



Waterloo Catholic
District School Board

35 Weber Street West • P.O. Box 91116 • Kitchener Ontario Canada • N2G 4G2
Telephone: 519.578.3660



News Release

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For immediate release

Catholic Board Names Distinguished Graduate Award Recipient

Waterloo Region, ON – The Waterloo Catholic District School Board is pleased to announce the naming of **Fr. Toby Collins, C.R.**, as the Board's **Distinguished Graduate Award** recipient. The award will be presented on Thursday, October 4, 2012 during **St. Mary's High School's** annual graduation ceremonies at the Centre in the Square.

A graduate of St. Mary's High School, Fr. Toby completed a degree at Wilfred Laurier University before establishing a landscaping business called *Tiny Toby*. A short time later Fr. Toby decided to enter the priesthood, completing a Masters of Divinity degree and being ordained June 2, 2007 at St. Louis Church in Waterloo.

He currently serves as **Vocation Director for the Congregation of the Resurrection** and actively uses social media to connect with others in finding their vocation. You can find Fr. Toby via the website www.vocationculture.ca or on Twitter at **@Fr_Toby**.

Father Toby has met with all Chaplains in the Waterloo Catholic District School board and he has been frequently present in the board's secondary schools speaking about religious life.

His nominators wrote: "*When we talk about the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations, Toby has achieved all these expectations and is making a huge contribution to Catholic Education when we need it most. [He is] a priest who is changing the world, one vocation at a time*".

Previous award recipients include teaching missionary **Sister Barbara Paleczny, SSND** (2011), **David Eby**, Executive Director of the B.C. Civil Liberties Association (2010), **Fr. Paul Voisin, C.R.**, Vicar General of the Diocese of Hamilton in Bermuda (2009), Ontario Minister of Community & Social Services **Dr. John Milloy** (2008), CTV National News anchor **Lisa LaFlamme** (2007), University of Waterloo Professor **Dr. Brian Orend** (2006) and Superior Court Justice **Patrick J. Flynn** (2005).

The students, staff and trustees of Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools proudly congratulate Fr. Toby for his outstanding contributions to Catholic education and Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools.

The Waterloo Catholic District School Board, representing more than 100,000 Catholic school supporters, operates 52 schools and five adult education facilities serving more than 40,000 elementary, secondary and continuing education students in Waterloo Region – continuing a 176-year tradition of quality, inclusive, faith-based education. Follow us on Twitter: **@WCDSBNewswire - #WCDSBAwesome**.

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For more information, please contact:

Manuel da Silva
Chair of the Board
(519) 578-3660

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