



# York Catholic District School Board

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## Media Release

*For Immediate Release*

**July 9, 2018**

### **St. Robert Catholic High School student, Theodore Ngo, earns impressive 99.83% average** *YCDSB's top graduating student for 2018 keeps his focus on personal development*

Theodore Ngo from St. Robert Catholic High School in Markham is the York Catholic District School Board's top graduating student for the 2017-2018 school year. He earned a near-perfect 99.83 per cent average in his top six Grade 12 courses.

Theodore was enrolled in St. Robert's International Baccalaureate (IB) Programme, which meets the Ontario curriculum and also offers a rigorous, internationally-recognized curriculum. His older sister recommended the programme because she thought that it would challenge him in high school and better prepare him for university.

"The IB programme at St. Robert is excellent," said Theodore. "The administrators and teachers position themselves in a way to help everyone succeed and do well. Throughout high school, the IB students form a tight-knit group that support and encourage each other. I had fun in high school, especially in the younger grades. Thankfully, my parents didn't pressure me too much to succeed so I was always able to keep the 'bigger picture' in mind. I have the mind-set that going to school and getting good grades is only part of my overall education. Challenging myself by learning new things, improving upon my skills and interests, and experiencing personal development is what motivates me to do well."

In addition to his studies, Theodore earned the MVP title for the St. Robert tennis team this year. He also mentored younger students as part of the school's individual pathways program and was a member of St. Robert's HOSA chapter, which involves competitions and challenges in the medical and health science fields.

Theodore will begin the Life Sciences Program at the University of Toronto in September, although he has not yet determined what type of career he would like to pursue.

"I'm interested in so many different things that I don't know exactly what I want to do yet," said Theodore. "I'm considering government and health science sectors, but for now my priority is to learn as much as possible and focus on growing as a person."

The York Catholic District School Board congratulates Theodore and is confident he will succeed at whatever he puts his mind to.

Close behind Theodore, earning the top marks for their respective schools was Arsh Kadakia of Father Michael McGivney CA who had an average of 99.67%, and Vanessa Tang and Yining Liu of St. Theresa of Lisieux CHS who tied with an average of 99.33%.

Following is a list of the top graduating student from each York Catholic secondary school, based on the average of their best six Grade 12 courses.

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The York Catholic District School Board is one of the top-performing school boards in Ontario. It delivers educational programming to approximately 53,000 students in 101 schools throughout York Region. For more information, visit [www.ycdsb.ca](http://www.ycdsb.ca) or follow us on Twitter @YCDSB.

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**\*Note to Editors: Photo & contact information for Theodore are available upon request.**



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<b>The Top Scholar from each York Catholic Secondary School, by Municipality</b>			
<b>Student Name</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Grade 12 Average*</b>
Elizabeth Zoubakina	Cardinal Carter CHS	Aurora	99.17
Peter James Chimienti	St. Maximilian Kolbe CHS	Aurora	97.33
Sherece Khemraj	Our Lady of the Lake CCS	Georgina	96.17
<b>Theodore Ngo</b>	<b>St. Robert CHS</b>	<b>Markham</b>	<b>99.83</b>
Arsh Kadakia	Father Michael McGivney CA	Markham	99.67
Christina Mallouk	St. Augustine CHS	Markham	98.50
Johan Privanth Sebastiampillai	St. Brother Andre CHS	Markham	97.83
Matthew Connell-Tombs	Sacred Heart CHS	Newmarket	99.17
Vanessa Tang	St. Theresa of Lisieux CHS	Richmond Hill	99.33
Yining Liu	St. Theresa of Lisieux CHS	Richmond Hill	99.33
Rachel Tin Kwon Yuen	Jean Vanier CHS	Richmond Hill	98.33
Cecilia Cancellara	Holy Cross CA	Vaughan	98.67
Daphne-Eleni Archonta	St. Elizabeth CHS	Vaughan	98.17
Christopher Ma	Father Bressani CHS	Vaughan	97.50
Alessio Giovannoni	St. Jean de Brebeuf CHS	Vaughan	97.17
Sana M. Ahmad	St. Joan of Arc CHS	Vaughan	96.17
* Based on the average of the student's marks in their six best Grade 12 courses, to two decimal places.			