

St. Mary's School

Ecce Ego Sum Mitte Me

February 2025

News from our St. Mary's Band Booster Club

The Grade 6 Band Annual Band Workshop will take place on Wednesday, March 19th at the Taber Civic Centre. We will be leaving the school at 8:35 and be returning around 3:00. Please look for the parent letter which was sent out at the start of the month.

The next Home Performance Assignment is due Monday, March 3rd. Please ask to hear your son or daughter play at home.

The St. Mary's Grade 7-12 students are selling Ben's Beef Jerky as a fundraiser for their trip to Calgary in March. Each pack is \$25 and comes in Original, Teriyaki, Smoky River and Sweet and Spicy. Students are reminded that all of the orders are due Friday, February 7th. The jerky will be delivered in the second week of March.

All Grade 6-8 students are reminded that they should be practicing at least 70 minutes per week. Practice sheets are available in the band room and should be handed in every week. Practice sheets form 10% of a student's mark.

The St. Mary's Jazz Band meets every Tuesday from 3:15 to 4:20 in the band room. It is open to students from grades 7-12, however students in grade 6 with a higher ability are also welcome to join (please talk to Mr. Makarchuk if you are interested).

The next executive meeting of the St. Mary's Band Booster Club will be Tuesday, February 25th at 7pm in the band room. Any interested parents are invited to attend.

The St. Mary's Senior Band will be performing at the W.R. Myers Music of the Night Concert on Thursday, April 10th at 7pm. Tickets will be available in late March. This promises to be a great night of music from our local performers.

The St. Mary's Spring Band Concert will be held on Wednesday, May 14th at 7pm in the school gym. Everyone is invited to attend.

Volunteer at the 1A Basketball Provincials



**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**



We are hosting the 1A Basketball Provincials here at St. Mary's School on **March 19th - 22nd**. To ensure that this event runs smoothly, **we are looking for volunteers** to help with score-keeping, door admissions, etc. We need as many volunteers as we can get.

We are also looking for food donations and help to maintain our coaches/officials room.

Please contact our school office at 403-223-3165 or reach out to our Athletic Director, AJ Bergenhenengouwen.

February 13th:
Soup Day @ 11:30 AM

February 17th - 21st:
Reading Week -
No School

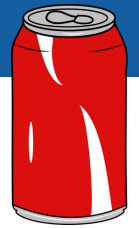
February 25th:
School Council Mtg
@ 5:45 PM

March 3rd:
Ski Trip

Bottle Drive Fundraising



We have an account at the Taber Bottle Depot to help fundraise for the upcoming Basketball Provincials that St. Mary's will be hosting this year. If you would like to contribute to this account, you can drop off your empty pop cans, bottles, etc and let the staff know to submit the proceeds into the **St. Mary's Basketball Provincials** account. Thank you in advance for your contributions.



Parish Connection: St. Augustine Church

FEBRUARY 22ND:

COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR WALK TO SUPPORT OUR LOCAL TABER FOOD BANK.

Our team, the Augustine Avengers lead by Sue Sawatsky, is raising funds for Taber Food Bank. Every year we continue to increase our donations for the food of our community. Proudly, last year we raised over \$4900. Our hope is to involve our Parish family to be a visible presence in this fundraising effort for our community. We invite you to join the walk if you can, volunteer at the walk, or provide a financial donation to our Augustine Avengers Team. For more information and to support/donate to Augustine Avengers visit cnoy.org or talk to Sue Sawatsky.



coldest
*night
OF THE YEAR

Donate School Supplies

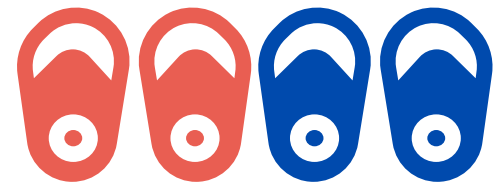


We accept all gently used school supplies throughout the school year. We place these items out for everyone to access for **FREE!** It helps to save items from the landfill and with the cost of everything lately, every little bit helps! We are currently **running low on the basics like pencils, erasers, sharpeners, etc.** If you have any gently used supplies laying around at home taking up space, we would gladly accept them and pass them on to our students.

