

ST. PATRICK FINE ARTS SCHOOL - OCTOBER 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Sunday gospel readings listed below:	Catholic Education Week October 17th—23rd			1 Grade 5 to the Galt Museum School Council Meeting	2 Culture Celebration	3
4 <i>Matthew 21:33-43</i>	5 School Photos for Kindergarten and Division II K-M/W to the Early Learning Centre	6 	7 Thanksgiving Liturgy Grade 1 to Helen Schuler Nature Centre	8 Grade 4 to Children of St. Martha's PowWow K-T/Th to the Early Learning Centre	9 	10 Grade 6 Food Bank Drive until October 9th 
11 <i>Matthew 22:1-14</i>	12 Thanksgiving—school closed 	13 Professional Development Day — no school for students Oct 22 Pizza order opens on SchoolCash Online	14 Professional Development Day — no school for students 	15 D-Spot Hot Lunch	16	17
18 Oct 22 Pizza order closes <i>Matthew 22:15-21</i>	19 Alberta Referendum Polling Station (Gymnasium) Cuppers Coffee order opens	20 Photo Retakes	21 	22 Pizza Lunch Wear Blue for Catholic Education 	23 Volleyball Jamboree (info to follow)	24 Div II choir performance at Vox Musica concert
25 <i>Matthew 22:34-40</i>	26	27	28 Divisional Board Meeting	29 Nov 18 Hot Lunch order opens Gr. 4 Lethbridge Transit Presentation & Field Trip	30 Halloween Parade 	31 Halloween

ST. PATRICK FINE ARTS SCHOOL - NOVEMBER 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Sunday gospel readings listed below: <i>Matthew 5:1-12a</i>	2	3	4	5	6 Nov 18 Hot Lunch order closes	7
8 <i>Matthew 25:1-13</i>	9	10 Remembrance Day Assembly @ 10:40 	11 Remembrance Day — school closed 	12 Divisional Professional Development Day — no school for students Cuppers Coffee order closes	13 Professional Development Day — no school for students 	14
15 <i>Matthew 25:14-30</i>	16 Nov 26th pizza order opens	17 	18 Sports / Jersey Day K-M/W to Helen Schuler Nature Centre  Hot Lunch	19 K-T/Th to Helen Schuler Nature Centre Grades 1—6 School Interviews 4:30-7:30 pm	20 Volleyball Jamboree (info to follow)	21
22 <i>Luke 20:27-40</i>	23	24	25  Divisional Board Meeting	26 Pizza Lunch Grades 1—6 School Interviews 4:30-7:30 pm	27 Term 1 Report Cards Distributed 	28 Christmas Lunch order opens on Nov 27
29 <i>Luke 21:34-36</i>	30					



October 2026

ST. PATRICK FINE ARTS

LEARN ACTIVELY - GROW SPIRITUALLY - LIVE CREATIVELY

www.spfa.holyspirit.ab.ca 403.327.4386

Facebook/Instagram: @spfaschool #hs4

Christensen's Corner

I was at Costco last week and noticed shelves filled with Halloween decorations, costumes, toys and candy . . . lots of Costco sized candy. Halloween has grown into a major secular holiday in North America, much the same way Christmas has. As with Christmas, let us not forget the Christian Catholic origins and traditions of 'All Hallows Eve.' Hallow is the same word for 'holy' that we find in the Lord's Prayer, and e'en is a contraction for evening. Halloween is the eve, or vigil, before All Saints Day. All Saints Day is a Holy Day of obligation that celebrates all the saints, known and unknown. It is the day we are in communion with the saints. Halloween is a Christian celebration that is almost 1,300 years old. This holiday, properly understood and explained, can be celebrated with all of its fun of dressing up, carving pumpkins, and Trick or Treating. It can also be a way for us to deepen our understanding of our faith.

At St. Patrick Fine Arts we will be celebrating Halloween on Friday October 30. Students, staff and visitors will be dressing up. A costume parade, and assembly will be held in the morning followed by Halloween Parties in home rooms for students. During the month of October teachers will be teaching about Halloween or 'All Hallows Eve' and All Saints Day on November 1. The two days go hand in hand, one does not make sense without the other, similar to Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

In the end, it is a parental choice to participate or not. October 30 is a Friday (a short day) so please send your student to school dressed in their costume if they will be participating. Make Halloween a teaching moment; explain the Christian / Catholic origins of Halloween to your student / child. Tie the vigil, Halloween, to the Feast of All Saints, and explain to students why we celebrate this feast so that they won't view All Saints Day as "the boring day of obligation when we have to go to church before we can eat more candy."

Have a Blessed Halloween
Brent Christensen

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

Growing in Faith



Cupper's Coffee Fundraiser 2026

This year, we are called to share Christ's love through our faith plan: "Open Wide the Doors! Sent to Share Christ's Love." As we live out this mission through loving God, showing kindness, and drawing near to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we are excited to launch our annual **Cupper's Coffee Fundraiser** from **October 19 to November 12** with the theme: "**Brewed in Grace, Shared in Kindness - A Sacred Heart in Every Start.**"

This month, our students will be challenged to use their creative talents to design a label for the coffee that reflects these sacred values. Every bag of coffee purchased does more than start your morning; it puts our faith into action. All proceeds will go directly to **CCH's Santa's Anonymous**, bringing hope, joy, and Christ's love to families right here in our community. Stay tuned for ordering details through **School Cash Online**, and thank you for opening your doors and hearts in support!

Carla Ferrari
Associate Principal

Travelling Art Exhibitions

This is Home
October 8 – November 4, 2026

We make many different connections to objects, people and places as we grow up and these experiences mold us into the person we become. When visualizing the feeling of 'home' someone may produce in their mind an image of the area they were born, a house they were raised in, or a memory of their childhood.

Featuring artworks from the Alberta Foundation for the Arts Permanent Collection, *This is Home* presents a variety of visual narrations of what the artist experienced in their home life.

Organized by The Alberta Foundation for the Arts and the Travelling Exhibition program (Trex)



Food Drive

Grade 6's are hosting a Food Drive from **September 28th to October 9th**. Please consider sending in donations for our community. Thank you in advance



General Information

Knights of Columbus Coats 4 Kids Campaign

Dear Families,

The Knights of Columbus of St. Martha's Parish are striving to help children by collecting and then donating gently used winter coats to elementary and junior high students at our 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 to the school and place in box marked K of C Coats 4 Kids Campaign.

Additionally, please also feel free to purchase new coats when you buy a coat for your own child. The collection of coats will happen until the October 20th – distribution to 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



Terry Fox Run Update

The Annual Terry Fox Run was held at school on a spectacular September morning! Students headed out with their colour teams to run/walk around William Pearce Park. Thank you to all who donated for such a worthy cause and kept this tradition alive in our school with over **\$500** donated! Many thanks as well to family members who volunteered!



Food Bank Drive

Grade 6 students are hosting a Food Bank Drive until October 9th. Please consider donating any non-perishable items during this time. Let's try for as much weight in donations as possible. If you would like to make a monetary donation to the Interfaith Food Bank instead, that would be great! Visit their site at <https://interfaithfoodbank.ca/>

Notices



Please visit the school website for any Community Notices under School / Newsletters / Community Notices.

This month's postings include:

- University of Lethbridge Conservatory of Music - Group Violin Lesson

School Council Update



Hello Fall!

Fall has come in fast; the leaves have changed and the wind is blowing them into beautiful piles for us to enjoy! A time of hot chocolatey mornings, and toasty marshmallow evenings are upon us!

Get Involved in School Council.

- Our next meeting is October 1 at 7PM
- Upcoming meetings: November 5, December 3 (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, create Hot Lunch programs. Together we ensure all students have a memorable school year.

Looking Ahead Social/Wellness committee:

- Movie Night October 23 @ 6PM
- Hot Lunch committee: All hot lunch options will be available for purchase on School Cash Online.
- Fall Fundraiser: Bacon by the Box is Back! Order on School Cash Online. Nov 2–Nov 30

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.

★ ★ ★
SPFA'S PARENT COUNCIL
INVITES YOU TO

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

FREE POPCORN!

Come in PJ's,
bring a blanket and
some water.
Enjoy the free
popcorn and the
movie!

Everyone is welcome. We
ask parents to stay and
help supervise your child.

OCTOBER 23RD - 6PM

In the school gym



Saint of the Month – St. Frances de Sales

St. Francis de Sales

1567-1622 (Feast Day: January 24)



St. Francis de Sales was born in France in 1567. From a young age, he wanted to know God and live a life of faith. His family expected him to have an important career, but Francis felt called to become a priest and serve God.

Francis became known for his kindness, patience, and gentle way of teaching others about Jesus. He believed that everyone was called to grow closer to God — not only priests and religious people, but everyone. He encouraged people to make their faith part of their everyday lives.

Francis also had a great love for prayer. He taught that when we pray, we should pay attention to God and open our hearts to Him. He encouraged people to approach God with trust rather than fear.

St. Francis de Sales and Entering Into Worship

St. Francis de Sales reminds us that when we enter into prayer and worship, we should slow down, become attentive, and open our hearts to God. Just as he encouraged people to find God in their everyday lives, we can begin each Mass by remembering that we are entering into God's presence.



Faith Formation – Family Learning

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

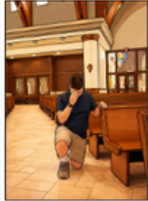
Going to Mass is a special visit with God where we talk, sing, and share our hearts with Him.



Getting Ready to See God

Choosing to go: Deciding ahead of time that you want to spend time with God.

Thinking of what to say: Remembering things you are thankful for, worries you have, or when you need help.



Entering the church: Touching the Holy Water and bowing (genuflecting) to show respect in God's house.

A Happy Walk and Song (Procession)

The priest and the altar servers walk down the middle aisle toward the altar.



Singing a welcome song: Everyone sings a joyful song to show our love for God and get excited for the visit.



Saying Hello with the Cross

Tracing the cross: You use your hand to make the shape of a cross on your head, chest, and shoulders. It reminds you that God is right there with you.

I confess to almighty God
and to you,
my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my
words,
in what I have done and in
what I have failed to do,
through my fault,
through my fault,
through my most grievous
fault;
therefore I ask blessed
Mary ever-Virgin...

Saying Sorry (Penitential Act)

Admitting mistakes: Everyone says they are sorry for times they did not love God or others. We say this together to remember that everyone makes mistakes and needs God's gentle help.

Singing Praise (Gloria)

A loud happy song: We join the song of the angels, singing big and loud to tell God how wonderful He is.



Gathering Prayers (Collect)

The priest's prayer: The priest gathers up all the little prayers from everyone in the room into one big prayer to God.

St. Francis de Sales Prayer

A Simple Prayer for Peace. Inspired by St. Francis de Sales

God, help me to be at peace.
Help me not to be afraid of what might happen tomorrow.
When things change, help me to trust You.

You have cared for me in the past,
and I know You will care for me today and tomorrow.
When life is difficult,
give me the strength I need to keep going.

When I am worried,
help me remember that I am never alone.
Hold me close in Your loving arms and help me to trust You.

God, You are my loving Father.
Help me to let go of my fears
and place my worries in Your hands.

Help me to be still, to trust You,
and to live in Your peace. Amen.

St. Francis de Sales — Pray for us!

I'tamoh'kani'pyotsii | A Joyful Gathering of Song



Featuring Cree-Dene
Composer and Guest
Conductor
Sherryl Sewepagaham

Tickets

Online, at CASA,
or at the door
Adults \$25, Students \$15
Children under 12 free

VOX MUSICA
Choral Society
Joanne Collier, Music Director

**Saturday, October 24, 2026
2:30 PM
Southminster United Church**

Participating Choirs:

- Vox Musica
 - Alegré Choir
 - U of L Singers
 - LCI Chamber Choir
 - Ventus Women's Choir
 - Chinook HS Concert Choir
 - St. Patrick's Elementary Choir
- and special guests:
Kainai Grassland Singers



Alberta
Foundation
for the Arts





Holy Spirit
CATHOLIC SCHOOL DIVISION

Piitawaani

Traditional Powwow

Thursday, October 8th

5:00pm-7:00pm

Grand Entry at 5:00pm

Children of St. Martha School

206 McMaster Blvd. W.

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

Please bring lawnchairs or blankets.

