



# ST. PATRICK FINE ARTS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

February 2025

[www.spfa.holyspirit.ab.ca](http://www.spfa.holyspirit.ab.ca)  
School/Newsletters/SPFA Newsletters

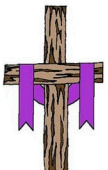
| SUN                                                                                                                          | MON                                                                                                                                                | TUE                                                                                                                                               | WED                                                                                                                                                                              | THU                                                                                                                                                                        | FRI                                                                                                                                                   | SAT                                                                                               |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday gos-<br/>pel readings<br/>listed below:</b>                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                       | 1                                                                                                 |
| 2<br><i>Luke 2:22-40<br/>or 2:22-32</i><br> | 3<br>Girls Basketball –<br>Ecole St. Mary at<br>SPFA<br><br>2025-2026 New<br>Student<br>Registration<br>starts                                     | 4<br>Gr. 6 to<br>Lethbridge City<br>Hall<br><br>Boys Basketball—<br>Children of St.<br>Martha at SPFA                                             | 5<br>Girls Basketball—<br>St. Paul at SPFA<br><br>Winter Walk /<br>Play Day<br><br>School Council<br>Meeting<br>@ 6:30 pm                                                        | 6<br>Boys Basketball –<br>at St. Paul<br><br><br><br>Joey's Fish Shack<br>order deadline | 7                                                                                                                                                     | 8                                                                                                 |
| 9<br><i>Luke 5:1-11</i>                                                                                                      | 10<br>Girls Basketball—<br>at St. Teresa of<br>Calcutta<br><br> | 11<br>2F & 2/3N to<br>Helen Schuler<br>Nature Centre                                                                                              | 12<br>Girls Basketball—<br>at Children of St.<br>Martha<br><br><br>Joey's Fish Shack<br>Lunch | 13<br>Boys Basketball—<br>Our Lady of<br>Assumption at<br>SPFA<br><br>                 | 14<br>Valentine's Day<br><br>Family Skate @<br>CFC 1-3pm<br><br> | 15<br>        |
| 16<br><i>Luke 6:17,<br/>20-26</i>                                                                                            | 17<br><b>Family Day<br/>School Closed</b><br><br>Feb 26 pizza<br>order opens                                                                       | 18<br><div data-bbox="506 1390 1307 1516" data-label="Text"> <p>NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS</p> </div>                                                 | 19<br><div data-bbox="506 1390 1307 1516" data-label="Text"> <p>NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS</p> </div>                                                                                | 20<br>SWATCA                                                                                                                                                               | 21<br>SWATCA                                                                                                                                          | 22<br><div data-bbox="506 1390 1307 1516" data-label="Text"> <p>NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS</p> </div> |
| 23<br>Feb 26 pizza<br>order<br>deadline<br><br><i>Luke 6:27-38</i>                                                           | 24                                                                                                                                                 | 25<br>Boys Basketball—<br>at St. Teresa of<br>Calcutta<br><br> | 26<br>Girls Basketball—<br>Our Lady of<br>Assumption at<br>SPFA<br><br>Pizza Lunch<br><br>Divisonal Board<br>Meeting                                                             | 27<br>                                                                                  | 28                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                   |



# ST. PATRICK FINE ARTS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

March 2025

[www.spfa.holyspirit.ab.ca](http://www.spfa.holyspirit.ab.ca)  
School/Newsletters/SPFA Newsletters