SMS SOUP DAY

February 13th @ 11:30 AM

If any parents would like to bring a pot of soup, please contact our school office at 403-223-3165



PULL TOGETHER

We are continuing to collect pop tabs to help build hospital equipment and wheel chairs. Thank you to everyone who has collected tabs for us. Let's see how many more we can collect by June 2025.

Order School Clothing

If you are looking to order some school clothing, you can do so by following these steps:

1. Go to smt.holyspirit.ab.ca
2. Click on "School"
3. then on "School Merchandize"
4. Click on "Fotees Custom Apparel"
5. Click on St. Mary's
6. Proceed with your order.

Note: please allow approximately 3 weeks delivery time to the school.



Electronic Recycling Association's
**\$1 MILLION & \$100K DOLLARS
2025 SCHOLARSHIP**



COLLECT LAPTOPS , TABLETS AND SMART PHONES
CANADA WIDE FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN!

ENTER NOW

www.era.ca

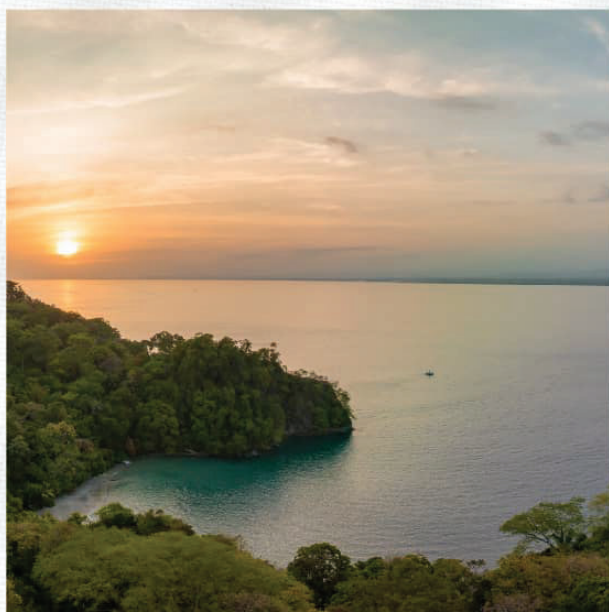
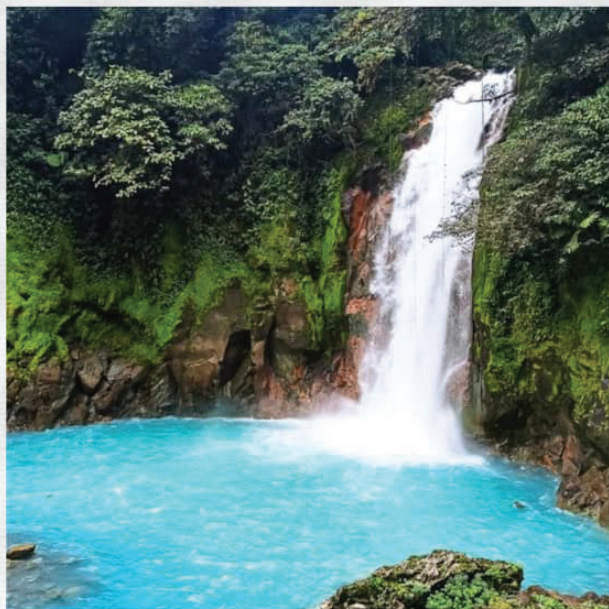
1.877.9EWASTE

info@era.ca

LETHBRIDGE BULLS "CITY CONNECT" 3RD JERSEY DESIGN CONTEST



ENTER YOUR DESIGN FOR A CHANCE TO WIN SEASON TICKETS AND MUCH MORE!



COSTA RICA

Easter

2026

Enrol today in the
SMS EF Tours trip to
Costa Rica Easter
2026!! It's open to
all student currently
in grade 10 & 11

BOOK NOW AT
WWW.EFTOURS.CA USE
ENROLMENT NUMBER
2790446CX

If you have questions contact
Ms. Siemens



Bright Futures Begin Here

Holy Spirit Catholic School Division



2025/2026 REGISTRATION



Re-Registration Starts January 13, 2025

Families with students currently enrolled in our system should expect an email during the week of January 13-17, 2025 asking that the online "Registration Update Form" be completed for each child attending one of our schools in the 2025/2026 school year.

