



ST. PATRICK FINE ARTS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

May 2025

www.spfa.holyspirit.ab.ca
School/Newsletters/SPFA Newsletters

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Sunday gospel readings listed below:				1 Learning Through the Arts Festival 	2 Comfy Cozy Day 	3
4 <i>John 21:1-29</i>	5 Parent Night ADHD Toolkit 7:00-8:30pm	6 Opa's lunch order closes Gr. K-6 attend FLVT's "Willy Wonka" 	7 Round 3 Artist Workshops begin "Hats on!" for Mental Health School Council Meeting @ 6:30 	8	9	10
11 Mother's Day  <i>John 10:27-30</i>	12 May 21 pizza order opens	13	14	15 Opa's Lunch 	16	17
18 May 21 pizza order closes <i>John 13:31-33s, 34-35</i>	19 Victoria Day—school closed 	20 Professional Development Day—school closed 	21 Pizza Lunch 	22 Safety Patrol Year End Event 9:30-1:30 	23	24 "A Night in Bloom" School Gala 6:30pm –12:00 am 
25 <i>John 14:23-29</i>	26	27 4SF to St. Patrick's Cemetery Gr. 5 to SAAG	28 English PAT —Part A 4B to Mountain View Cemetery Divisional Board Meeting	29 Wear Blue for Catholic Education Grade 1 "Special Person Tea" 3:00-3:45 pm	30	31



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June 2025

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School/Newsletters/SPFA Newsletters

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Sunday gospel readings listed below:						
1 <i>John 17:20-26</i>	2 June 11 pizza order opens Grade 5 to Writing-On-Stone	3 Grade 4s to Fort Macleod 	4  School Council Meeting @ 6:30	5 Gr. 6 to Waterton National Park 	6	7
8 June 11 pizza order closes <i>John 7:37-39</i>	9 Year End Mass 	10	11 Pizza Lunch 	12 Last Day of Kindergarten English Part B PAT Gr. 2 to Coyote Flats Pioneer Village	13 Math Part A PAT 	14
15 <i>Father's Day</i> <i>John 16:12-15</i>	16	17 Math Part B PAT 	18 Socials PAT Artist Workshops Round 3 ends  Marian Pilgrimage	19 Science PAT Grade 1 to Fort Whoop-Up	20 Grade 6 Farewell Assembly and Class Lunch/Activities 	21
22 <i>Luke 9:11b-17</i>	23 Family BBQ 5-7 pm 	24 Sports Day 	25 Last Day of School	26	27 	28

May 2025



ST. PATRICK FINE ARTS



LEARN ACTIVELY - GROW SPIRITUALLY - LIVE CREATIVELY

www.spfa.holyspirit.ab.ca 403.327.4386

Facebook/Instagram: @spfaschool #hs4

Message from the Principal - Kathy Jones-Husch

What a month it has been already! We thoroughly enjoyed hosting families in our school art gallery and performance space on May 1 for 'Created to Create'. We know that most kids love to talk about themselves, and the arts are an amazing way to tap into self-expression, teambuilding and appreciation for beautiful and interesting things. This event allows us to tell our story by opening the doors and letting the kids shine as the artists they are. Thank you for coming to support this project!

All of the class pieces will be included in the annual 'Arts Alive and Well. Virtually Installed' gallery at the SAAG (Southern Alberta Art Gallery). You can vote for your favorites by visiting the link that will be available on Monday and stays open until the end of May. If you want to see art more closely, please plan to go to the SAAG and be inspired by selected jr./sr. pieces around southern Alberta from May 10 to mid-June.

If you love what you saw, those same class pieces will be auctioned off at our 'Night in Bloom' Gala on May 24. This way, you can add your child's artwork to your home or workplace or share it as a gift! Some other auction items will include travel packages, 'Principal for the Day' and curated themed baskets that many of you have already contributed to. Thank you for your generosity! Tickets are still on sale in the office or by scanning the QR code below.

