



26 Years of Service!

Newsletter Vol. 13 - Sept. 2022
www.rosaryapostolate.com

Special thanks to all the principals and staff that welcomed the Rosary Apostolate into their schools in 2021-2022 to pray the Rosary with students virtually through Zoom or Google, or when this was not possible, through our YouTube channel. By the month of May, we were pleasantly surprised by many schools requesting in-person May Celebrations in their schools!

As the disciples were united in prayer with the Mother of God on Pentecost, when a school gathers to pray the Rosary, they join the Mother of God in prayer, and students experience a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit which will renew them in their faith and help them grow in holiness. Nothing gives the Blessed Virgin Mary more joy than to see a school united in praying the Holy Rosary!

By keeping prayer at the heart of Catholic education, you are planting in the hearts of students the key that opens to them the Heart of Christ.

May the Blessed Virgin Mary spread her powerful mantle of protection over all our schools and all their families.

Sr. Marilina Cinelli, C.P.
President



Principal Feedback on Virtual Rosary:

REGION: NORTH YORK 2 ST. AGNES C.E.S. - TCDSB

Gathering together as a Catholic Community. Having a deeper understanding about the importance of prayer in our lives and how powerful prayer truly is. Understanding Mary as our role model and why we pray the Rosary. Physically holding the Rosary - as it represents a symbol in our Faith. Both Lynette and Anne have created a safe, loving, nurturing, inclusive, and welcoming praying space via Zoom. They have also been flexible when a date or time had to be changed. I along with the staff and students of St. Agnes are very appreciative of all the great work they have continued to lead us during these trying times.

REGION: NORTH YORK 3 EPIPHANY OF THE LORD C.E.S. - TCDSB

Time together as a class to pray to Mother Mary. Learning how to say the Rosary. Learn prayers. The team did very well under difficult circumstances with online learning.

REGION: NORTH YORK 5 ST. THOMAS AQUINAS C.E.S. - TCDSB

The school comes together as a virtual community of believers to pray the Rosary. Also, the Rosary Apostolate inspires our students and our youth to love God by giving them the opportunity to experience God's presence in prayer and establishing a relationship with God and Mary. We are looking forward to welcoming our Rosary Apostolates this coming Fall (2022). We appreciate all of your time and effort in bringing the Rosary program virtually. With much gratitude.

REGION: SCARBOROUGH 1 ST. BARTHOLOMEW C.E.S. - TCDSB

The Rosary Apostolate Program is a great addition to our Religion program. Our students are able to take a step back and take some time to pray together to our Mother Mary. Keep up the amazing work! We

hope the program can take place in person next year.

REGION: SCARBOROUGH 2 ST. RENE GOUPIL C.E.S. - TCDSB

Our staff and students really enjoyed the monthly visits. The students have a deeper understanding of their faith.

REGION: BROOKLIN ST. JOHN PAUL II C.E.S. - DCDSB

Our students look forward to welcoming the Rosary Apostolate volunteer each month. It provides a devoted time to prayer without interruption. The staff and students appreciate the rapport they have built with each Rosary Apostolate volunteer. Students and staff enjoy new learning and a most reverent time for prayer. We appreciate that this year was online due to Covid, we hope that next year we will be able to resume in-school visits and celebrations.

REGION: OSHAWA 1 ST. KATERI TEKAKWITHA C.E.S. - CDSB

Ability to participate regularly to support faith development. Regular faith community building. Availability of links, flexibility of virtual.

REGION: OSHAWA 2 ST. HEDWIG C.E.S. - DCDSB

The volunteers that run the program are very committed to instilling faith in the students. The Rosary has always been a joyful experience.

REGION: PICKERING ST. ELIZABETH SETON C.E.S.- DCDSB

Despite being virtual our students were able to witness firsthand the power of the Rosary and its ability to unite. The program has helped our students nurture their





faith by experiencing individual and communal prayer. We look forward to being blessed with Rosary Apostolate volunteers in 2022-2023 (hopefully in person).

REGION: BRAMPTON 2
ST. ANTHONY C.E.S. - DPCDSB

The Rosary Apostolate Program has worked to support the spiritual development in our staff and students. We are blessed to be members of a Catholic school community. Through their service the Rosary Apostolate have aided in animating the Holy Spirit that fills our school. In a time when the world is so broken and riddled with tragedy, the Rosary Apostolate have reminded our school of both the importance and necessity of prayer. This gift is aiding our students in developing and enriching their spiritual / prayer life.

