St. Mary's School

Ecce Ego Sum Mitte Me *November 2026*



Principal's Message

Mr. Josh Van Uden

Dear St. Mary's Families,

As we step into November, the vibrant colors of autumn settle into crisp fall days and a gentle shift in season. It is a wonderful time of year to pause, reflect, and give thanks for the warmth of our faith and school community.

Walking in Faith: Saints, Souls, and Our Faith Plan
Guided by our divisional faith plan, "Open Wide the Doors," November offers us a special opportunity to focus our hearts on prayer and reverence. We begin the month by celebrating **All Saints' Day** (November 1), honoring the holy men and women who serve as radiant examples of Christ's love. Immediately following is **All Souls' Day** (November 2), a solemn time to pray for our departed loved ones, trusting in the promise of eternal life through Jesus Christ. We encourage all of our families to carry these traditions into their homes this month, remembering those who have gone before us.

Celebrating Excellence & Sacred Remembrance
November brings several important events to our school calendar:

- **Academic Awards (November 5):** We look forward to gathering on Thursday, November 5th at 6 PM, to recognize and celebrate our students' academic achievements and hard work from the past school year.
- **Remembrance Day Liturgy (November 10):** On November 11, our nation honors the brave men and women who served and sacrificed for our freedom. Our school community will gather for a Remembrance Day service on **Tuesday, November 10 at 2:00 PM** in the Atrium to pray for peace in our world and honor our heroes. All are welcome to join us.
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Volleyball Season Wrap-Up & Provincials
Our athletic teams have had an outstanding volleyball season!

- **Congratulations** to our Senior Varsity Boys Storm on winning the league championship and bringing home a banner!
- **Shout-out** to our Junior Varsity Storm teams on a fantastic season—we look forward to watching your athletic careers continue to grow next year.
- Both the Auroras and Celtics have represented St. Mary's tremendously throughout the league and tournament play. Best of luck to all our JV and SV teams as you finish up league play and prepare for Zones and Provincials!
- Thank you to all our coaches for their time and dedication.

We are especially thrilled to host the **2A Boys Volleyball Provincials** right here at St. Mary's from **November 26–28**! Hosting a provincial championship is an incredible privilege, and we look forward to welcoming teams, families, and fans from across Alberta to Taber. Please come out, show your Celtics pride, and help us cheer on our team!

Thank you to all of our parents, staff, and students for your continued dedication to making St. Mary's a place of faith, learning, and community. As autumn matures, may God grant you and your loved ones comfort, peace, and joy.

In Christ,
Josh Van Uden
Principal, St. Mary's School

November 5th:
Academic Awards Night @ 6 PM

November 10th:
Remembrance Day Ceremony @ 2 PM

November 11th:
Remembrance Day - No School

November 12-13th:
PD Days - No School

November 18th:
Soup Day

November 18th:
School Council Mtg @ 5:45 PM

Thursday, November 26th to Saturday, November 28th:
2A Boys Volleyball Provincials here at SMS. Come cheer on our Celtics team!

News from our St. Mary's Band Booster Club



It has been a great start to the year in the band room at St. Mary's School. There are lots of great sounds coming from our students.

The first public performance for the year will have our Senior Band (Grades 9-12) performing at our annual Awards Night at the school at 6pm on Thursday, November 5th. We look forward to playing for everyone!

Our Jazz Band meets every Tuesday from 3:15 to 4:20 and is open to students from grades 7-12. This is a great opportunity for our older students to play some really cool, different styles of music. Please see Mr. Makarchuk if you would like more information.

A reminder to all band students that Christmas Concert will be held on Wednesday December 16th@ 7:00 in the school gym. All students need to have a white dress shirt with no writing on it, or a white sweater, and a black pair of pants or skirt. Please mark this on your calendar and invite as many people as you like. It is always great to see and hear our new band students perform, as well as our more seasoned ones.

