

Welcome
Back!



September 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 First day for students Kindergarten Meet & Greet	2 Kindergarten Meet & Greet	3	4
5	6  HAPPY LABOUR DAY <i>Canada!</i>	7 First Day for Kindergarten A - L	8 First Day for Kindergarten M - Z	9 All Kindergarten students attend Opening Mass and Blessing 9:00am	10	11
12	13 Early Learning Program begins 8:15 – 10:45	14	15	16	17  TERRY FOX My Hero Marathon of Hope	18
19	20	21	22 Board Meeting Catholic Ed Centre 6:00 pm	23	24 Mass – 9:00am	25
26	27	28	29 Orange Shirt Day  School Council AGM – 7:00pm	30 No School National Day of Truth and Reconciliation		



SEPTEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

CALDER'S COMMENTARY

Welcome back OLA family!

I hope you all had the chance to rest, relax and rejuvenate the past two months. I am excited to see everyone who is familiar and welcome many new faces this year. I am so excited to share our many blessings with those new to our community.

Last year we did some excellent work establishing STEM days at OLA. We are excited to continue with these days, including the arts to make it STEAM. Again, we will partner with Destination Exploration at the University of Lethbridge, introducing students to unique learning experiences.

I would like to thank our School Council in advance. They worked hard last year, providing as much as possible through the restrictions of COVID. They are looking forward to doing even more for our students in the form of hot lunches and/or experiences this year. The OLA School Council is always welcoming. The School Council AGM has been scheduled for **Wednesday, September, 29**. I look forward to working together this coming year.

Holy Spirit Schools are continually looking for ways to promote and honour Truth and Reconciliation. OLA is grateful for the opportunity to host The Legacy of Hope display from September 17-24. In recognition of this endeavor, we will be recognizing the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation on **September 30**. Students and staff will have this day off of school to reflect upon the importance of this journey for all Canadians. We will therefore be recognizing Orange Shirt Day on September 29.

September is just the start of an amazing year ahead. I can't wait to see where our journey together takes us.

TOGETHER ON THE JOURNEY

We are truly blessed to begin the final year of our three-year faith plan together! For the last two years, we have explored the theme of a journey, and now we are ready to embark on the final leg of our trip.

In the first year, we encouraged staff and students to engage in personal reflection with the theme Be Mindful, Be Prayerful. Last year, in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic, we renewed our reliance on one another with the theme Be Grateful, Be Gracious.

This year, we will focus on our faith community. Students will have the chance to explore their faith through the lives of saints and the theme Be Committed, Be Accountable. As the year progresses, we will explore ways we can grow as the body of Christ and contribute to the larger community around us.

In keeping with the theme of a journey, each month we will have a specific saint from Holy Spirit Catholic Schools to guide us as models of holiness and discipleship. During September, our saint will be Saint Teresa of Calcutta.

Saint Teresa of Calcutta was known for her love for the Eucharist, for prayer, and for the poor. She heard a call to "follow Christ into the slums to serve him among the poorest of the poor," and worked tirelessly with the poor and sick. Her love knew no bounds, and she is our model of faith for the month of September.

Prayer to St Teresa of Calcutta

*Give us a heart as beautiful, pure, and spotless as yours.
A heart like yours, so full of love and humility.
May we be able to receive Jesus as the Bread of Life, To
love Him as you loved Him,
To serve Him under the mistreated face of the poor.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

St Teresa of Calcutta, pray for us.

WELCOME TO OLA

Mrs. Swark – Associate Principal - Grade 3/4N

I am very excited to be joining OLA School as the Associate Principal and grade 3/4 teacher. I have been teaching for fifteen years with Holy Spirit Catholic Schools and am coming to OLA from St Patrick Fine Arts, by way of online schooling and a year teaching in Tokyo. You may also have run into me around the community in my role as an author or taiko drummer! I have already felt incredibly welcomed by the OLA community and can't wait to get to know our families and students even better.



