



November 11th
REMEMBRANCE DAY
Lest We Forget

Newsletter November 2025

November 2025 Principal's Message

As we wrap up our Halloween celebrations and we move closer to Christmas season it is important that we take a moment to slow down and take the time to celebrate and honour Remembrance Day.

For the vast majority of us, our experience with war is limited to two or three minute segments of darkness and devastation as seen through the lens of a television camera or through a journalist's account of fighting in distant parts of the world. For those of us born during peacetime, all wars seem far removed from our daily lives. The minute the images make us uncomfortable, it is as easy as pushing a button, to switch the channel and tune it out.

Once a year we set aside a day to formally recognize, remember, and give thanks that we are able to live in a country where we are free to attend school, vote, speak our mind, play, and worship. Once a year we are asked not to switch the channel. We often take for granted our Canadian values and institutions, our freedom to participate in cultural and political events, and our right to live under a government of our choice. The Canadians who went off to war in distant lands went in the belief that the values and beliefs enjoyed by Canadians were being threatened. They truly believed that "Without freedom there can be no ensuring peace and without peace, no enduring freedom."

These wars touched the lives of Canadians of all ages, all races, and all social classes. Fathers, mothers, sons, daughters: they were killed in action, they were wounded, and thousands who returned were forced to live the rest of their lives with the physical and mental scars of war. The people who stayed in Canada also served - in factories, in voluntary service organizations, wherever they were needed. By remembering their service and their sacrifice, we recognize the tradition of freedom these men and women fought to preserve. They believed that their actions in the present would make a significant difference for the future, but it is up to us to ensure that their dream of peace is realized. On Remembrance Day, we acknowledge the courage and sacrifice of those who served their country and acknowledge our responsibility to work for the peace they fought hard to achieve.

It is in remembering and telling the story that we discover who we are and the meaning of our lives. It is in recalling the past that we best see what the way into the future is. It is in remembering what happened and why it happened, that we find the principles and the guidelines by which our lives should be governed.

As I invite you to join our St. Joseph's family on November 6, 2025 at 1:15 pm for our Remembrance Day Liturgy, which will be led by our grade 9 class, I am reminded of someone else who died for us – died so that we might enjoy eternal freedom - Jesus Christ. The Remembrance Day liturgy will be followed by our quarter 1 faith in action awards and our 2024 – 2025 Junior High Academic Awards. The awards will begin around 2pm.

Have a blessed November,

Brent Christensen
Principal

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 All Saints Day
2 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time All Souls Day	3	4	5 Grade 9 Take Our Kids to Work Day	6 Remembrance Day Liturgy @ 1:15pm Faith in Action & Academic Awards @ 2:00pm	7 Regular Classes for Students	8
9 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	10 Division Wellness Day NO SCHOOL Staff & Students	11 Remembrance Day NO SCHOOL Staff & Students 	12 Leadership Event Dress Like your Favorite DECADE	13 Grade 4-5 Mass St. Ambrose Church 8:45am-9:15am	14 ROC your MOCs  Youth Led Mass Practice @ 12:20pm	15 Live In Retreat Weekend Christian Retreat for Adults @ SJS Contact Pat Mastel
16 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	17 Quarter 2 Begins SCHOLASTIC BOOKFAIR Monday to Wednesday 8:30am-5:00pm November 17 th -19 th	18 Christmas Food Drive Begins  School Council Meeting @ 6:30pm	19	20 Grade 6-9 Mass St. Ambrose Church 8:45am-9:15am Office Hours 3:30pm-6:30pm SCHOLASTIC BOOKFAIR 8:30am-6:30pm	21 FLOAT FUNDRAISER ORDERS DUE TODAY Youth Led Mass Practice @ 12:20pm	22
23 30 th Sunday in Ordinary Time 1st Sunday of Advent	24	25 Feast of St. Catherine of Alexandria	26 CANTEEN CLOSED Float Fundraiser for the Coaldale Food Bank Board Meeting	27 Parent Night @ 6:30pm Nutrition Services ALL parents WELCOME	28 Leadership Event Creative Hair Day Youth Led Mass Practice @ 12:20pm	29 Youth Led Mass @ 5:00pm



November Athletic Report

With school resuming, so has our athletic program at St. Joseph School. I was so happy to see the enthusiasm of our student athletes as they were ready to carry on with the volleyball season. November will see the completion of the volleyball season, with league tournaments and potential zone tournaments for our SV boys and girls teams. I would like to pass on a congratulations to both our SV boys and girls teams as they competed in the St. Mary Big Storm tournament in early October. The boys team finished first place and our girls team finished first on the consolation side.

