

St. Mary's School

Ecce Ego Sum Mitte Me

June 2025



Principal's Message

Mrs. Michelle Nevil

Hello SMS Parents and Guardians,

It's hard to believe we are nearing the end of the school year—and that my first year at St. Mary's School is almost complete. It has been a wonderful year of learning and growth for me, and I am incredibly grateful to the students, staff, and you, our parents and guardians, for your support along the way. I've truly enjoyed watching the school year unfold—from volleyball tournaments, band concerts, basketball provincials, and drama productions, to parent-teacher interviews, school council meetings, and the everyday rhythms of junior and senior high life. And now, we have officially entered the season of celebration, with graduation just around the corner.

Here are a few of the many highlights worth celebrating:

Alleluia!

First and foremost, we celebrate our Faith. We are blessed to have completed another successful year of Catholic education. Teaching through the lens of faith is a gift we must never take for granted. I firmly believe that every student—right through to Grade 12—deserves a complete education, one that nurtures the mind, body, and spirit. At the heart of it all is a relationship with God and the call to love others.

Mr. Vornbrock

It is both exciting and bittersweet to announce that Mr. Vornbrock will be retiring after 30 years of dedicated service to our school community. His wisdom and expertise in the science department have shaped countless student experiences, and he will be deeply missed by both staff and students. Please join me in congratulating Mr. Vornbrock as he enters this new chapter of life.

Our Graduating Class of 2025

Graduation is an exciting time, full of possibility. The Class of 2025 chose Luke 1:37 as their guiding verse: "For nothing is impossible with God." I like to think of it as: "With God, anything is possible." Life's journey is always easier when we walk it with God by our side. We send our graduates off with prayers and best wishes. They've left our school a better place, including through their development of the "Student Commons"—a leadership group that has brought unity and spirit to our student body.

Our Parents and Extended Community

We are incredibly fortunate to have two strong parent-led organizations supporting our school:

- School Council, chaired by Laurie Kerkhoff, is made up of dedicated SMS parents and community members. Thanks to their guidance, we've been able to offer powerful learning opportunities like Screen Sanity and The Blanket Exercise to our students and families.
- Friends of St. Mary's is our fundraising group, and they've had a tremendous impact this year. From supporting extracurricular activities to helping purchase new atrium tables and funding a new sound system for the gym (coming this summer!), their efforts have enriched our school in countless ways.

To all of our parent volunteers—those who chaperone field trips, help with hot lunch, coach teams, and support our events—thank you. You are a vital part of what makes St. Mary's such a vibrant and caring community.

I look forward to seeing many of you in the coming weeks as we gather to celebrate this amazing school year together. God bless you and have a wonderful summer!

"In everything, give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus." —1 Thessalonians 5:18

Sincerely,
Mrs. Nevil

June 5th:
Drama Club
Production
@ 6:30 PM

June 6th:
SMS Year -End Mass
@ St. Augustine

June 9th:
Food Truck Event
10:00 - 3:00

June 13th:
Last Day of
Regular Classes

June 13th & 14th:
SMS Graduation

June 16th - 25th:
Final Exams

June 18th:
Athletic Awards Night
@ 6:00 PM

June 25th:
Last day
for Students

Congratulations
on your
RETIREMENT



MR. VORNBROCK

Thank you for your 30 years of dedicated
service to our school community.

SMS FOOD TRUCK Event



- Mama Lo's
- Dolf's Meats & Sweets
- Jerry's Pop Shop
- Cool Beans Shavery
- Piggyback Poutinerie

*Music by Cst. Chris

June 9th @ 10 AM - 3 PM

FOOD & LIVE MUSIC*
EVERYONE IS WELCOME

CONGRATULATIONS

to our 2024-2025 Valedictorian



KENNEDY PLANGER

**SUMMER
SCHOOL**

The Centre for
**LEARNING
@HOME**

**REGISTRATION
IS NOW OPEN**

Registrations for the July
2025 Summer School
Session are now open.
For more information
visit our website [HERE](#).

[REGISTER NOW](#)

Spaces are Limited



News from our St. Mary's Band Booster Club

Congratulations to all of the St. Mary's students who performed at the Spring Band Concert on May 14th. All of the bands played very well. Thank you to the Masters of Ceremony, Dean Hann, Logan Meier, Kennedy Planger, and Zoey Villanueva for a job well done. Congratulations to Dean Hann for winning the St. Mary's Senior Band Student of the Year Award. Well done, Dean!