Parents/guardians who are hoping to register younger siblings new to the division will also have the opportunity to do this at the same time that they re-register older students.

New Student Registration Starts February 3, 2025

All Early Learning to Grade 12 students who are new to the division and wish to enroll for the 2025/2026 school year are invited to register online starting on Monday, February 3, 2025.

- Through play, our **Early Learning Program** is designed to stimulate the growing curiosity of children 3 and 4 years of age.
- **Kindergarten** is designed for children 5 years of age on, or before, December 31, 2025.
- **Grade 1** registrants must be 6 years of age on, or before, December 31, 2025.
- **French Immersion** is also available. Enrollment starts:
 - in Kindergarten/Grade 1 at École St. Mary in Lethbridge.
 - in Grade 1 at St. Michael's School in Pincher Creek.



For More Information

Contact our Early Learning Supervisor to discuss Early Learning or your child's specialized programming requirements by phone (403-381-8495) or email (earlylearning@holyspirit.ab.ca).

To inquire about Kindergarten, you can contact your local school.

Contact our French Language Consultant to discuss French Immersion programming by phone (403-331-4458) or email (urquhartw@holyspirit.ab.ca).

Contact your child's school, or visit the division's website (holyspirit.ab.ca), if you need assistance with the online registration process or have any questions.



Holy Spirit Catholic School Division
...where children are cherished and achieve their potential.

OFF-CAMPUS NEWS

CCH EAST
Rm 154



February 2025

Skills Canada Competitions Coming Soon!

The Skills Canada Competitions offer a fantastic chance to showcase your skills in various trades and technology fields.

Important Dates:

- February 8 - Registration Closes
- March 8 - South West Regional Event at Lethbridge Polytechnic

Visit Skills Alberta Events for more information. Don't miss out!

Extra Assistance for Regional Welding Competitors:

Dave Heins from Lethbridge Polytechnic is offering extra support to Regional welding competitors starting Friday, January 24. Take advantage of this opportunity to fine-tune your skills!

Session Schedule:

- **Time: 12:30 PM - 3:30 PM**
 - **Dates: January 31, February 7, February 21, February 28, March 7**

Dave, a Regional Skills Expert and experienced instructor, has coached apprentices to national competitions. His passion for welding and expertise makes these sessions invaluable.

To Register:

- Sign up early to ensure your spot. We will send the list of registered students to Dave by noon on each session day. **Registration Link:** Welding Training Sessions

For more information, registration questions, or to cancel, notify Miss. Amakobe at

amakobev@holyspirit.ab.ca or 403-593-2903

Who BILDS it Best Live Building Competition

The Who BILDS it Best live building competition is back for high school students (grades 10-12) at the Home, Garden & Leisure Show in Lethbridge, happening **March 13-15, 2025!**

This exciting event challenges students to showcase their building skills in a hands-on competition with great prizes and opportunities to connect with potential employers in the trades industry.

- **Registration Deadline:** February 7, 2025. Find the **registration form** HERE
- **Team Setup:** Students are encouraged to register in teams of 2, but individual registrations are welcome and students will be placed on a team.

Don't miss out on the chance to demonstrate your talent and make industry connections!

Veterinary Technical Assistant Certificate (VTA)

Thinking about a career in Animal Science? **Exciting news—starting in 2025-2026**, Holy Spirit will be offering the **Veterinary Technical Assistant (VTA) Certificate in partnership with Olds College!** This unique program allows students to graduate with both their Grade 12 diploma and their VTA Certificate, fully prepared to enter the dynamic world of animal care.

Don't miss this amazing opportunity to jumpstart
your career in the animal sciences field!



Dual Credit Program

If you missed the Dual Credit Orientation or would like to review the session, you can access the recording [HERE](#).

Important Dates:

Winter Dual Credit Semester Starts: Monday, Feb 3.

Family Week Break: No class from Feb. 17-21.

Last Day of Class: May 14.



Additional Information:

- **Program Start Time:** Dual credit classes begin at 8:00 AM on **Feb. 3**.
- **Welcome Letter:** You should have received a welcome letter with details about your program and textbooks. If not, please contact us.
- **Parking Passes:** A Lethbridge Polytechnic coordinator will distribute parking passes soon.
- **Lethbridge Polytechnic Account:** Ensure you can log in to your account. If you haven't received login instructions, please reach out.