| SUN                                                                       | MON                                                                                                                                                                                | TUE                                                                                                                                                    | WED                                                                                                                                                      | THU                                                                                                                  | FRI                                                                                                                | SAT |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| <b>Sunday gos-<br/>pel readings<br/>listed below:</b>                     |                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                         |                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                    | 1   |
| 2<br><i>Luke 6:39-45</i>                                                  | 3                                                                                                                                                                                  | 4<br>Shrove Tuesday<br><br>Pancake Lunch<br>                          | 5<br>Ash Wednesday<br><br>Mass with<br>Children of St.<br>Martha's School<br>@ St. Martha's<br>Church                                                    | 6<br>                              | 7<br>Basketball<br>Jamboree<br> | 8   |
| 9<br><i>Luke 4:1-13</i>                                                   | 10<br>Gr. 6 tours<br>St. Francis Junior<br>High                                                                                                                                    | 11<br>                                                              | 12<br>Round 2 Artist<br>Workshops begin<br><br>Grades 1-6 attend<br>SFJH's "Newsies"<br><br>School Council<br>Meeting @ 6:30                             | 13                                                                                                                   | 14<br>Lenten<br>Assembly<br>  | 15  |
| 16<br><i>Luke 9:28b-36</i>                                                | 17<br>St. Patrick's Day<br><br>Divisional<br>Collaborative<br>Day—no school<br>for students<br> | 18<br>Spiritual<br>Development<br>Day—no school<br>for students<br> | 19<br><div>School<br/>Interviews</div><br>Scholastic Book<br>Fair<br> | 20<br><div>School<br/>Interviews</div><br>Scholastic Book<br>Fair<br><br>Gr. 6 tours<br>Father Leonard<br>van Tighem | 21<br>Lenten<br>Assembly<br>  | 22  |
| 23<br><i>Luke 13:1-9</i><br><br><hr/> 30<br><i>Luke 15:1-3,<br/>11-32</i> | 24<br>Gr. 6<br>Confirmation<br>Retreat<br><br><hr/> 31                                                                                                                             | 25                                                                                                                                                     | 26<br><br><br>Divisional Board<br>Meeting                                                                                                                | 27                                                                                                                   | 28<br>Lenten<br>Assembly<br>  | 29  |

February 2025



# ST. PATRICK FINE ARTS



LEARN ACTIVELY - GROW SPIRITUALLY - LIVE CREATIVELY

[www.spfa.holyspirit.ab.ca](http://www.spfa.holyspirit.ab.ca) 403.327.4386

Facebook/Instagram: @spfaschool #hs4

## Message from the Principal - Kathy Jones-Husch

How will you celebrate the 100th day of school? This long standing tradition is so pivotal for many students. It's an amazing accomplishment whether it is your first year of school or your 7th. The key is seeking ways to connect that special day with what came before it and what is yet to come. Your child has grown so much in both visible and invisible ways. You've come a long way, too, parents!

Our K-3 have just completed another round of provincial early literacy and numeracy testing. These standardized benchmarking tools give teachers one way of knowing where the kids are at this point in time, and can help inform how teachers will guide your child's learning. When the results have been published, we will share those with you so you can learn more about how you might help your child at home. Easiest support? Read with your kids every day. Pick books together, and focus only on the positives as you listen or read together. Take turns, read aloud, and share your own journey with reading. You sharing that special time is all you need to do, really, and you'll have a lot of fun, too!

With the 100th day of school coming, it's time to register for next year. Even if you already attend St. Pat's, everyone completing their forms ASAP gives us more info about how many new students might be able to attend. As a "School of Choice", our neighbour schools are also grateful when we can share our numbers early. So, don't delay! Be sure to update any changes in your information; if you want to come to school to use a computer, stop by anytime, and by all means, tell others about our little school!

Wellness Day was a huge success and we are so grateful to have shared it with guest presenters, parent volunteers and our talented staff who all shared their time and talents last week. If you haven't yet, be sure to ask the kids about their favorite moments. You might be surprised that some kids really enjoyed the quieter stops, including yoga flow stretching or mindful colouring. Kids are so busy; many need a few extra breaks and enjoy the calm.

