

ST. PATRICK FINE ARTS SCHOOL - NOVEMBER 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Sunday gospel readings listed below:						1
2 <i>John 6:37-40</i>	3	4	5 Bacon by the Box Fundraiser opens 	6 School Council Meeting @ 7:00 pm 	7 Remembrance Day Liturgy @ 10:15 am 	8
9 <i>John 2:5-19</i>	10 Wellness Day - school closed 	11 Remembrance Day —school closed 	12	13 Gr. 3 to Helen Schuler Christmas Wreath order deadline School Interviews 4:15-7:30 pm	14 2F to Galt Museum School Interviews 12:00-3:15 pm	15 School Council Fall Festival 1-4 pm 
16 <i>Luke 2:5-19</i>	17 Nov 26 Pizza Order opens Career Day 	18 Grade 5 to the Galt Museum	19 Alberta Musical Theatre presents "Pinocchio" 	20	21 Volleyball Jamboree at Father Leonard van Tighem 	22
23 <i>Luke 23:35-43</i> Nov 26 Pizza Order closes	24 School Photo Retake Day 	25	26 Kindergarten to Helen Schuler Nature Centre Pizza Lunch  Divisional Board Meeting @ 6:30 pm	27 Wellness Fair hosted by the University of Lethbridge Nursing Team Kindergarten to Helen Schuler Nature Centre	28 Wellness Fair hosted by the University of Lethbridge Nursing Team 	29 30 <i>Matthew 24:37-44</i>

ST. PATRICK FINE ARTS SCHOOL - DECEMBER 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Sunday gospel readings listed below:	1 Advent Liturgy	2	3 Christmas Concert Dress Rehearsal at school	4 Christmas Concert 	5	6
7 <i>Matthew 3:1-12</i>	8 Advent Liturgy	9	10	11 Kindergarten Christmas Concert School Council Meeting and Christmas Social @ 7pm	12	13
14 <i>Matthew 11:2-11</i>	15 Kindergarten to Galt Museum Advent Liturgy	16 Kindergarten to Galt Museum	17 Advent Mass and Christmas Social with Children of St. Martha's Divisional Board Meeting @ 6:30 pm	18 Christmas Lunch Bacon by the Box Fundraiser delivery 3:30-5:30 pm	19 Christmas Bingo Last Day before Christmas Break	20
CHRISTMAS SPIRIT WEEK						
21 <i>Matthew 1:18-24</i>	22 	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26 Boxing Day	27
						
28 <i>Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23</i>	29	30	31 New Year's Day			
						



November 2025

ST. PATRICK FINE ARTS

LEARN ACTIVELY - GROW SPIRITUALLY - LIVE CREATIVELY

www.spfa.holyspirit.ab.ca 403.327.4386

Facebook/Instagram: @spfaschool #hs4

Principal's Message

It goes without saying that the last few weeks have been very memorable. Record-breaking, in fact! It also goes without saying that it was amazing to be back in school with staff and students last week; children are why we are all called to serve as Catholic school educators, and I think I can speak for all of our teachers in gratitude for the role we get to play in the kids' lives each day.

Understandably, there are many big feelings around October's teacher job action, and there is no 'right' way to feel going forward, either. For myself, I do have a pretty heavy heart when I pause to think about why teachers across the province elected to go on strike. The stories of teacher experiences with overcrowded classrooms, unsupported complex need students and genuine fear for safety are very powerful, and thankfully have garnered a lot of attention from the public and politicians alike. No, our return to work did not come with a bargained agreement (which is very concerning for the future of democracy), I do remain hopeful for the future of public education. There is now more awareness around how education is funded, there is renewed commitment to collect data on class size and class complexity and provincial leadership is saying, "we hear you" as they take steps to build task forces and fast-track building new schools in densely populated areas. As Catholics, we are called to lead with love and to remain hopeful in the face of adversity; I think, in some ways, our strong Catholic resolve has been essential to stave off any lingering negativity over some very trying days.

I am also overwhelmed with gratitude for so much! For our school division and board leadership, who ensured everything was looked after while we were away and were vocal in their support for teachers' actions. For our support staff who worked so hard on beautification projects and professional learning (and came out to one of the many rallies to show their support). For teachers and supporters all over the province who said, "I see you" and contributed to real action. And, most of all, for our students who continue to be curious and committed to their learning, showing trust in their teachers every day. Thank you to all of you who overcame your own challenges to support teachers and to always seek to understand our 'why'. The kids are worth it, both for now and for a future with a strong education system and a valued teaching profession. I am grateful and feel very blessed. Know that your children continue to be in good hands at St. Patrick Fine Arts and that our entire staff is here for them every day.

