



**DURHAM CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**
Learning and Living in Faith

Memorandum

To: Board of Trustees

From: Gerard Winn, Director of Education

Date: September 23, 2024

Subject: **Presentation: 2024-2025 Spiritual Theme – Living in Hope**

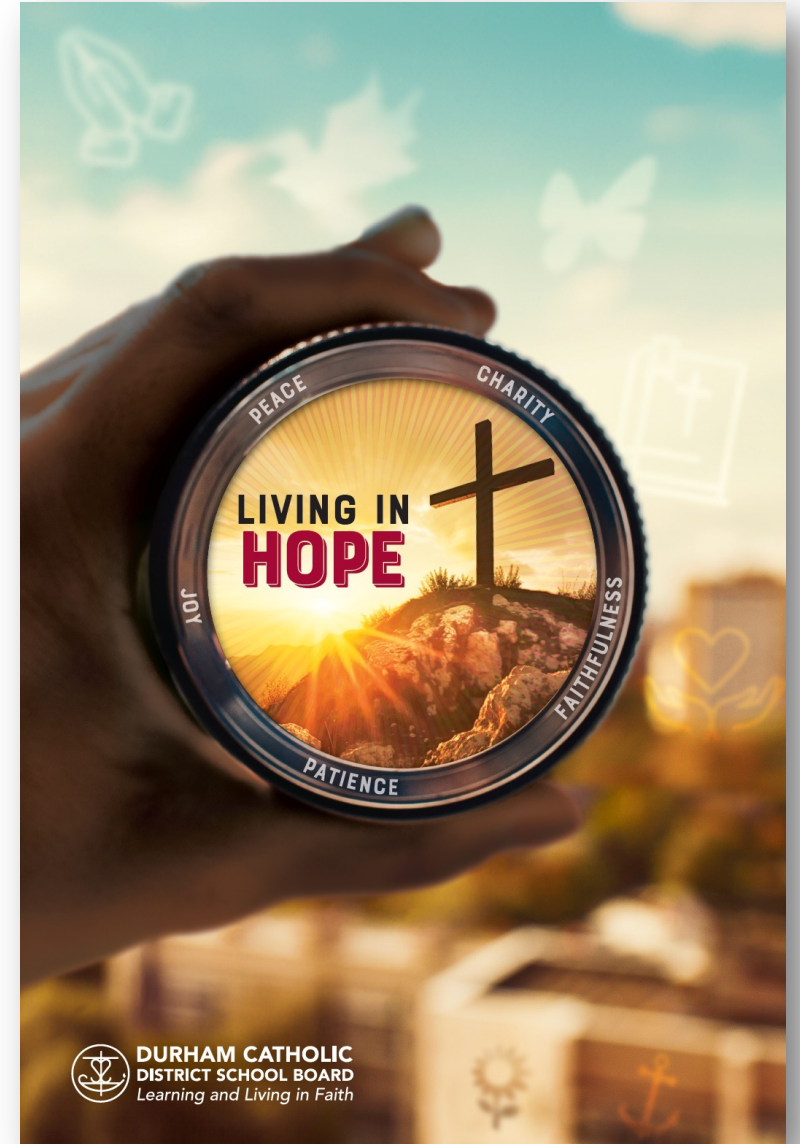
Origin: Katharine Stevenson, Superintendent of Education

Please find attached a copy of the *2024-2025 Spiritual Theme – Living in Hope* presentation.

