

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER
EDITION

Christensen's Corner

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the 2023/24 School year at St. Joseph. Last year was a year full of change at SJS. We had a new administration team with Mr. Gal and myself assuming the roles of associate principal and principal respectively for the first time. We also welcomed three new teachers into the fold with the additions of Ms. Johnson, Ms. Schafer, and Mr. Kraemer. This year brings less change as our only new teacher is Mr. Gamble who will be covering for Mr. Kraemer as he takes a parental leave.

Our staff have been busy preparing for the upcoming school year by getting the physical space ready and by preparing for the new year, and the new curriculum that is being implemented this year. With the changes to curriculum over the past two school years I think it is prudent to reflect upon our current faith plan as well as our new division priorities to frame how we will approach these changes and strive to ensure all students are cherished and achieve their potential.

This is year two of our current three year faith plan. The theme for this year is Build! Pilgrims of Hope. The guiding scripture passage for this year is Nehemiah 2:18; **"I told them that the hand of my God had been gracious upon me, and also the words that the king had spoken to me. Then they said, 'Let us start building!' So they committed themselves to the common good."** Inspired by this scripture passage we will continue to try and build our school community in a variety of ways. As a staff we viewed the following reflection from Bishop Barron where he discusses this Bible passage and the need to build walls and bridges. Walls to protect us in times of danger and bridges to take what we have been blessed with out into the greater world and to spread the good word. Bishop Barron argues that we need to build both bridges and walls. As we continue to move forward with new curriculum and other changes to education and St. Joseph School we will continue to come back and reflect upon this metaphor of walls and bridges. What are the walls we need in our lives to keep us safe and steadfast? Are we building bridges in order to connect with others and to share the gifts we have been given?

This year also marks the start of a new set of Holy Spirit School Division Board priorities. The four action based priorities are as follows: Strengthening our Catholic Faith, Living Truth and Reconciliation, Belonging in our Diverse Community, and Learning Through Quality Teaching. As we reflect on these four priorities that will drive our focus and our continuous improvement plan at St. Joseph School we are once again struck by the connection to walls and bridges. As you delve deeper into each priority you will see opportunities to build walls, or strengthen walls that already exist in an effort to strengthen our position and build upon strengths. However, there are also great opportunities for us to build bridges in an effort to reach out to others and to share knowledge and wisdom.

The staff of St. Joseph School is committed to bringing the faith plan and the division priorities to light in all that we do this year and we will continue to challenge our students to do the same. Last year we challenged them to Arise! in an effort to try new things and to show gratitude to God by developing their gifts and talents. I have no doubt that our school community will once again rise to the challenge and I am excited to see what we can Build! when we all work together.



1413 23 AVENUE COALDALE, AB T1M-1L6

PHONE: 403-345-3373

FAX: 403-345-3789

WEBSITE- SJS.HOLYSPIRIT

EMAIL: SJOFFICE.AB.CA

PRINCIPAL-MR. BRENT CHRISTENSEN ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL- MR. BRUCE GAL

SJS
SAINT JOSEPH SCHOOL

Important Dates

TUESDAY, SEPT. 5- FIRST DAY BACK FOR GRADES 1-9
WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 6- GR. 9 TO CAMP COLOMBUS
WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 6- VBALL TRYOUTS BOYS-3:30
GIRLS 5:00
THURSDAY, SEPT. 7- VBALL TRYOUTS BOYS-3:30
GIRLS 5:00
FRIDAY, SEPT. 8- GR. 9 BACK FROM CAMP
FRIDAY, SEPT. 8- GRADES 6-8 CORN MAZE FIELD TRIP
MONDAY, SEPT. 11- FIRST DAY FOR ELP-KINDERGARTEN
MONDAY, SEPT. 11- CROSS COUNTRY BEGINS 3:30 PM
MONDAY, SEPT. 11- VBALL PARENT MTG. 4:30 PM
MONDAY, SEPT. 11- NEW STUDENT JH/GR 6
ORIENTATION 5:30
WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 13- SUBWAY HOT LUNCH
(CANTEEN CLOSED)
THURSDAY, SEPT. 14- SJS OPENING MASS 8:45 AM
FRIDAY, SEPT. 15- JAG STORE OPENS
FRI-SAT, SEPT. 15-16- CATS CLASSIC VBALL TOURNAMENT
WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 20- PICTURE DAY GR ELP-4
WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 20- WELCOME BACK BBQ 5:00 PM
THURSDAY, SEPT. 21- PICTURE DAY GRADES 5-9
THURSDAY, SEPT. 21- GRADES 1-3 TO 8:45 AM MASS
THURSDAY, SEPT. 21- GRADE 6 HEADSTART CLINIC 3:30 PM
FRIDAY, SEPT. 22- PD DAY, NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

FRIDAY-SATURDAY SEPT. 22-23 FLVT GRADE 8 BOYS VBALL
TOURNAMENT- LETHBRIDGE
LITTLE STORM JV BOYS AND GIRLS VBALL TOURNAMENT- TABER
SATURDAY, SEPT. 23- SENATOR GERSHAW SV GIRLS VBALL
TOURNAMENT
WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 27- LITTLE CAESARS HOT LUNCH (CANTEEN
CLOSED)
THURSDAY, SEPT. 28- GRADES 4-5 TO 8:45 AM MASS
FRIDAY, SEPT. 29- ORANGE SHIRT DAY

welcome!