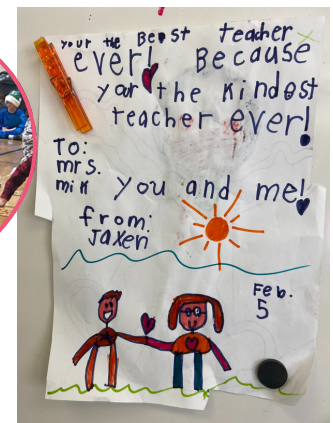
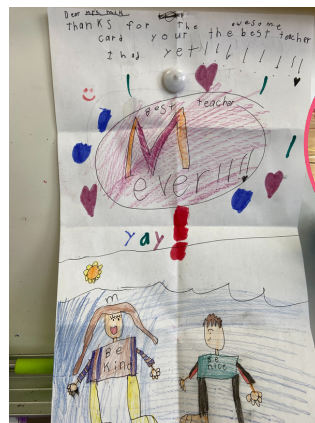
As we begin to prepare for next year, I would ask 2 major things from you. First, **please complete the Spaces Survey you received via e-mail prior to May 9 deadline.** Your input is essential in helping the division make important decisions about how we report your child's learning to you. I have heard that some of you have completed abandoned checking Spaces, which is important feedback! Teachers and administrators are also completing surveys to provide their perspectives, making for a strong set of data to guide future practice.

The second thing is to **help me celebrate the amazing teaching career of our Mrs. Marina Mikuliak.** After more than 30 years in teaching, she will enter a well-deserved retirement at the end of June. Having taught at St. Michael's School (Bow Island), St. Joseph's School (Coaldale), Our Lady of the Assumption School, and our own St. Pat's Fine Arts for the last 10 years, Mrs. Mikuliak has made the most incredible connections with students, parents and staff. Her unique way of providing a safe and loving place for all of our littlest learners has given them incredible confidence and courage to try new things, to be there for one another and to know that God loves them. We are all very sad to lose her warm presence and commitment to teaching, but are very excited about what is to come in her future, forever learning herself. Congratulations on your retirement! We will miss you!

Please continue to stay in touch with school information - there are a lot of things on the go, and we don't want you to miss out. Be sure to save the dates for June so your calendar is clear to celebrate the end of another great year!

Peace and prayers,

Kathy Jones-Husch



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

Growing in Faith

This week at St. Patrick Fine Arts, we honoured the remarkable life and papacy of Pope Francis in classes and through a whole school Liturgy on Friday. The kids were very present in their listening and in their prayer. Pope Francis seemed to have that effect on everyone – they paused and listened.

His leadership has been a guiding light, rooted in humility, compassion, and unwavering commitment to the Gospel. Pope Francis reminded us that to follow Christ is to serve the poor, care for creation, extend mercy, and build bridges of love and understanding.

Throughout his time as our Holy Father, he inspired people of all ages to live joyfully and courageously, always placing Christ at the centre. His simple gestures, powerful words, and tireless advocacy for justice and peace have left an indelible mark on the Church and the world.



As we give thanks for Pope Francis' faithful service, we also invite our school community to lift him in prayer, asking God to welcome him into the joy and peace of eternal life of heaven for a life poured out in love and service to the Church. Let us also pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance in choosing his successor, that the Church may continue to be led with wisdom, compassion, and truth.

May we, as a school rooted in Catholic values, carry forward Pope Francis' example by walking humbly, loving generously, and serving others with joyful hearts.

Carla Ferrari
Associate Principal





School Council



Happy May, SPFAE Families!

We only have two months left in the school year and School Council has a few exciting things happening this month!

First, a massive thank you to our social committee for hosting the April Neon School Dance! It was a fun evening for those who attended! We'd like to extend a huge thank you to the Seeman family who generously donated money to cover treats for all the students (and beyond), and to 'How Sweet' Candy Store downtown for their generous candy donation!

