



ST. PATRICK FINE ARTS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

April 2025

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

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Sunday gospel readings listed below:		1	2 D Spot lunch order closes  School Council Meeting @ 6:30	3	4	5 Lenten Assembly 
6 <i>John 11:1-45</i>	7  Green Shirt Day Grade 2 Eucharist Retreat 6L to CASA	8 Choir Concert 6:30– 7:00 pm 	9 D Spot Lunch 	10	11 “Neon” School Dance 6:00– 8:00 pm 	12 Lenten Assembly 
13 Palm Sunday <i>Luke 22:14-23:56</i>	14 6D to CASA 	15 4SF to Lethbridge Landfill 	16	17 Holy Thursday Last day before Easter break	18 Good Friday 	19
20 Easter Sunday  <i>John 20:1-9</i>	21 Apr 30 pizza order opens					22 23 24 25 26 
27 Apr 30 pizza order closes <i>John 20:19-31</i>	28 Opa hot lunch order opens	29	30 Artist Workshop Round 2 ends Pizza Lunch  Divisional Board Meeting			



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May 2025

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School/Newsletters/SPFA Newsletters

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Sunday gospel readings listed below:				1 Learning Through the Arts Festival 	2	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	23	24 School Gala 
25 <i>John 14:23-29</i>	26	27 4SF to St. Patrick's Cemetery 	28 English PAT —Part A 4B to Mountain View Cemetery Divisional Board Meeting	29	30	31

April 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

It's a fact - change is inevitable (most of the time). The kids are growing in so many ways, ongoing learning helps adults change, and growth in our city leads to change, too. This month, our first of Spring, we can't help but notice how many opportunities for change are all around us.

There are a few ways you can be involved to support the change process for the kids and the school:

1. Ensure your Spaces notifications are on so that you can more easily receive regular messaging from your child's teacher. Outside of phone calls or e-mails for more specific connections, this is how your teacher will send messages out to the class that you don't want to miss.
2. Participate in the Boundary Consultation survey you received via e-mail on April 1. This phase of the consultation considers boundaries only and seeks to best equalize enrollment in all 4 (or 3) elementary schools going forward. Proposal A would see no natural changes in our boundary and would only account for growth in the Canyons area (south east) and Sunridge/Watermark to the west. Proposal B would see our school picking up all HS students east of University Drive and Proposal C would see us picking up those students but losing the Mountain Heights neighbourhood - they would join the CSM catchment. Note that this phase does not address questions around transportation, 'school of choice' status, grandfathering current students, etc. In your response, you may want to ask questions or offer your thoughts on the future of those elements in addition to anything else on your mind. It is through community participation, including staff and families, that the school board can learn what is important to you. Is there more information you would like to review to make an informed decision? The survey process lets you rank your choice - you do not need to choose just one. Ultimately, the board will decide based on feedback it has and whatever other elements it must consider. The survey closes on April 11. The board will review it and make a decision in May so that plans for those chosen boundaries can start to move forward. Thank you! Your input is key for recognizing what is most important in the St. Patrick Fine Arts future. [The QR code below will take you to the survey.](#)
3. Continue to encourage your child to make good choices, to strive for excellence and to see Jesus in others. School is a great place to learn community routines for a lifetime of success and your reinforcement from home will help to make these habits stick.
4. Talk to your child about their Lenten commitments. What can you do to help them realize their goals?

One thing that doesn't change is God's unwavering love for us. He sent his only son to lead us and then die on the cross for us. May the eternal promise of God's commitment to you be welcome and rejuvenating this Easter as we go forth as the Kingdom of God on Earth. We are truly blessed to share this anchor of faith in our school.

Mrs. Kathy Jones-Husch

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



Growing in Faith

Last month, St. Patrick's students celebrated their student retreat, "Leap into Lent with Love," and the impact of this special day has continued to inspire us throughout our Lenten journey. Students began this transformative day by celebrating Mass at St. Martha's Church with Father William Monis before travelling to various locations or returning to school to engage in acts of service centered on almsgiving and spreading God's love throughout the community.

Grade 6 students spent quality time with the residents of Buffalo Grace Manor and then returned to school to organize the school's costume storage space. Students in Grades 1 and 5 collaborated with Ken Hakstol, a member of our local parish, to create care packages and lunches to be hand delivered to the homeless in the Lethbridge community. Along with these, they included uplifting messages of encouragement to remind those who are marginalized that they are seen and loved. Grades 2 and 3 listened to Napi stories about generosity from Traven Weasel Traveller, culminating in a school-wide bake sale that supported the Interfaith Food Bank, in total raising more than \$800. Additionally, they created cookie-grams to spread positivity and love throughout the school.