WELCOME NEW AND RETURNING FAMILIES. IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY SIGNED UP FOR SCHOOL CASH ONLINE, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE AND WE CAN HELP! YOU CAN PAY SCHOOL FEES, FIELD TRIPS, HOT LUNCHES AND MORE AND IT IS VERY USER FRIENDLY AND A PAINLESS PROCESS.... I PROMISE!

Athletic Update

AS WE EMBARK ON A NEW SCHOOL YEAR, PLANNING HAS ALREADY BEGUN FOR OUR UPCOMING JUNIOR HIGH ATHLETIC PROGRAMS. I AM REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO THE EXCITEMENT AND SPORTSMANSHIP THAT OUR ST. JOSEPH ATHLETES WILL BE A PART OF THIS YEAR. PLEASE BE SURE TO CHECK THE GOOGLE ATHLETIC CALENDAR FOR THE LATEST PRACTICE AND GAME TIMES. THAT BEING SAID, CROSS COUNTRY PRACTICES WILL BEGIN ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH AND RUN EVERY WEEK ON MONDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS FROM 3:30-4:00. THE ZONE MEET WILL TAKE PLACE IN MEDICINE HAT ON OCTOBER 11TH. A BIG THANK YOU TO MR. COUPLAND AND MRS. OEVERING FOR HELPING TO COACH OUR CROSS COUNTRY ATHLETES. VOLLEYBALL TRYOUTS WILL BEGIN THE FIRST WEEK BACK TO SCHOOL ON WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY (SEPTEMBER 6TH AND 7TH). GRADE 6-8 STUDENTS (GRADE 9'S ARE IN WATERTON) ARE ENCOURAGED TO COME OUT TO THESE TRYOUTS/OPEN GYMS TO SEE IF THEY ARE INTERESTED IN THE SPORT OF VOLLEYBALL. THE VOLLEYBALL PARENT MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH FROM 4:30-5:00. A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR COACHES FOR THIS UPCOMING SEASON. OUR JV GIRLS COACHES ARE MRS. NAGATA, MRS. BARTOSEK AND MRS. D TONIN. OUR SV GIRLS COACHES ARE AIMEE BARON AND MRS. BARON. AS FOR THE BOYS, WE ARE WAITING TO HEAR BACK ON WHO WILL BE OUR JV COACH BUT OUR SV COACH IS MR. MULDER. AGAIN, THANKS TO ALL OF THE COACHES WHO MAKE OUR ATHLETIC PROGRAM SUCH A SUCCESS. I LOOK FORWARD TO AN AMAZING YEAR OF JAGUAR ATHLETICS AND WISH EACH AND EVERY ATHLETE A SUCCESSFUL AND ENJOYABLE YEAR!

SINCERELY- MR. GAL

CANTEEN AND BREAKFAST CLUB

SJS HAS A BREAKFAST CLUB AVAILABLE MONDAY-FRIDAY FROM 7:45 AM-8:15 AM. OUR GOAL IS TO HELP GIVE STUDENTS A GREAT START TO THEIR DAY OF LEARNING. OUR CANTEEN RUNS MONDAYS-THURSDAYS EVERY WEEK (NOT INCLUDING HOT LUNCH DAYS) CANTEEN ITEMS CAN BE PURCHASED USING A PUNCH CARD SYSTEM. THESE PUNCH CARDS CAN BE PURCHASED THROUGH SCHOOL CASH ONLINE. BREAKFAST CLUB AND CANTEEN BEGIN ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11. CONTACT THE OFFICE FOR MORE INFORMATION.

SJS HOT LUNCHES

EVERY MONTH, SJS STUDENTS A HOT LUNCH OR TWO. HOT LUNCHES CAN BE PURCHASED ON SCHOOL CASH ONLINE. ORDERS GENERALLY OPEN AT THE BEGINNING OF THE MONTH AND WILL CLOSE A WEEK BEFORE THE ACTUAL DAY. THE HOT LUNCHES FOR SEPTEMBER WILL BE SUBWAY AND LITTLE CAESARS. BE SURE TO CHECK THE CALENDAR FOR ALL DATES. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS FEEL FREE TO CONTACT THE OFFICE.



NUT AWARE

IN OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY THERE ARE STUDENTS WHO I-I-AVE POTENTIAL LIFE THREATENING ALLERGIES TO PEANUTS AND NUTS. THEREFORE TO REDUCE THE RISK OF ACCIDENTAL EXPOSURE TO THESE STUDENTS, WE RESPECTFULLY ASK FOR THE COOPERATION OF SJS PARENTS/GUARDIANS TO AVOID SENDING PEANUT BUTTER, OR PRODUCTS WITH PEANUTS OR NUTS LISTED IN THE INGREDIENTS, OR EVEN PRODUCTS LABELED "MAY CONTAIN TRACES OF PEANUTS OR NUTS."