Mr. Gaudet - Grade 5/6G

Greetings! My name is Mr. Jorin Gaudet.

I am so happy to be joining the family at Our Lady of the Assumption this year! I will be the new grade 5/6 homeroom teacher. I have been teaching since 2014 and throughout my career with Holy Spirit I have been blessed to teach at Ecole St. Mary and St. Francis Junior High. Now, I am very excited to start a new adventure here at Our Lady of the Assumption.

My interests include: camping, hiking, Oilers hockey, the Marvel and DC Universe, Star Wars, my Catholic faith, raising awareness with our ATA Diversity, Equity, and Human Rights Committee, spending time with my fiancé Brandi, my family, and my friends.

I can't wait to meet our students and engage them on their education journey this 2021/2021 school year!



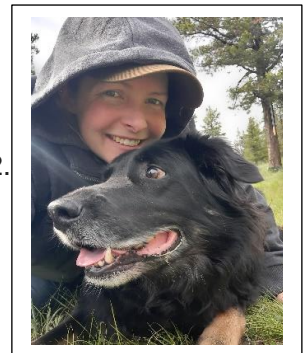
Mrs. Stellar - Grade 6S

Hello OLA community!

My name is Mrs. Stellar and I will be teaching Grade 6 at OLA this year. In the past I have taught a range of grade levels from Grade 1 to Grade 12. Last year I taught high school math at CCH.

I am a mom to two very busy boys under age 5. My family and I love to camp and spend time outside. We also have one fluffy rescue dog that we love dearly.

I feel very blessed to be a part of the OLA community this year and very excited to meet all of you!



TRANSPORTATION

Elementary students living at least 2.4 km from their resident school are eligible to ride the bus at no cost. Students living between 1.2 km and 2.39 km will be required to pay a user fee of \$25.00 per month per student. Only registered riders that have paid for, at least, one month in advance (if applicable) will be permitted to ride the school bus. All eligible riders are required to register in order to access transportation. Families of eligible students should have received an email asking them to complete the online registration form in SchoolEngage.



Masks on buses are mandatory.

CLOSED CAMPUS

Our Lady of the Assumption and all other Holy Spirit Catholic Schools will be closed to the public. At this time, a closed campus is extended to include parents/guardians or volunteers. This means that you will not be able to enter the building except in emergency pick-up situations without a pre-arranged appointment. Parents/Guardians who need to come to the school are to call the school first, will be asked to wear a mask, and will be limited to going to the office.

OPENING MASS

All students and staff will be walking to Assumption Church to attend our opening Mass at 9:00 am. After Mass there will be a Blessing for the new school year. Anyone interested in joining us is welcome to attend.

TERRY FOX RUN

Our school's Terry Fox Run will be held on Friday, September 17, 2021. All children will be running/walking in their cohort on this day, rain or shine, so please be sure they have appropriate footwear. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to explore the importance of giving to others. We are asking for "Toonies for Terry" but all donations great or small will be appreciated.



IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Supervision

Morning supervision begins at 8:00 am and our first bell rings at 8:10 am. Students are asked to meet their teacher at their designated place outside each morning. Students will be dismissed at 3:02 pm we ask parents to pick up their child promptly as there is no supervision after school.

Attendance

If your child(ren) will be absent from school for any reason, please contact the office at 403-327-5028 to let us know. You can leave a message or email olaoffice@holyspirit.ab.ca All unexcused absences are followed up with a phone call.

Medication

If a student requires medication to be administered at school proper documentation must be completed by a doctor and parent. The forms are available in the office. These forms must be on file before any medication can be given. The school does not give out any over the counter medication such as Tylenol or cough medicine and we do not use antiseptic cream such as polysporin.

Contact Information

If there are any changes to your child's data, i.e.: address, phone number, emergency contacts, email address, etc. please inform the office. This information is vital so that the school can contact you in case of an emergency.

