

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Nov 1 – Pajama Day

Nov 6 – Picture Retakes

Nov 6,7 – Goal Setting Meetings with Teachers

Nov 7 – Grade 6 immunizations

Nov 8 – NO SCHOOL – Wellness Day

Nov 11 – NO SCHOOL – Remembrance Day

Nov 12 - NO SCHOOL - Divisional PD Day

Nov 13 – Grade 6 Camp Parent Meeting 6 PM

Nov 15 - Rock Your Mocs!

- Final Volleyball Tournament!

Nov 17 - Poinsettia Orders Due

Nov 20 - Grade 3 Retreat

Nov 21 - SCHOOL CARNIVAL!

Nov 27 - Free Family Skating @ Logan Boulet

Arena-3:30-4:30





Dear ESM Community,



It's hard to believe that November is here! The year is flying by, and we've had a wonderful October filled with memorable events. From the vibrant fall colors to our school activities, the ESM community is thriving. Volleyball season is in full swing, and our Bobcats showed both skill and growth in their first Jamboree. Our Leadership Club is busy planning for the year, while we settle into routines and enjoy the learning journey together. Catholic Education Week was a beautiful opportunity to share our faith, and Halloween brought lots of fun with creative costumes, a lively assembly, and parade.

Looking forward, we have Goal Setting Meetings on Wednesday, November 6th, and Thursday, November 7th, from 4:00–7:00 pm. Meeting with your child's teacher is essential for setting up a successful year. This is a chance to review progress, set goals, and celebrate accomplishments. Please bring your child along, as their presence is invaluable in these discussions. If you need assistance scheduling your appointment, feel free to contact the office. We look forward to connecting with you!

On Tuesday, November 5th, we invite you to our next School Council Meeting. This is a great opportunity to meet other parents and support our school. There are no obligations for attending—just a friendly gathering to share ideas.

We're also excited about upcoming initiatives. Our grade 6 students are selling poinsettias and planters to support their May trip to SABC Camp. Santa's Anonymous food drive will begin mid-November. ESM will be collecting baked beans, canned corn, canned green beans, Miracle Whip, and bags of sugar and flour to support families in need through December 3rd. Thank you for any donations, and please know your prayers are equally appreciated.

And mark your calendars for the ESM Carnival on Thursday, November 21st! This is our biggest fundraiser, supporting activities throughout the year. We are looking for gently used stuffed animals, prizes, and items for our Silent Auction. Please contact the office with any donations or questions.

As we enter November and celebrate All Saints Day, let's cherish our ESM community, united in faith and fellowship. May God bless each of you.

Yours in Faith,

Mme Kiera Bouchard

Mr Harper's November Messenger

As we enter November, our hearts and minds turn to prayer, remembrance, and gratitude. In Gospel Time this month, students are learning about prayers of intercession—what it means to pray for others. Through this focus, we encourage students to bring others' needs before God, growing in compassion and kindness.

November is also a special month of remembrance. We celebrate All Saints' Day on November 1st, honoring the saints in Heaven, and All Souls' Day on November 2nd, when we pray for all those who have gone before us. These days remind us of the Communion of Saints, cheering us on and praying with us on our journey. On November 11th, we observe Remembrance Day to honor the brave men and women who sacrificed their lives.

During our Goal Setting evenings we will be hosting a clothing drive to fundraise for Santa's Anonymous. Donated clothing has been washed and prepared for purchase. Items will be pay as you can for Santa's Anonymous and cost a minimum of one dollar. If you are able to volunteer for a bit over those evenings please phone the school office.

To celebrate these blessings, we invite you to join us for our Celebration of Peace on Thursday, November 7th, at 11:00 AM, led by our 1Kl class. This service will be held in the gym, and we would be delighted to have you with us.

A heartfelt thank you to our wonderful school community! We successfully collected over 810 pounds of food for our local food banks, proclaiming our faith through service. This effort supports those in need and allows us to live out the Catholic Social Teachings, including the Option for the Poor and Vulnerable, Call to Family, Community, and Participation, and Rights and Responsibilities. The students enjoyed seeing our hair dyed in different colors in celebration of this achievement, adding additional joy to a meaningful cause! Thank you for being a part of the amazing community we have at ESM.

Please know that everyone in our school community is in our prayers. May God bless you and keep you safe, healthy, and happy.

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds." - Hebrews 10:24

Autumn Prayer

O God of Creation, you have blessed us with the changing of the seasons.

As we embrace these autumn months,

May the earlier setting of the sun

Remind us to take time to rest.

May the crunch of the leaves beneath our feet

Remind us of the brevity of this earthly life.

May the steam of our breath in the cool air

Remind us that it is you who give us your breath of life.

May the scurrying of the squirrels and the migration of the birds

Remind us that you call us to follow your will.

We praise you for your goodness forever and ever.