Looking forward to seeing you soon!

Mrs. Kathy Jones-Husch

October saw huge rallies all over Alberta, including Lethbridge!



Please send your thoughts/feedback to spfaoffice@holyspirit.ab.ca

Growing in Faith

As we enter the month of November, our hearts turn to remembrance, gratitude, and hope. This is a sacred time in our Catholic faith to pause, reflect, and give thanks for those who came before us, for those who serve today, and for the many everyday heroes who shape our lives with courage and love.

Remembrance Day invites us to honour the brave men and women who sacrificed for peace and freedom. We remember them in prayer, asking God to grant them eternal rest and to guide us in building a world where justice, compassion, and understanding triumph over hatred and division. Their courage reminds us that peace begins in our own hearts and communities, through small acts of kindness and steadfast love.

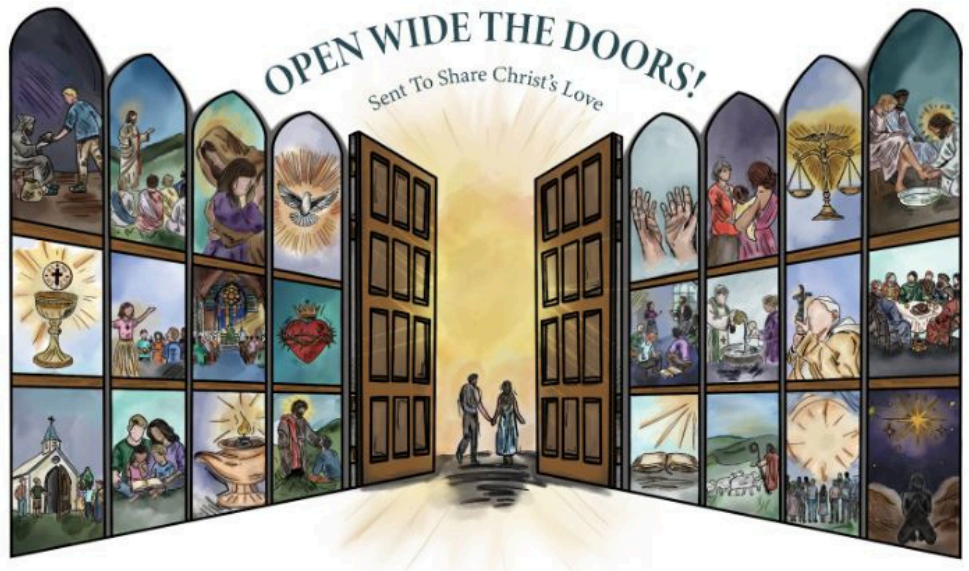
In our school, we are blessed to see examples of heroism every day. Our teachers who inspire curiosity and faith, our parents and guardians who nurture and guide with patience, and our students who stand up for what is right; all are witnesses to the Gospel call to “love one another.” We also look to community members who dedicate their time to serve others, building a world rooted in equality, kindness, and unity.

This November, let us take time to reflect on the heroes in our lives, past and present, and how we can be heroes for one another. Whether through a kind word, an act of service, or standing up for someone in need, we each have the power to make Christ’s love visible in our world. As we journey through this month of remembrance and gratitude, may we continue to pray for peace in our world, unity in our communities, and love in our hearts.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.” — Matthew 5:9
Wishing all our families a blessed month filled with faith, hope, and love.

Carla Ferrari
Associate Principal

Due to October's job action, Catholic Education Week has been moved to May!



General Information

Staff Parking Lot



Please do not park or stop (even with your hazard lights on) in the staff parking lot. Our staff begin and end their shifts at different times, and some are having trouble finding available parking spaces.

Remembrance Day



Please join the grade 6D class as they present the Remembrance Day Ceremony on Friday, November 7th at 10:15 am. We are looking forward to seeing you there. **Poppies are on sale by donation in the office from November 1st to 7th.**

School Interviews - Grades 1 to 6



Parent Teacher interviews for grades 1 to 6 will take place during the evening of **Thursday, November 13th** and the afternoon of **Friday, November 14th**. Book your time slot via your Conference Manger account. Look for an e-mail to let you know when the booking window is open. You can always call the office to make a booking, too, at 403-327-4386.