PARKING

THE BUS LOOP IS DESIGNATED FOR BUSES ONLY BETWEEN 8:00-9:00 AM AND BETWEEN 3:00-4:00 PM. FOR SAFETY OF OUR STUDENTS, PLEASE DO NOT USE THE BUS LOOP TO PARK, DROP OFF, OR PICK UP STUDENTS DURING THIS TIME. THE LANE ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE SCHOOL IS FOR DROP OFF OR PICK UPS. IT IS A "KISS AND GO" LANE ONLY. PARKING THERE BLOCKS TRAFFIC AND CREATES A HAZARDOUS DRIVING CONDITION FOR THOSE GOING THROUGH. IF YOU NEED TO ENTER THE BUILDING, PLEASE PARK IN THE PARKING LOT OR ON THE STREET.



ATTENDANCE REPORTING

IF YOUR CHILD IS UNABLE TO ATTEND SCHOOL FOR ANY REASON, PLEASE PHONE THE SCHOOL TO EXSCUSE THEM. THE ANSWERING MACHINE IS ALWAYS ON EVEN IF WE AREN'T HERE. THANKS FOR USING THIS TYPE OF METHOD OF COMMUNICATION AS IT ELIMINATES PHONE CALLS HOME.



WE ARE SO HAPPY ONCE AGAIN TO BE HOSTING OUR ANNUAL BACK TO SCHOOL BBQ! THERE WILL BE BURGERS, CHIPS AND DRINKS FOR EVERYONE TO ENJOY. IT'S A GREAT TIME TO LEARN ALL ABOUT THE HAPPENINGS HERE AT SJS, MEET THE TEACHERS AND ENJOY SOME FUN FELLOWSHIP TOGETHER. SO JOIN US ON WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 20 AT 5:00 PM. DUE TO HIGH NUMBERS WE WILL STAGGER THE EVENING IN TWO GROUPS. IF YOUR LAST NAME BEGINS WITH A-M PLEASE ARRIVE AT 5:00 PM. N-Z COME AT 6:00 PM

MORE INFO WILL BE SENT HOME SOON!

SJS Staff 2023-2024

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Mr. Brent Christensen
Principal



Mr. Bruce Gal
Associate Principal



Mrs. Jennifer Morrison
Admin Assistant



Mrs. Lena Oevering
Admin Support

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Mrs. Rosie Bartosek
ELP Lead Teacher



Mrs. Tanya Slomp
ELP Education Assistant



Ms. Gerry Unger
ELP Education Assistant



Ms. Marley Mayo
ELP Education Assistant



Mrs. Adrienne Shipton
ELP Education Assistant

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Ms. Cindy Ayukawa
Kindergarten AM/PM



Ms. Zara Johnson
Grade 1J



Mrs. Robyn Wilson
Grade 1/2W



Miss. Maria Wagner
Grade 2W



Mrs. Tera Robison
Grade 2R



Miss. Shelby Stark
Grade 3S



Mrs. Val Warkentin
Grade 3W



Mrs. Linda Baron
Grade 4B

SJS Staff 2022-2023



Mrs. Amanda Schafer
Grade 4/5S



Mrs. Susan Reti
Grade 5



Miss. Alea Steinborn
Grade 6



Mr. Jason Kraemer Grade 7 Parental
Leave, starting November



Mr. Zac Coupland
Grade 8



Mrs. Violet Nagata
Grade 9



Mr. Tony Zappone
Music Teacher



Mr. Aaron Gamble
Grade 7

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Mrs. Kari Van Ee
Education Assistant