Nutrition Breaks

All students eat in their classrooms during nutrition breaks. There are no microwaves available so please pack lunches accordingly. If you send food that requires a spoon or fork, please send them. We **DO NOT** supply these items. Remember to send a water bottle as our water fountains are only used as a filling station.

Nut Aware

We have some students with a severe nut allergy. We ask that you be mindful of this when packing your child's lunch and snacks. Please avoid sending peanut butter, nutella or products with peanuts or nuts listed in the ingredients to school.

SCHOOL FEES

OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION	
School Fees: 2021 - 2022	
Kindergarten Required Fee:	
- Activities & Field Trips	\$51.00
Total Due by September 30, 2021	\$51.00
Grade 1 – 6 Required Fees:	
Agenda	\$7.00
School Council	\$5.00
Technology Integration	\$5.00
Total Due by September 30, 2021	\$17.00
Field Trip Fee to be applied at a later date	\$25.50
Extra-Curricular Fees (if required):	
Basketball (Gr. 6)	\$25.00
Outdoor Education (Gr. 6)	\$150.00
Run Club	\$25.00
Volleyball (Gr. 6)	\$25.00
Transportation Fees (if required):	
Annual Bus (paid prior to Sept 30/21)	\$200.00
Monthly Bus	\$25.00
Payment due prior to 1st of month	
ELP Monthly Fees Due before 1st	
2 days/week	\$100.00
3 days/week	\$125.00
4 days/week	\$175.00
5 days/week	\$195.00

All fees can be paid on [School Cash Online](#)

PRAYER FOR THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Lord God,

Here we find ourselves at the beginning of a new school year. Some of us are new to this community, and some of us have been here for a long time.

No matter our experience in this school, help us to remember all that we have learned up to this point.

Allow us to thrive as a school as we each participate in spreading the Good News of your Son, Jesus Christ, in this community.

With the past behind us and the future ahead, please guide us throughout this year, encouraging us to do our best in our studies, all for your greater glory.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen





NOTICE TO PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF RELIGIOUS PERMEATION

Section 58.1 of the *Education Act* requires a school board to give notice to a parent or guardian when courses of study, education programs, institutional materials, instruction or exercises include subject matter that deals primarily and explicitly with religion. All of the schools in this division are Catholic Separate Schools, the essential purpose of which is to fully permeate Catholic theology, philosophy, practices and beliefs, the principles of the Gospel and teachings of the Catholic Church, in all aspects of school life, including in the curriculum of every subject taught, both in and outside of formal religion classes, celebrations and exercises. Every course of study and educational program, all institutional materials, instruction and exercises will at all times include subject matter that deals primarily and explicitly with religion.



FAIR NOTICE LETTER

Dear Parents / Guardians,

The Holy Spirit Catholic School Division is committed to providing safe learning environments for all students, staff, school visitors and community members. When a student behaves inappropriately, principals use progressive discipline to help a student take responsibility for their actions, change their behavior and learn from their mistakes.

When students' behaviors pose a potential threat to safety or serious harm, the Southwest Alberta Regional Violence Risk Threat Assessment Protocol (VTRA) helps principals take further steps to protect the well-being of students and staff. The protocol helps schools respond quickly to threatening incidents such as: possession of a weapon or a replica weapon, bomb threats or plans, verbal, written or electronic (internet, text) threats to kill or injure oneself or others or other threats of violence, fire setting.

The Southwest Alberta Regional VTRA Protocol outlines how a school responds immediately to threatening behavior. Principals may first bring together a School Threat Assessment Team, which ideally includes the principal / associate principal, a school based counsellor / jurisdictional lead and police of jurisdiction. If the situation is serious the principal may also consult the Superintendent of Schools and call in members of the Community Threat Assessment Team. This community team may include representatives of community agencies who work with us to keep our schools safer such as, but not limited to, local police, children's mental health organizations or Child and Family Services. Parents / guardians will be notified as soon as possible in the Stage I - VTRA Process. If parents / guardians cannot be reached, but a concern for safety still exists due to threatening behavior, the threat assessment may still proceed. Personal information shared throughout this process will respect and balance each individual's right to privacy with the need to ensure the safety of all.