Christmas Wreaths



Once again, St. Pat's is offering fresh, long-lasting, hand crafted, balsam fir wreaths with clusters of red berries, pine cone accents and red bows for \$35. This year proceeds will go towards the Grade 6 year-end field trip. The order deadline right around the corner on Thursday, November 13th and the wreaths will be delivered in early December. You can purchase yours via your SchoolCashOnline account. Thank you for your support!

Mark these dates on your calendars!



The grades 1 to 6 Christmas concert is on **Thursday, December 4th @ 6:30 pm at the Southminster United Church**. The Kindergarten Christmas Concert will take place on **Thursday, December 11th from 6:00-7:00 pm at the school**. Tickets for the grades 1 to 6 concert will be available for purchase soon on your SchoolCashOnline account. It is expected that all students attend the concert, so please make plans with your other child's other activity leaders.



School Council Update



Hello Fall! A time of hot chocolatey mornings, and toasty marshmallow evenings, and best of all, leaping in the leaves!

Get Involved in School Council!

Our next meeting is **NOVEMBER 6** at 7 PM. We'd love your voice and ideas! All SPFA parents are welcome—no experience necessary! If you can't attend but have creative ideas, attend virtually at meet.google.com/esi-gwiq-uhz.

Did You Know?

Having a child at St. Pat's automatically makes you part of our School Council. Each month we come together to advocate for students and staff, plan fundraiser initiatives, organize social and wellness events, or to create Hot Lunch programs. Together we ensure all students have a memorable school year.

Looking Ahead to Volunteer Opportunities

Social/Wellness committee: **FALL FESTIVAL November 15, 1-4 PM**

Hot Lunch committee: **Christmas Turkey Dinner December 18**

Fall Fundraiser: **Bacon by the Box** is Back! Order on School Cash Online. Nov 5 – Dec 5

We are currently looking for parent volunteers to help with these wonderful school community events. Please reach out to spfasc@holyspirit.ab.ca or beccainnes02@gmail.com for more information.

Looking forward to a wonderful fall season at SPFA. Thank you for your continued support and involvement.

Becca Innes

School Council Chair

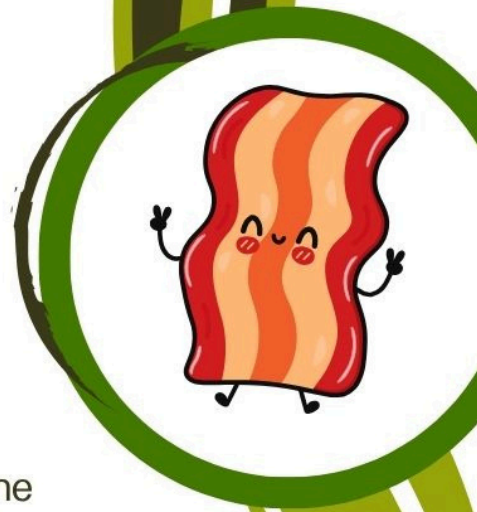
Knights of Columbus Coats 4 Kids Campaign

The Knights of Columbus of St. Martha's Parish are striving to help children in West Lethbridge by collecting and then donating gently used winter coats to elementary students at the three Catholic schools located in West Lethbridge. Please check your closets for fall/winter coats. If they no longer fit your children, please wash and then bring them to school to place them in the box marked "K of C Coats 4 Kids Campaign". Mittens/gloves, toques and children's boots will also be accepted at our school. The collection will happen until the end of October. Distribution to area children will start with the return to cold weather. Your support in helping children stay warm this winter is very much appreciated.

Carmen Mombourquette, Campaign Coordinator
Knights of Columbus, St. Martha's Parish



Bacon Fundraiser



Purchase available on SchoolCash Online



Order from

Nov 5 - Dec 5



Pick Up Date

Dec 18th (3:30pm- 5:30pm)

\$90 per Box

5kg Package of Fresh Bacon, Thick Sliced

Provided by Gordon Foods

SPFA PARENT COUNCIL
INVITES YOU TO THE

Fall Festival

HORSE CARRIAGE
RIDES

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH
1PM - 4PM

FACE PAINTING

IN THE SCHOOL GYM

Tickets for each activity will be sold at the festival

Cash Only Please

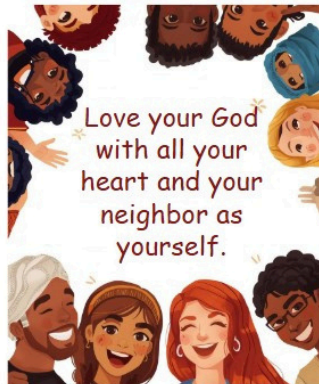
GAMES
...AND MORE!!!