Mrs. Debbie Tonin
Ed Assistant/Speech



Ms. Christine Karwandy
Education Assistant



Mrs. Julie Hogle
Education Assistant



Mrs. Rosanne Vandenberg
Education Assistant



Mrs. Sylvia Tonin
Education Assistant



Mrs. Shawna Des Jardins
Kindergarten Ed Assistant

SJS Staff 2022-2023



Mrs. Deb Erdos
Ed Assistant/Library



Mr. Kendrick Fox
First Nation, Metis, Inuit
Support Worker



Ms. Daphne Kramer
School Counselor

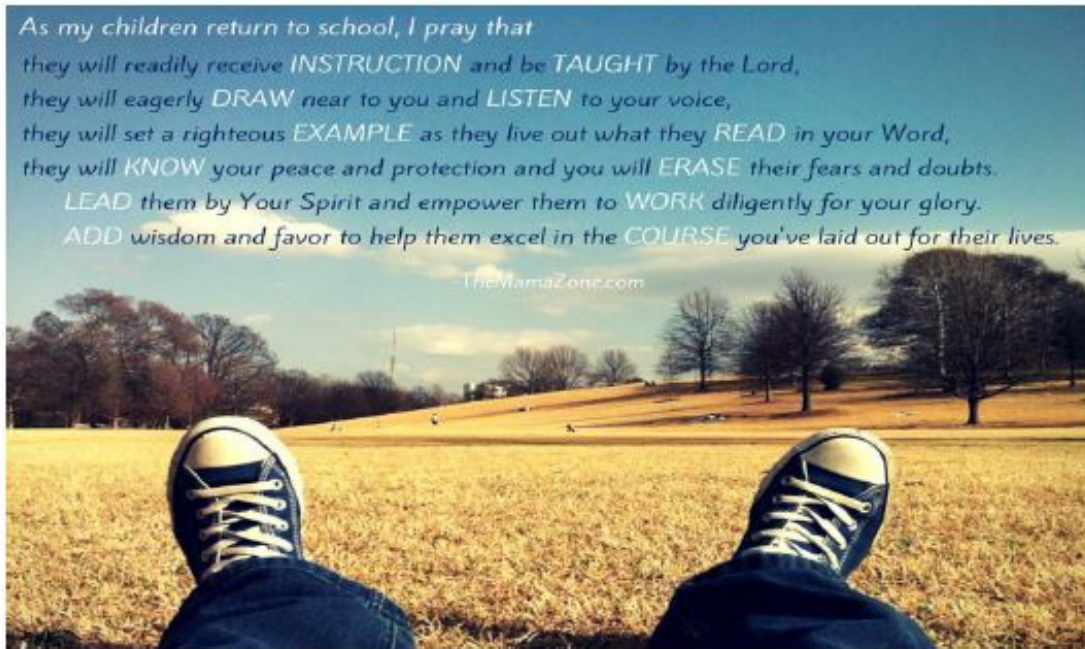
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Mr. Alan Kristinson (Thor)
Head Caretaker



Mr. Tim Flegel
Caretaker



CHALICE PROJECT 2023/24

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL IS EXCITED TO BE A PART OF A NEW CHALICE PROJECT FOR THE 2023/24 SCHOOL YEAR. CHALICE IS A CATHOLIC ORGANIZATION THAT WORKS IN IMPOVERISHED COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. IT HELPS TO SUPPORT THE PEOPLE IN THESE COMMUNITIES WITH BASIC NECESSITIES WITH A MAIN FOCUS ON IMPROVING THE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN THESE COUNTRIES. IN PREVIOUS YEARS OUR SCHOOL HAS RAISED MONEY TO HELP PROVIDE SCHOOLS IN AFRICA WITH SUCH THINGS AS COOKING UTENSILS, WATER STORAGE TANKS AND WATER WELLS. THIS YEAR WE ARE HAPPY TO BE PART OF A LARGER PROJECT WHEREBY ALL SCHOOLS WITHIN OUR HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL DIVISION WILL RAISE MONEY TO HELP IN THE BUILDING OF A SCHOOL. TO FIND MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS SCHOOL PLEASE VISIT ST. ODILIA PROJECT WEBSITE. THROUGHOUT THE YEAR WE WILL HAVE FUNDRAISERS TO HELP SUPPORT THIS PROJECT, PLEASE STAY TUNED FOR MORE INFORMATION COMING SOON! IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE DIRECTLY TO THE PROJECT, USE THE FOLLOWING LINK. PLEASE HELP IN SUPPORTING THIS MOST WORTHWHILE CAUSE AS WE EMBARK ON OUR SECOND YEAR OF THE THREE YEAR FAITH PLAN, "BUILD! PILGRIMS OF HOPE."

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL 2023-2024 BELL TIMES

ELEMENTARY		JUNIOR HIGH	
	A.M.		A.M.
<i>Warning Bell</i>	<i>8:20</i>	<i>Warning Bell</i>	<i>8:20</i>
<i>Registration</i>	<i>8:25 - 8:30</i>	<i>Registration</i>	<i>8:25 - 8:30</i>
Period 1	8:30 - 9:13	Period 1	8:30 - 9:13
Period 2	9:13 - 9:55	<i>Transition</i>	<i>9:13-9:16</i>
<i>Recess</i>	<i>9:55-10:10</i>	Period 2	9:16-9:59
<i>Transition</i>	<i>10:10-10:12</i>	<i>Transition</i>	<i>9:59-10:07</i>
Period 3	10:12-10:54	Period 3	10:07-10:50
Period 4	10:54-11:36	<i>Transition</i>	<i>10:50-10:53</i>
<i>Lunch</i>	<i>11:36-12:16</i>	Period 4	10:53-11:36
<i>Transition</i>	<i>12:16-12:18</i>	<i>Lunch (gym)</i>	<i>11:36-11:56</i>
Period 5	12:18-12:58	<i>Lunch (eat)</i>	<i>11:56-12:16</i>
Period 6	12:58-1:38	<i>Transition</i>	<i>12:16-12:20</i>
<i>Recess</i>	<i>1:38-1:53</i>	Period 5	12:20-1:03
<i>Transition</i>	<i>1:53-1:55</i>	<i>Transition</i>	<i>1:03-1:06</i>
Period 7	1:55-2:35	Period 6	1:06-1:49
Period 8	2:35-3:15	<i>Transition</i>	<i>1:49-1:57</i>
Homeroom	3:15-3:21	Period 7	1:57-2:40
Bus Bell	3:21	<i>Transition</i>	<i>2:40-2:43</i>
Dismissal	3:27	Period 8	2:43-3:27
		FRIDAY BELL TIMES	
FRIDAY BELL TIMES		JUNIOR HIGH	
ELEMENTARY		<i>Warning Bell</i>	<i>8:20</i>
<i>Warning Bell</i>	<i>8:20</i>	<i>Registration</i>	<i>8:25 - 8:30</i>
<i>Registration</i>	<i>8:25 - 8:30</i>	Period 1	8:30 - 9:13
Period 1	8:30 - 9:04	<i>Transition</i>	<i>9:13-9:17</i>
Period 2	9:04 - 9:38	Period 2	9:17-10:00
Period 3	9:38-10:12	<i>Transition</i>	<i>10:00-10:04</i>
<i>Recess</i>	<i>10:12-10:27</i>	Period 3	10:04-10:47
<i>Transition</i>	<i>10:27-10:29</i>	<i>Transition</i>	<i>10:47-10:55</i>
Period 4	10:29-11:03	Period 4	10:55-11:38
Period 5	11:03-11:37	<i>Transition</i>	<i>11:38-11:42</i>
Period 6	11:37-12:10	Period 5	11:42-12:22
Homeroom	12:10-12:16		
Bus Bell	12:16		
Dismissal	12:22		

