



System-Wide Mass Dedicates Service of New Employees to Catholic Education

A district-wide Mass was held on Friday, September 13, 2013 at Our Lady Help of Christians Church in Wallaceburg, to celebrate God's gift of Catholic education, to ask for His blessing on our new employees, and to dedicate their service to the mission of Catholic education. To commemorate the day, new employees were presented bibles.

Father Jim Higgins, Episcopal Vicar for the Sarnia Deanery was principal celebrant and Father Greg Bonin, Episcopal Vicar for the Kent Deanery delivered the homily. Deacons Jerry Lozon, Board Chaplain, and Cyril Cogghe of the Holy Redeemer Parish Cluster assisted.

The Board's theme for the 2013-2014 school year, *Live Like Jesus ... Called to Serve*, was also the theme for the celebration; and each school community was presented with a banner depicting the theme.

Members of the Paquette family were special guests. They were also presented with a bible, by Carol Bryden, Chair of the Board and Father Jim Higgins.

Noelle Paquette, who died last January, was a kindergarten teacher at St. Matthew Catholic School and was known for her great love and compassion for children. Earlier this year, the Paquette family established the *Noelle's Gift* charitable fund in her memory, to continue her legacy of giving.

"Earlier this week, St. Clair Catholic and the Lambton Kent District School Board were presented with a cheque for \$60,000," says Mrs. Bryden. "This is money that the boards will share and, in Noelle's name, continue to help our most needful students. We want to say a very heartfelt 'thank you' on behalf of our entire board and the students and families we serve."

Special thanks also goes to Dorothy Debakker and the LIFETEEN Music Ministry; and Lindsay Dunlop and the UCC Grade 11 dance class, who began and ended Mass with the liturgical dance *Go Serve Our World*.

Pictured above are (L-R) Tracy Adams, Secretary, Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School, Chatham; Carol Bryden, Chair of the Board; and Lisa Burden, Health and Safety Administrator, Catholic Education Centre.