



Michael Power • St. Joseph's school team "Power Rangers" united on Saturday, February 21st to support the homeless in our community and to demonstrate the impact of catholic social justice. Over 120 Power students participated in *Coldest Night of the Year*, comprising about half of the walkers! This fundraiser, organized by the Etobicoke food bank *Haven on the Queensway*, invited participants to walk two, five, or ten kilometres in the cold at night to raise money and awareness for people who lack shelter, food, and care and suffer especially in the winter. Although it was very chilly that night, the cold temperature helped students experience the struggles of the homeless. After the walk, a warm meal was provided along with entertainment and prizes. Michael Power students raised over 4000 dollars, and a special mention and thank you must go Power's own Richa Alvares for her fundraising of 2000 dollars! All the students who participated showed their solidarity as a whole and had a great time volunteering! Michael Power helped *Haven on the Queensway* raise over 35,000 dollars, funds that go directly back into our community to their food bank, soup kitchen, buying sleeping bags for the homeless, and programs that help people find jobs to get back on their feet.

The Theology Department, along with student leaders Ioana Clotea and Erica Yarmol- Matusiak, helped encourage students to "walk the talk" with announcements, volunteer hours, and the promotion of a just cause in our area. Acting on your morals by contributing to an important mission like a local food bank is an integral element in giving back to the community and strengthening our "power pride" in our school community as a whole. Events like the *Coldest Night of the Year* show that as a strong Catholic community, MPSJ students can work together to create positive change in the lives of others, starting with our own neighbourhood.

—by Erica Yarmol-Matusiak