for parents dealing with topical issues.



*Our founding principal, Andy
Fedak
2001–2008*



*Our current principal, Gloria
Krampp
2008–present*

Chaplaincy

As a Catholic school community, All Saints has been blessed to have four chaplains lead our Chaplaincy program since our school opened. School liturgy, the retreat program, and much of our social justice ministry have been coordinated through the Chaplain's office and the Chaplaincy Team. With the generous service of many staff and students, and the inspiration of the saints after whom our school is named, Chaplaincy at All Saints continues to help animate the faith life of our Catholic school community, to form each of us in prayer, service and action for justice and peace in our world. All Saints Catholic Secondary School is affiliated with three Catholic parishes in Whitby - St. John the Evangelist, Holy Family and St. Leo the Great.



Tiffany Verbancic and Katie Cassin receive ashes on Ash Wednesday

Academics

All Saints Catholic Secondary School is the neighbourhood Catholic school serving the west Whitby community; as such, it attempts to run programs to address the learning needs of all students in the community. As the school has increased in size, the breadth of the academic program has been able to increase as well. All Saints Catholic Secondary School offers courses at a variety of levels to match the abilities and interests of students. From the very beginning, the school's programming options have included inclusive alternative programs for students with special needs, locally developed workplace destination courses, as well as courses that prepare and lead to post-secondary programs at colleges and universities. Like many other secondary schools in Ontario, All Saints Catholic Secondary School's academic disciplines are organized into departments, with a curriculum chair leading the delivery of programs in that area. The departments found at All Saints C.S.S. are Arts, Business and Technology, Canada and World Studies, English, French Immersion, Guidance, Health and Physical Education, Mathematics, Program Support, Religion, and Science.

Modern facilities and well-equipped classrooms in the newly built school, together with qualified and highly motivated teachers, have allowed programs in computers,

automotive, construction and design technology to become very successful. Co-operative education placements, including the introduction to co-op initiative referred to as the YES (Youth Employment Strategies) Program, provide students with work experience and career insights. Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) programs at All Saints C.S.S. produced their first Business graduates in 2011, and Arts and Culture graduates followed in 2012. Dual-credit courses in Business and Mathematics with Durham College began in 2010, giving students the opportunity to earn a secondary school credit and college credit through course work taught in tandem between All Saints C.S.S. teachers and Durham College instructors.



Peter Sheriff in Food and Nutrition Class

To help further differentiate the learning experience, All Saints C.S.S. students have the opportunity to write Advanced Placements (AP) exams. These challenging exams, made available through The College Board, are based on a typical North American first-year university course syllabus. From its first French exams in 2003, the program at All Saints C.S.S. has expanded to become the largest AP program in Durham Region. Over the years, students at All Saints C.S.S. have successfully written exams in English, French, History, Mathematics, Biology and Studio Art, and have earned university-level credits through their hard work.

The French Immersion Program came to All Saints from Father Leo J. Austin Catholic Secondary School when the new school opened in 2001. As this is currently the only secondary French Immersion program within the Durham Catholic District School Board, it serves students from across the region. In addition to “immersing” students in the French language and culture through a challenging curriculum and

field trips, the French Immersion Department has taken a leadership role in the very successful Student Exchange Program and the Advanced Placement Program.

Arts

The Arts program at All Saints C.S.S. has several streams of courses, allowing students to further develop their interest and talents in this field. These course pathways include instrumental music, vocal music, visual arts, drama and photography. All students have also had the opportunity to participate in the co-curricular Arts program, which has been very busy and productive through the first 10 years of the school's history. Various bands, choirs, dramatic productions and musicals have given students the opportunity to continue their learning outside regular school hours. The cafeteria and stage have been the site of some incredible evening performances over the years, including *Guys and Dolls*, *Anne of Green Gables*, *Oklahoma*, *West Side Story*, *Stage Door* and *Harvey*. A new tradition that has been very well received at All Saints C.S.S. is the Arts, Culture and Volunteerism Banquet. This event is an opportunity to celebrate and honour the hard work of young and talented musicians, actors, artists, volunteers and other participants in the All Saints C.S.S. co-curricular program.