REGION: BRAMPTON 6
ST. JOHN BOSCO C.E.S. - DPCDSB

- It has brought us closer together as a community (especially after being apart because of COVID)
- Provided the children a renewed relationship with God and prayer
- Allowed our community to feel a renewed sense of faith
- Having the students identify someone to pray for/an intention for their prayers of the Rosary

REGION: MISSISSAUGA 1
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI C.E.S.
- DPCDSB

The program allows our students to take some time to focus their minds on praying to Mother Mary, which also provides them with moments of serenity and mindfulness. They are developing their knowledge of our Holy Mother and learning the impact

the Rosary can have on ourselves and the world.

REGION: MISSISSAUGA 2
ST. ELIZABETH SETON C.E.S.
- DPCDSB

- Teaching students to pray the Rosary
- Leading students closer to Jesus
- Learning prayers
- Being proud of our faith
- Bringing faith to action through interactions with other students and family

REGION: MISSISSAUGA 6
ST. GREGORY C.E.S. - DPCDSB

- Students gain greater understanding of the Rosary and the Mysteries of the Rosary.
- Students were engaged and more thoughtful in prayer.

REGION: MISSISSAUGA 7
ST. HILARY C.E.S. - DPCDSB

Our entire school has been able to stay connected to leaders in our Church. They have engaged in the saying of the Rosary on a regular basis and they have received skilled instruction on how to pray the Rosary and the meaning behind it. Staff and students have loved being a part of this training. Live streaming has enabled the students to stay connected and learn about their church and their faith. It has been an extremely positive experience!

REGION: MISSISSAUGA 8
ST. HELEN C.E.S. - DPCDSB

- strengthens our faith community, encourages discussions/reflections, opens up participation for personal intentions.



- The Rosary Apostolate Program promotes/teaches the importance of prayer and builds good values for our Religious Program.

REGION: MISSISSAUGA 10
ST. CLARE C.E.S. - DPCDSB

We were happy that we could continue virtually with the program during the pandemic.

REGION: BARRIE 1
ST. MONICA C.E.S. - SMCD SB

The pandemic has dramatically affected the prayer/church lives of our students. The Rosary Apostolate has always been the constant that helped bridge that gap. The staff and students have benefited from the deep faith of the Apostolate leaders and have looked forward to monthly connections. We are so appreciative of our extended family and thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your ongoing support. We look forward to face-to-face connections again next year.

REGION: BRADFORD
ST. MARIE OF THE INCARNATION C.E.S. - SMCD SB

Our students enjoy their monthly virtual visits. The staff and students were grateful for the opportunity to pray together and follow along with their rosaries. During the month of May, volunteers led the school in reciting Hail Marys in different languages. Students shared that because of the Rosary Apostolate volunteers, they feel closer to Mary and more reverent in their own prayers. Thank you for this opportunity.

REGION: MAPLE
FR. JOHN KELLY C.E.S. - YCDSB

Development of faith and learning about our faith. Cathy Lisena and Mary Furfaro were excellent prayer leaders. I hope that we can continue our partnership in the coming years.

REGION: RICHMOND HILL
ST. MARY IMMACULATE C.E.S. - YCDSB

Spiritual growth in praying the Rosary once per month. They were great at keeping the students engaged in praying the Rosary.

REGION: THORNHILL
OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY C.E.S. - YCDSB

Students and staff have become more devoted to intentional prayer via the Rosary as necessary to their spiritual development. This has become a lifelong practice that is valuable for all. It would be great to have in person visits again in the school.

REGION: OTTAWA
CORPUS CHRISTI C.E.S. - OCDSB

Children increased their knowledge and awareness of Mary and the Rosary. Becoming familiar praying the Rosary will assist them throughout their lives.

Principal Feedback on YouTube Rosary:

REGION: SCARBOROUGH S. WEST
ST. BRIDGET C.E.S. - TCDSB

- Centered and grounded students on a monthly basis.
 - Good way to remind students of our Catholicity and its pillars.
- As we work through the pandemic, the videos were a good mental health break. It was good for students to see other students, a diverse group of students, singing and praising, and praying.