Grade 6-8 band students are reminded that they are to be handing in a practice sheet EVERY week. To receive full marks, students must practice 70 minutes per week. Extra practice sheets are available in the band room. Please remember that practice sheets are worth 10% of the band mark.

All band students are reminded that they need to hand in a Home Performance Assignment every calendar month. Forms are available in the band room and are due the first school day of the new month. Students are responsible for playing for an adult at home and having them fill out an evaluation form, as well as the student filling out a self-evaluation. Grade 6's will complete their first assignment in October. October's Home Performance Assignments are due November 1st.

The St. Mary's library has a collection of supplemental music books that are available for band students to check out. These are more popular pieces in the classical, jazz, rock and pop fields. Each one comes with a play-along CD that allows the student to hear background music during the song. These are a great idea for students to get in extra practice minutes, as well as just having fun on their instruments.

SOUP DAY

November 18th



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

2025/2026

Yearbooks

now available
in the school office.

PARISH
PHOTO DIRECTORY

PHOTOGRAPHY SESSIONS | Taber Octt 20 -24 Nov 4 & 5 Vauxhall Nov 6 & 7

Help us get to know one another, strengthen the bonds of our faith community, and put names to faces.

WE WANT ALL PARISHIONERS INCLUDED IN THE DIRECTORY!

BOOK A PHOTO SESSION
For Your Picture

- Sign up after Mass
- Sign up when a volunteer calls you
- Invite family and friends to take part
- What to wear: colour coordinated or complimentary clothing, long sleeves,
- Session is approximately 30 minutes

UNAVAILABLE
for a Photo Session?

- **Submit a photo by November 6**
- $20 submission fee
- Print: VIRTUAL no larger than 4 x 6 inches
  Submit to the parish office
- Digital: VIRTUAL minimum file size of 1 MB
  Submit by email secretary@catholicparish.ca
- High-quality, high-resolution image
- Photographer's permission required
- No close-ups or headshots
- Include names and correct spelling

Photo packages may be purchased, but there is no obligation to buy. Everyone pictured will receive a directory.

NEED A RIDE OR HELP SUBMITTING A PHOTO?
Call Parish Office: 403-223-2226

Please be part of this special parish keepsake and communication tool!

My Photo Session Date:
Time: Location

Donate School Supplies

Just a reminder that we accept all gently used school supplies at our school. 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!





St. Mary's School - **Class of 2027** - Capture Your Memories!



School Jackets



Grad Rings & Jewelry



Class of 2027 Clothing & Gear

Grad Display & Order Day:

Thursday, November 19

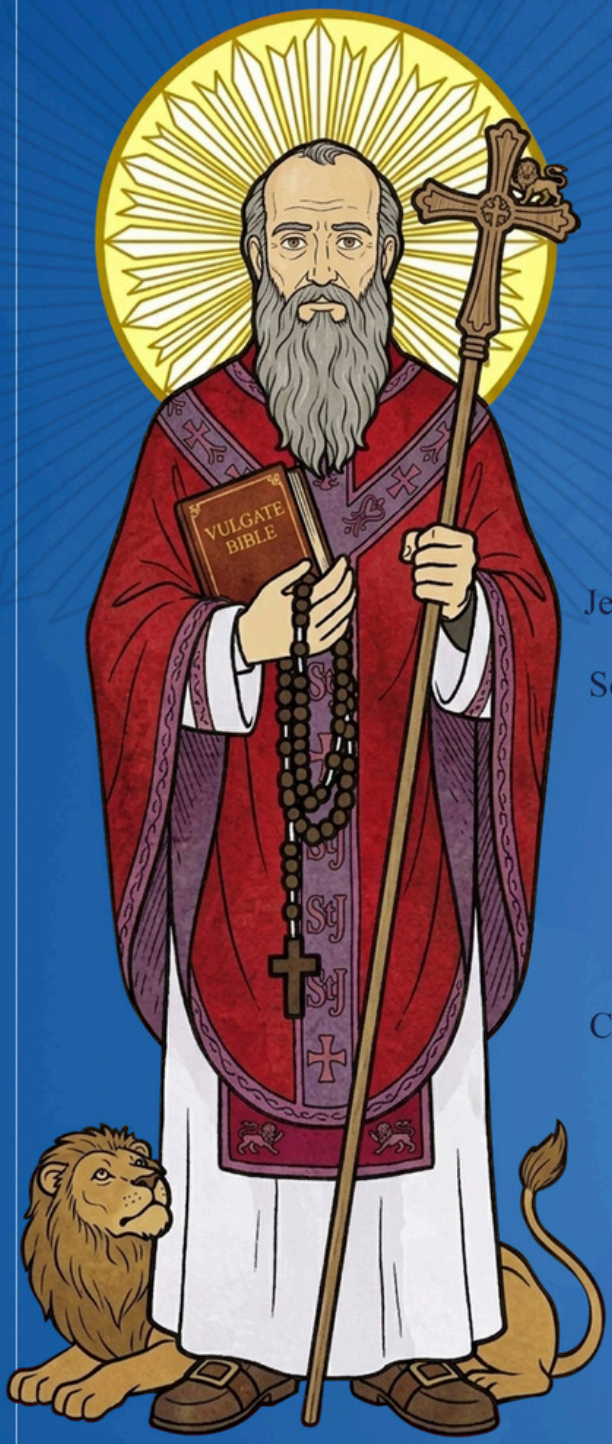
9:00 to 10:00

(get your finger sized, ask questions, try on rings, place your order)

Customize Your Ring
@ Jostens.com

New Lower Pricing
STARTING @ $139.00

Sean & Denise Kelly – 403.252.1774 - sean.kelly@jostens.com



Open Wide the Doors!

Sent To Share Christ's Love

St. Jerome

Feast Day: September 30

A Prayer for Jesus' Mercy — Inspired by St. Jerome

Jesus, please show me Your mercy and fill my heart with joy.

Sometimes I am like the person who was hurt and left alone.
Jesus, You are like the Good Samaritan.
Come to help me when I am hurting and remind me
that I am never alone.

Sometimes I am like a lost sheep.
Jesus, You are my Good Shepherd.
Come and find me when I feel lost and lead me back to You.

Help me to follow You and stay close to You each day.
May I live with You and praise You forever.
Amen.

St. Jerome — Pray for us!

Prayer: *A Prayer of Saint Jerome for Christ's Mercy*
Source: CatholicCulture.org

Career Centre NEWS

WORK EXPERIENCE RAP APPRENTICESHIPS

Get a head start on your career with Work Experience and RAP! These programs let you earn anywhere from 15 to 40 high school credits while working on the job. Choose Work Experience to pick up as many as 30 credits. Or, join RAP to earn up to 40 credits and build hours toward your official apprenticeship at the exact same time!

GREEN CERTIFICATE

The Green Certificate Program is an industry-driven agricultural training curriculum that allows high school students to earn up to **16 credits** and gain a recognized credential while working on a farm or ranch.

Save the date!!

- **Dual Credit Registration (Lethbridge Polytechnic): Opens October 29 with a deadline of November 27. Info is on Google Classrooms, with CCH Flex information sessions on November 9 and 16. Orientation is mandatory after registration.**
- **Post-Secondary Fair: Happening November 5 at LCI from 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM, featuring 15 Alberta institutions.**
- **Career Cluster of the Month: Science, Engineering, Manufacturing & Energy. Details are on Google Classrooms, bulletin boards, and in CCH Flex sessions.**

DUAL Credit

EARN COLLEGE AND HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT WHILE IN HIGH SCHOOL

LETHBRIDGE POLYTECHNIC

WINTER 2027 FEB 1 to MAY 12

AGS1100 - Foundations of Agriculture
BIO1155 - Human Nutrition
BIO1160 - Anatomy and Physiology I
BIO1167 - Botany
BIO1172 - Ecology
BUS1177 - Entrepreneurship
CJP1160 - Introduction to the Criminal Justice System
COM1162 - Interpersonal Relationships & Communication
ECE1155 - Introduction to Early Childhood Education
ENG1150 - Composition
ENG1159 - Writing for the Workplace
GEO1166 - Physical Geology
INS1155 - Introduction to Indigenous Studies
MKT1188 - Introduction to Marketing
PSY1160 - Introduction to Psychology
SOC1160 - Introduction to Sociology *pending approval

*******APPLICATION DEADLINE NOV. 27, 2026**

SOUTHERN ALBERTA COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE

WINTER 2027

TRA1131 - Introduction to the Trades
TRA1132 - Introduction to Transportation Trades
TRA1135 - Introduction to Culinary Trades
VXR1160 - Art & Design for Extended Reality
Pre Employment trades

*******APPLICATION DEADLINE NOV 27, 2026**

OLDS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & TECHNOLOGY

WINTER 2027 - FEB. 24 - MAY 19

ACT1012 – Accounting Principles II
ANH1050 – Introduction to the Veterinary Profession
ANH1510 – Veterinary Medical Terminology
CEA 1040 – Operating Controlled Environment Systems
COM1020 - Workplace Communication
GIS1300 – Introduction to GIS
MGT1000 – Principles of Management
SPM1020 – Training for Performance

****APPLICATION DEADLINE FEBRUARY 17, 2027**

TRADES4U

CURIOUS ABOUT THE SKILLED TRADES? DON'T JUST HEAR ABOUT IT—TRY IT! REGISTER FOR TRADES4U TO TACKLE A HANDS-ON ACTIVITY DURING AN EXCLUSIVE 2-3 HOUR SESSION WITH LEADING EMPLOYERS.

LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE!
OPEN TO STUDENTS IN GRADES 9 -12.
REGISTRATION OPENS OCT 31. LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE.

HTTPS://SHORTURL.AT/I9VNT



How We Help

The Career Centre provides students with valuable off-campus experiences, as well as guidance in post-secondary planning, scholarships, and career preparation. Our off-campus opportunities include the Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP), Work Experience, Early Learning Level 1, Green Certification, Special Projects, and Dual Credit programs. Through Dual Credit, we partner with Lethbridge Polytechnic, Olds College, and Bow Valley College, as well as intermittently with the University of Lethbridge. Whether you are connecting with our Career Practitioner, Mrs. Bam, or our Off-Campus Coordinator, Mr. Boschee, we are here to support you in planning your future.

Holy Spirit CATHOLIC SCHOOL DIVISION

Mark Boschee
Off Campus Education Coordinator
Lize Bam
Career Practitioner

Cell: 587-220-4358
Office: 403-327-4596
boscheem@holyspirit.ab.ca
hsoffcampus@holyspirit.ab.ca
baml@holyspirit.ab.ca holyspirit.ab.ca

