



**DURHAM CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**
Learning and Living in Faith

Commissioning of Catholic Trustees

1. **Bishop or designate:** I invite the members of the Board-elect to come forward.

[The Director of Education hands one white candle to each member-elect of the Board. The Bishop or designate invites each member-elect to light his/her candle from the Christ candle.]

2. **Bishop or designate:** Let us pray.

Risen Jesus, loving God, bestow your gifts of wisdom and insight upon the members-elect of the Durham Catholic District School Board. May you be a guiding light and a source of strength as they continue to strengthen your reign on earth through Catholic education.

Loving God, bestow your gifts on each member-elect as each one continues to work in partnership with staff in the cause of Catholic education.

[The Bishop or designate blesses each of the members-elect]

3. **Bishop or designate:** Let us pray.

Risen Jesus, loving God, bestow your gifts of wisdom and insight upon our brothers and sisters called in the service of Catholic education in Durham. May their service be rendered through the power of the Gospel in a spirit of joyful hope and self-giving.

4. **Bishop or designate:** *[To all elected Members of the Board]*

Will you now renew your personal commitment to strive to live according to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to live this Gospel in union with your brothers and sisters in the community of the Catholic Church?

Board Member-elect: With the help of God's grace and the support of each other, I renew my commitment.

5. **Bishop or designate:** Will you respect and honour the confidence placed in you by Catholic parents and guardians by making a conscientious effort to promote Catholic values in the Catholic schools of Durham?

Board Member-elect: I will.

6. **Bishop or designate:** Will you strive to hold as sacred the dignity and the rights of students, parents, staff, and members of the Board?

Board Member-elect: I will.

7. **Bishop or designate:** As people in whom parents and guardians have placed their trust for the advancement of Catholic education in the Durham Catholic District School Board, will you provide leadership and assistance to those who seek to fulfill their responsibilities as Catholic educators?

Board Member-elect: I will.

8. **Bishop or designate:** Will you strive to work together in a spirit of co-operation, mutual respect, and charity as a member of the Durham Catholic District School Board?

Board Member-elect: I will.

9. **Bishop or designate:** My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, each of you, through your Baptism, share in the Church's effort to transmit the teachings of Christ. Your declared desire to work together with the Catholic community in Durham will help to ensure the continuation of the Catholic education system of Ontario.

May the Lord bless you and your family without whose support you could not meet your many and varied responsibilities.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Board Member-elect: Amen.

[Extinguish candles]