

Principal's Message

We Welcome Autumn with Gratitude

As the leaves begin to turn and we enter the month of October, our hearts are filled with gratitude for the vibrant, faithful community we share. October is traditionally a month of thanksgiving, a time to pause amidst our busy schedules and recognize the abundant blessings God pours into our lives each day.

As we enter year two of our Divisional Faith Plan, we are called to **"Open wide the doors and share God's love."** In a world that often moves at a frenetic pace, surrounded by constant diversions, cell phones, and social media, we are invited to pause and nourish our lives with the strength of Christ's love and the Eucharist. Opening our doors means welcoming one another with joyful hearts, building community, and reflecting Christ's merciful love in everything we do.

Thank you to all the families who joined us for our Meet the Teacher Night. It was wonderful to gather as a community, share in a blessing for the new school year, and take those first steps together in faith and learning.

We recently celebrated a beautiful Blessing and Blackfoot Naming Ceremony at our school. Joined by our students, local Elders, trustees, and central office staff, it was a sacred and moving occasion of honor, unity, and respect. We give thanks for the rich cultural traditions and spiritual heritage that weave through our school family.

On October 8th, our Grade 4 students will be attending the Divisional Pow Wow. We look forward to our students participating in this meaningful cultural gathering and celebration. All families are welcome to attend the evening ceremonies which start at 5:00 at Children of St. Martha school.

School Life & Community Highlights

- **Terry Fox Run Success:** A huge thank you to our students, staff, and families for their incredible generosity during our September Terry Fox Run! Together, our school community raised over \$600 for cancer research - a wonderful witness of compassion and service in action.
- **Choir & Lethbridge Symphony Performance:** Choir is in full swing! Our talented choir students are working hard as they prepare for their first major performance of the year alongside the Lethbridge Symphony on November 19th.

Important Note: Details have been sent out via Remind. If you have not received this information, please contact the school office.
Tickets: Tickets for the symphony performance go on sale **October 1st**.
- **Grade 6 Volleyball:** Volleyball season is officially underway for our Grade 6 athletes. They are practicing hard and gearing up for their first jamboree at the end of the month. Go team!
- **Halloween Dance:** We will round out the month with a Halloween Dance on October 29th. Stay tuned for more details regarding times and dance procedures as the date approaches!

Important October & Upcoming Dates

- **October 1:** Lethbridge Symphony tickets go on sale for Choir families
- **October 8:** Grade 4 Divisional Pow Wow
- **October 29:** Halloween Dance
- **November 19:** Choir Performance with the Lethbridge Symphony

May God continue to bless our school family with joy, peace, and open hearts as we walk together in faith this October!

IMPORTANT DATES



October 1

Re-Take Day and Kinder and ELP individual and class photos
Hot Lunch -Spudnut donut

October 7

Hot Lunch -Panago Pizza

October 8

Team Jersey Day

October 9

Thanksgiving Liturgy

October 12

Thanksgiving Day – No School

October 13

PD Day – No School for students

October 14

PD Day – No School for students

October 20

Hot Lunch -London Road 9" Sub

October 22

Wear Blue for Catholic Education

October 28

Team Color Day

October 29

Grade 3 Retreat
Halloween Dance





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Picture Retake Day Kinder & ELP Pictures Spudnut Day	2 First day to order London Road Sub	3
4	5	6 School Council Mtg 6:30 All welcome Volleyball practice 3:30-4:30	7 Panago Pizza by the Slice Hot Lunch	8 Team Jersey Day Grade 4 to Piitawaani Traditional Powwow Volleyball practice 3:30-4:30	9 Thanksgiving Liturgy	10
11	12 Thanksgiving 	13 PD Day No School Last day to order London Road Sub	14 PD Day No School	15 Volleyball practice 3:30-4:30	16	17
18	19	20 London Road 9" Sub Hot Lunch Volleyball practice 3:30-4:30	21	22 Wear Blue for Catholic Education Volleyball practice 3:30-4:30	23	24
25	26	27 Volleyball practice 3:30-4:30	28 Team Color Day Halloween Dance Spirit Assembly Board Mtg 6:00 Public	29 Grade 3 Retreat Volleyball practice 3:30-4:30	30 Halloween Parade	31 Happy Halloween



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 Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) Protocol assists administrators in taking the necessary steps to protect the well-being of students and staff. This protocol ensures that schools can respond promptly to worrisome behaviors or threatening incidents, such as possession of a weapon or replica, bomb threats or plans, verbal, written, or electronic (internet, text) threats to harm oneself or others, as well as other acts of violence, including fire-setting.