HOLY SPIRIT SC & SJ 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

<p>Aug 30 First day for staff Aug 30 Opening Mass</p> <p>O – 2 I – 0</p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #c00000; color: white;"> <th colspan="7">AUGUST '23</th> </tr> <tr style="background-color: #f2f2f2;"> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>Th</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td style="background-color: #00b0f0;">30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	AUGUST '23							S	M	T	W	Th	F	S			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31									
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<p>Oct 9 Thanksgiving Day Oct 20 School PD Day Oct 23 Div. PD Day Oct 25 Div. Board Meeting</p> <p>O – 21 (43) I – 19 (37)</p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #c00000; color: white;"> <th colspan="7">SEPTEMBER '23</th> </tr> <tr style="background-color: #f2f2f2;"> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>Th</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td style="background-color: #00b0f0;">5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td style="background-color: #c00000;">22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td style="background-color: #00b0f0;">27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td style="background-color: #c00000;">30</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Sept 4 Labour Day Sept 5 First day for students Sept 22 School PD Day Sept 27 Div. Board Meeting Sept 30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation</p> <p>O – 20 (22) I – 18</p>	SEPTEMBER '23							S	M	T	W	Th	F	S						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30							
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<p>Dec 1 School PD Day Dec 20 Div. Board Meeting Dec 22 Last day before break Dec 23-31 Christmas break Dec 25 Christmas Day Dec 26 Boxing Day</p> <p>O – 16 (79) I – 15 (72)</p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #c00000; color: white;"> <th colspan="7">OCTOBER '23</th> </tr> <tr style="background-color: #f2f2f2;"> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>Th</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td style="background-color: #c00000;">9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td style="background-color: #c00000;">20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td style="background-color: #c00000;">23</td><td>24</td><td style="background-color: #00b0f0;">25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	OCTOBER '23							S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31											
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<p>Feb 9 School PD Day Feb 19 Family Day Feb 20 Day in lieu of Sept 30 for support staff Feb 20 & 21 Unassigned time for teachers Feb 22 & 23 SWATCA Feb 28 Div. Board Meeting</p> <p>O – 20 (117) I – 15 (105)</p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #c00000; color: white;"> <th colspan="7">NOVEMBER '23</th> </tr> <tr style="background-color: #f2f2f2;"> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>Th</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td style="background-color: #c00000;">10</td><td style="background-color: #c00000;">11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td style="background-color: #c00000;">13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td style="background-color: #00b0f0;">22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Nov 10 Day in lieu of Nov 11 Nov 11 Remembrance Day Nov 13 Non-operational day Nov 22 Div. Board Meeting</p> <p>O – 20 (63) I – 20 (57)</p>	NOVEMBER '23							S	M	T	W	Th	F	S				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30									
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NOTICE TO PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF RELIGIOUS PERMEATION

Section 58.1 of the *Education Act* requires a school board to give notice to a parent or guardian when courses of study, education programs, institutional materials, instruction or exercises include subject matter that deals primarily and explicitly with religion. All of the schools in this division are Catholic Separate Schools, the essential purpose of which is to fully permeate Catholic theology, philosophy, practices and beliefs, the principles of the Gospel and teachings of the Catholic Church, in all aspects of school life, including in the curriculum of every subject taught, both in and outside of formal religion classes, celebrations and exercises. Every course of study and educational program, all institutional materials, instruction and exercises will at all times include subject matter that deals primarily and explicitly with religion.



FAIR NOTICE LETTER

Dear Parents / Guardians,

The Holy Spirit Catholic School Division is committed to providing safe learning environments for all students, staff, school visitors and community members. When a student behaves inappropriately, principals use progressive discipline to help a student take responsibility for their actions, change their behavior and learn from their mistakes.

When students' behaviors pose a potential threat to safety or serious harm, the Southwest Alberta Regional Violence Risk Threat Assessment Protocol (VTRA) helps principals take further steps to protect the well-being of students and staff. The protocol helps schools respond quickly to threatening incidents such as: possession of a weapon or a replica weapon, bomb threats or plans, verbal, written or electronic (internet, text) threats to kill or injure oneself or others or other threats of violence, fire setting.