I would also like to pass on congratulations to our Cross Country team that competed in Medicine Hat on October 2nd. Our team represented our school really well and enjoyed the day competing against other junior high students from the south zone.

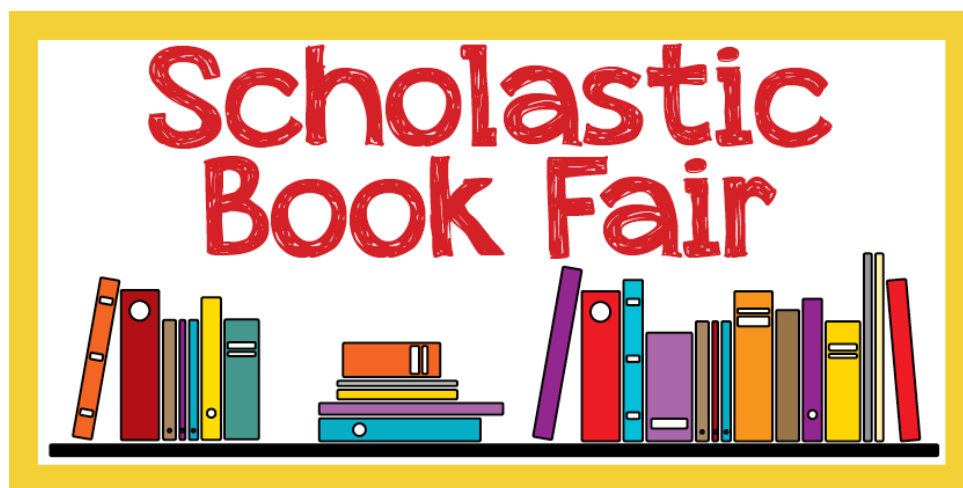
Good luck to all of our volleyball players and keep working hard and improving your skills!

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Bruce Gal

Associate Principal



Once again we are hosting a *Scholastic Book Fair* during the week of **November 17 to 20, 2025**

As always we are blessed to have such wonderful support from our St. Joseph families and hope to see you again this year.

Christmas is coming and we will have many great gifts to choose from.

NOVEMBER 17TH-19TH :Monday to Wednesday: 8:30am-5:00pm

NOVEMBER 20 :Thursday 8:30am-6:30pm

SCHOOL COUNCIL

CORNER

NOV 2025

Who we are

Positions

Chair – Amanda Webster
Vice Chair – Amanda Bohner
Secretary – Lacie Terpstra

What we do

We are a group of dedicated individuals that work along the school to enhance a healthy parent/school relationship. Everyone is welcome to attend our bi-monthly meetings and share feedback and ideas. Your input matters and we would love to see you at our next meeting.

Upcoming Events

Parent Night November 27th Lunch and Snack ideas.

We are excited to invite Erin van Esveld, a Nutritionist to present at our next Parent Night.

She will be presenting on **healthy lunch ideas as well as after school snack ideas**. She will be sharing new ways to make lunch fun and also nutritious. More information to come.

We will be scheduling hot lunches again starting in January.

More Information

~New Lending Library~

We are continuing to our School Council Lending Library. The Library will be available to borrow from during Office hours each month. We will have a variety of books based on Parenting topics.

A few of our books will be available in English as well as Spanish. We will have a table set up with the books at the next office hours day on Nov 20th. Come check us out.

Our Next Meeting

Nov 18th

6:30 pm

@ St. Joes School

Contact Info

Email: sjsc.parentcouncil@gmail.com

Phone: (403)345-3373
(Office will relay the message to us)



SJS YOUTH LED MASS

SATURDAY, November 29, 2025, 5:00 p.m.

*St. Joseph School will be coordinating the
5:00 p.m. Mass at St. Ambrose Church for
Saturday, November 29, 2025, 5:00 p.m..*



We need readers, greeters, gift bearers, altar servers, ushers, and choir members. If YOU would like to participate, please complete the attached volunteer form and email it to mastelp5657@gmail.com or snap a picture and text it to Mrs. Mastel at 403-892-4207, or drop it off at St. Joseph School Office by Friday, Nov. 14.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Mastel at 403-892-4207.

The choir will only have two practices in preparation for this special Mass: Friday's, Nov. 21 and 28, 12:20 to 1:10 p.m. in the Choir Loft at St. Ambrose Church.

We will meet in the Gathering Space after school & walk to the church together



NOVEMBER 29, 2025 YOUTH LED MASS VOLUNTEER FORM

Student's Name: _____ **Grade:** _____

Please PRINT First and Last Name

and Teacher

Parent's Phone/Cell Numbers: _____

Parent's Email Address: _____

I would like to share my talent as a:

_____ **Reader**

_____ **Altar Server**

_____ **Greeter**

_____ **Usher**

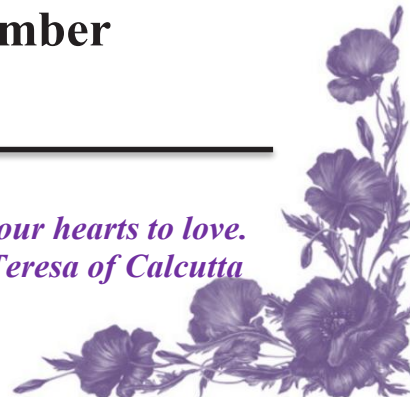
_____ **Gift Bearer**

_____ **Choir Member**

Student's Signature: _____ **Parent's Signature:** _____



*Give your hands to serve and your hearts to love.
Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta*





Christmas Food Drive

Starts November 18th

ITEMS WE NEED

SOUP-CRACKERS-PASTA-JAM-RICE-CEREAL-PEANUT
BUTTER-CANNED VEGETABLES-CANNED FRUIT

A DONATION table will be set up outside the office at
St. Joseph School.

Your generous donations will be distributed to families in need.



Mass at St. Ambrose Church starts at 8:45am.

All parents, grandparents are welcome to attend.

Please see mass times below:

Thursday, November 13 - Grade 4-5

Thursday, November 20 - Grade 6-9

Pastor—Fr. Iqbal Khurshid: pastor@stambroseparish.ca
Deacon—Peter Lilienthal: deacon@stambroseparish.ca

St. Ambrose Mass Times

Mass

Sunday 9 am & 4 pm
Mon & Thur.....8:45 am
Tuesday..... 7 pm
Saturday 5 pm
(starting Aug 30th)

Adoration

Friday..... 7-8 pm
Reconciliation
Tuesday..... 6-6:45 pm
Friday..... 7-8 pm
Saturday3:30-4:30 pm

†

Sunny South Lodge

Mass—starting Sept.
1st & 3rd Thur at 2:30 pm

St. Ambrose Parish

1513 - 23 Avenue, Coaldale, AB T1M 1E2
website—www.stambroseparish.ca
email—office@stambroseparish.ca

St. Ambrose Office Hours

Tuesday ... 9 am-4:30 pm
Thursday.. 9 am-4:30 pm
Friday..... 10 am-4:30 pm
Phone: 403-345-3400

After hours / emergency
Fr. Iqbal: 587-434-1937



*“Lord, when did we
see you hungry and
feed you, or thirsty
and give you drink?”*

(Matthew 25:37)

St. Joseph's School Council

Is happy to Present

our next **Parent Night!**

Healthy & Tasty

Lunch and Snack Ideas!

