

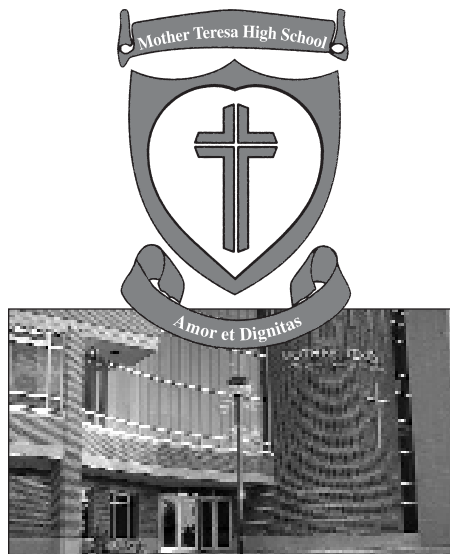
**M**other Teresa Catholic High School was the first high school in the Barrhaven/Longfields area of South Nepean when it opened in November 1998. But it had been a long, long time in coming, and was built only after lobbying by the community reaching back to about 1985. Despite the efforts of the community and the support of the Carleton Roman Catholic School Board, capital funding for the project was not approved for years and, when it was, a change in government delayed the funding. The Carleton Roman Catholic School Board, in the end, had to step in and fund the grades 7 and 8 portion of the facility from its reserves, because the provincial funding approval covered only the high school component of the school.

All of these delays meant that Mother Teresa Catholic High School would not open until 1998, when the new amalgamated Ottawa-Carleton Catholic School Board was in place. However, because of the efforts expended by the former Carleton Roman Catholic School Board to make the new high school in South Nepean a reality, the school today has the names of the trustees of both school boards engraved on the plaque which commemorates its opening. The community's long-term lobbying efforts to try to get provincial government approval were undertaken at a time when such school construction projects were very much a political decision.

Students from the Barrhaven area traditionally attended Frank Ryan Catholic Senior Elementary School for Grades 7 and 8 and then St. Pius X Catholic High School for high school. However, with the growth taking place in the Longfields and other South Nepean areas, these two schools became overcrowded. The Carleton Roman Catholic School Board, unable to get the funding for a new high school in South

# MOTHER TERESA

## CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



440 Longfields Drive  
Nepean K2J 4T1  
613-823-1663  
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Nepean, then offered an option to the community whereby students could attend St. Paul Catholic High School instead of the Frank Ryan/Pius combination.

The name "Mother Teresa" was selected through the school board's process where three names were put forward after community consultation. Mother Teresa, the founder of the Missionaries of Charity who work among the poor in Calcutta, had recently died, and proved to be a popular choice. The school colours are royal blue and white. Royal blue is the colour normally associated with Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta.

Mother Teresa High School opened on November 9, 1998. For the first two months of the inaugural school year, students were housed in other Board schools, with the grades 9 to 11 students occupying the former St. Raymond's Intermediate School site, while the grades 7 and 8 students were housed at Frank Ryan Catholic Senior Elementary School. The school became a busy community hub right from the moment it opened. It was centrally located, with many of the students within walking distance. It was adjacent to municipal recreation fields, adding to its appeal. But its major attraction was that the Barrhaven/Longfields area had gone without a high school facility in the community for so long that the community embraced the new facility and used it to a great extent for community purposes. Mother Teresa Catholic High School was full virtually from the first day it opened as a grades 7 to 11 school. Grade 12 and OAC were added in the two ensuing years.

Continued growth in the South Nepean area brought about the construction of St. Joseph Catholic High School in October 2002. For the same reason, a major 30-room addition has been planned and is included in the Ottawa-Carleton Catholic School Board's 2006 capital plan. Completion is scheduled for 2007-08.

### Present Principal

Mary Donaghy (2005-present)

### Past Principals

Bogdan Kolbusz (1998-2001)  
Camilla Martin (2001-04)

### First Teaching and Support Staff

Bogdan Kolbusz, Principal  
Betty Craig, Vice-Principal  
Joe Mullally, Vice-Principal  
Leanne Davis, Chaplain  
Sylvie Arseneault  
Alex Belloni  
Ray Bergin  
Pierre Bouchard  
Mario Buffone  
Margaret Burnett  
Mary Byrne  
Bonnie Campbell  
Terry Carter  
Lisa Clermont  
Marilyn Conroy  
Wade Cotnam  
Ashley Coventry  
A. Coyle  
Carol David  
Joe Diffey  
Christine Dube  
Judy Evans  
Steve Evraire  
Mario Francoeur  
Lise Garneau  
Margaret Gartland  
Pat Gauthier  
Anne-Marie Gleeson  
Gabe Godard  
Julie Godard  
Betty-Ann Grainger  
Jim Hallarn  
Chris Hanneman  
Cathy Harrington-Veryard  
C. Healy  
Maryann Hodges  
Sean Kelly  
Dan Kennedy  
Sylvain Lamarche

Deb Lawlor  
Eric Lehmann  
Guy Lemel  
Brian Lever  
Richard Linke  
John Liska  
Lee MacKay  
Gail Maiorino  
Anne Mason  
Frank McDonagh  
Deb McLaughlin  
Tom McSwiggan  
Robin Howard  
Joanne Mikalauskas  
Donald Nault  
Gord Norris  
Avia O'Connell  
Larry Pagliarello  
Merlene Reid  
G. Roumainis  
Ann Latchford-Scot  
Gwen Simonds  
Shelley Smith-Dale  
Christine Spearin  
Pat Sterling  
James Tucker  
Tanya Vick  
Mhychajlo Wysoczanskysz  
Lorraine Carroll, Head Secretary  
Colleen Burns, Secretary  
Sharyn Vitalis-Burke, Secretary  
Jen Wilson, Secretary  
Cindy Allen  
J. Kroetch  
Kristy Rubino  
Wendy Scully  
Shirley Munro  
Tony Arthur, Head Custodian  
Judy Thiverage  
Keith Barker  
Archie Donaghy  
Steve Hogue  
George Davis  
Denis Grenier  
Alex Ticili  
Marilyn Valiquette

### Former Student

Rebecca Abbott, now a professional singer, made it to the finals in the Canadian Idol competition.

### Colours

The school colours are royal blue and white. Blue is the colour normally associated with Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta.

### Team Name

The Mother Teresa Catholic High School sports teams are known as the "Titans."