Our next hot lunch is on Wednesday, May 15th from Opa! (Greek style food) is now available for purchase on School Cash Online. We're busy preparing for our "Night in Bloom" Fundraiser. Make sure you purchase tickets from School Cash Online. We're also looking auction donations and event sponsors. If you or your business would like to contribute, please reach out. We'd love to have you involved. More info is in the newsletter.

Our next **School Council Meeting is Wednesday, May 7 at 6:30PM**. Join us as we discuss how to support our amazing staff and students, and help plan for a strong finish to the school year. Your voice matters and we'd love to see you there! The virtual link is [here](#).

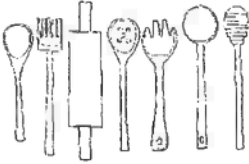
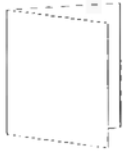
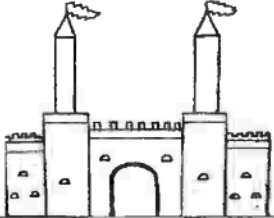
NEW! A **Wellness Spring Bingo** will be sent home with all students this month! We can't wait to see how you and your family participate for the chance to win a prize! Post the card on your fridge or by the front door to keep checking on the next challenge to fill your card.

Thank you for being such an engaged and supportive community. Let's make May a great month for our school!

Best,
Catherine Furukawa
School Council Chair



SPFA SPRING BINGO

Try a new recipe 	Write 3 nice things about yourself	Add Chalk drawings to your sidewalk  Send in a picture	Plant a Veggie Garden	Go for a walk or a bike ride with friends or family
Visit a new park	Make a card for a teacher 	Go to the Library	Paint a portrait of a family member  Send in a picture	Make a treasure map
Have a family game night	Read a book outside	FREE SPACE	Clean out your Backpack	Take a picture next to a tree
Do a random act of kindness	Build something out of LEGO Send in a picture	Go for a hike with your family 	Take pictures of nature	Add to the community rock garden Send in a picture
Build a fort 	Plant a Flower Garden	Create a handmade craft for your teacher	Have a picnic outside	Color or draw a picture 

Send in your pictures and bingo card to SPFASC@holyspirit.ab.ca to enter your name into a draw for a chance to win a prize. Submit by May 28

HAVE FUN

Travelling Art Exhibit

Storytelling May 22 - Jun 18, 2025



The exhibition 'Storytelling' shares the voices and traditions of four Indigenous artists with artwork that uses traditional materials and mediums such as beading, finger weaving, sewing, painting, print making, moose hide and plants harvested from the land. The relationships with the land, nature, plants and animals influences their art. Some of the artists use their art to form connections with their past that has been severed. Some create to honour those whose lives were taken too soon. They use their art as a form of expression to reclaim their culture and share it so that the world knows that the Indigenous people are still here. Each artwork in this exhibition holds a story.



Notices

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

- Lethbridge Little League
- Lethbridge Sports Flyers
- First Tee - Golf Lessons

A rectangular array of dots arranged in 3 rows and 6 columns.



ST PATRICK FINE ARTS SCHOOL PRESENTS

A NIGHT IN *Bloom*

SATURDAY | MAY 24 | DOORS OPEN
2025 5:00 PM

St. Patrick Fine Arts School

18+ Event

Tickets \$50 available at the office

Dinner provided by Soho Catering

Entertainment:
The Dueling Pianos
(Cal Toth and Anna McBryan)

Live and Silent Auctions
Cash Bar

*All proceeds will go the beautification of our school
and the student arts experience.*

How You Can Help

SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS

We welcome contributions of products, services, experiences, or gift baskets that will help make our auction an exciting and engaging part of the evening.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Consider financial support to help us cover event costs. Donations can be made to the school division, ensuring a tax receipt.

EVENT PARTICIPATION

Join us for a night of fun! Tickets can be purchased by visiting the QR Code.



