



ST. GREGORY THE GREAT CATHOLIC ACADEMY

140 Greenpark Blvd. Woodbridge. ON L4L 6Z6

Tel: 905-856-0955 | Fax: 905-856-0999 | <http://sgg.ycdsb.ca>

April 29, 2020

Dear Parents & Guardians of St. Gregory the Great,

I hope this letter finds you and your families safe and in good health.

Next week is **Catholic Education Week** in Ontario - a time to celebrate the best of and to be thankful for the gift of Catholic Education in our province. This year's Catholic Education Week theme is **Igniting Hope**; especially appropriate given the current COVID-19 pandemic. Albeit in a different way, St. Gregory the Great will acknowledge this annual event with the support of our resilient community and show that, as Easter people, we are ignited by the Holy Spirit.

This coming week SGG would have celebrated the blessing of our beautiful chapel and modernized library learning commons. This student-led liturgical celebration would have included an outdoor prayerful procession with our staff, students, and statue of the Virgin Mary: *a living rosary*. We wish to proceed with a 'distance learning' devotion to our Heavenly Mother - *our staff, students and families representing each bead in the rosary*.

How do our families who wish to participate in this devotion get involved?

Please note that participation in this activity is completely voluntary.

Please find attached a template families may use to create rosary beads. Alternately, students and their families can create beads from materials at home (i.e., cardboard, bristol board, etc). The beads may include pictures, scripture, or inspirational messages based on the 'Igniting Hope' theme. Resources for your consideration have been provided in this letter.

Once the beads are completed, parents can take a photo of their child(ren) holding the rosary bead or include the whole family in the photo. The family has always been a symbol of hope, representing faith, strength and support. Photos can be uploaded by visiting this Google Form link: <https://forms.gle/aM8AzytqBPy6oiR88>. Alternately, photos can be emailed to your child's teacher via the Google Classroom. Each photo (rosary bead) will be put together in a video slideshow. As the rosary contains 50 rosary beads, each one representing a *Hail Mary*, we are hoping to receive at least 50 submissions from our community.

The video will be shared with our school community via School Messenger and social media (kindly note this if you choose to participate in this project by sharing a photo with us). Hope means that we expect better - we know that better days are coming because they have been promised to us by our God. This video slideshow will come to represent our community's hope, love, strength and resiliency.

We ask that all photos be shared by 3pm on Tuesday, May 5th, 2020.

We hope this project helps to lift the spirits of our students and school community.

Should you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher or school administration.

Yours in Catholic Education,

V. Galea, *Principal*



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Resources for your consideration:

1. YouTube: [Thank you Canada's Essential Workers](#)
2. Audio: Catholic Education Week Song *Hope* [Audio](#)
3. Lyrics: Catholic Education Week Song *Hope* [Lyrics](#)
4. Video: Catholic Education Week Song *Hope* [Music Video](#)
5. Template - [Rosary Bead Option 1](#)
6. Template - [Rosary Bead Option 2](#)



Select Catholic Education Week Prayers

Loving God,

You sent your son, Jesus, to be our hope.
We feel his promised spirit at work within us.

We recognize his risen presence among us as
we gather in his name in prayer, and celebrate
the Eucharist.

He is the hope which inspires us to share as
members of the Catholic educational community,
in your Church's mission to announce the Good
News to the whole world.

We thank you for the gift of Catholic education.
May it continue to be a place where Christ
ignites within us, an abiding confidence, in a
future filled with hope.

We make this prayer through Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

O God, our Creator,

You are our hope and light.
We are your people, a people of hope.
Bless us, O Lord, and send your Spirit upon us.

It is through our love and caring, that you give us
hope, and we bring light to each other.

May your love inspire us, and your light sustain
us.

May a future full of hope bring us closer to you.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

Amen.