Meanwhile, Grade 4 students learned from DJ Bruised Head about stewardship and our responsibility to care for the land that sustains us. They then crafted crosses for the Hospital Chapel, offering symbols of prayer and support for those facing difficult times. This day of service to enter into the forty days of Lent was more than just acts of kindness; it was a powerful experience of faith formation, allowing students to live out the Gospel message in tangible ways. They gratefully heard from mentors living Jesus' calling to be stewards and to care for the sick and vulnerable. By offering their time, talents, and compassion, the students not only proclaimed the Good News, but also became instruments of hope to those in need. Through their acts of service, our students embodied the call to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world, demonstrating that when we serve others, we truly become the Body of Christ in action.

As we continue to walk this path of reflection, prayer, and service, may this season bring us closer to Christ and to one another.

Wishing you a blessed and meaningful Lent, filled with faith, hope, and love.

~ Carla Ferrari





School Council



Happy April SPFAE Families,

I hope your spring is off to a great start! It's hard to believe we're already into the final stretch of the school year!

School Council has some exciting things planned to make this month a memorable one and we'd love to have you join in the fun!

To start the month off we'd love to have you join our School Council meeting on April 2nd at 6:30PM. You can join us in person at the school or virtually at this link: [School Council Meeting](#)

These meetings are so important for our school community as we learn how we can best advocate for our staff and students.

Hot lunch is happening on Wednesday, April 9th from D-Spot. Unfortunately late orders can not be accepted. Watch for our next hot lunch in May from Opa! (Greek style food).

Our social committee is busy planning a Spring Dance on Friday, April 11th in the school gym. We'd love to have you join us for this fun evening! See the poster in this newsletter for more info.

Finally, we're busy planning our 'Night in Bloom' Gala Fundraiser set for Saturday, May 25! Save the date for this adults only event. Watch for ways to get involved and ticket details coming soon!

Enjoy this month and celebration of Easter with your friends and family!

~Catherine Furukawa
School Council Chair



Notices

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

- LVC & STARS Volleyball
- Lethbridge Cougars Basketball Club

PARENT COUNCIL SOCIAL COMMITTEE
WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO THE

neon

School Dance

FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2025

6:00PM - 8:00PM

ST. PATRICK FINE ARTS SCHOOL GYM



THE ENTIRE FAMILY IS WELCOME TO ATTEND
PARENTS PLEASE STAY TO HELP SUPERVISE THE KIDS

**WE WILL HAVE A CONCESSION WITH AN
OPTION TO BUY EXTRA TREATS**

WEAR YOUR BEST NEON OUTFIT

the **ADHD** **TOOLKIT**

HACKING ADHD MOTIVATION

Presentation to be held at St. Patrick Fine Arts Gym

Monday, May 5, 2025

7:00-8:30pm

PRESENTER:

KENDALL DELAMONT

Kendall holds a B.A. in Behavioural Sciences, a B.Ed. in Elementary Education, and is an ADHD Certified Educator. She was a classroom teacher for 8 years and worked with many students who had ADHD. She was diagnosed with ADHD at the age of 24. She lives in Calgary, Canada with her husband and two children.



WWW.THEADHDTOOLKIT.COM

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.*

*"Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O Lord!"*

- Psalm 25:7

St. Dominic Savio, April 2, 1842 (Feast Day: May 6)

April

Proclaim! Pilgrims of Hope



Domenico Savio was born into a large family in rural Italy in 1842, and from a young age was keenly interested in his Christian upbringing, attending Mass and receiving special permission to receive the Eucharist. He was a hard worker at school, and to continue his education at age ten, began walking about five kilometers each way to the school at Castelnuovo. It was here that he would eventually meet St. John Bosco, with whom he then returned to Turin. He resolved during this time to become a saint, and experimented with various penances that he thought would assist with this goal. John Bosco, upon hearing of this, forbade it and recommended that Dominic focus on his studies and duties, doing all to the best of his abilities, which led Dominic to say "I can't do big things but I want everything to be for the glory of God." He continued to work diligently at school, to pray frequently and fervently, and sought to be a good example to his classmates at all times.

In the spring of 1857, at the age of 14, Dominic became ill, passing in March. Don Bosco wrote a short biography of Dominic, which led to his increasing popularity despite his young age at death. Due to his heroic virtue, he was canonized in 1954, and until 2017 was the youngest non-martyr saint in the Catholic church. You can learn more about him by watching one of these short videos:

[Story of Saint Dominic Savio](#) (Saints and Angels) | [Saint Dominic Savio](#) (Stories of Saints) | [The Saints: Our Heavenly Friends](#) (Brother Francis FORMED)

The Apostles' Creed

"the holy catholic Church..."