The Southwest Alberta Regional VTRA Protocol outlines how a school responds immediately to threatening behavior. Principals may first bring together a School Threat Assessment Team, which ideally includes the principal / associate principal, a school based counsellor / jurisdictional lead and police of jurisdiction. If the situation is serious the principal may also consult the Superintendent of Schools and call in members of the Community Threat Assessment Team. This community team may include representatives of community agencies who work with us to keep our schools safer such as, but not limited to, local police, children's mental health organizations or Child and Family Services. Parents / guardians will be notified as soon as possible in the Stage I - VTRA Process. If parents / guardians cannot be reached, but a concern for safety still exists due to threatening behavior, the threat assessment may still proceed. Personal information shared throughout this process will respect and balance each individual's right to privacy with the need to ensure the safety of all.

This letter complies with procedure 2 of *Administrative Procedure 322: Violence Threat / Risk Assessment (V-TRA) Protocol*, which states that parents / guardians will be provided with "fair notice" that each threat will be taken seriously. Should you wish to further review this Administrative Procedure, please visit our website at www.holyspirit.ab.ca.

If you have any questions regarding the Holy Spirit Catholic School Division's use of the Southwest Alberta Regional V-TRA Protocol, please contact the Director of Support Services at the St. Basil Catholic Education Centre. We appreciate your support in ensuring our schools are safe environments for our students, staff and community partners.

Sincerely,
Ken Sampson, Superintendent of Schools

September

Build! Pilgrims of Hope



“...if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.”

Isaiah 58:10

St. Vincent de Paul 1581-1660 (Feast Day: September 27)

St. Vincent de Paul was born in France in 1581, and lived in the countryside with his family until the age of 15, when he entered the seminary to train as a priest. He didn't start out intending to become a great saint; in fact, it took him quite a while to figure out how to really live out his vocation. Over time, his heart was changed and became more compassionate towards the poor. Once he began working simply to respond to the basic needs of those around him from a Christian stance, his work blossomed. He worked with the *Daughters of Charity*, a group of lay women who worked extensively with the poor and sick. They collected donations for distribution that created homes for abandoned children, a hospice for the elderly, and freed galley slaves.

He can be a great model for us in our daily lives then, if we are struggling to determine our vocation or to find ways to contribute to the common good. In all of his endeavours, St. Vincent de Paul started by recognizing and promoting the dignity of those around him. This legacy lives on today, in the *Society of St. Vincent de Paul*, founded in 1833 by his followers. This Catholic society is open to all who want to love and serve their neighbour. In Canada the [Society of St. Vincent de Paul](#) serves more than 350,000 people each year.



“Building” In Our Schools

This year, the call in our Holy Spirit Catholic School Division Faith Plan is to *Build!* Last year, there were so many ways in which students and staff in our schools showed how to *Arise* in our faith, and we are looking forward to sharing the different ideas that schools have around “building” over the course of this year.

One project that we are all contributing to this year is raising funds to assist in the building of St. Odilia's School in Zambia. You can find out more about this school [here](#); please consider how you might be able to help us with this project!

Corporal Works of Mercy — Shelter the Homeless —

Speaking in Washington, D.C. in 2015, Pope Francis said:

I can imagine Joseph, with his wife about to have a child, with no shelter, no home, no place to stay. The Son of God came into this world as a homeless person. The Son of God knew what it was to start life without a roof over his head. We can imagine what Joseph must have been thinking. How is it that the Son of God has no home? Why are we homeless, why don't we have housing? These are questions which many of you may ask, and do ask, every day. Like Saint Joseph, you may ask: Why are we homeless, without a place to live? And those of us who do have a home, a roof over our heads, would also do well to ask: Why do these, our brothers and sisters, have no place to live? Why are these brothers and sisters of ours homeless?

People experience homelessness for many different reasons. Our faith encourages us to reach out and encounter those without the stability of a home, affirming their human dignity, and assisting them in seeking solutions to the challenges they face.

What might some practical suggestions be?

- help elderly neighbours care for their homes and do repairs
- support and/or volunteer at a homeless shelter
- support and/or volunteer for charitable agencies who care for the homeless, build homes, and provide support in the wake of natural disasters
- consider becoming a foster parent

Dignity of the Human Person

Through the course of this year, we will look each month at one of the Catholic Social Teachings. The aim of Catholic Social Teaching is to shine the light of the Gospel on our contemporary world, allowing us as disciples of Christ to look at the world around us with new eyes, and to take action.

All of the Catholic Social Teachings are rooted in the inherent dignity of the human person, created in the image and likeness of God. Our belief in the sanctity of human life and inherent dignity are the foundation of our moral vision for society. As the Catechism of the Catholic Church notes:

“Being in the image of God the human individual possesses the dignity of a person, who is not just something, but someone.”

Consider the following questions in your reflection:

- How strong is your belief in your own human dignity?
- When you interact with family members and friends, can you honour and reverence the dignity of each person?
- Are there some people whose dignity you find challenging to uphold? How could you pray about overcoming these obstacles?

Learn more through one or more of these videos:

Catholic Social Teaching 101 - [Life and Dignity of the Human Person](#)

Duquesne University - [Human Dignity in the Catholic Tradition](#)

Caritas Australia - [Dignity of the Human Person](#)

FORMED - Symbolon Episode 9: [Building a Civilization of Love](#)

FORMED - Symbolon Episode 10:

[Protecting the Dignity of the Human Person](#)



“If we are faithful to God, we will lack nothing.”