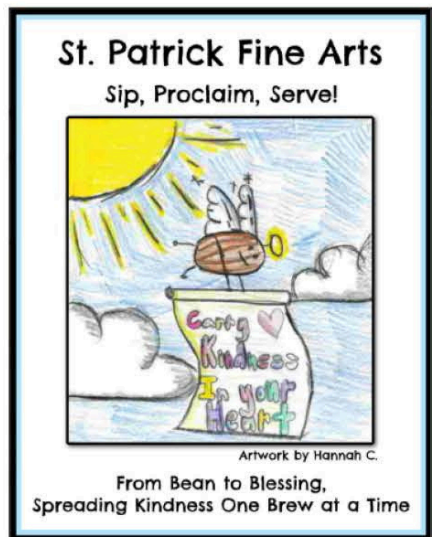
I've heard through the grapevine that many of you are frustrated with Spaces, to the point of avoiding it altogether. No reporting system is perfect, and even with its flaws, Spaces is THE program we use to report your child's progress on key outcomes through the year, as well as to give you a window into the classroom that can spark some good chats with the kids at home. Since teachers use Spaces as a key way to communicate with you, it is essential that you set up notifications for the Spaces app on your phone or check the website regularly. Of course, checking backpacks for samples of completed work does matter! Still have questions? Reach out to your child's teacher(s), attend our Parent/Teacher Interviews in March and give me a call if you need help connecting with teachers.

All in all, we are approaching the 100th day, and it is never too late to celebrate all of the great things going on for your child at school!

Please send your thoughts/feedback to [spfaoffice@holyspirit.ab.ca](mailto:spfaoffice@holyspirit.ab.ca)



## Growing in Faith



From January 27 to February 13, we are selling *Cuppers Coffee* to support St. Odilia's School in partnership with Chalice. Coffee will be ready for pick-up before Ash Wednesday.

Orders can be made through School Cash Online. If you would prefer to make a direct donation to St. Odilia's, please do so [here](#).

Congratulations to Hanna C in 4B for her winning design! We are so proud of her for using her artistic gifts to help those in need.

Our teachers have been seeking ways to serve our community, and they had a wonderful opportunity to do so at our recent staff retreat. Ken Hakstol shared the impactful work he is doing to support marginalized individuals experiencing homelessness. Inspired by his example, our staff came together to create care packages and prepare lunches to send out with Ken. We are truly blessed to witness and live out our faith through acts of service and compassion.



As a community, we are actively preparing for our students to do the same on Ash Wednesday during their retreat, which will once again focus on serving others. This meaningful experience will help your child deepen their understanding of what it means to be part of a faith community and to live out God's call in their daily lives.

Wishing you and your family many blessings this month!

- Ms. Ferrari





## School Council



Happy February, SPFAE Families!

As another month begins I can't help but feel like this school year is just flying by! Even though this is the shortest month of year, School Council has some great things planned.

First of all, Hot Lunch from Joey's Snack Shack is already available for purchase from School Cash Online. If you'd like your student to participate in this hot lunch on Wednesday, February 12, please be sure to order prior to Thursday, February 6th.

Mark your calendars for Free Family Skate at Nicholas Sheran Arena on Friday, February 14th from 1:00-3:00PM. We'd love to have you join us for this fun time hosted by the Social Committee! Please bring a helmet and your skates!

Our next School Council Meeting is on Wednesday, February 12th. We'd love to have you join us as receive a report from our principal, advocate for the staff and our students, as well as plan fun activities for our school community to enjoy. This month, we will do some brainstorming on Ab Ed funding priorities and talk about advocating for Catholic education.

Finally, make sure you mark your calendar for our Spring Fling fundraiser! Details to come soon on how you can support and purchase tickets! If you would like to help with committee planning, please let me know via the office.

Wishing you an amazing month full of amazing moments and memories!

~Catherine Furukawa, School Council Chair



### Notices

Please visit the school website for any **Community Notices** under Newsletters / Community Notices. This month's postings include:

- Lethbridge Soccer Association
- Lethbridge Bulls
- Lethbridge Orcas



# Cupper's Coffee Fundraiser

Purchase coffee between  
Jan. 27 to Feb. 13 to support  
St. Odilia's School, in Zambia, Africa.

