



## ***St. Clair Catholic Publishes New Children's Book – "I Love My Catholic School!"***

The children's book *I Love My Catholic School* is the newest introduction to Junior Kindergarten in a Catholic school setting, offered by Maracle Press and the St. Clair Catholic District School Board.

"This book is going to be a tremendous resource, not only for St. Clair Catholic, but for Catholic boards across the province," says Dan Parr, Director of Education.

"It can be used as a gift to parents, either at the time of JK registration; or, to begin connecting with parents earlier by making it available to parishes to distribute as a gift at baptism," says Mr. Parr. "There is also an accompanying growth chart, which connects physical growth to spiritual growth, as the child progresses through the Sacraments."

Written by Board Chair Carol Bryden and retired teacher Dianne Lloyd, the new book is built on Catholic education's foundational triad of home, school and parish and focuses on themes common to the Catholic mission – love, inclusive education, stewardship and social justice. *I Love My Catholic School* also recognizes parents as the first educators of their children.

The book is illustrated by Jeremy Bruneel, a professional artist in London, who is a graduate of Ursuline College in Chatham.

It is the second offering by the authors and the artist. In 2008 the trio produced *Yellow Bear Goes to Catholic School*, which was very successful and was purchased by many Catholic boards in Ontario. Royalties from the books help fund the Board's student retention initiatives.

*I Love My Catholic School* also contains an activity guide for parents, to help them begin a discussion with their children, who are entering school for the first time.

Both the book and the growth chart can be personalized with any Catholic school board's logo and dedication message to parents.

*I Love My Catholic School* will be available for orders from Maracle Press beginning in January 2015.

***Pictured above are (L-R) Dianne Lloyd, retired teacher and the book's co-author; Dan Parr, Director of Education; and Carol Bryden, Chair of the Board and co-author.***