

St. Elizabeth Catholic School did not start its life as St. Elizabeth, nor is it now located where it started.

Nonetheless, the story of St. Elizabeth Catholic School goes back to 1955 when a site at 893 Admiral Avenue was purchased. In September 1954, after the Ottawa Roman Catholic Separate School Board had received approval from the Ontario Department of Education, a nine-classroom school was built and called Admiral Street School. It opened its doors in September 1955, with Angus McDonald as the principal. The official blessing of the school took place on Sunday afternoon, November 27, 1955. Later, the school was called St. Augustine Catholic School, because it was affiliated with St. Augustine Church. It was only in 1964, when the new St. Augustine Catholic School was opened on Arnot Street, closer to the church, that this Admiral Street school was renamed St. Elizabeth.

St. Elizabeth, a cousin of the Blessed Virgin Mary, was the mother of St. John the Baptist. Her husband, Zachary, was a priest of the Temple in Jerusalem. Her feast day is November 5.

In 1965, three classrooms and a general-purpose room were added to the facility. Not long afterwards, in 1971, another addition was needed and built. The school expanded again when St. Louis Catholic School was closed and was merged with St. Elizabeth.

In 2002, the Ottawa-Carleton Catholic School Board acquired a former French-Catholic school on Coldrey Avenue, west of Merivale Road and the Admiral Road site. After extensive renovations, it became the new home of St. Elizabeth School. The former Admiral Avenue premises were then utilized by the Board's Adult High School and its Continuing and Community Education Department.

ST. ELIZABETH

CATHOLIC SCHOOL



1366 Coldrey Avenue
Ottawa K1Z 7P5
613-728-4744
www.occdsb.on.ca/sel

Over the years, many annual drama and musical presentations have been held at St. Elizabeth. It has also hosted several well-known performers, including Dominic D'Arcy, the singing policeman. A school album was produced by Fran King and the school choir.

Present Principal

Linda Gilmour

Past Principals

Angus McDonald (1955-58)
Lionel J. O'Connor (1959-68)
J. P. Coulter (1968-70),
Francesco Lipari, Vice-Principal
Virginia Smith
Glenda MacDonell
John Burns
Alex Nagel
Wayne Carroll
Anthony Charbonneau
Kari Burke

First Teaching and Support Staff

Laura Anderson, Grades 3 and 5
Sheila Forbes, Kindergarten
Alice Moss, Grade 3
Mrs. J. Clothier, Grades 1 and 2
Rose-Marie Turpin, Grades 2 and 3
Eunice Archibald, Grades 5 and 6
Judith LaSalle, Grade 1
Kathleen Smith, Grade 7
L. Mulherin, Grade 2
Mary T. O'Keefe, Grade 5
Joel Rochon, Grade 8
Mrs. Kenney, Grade 6

Teachers from the 1960s

Alice Cannon
Doreen Brash
Patricia Doyle
Donna Tierney
Charlotte McNulty
Louise McEachern
Allen Young
Mike Therian
Mrs. Shannon Dean
Vivian Vivaldi
Lorraine Legris

School Colours

Light blue and dark blue

Logo

The school logo is a pair of hands holding up an oval in which there are three figures holding hands. The name “St. Elizabeth School” is written in a scroll beneath the hands.

Mascot

A student designed the school mascot, an eagle, in 2000.