



POINTS TO PONDER FROM THE NIAGARA FOUNDATION FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION

You probably pass several students on the streets on a regular basis. Many of them no doubt wear a happy smile. Some of those radiant faces are likely very genuine, but others could be a complete camouflage. Taking it for granted that all students start their school day with a pleasant smile and a happy disposition is a far cry from reality. It's hard to believe that every day, one in five students goes to school hungry and waits in line to receive a breakfast. During the 2018-2019 school year, Niagara Catholic District School Board had 59 student nutrition programs across Niagara serving over one million meals, and thanks to caring donors we can continue to ensure that necessary meals will be provided.

Other statistics reveal that 80% of classroom learning is done through the eyes, and that one child in four suffers from some kind of vision problem severe enough to impact learning. Many students do not have the financial resources to purchase eyeglasses. Several others lack daily essentials such as warm clothing, shoes, personal care items, money for school uniforms, equipment for students with special needs or the financial means to pursue a rewarding education.

We often associate poverty with third world countries, little realizing that it exists right here at home in our own backyard.

In his scripture writings about the Lord's judgement of the nations the apostle St. Mathew tells us about the words of Christ when he speaks of feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, giving drink to the thirsty and welcoming the stranger. Christ says, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are my brothers, you did it to me".

Students who receive Foundation support are truly grateful. One student writes, "Thank you for your assistance. I promise it will be put to good use during my future endeavors in furthering my education and will promote the important lessons I have learned as a Catholic Student".

Another writes, "It's not always easy to juggle school and work, but with your generosity, it has made it much easier. When I graduate I hope I can make a difference in people's lives like you have in mine".

The Niagara Foundation for Catholic Education is a registered charitable foundation and receipts are issued for tax purposes. Cheques can be made payable to the Niagara Foundation for Catholic Education. Credit cards are also accepted. Donate on line using PayPal and view the foundation's video at www.nfce.org. The mailing address is:

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