The protocol requires trained division staff and community partners to work together as a team to complete an Assessment of Risk to Others (ARTO) whenever a student threatens to harm others. The ARTO process leverages the team's knowledge, skills, and experience to assess the level of concern and identify appropriate interventions to protect individuals from harm and ensure a safe environment in both the school and the community. A multi-disciplinary approach is used to address these concerns. Please be advised that the school team will take positive and proactive measures to address all known threats or high-risk behaviors. If you are invited to a meeting to discuss safety concerns about your child, please be assured that our protocol is being followed and that our primary goal is ensuring safety.

The Southwest Alberta Regional VTRA Protocol outlines how a school should respond immediately to threatening behavior. Principals may first assemble a School Threat Assessment Team, ideally comprising the principal or associate principal, a school-based counselor or jurisdictional lead, and local police. If the situation is serious, the principal may also consult the Superintendent of Schools and involve members of the Community Threat Assessment Team. This team may include representatives from local police, children's mental health organizations, or Child and Family Services, among other community agencies that collaborate with us to enhance school safety. Parents/guardians will be notified as soon as possible during the Stage I - VTRA Process. If parents/guardians cannot be reached, but a safety concern persists, the threat assessment may proceed. Personal information shared during this process will respect and balance each individual's right to privacy with the need to ensure everyone's safety.

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,

Chantel Axani, Superintendent of Schools

Updated August 2026



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.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 22:1-14

“I can do all things in him who strengthens me.” — Philippians 4:13

There are times when a task makes me feel overwhelmed. I talk myself out of being able to even try it. I put it off until I convince myself that I can't do it. Today's scripture gives us hope that because we are children of God we can do ANYTHING because it is Christ who gives us what we need to do the task before us. When we feel defeated, we simply need to remind ourselves of the grace we received at baptism. Jesus is on our side, and he makes us stronger!

Prayer:

Dear Lord, thank you for your overflowing grace that makes us strong, even when we feel down. Your love and grace are never ending.

Reflection:

Name some times that you felt defeated, then asked God to help you.



Gospel Reading: Matthew 22:15-21

“We give thanks to God always for all of you, remembering you in our prayers.” — 1 Thessalonians 1:2

It is common that people turn to God in their need, asking for help and for God to fix bad things. But today's scripture encourages us to always give thanks to God in prayer, for the good things and even the bad. Most especially, remember to pray for others and their needs. It can be a blessing to others to have someone praying for them, even if they are not aware of it. They may feel a little happier the day you pray for them, without knowing why. You could consider yourself a “secret agent of prayer” working for God.

Prayer:

*Dear Lord, we thank you for all the special people you have put into our lives.
Please bless them in a special way today.*

Reflection:

Who are some of the people you can pray for on a regular basis?

Thanks
giving

Gospel Reading: Matthew 22:34-40

“You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.” — Matthew 22:37

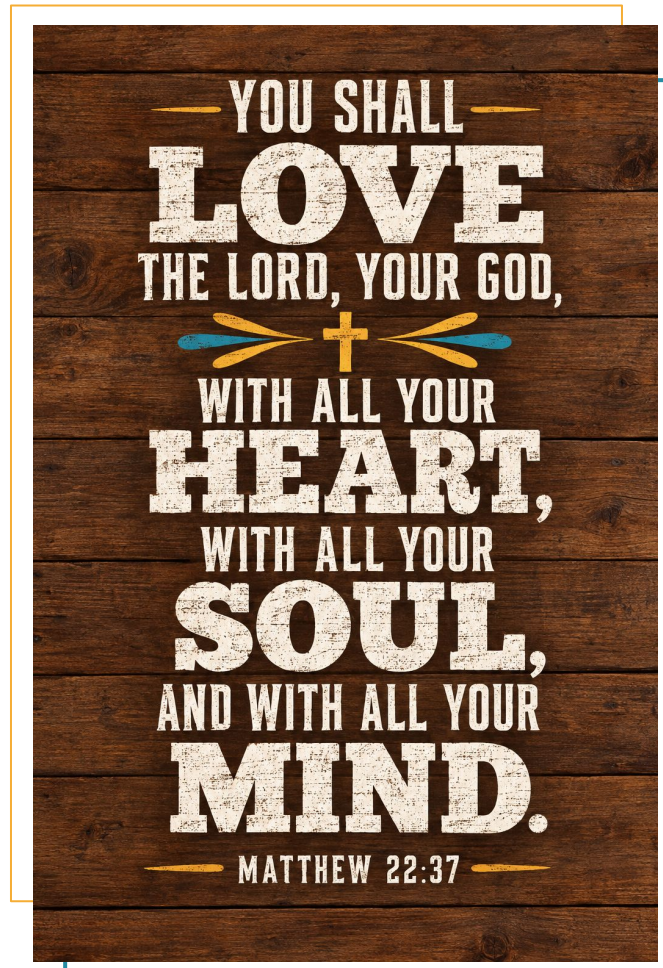
I really love watching TV. I also really love eating ice cream. I especially love getting presents. But this kind of love always leaves me wanting more and never feeling satisfied. Jesus gave us hints of how we could be truly fulfilled, by turning our focus to God and giving him all the love we have inside ourselves. By giving God all the love we have inside of us, we are able to give him the credit he deserves for all the good things in our lives, which in turn can also help us appreciate them more. What an awesome God we have, so deserving of all our love.