The St. Mary's Band Booster Club would like to thank Taber Home and Farm for their generous donation from the FMC Clean Fields, Community Yields program. The donation will allow us to update our instrument rental pool for the fall. Please support Taber Home and Farm as they have been a continuous supporter of the St. Mary's Band Program.

The St. Mary's Senior Band will be performing at the St. Mary's Graduation Ceremony on Friday, June 13th. Students need to be at the Civic Centre by 6pm.

Students renting a school instrument this year are reminded to return them to the school by Wednesday, June 11th. Students are able to sign their instruments out for the summer, but they must fill out another rental agreement. There is no charge to rent over the summer.

Students are also reminded that Wednesday, June 11th is the last day to hand in the June Home Performance Assignment. This last HPA is optional and provides an opportunity for students to make up for any HPA assignments they have not completed during the year. June 11th is the last day students may redo any playing tests from the final term.

If your son or daughter is looking for something musical to do this summer, check out www.musicampalberta.com. This program has one or two week workshops available to grade 8-12 students. Please see Mr. Makarchuk for more details. The St. Mary's Band Booster Club can give a subsidy to students who enroll in this program.

Parish Connection: St. Augustine Church



SAVE THE DATE!

Corpus Christi
PROCESSION

SUNDAY, JUNE 22ND AT 2:00 PM
ST. AUGUSTINE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
5009 48TH AVENUE, TABER, ALBERTA



SCAN HERE

JUBILEE 2025
PILGRIMS OF HOPE

ST. AUGUSTINE'S AND ST. JOSEPH'S
WEEKLY BULLETIN



JUNE 2025

Thinking About Online Programs After Graduation?

Virtual Open House – Lethbridge Polytechnic, June 5

Lethbridge Polytechnic is hosting a [free](#) Virtual Open House on **Thursday, June 5, from 6:30–8:00 PM (MT)**. It's a great chance for students and families to explore online learning options after high school.

Highlights include:

- Info on online programs
- Live Q&A with instructors and support staff
- 50% off the application fee for attendees!



Attend from home—no travel needed. Don't miss it!

Dual Credit Online Applications Now Open

Students who have already completed the Holy Spirit Dual Credit application can now move on to the second step: registering online with Lethbridge Polytechnic for Fall 2025 courses.

Fall Semester Dates:

 **September 3 – December 5, 2025**

Registration is now open!

Important Deadlines:

- Intent to Register: **Friday, June 6, 2025**
- Registration Deadline: **Friday, June 13, 2025**
- Drop Deadline: **September 10, 2025**
- Extended Drop Deadline: **September 23, 2025**
- Final Withdraw Deadline: **December 5, 2025**



To get your promo code and complete registration, email amakobev@holyspirit.ab.ca.

Don't miss out—be sure to meet all deadlines!

Veterinary Technical Assistant Certificate (VTA)

Holy Spirit is offering the **Veterinary Technical Assistant (VTA) Certificate in partnership with Olds College!** Students will graduate with both their Grade 12 diploma and VTA Certificate, ready for a career in animal care.

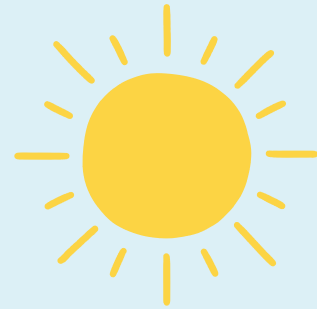


Summer Internship Opportunity: Painter & Decorator

Are you interested in the building trades and looking for hands-on experience this summer? Student Works Painting in Lethbridge is offering a **Painter and Decorator internship** for students exploring careers in the construction industry.

Internship Details:

- Position: Painter and Decorator (IP-S25-38776)
- Location: Lethbridge
- Employer: Student Works Painting
- Hours: Full-time, Monday–Friday, 9:00 AM – 5:30 PM
- Start Date: June 1, 2025
- Duration: Summer semester (July–August)
- Application Deadline: Apply ASAP – 8 positions available!



This is a great chance to build skills and gain real-world experience. Apply soon!

Virtual Career Exploration Sessions - Learn from the Pros!

Career Transitions offers Virtual Career Exploration Sessions where students hear directly from professionals about their career paths, education, and day-to-day work. Sessions are fully virtual, usually run between **4:00–6:00 p.m.**, and are open to students, parents, teachers, and administrators. Missed a session? Recordings are available online within 5 days!