Amen

- AUTHOR UNKNOWN

What's Happening at Ecole St Mary





animals and donations of prizes to our silent
Auction!

Auction! You Can Donate By-

- · Dropping Items off at the School Office
- Emailing baptistas@holyspirit.ab.ca for more info





There Are Some New Faces Here at the School....

Chelsea O'Brien



Miss Chelsea has joined us here at Ecole St Mary as a half time Division 2 Math Teacher, and this is her first official teaching job since graduating this year! She loves all things soccer, and still plays for Lethbridge Polytechnic on their team this year. Christine Sinclair, who played forward in her #12 jersey for Canada's Olympic Team in 2020, is one of her heroes. One interesting fact about Mme Chelsea is that she has a twin!

Welcome to Ecole St Mary, Mme O'Brien, we are so glad to have you!

Bobby Plume



Bobby Plume is our new FNMI Coordinator here at the school. He is taking time to make those important connections with our FNMI students and their families. This year, he is looking forward to getting to know the students in the school, coming alongside them in their schooling, and bringing his beautiful First Nations heritage with him. He will be working to start a Drumming Club, possibly a Beading Club, and speaking in classrooms.

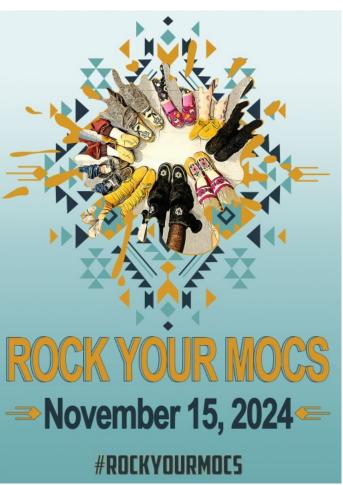
Welcome to Ecole St Mary, Mr. Plume! It's so great to have you!

CHECK IN AT OFFICE

Parents and community members are welcome at the school. You are still required to check in at the office and sign in if you are coming into the school for any school event. We will keep the distractions in the class to a minimum. If you are dropping something off for your child the office staff will deliver it for you.

We are happy to accept volunteers this year! You can call the office and let them know if you are available with and what you would like to help with.







November

2024

We Remember



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					PAJAMA DAY	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Mexican Cultural Experience Presentations 3 pm Boys Volleyball	3pm Girls' Volleyball School Council Meeting 6 PM Coloring Contest Winners	Picture Retakes 3 pm Boys Volleyball Goal Setting Night	Celebration of Peace 11 AM Gr 6 Immunizations Goal Setting Night	NO SCHOOL Wellness Day	
10	11	12	13	14	15	10
	NO SCHOOL Remembrance Day	NO SCHOOL DIV PD DAY	Actor/Superhero Day 3 pm Boys Volleyball KCI Galt Trip Grade 6 Camp Parent Meeting	3pm Girls' Volleyball	Rock Your Mocs Final Volleyball Jamboree	
17	18	19	20	21	22	2
POINSETTIA ORDERS DUE			Grade 3 retreat @Assumption	CARNIVAL!!		
Santa's Anonymous Food Drive Starts	25	26	Free Family Skating Logan Boulet 3:30-4:30	28	Assembly and House Team Assembly Oodie/Hoodie Day	36

December

2024

Christmas Wonder



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	
ADVENT BEGINS	Poinsettia Delivery Date		Santa's Anonymous Food Drive Ends ADVENT MASS 9 AM			
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
			KCI Galt Museum Trip		Free Family Skating Logan Boulet Arena 3:30-4:30	
35	16	17	18	19	20	21
	ADVENT CELEBRATION		KEI Galt Museum Trip CONTROL OF TRIP DIV Board Meeting	CHRISTMAS ACTIVITY EVENING	Last Day PJ Day Bingo and Assembly	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	NO SCHOOL- Christmas Holidays	Christmas Eve	MERRY CHRISTMAS	NO SCHOOL- Christmas Holidays	NO SCHOOL- Christmas Holidays	
29	30	31	4			
	NO SCHOOL- Christmas Holidays	NO SCHOOL- NEW YEAR'S EVE	***			

"It is by the path of love, which is charity, that God draws near to man and man to God."

- St. Albert the Great

St. Albert Magnus 1200-1280 (Feast Day: November 15)

Pilgrims of Hope

Albertus Magnus (Magnus meaning 'Great') was born in what is today Germany around the year 1200. His family was likely of the nobility, which led to him having more formal education than many people of that time. His studies, largely in theology, led him to enter the Dominican order, and in that order he traveled to various locations around Germany to instruct as a lecturer. Eventually he moved to the University of Paris, where he has among his students a young Thomas Aquinas. He returned eventually to Germany as a Bishop, but continued his academic instruction as well until his death in 1280.