The Parable of the Good Samaritan | Luke 10:30-37



A teacher of the Law came up and tried to trap Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to receive eternal life?"

Jesus answered him, "What do the Scriptures say? How do you interpret them?"

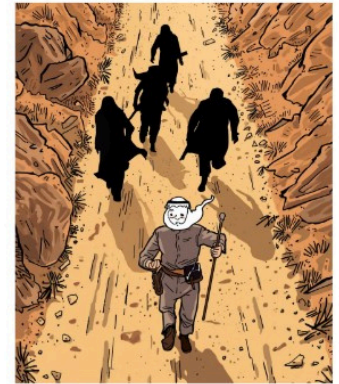


The man answered, "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind'; and 'Love your neighbor as you love yourself.'"

"You are right," Jesus replied; "do this and you will live."

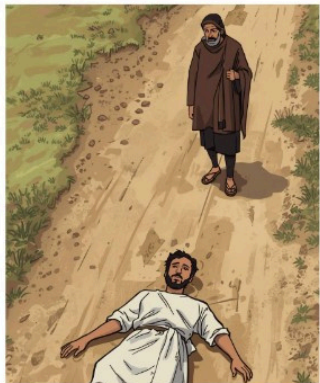


But the teacher of the Law wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "Who is my neighbor?"



Jesus answered, "There was once a man who was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho when robbers attacked him, stripped him, and beat him up, leaving him half dead."

The Parable of the Good Samaritan (page 2) | Luke 10:30-37



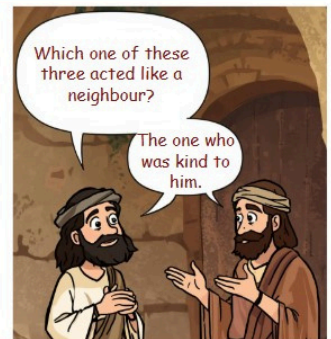
It so happened that a priest was going down that road; but when he saw the man, he walked on by on the other side. In the same way a Levite also came there, went over and looked at the man, and then walked on by on the other side.



But a Samaritan who was traveling that way came upon the man, and when he saw him, his heart was filled with pity. He went over to him, poured oil and wine on his wounds and bandaged them; then he put the man on his own animal and took him to an inn, where he took care of him.



The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Take care of him,' he told the innkeeper, 'and when I come back this way, I will pay you whatever else you spend on him.'



And Jesus concluded, "In your opinion, which one of these three acted like a neighbour toward the man attacked by the robbers?"

The teacher of the Law answered, "The one who was kind to him."

Jesus replied, "You go, then, and do the same."



Parable Conversations

“Who is someone I see in my daily life who might need extra kindness or care?”

In the parable, the Samaritan noticed the man on the road who others ignored. Jesus asks us to notice too. Think about your school, home, or community — who might need your kindness today?

And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’

Matthew 25:40



Parable Conversations

What makes it hard sometimes to love my neighbour the way Jesus teaches?

The priest and Levite passed by without helping. Sometimes we’re busy, shy, or worried about what others will think. What things get in the way of you showing love to others?

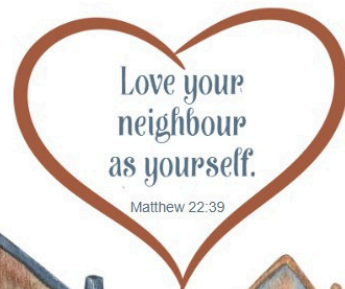


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Saint of the Month - St. John of God

St. John of God

March 8, 1495 (Feast Day: March 8)



João Duarte Cidade was born in 1495 in Portugal into a poor but faithful family. As a child, he became separated from his parents and worked as a shepherd. Later, he joined the military and traveled through Spain to Africa. While in Africa, he had a vision of the Infant Jesus, who asked him to go to Granada. There, he changed his life and began helping the poor and sick, especially those needing medical care. Over time, people joined him, and they formed the Order of Hospitallers, which now helps take care of the Pope. John of God, as he became known, died of pneumonia on March 8, 1550.



St. John of God Prayer

Lord,
you filled the heart of Saint John of God
with compassion for his fellow-men.
Grant that, loving our neighbour as he did,
we may be called to share
with your saints in the joys
of your kingdom.
We make this prayer
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

St. John of God - Pray for us!