**Erin Van Esveld a Nutritionist will
join us to share some new fun ideas
for our kids lunches and snacks.**

Refreshments will be provided on behalf of School Council

St Joseph's Gathering Space

Date : Nov 27th

Time : 6:30 pm

sjs

FAMILY MOVIE MATINEES

Enjoy a movie night on us with our monthly movie kits! Each kit comes with a DVD and snacks. Kits are limited, so call or email us to make sure to get yours.

Kits available Nov 12 & December 10

POEDs at SJS

Definitions:

POED: **Personally Owned Electronic Devices** we are referring to personally owned cell phones, tablets, laptops, and wearable technology such as smartwatches or earbud.

The following will be the policy followed at SJS:

Grade 1-5

Students are not to bring personally owned electronic devices to school.

Grade 6-9

Students are required to leave their devices in their lockers unless explicitly given permission by their classroom teacher.

Cell Phones are **never allowed** in washrooms or changerooms. If parents/guardians need to get ahold of their child during the school day, they must do so by contacting the office.

Cell phones may be stored in the locker but **NOT IN POCKETS**.

POEDs Permitted during the following:

- 8:00am-8:20am: school is open for the Breakfast Program
- **Personally Owned Electronic Devices** are not permitted during the 1st half of lunch hour while students are eating.
- Students will have access to their devices during the second half of lunch as well as during the two, 10 minute breaks during the day.



A telephone for student use is provided in the office. If the parents/guardian need to contact the student, please call our school office at **403-345-3373**. The office staff will relay only messages to students, which originate from parents/guardians.

HOLY SPIRIT SC & SJ 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

Aug 25 First day for staff
Aug 29 Opening Mass

O – 5
I – 0

AUGUST '25						
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						

Oct 13 Thanksgiving Day
Oct 14 Spiritual Dev. Day
Oct 15 Div. Collaboration Day
Oct 29 Div. Board Meeting

O – 22 (47)
I – 20 (29)

OCTOBER '25						
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	

Dec 17 Div. Board Meeting
Dec 19 Last day before break
Dec 20-31 Christmas break
Dec 25 Christmas Day
Dec 26 Boxing Day

O – 15 (80)
I – 15 (71)

DECEMBER '25						
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			

Feb 16 Family Day
Feb 17 & 18 Non-operational Days
Feb 19 & 20 SNACKA
Feb 25 Div. Board Meeting

O – 17 (117)
I – 15 (105)

FEBRUARY '26						
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

Apr 2 Last day before Easter break
Apr 3 Good Friday
Apr 4 Easter Monday
Apr 7-10 Easter break
Apr 13 First day after break
Apr 22 Div. Board Meeting

O – 16 (155)
I – 16 (142)

APRIL '26						
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		

Jun 24 Div. Board Meeting
Jun 25 Last day students
Jun 26 Last day for teachers

O – 20 (195)
I – 19 (180)

JUNE '26						
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				

SEPTEMBER '25						
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				

Sept 1 Labour Day
Sept 2 First day for students
Sept 24 Div. Board Meeting
Sept 29 Div. PD Day
Sept 30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

O – 20 (25)
I – 19 (19)

NOVEMBER '25						
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						

Nov 7 School PD Day
Nov 10 Wellness Day
Nov 11 Remembrance Day
Nov 26 Div. Board Meeting

O – 18 (45)
I – 17 (56)

JANUARY '26						
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

Jan 1 New Year's Day
Jan 2-4 Christmas break
Jan 5 First day after break
Jan 28 School PD Day
Jan 29 Div. Board Meeting

O – 20 (100)
I – 19 (90)

MARCH '26						
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				

Mar 13 Div. Collab Day
Mar 25 Div. Board Meeting

O – 22 (128)
I – 21 (124)

MAY '26						
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						

May 15 School PD Day
May 18 Victoria Day
May 27 Div. Board Meeting

O – 20 (175)
I – 19 (161)

JULY '26						
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	

No students
Stat Holidays
School PD/Div. PD/Spiritual
Dev./Collab. Days
Div. Board Meetings
First and last days for students
First and last days for teachers