Register here: careersteps.ca/career-exploration-sessions

Work Experience Students – Keep Submitting Hours!

If you're earning high school credits through Work Experience, remember to keep submitting your work hours to:

hsoffcampus@holyspirit.ab.ca — **even over the summer!**

Got a new job?

That's great! Just email your new job details so your file can be updated and your credits stay on track.

Questions?

Reach out anytime at hsoffcampus@holyspirit.ab.ca

Have a great summer!
Enjoy a well-earned break—
rest, have fun, and stay safe!



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



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.

June Proclaim! Pilgrims of Hope



“First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity.” — Matthew 3:3

St. Peter (Died 64 AD) and St. Paul (5 AD-64 AD) (Feast Day: June 29)

St. Peter and St. Paul are often celebrated together as they each played an important role in the early Church, and were separately martyred in Rome under Nero in roughly 64 AD. Pope Benedict XVI said of them that “Christian tradition has always considered Sts. Peter and Saint Paul to be inseparable: indeed, together, they represent the whole Gospel of Christ.”

However, the two of them were very different people, and likely did not spend much time together. They represent different components of the Church in some ways; St. Peter representing the established church and perhaps the heart or emotion, and St. Paul representing the missionary spirit of the church and the head or reason. They came from different backgrounds, Peter as a fisherman called by Christ during his life, and Paul as an educated Pharisee and Roman citizen called by Christ after his death. [As Pope Francis said in 2020,](#)

“We celebrate together two very different individuals: Peter, a fisherman who spent his days amid boats and nets, and Paul, a learned Pharisee who taught in synagogues. When they went forth on mission, Peter spoke to Jews, and Paul to pagans. And when their paths crossed, they could argue heatedly, as Paul is unashamed to admit in one of his letters (cf. Gal 2:11). In short, they were two very different people, yet they saw one another as brothers, as happens in close-knit families where there may be frequent arguments but unflinching love. Yet the closeness that joined Peter and Paul did not come from natural inclinations, but from the Lord. He did not command us to like one another, but to love one another. He is the one who unites us, without making us all alike. He unites us in our differences.”

You can learn more about Sts. Peter and Paul [here](#).

The Apostles’ Creed

“the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.”

We know that we are one — one whole body, spirit, and soul — and not separate components. Christ’s death, resurrection, and ascension opens the door for the same to happen to us — to die, but to be resurrected bodily. We don’t know how this will happen, or what our bodies will be like, but we do know that it will be as God has always intended.

And, while we don’t really understand heaven and its relationship to our earthly life, we do know that the eternal life is the one that we are created for. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (1024) says “Heaven is the ultimate end and fulfillment of the deepest human longings, the state of supreme and definitive happiness.”

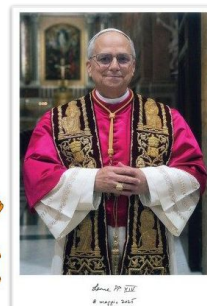
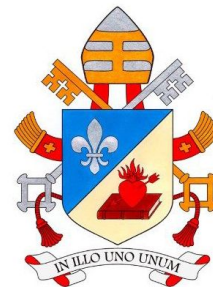
There is really no way for us (in our limited human understanding) to describe what this will be like — Scripture uses a variety of metaphors and analogies to help us to picture it. One thing that is clear, though, is that heaven will be union with God — and so we must live our lives seeking to align our will with His, to love as He loves, and to seek holiness so that our hearts are prepared for this union.

We conclude the Creed with Amen — so be it, I agree, I believe. When we end the Creed this way, it is one final affirmation of all that we have just proclaimed. It restates, in the shortest possible way, our belief, and our solidarity with those with whom we have proclaimed it — one another and all Christians through time and space.

“Proclaiming” In Our Schools

Habemus Papam! On Thursday, May 8, we welcomed the news of the election of Pope Leo XIV. You can read more about Pope Leo [here](#), learn more about his coat of arms and motto [here](#), and find his prayer card [here](#). We can take heart from his initial address to the faithful, known as an Urbi et Orbi blessing, where he greeted the world with the words:

“Peace be with you! Dear brothers and sisters, these are the first words spoken by the risen Christ, the Good Shepherd who laid down His life for God’s flock. I would like this greeting of peace to resound in your hearts, in your families, among all people, wherever they may be, in every nation and throughout the world. Peace be with you!”