The Nicene Creed uses here the words 'I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. These four marks are actually quite significant, and perhaps help us to understand this section more clearly. They are calls to action that animate our lives, not just a passive mention of the Church. Our word Church comes from the Greek word *kyriakon*, derived from *Kyrios* - 'something belonging to the Lord' or *ekklesia* - 'an assembly of people called forth.' After Vatican II, we often refer to the Church as the 'People of God.' That's all of us!

- **One** - we desire unity with one another, with our Catholic brethren, and with our Christian family. (CCC 813-818, 820, 866)
- **Holy** - we believe that the Church is the place where we find holiness - in the sacraments, in our liturgy, and so on. While the Church is not perfect, it is holy. God is the source of holiness; the Spirit unites us in holiness; Christ is the perfect model of holiness. (CCC 823-829, 867)

- **catholic** - small c catholic means universal - we embrace one another and make room for each other to belong. We accept the Great Commission to share the Gospel with those around us, in all times and places. (CCC 830-835, 868)
- **Apostolic** - we believe in the foundation set by the Apostles after Christ's death, the succession of the Popes, and the teaching authority of the Church. Apostle means 'one who is sent' - we are all sent to share the Good News. (CCC 857-865, 869)

So, we are called to belong, with one another, to the Lord, to follow the path set out by the apostles, to find our holiness in the Church, and to be one and universal in our outlook. 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.

"Proclaiming" In Our Schools

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

Inside the overall Jubilee year, there are a variety of specific celebrations that are occurring on the calendar. It is exciting this month that we have two celebrations that are specifically pertinent in our schools. From **April 25-27**, there will be a **jubilee of teenagers** that will culminate with the canonization of Blessed Carlo Acutis. This will be followed on **April 28-29** with the **jubilee of people with disabilities**. Given these two celebrations, it might be a good time this month to review [Christus Vivit](#) — Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation to and about young people, which was the response of the Holy Father to the 2018 Synod on "Young People, the Faith, and Vocational Discernment" which laid a new foundation for the Catholic Church's current work with youth and young adults. We have embedded this into this current faith plan, so some of it will likely sound familiar to you! In the upcoming Easter season, we might for instance revisit the message at the outset, which are words of great encouragement to us:

Christ is alive! He is our hope, and in a wonderful way he brings youth to our world, and everything he touches becomes young, new, full of life. The very first words, then, that I would like to say to every young Christian are these: Christ is alive and he wants you to be alive! He is in you, he is with you and he never abandons you. However far you may wander, he is always there, the Risen One. He calls you and he waits for you to return to him and start over again. When you feel you are growing old out of sorrow, resentment or fear, doubt or failure, he will always be there to restore your strength and your hope.



Pope's Prayer Intentions — For the use of the new technologies

Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.



Gospel Readings

April 6, 2025

5th Sunday in Lent

Gospel Reading: John 8:1-11

"Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." — John 8:7

How often do we find ourselves judging others or making critical comments about how other people act or what they look like? Does giving your opinion sometimes lead you into gossip? This is what happened to the people in Jesus' time when they found this woman committing a serious sin. They wanted to punish her. They felt justified shaming her in public and acting like they never did anything wrong. They did not want to admit they sometimes sin too. It was easier to find fault with someone else. Jesus reminded them, and us, that we should be careful of what we do with our opinions. Instead of criticizing others, we should look at ourselves and seek forgiveness for what we have done.

How can I love those around me, instead of judging?
How can I encourage others when I hear them being judged?

Prayer:

Dear Lord, it is easier to look at others' faults than our own. Please give us the grace to see our own weaknesses and ask forgiveness for them rather than judging others.



"For with the judgment you make you will be judged, and the measure you give will be the measure you get."

- Matthew 7:2

April 13, 2025

Palm/Passion Sunday

Gospel Reading: Luke 22:14-23:56

"Jesus cried out in a loud voice, 'Father, into Your hands I commend my spirit'; and when he said this he breathed his last." — Luke 23:46

After much pain, suffering, humiliation, and ridicule, Jesus turned over all that he had left to his heavenly Father. While our "sufferings" this Lent of fasting, almsgiving, and prayer cannot compare to the suffering of our Lord, we too are called to give all we have left to God. We are about to walk through Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection. Are you ready? What is left in your life that needs to be given to the Lord to allow you to fully celebrate Easter this year?

What are some things I can do this week to be quiet and spend time reflecting on all Jesus did for me?
Did I give my all to this Lenten season? What can I do this week to meet Jesus on his road to Calvary?

Prayer:

Dear Lord, please help me to surrender all that I am and to walk closely by your side through this very holy week in preparation for your resurrection.