- St. Vincent de Paul

Gospel Readings

September 3, 2023

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gospel Reading: Matthew 16:21-27

"...You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." — Matthew 16:23

If you had to leave your house in a hurry, what five things would you take? What if you only had time to take just one of them? What would be the most important thing to save? In our Gospel today, St. Peter tries to stop Jesus from going into danger. He has decided that Jesus' life is the most important thing to save. But Jesus knows that saving his own life isn't the most important thing. He knows that eventually some people will kill him for speaking the truth, speaking out against injustice, and loving everyone, even those whom others don't think are worthy of love. But Jesus is willing to die rather than change the way he lives, and he knows that God can make new life come out of death.

Have you ever experienced a difficult situation only to find out later that God had a plan to use that for your good?

*For where your
treasure is,
there your heart will
be also.*

- Matthew 6:21

Prayer:

Lord, when I am struggling, help me to trust that you know what's best and you will use all things for my good, even those that are painful right now.

September 10, 2023

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

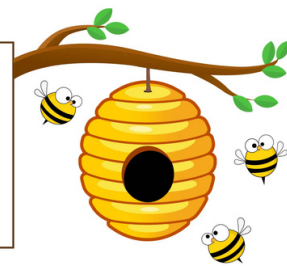
Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:15-20

"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." — Matthew 18:20

When we discover someone is doing something wrong, how do we respond? Do we go to him and try to help him improve? Do we talk about him behind his back? Do we just ignore what he's doing and let him get into deeper trouble?

In our Gospel today, Jesus shows us that we have a responsibility to help each other improve. That's hard to do because our good intentions might be seen as butting in when it's not our business. But Jesus reminds us that he will be with us and wants us to care enough to make a difference in other people's lives. If we ask for his help, he will give us the right words to use. We must always speak the truth in love.

Discuss together what loving words you can use to help someone get back on the path to God. Consider times when you were corrected by someone and how you felt.



Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the body. Proverbs 16:24

Prayer:

Please, dear Jesus, increase in me your gifts of courage and humility so that I may give and take constructive criticism with an open and loving heart.

Download this month's [Saint Prayer Card](#) - St. Vincent de Paul



Gospel Readings

September 17, 2023

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:21-35

"Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive him?" — Matthew 18:21

When someone hurts us, it's very common to want revenge. We often feel it's unfair if that person does not experience the same hurt inflicted on us.

In our Gospel today, Jesus tells us that his way is different. Instead of looking for ways to get back at someone, we should remember that Jesus forgave us even when we didn't deserve it. Just before Jesus died on the cross, he said to his Father "Forgive them, for they know not what they are doing." What an example He gave us! Even in the midst of suffering like a criminal, even though he was completely innocent, he forgave not only those who inflicted the pain that day but all people throughout the ages—even us. So, are we to forgive only once in a while? Jesus said there is no limit to the amount of times we should forgive others. For surely he didn't limit his forgiveness of us!

Pray today for people in prison and those who have been hurt by their crimes.



Matthew 18:21-22

Prayer:

Lord, it's hard to forgive when I experience injustice. Only with your help can I imitate your great love. Come to me when I need to forgive someone, dear Jesus.

September 24, 2023

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gospel Reading: Matthew 20:1-16

"Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last." — Matthew 20:16

In the Gospel today, we hear a parable about a landowner who pays all his workers the same amount of money, even though they did not all work the same amount of time. We may wonder why Jesus seems to be okay with that—isn't it unfair?

I remember when my son made the basketball team in junior high. Every day after school he and his teammates practiced for two hours. One day, a new student came to his school. The coach wanted him to feel welcome so he made him the starter for the next game. Without doing all the work the rest of the team had done, he received the same reward. Do you think that was fair? The team DID NOT! The following year my son started high school and his art and music teachers gave him opportunities to shine. He had natural talent in these areas, but so did other students. Was it fair? Perhaps the Gospel message is that instead of measuring our blessings against what others get, we should appreciate the many ways we are blessed.

Have you ever been jealous of someone else's success? Remember, God loves us all... in different ways!



Prayer:

Lord, please help me to appreciate your gifts, even if things seem unfair at times. Give me the patience to wait and see what generous ways you love me.