Adapted from: [Christ is faithful](http://christ-is-faithful.com)
and provides all things. vatican.va

Saint of the Month – St. John God

St. John of God – Love of Neighbour

St. John of God (1495–1550) lived in Spain during a time of great change and hardship. His early years were unsettled — he worked in many places, served as a soldier, and often felt restless and without purpose. After a powerful conversion experience, he recognized God's mercy in his own life and resolved to dedicate himself completely to serving others.

John began by caring for the sick, the poor, and those abandoned by society. He opened a small house of hospitality in Granada where he welcomed anyone in need. What set him apart was the way he treated each person: not as a burden or a problem, but as a beloved child of God. His compassion was practical — feeding, nursing, and sheltering — but also deeply spiritual, restoring dignity to those who were often ignored.

His example inspired others to join him, and after his death, his followers became the Brothers Hospitallers of St. John of God, a religious order that continues his mission worldwide. John's life reflects the call of the Good Samaritan: to cross boundaries, to see the suffering of one's neighbour, and to respond with generous love.



St. John of God and The Good Samaritan

St. John of God didn't always live a peaceful life. For many years, he struggled and made mistakes. But when he discovered God's love, everything changed. John decided to show that same love to others, especially people who were sick, poor, or left out.

He opened a small hospital where he cared for anyone in need. He treated each person with dignity, like they were his own brother or sister. Others were inspired by his example, and his followers still run hospitals around the world today.

Just like the Good Samaritan, St. John of God showed that loving your neighbour means stopping, noticing, and helping — even when it is difficult.



Poster Contest Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

Calling all students! It's time to get creative! This November, we invite you to design a poster that celebrates the real meaning of Christmas: the gift of Jesus, the joy of faith, and the spirit of giving. Whether you sketch, paint, collage or digitize your artwork, let your imagination shine as you reflect on how we can keep Christ at the heart of Christmas.

Deadline: November 28

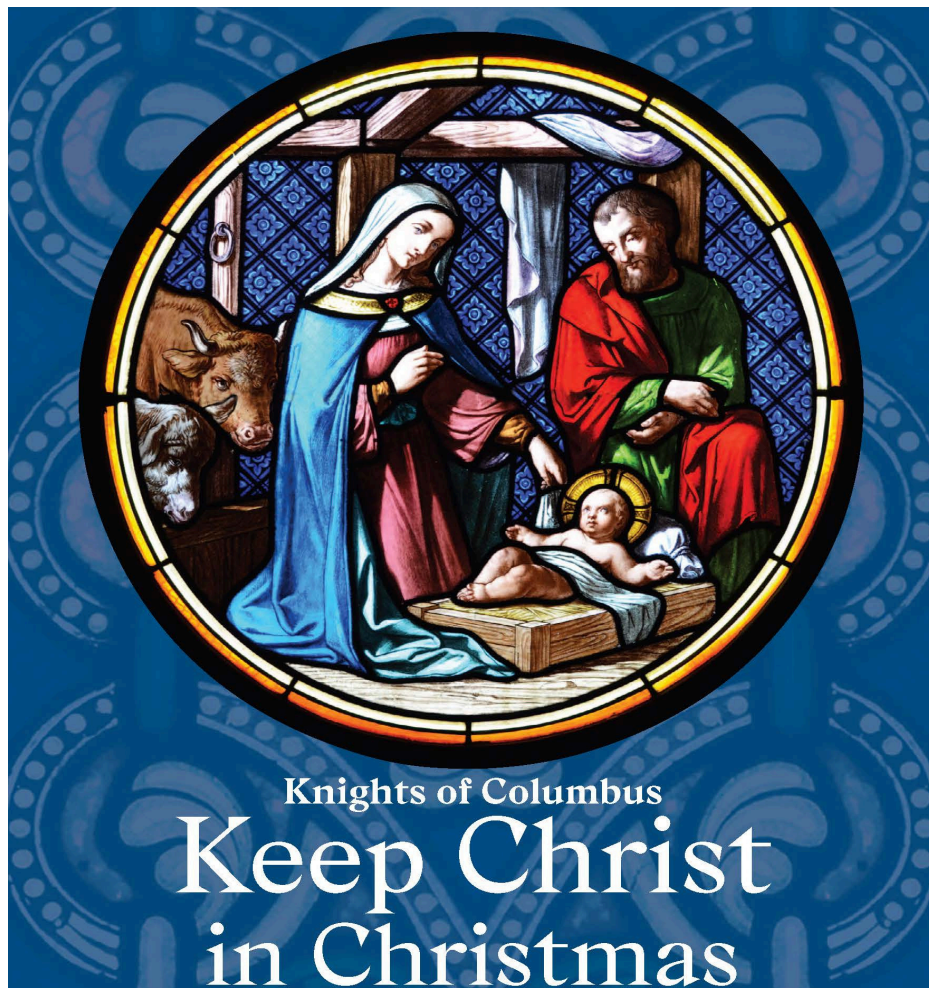
Prizes and recognition awarded for 1st, 2nd, 3rd place winners in each age category.