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



[Home Page](#)

Gospel Readings

April 20, 2025

Easter Sunday

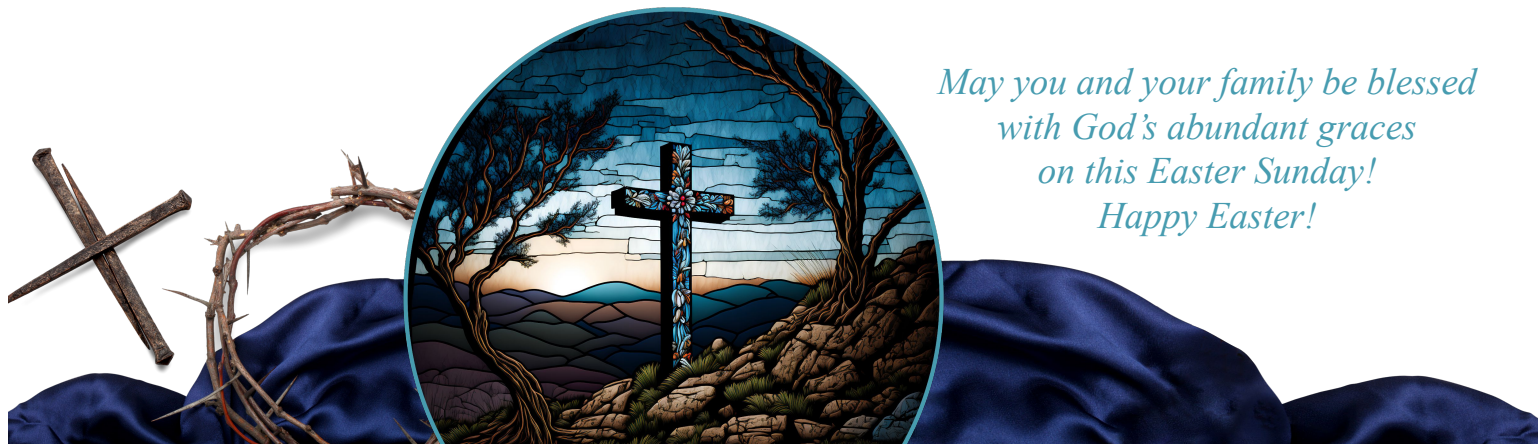


Gospel Reading: John 20:1-9

He is Risen! Alleluia!!!

When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered His head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place. Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed. —John 20:6-8

The Lord is risen! It is the miracle of all miracles! Jesus has overcome death! The disciples couldn't understand at first what had happened because no one had ever risen from the dead before, and we might not be able to understand it either. But the resurrection is a promise that our life doesn't end in death. There is something more waiting for us on the other side. Jesus has bought us eternal life! What an awesome God who always loves us! Thank you for such a gift, Lord! We praise You!



*May you and your family be blessed
with God's abundant graces
on this Easter Sunday!
Happy Easter!*

April 27, 2025

2nd Sunday of Easter/Divine Mercy Sunday

Gospel Reading: John 20:19-31

"On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." — John 20:19

A greeting of peace was not the first thing the disciples expected to hear from Jesus. "Where were you when I needed you?" "Why did you all run away?" "I'm disappointed in you." Those were the sort of things the disciples might have expected to hear. Instead, Jesus came in love. He wished them peace. He knew they were afraid and ashamed. But he proved that his death was all about forgiveness, even of their sins. It is the same for us. No matter what we have done, no matter how terrible we may think it is, Jesus comes to us with forgiveness, peace, and great love.

How do you think you would have felt if you were one of the disciples when Jesus appeared to them?
What are some things I can do to accept Jesus' love?

Prayer:

Dear Lord, thank you for the abundant love you give to me all the time, even when I don't feel worthy. Please help me to accept the forgiveness and peace you offer me.



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

CAMP COLUMBUS 2025

WATERTON LAKES NATIONAL PARK



BOYS CAMPS 2025

CAMP 1 (Age 8 to 10) July 6-11
CAMP 2 (Age 9 to 11) July 13-18
CAMP 3 (Age 12 to 14) July 20-25

GIRLS CAMPS 2025

CAMP 4 (Age 8 to 10) July 27 - Aug 1
CAMP 5 (Age 9 to 11) Aug 3-8
CAMP 6 (Age 10 to 12) Aug 10-15
CAMP 7 (Age 12 to 14) Aug 17-22

- **HIKING**
- **HORSEBACK RIDING**
- **CAMPFIRES**
- **SWIMMING**
- **CANOEING**
- **OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES**
- **SPORTS**
- **NATURE EDUCATION**
- **TEAMWORK SKILLS**
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“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!