Reminder

If you're enrolled in the **Registered Apprenticeship or Work Experience programs**, please remember to submit your completed work hours as soon as possible.

Send your work hours to:
hsoffcampus@holyspirit.ab.ca.



EPIC DAY

EPIC DAY, hosted by Career Transitions,
on Wednesday, **April 16**,
from 9:00AM - 2:30 PM.

More information can be found [here](#).
Speak with the Off-Campus Team if
you're interested!

Mark Boschee
Off-Campus Coordinator
Career Centre, East Campus on Tuesday/Friday
Cell: 587-220-4258
Email: boscheem@holyspirit.ab.ca

Vero Amakobe
Career Practitioner
Office on Campus, West on Thursdays
403-327-4596 ext 312
Email: amakobev@holyspirit.ab.ca

February



Proclaim! Pilgrims of Hope

*"He took what is mine in order that He might impart to me what is His.
He took it not to overturn it but to fill it."*

- St. Ambrose

St. Ambrose 339-397 (Feast Day: December 7)

St. Ambrose was born in the year 339 in the northern part of the Roman Empire. It is said that as a baby, a swarm of bees settled on his face while he was in a cradle, leaving the touch of honey on him. This is why bees are often represented with him as a symbol. To have a honeyed tongue means to be persuasive or sweet speaking — which Ambrose turned out to be as a preacher later in his life. He moved to Rome to study, and then worked in the government of the Roman Empire, becoming the governor of an area of what is today northern Italy in 372.

At some point in his adult life, Ambrose became a Christian, but he had not been baptized nor trained in theology when in 374, he suddenly became the Bishop of Milan! How did this happen? In the 300s, there was a priest named Arius who began to teach that (in very brief) God created Jesus, which meant that Jesus was lesser than (and unique from) God. These beliefs, known as Arianism, threatened to divide the church. In large part, this is why we have the Nicene Creed today. Ambrose was known to both sides of the conflict as charitable and seeking unity amongst Christians — which is why he was popularly installed. He was quickly baptized and ordained and became not only the Governor, but the Bishop. From there, he sought both unity and correct doctrine. He wrote extensively, corrected the Arians, and oversaw his diocese seeking to promote Christian unity — in fact, our popular saying today "When in Rome, do as the Romans" derives from St. Ambrose, as he responded to a controversy about local customs in the church. He died in 397, was popularly canonized, and is known today as one of the first four Doctors of the Church.



The Apostles' Creed

"...[He] ascended into heaven..."



For many of us, this section of the Creed might reinforce a perception that we have about Jesus flying away, up into heaven at the Ascension. It might be worth questioning this perception. When we examine Jesus' bodily resurrection and ascension, we recognize that in this we too have hope for our own ascent to the Father; but what might that mean? We could consider that as closer union with God; not a change of physical location. We know also that Christ told the disciples that he would be with them until the end of the age — not away from them. So rather than thinking about him flying away into absence from us, we could ponder him remaining with us, present to us in every moment. In doing so, we can shift our question from "What Would Jesus Do?" to "What is Jesus Doing?"

As we seek to become Pilgrims of Hope this year, let us continue to contemplate the Creed, and how our proclamation of the Creed unites us to one another and to all Christians through time and space.



The Jubilee Prayer: [English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)

"Proclaiming" In Our Schools

This month, we will be joined by Trustees, clergy, senior administration and staff and students from our schools as we embark on the planning for a new three year faith plan. Continuing on in our decade-long tradition, your representatives will *Arise*, reflect on what we have *Built*, and think about how we can best *Proclaim* our faith in this next cycle. Please pray for the success of our time together and the influence of the Holy Spirit to guide the development of the plan. We want to thank all those of you who took time to watch our consultation video to provide feedback that guided this work, and we look forward to sharing the results with you later this spring!



Pope's Prayer Intentions — For vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.