SCAN ME

GO TO:

<https://holyspirit.schoolcashonline.com/Fee/Details/2/179/false/true>
choose our school, and note 'Gala Fundraiser' in the message box

A NIGHT IN *Bloom*

PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARD THE
BEAUTIFICATION OF OUR SCHOOL AND TO
ENSURE FUTURE ARTS EXPERIENCES

To make a donation or if you have question contact Patty Wright: pattydw@gmail.com or the school office at 403-327-4386

ST. PATRICK FINE ARTS SCHOOL
Created to Create



FLVT: OUTDOOR CLASSROOM FUNDRAISER

LUKE BRUCE

& THE RAMBLERS



May 15, 2025

7:00 - 11:00 pm

FLVT gym

18+ event: \$30 advanced
or \$35 at the door

CASH BAR

We have currently raised \$20 000.00 of our \$120 000.00 goal through two fundraisers (spaghetti dinner and pulled pork dinner). If we meet our next fundraising goal of \$15 000.00, we will be able to start the first phase of the project, concrete, this summer.

SEEKING SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS

flvtschoolcouncil@gmail.com

Get your tickets
here:)



Not able to come but would still like to
donate? Click the link below for an
immediate tax receipt:

<https://holyspirit.schoolcashionline.com/Fee/Details/2/179/false/true>

****UNDER MESSAGE, PLEASE TYPE
FLVT: OUTDOOR CLASSROOM**



HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC SCHOOL DIVISION
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM

BECOME A *Homestay Family*

**The Best Thing About
Memories Is Making
them!**

HOMESTAY FAMILIES PROVIDE:

Private Bedroom,
3 Wholesome Meals A Day
Study Space
Emotional & Academic Support
Participation in Family Activities
WiFi Connection

HOMESTAY FAMILY BENEFITS!

\$ 900 Per Month to Cover Expenses
Learn Another Culture's Traditions and Customs
Share Canadian Culture With Your Student
Develop New Friendships and Family Ties
Build an Interest in Culture, Language and Future
Travel Opportunities

APPLY NOW



+1(403) 330 7382



homestay@holyspirit.ab.ca



May

Proclaim! Pilgrims of Hope



"It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not fail you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed."

— Deuteronomy 31:8

St. Joan of Arc 1412-1431 (Feast Day: May 30)

St. Joan of Arc is a heroine of France and a Catholic saint, and is often referenced in books, television, movies, and songs. A peasant girl born in the east of what is today France, she was raised in a religious family, and at the age of 12, had a vision from God. These visions continued through her teenage years. In them, an angel told her to lead the French in battles against the British, who controlled the land at this time, and to restore the son of the King, Charles, to the throne. Many people did not believe her.

Over time, however, her visions and predictions continued to come true, which led those around her to follow her. Eventually, she traveled in disguise to Charles, who gave her control of an army. This army had a number of successes against the British forces, and eventually Charles did become king.

In 1430, while attacking another British force, Joan was captured. The British put her on trial, accusing her of witchcraft and heresy. There was nothing to these charges, but she was found guilty regardless, and was martyred by burning at the stake in 1431. She is often called upon by those who are seeking to accomplish very challenging tasks, and by soldiers.

You can learn more about Joan of Arc with this video - Brother Francis - [Joan of Arc](#).



The Apostles' Creed

"the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins..."

To believe in the communion of saints is really in a sense an expansion of our belief in the holy catholic Church. We proclaim in this line our belief that we need one another in the Church as part of our path to salvation. We know that communion means oneness, and in this instance the lower-case saints refers not solely to those who have been canonized, but all who are amongst the holy people of God.

In his writings, Paul often refers to or greets his readers as saints. So in this, we see the holiness that surrounds us here on earth, actively working together to support one another as we strive towards heaven.

