

God Calls Us



EACH BY NAME

November 2020

“To all believers, and to men and women of good will, we say: let us become creative artisans of peace, let us build social friendship, let us make our own the culture of dialogue. Honest, persistent and courageous dialogue is the antidote to distrust, division and violence. Dialogue dismantles at the outset the arguments for wars that destroy the fraternity to which our human family is called.”
(Pope Francis, *Appeal for Peace*, 10/20/2020)

Our Holy Father shared these words as part of the [International Meeting of Prayer For Peace](#). The theme of the meeting was “No one is saved alone. Peace and Fraternity.” The words of his homily, address, and the appeal for peace are all grounded in a call to action for all of us. As we have learned during the pandemic, we cannot remain indifferent to the struggles of others. We are united in our humanity and we need to care for each other. Peace is something that we all need to take ownership of and work towards. I encourage you to take a few moments and read Pope Francis’ entire message at the link above or by visiting www.vatican.va. His words are very thought provoking in this month where we commemorate Remembrance Day and Holodomor (The Ukrainian Famine Genocide).

In light of the programming changes that have occurred due to the pandemic, our schools have revisited their school fees to ensure that they are still reflective of the activities and materials that were shared at the end of June. In instances where there has been a change, the fees were decreased appropriately. No new fees were added and no fee increases occurred. Please check PowerSchool for your fees for the year as they are now active.

We are committed to maintaining the integrity of our classroom and school cohorts. This means that our Division and schools have come up with innovative means to engage our families and community. As an example, our Board of Trustees held a Parent/Guardian Engagement on supporting your child’s mental health in late October. We had over 1800 people register for this virtual opportunity! You will notice over the upcoming months that our traditional face to face meetings will move to the virtual world. This will include things like Demonstration of Learning, Open Houses, Advent and Christmas concerts, and celebrations.

Sunday, November 8, 2020 has been named Catholic Education Sunday by the Bishops of Alberta and the Northwest Territories. The theme for this year is ***Those who hope in the Lord shall renew their strength*** (Isaiah 40:31) and is especially relevant and inspiring during this time of COVID. Catholic schools are best situated to move forward during hardship and uncertainty for we know that God is with us and holds us in the palm of His hand. The faithfulness of God gives us hope.

Please join us in praying the Novena for Catholic Education Sunday from October 29 - November 6, 2020 as we celebrate the great gift of publicly funded Catholic education in Alberta.

Have a wonderful month!

Sincerely,

Robert Martin
Chief Superintendent

Novena for Catholic Education Sunday

We are grateful for our Catholic Schools. Let us unite in prayer that the Holy Spirit may intercede for Catholic Education throughout Alberta by praying this traditional prayer daily from October 29 until November 6, 2020.

Leader: Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.

All: And kindle in them the fire of your love.

Leader: Send forth your Spirit, and they shall be created,

All: And you will renew the face of the earth.

Leader: Let us pray:

**All: Lord, by the light of the Holy Spirit
you have taught the hearts of your faithful.**

In the same Spirit

help us to attain our happiness in what is right

and to always rejoice in your peace and consolation.

**May you inspire Catholic Education with the wisdom of the Holy Spirit
that it may remain faithful to your teachings and committed to living
the Gospel of Jesus Christ.**

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit:

**All: as it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**