## St. Patrick Fine Arts

Sip, Proclaim, Serve!



Artwork by Hannah C.

From Bean to Blessing,  
Spreading Kindness One Brew at a Time

Visit School Cash Online to order yours today.

\$20 for one  $\frac{3}{4}$  lbs bag

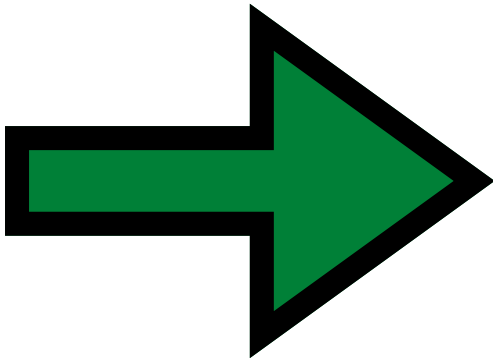


# Bright Futures Begin Here

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:urquhartw@holyspirit.ab.ca)).

Contact your child's school, or visit the division's website ([holyspirit.ab.ca](http://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.



# February

*"He took what is mine in order that He might impart to me what is His.  
He took it not to overturn it but to fill it."  
- St. Ambrose*

## St. Ambrose 339-397 (Feast Day: December 7)



### Proclaim! Pilgrims of Hope

St. Ambrose was born in the year 339 in the northern part of the Roman Empire. It is said that as a baby, a swarm of bees settled on his face while he was in a cradle, leaving the touch of honey on him. This is why bees are often represented with him as a symbol. To have a honeyed tongue means to be persuasive or sweet speaking — which Ambrose turned out to be as a preacher later in his life. He moved to Rome to study, and then worked in the government of the Roman Empire, becoming the governor of an area of what is today northern Italy in 372.

At some point in his adult life, Ambrose became a Christian, but he had not been baptized nor trained in theology when in 374, he suddenly became the Bishop of Milan! How did this happen? In the 300s, there was a priest named Arius who began to teach that (in very brief) God created Jesus, which meant that Jesus was lesser than (and unique from) God. These beliefs, known as Arianism, threatened to divide the church. In large part, this is why we have the Nicene Creed today. Ambrose was known to both sides of the conflict as charitable and seeking unity amongst Christians — which is why he was popularly installed. He was quickly baptized and ordained and became not only the Governor, but the Bishop. From there, he sought both unity and correct doctrine. He wrote extensively, corrected the Arians, and oversaw his diocese seeking to promote Christian unity — in fact, our popular saying today “When in Rome, do as the Romans” derives from St. Ambrose, as he responded to a controversy about local customs in the church. He died in 397, was popularly canonized, and is known today as one of the first four Doctors of the Church.



## The Apostles' Creed

“...[He] ascended into heaven...”

For many of us, this section of the Creed might reinforce a perception that we have about Jesus flying away, up into heaven at the Ascension. It might be worth questioning this perception. When we examine Jesus' bodily resurrection and ascension, we recognize that in this we too have hope for our own ascent to the Father; but what might that mean? We could consider that as closer union with God; not a change of physical location. We know also that Christ told the disciples that he would be with them until the end of the age — not away from them. So rather than thinking about him flying away into absence from us, we could ponder him remaining with us, present to us in every moment. In doing so, we can shift our question from “What Would Jesus Do?” to “What is Jesus Doing?”

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



The Jubilee Prayer: [English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)

## “Proclaiming” In Our Schools

This month, we will be joined by Trustees, clergy, senior administration and staff and students from our schools as we embark on the planning for a new three year faith plan. Continuing on in our decade-long tradition, your representatives will **Arise**, reflect on what we have **Built**, and think about how we can best **Proclaim** our faith in this next cycle. Please pray for the success of our time together and the influence of the Holy Spirit to guide the development of the plan. We want to thank all those of you who took time to watch our consultation video to provide feedback that guided this work, and we look forward to sharing the results with you later this spring!



