



Father Frederick McGinn

July 28

Who was Father Fredrick McGinn?

July 28th is the Feast Day for Father Frederick McGinn. Frederick James McGinn was instrumental in bringing Catholic Education to the Richmond Hill and Oak Ridge area. Historically, the first Catholic Chapel in the region was erected in Windham in 1797, now called Oak Ridges. This settlement failed, resulting in most of the homesteads being abandoned.

The Catholic families who lived in Oak Ridges had to go elsewhere for Mass, namely to St. Mary Immaculate Church in Richmond Hill or to De LaSalle College. For many years, Catholic families continued to travel outside the Oak Ridges area to attend Mass in Aurora and Richmond Hill.

In 1954, Father McGinn, the pastor of St. Mary Immaculate Church in Richmond Hill, requested a survey to determine the number of Catholic families in Oak Ridges. As a result of his tireless efforts, a three-room schoolhouse named Our Lady of the Annunciation opened in September of that year.

[Father Fredrick McGinn CES Website](#)

[Our Lady of Annunciation Parish Website](#)



Quotes

"Our concern must be to know God's will. We must enter that path: if God wants, when God wants, how God wants."

- St. Gianna Molla

"Be joyful, and keep your faith and your creed."

- St. David of Wales

"Let devotion accompany all your studies, and study less to make yourself learned than to become a saint."

- St. Vincent Ferrer

Prayer

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit;

Heavenly Father,

On this Feast Day of Father Frederick McGinn, we lift up our students and the entire Catholic community to your loving embrace. May the example of Father McGinn be a source of comfort, guidance, and inspiration for all.

Grant our students the wisdom to seek knowledge with integrity and compassion, following Father McGinn's dedication to Catholic education and to building community. Fill their hearts with the courage to stand up for justice and truth, and the grace to treat one another with kindness and respect, reflecting the perseverance and faith of Father McGinn.

Guide our Catholic community in fostering a spirit of unity and love. May we reflect your boundless mercy and compassion in our daily lives, serving as a beacon of hope and light to those around us, just as Father McGinn did through his tireless efforts to bring Catholic education to Richmond Hill and Oak Ridges.

Bless our hearts with your peace and fill us with the strength to carry your love into the world. May we grow closer to you in faith and love each day, drawing inspiration from the life and legacy of Father Frederick McGinn.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, inspired by the legacy of Father Frederick McGinn.

Amen.





York Catholic District School Board



Fr. Fredrick
McGinn
CES

FEAST DAY:
July 28

SCHOOL LOCATION:
Richmond Hill, ON

"First and foremost every Catholic educational institution is a place to encounter the living God who in Jesus Christ reveals his transforming love and truth."

— Pope Benedict XVI

