

Holodomor Memorial Day Introduction and Prayer

Good morning. Several years ago our Board of Trustees unanimously declared the last Friday in November as Holodomor Memorial Day in the Edmonton Catholic School District. Today, the last Friday in November, many of our staff and students will be observing Holodomor Memorial day.

As we honor the millions of Ukrainians who died as a result of Famine Genocide of 1932 - 1933, and as we recall the dramatic events of the Holodomor, let us pray for the repose of the souls of the dead, asking God to grant eternal rest to all those who were unjustly deprived of the gift of life. We begin in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Help us to remember the victims, the country's children, and to pray that, with God's assistance, the lessons of history help us to find lasting encouragement for mutual understanding, harmony and peace.

Protected by our Mother of God, we celebrate today with splendor. Gazing at your most pure image, we humbly say: Cover us with your precious veil and deliver us from all evil by asking your Son, Christ our God, that He may save our souls.

Hail Mary, full of grace. Our Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.

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Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.