GW/KS/dp
Attachment: Presentation

Living in Hope

2024-2025 Spiritual Theme

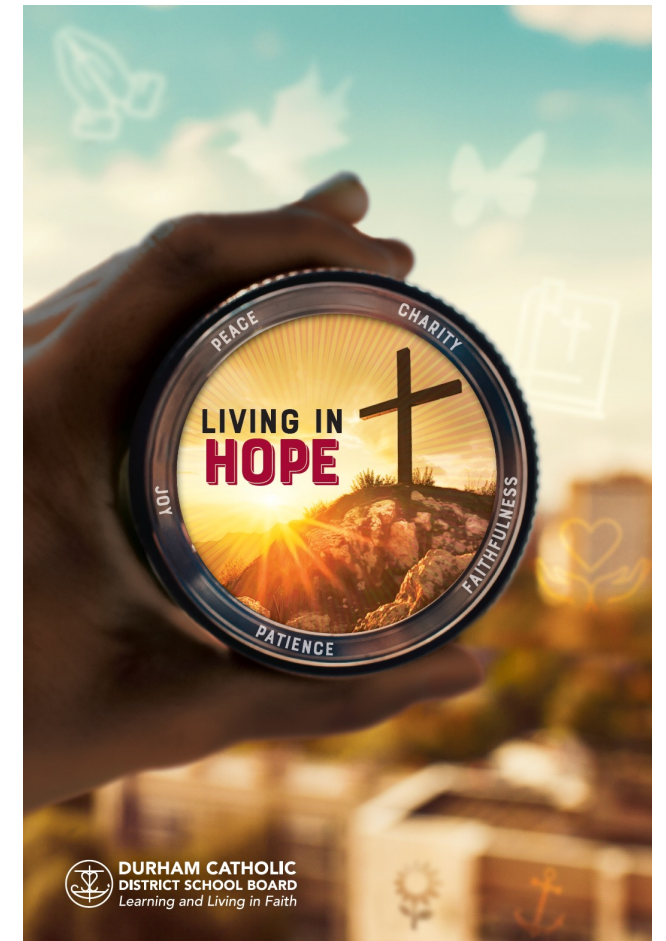
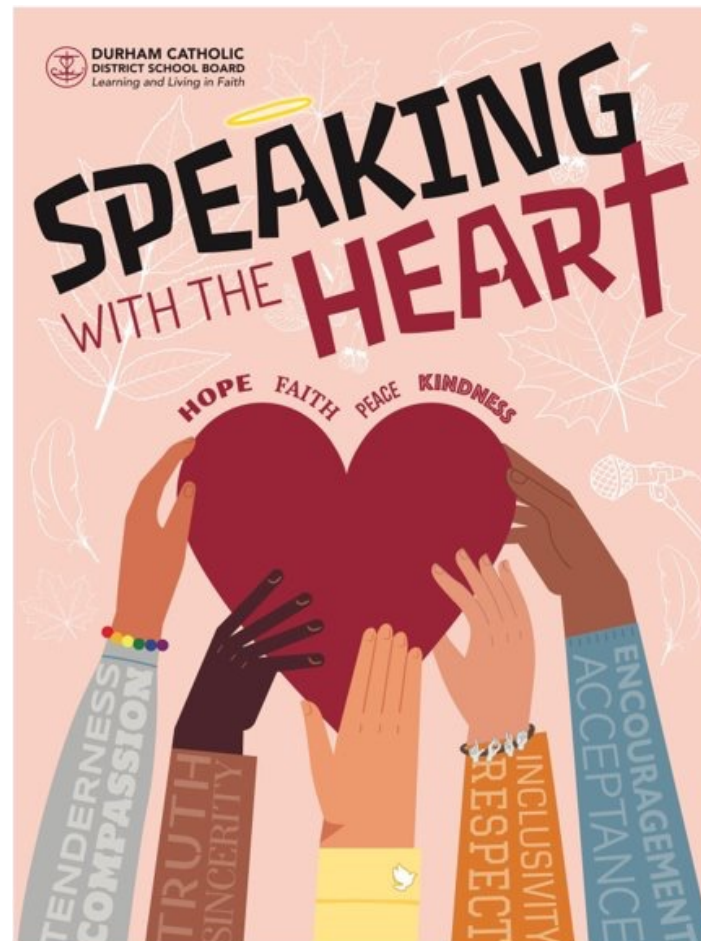
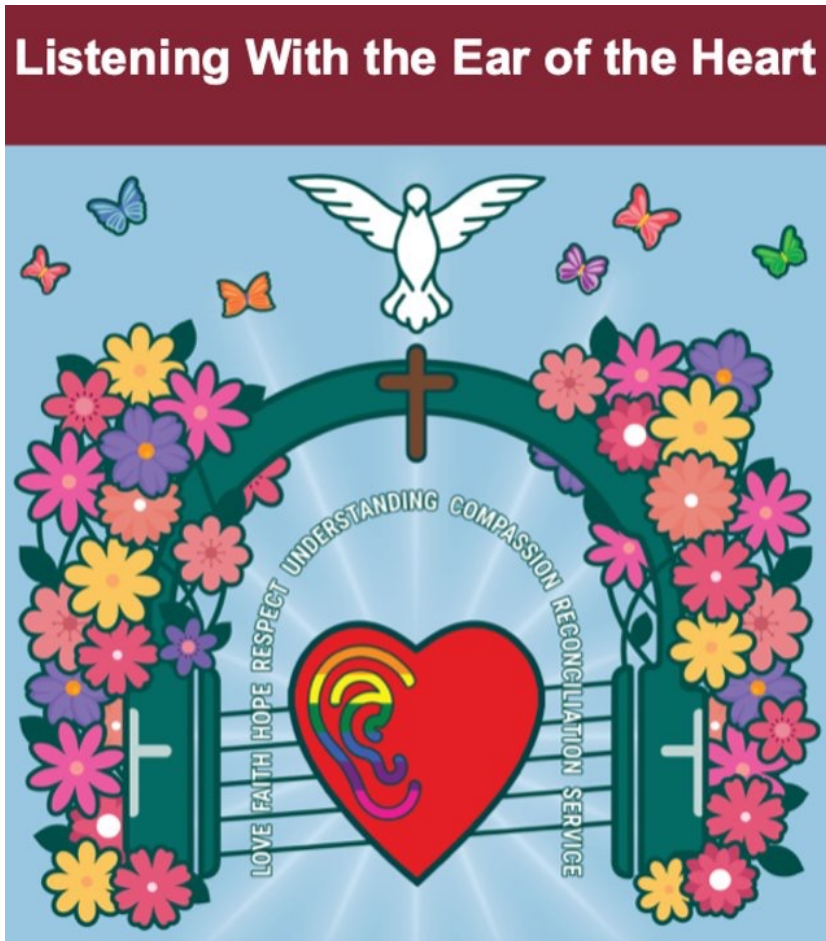