St. Albert is well known for his academic prowess - he was a scientist, philosopher, theologian, spiritual writer, and diplomat in his time. He wrote a great deal, with his collected works reaching over 35 volumes. He was an expert in many fields, including law, ethics, natural sciences and minerals. One key area in which he influenced the medieval world was in the area of faith and science. St. Albert showed that faith and science were not at odds; that we can look into the mysteries of creation and in them find holiness. As Pope Benedict XVI said in 2010:

Saint Albert shows us that faith is not opposed to reason, and that the created world can be seen as a "book" written by God and capable of being "read" in its own way by the various sciences.

In many ways, he set the stage for others like St. Thomas Aquinas to refine and deepen Catholic theology.

For these reasons, St. Albert the Great was canonized in 1931 and named Doctor of the Church.

The Apostles' Creed

*

"... and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary..."

The second section of the Apostles' Creed shifts our focus from God to Jesus. In it, we attest to our belief in the Incarnation; the union of divinity and humanity in Jesus Christ. This simple statement belies endless complexity and questions. Many of these were questions that the early Church wrestled with. However, we know from both Scripture and from early historians such as Josephus and Tacitus that there are historical records of the existence of Jesus.

What do we profess about Christ when we proclaim the Apostles' Creed?

- We proclaim our belief in Christ as the only Son of God one unique relationship with God, in contrast to those who suggested otherwise
- We profess Christ as Lord the same title often used in the era of the Old Testament to describe Yahweh with respect.

· We profess belief in the immaculate conception.

Jesus' humanity allows us to identify closely with him, who also had fears, happiness, hunger, and fatigue. And it is in his Incarnation that we too have hope that we can be children of God in his Kingdom.

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

FORMED - Why did God become man?

FORMED - Was Jesus a Real Person (or Really God)?

FORMED - What does it mean to have a relationship with God?

"Proclaiming" In Our Schools

Every November, as Holy Spirit, we gather together to offer a Mass for our retired staff. This month, the Mass will be held on **Tuesday, November 5, 5:00 at St. Basil Catholic Education Centre.** This is an important opportunity for us to gather together with our colleagues and to also remember those colleagues who have passed away. We recall their faithful service and witness in proclaiming the Gospel message to so many of us, former students and co-workers, and the lasting impact they have had on our communities. Please consider joining us this year!



Pope's Prayer Intentions - For Anyone Who Has Lost a Child We pray that all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter find support in their community and receive peace and consolation from the Holy Spirit.









Division Parishes

"...NOT NEGLECTING TO MEET TOGETHER, AS IS THE HABIT OF SOME, BUT ENCOURAGING ONE ANOTHER, AND ALL THE MORE AS YOU SEE THE DAY APPROACHING."

Hebrews 10:25



Assumption Church Lethbridge

Father Kevin Tumback Father Santiago Torres

Mass (Saturday): 5:00 pm Mass (Sunday): 9:00 am (Live-streamed) 6:00 pm

2405-12th Avenue S. Lethbridge, AB T1K 0P4 Tel: 403-327-8931



St. Basil's Church Lethbridge

Father Kevin Tumback Father Santiago Torres

Mass (Saturday): 7:00 pm Mass (Sunday): 7:30 am | 11:00 am

604 13 Street N. Lethbridge, AB T1H 2S7 Tel: 403-327-8931



St. Martha's Parish Lethbridge

Father William Monis

Mass (Saturday): 5:00 pm Mass (Sunday): 9:00 am | 11:00 am

> 355 Columbia Blvd. W. Lethbridge, AB T1K 5Y8 Tel: 403-381-8891



Ss. Peter & Paul Parish Lethbridge

Father Gary Sedgwick

Mass (Sunday): 10:00 am

643 12B Street N. Lethbridge,

AB T1H 2L6 Tel: 403-328-

4753



St. Ambrose Parish Coaldale

Father Ian Gagne

Mass (Sunday): 9:00 am | 4:00 pm

1523-23rd Avenue Coaldale, AB T1M 1E2 Tel: 403-345-3400



St. Catherine Parish **Picture Butte**

Father Ian Gagne

Mass (Sunday): 11:00 am

762 Crescent Avenue Picture Butte, AB T0K 1V0 Tel: 403-732-4433



St. Augustine Parish **Taber**

Father Philip Van Tinh Le

Mass (Saturday): 5:00 pm Mass (Sunday): 9:00 am

5009-48th Avenue Taber. AB T1G 1T4 Tel: 403-223-



St. Michael's Parish Bow Island

Father Wojciech Jarzecki

Mass (Saturday): 5:00 pm Mass (Sunday): 9:00 am

1101-1st Street E. Blow Island, AB T0K 0G0



St. Michael's Parish **Pincher Creek**

Father Marino Infante

Mass (Saturday): 7:00 pm Mass (Sunday): 10:00 am

958 Christie Avenue; Box 339 Pincher Creek, AB T0K 1W0 Tel: