

NIAGARA CATHOLIC RECEIVES APPROVAL TO TENDER CONSTRUCTION FOR NEW OUR LADY OF THE HOLY ROSARY CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Niagara Catholic is pleased to announce that the Ministry of Education has approved a request to tender an addition to Monsignor Clancy Catholic Elementary School in Thorold.

Minister of Education Stephen Lecce, and Niagara West MPP Sam Oosterhoff, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister, made the announcement on September 21.

The addition will lead to the consolidation of Monsignor Clancy, which houses elementary students in Grades 4 through 8, and St. Charles Catholic Elementary School, attended by students in Kindergarten through Grade 3, to create a single Catholic elementary school for students in Thorold. The new school will return to its roots, re-adopting the name Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, in honour of the parish church in the community.

Highlights of the addition and renovation include:

- 104 new pupil places, which will allow for 130 JK/SK students
- A five-room Kindergarten addition
- 49 licensed childcare spaces
- A three-room childcare centre renovation

Construction is set to begin in October, and is expected to last 12-16 months. The new school is expected to open in early 2022. The total capacity for the amalgamated school is 700 students.

STAKEHOLDER QUOTES

Camillo Cipriano, Director of Education:

“The plan to consolidate the two Catholic elementary schools in Thorold has been discussed for quite some time. During the last school year, our Board showed its confidence in the government’s commitment to this project by renaming Monsignor Clancy Catholic Elementary School to Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Catholic Elementary School, and chose to honour the past by integrating the existing school names into special areas of the new school,” said Mr. Cipriano. “It will be exciting to see the changes to Monsignor Clancy as it evolves into the new Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, and I look forward to the day when we celebrate its opening in the community.”

Frank Fera, Chair of the Niagara Catholic District School Board:

“On behalf of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, we are extremely elated to receive such exciting news in respect to this much-needed addition to Monsignor Clancy Catholic Elementary School,” said Mr. Fera. “We are grateful for the support of Minister Lecce, through his approval of this significant project, for current and future Catholic students in Thorold. The students and staff at Monsignor Clancy will undeniably reap the benefits of this long-anticipated project for many years to come.”

Dan Trainor, Principal of Monsignor Clancy Catholic Elementary School:

“It’s very exciting news to hear that all Catholic elementary students in Thorold will soon be together under one roof for their entire 10 years of Catholic elementary school. We have been functioning as a single community under two roofs for a long time,” said Mr. Trainor. “The community has patiently waited for this; and deserves this opportunity for families to be together at school. We look forward to creating our new school motto, mascot and logo together as a St. Charles and Monsignor Clancy school community. It will be a privilege to return to the original Our Lady of the Holy Rosary name after 21 years, and to include both St. Charles and Monsignor Clancy into the new school by dedicating the St. Charles Chapel and naming the Monsignor Clancy Library after our two schools.”

Susy Walsh, Principal of St. Charles Catholic Elementary School:

"The opportunity to shorten the existing 'hallway' between St. Charles and Monsignor Clancy is truly a gift and a blessing for the families of Thorold. Since this process began, family support has contributed to the success of two schools functioning as one. The triad of Our Lady of The Holy Rosary Parish, families and our joint school community has set the foundation for a seamless transition once the new school opens."

Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education:

"From modernizing our curriculum to revitalizing our classrooms and their facilities, we are investing in our students and giving them every tool to achieve their full potential. Our financing of the addition to Monsignor Clancy Catholic Elementary School further demonstrates our government's historic investment in Ontario's schools and our overall commitment to supporting our students and families."

Sam Oosterhoff, Niagara West MPP:

"The funding for this addition to Monsignor Clancy Catholic Elementary School is fantastic news for Niagara. This investment will provide a quality learning environment and new opportunities for the students of Thorold."

Contact: Camillo Cipriano, Director of Education

Issued by: Jennifer Pellegrini, Communications Officer

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