Jubilee 2025

- An “Ordinary Jubilee” is a spiritual tradition that occurs every 25 years in the Church
- Pope Francis has chosen the motto: Pilgrims of Hope
- Pope Francis notes the current “signs of the times”
- He says, “We must fan the flame of hope that has been given to us, and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and a far-sighted vision”



Listening...Learning...Living



What is hope? Common usage



The Christian sense of hope

- Faith, hope, and love are the three theological virtues
- They are gifts from God that help us live as children of God
- Hope is the virtue that leads us to desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ's promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help and grace of the Holy Spirit
- Hope sustains us as we journey through life



Called to be witnesses of hope

Surely we need to “abound in hope” (cf. Rom 15:13), so that we may bear credible and attractive witness to the faith and love that dwell in our hearts; so that our faith may be joyful and our charity enthusiastic; and that each of us may be able to offer a smile, a small gesture of friendship, a kind look, a ready ear, a good deed, in the knowledge that, in the Spirit of Jesus, these can become for those who receive them, rich seeds of hope.

- Pope Francis



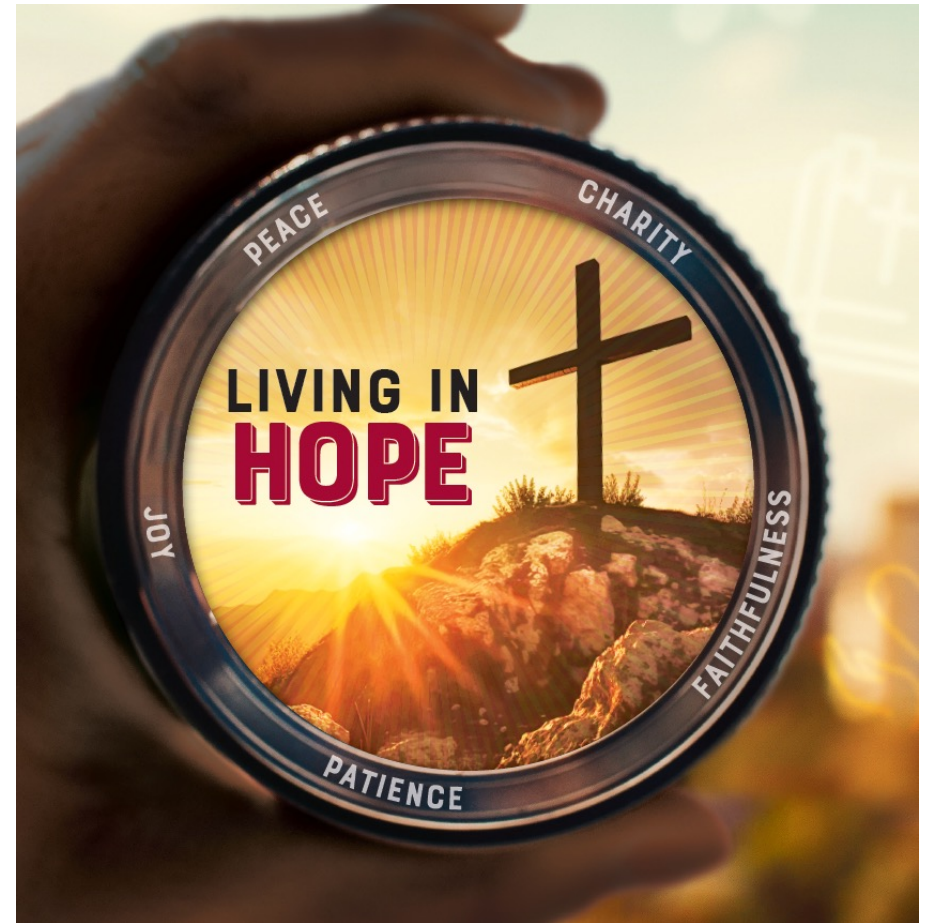
Spiritual theme poster design

- Gr 7 to 12 DCDSB students invited to participate
- May 2024 full-day workshop at the City of Oshawa's Arts Resource Centre and the Robert McLaughlin Gallery
- Reflected upon what Living in Hope means to them



The camera lens

- The most prominent image
- Invites the viewer to NOTICE what it magnifies
- Amid the current realities and circumstances of our lives, we are called to FOCUS on the promises of Christ and the hope of the resurrection
- Founded on faith and nurtured by love, hope enables us to press forward in life (it is future-facing)



Fruits of the Holy Spirit

- 5 of the 12 Fruits of the Holy Spirit
- Jesus told his disciples, “You will know them by their fruits” (Matt 7:16)
- When we allow the Holy Spirit to flourish within us, these fruits become the resulting observable behaviours
- When we commit to Living in Hope, we will bear these fruits



Hidden Images

- Praying hands
- Holy Spirit
- Butterfly
- Scripture (Bible)
- Hands and heart (charity)
- Anchor
- Sunflower
- These can act as SYMBOLS for hope as connections are made between the image and the virtue. This is “meaning-making”

