



# SCHOOL PROFILE

Mission of the London District Catholic School Board

*To serve the Catholic student of London District in a community that nurtures a living faith and provides a quality Catholic education that enables the individual to become a contributing member of the Church and Society.*

## JEAN VANIER CATHOLIC SCHOOL

School Year: 2009-2010

**Address:** 1019 Viscount Road  
London, Ontario  
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**Website:** <http://www.ldcsb.on.ca/schools/vanier>



### School Community Information

**Principal:** Jeff Gillies

**Vice Principal:** Caroline Hodgins

**Secretary:** T. Barnes

**School Council Chair:** M. Warren

**Parish:** St. John the Divine

**Pastor:** Fr. Robert Rocheleau

**Secondary School Affiliate:** St. Thomas Aquinas

**School Superintendent:** S. Wright-Evans

**School Trustee:** J. Ferris

**Director of Education:** W. deRond

### Quick Facts About Our School

**School Hours:** 9:10 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.

**Grade Distribution:** JK - 8

**Student Enrolment:** 480



## About our School

### **Description**

Jean Vanier Catholic School welcomes over 480 Catholic elementary students in the Westmount community of southwest London, Ontario. We are privileged to be part of St. John the Divine and St. George Catholic parishes. We are a community of learners who are dedicated to nurturing excellence in education with a faith that is rooted in the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Jean Vanier Catholic School was named by a unanimous vote of the London and Middlesex County Roman Catholic School Board on November 15, 1971. The original school was completed in 1973 and opened that year with eight classrooms, a library, administrative offices, a general-purpose room and a kindergarten. The official blessing and dedication of the building took place on December 14, 1975 and was officiated by Most Rev. J.M. Sherlock, Bishop of London.

The school is situated on a 2.6 hectare (6.35 acre) site and occupies 2775 square meters (29, 860 square feet) of space. In the 1974-1975 school year an addition was added comprised of four classrooms, a kindergarten room and a multipurpose music room. In 1985, a further addition of a Developmental Education Centre was added to accommodate a system program for Special Needs students. A renovation and construction project to modify and update the school was completed in January 2008. This project resulted in a beautiful new library/resource center and added space for six new classrooms within the building. The Ontario Early Years Centre and London Children's Connection is located within the building and provides wonderful supports for families within the community.

### **Mission Statement**

Our goal at Jean Vanier Catholic School is to provide Catholic education in partnership with the family, the parish and the community to nurture the living faith of children. The Jean Vanier Catholic School community is blessed with the opportunity to nurture the spiritual development and academic achievement of children that is rooted in our faith in Jesus Christ. The sense of new beginning that is promised each day at school provides many wonderful experiences for the children of our community. We look forward with great respect and stewardship to providing an enriched and fulfilling learning environment for the children entrusted to our care.

### **Staffing Information**

Jean Vanier Catholic School is blessed by caring and hard-working staff that include: Principal, Vice-Principal, secretary, three custodians, four JK/SK teachers, eight primary division teachers (Grades 1 to 3), five junior division teachers (Grades 4 to 6), three intermediate division teachers (Grades 7 and 8), three French Second Language teachers, one Music teacher, one Student Program Support teacher, 1 English Language Learning teacher, three Educational Assistants and one Librarian.

### **Facilities**

There are 19 regular classrooms at Jean Vanier School. Our school comprises one gymnasium, one library, one computer lab. We have presently completed building a new library/resource centre and purchased over \$20 000.00 in new books with the support of our Catholic School Council.

### **Transportation Information**

Students attending Jean Vanier Catholic School who live East of Wonderland Road, North of Commissioners Road and West of Farmington Way are transported to and from school by school bus. Currently we operate three buses. The bus routes are maintained by First Student Canada Bus Lines.

### **School Safety**

The safety and well being of all members of the Jean Vanier Catholic School community is of paramount importance. We implement a Safe Arrivals Procedure for school attendance. The Safe and Healthy Schools Committee guides all of our safety initiatives.

## Living Our Faith

The staff and students at Jean Vanier Catholic School have many opportunities to pray and demonstrate their Catholic faith. These include school-wide and classroom liturgies, the celebration of the Sacraments of first Eucharist, Reconciliation, and Confirmation. The following are the websites for the affiliated parishes of our school community:

**[St. John the Divine \(London\)](http://www.stjohnthedivine.rcec.london.on.ca)**

<http://www.stjohnthedivine.rcec.london.on.ca>

**[St. George \(London\)](http://www.stgeorge.rcec.london.on.ca)**

<http://www.stgeorge.rcec.london.on.ca>

Our Student Parliament provides outstanding leadership to nurture and support opportunities for the children to raise funds for charities. Our particular focus on fundraising within this academic year will support the following charities: Canadian Charity for Southern Sudan, L'Arche London, Terry Fox Foundation, Heart and Stroke Foundation, Ronald McDonald House, Jesse's Journey Foundation.

## Programs and Services

### **Curriculum Program**

The curriculum used at Jean Vanier Catholic School flows from the directions of the Ministry of Education and Training and is supported by policies and procedures developed by the London District Catholic School Board.

Ongoing communication with parents about the classroom curriculum and individual students achievement is an important aspect of the partnership in learning for each pupil. Formal reporting, using the Provincial Report Card are sent home at the end of each term. Senior Kindergarten students receive a report card at the end of terms two and three, while Junior Kindergarten students receive a report card at the end of the third term.

We believe in the philosophy of inclusion and integrate all students with special learning needs into our regular activities.

### **Co-Instructional Program**

Jean Vanier Catholic School offers a wide variety of co-curricular and extra curricular activities designed to enhance and enrich the education experience for its students. Some of these include math contests, design and technology challenges, robotics, public speaking, youth leadership opportunities, writing contests, read-a-thons, book fairs, family celebrations and socials. Intra-mural sports, varsity sports and other athletic events such as cross-country running, dance fest, and track and field meets help to provide a well-rounded experience for our children. We are committed to the advancement of music and theatre, and our Spirit Singers, Guitar Club, choirs, vocal jazz groups and musical productions are evidence to this. We proudly received the Hans Janssen Memorial Award this year for 100% participation in intra-mural athletic events.

### **School Events**

Our goal is to nurture and support the marginalized in the spirit of Jesus and within the model established by the wonderful work of Jean Vanier himself. We proudly support missions and charities throughout our community each year.