REGION: BRAMPTON 1
St. Anne C.E.S.- DPCDSB

- engaging youth presenters
- variety of diverse presenters
- liked that the videos reflected change of liturgical seasons and locations



- provided more flexibility for classes to integrate into their schedule and program which means more opportunity to connect to God via prayer

REGION: BRAMPTON 5
St. DANIEL CAMBONI C.E.S.- DPCDSB

It has been a great program. Having the Rosary being a part of their prayer each month has been great. The flexibility of teachers being able to show the videos at a time that is convenient for their schedule throughout the month has been really good as well.

REGION: MISSISSAUGA 9
ST. SIMON STOCK C.E.S. - DPCDSB

Our faith need not "lay under a bushel." The R A program puts our faith front and centre and reminds students they are called to live the Gospel and be the hands of Christ.

REGION: WOODBRIDGE 4
ST. GREGORY THE GREAT C.E.S. - YCDSB

- Students were able to relate to the young students that led the Rosary in each video
- The text for the prayers was helpful for the students to follow along and actively participate
- Allowed us to come together in reflection and prayer
- Liked the student led prayers in video
- Personable and relatable for the students
- At times, during this school year we had some of our students that remained remote. These videos allowed those virtual students to engage and reconnect in prayer with those that remained face to face.
- It allows the students to quiet down and focus on prayer
- It also teaches students about the biblical stories related to the mysteries



Divine Mercy @DMY_YCDSB · Oct 5, 2021

This World Teacher's Day, we gathered as joyful disciples & prayed the **rosary** with Ms. Lisena & Ms. Furfaro from the **Rosary Apostolate**. Lord, bless our school with the gifts of Your truth & grace that we may bring Your words to life. 🙏❤️🙏 @RoseTrustee @AArcadi_SO @DomenicScuglia





- Thank you to all the organizers of the Program. May you continue to provide prayers for our school community - 'Rosary Days' are very grounding and very calming. We find that as we come out of the Covid restrictions, children have lost their ability to focus, concentrate, and self-regulate. The Rosary opportunities are an invaluable tool and strategy, not only to reconnect with our faith but to heal our mental health! This is an opportunity that cannot be lost. We miss the volunteers as well.

**REGION: WELLAND 2
HOLY NAME, C.E.S. - NCDSB**

- Kept us connected to the program.
- Technology makes it easy to set up and view.
- We love the videos but look forward to in person very soon.
- We have benefited greatly in building upon our faith journey and deepening our love of Mary.

From Students:

Praying the Rosary, has helped me a lot during these months of School. It has helped me by being a better person and being closer to God each time I pray. It has also made me want to pray the Rosary more, not just once a month. These are some of the things that helped me with praying the Rosary. I can't wait for the next time I get to pray the Rosary. Thank you!

Praying the Rosary has helped me a lot. Praying the Rosary means a chance to connect with God, to speak to Him through prayer and to grow the relationship with Him spiritually. I love praying the Rosary because it helped me do all these things and have a deep connection with Him. Praying the Rosary helped me too --- and all my thoughts about School, home and work, to drift away and really focus on what God is trying to tell me. Praying the Rosary has helped me a lot so Thank you!
- Grade 3

It calms me. It helps me know more about Jesus' life. It's helped me be kinder to my brothers and sisters. It's helped me pray more at night. It's helped me believe in God more.
- Grade 1/2

Praying the Rosary helps me by making me feel like I am a part of God's family and Mary's family and that God loves us. It has helped me feel like Jesus is in us. It makes me feel happy and not bad. It helps me

feel in Jesus' love. I know that it makes God happy and makes us happy too. It's helped me feel like Jesus was in my heart. It's helped me learn how to pray the Rosary. It is a peaceful time. It makes me feel welcomed into God's family. It's helped me learn the prayers like Hail Mary. It helped me know the Rosary is not a necklace or a toy.

The Rosary made me realize that it is not only for parents but for students and a reminder of how important it is to pray. Some people think it's boring but it always makes me feel good.
- Grade 7

Praying the Rosary with the class has helped me to love Jesus God because He prays with us while we are saying the decade. The rosary positively is a great thing to do it should be done more.
- Grade 6

For me praying the Rosary every month helped me by giving me more hope and God and me.
- Grade 2

Praying the Rosary has helped me a lot. Praying the Rosary means a chance to connect with God, to speak to Him through prayer and to grow in a relationship with Him spiritually. I love praying the Rosary because it helped me to all these things and have a deep connection with Him. Praying the Rosary helped me to relax and all my thoughts about school, home, and work to drift away and really focus on what God is trying to tell me. Praying the Rosary has helped me a lot so thank you.

