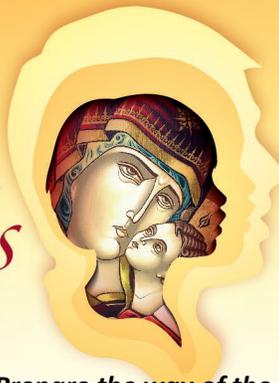


# God Calls Us



## EACH BY NAME

December 2021

**Prepare the way of the Lord...**

**Luke 3:4**

These words from the Gospel on the Second Sunday of Advent are those of John the Baptist spoken in fulfilment of the prophesy of Isaiah. As we begin our journey through Advent, we are all feeling excitement, anticipation, and watchfulness. We prepare the way of the Lord within ourselves and our homes, knowing that the ultimate gift of love, our salvation, is soon to arrive in this world. There are so many things that we can do in preparation for Christmas. Edmonton Catholic Schools is pleased to host our second annual [The Art of Advent A Virtual Arts Advent Calendar](#), a celebration of the sacred beauty of this season. The calendar will go live on November 28 and will include a weekly Advent message from Father Glenn McDonald, weekly prayers, and Advent-themed activities. Students will share Advent-themed arts performances and pieces to be showcased on this online platform. Each day a new square will become live, highlighting student artists throughout the Division. It is truly an exquisite way to celebrate this special liturgical time!

There were many noteworthy items on the [agenda for the Public Meeting of our Board of Trustees](#) on November 24. The Division's Audited Financial Statements for the 2020-21 school year were released. They can be found on [www.ecsd.net](http://www.ecsd.net) or directly by [clicking here](#). The Board voted to commence the formal process to consider the closure of St. Basil Catholic Elementary/Junior High School. Information about this process, as well as a report outlining the closure proposal can be found under *News and Announcements* on [www.ecsd.net](http://www.ecsd.net) or directly by [clicking here](#). The Board also voted to commence the formal process to consider the closure of the Grade 7-9 programming at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary/Junior High School. This would result in the relocation of the junior high programs of choice that are currently offered there. Information about this process, as well as a report outlining the closure proposal can be found under *News and Announcements* on [www.ecsd.net](http://www.ecsd.net) or directly by [clicking here](#).

Alberta Education requires all school jurisdictions to submit an Annual Education Results Report (AERR) by November 30 of each year. Alberta Education implemented a new [Assurance Framework](#) replacing the previous Accountability Framework. The Edmonton Catholic School Division's 2020-2021 AERR Report provides an analysis of results, compares provincial and local performance measures, and develops strategies as part of the guidelines and outcomes set by Alberta Education's new Assurance Measures for each of the following domains: Local and Societal Context, Student Growth and Achievement, Teaching and Leading, Learning Supports, and Governance. You can read the AERR by [clicking here](#).

As I write this final newsletter for 2021, I would like to leave you with the words of Pope Francis from his [Homily on the First Sunday of Advent](#) last year:

*Dear brothers and sisters, praying and loving: that is what it means to be watchful. When the Church worships God and serves our neighbour, she does not live in the night. However weak and weary, she journeys towards the Lord. Let us now call out to him. Come, Lord Jesus, we need you! Draw close to us. You are the light. Rouse us from the slumber of mediocrity; awaken us from the darkness of indifference. Come, Lord Jesus, take our distracted hearts and make them watchful. Awaken within us the desire to pray and the need to love.*

Have a blessed Advent and a glorious Christmas!

Robert Martin, Chief Superintendent



**LUMEN CHRISTI Catholic Education Centre**

9807-106 Street NW | Edmonton AB T5K 1C2 | T: 780 441-6000 | [www.ecsd.net](http://www.ecsd.net)