We know (often all too well) that we are sinners in need of God's grace. The good news that we have in our faith is that God freely distributes to us this grace and forgives our sins. We are called nonetheless to continual conversion, and to extend that same grace of forgiveness to those around us. In this, we see the restoration of the relationships that we have with one another, and with God.

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

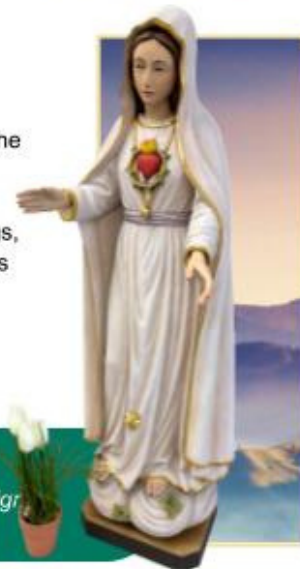
Happy Easter! Joyeuses Pâques! During the Easter season, we continually rejoice in and proclaim the resurrection of Christ, and the opening of heaven's doors to us eternally. This is actually the second longest liturgical season (after Ordinary Time), lasting 50 days between Easter Sunday and Pentecost. We return to the singing of the Gloria and Alleluias.

In our schools this year, the Easter season coincides with many celebratory events, such as Feather Blessings, graduations, galas and World Catholic Education Day (Thursday, May 29 - wear blue!). This month also marks the beginning of our now-traditional Marian pilgrimage through our school division — so look for her at your school soon!



Pope's Prayer Intentions - For working conditions

Let us pray that through work, each person might find fulfilment, families might be sustained in dignity and that society might be humanized.



Gospel Readings

May 4, 2025

3rd Sunday of Easter

Gospel Reading: John 21:1-19

"We gave you strict orders, did we not, to stop teaching in that name?... We must obey God rather than men...we are witnesses of these things, as is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him." — Acts 5:28-29, 32

When the disciples realized Jesus had risen from the dead, they couldn't help but tell everyone they met about him. They were ordered to stop talking about him but they just couldn't — they were willing to sacrifice everything to teach people about Jesus. It's hard to believe that these are the same disciples who were in the upper room afraid for their lives a few days earlier. What changed them? The Holy Spirit did.

Where do we stand with Jesus? Are we hiding in the upper room, hoping no one will find out that we follow him, or are we willing to accept the gift of the Holy Spirit, which gives us the grace and courage to share him with the world?

How do I feel about sharing my faith in Jesus with others?



Prayer:

Dear Lord, sometimes we might be afraid of what others will think or say if we share our faith and belief in you. Please give us the grace and courage we need to share the fantastic things you have done for us.

* ...when I am afraid, I put my trust in you.
In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust;
I am not afraid; what can flesh do to me?"

• Psalm 56:3-4

May 11, 2025

4th Sunday of Easter

Gospel Reading: John 10:27-30

"My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me." — John 10:27

The sounds of train whistles, fire engine or ambulance sirens, and dangerous weather alerts are meant to protect us from harm. In our Gospel today, we learn that Jesus protects us, too. He calls us his sheep and wants us to know that like a good shepherd who protects his sheep away from danger, Jesus will keep us safe. If we listen, we will come to love and follow him, and he will protect us. If we ignore the warning of a train whistle, refuse to move out of the way of a speeding ambulance, or fail to go to a shelter in dangerous weather, we could be badly hurt or even die. We listen to these things to help us stay safe. In the same way, if we know Jesus' voice and obey it, we will stay on the right track. Jesus wants to protect us; but first, we must listen!

What are some things Jesus warns us against?

What are the good things Jesus calls us to do to stay on the right track?

Prayer:

Dear Lord, help us to listen carefully to your voice.