A signed entry form must be submitted with the poster (available at school).

Let's come together and share the message of hope, love and light.

Keep Christ in Christmas!

Questions? Contact: St. Patrick's K of C Council at stpatskc91@gmail.com



Due: 28 November, 2025

Sponsor: St. Patrick's Council, Lethbridge

Contact: stpatskc91@gmail.com



Faith in Action



Isabella S.

5026 10/21

Family

Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest

ENTRY FORM

I wish to enter THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS POSTER CONTEST in the Grade division checked below. I realize that my entry becomes property of the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council Office.

☐

GRADE K

☐

GRADE 1-2

☐

GRADE 3-4

☐

GRADE 5-6

☐

GRADE 7-8

COUNCIL NUMBER _____

Name of Entrant _____

Grade _____

Street Address _____

City _____

State/Province _____

Postal Code _____

Telephone (Circle one: Home Cell) _____

Email _____

Signature of Entrant _____

This Section To Be Completed By Parent/Guardian:

The undersigned hereby request and approve the Entrant's registration and participation in the KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS "KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS" POSTER CONTEST. In consideration of such registration and participation, the undersigned hereby agree to hold the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council and any of its subordinate units and their officers, members, agents and employees, blameless and without liability, and hereby agree to release, indemnify and hold harmless all of the above mentioned from any and all claims and expenses resulting from or relating to Entrant's said participation. The Entrant may compete in only one council-level contest. **Entries become the property of the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council which retains exclusive rights to use said entries in future promotional materials, with creative credit given to the artist.**

Parent/Guardian

Date signed

This Section To Be Completed Knights of Columbus Officials:

Score Sheet

SCORING INSTRUCTIONS: A 100-point scoring system is used to determine winners.
Information on Rules and Judging are on other side of this form.

Competition Level	Slogan – 30 points	Artistic Merit – 30 points	Overall Impact – 40 points
Council Total: _____			
District/Regional Total: _____			
Jurisdictional Total: _____			
International Level Total: _____			



Keep Christ in Christmas

Poster Judging Fact Sheet

Poster must reflect the theme of ***Keep Christ in Christmas***

Each poster should be the original work (including concept, layout, slogan and any visual images) of a single person.

Poster should be approximately 11x17 inches in size. If pastels, chalk or charcoal are used, the poster must be laminated or covered with clear plastic. Posters may be in color or black and white.

Each poster must be submitted with a Knights of Columbus "Keep Christ in Christmas" Poster Contest entry form.

The name and grade of the person entering the poster should be included on the back of the poster.

All entries become the property of the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council. **Posters will not be returned.**

JUDGING

Judging should be done by teams composed of students, Knights, teachers, administrators, Chaplin, Pastor, etc. In keeping with the theme of giving young people the opportunity to develop their own feeling towards Christmas and our savior Jesus Christ, young people should be included in all phases of the judging process.

A **100 point scoring system** will be used to determine the winner.

30 Points: Slogan — How clearly is the theme presented?

30 Points: Visuals — How well do the visuals convey the message?

40 Points: Overall impact — How effective was the poster in capturing your attention and causing you to reflect on the topic?

Council's Contact Information

_S_t_. _P_a_t_r_i_c_k_'s_____

_s_t_p_a_t_s_k_c_9_1_@_g_m_a_il_.c_o_m_____





It's time for the 25th Annual Operation

Sock It To 'Em!

From November 1 to December 3, 2025
Nord-Bridge Seniors Centre, and the caretakers; maintenance
& support staff in Lethbridge & area schools are collecting
NEW SOCKS to be donated to local charities and those less
fortunate for Christmas.

Please join them and make someone's Christmas a
little bit warmer!

To donate, drop new socks off at Nord-Bridge, or contact any
custodial staff at your local school.

QUESTIONS?

Call Gail Petrie (403) 327-6520
Charlene Kocken {403} 329-3222

Nord-Bridge Seniors Centre
Lethbridge School Division
Holy Spirit School Division