



System-Wide Mass Launches 2009-2010 School Year and Welcomes New Employees

A district-wide Mass was held on Friday, September 11, 2009 at Our Lady Help of Christians Church in Wallaceburg. The special Mass is held at the beginning of each school year, to celebrate God's gift of Catholic education and to ask for His blessing on all those in our schools and parishes across the district, who teach, support and guide our students. It is also an opportunity to welcome new employees to St. Clair Catholic.

Father Greg Bonin, pastor of the Holy Redeemer Parish Cluster was principal celebrant and Father Jim Higgins, Episcopal Vicar for the Sarnia Deanery, concelebrated.

Live Like Jesus, the theme for the 2009-2010 school year, was also the theme for the celebration.

"This theme is our public declaration that we come together as a Catholic community and that we are gathered as disciples of Christ, who are called to live in the ways in which He has taught us," said Linda Ward, Vice Chair of the Board, as she welcomed everyone on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

As part of the celebration, new employees were presented bibles by Director of Education Paul Wubben and Anita Labadie, Chair of the Board.

"I want to especially welcome all of our new employees to St. Clair Catholic," said Mrs. Labadie. "I also want to thank the members of the Liturgical Dance Team from Ursuline College, who so beautifully brought us into God's presence at the beginning of this Mass."

Students, teachers, parents and principals represented the schools and parishes from across the St. Clair district.

Pictured above, Anita Labadie, Chair of the Board (left) presents a bible to Carey De Koning, a new employee with the Board.