Download this month's [Saint Prayer Card](#) - St. Joan of Arc
[Saint Prayer Card](#) (black and white version for colouring)



Gospel Readings

May 18, 2025

5th Sunday of Easter

Gospel Reading: John 13:31-33a, 34-35

"As I have loved you, so you also should love one another." — John 13:34

Suppose company is coming to your house for dinner and you want to make a special meal. You might look up a recipe on the internet, then go to the grocery store and get all the ingredients. Finally, you start the process of cooking. As you read the recipe you see words like "blanch," "reduce," "sear," and you find yourself totally confused! But then, you notice that there is an online video that accompanies the recipe. And as you watch it, presto, these unfamiliar terms make sense. We learn best when someone shows us, don't we?

Jesus knew it wasn't enough to tell us how to love; he came and demonstrated it for us. It would be hard to miss; Jesus always put the needs of others first. In today's Gospel, he challenges us to imitate him by loving each other in the same way.

What can we do today to ease the suffering of someone who needs to be loved?



Prayer:

Dear Lord, give us the desire to love others with the same love you showed us. Help us to be centered less on ourselves and more on the needs of the poor and suffering.

May 25, 2025

6th Sunday of Easter

Gospel Reading: John 14:23-29

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid."
— John 14:27

What does the world say will bring us peace? Being popular at school? Winning at video games? Making a sports team? Being the star in a play? For parents, it might be a promotion at work, an exotic vacation, having plenty of money to invest so it will make even more money for us, or perhaps good health. All these things can give us peace, but only for a while. There will always be something new that we need or desire. Even our health will only last for a limited time, since we will all eventually die.

Jesus offers us a different kind of peace; one that will never end. It is the peace of heaven, where we will be surrounded by unconditional love and there will be no more tears or suffering.

When have we felt the peace Jesus promises?



Prayer:

Dear Lord, we so desire the lasting peace you promise. Please help us to set our sights on heaven instead of on the provisions of this world. Help us obey you in all things.

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



“Share the Mission” Award Call for Nominations!

Recognizing Those Who Inspire – Nominate Someone Today!

Do you know someone who makes a difference in our school community? The Share the Mission Award is your opportunity to recognize those who go above and beyond to serve, lead, and inspire!

This prestigious award honors community members, parents, students, and school staff who:

- Provide outstanding service to students
- Set high standards through leadership and dedication
- Contribute to the faith-filled atmosphere of our schools
- Lead within the community and parish organizations
- Live out the values of the Holy Spirit Catholic School Division

Nominations are open until Friday, June 6, 2025. If you know someone who deserves to be recognized, submit your nomination today! The recipient will be honored at the division’s Opening Mass.

Nominate now! Use the [online nomination form](#) or contact Rhonda Kawa at _____

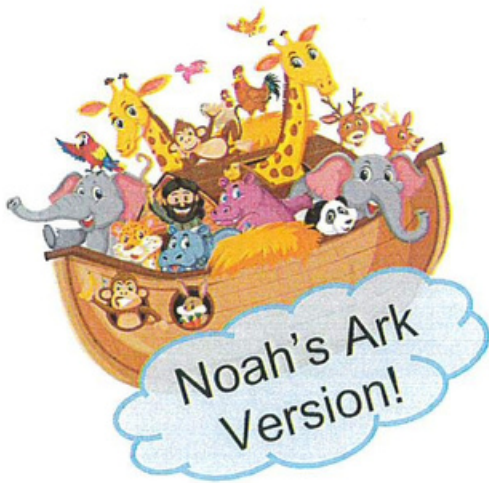
kawarh@holyspirit.ab.ca

for more details.

Let’s celebrate those who truly make a difference!



Coming Alive with Christ



**All Saints Parish invites
all youth ages 6 – 11 to
join us for outdoor
activities, stories and
prayer, snacks, crafts
and more!**

Dates: July 14 - 18, 2025

Time: 8:30am to 1:00pm

Place: Assumption Hall



Register in person at the Parish office or use the QR Code.

If you would like to volunteer to help with recreation, registration, crafts, snack . .
. please contact Coreen at packhamc@holyspirit.ab.ca