This letter complies with procedure 2 of *Administrative Procedure 322: Violence Threat / Risk Assessment (V-TRA) Protocol*, which states that parents / guardians will be provided with "fair notice" that each threat will be taken seriously. Should you wish to further review this Administrative Procedure, please visit our website at www.holyspirit.ab.ca.

If you have any questions regarding the Holy Spirit Catholic School Division's use of the Southwest Alberta Regional V-TRA Protocol, please contact the Director of Support Services at the St. Basil Catholic Education Centre. We appreciate your support in ensuring our schools are safe environments for our students, staff and community partners.

Sincerely,
Ken Sampson, Superintendent of Schools

September

Together on the Journey

“Let all that you do be done in love.”

1 Corinthians 16:14



School: St. Teresa of Calcutta



ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA

Born Anjeze Gonxhe (in English, “Agnes Little Flower”) Bojaxhiu in what is now called North Macedonia, Agnes was fascinated by stories of saintly missionaries. By age 12, she was convinced she should give her life completely to Jesus as a nun. After many spiritual conversations with her mother and her priest, who guided her in this discernment, Agnes left home at 18 years old to join the Sisters of Loreto, where she took the name Teresa. Soon she was sent to Ireland for her formation as a nun and as a missionary. She later left the convent to devote herself to caring for the sick and poor, a ministry she selflessly continued until her death in 1997.



THE CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY



01 FEED THE HUNGRY

02 GIVE DRINK TO THE THIRSTY

03 CLOTHE THE NAKED

04 SHELTER THE HOMELESS

05 VISIT THE SICK

06 VISIT THE IMPRISONED

07 BURY THE DEAD

THE CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY

We do not perform good works in order to please God. We do not do good works in order to earn grace or salvation. We do good works because God is love and we yearn to live in God. By sharing love with others, we encounter the living God. The Catholic Church identifies for us various works of mercy - the Corporal Works of Mercy and the Spiritual Works of Mercy. The Corporal Works of Mercy can be traced to the Parable of the Last Judgment in Matthew 25. These works are kind acts by which we help our neighbours with their everyday material and physical needs. The following are some suggestions for how we can practice these in our everyday lives.

1 & 2 Feeding the Hungry/Give Drink to the Thirsty - Support and volunteer for food pantries, soup kitchens, and agencies that feed the hungry and give drink to the thirsty; make a few sandwiches to hand out as you walk through areas of your city or town where you may encounter people who are in need of food.

3 Clothe the Naked - Go through your drawers and closets and find good condition clothes to donate to agencies that accept clothing; participate in clothing drives in your community.

4 Shelter the Homeless - Help neighbours to care for their homes and do repairs; support and/or volunteer at a homeless shelter; support and/or volunteer for Catholic Charities initiatives, Habitat for Humanity etc.

5 Visit the Sick - Spend quality time with those who are sick or homebound; take the time to call, send a card, or an email to someone who is sick.

6 Visit the Imprisoned - Support and/or participate in ministries to those who are incarcerated; support programs sponsored by agencies that advocate on behalf of those who are unjustly imprisoned. Visit people “imprisoned” by loneliness, sickness, or old age.

7 Bury the Dead - Be faithful about attending wakes/visitation; support or volunteer at a hospice; participate in a bereavement ministry; spend time with widows and widowers; take friends and relatives to visit the cemetery; support ministries that offer free Christian burials to people unable to afford time.

RESOURCES

[Lukas Storyteller: Mother Teresa](#) (FORMED video)

[Mother Teresa: Seeing the Face of Jesus](#) (FORMED video)

[Saint Teresa of Calcutta](#) by Dr. Tim Gray & Dr. Mark Giszczak (FORMED video)

“Be faithful in small things because it is in them that your strength lies.”