CCH Campus East
405-18 Street South
Lethbridge, AB
T1J3E5

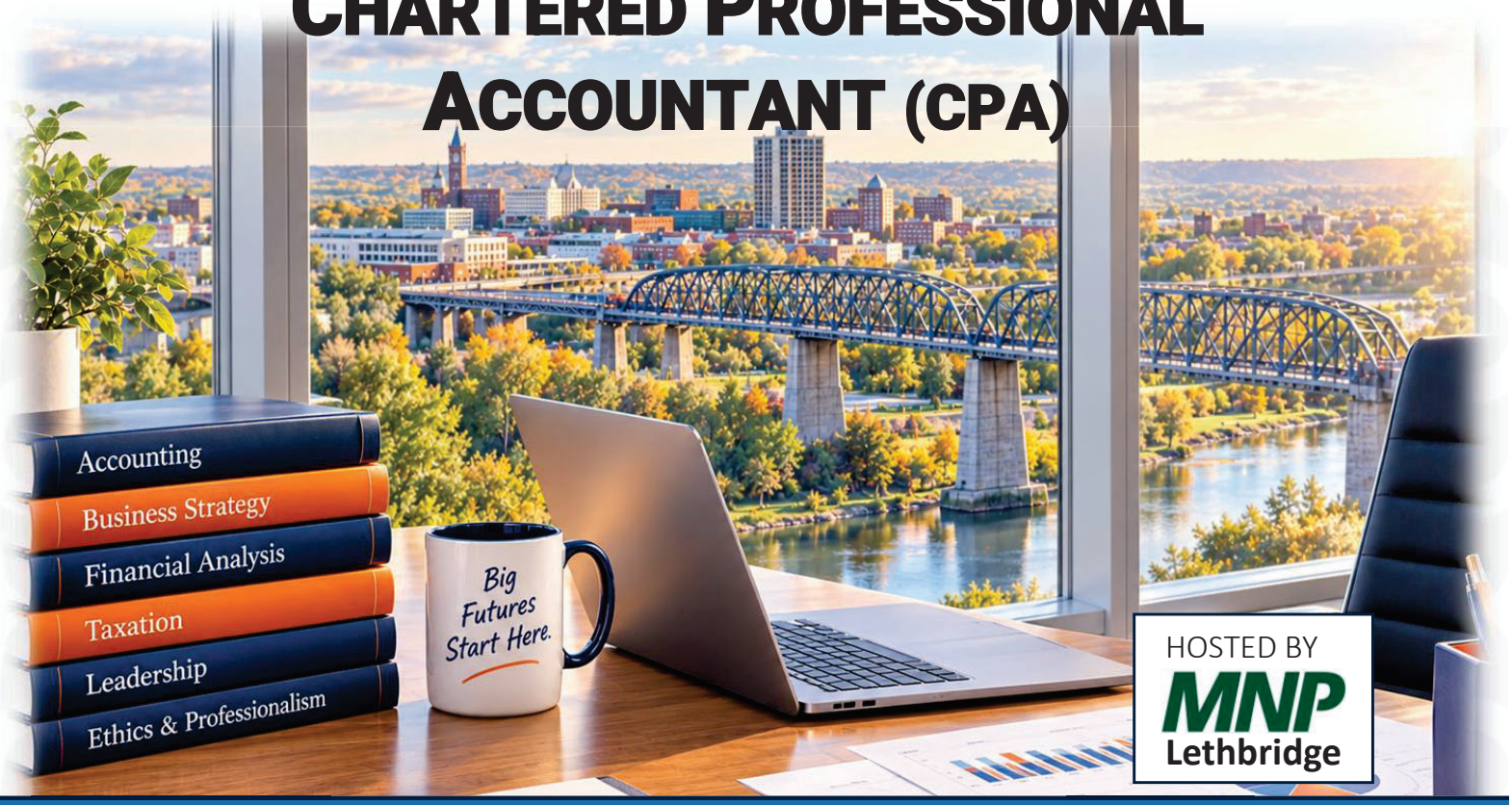
CAREER TRANSITIONS

CONNECT WITH INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS
AND MAKE INFORMED FUTURE CHOICES

Discover Strengths
Ignite Passions
Realize Dreams

CAREER EXPLORATION SESSION

CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANT (CPA)



WEDNESDAY
NOV 18, 2026

4:00PM

FREE
VIRTUAL SESSION

EXPLORE A FUTURE AS A CPA!

Do you enjoy problem-solving, working with numbers or thinking like a future business leader?

A Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA) is more than an accountant. It's a pathway to careers in business, finance, entrepreneurship, consulting, leadership, and more!

Join professionals from MNP Lethbridge to discover how CPAs help organizations solve real-world challenges, make important decisions and create opportunities for growth.

Hear firsthand how local professionals built their careers, what they wish they knew in high school and the opportunities a CPA designation can create for your future.

Scan the QR Code to REGISTER for this FREE virtual session! Once registered, you will receive an email with the link, plus additional information regarding the event.

From entrepreneur to executive, CPAs help shape the future.

office@careersteps.ca 403.328.3996 www.careersteps.ca