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Spiritan Spirit Alive and Well

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Spiritan Spirit Alive and Well at Francis Libermann Catholic High School

Angela Galka, Culture of Faith and Life Ministry

Painting © Francis Libermann Catholic High School, 2016



"Holy Family: Our Model of Charity" Community Painting

The Culture of Faith and Life Ministry in the very vibrant and faith-filled community of Francis Libermann Catholic High School, Toronto (founded by Spiritan Fr. John Geary in 1977) invited nine Spiritan priests to concelebrate Mass with His Eminence, Thomas Cardinal Collins.

The ministry, made up of students and staff, with the support of the parent council, seeks to provide opportunities for the school family to realize the sacredness and dignity of human life from conception to natural death.

The Mass with the Cardinal was only one of the many ways in which the school community, under the leadership of the Culture of Faith and Life Ministry, and principal, Ms. Lisa McGuckin, brought the Toronto Catholic District School Board's initiative, *Family of Faith – Year of the Family*, to life. The first of these included a Living Rosary assisted by students with special needs, their families and support staff.

This was followed by a film submission to the first-ever Toronto Catholic Film Festival, entitled *Family: 'No Greater Love'*. It achieved a third-place finish. A segment of the film included a time-lapsed community painting of the "Holy Family: Our Model of Charity", created by over one hundred participants. This painting is soon to be installed in the school's foyer.

The crowning glory of Libermann's Year of the Family was the Eucharistic Celebration that included the blessing of the school family, the retirees and the community painting of the Holy Family, by Cardinal Collins. The Cardinal and the Spiritan Fathers then attended a luncheon in their honour.

The students, their families and the staff of Francis Libermann Catholic High School would like to thank the Spiritans for being integral members of their school family and they look forward to collaborating with them in the coming school year's *Family of Faith: Year of the Parish Family*. ■