### Pope's Prayer Intentions — For vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.



# Gospel Readings

February 2, 2025

Presentation of the Lord

## Gospel Reading: Luke 2:22-40

"The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him." — Luke 2:40

It's amazing that the Son of God was part of a family here on earth and grew up just like each of us. He is God but he still was a human being and had to learn things just like we do. The favor of God was upon him and the favor of God is upon us. Just as Jesus was a child of God, so are we! We are precious to God, and he wants us to become strong and grow to love him and others, more and more. We also learn how to not be tricked into turning away from God and his teachings. God gives us parents to guide us and teach us right from wrong.

Take a moment to thank your parents for caring for you and guiding you each day.



### Prayer:

*Dear Lord, fill me with wisdom so I will know the right things to do so I will grow closer to you and to give you honor and glory. Help me to trust and obey my parents.*

*"Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God."  
1 John 4:7*

February 9, 2025

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Gospel Reading: Luke 5:1-11

"Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man." — Luke 5:8

We are blessed by the Lord all the time. How do we show God that we are grateful for the blessings he showers on us? One way is to begin by saying thank you for our blessings and remembering God has given them to us - we haven't earned them on our own. Today's Gospel shows us that if we listen to God and his commands, he will surprise us with blessings, just like Simon Peter was surprised by the HUGE catch of fish. Sometimes we'll receive enormous blessings that we can't miss (like Peter's catch of fish), but other times the blessings and graces will be small and it will take some thinking to recognize them. Let's not forget to thank God for those little gifts too.

What are some things in my life that are blessings from the Lord?

Are there times I don't feel grateful for God's blessings? Why?



### Prayer:

*Dear Lord, thank you for loving me so much that you bless me all the time. Please make my heart more grateful for the gifts of your love and your blessings that are in my life.*

Download this month's [Saint Prayer Card](#) — St. Ambrose  
[Saint Prayer Card](#) (black and white version for colouring)



# Gospel Readings

February 16, 2025

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Gospel Reading: Luke 6:17, 20-26

"Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude and insult you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice and leap for joy on that day! Behold, your reward will be great in heaven." — Luke 6:22-23

The Gospel message today is a tough one. Jesus tells us that the poor, hungry, and the weeping are blessed. These are not usually the things we want to achieve in life. In fact, we typically seek out just the opposite. We strive for wealth, being well-fed, and enjoying happiness. When Jesus says "Blessed are you when people hate you"... is Jesus going too far? Yet that is the kind of life that he lived. He was poor, sometimes hungry, sometimes sad, and even hated by some people. Jesus doesn't want us to have to suffer, but he knows that humans do at times. When we are poor, hungry, weeping, or hated, he wants us to remember that he is with us. It is not fun to feel any of these things, but these experiences can remind us to rely on him.

When hard things happen to me, do I feel close to Jesus or far away from him?



"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." (Psalm 46:1)

### Prayer:

Dear Lord, please give me the grace to accept hardships in my life as things that will help me to grow closer to you. Help me imitate your humility and remember your promise of blessing.

February 23, 2025

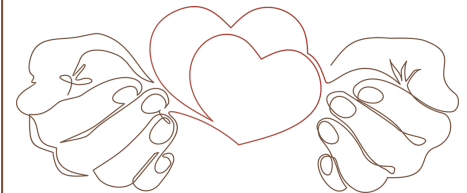
7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Gospel Reading: Luke 6:27-38

"...love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you...do to others as you would have them do to you." — Luke 6:27-28, 31

In this day and age, this advice does not seem to be popular thinking. These days, we think more along the lines of "An eye for an eye," "Look out for number one," or "Don't let anyone get the best of you!" But Jesus challenges us to think in a more heavenbound manner. Do as he did. When his enemies came after him, he loved them. When people hated and cursed him, he did good things for them. We, too, are called to this. We can also think of this verse as saying: "Do to others as Jesus would do to them."

Who are the people I could do good for, even if they aren't good to me?



"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy."