Pope’s Prayer Intentions — That the world might grow in compassion

Let us pray that each one of us might find consolation in a personal relationship with Jesus, and from his Heart, learn to have compassion on the world.



“Share the Mission” Award Call for Nominations!

Recognizing Those Who Inspire – Nominate Someone Today!

Do you know someone who makes a difference in our school community? The **Share the Mission Award** is your opportunity to recognize those who go above and beyond to serve, lead, and inspire!

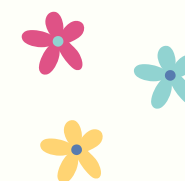
This prestigious award honors community members, parents, students, and school staff who:

- Provide outstanding service to students
- Set high standards through leadership and dedication
- Contribute to the faith-filled atmosphere of our schools
- Lead within the community and parish organizations
- Live out the values of the Holy Spirit Catholic School Division

Nominations are open until **Friday, June 6, 2025**. If you know someone who deserves to be recognized, submit your nomination today! The recipient will be honored at the division’s Opening Mass.

Nominate now! Use the [online nomination form](#) or contact Rhonda Kawa at kawarh@holyspirit.ab.ca for more details.

Let’s celebrate those who truly make a difference!



Mental Health Capacity Building Summer Program July 2025



SUN **MON** **TUE** **WED** **THU** **FRI** **SAT**

For registered events, vouchers will be available at the Family Outdoor Play events booths

All outdoor events will be weather pending. Updates will be shared on Holy Spirit Catholic School Division Facebook Page

		1 STAT	2 Family Play Outdoor Event Kick Off Legacy 5 pm-8 pm	3 Move your mood Surge fitness class Our Lady of Assumption 9:30-10:30 am	4 Mindful Friday	5
6	7	8 Family Outdoor Play Event Lakeview School park 10am-1pm	9 Creative Wednesday- Michaels' Registration Required 1:00-3:00pm	10 Move your mood Surge fitness class Our Lady of Assumption 9:30-10:30 am Family Outdoor Event Tot Lot Coaldale 12-2 pm	11 Mindful Friday	12
13	14 The Guild Group A 10-2 registration required	15 Family Outdoor Play Event St. Martha's School 10am - 1pm	16 The Guild Group B 10-2 registration required	17 Move your mood Surge fitness class Our Lady of Assumption 9:30-10:30 am Creative Thursday- Michaels' Registration Required 1:00-3:00pm	18 Mindful Friday	19
20	21 Evergreen Mini Golf Registration Required 11:00-1:00 pm	22 Family Outdoor Play Event Senator Buchanan 10am-1pm	23 Family Outdoor Play Event Nicholas Sheran School 5-8 pm Movie Mill Registration Required 12-2 pm	24 Move your mood Surge fitness class Our Lady of Assumption 9:30-10:30 am Creative Thursday- Michaels' Registration Required 1:00-3:00pm	25 Mindful Friday	26
27	28 The Guild Group A 10-2 registration required	29 Family Outdoor Play Event Our Lady of Assumption 10am-1pm	30 The Guild Group B 10-2 registration required	31 Move your mood Surge fitness class Our Lady of Assumption 9:30-10:30 am Creative Thursday- Michaels' Registration Required 1:00-3:00pm		



Summer



Mental Health Capacity Building Summer Program

AUGUST 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 Mindful Friday	2
3	4	5 Family Outdoor Play Event Mike Mountain Horse School Park 10am-1pm	6	7 Move your mood Surge fitness class Our Lady of Assumption 9:30-10:30 am Creative Thursday-Michaels' Registration Required 1:00-3:00pm	8 Mindful Friday	9
10	11 Coulee Climbing registration Required	12 Family Outdoor Play Event Chinook Lake Park 10am-1pm	13 Movie Mill 12-2 pm Family Outdoor Play Event Henderson Park 5-8 pm	14 Move your mood Surge fitness class Our Lady of Assumption 9:30-10:30 am Creative Thursday-Michaels' Registration Required 1:00-3:00pm	15 Mindful Friday	16
17	18 Evergreen Mini Golf 11-1 pm registration Required	19	20 Ready, Set, Go!	21 Ready, Set, Go!	22 Mindful Friday	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

For registered events, vouchers will be available at the Family Outdoor Play events booths

ALL OUTDOOR EVENTS WILL BE WEATHER PENDING. UPDATES/CHANGES WILL BE SHARED ON HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC SCHOOL DIVISION FACEBOOK PAGE