Everyone welcome!



Dancer Registration Form



Fair Notice Letter

Dear Parents / Guardians,

The Holy Spirit Catholic School Division is committed to providing safe learning environments for all students, staff, school visitors and community members. When a student behaves inappropriately, principals use progressive discipline to help a student take responsibility for their actions, change their behavior and learn from their mistakes.

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

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

The Southwest Alberta Regional VTRA Protocol outlines how a school should respond immediately to threatening behavior. Principals may first assemble a School Threat Assessment Team, ideally comprising the principal or associate principal, a school-based counselor or jurisdictional lead, and local police. If the situation is serious, the principal may also consult the Superintendent of Schools and involve members of the Community Threat Assessment Team. This team may include representatives from local police, children's mental health organizations, or Child and Family Services, among other community agencies that collaborate with us to enhance school safety. Parents/guardians will be notified as soon as possible during the Stage 1 - VTRA Process. If parents/guardians cannot be reached, but a safety concern persists, the threat assessment may proceed. Personal information shared during this process will respect and balance each individual's right to privacy with the need to ensure everyone's safety.

This letter complies with procedure 2 of *Administrative Procedure 322: Violence Threat / Risk Assessment (V-TRA) Protocol*, which states that parents/ guardians will be provided with "fair notice" that each threat will be taken seriously. Should you wish to further review this Administrative Procedure, please visit our website at www.holyspirit.ab.ca.

If you have any questions regarding the Holy Spirit Catholic School Division's use of the Southwest Alberta Regional V-TRA Protocol, please contact the Director of Support Services at the St. Basil Catholic Education Centre. We appreciate your support in ensuring our schools are safe environments for our students, staff and community partners.

Sincerely,

Chantel Axani, Superintendent of Schools

Updated August 2026



Notice to Parent or Guardian of Religious Permeation

Section 58.1 of the *Education Act* requires a school board to give notice to a parent or guardian when courses of study, education programs, institutional materials, instruction or exercises include subject matter that deals primarily and explicitly with religion. All of the schools in this division are Catholic Separate Schools, the essential purpose of which is to fully permeate Catholic theology, philosophy, practices and beliefs, the principles of the Gospel and teachings of the Catholic Church, in all aspects of school life, including in the curriculum of every subject taught, both in and outside of formal religion classes, celebrations and exercises. Every course of study and educational program, all institutional materials, instruction and exercises will at all times include subject matter that deals primarily and explicitly with religion.

Candlelit **FAMILY ADORATION**



**THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH
HOSTED AT ASSUMPTION CHURCH
7:15 - 8:00PM (AFTER THE 6PM MASS)**



**LETHBRIDGE FAMILY LIFE
MANY CHURCHES ONE FAMILY**

All Saints 
Roman Catholic Parish

LETHBRIDGE FAMILY LIFE
MANY CHURCHES ONE FAMILY

SATURDAY OCT 17TH

SPAGHETTI DINNER

All Saints
Roman Catholic Parish



**6:00 PM-
8:00 PM**

**HOSTED AT
ASSUMPTION HALL**



Join Us For
Food & Fun

All are welcome. All are wanted.
Come Hungry, Leave Full!



LETHBRIDGE FAMILY LIFE
MANY CHURCHES **ONE** FAMILY

PUMPKIN *Family Event* **CARVING**

**ALL
FAMILIES
welcome**



**BRING YOUR OWN PUMPKIN
OR CARVE ONE OF THE ONES WE HAVE**

**HOSTED AT
ASSUMPTION HALL**

2405 12 Ave S, Lethbridge

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

OCTOBER 24TH



All Saints
Roman Catholic Parish

**LETHBRIDGE FAMILY LIFE
MANY CHURCHES ONE FAMILY**

SAINTS & ANGELS

- PARTY -
OCTOBER 31ST
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
HOSTED AT: ASSUMPTION HALL

COME JOIN US FOR:

**GAMES, CANDY, HOT DOGS,
SAINT COSTUME CONTEST**

