



York Catholic District School Board

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LIVING IN COMMUNITY

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Christ is risen, alleluia!

On this, the solemnity of solemnities, I want to take the opportunity to wish you and your children a very happy and blessed Easter! The Resurrection is the fulfilment of our Saviour's promise of salvation and the Easter season is a time when we take a moment to celebrate the gift of our redemption with our families. It is also a time of great celebration in our schools, that coincides with the arrival of spring and new beginnings.



Holy Week, which has led us to this glorious moment, is the most solemn and holy period in our liturgical year. It is an opportunity for us to pause and enter into the Paschal Mystery by uniting our own suffering with that of Christ. These days are a period of particular importance in our schools as our students are given the opportunity to reflect on their life of faith. Our Lord's entrance into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday signifies the beginning of our liturgical celebration of the Paschal Mystery, where we consider His coming Passion, Death, and Resurrection during the Triduum.

Holy Thursday, the first day of the Triduum, reminds us of the celebration of the Last Supper and the institution of the Eucharist, which is the source and summit of our faith. Good Friday marks Christ's sacrifice of His life as well as our humble acknowledgement that God himself paid the ultimate price for our salvation. Holy Saturday begins in sorrowful silence but culminates in our joyful celebration of Christ's victory over death in the Easter Vigil, particularly at the beautiful moment where we welcome catechumens into the Church through Baptism and share with them the redemption won for us by Christ.

This rich spiritual experience of the Paschal Mystery that we celebrate in our schools, ultimately reminds us of who we are as followers of Christ and members of Catholic school communities. It is the central moment in our life of faith, especially as we are reminded that we are sons and daughters of God through the great mystery of our redemption.

May the glory of Christ's Resurrection be a moment of joy and peace in your lives and those of your children this Easter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Maria Marchese".

Maria Marchese, Vice-Chair