



**AUGUST 21, 2023**

**DEAR RCDK CLERGY, STAFF, PARENTS AND STUDENTS OF CISKD,**

Welcome back! I trust you all have had some time to rest and recharge during the summer holidays as we begin to prepare for yet another exciting school year. We continue to pray for those who are affected by the recent wildfires and ask our Lord for His guidance and patience and wish to thank all firefighters for their selfless act of service.

On behalf of His Excellency, Bishop Joseph and the CISKD Board of Directors, I continue to be humbled to serve as your Superintendent of Schools for this upcoming school year and look forward to this faithful journey with each of you.

This year's theme for all of our Catholic Independent Schools in the province is, ***"Living, Celebrating and Proclaiming our Faith."*** I am reminded of this verse from the book of Matthew 9:37-38: *"The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."* We all have a role to play in the sharing of our faith. There is true beauty in love, compassion and forgiveness. I encourage you all to be bold, brave and prayerful as we continue to evangelize, share in the good news and make disciples of all nations; we are all united in this mission.

The colours used this year's theme represent the following:

- Green: growth and renewal - the idea that living the faith is an ongoing process of growth and development.
- Blue: trust and faithfulness - the importance of trust and faithfulness in living the Catholic faith.
- Gold: wisdom and holiness - the goal of living the Catholic faith; to become wise and holy people who reflect the love of God in the world.

I look forward to visiting our school and parish communities this year and share in the joys that are our schools. I continue to be grateful to our Diocesan Parish Priests who support Catholic Education; we are thankful for your unwavering love and support of our students and families. To my CISKD Principals for their leadership and compassion in their own communities; you are a beacon of hope for our schools. To our front line educators, support staff and childcare educators, thank you for being an example of faith, hope and love to our students. Finally, to our parents who have chosen a Catholic Education for their child/ren...thank you for your commitment and faith. Education is a selfless profession and we all take great pride in instilling values in our future generation in the hopes of one day bearing witness to the contributions they will make on society. We are honoured to be with you and cannot wait to see all you accomplish.

in His care,

Christopher Yuen  
Superintendent of Schools