(Matthew 5:7)

### Prayer:

Dear Lord, open our hearts to love our enemies and do good to those who try to harm us. We ask for humility to see our own sinfulness, so we can share mercy with those around us.



### Sources:

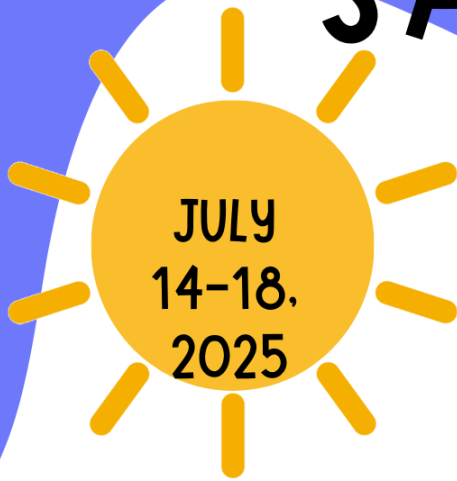
*I Believe: Exploring the Apostles' Creed* by Alister McGrath  
*The Creed: A Catechist's Guide* by Janet Schaeffler  
*The Apostles' Creed* by Ben Myers

### Sources cont.'d:

*What Christians Ought to Believe* by Michael Bird  
*The Quest for the Creed* by Fr. Dwight Longenecker  
*The Creed* by Timothy O'Malley



# SAVE THE DATE!!



COMING  
ALIVE!

## summer CAMP



Outdoor activities



Crafts



Stories and prayer



Snacks



Assumption Church Hall

More details on registration to follow

# LETHBRIDGE FAMILY LIFE

- BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER -
- MAKING CONNECTIONS -
- BUILDING COMMUNITY -

ALL ARE WELCOME ALL ARE WANTED  
FOR FAMILIES OF 1 TO FAMILIES OF 12

**Get Connected, By Scanning**



**Get Updates on all  
Upcoming Events and News**





# JOIN US FOR 6TH - 8TH GRADE YOUTH GROUP

Open to all Students

All Are Welcome All Are Wanted

Join Us For

Food, Games, Community, & More

Hosted At St. Martha

355 Columbia Blvd W, Lethbridge

Most Wednesdays

To Receive Up to Date Information

Register By Using the QR Code

From 6:15 PM - 7:30PM

To Register



Scan QR Code



Questions? Email:  
[familylife@allsaintslethbridge.org](mailto:familylife@allsaintslethbridge.org)



Visit Our Website:  
<https://www.stmarthasparish.ca>



Visit Our Website:  
<https://www.allsaintslethbridge.org>



LETHBRIDGE FAMILY LIFE

# SOUP SUPPER & ADORATION

FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

Hosted at Assumption hall  
2405 12 ave s Lethbridge

## SCHEDULE

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

SOUP SUPPER

7:15 PM - 7:45 PM

TEACHING

7:45 PM - 8:00 PM

ADORATION

Free of Charge

Donations Welcome

COME HUNGRY  
LEAVE FULL





**LETHBRIDGE FAMILY LIFE**

**SATURDAY FEB 15TH**

# **SPAGHETTI DINNER**

**6:00 PM**

**7:30 PM**

**HOSTED AT  
ASSUMPTION HALL**



**All Are  
Welcome**

**Join Us For:**

**Food & Fun**

**For the Whole Community**

**Free Dinner, Donations Welcome**



**All Saints**  
Roman Catholic Parish





LETHBRIDGE FAMILY LIFE

# FAMILY SKATE

*Night*



**FEBRUARY 22ND 2025**

**7:15 PM - 8:15 PM**

**FREE ENTRY**

**SKATES NOT PROVIDED**

RENTALS CAN BE FOUND AT  
BERT & MAC'S SOURCE FOR SPORTS

**ICE SKATING | SNACKS | COMMUNITY TIME**

**Civic Ice Centre**

**905 6 Ave S, Lethbridge,**