Prayer:

Lord, thank you for loving me more than I could ever understand. Please help me to love you with all the love I have, to show you how glad I am to be your child.

Reflection:

What are some things that you “love” that can get in the way of your love for God?





Holy Spirit
CATHOLIC SCHOOL DIVISION

Piitawaani

Traditional Powwow

Thursday, October 8th

5:00pm-7:00pm

Grand Entry at 5:00pm

Children of St. Martha School

206 McMaster Blvd. W.

- ◆ Host drum will be paid.
- ◆ First 14 registered dancers will be paid (all dancers welcome).
- ◆ Food trucks available for purchase of dinner.

Please bring lawnchairs or blankets.

Everyone welcome!



Dancer Registration Form



**REGISTRATION IS UNDERWAY FOR
2026/2027!**

Spots fill quickly so don't delay!

**See our website for more
information!**

**Interested in hockey but don't want the significant time or
financial commitment that often comes with this great sport?**

**We offer an organized non-checking recreational hockey league
for all genders aged 5-17. All skill levels are welcome.**

One hour, once a week. Season runs from October to March.

www.lethbridgerechokey.com

NOT PLAYING SCHOOL
OR DIDN'T MAKE TEAM?
THIS LEAGUE IS FOR YOU!

**REGISTRATION
IS NOW OPEN!**

YQL FALL LEAGUE

YOUTH VOLLEYBALL

GROW. COMPETE. HAVE FUN.

AGE DIVISIONS & SCHEDULE



GRADE 1-3
CO-ED

1x per week



GRADE 4-6
CO-ED

1x per week



GRADE 7-8
CO-ED

2x per week



GRADE 9-12
GIRLS

2x per week



LEARN FROM EXPERIENCE

Coached by experienced,
passionate volleyball coaches



SKILLS THEN GAME PLAY

Each week includes skill development
followed by game play.



NEW FACILITY!

1272 30 St N, Lethbridge

Fees from \$200-\$315 per session.



SESSION 1: WEEK OF SEPT 14 • 5 METES
SESSION 2: WEEK OF OCT 19 • 5 METES



REGISTER NOW AT:

<https://app.teamlinkt.com/register/find/yqlselectsvolleyball>



Limited spots available.



YQL
Get Selected

Univeristy of Lethbridge
Conservatory of Music

Group Violin Lessons

Our group violin classes welcome students from beginner to experienced levels, from ages 6+! Students will attend the first class on October 3 at 9:30am, and then be assigned their class time (within the times 9:30-12pm) for the rest of the semester. These classes allow beginners to learn the basics of violin technique, music reading, and playing skills, while also having an opportunity to play with one another and develop valuable ensemble skills. Intermediate and experienced students will work together on technique and musicianship, and have the opportunity to develop ensemble skills through chamber music groups. At the end of the semester, there will be a short performance for family and friends!

Saturday, 9:30 - 12:00* | Location: Casa (230 8 St S)

(*students attend 30 minutes within this time block; times will be assigned at the first class based on level/experience)

FALL 2026: October 3 – December 12 (No Class: Oct 10, Nov 21)

Cost: \$150



SCAN HERE