I love praying the Rosary. Praying the Rosary clears my mind and destresses me. It also makes me happy and I learn new stuff almost every day.
- Grade 5

It has helped me by giving me courage to face my fears and believe in my dreams. Also to have faith in others.
- Grade 3

It helped me to go to church more often. And makes me spend more time with my family.
- Grade 2

It makes me feel full of life. I now understand life is worth living for. Jesus died for us to live a better life and I feel like wasting our life early isn't what God wanted. God wanted us to all be friends and never treat other people like you don't want to be treated.
- Grade 8

Praying the Rosary helps me with many things. It helps me to feel comfort in hard times. It helps me to be closer to God. It reminds me how much God loves me. It feeds my soul good things. It helps me grow spiritually. - Grade 4

Praying the Rosary helps me build my connection with God, Jesus and Mary. While praying the Rosary, it allows my heart and my mind to be with them and it brings a feeling of love, calmness and safety. I feel good knowing that I am giving God my time as it also encourages me to pray every night or morning. During these times I pray the Hail Mary and reach out to God for guidance, and support, and also praying for those in need, the safety of our environment, planet and for a quality worldwide. I only began praying once we started doing the Rosary again. - Grade 7

It's important to pray the Rosary because you are growing your relationship with God, you are also worshipping God and showing Him that you love Him. When you do the Rosary you are going back into God's miracles and life. Praying makes me feel Catholic and it makes me feel good because I am growing my relationship and I know that and I'm making God feel happy because I'm talking to Him. I pray because it makes me feel strong and I can take on any task. - Grade 3

Praying the Rosary is important in a Catholic life. It is important to pray the Rosary because it lets God know that we care and believe in Him, His teachings, His commandments and all that He has created for us. Praying the Rosary helps us connect with God. For example, if you are hurt or sad praying to God can make you feel so much better. When you pray God understands you and listens to you. God makes you feel like you have a worth in this world and He can make you feel better. God will help you when you need, He will guide you in the right direction. This will happen only if you believe. - Grade 6

Today I'm going to be talking about why it's important to pray the Rosary to begin



with, praying the Rosary helps many people cope with stress and feel closer to God. Praying is an important thing to do and should be in everyone's routine. It's important to pray the Rosary so you have a closer more holy relationship with God. Praying the Rosary also gives you a good chance to go to heaven when you die and reunite with Jesus. Praying leads to many good things like living a good holy and long life and being closer to Jesus. This is why it's important to pray the Rosary every month. - Grade 5

Praying the Rosary helped me overall just get closer to God, and love Him more. Praying the Rosary has helped me understand more about religious things. It has helped me fit in and understand more about the community around me. It also helped me to share more things with people around us, and know that I don't always need the best and up to fashion things. I've also learned while praying the Rosary that God is and what He has done for us. Not only have I learned who He is and what He has done, I also have learned to trust Him. He has taught me things and made me realize things making me love Him, and trust Him. - Grade 7

By praying the Rosary every month, I really connected myself and my own experiences with who Jesus is. For example, every time when I feel depressed, upset and losing my goal, I would try to think of

Him, think of how He would overcome those challenges and difficulties. Through the deep exploration of the Rosary, I also learned that we should be friendly, humble, patient to other people, and be faithful, obedient and devoted to God's will.

- Grade 6/7

The Rosary helped me by praying every month by maintaining our faith, faith on Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Then for us to have the opportunity to subjugate our own will to that of our Heavenly Father, and invites us to appreciate the gift fully and to participate at Mass often. We all got a sacrifice and to suffer in some small way for all God has given us and has sacrificed for us. - Grade 7

Praying the Rosary helped me by giving me a better understanding on God and Jesus. It also helped me have a better understanding of what is right and what is wrong. - Grade 6/7

Praying helps me to not be worried or terrified. Praying also helps me to be calm and control myself. - Grade 4

It helped me understand that we all go through tough times and that we all miss all of our loved ones. It helped me let go of all my problems, it also helped me understand that most of the people in my class are losing their grandparents like me. It helped me cope with my problems. - Grade 7