INDIGENOUS YOUTH COOKING CLASS

For More Information or to register
please call 403-320-4232 ext 215

January 30, 2025:
Thursday

February 13th, 2025
Thursday

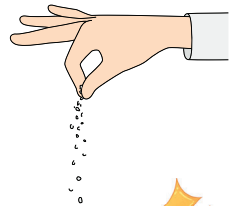
February 27th, 2025

March 13, 2025

Limited Spots available

When: Thursdays
4:00-6:00pm

Where: Family
Centre North
1103-3 Ave N

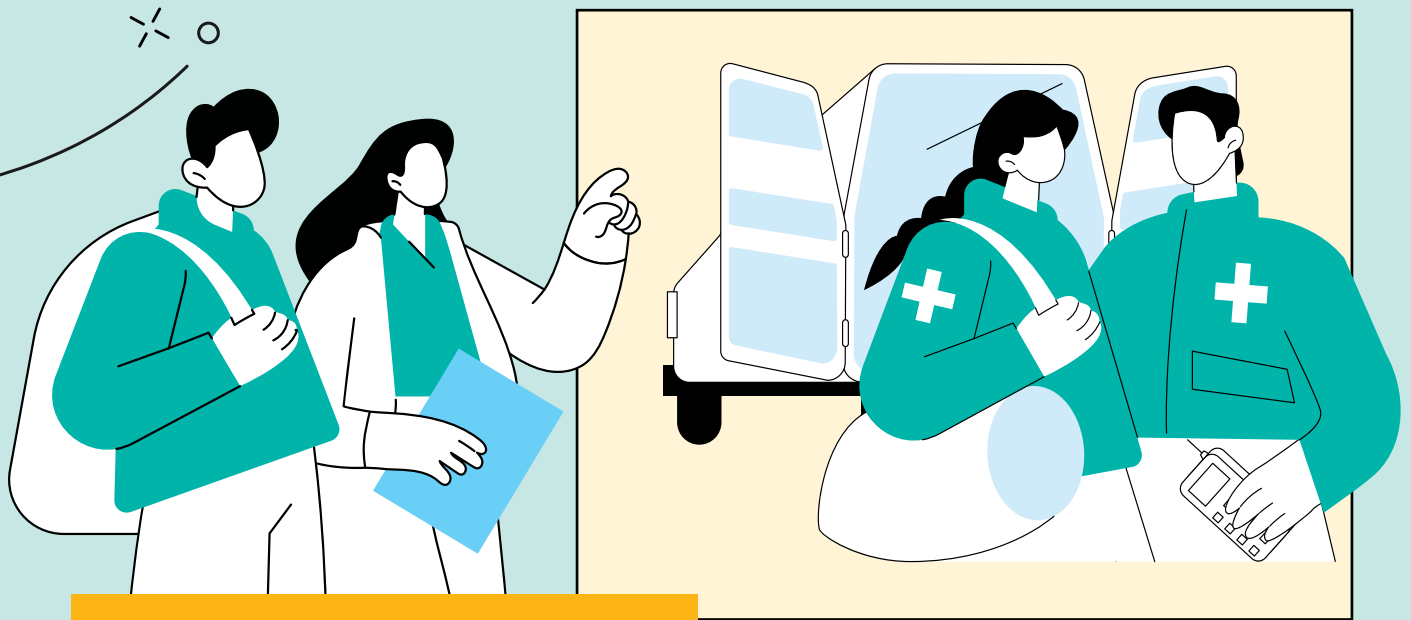


Learn new cooking skills!
Take food home!

Family Centre North
1103 - 3 Ave. N. Lethbridge,
AB
Website: www.famcentre.ca



LET'S GO RURAL!



How Do I Get There?

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS)

This free interactive Zoom session is available to rural Alberta high school students, parents, and teachers.

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2025
6:00 PM**

Join us to learn more about a **career as a paramedic** after high school. In this session, ask questions and engage in conversation around education pathways with representatives from the **Alberta Health Services Emergency Medical Services, the Alberta College of Paramedics, and Northwestern Polytechnic**. Hear firsthand experiences that will inspire you to take the next step towards your dream career.



Scan to register.



RhPAP.ca | info@rhpap.ca

This free interactive Zoom session is available only to rural Alberta high school students

*Financial contribution for RhPAP has been provided through Alberta Health



IpbContest.ca

In Places Between, the
Robyn Herrington Memorial

Short Story Contest FOR Kids

- Deadline April 1, 2025
- You must be under 18
- Living in Alberta or the NWT
- No entry fee
- Cash prizes
- Every entry gets feedback from our volunteer team of published writers
- 10 winning stories are published in the annual contest book
- IpbContest.ca for details

