

St. Teresa of Avila Parish

Diocese of Hamilton



44 Leonard Street
Kitchener, ON N2H 6C8

September 24, 2018

Dear Parents of St. Teresa School Students,

As the new pastor at St. Teresa of Avila Parish, I would like to introduce myself and I will do it during the Mass on October 14th as we celebrate our Parish Feast – commemoration of St. Teresa of Avila.

I'm writing this letter together with the principal of St. Teresa School Mr. Brian Goodyear to let you know that we want to establish strong collaboration between parish and school and assure you that we will do everything to accompany you in the Christian formation of your children. There is a saying: "It takes a whole community to raise a child". This Nigerian wise proverb encourages us to work together in order to create the best environment for your children.

Pope Francis speaking to parents said: "Children are aware of our joys, our sadness and our worries. [...] That is why one of the first things I would say to you is: take care of them, take care of their hearts, their joys, and their hopes. Your children's 'little eyes' gradually memorize and interpret with the heart that faith is one of the greatest inheritances you have received from your parents and ancestors...".

It would be so wonderful if we could celebrate all together our faith and Jesus's gift of LOVE – Holy Eucharist every Sunday at our church. This would give us an opportunity for catechesis, getting to know each other and spiritual growth in our relationship with Christ. I strongly believe that with God's grace and your help we can "move mountains". I count on your prayers and collaboration!

I would like to invite you to our Parish Feast celebrations along with your children on October 14th at 10 a.m. for Solemn Mass and Potluck brunch. Following the Mass we will have a group picture with our entire parish community and St. Teresa School.

In the upcoming months, I will organize formation meetings for parents of candidates who will receive 1st Communion, Reconciliation, and Confirmation at our parish. More details will be sent out in the next couple of weeks.

I pray that the Holy Spirit will guide us in this very important mission creating faith environment so your children can truly discover God's presence in their lives.

With prayers,

Fr. Marian Gil OMI
Pastor of St. Teresa of Avila Parish

Mr. Brian Goodyear
Principal of St. Teresa School