Cory Giddings, Caitlin Currie and Wade Stokan in Guys and Dolls

Athletics

All Saints is fortunate to have been built with tremendous facilities for our students to use during the day in Physical Education and Health courses, as well as for use after hours for fitness, intramural sports and competitive intercollegiate athletic activities. The school has a triple gymnasium, a fully equipped weight room, an all-weather running track, and a playing field. With these well-equipped new facilities and eager and talented coaches, the school has been fortunate to field more than 30 competitive teams each year in a wide variety of sports. LOSSA championships have been won in soccer, lacrosse, tennis and curling over the years. The Annual Athletic Banquet in June is a chance to celebrate and honour the accomplishments of student athletes.



Nia Rowe running the final leg of the 4 X 100 m relay

Co-Curriculars

Over the years, through the hard work of staff and the eagerness of students to enjoy and build a school community, new traditions have begun that make All Saints C.S.S. a place where students can feel connected.

In recent years, students have had the opportunity to participate in more than 30 student clubs and activities to enrich their secondary school experience. Annual activities such as Spirit Days, 30-Hour Famine, Thanksgiving Food Drive, Christmas Toy Drive, Talent Shows, Pancake Tuesday Breakfast, and Halloween Costume Days continue to build school spirit. Clubs such as the Debate Team, School Reach, Green Team, Mock Trials, Ontario Model Parliament, White Pine and Weight Training have always been well subscribed by students. Opportunities for experiential learning through travel to places such as New York, St. Donat, Costa Rica, France and Japan have also been available over the years.

For the last 10 years, All Saints C.S.S. has hosted Canadian Red Cross blood donor clinics in the spring and fall. Through this very well-supported activity, All Saints C.S.S. students and staff have donated more than 1,500 pints of blood. For the 2010–2011 school year, All Saints C.S.S. was given an award by the Canadian Red Cross for hosting the most successful secondary school blood drives in Ontario.



Meagan Rossi donates blood at a school blood donor clinic

All Saints C.S.S. began participating in the Terry Fox Run in the fall of 2006. A spirited team of students and staff have planned this fun-filled and worthwhile event every year since. In its first year of participation, All Saints C.S.S. raised more than \$20,000. Each and every year since then, dollar totals have increased, up to \$37,840 in 2011. With this incredible amount raised, All Saints C.S.S. placed third for all secondary schools in the province for the 2011 Run. Since 2006, the school has raised more than \$171,000 for cancer research.

Students and teachers from All Saints C.S.S. have participated in the Dominican Encounter with Faith and Hospitality (*Encuentro Dominicano*) for more than five years. This program takes Canadian students to the Dominican Republic to

experience the living conditions of the poor and marginalized in that country. These trips encourage students from the first world to learn about and better understand the plight of our brothers and sisters in parts of the world where injustice and poverty are commonplace. Through this experience, the hope is that students will be moved to work in creating a world where the values of the gospel are embraced.

On four occasions, All Saints CS.S. students have travelled to Europe to take part in National Trips of Remembrance, accompanied by staff members. These excursions help students to understand the sacrifice made by Canadian soldiers during the First and Second World Wars. The first trip, in 2007, marked the 90th Anniversary of the Battle at Vimy Ridge. The 2008 trip to Italy marked the 65th anniversary of the Battle of Ortona, the 2010 trip to the Netherlands marked the 65th anniversary of Victory in Europe, and the 95th Anniversary of Vimy Ridge trip in 2012 were all incredible learning experiences for students.



2012 Vimy Ridge Trip – L to R: Max Lysyk, Mrs. Krampp, Ms. Garant, Vanesa Valiulis

“All Saints is more than just a school or a building – it is a community. It is a community that comes together for all occasions – good and bad, happy and sad. It is a community of people who stand for the gospel values it professes. It is a community of people who are willing to put their faith into action, without hesitation. As we look back at the first 11 years of our story, we see clearly that All Saints is a school community with a rich tradition of love and true belonging. All are welcome

here.”

—Pat O’Prey, staff member, 2001–present

School Prayer

Loving Father,
We cherish your love, your guidance,
And all you have given us in our lives.
Give us the courage to nurture our faith,
Allowing it to grow.
Help us to reach our full potential
In every aspect of our lives.
Inspire us to be a friend to everyone,
And to be the light in others’ darkness.
Give us the strength to respect one another
As well as ourselves.
Through your love may we unite as a community,
So that we may follow in your Son’s footsteps
Towards an eternal life in heaven.
Amen.

Principals

Andy Fedak (2001–2008)

Gloria Kramp (2008–present)

Contributors:

Stacey Cavanagh

Martha DiLeonardo

Ed Lescisin

Pat O’Prey

Eileen McGowan

Trevor Najbor

André Tacchino

Suzette Tremblay

Paul and Kathleen Corey