- St. Teresa of Calcutta

September

Together on the Journey



School: St. Teresa of Calcutta



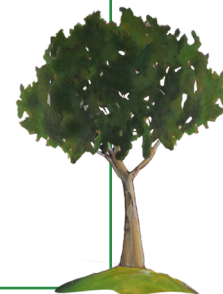
Feast Days and Celebrations September 2021

- 1 World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation
- 5 Feast of St. Teresa of Calcutta
- 15 Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows
- 29 Feast of St. Michael

As you journey with St. Teresa this month...

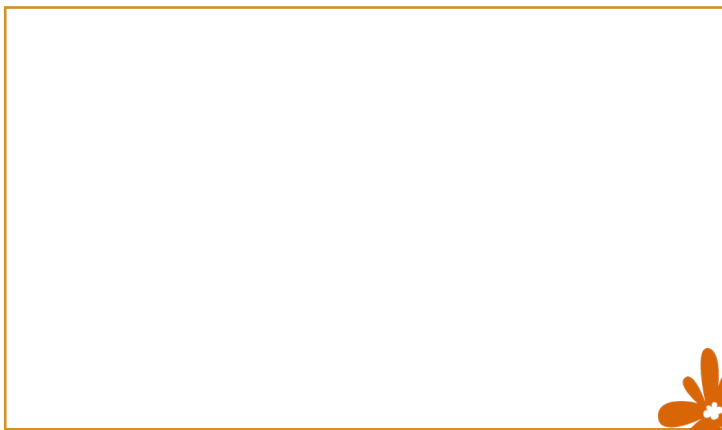
WEEK ONE

Agnes's (St. Teresa's) mother remembered the words of Jesus and encouraged her daughter to be totally devoted to Him. Write a prayer asking God to help you to be totally devoted to Jesus.



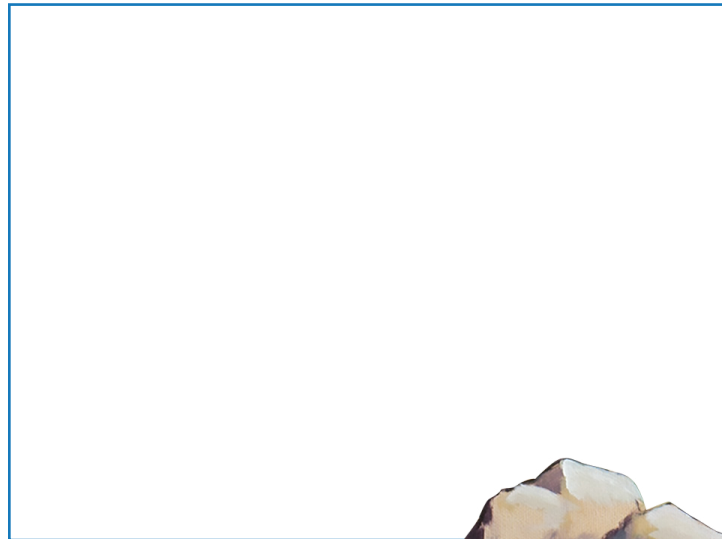
WEEK TWO

How can you go out of your way to share in the experiences of someone else, especially someone different from you who might be struggling.



WEEK THREE

St. Teresa's energy and conviction came from her daily visits to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Write a prayer asking for the grace to show God's love to the people you encounter.



WEEK FOUR

St. Teresa loved to say, 'Perhaps I don't speak their language, but I can smile.' Who do you want to share a smile with today?



Sunday Gospel Readings

- Sept. 5/23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Mark 7:31-37
- Sept. 12/24th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Mark 8:27-35
- Sept. 19/25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Mark 9:30-37
- Sept. 26/26th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48





GROWING IN FAITH GROWING IN CHRIST

Our School uses the *Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ* program for Religious Education!

Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ features a Student-Home Website with videos, songs, bible stories, prayers, interactive activities and more – all designed for students and families to explore their faith together.

Log in at:

www.pearsoncanada.ca/growinginfaith/student-home

Grades: 1-8 available!

Username: holyspirit99

Password: Student99



**GROWING IN FAITH 
GROWING IN CHRIST**

Welcome to Your Student Website!

 Grade 1 <input type="button" value="Sign In"/>	 Grade 2 <input type="button" value="Sign In"/>	 Grade 3 <input type="button" value="Sign In"/>
 Grade 4 <input type="button" value="Sign In"/>	 Grade 5 <input type="button" value="Sign In"/>	 Grade 6 <input type="button" value="Sign In"/>
 Grade 7 <input type="button" value="Sign In"/>	 Grade 8 <input type="button" value="Sign In"/>	

**Grades 1-8
NOW
AVAILABLE!**



Welcome to All Saints Parish Registration for First Reconciliation Grade 2 and up

Registration packages will be distributed from the schools and completed forms can be dropped off at the schools. Fees will be collected at the first workshop or may be dropped off at All Saints Parish Office.

Registration forms available on line at: www.allsaintslethbridge.org

"For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you."
Matthew 6:14

Has your child missed a sacrament?

How can we help your family on your faith journey.

If you are looking for answers please call

All Saints Parish Office at 403-327-8931 and ask for Cyndi



Welcome to All Saints Parish Registration for First Eucharist Grade 2 and up

Registration packages will be distributed from the schools and completed forms can be dropped off at the schools. Fees will be collected at the first workshop or may be dropped off at All Saints Parish Office.

Registration forms available on line at: www.allsaintslethbridge.org

Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty"

John 6:35

Welcome To All Saints Parish Registration for Confirmation Grade 6 and up

Registration packages will be distributed from the schools and completed forms can be dropped off at the schools. Fees will be collected at the first workshop or may be dropped off at All Saints Parish Office.

Registration forms available on line at: www.allsaintslethbridge.org

"Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love."



Welcome to All Saints Parish Registration for Baptism

Does your child need Baptism? We can help you. Baptism preparation classes are held once a month at Assumption Parish Hall. Please call the office for more details.

Registration forms available on line at: www.allsaintslethbridge.org

"Whoever believes and is baptised will be saved...."

Mark 16:16





Sacramental Preparation Registration

(Please Print)

CHILD'S FULL NAME: _____ Male Female
Last Name Given Names

Home Address: _____
Street Address Town/City Province Postal Code

Date and Place of Birth: _____
mm/dd/yyyy Town/City Province

Does your child have any special learning or health problems that we need to know about? Yes No
If yes, please explain: _____

We **MUST** have a copy of your child's **Baptismal Certificate**.

Name of the Church You Attend: All Saints St. Martha's Other: _____

Date, Church and City of child's baptism: _____

Name of Child's School: _____ Grade: _____

FATHER'S FULL NAME: _____
Last Name Given Names Religion

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

E-Mail Address: _____ Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

Home Address: _____
(if different from child's) Street Address Town/City Province Postal Code

MOTHER'S FULL NAME: _____
Present Last Name Maiden Name Given Names Religion

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

E-Mail Address: _____ Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

Home Address: _____
(if different from child's) Street Address Town/City Province Postal Code

Contact person: Mother Father Both

Contact person other than parents:

Name: _____ Phone # _____

May we have your permission to share your child's name as a candidate for Sacraments in our parish bulletin, to prayer partners and school newsletters? Yes No

May we have your permission to use your email address to communicate Sacramental Preparation Information with you (your email will not be used for any other purpose and will not be shared with any other person or place)? Yes No

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

- First Communion
- First Reconciliation
- Confirmation

Please select the sacrament from the list above

*The fee of \$25.00 covers the expenses of material used in the preparation process.
NB If you are unable to afford this fee it will be waived.*