Sources:

[St. Vincent de Paul](#)

[Human Dignity: The Cornerstone of Catholic Social Teaching](#)

Image: [Beehive Hanging On A Tree Branch](#)

[Home Page](#)

Division Parishes

*“...not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another,
and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”*

Hebrews 10:25

 <p>Assumption Church Lethbridge</p> <p>Father Kevin Tumback Father Santiago Torres</p> <p>Mass (Saturday): 5:00 pm Mass (Sunday): 9:00 am (Live-streamed) 6:00 pm</p> <p>2405-12th Avenue S. Lethbridge, AB T1K 0P4 Tel: 403-327-8931</p>	 <p>St. Basil's Church Lethbridge</p> <p>Father Kevin Tumback Father Santiago Torres</p> <p>Mass (Saturday): 7:00 pm Mass (Sunday): 7:30 am 11:00 am</p> <p>604 13 Street N. Lethbridge, AB T1H 2S7 Tel: 403-327-8931</p>	 <p>St. Martha's Parish Lethbridge</p> <p>Father William Monis</p> <p>Mass (Saturday): 5:00 pm Mass (Sunday): 9:00 am 11:00 am</p> <p>355 Columbia Blvd. W. Lethbridge, AB T1K 5Y8 Tel: 403-381-8891</p>
 <p>Ss. Peter & Paul Parish Lethbridge</p> <p>Father Gary Sedgwick</p> <p>Mass (Saturday): 8:30 am Mass (Sunday): 10:00 am</p> <p>643 12B Street N. Lethbridge, AB T1H 2L6 Tel: 403-328-4753</p>	 <p>St. Ambrose Parish Coaldale</p> <p>Father Ian Gagne</p> <p>Mass (Sunday): 9:00 am 4:00 pm</p> <p>1523-23rd Avenue Coaldale, AB T1M 1E2 Tel: 403-345-3400</p>	 <p>St. Catherine Parish Picture Butte</p> <p>Father Ian Gagne</p> <p>Mass (Sunday): 11:00 am</p> <p>762 Crescent Avenue Picture Butte, AB T0K 1V0 Tel: 403-732-4433</p>
 <p>St. Augustine Parish Taber</p> <p>Father Philip Van Tinh Le</p> <p>Mass (Saturday): 5:00 pm Mass (Sunday): 9:00 am</p> <p>5009-48th Avenue Taber, AB T1G 1T4 Tel: 403-223-2226</p>	 <p>St. Michael's Parish Bow Island</p> <p>Father Wojciech Jarzecki</p> <p>Mass: 9:00 am</p> <p>1101-1st Street E. Blow Island, AB T0K 0G0 Tel: 403-545-2023</p>	 <p>St. Michael's Parish Pincher Creek</p> <p>Father Myles Gaffney</p> <p>Mass: 10:00 am</p> <p>958 Christie Avenue; Box 339 Pincher Creek, AB T0K 1W0 Tel: 403-627-3071</p>

Coaldale Clothing Fest

Clear Out Your Closet!



Coaldale Mennonite Church
is holding a Fall Clothing Fest ...

When? Sat. October 14, 2023 (10:00am - 1pm)

Where? Coaldale Mennonite Church Gym
(2316 – 17 Street)



Why? To help *support our community*

How? From the *generous donations and support of our community*

The clothing fest is a recycling program, which benefits many families in our community.

Pick out clothes at NO CHARGE.

Donations of clean clothing of all sizes in good condition are greatly appreciated.

Donations can be dropped off at the Coaldale Mennonite Church
weekdays from 9am-12pm, starting Sept 25th – Oct 11th.

Remaining items will be donated to local charities.

For more information or special arrangements or if you would like to help,
contact Jodi Reed @ (403) 345-5956



Lethbridge & District 4-H Clubs are looking for new members to join their clubs this fall!!



4-H IS A YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM WITH A LONG, RICH HISTORY IN ALBERTA AND AROUND THE WORLD.

LOOKING FOR MEMBERS 9 – 20 YEARS OF AGE
SOME CLUBS OFFER THE CLEVER KIDS PROGRAM - 6 - 8 YEARS OF AGE
NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

4-H is a dynamic program whose projects encompass everything from **active living**, **arts**, **science and technology**, **crafts**, **cooking**, **agriculture** and **so much more!**

The 4-H program gives **URBAN** and **RURAL** youth and adults life-long skills such as co-operation, leadership, interpersonal relations, critical thinking, decision making, organization, public speaking and community service.

Check out the 4-H website for more information – www.4hab.com

Contact one of the clubs in the Lethbridge District

Green Acres Dairy 4-H Club – greenacresdairy4h@gmail.com – Toby Kleinsasser
Project: dairy

Lethbridge Coaldale 4-H Beef – 1daniels@telus.net or call/text 403-308-7191 – Kim Daniels
Project: beef

Lethbridge Northern 4-H Beef - treenavh@gmx.com – Treena Van Hierden
Project: beef

Readymade 4-H Multi Club - readymade4hclub@gmail.com – David Hodge
Projects: beef, sheep, arts, crafts, cats, shooting sports

TNT 4-H Multi Club – melanie.daniels84@gmail.com or 403-635-0564 – Melanie Daniels
Projects: pheasants, crafts, foods, wood turning, shooting sports, fishing & more

Turin 4-H Club – turinalberta4H@gmail.com or 403-360-4808 – Chelsea Nieboer
Projects: sheep, beef, sewing

Wild n Woolly 4-H – wvw.sheep@gmail.com or 403-634-7297 – Marina Grant
Project: sheep



Learn To Do By Doing





Interested in hockey but don't want the significant time or financial commitment that often comes with this great sport?

We offer an organized non-checking recreational hockey league for all genders aged 5-17. All skill levels are welcome.

One hour, once a week. Season runs from October to March.

Registration closes on September 17, 2023 - spots fill quickly so don't delay!

www.lethbridgerechokey.com

