

OVERVIEW

The Red Deer Regional Catholic Education Foundation is pleased to announce funding for the 2019-2020 school year. The Foundation will fund 16 school-based projects (\$42,000), three division-wide projects (\$7,500) and one alumni scholarship (\$500) for a total of \$50,000. In addition to funding these projects, the Foundation will award \$2500 in scholarships to five students during the fall of 2019.

SCHOOL BASED PROJECTS

1. Holy Family School – FacetoFace Ministries

FacetoFace Ministries will lead a one-day retreat split into various grade groups so students can experience their faith through music, keynote talks, activities, dance, play and prayer. This initiative has been allocated \$1,350.

2. Holy Trinity Catholic School – Religion Resources

Each school classroom will be given a set of YouCat/DoCat books to assist students in growing their faith. The hope is that by having easy access to books and study guides, students will explore their understanding of social justice more independently and frequently. This project was given \$600.

3. Maryview School – Faith-based Presentations & Retreats

Grade 4-5 students will have the opportunity to experience a one-day faith retreat filled with various activities including crafts, bible study, singing and faith-based games. The school community will also host a theatre production company that will help all students on their personal faith journey. This project was given \$3,500.

4. Maryview School – Feeling the Faith

The Learning Commons will be given a variety of resources to help students deepen their knowledge of the Catholic faith. These resources include books, audio books, games, puzzles, toys, technology, and other manipulatives. This initiative has been allocated \$3,000.

5. St. Elizabeth Seton School – School Faith Retreat

Students in Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 5 will participate in a on-day retreat with FacetoFace Ministries. Students will learn about living and proclaiming their faith. This initiative has been given \$1,350.

6. St. Francis of Assisi Middle School – Faith Formation

All students will have the opportunity to join the Alpha Youth Program, which is a 13-session program running twice per month, and aims to educate and inspire today's youth. Students will be encouraged to grow in their faith throughout the school year through a number of faith-filled initiatives. The school has been allocated \$4,000 towards these projects.

7. St. Francis of Assisi Middle School – Way of the Wolf

This is a positive recognition program, previously named Growing in Respect and Responsibility. This new program will be centred around the values the school calls the four pillars: be humble, be loving, be forgiving, be joyful. Leadership students will help facilitate the recognition of acts of kindness. This project has been given \$3,000.

8. St. Gregory the Great Catholic School – Pure Witness Ministries

The school community will host Pure Witness Ministries over a two-day retreat. The intent is for students to develop and grow their foundational relationship with God. This initiative has been given \$3,200.

9. St. Marguerite Bourgeoys Catholic School – Faith Retreats

The school will host FacetoFace Ministries and offer students a faith-filled day full of music, worship and praise. This initiative has been allocated \$2,000.

10. St. Marguerite Bourgeoys Catholic School – Mass Kit

The school community will benefit from its own Mass Kit with legitimate ceremonial Chalices, Ciboriums, Cruets, etc. The school currently hosts 10 masses a year but does not have its own kit, and instead, shares with the local parish. The new mass kit will help students develop a greater understanding and appreciation of mass. This initiative has been given \$3,500.

11. St. Patrick's Community School – Faith Retreats

Students in Kindergarten to Grade 9 will engage in active and meaningful examination of their faith through story, games, music, movement, reflection, and prayer. The retreats will be split into two, one for elementary students, and one for middle school students. This initiative has been allocated \$4,400.

12. St. Teresa of Avila School – Health Champion Retreat & School-wide Activities

Leadership Club students known as Health Champions, will grow in their faith at a retreat at Sacred Heart Parish. These students will become school-wide faith-filled leaders that will model, encourage and promote mental/physical/emotional health. The school community will benefit from their leadership and various activities throughout the school year. This project has been allocated \$900.

13. St. Teresa of Avila School - Kind Kids Club

The Kind Kids Club is made up of Grade 4-5 students that have expressed an interest in becoming a leader within the school. In response to high demand, the school has developed a Kind Kids Junior Club for Grade 1-3 students. These clubs will meet regularly to discuss and create activities to promote faith, kindness, acceptance and positive mental health in the school community. This initiative has been given \$750.

14. St. Teresa of Avila School – Outdoor Adventure Club

The Outdoor Adventure Club is a group of targeted, at-risk students that participate in a variety of outdoor activities they otherwise wouldn't have the opportunity to experience. The Club encourages students to gain an appreciation of God's creations in a faith-filled, natural setting. This project has been given \$1,950.

15. St. Thomas Aquinas Middle School – Faith Retreats

Students will have the opportunity to participate in grade-specific faith retreats where they will learn about living and proclaiming their faith. This project has been allocated \$6,000.

16. École Secondaire Notre Dame High School – Sea-can Conservation Project

Students in the Career and Technology Services program will have an opportunity to transform a sea-can into a tiny home. This project facilitates cross-curricular and inquiry-based learning to students and has been allocated \$2,500.

DIVISION-WIDE INITIATIVES

1. Middle School Faith Week

Grade 6-9 students will have the opportunity to watch and learn from singer, songwriter and storyteller, Steve Angrisano. The division's youth ministry team will travel with Steve to all middle schools so students can build their spirituality in their own community setting. This initiative has been allocated \$4,000.

2. Go Girls 2020

Go Girls is a one-day event that promotes health and wellness to all Grade 5 girls in Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools and Red Deer Public Schools. This event focuses on physical activity, healthy eating and mental wellness. Students benefit by gaining new skills and knowledge, while building new friendships. This initiative has been given \$1,500.

3. Grow Boys 2020

Grow Boys is a full day leadership conference for Grade 5 boys in Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools and Red Deer Public Schools. This event includes sessions on physical activity, mental health/wellness, trades and technology. Students benefit from learning new skills and are exposed to positive role models throughout the day. This initiative has been allocated \$2,000.

ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP

1. Emily Downey

Emily graduated from École Secondaire Notre Dame High School in 2017 and is currently an undergraduate of the Bachelor of Health Sciences at the University of Calgary. In June 2019, Emily will depart with the Cumming School of Medicine's Global Health Team and head to Mbarara, Uganda to gain hands-on experience orientated around community development and health promotion in low-middle income countries. This field school is in partnership with the University of Calgary, Mbarara University of Science and Technology and Healthy Child Uganda.

Through this endeavour Emily will experience the importance of putting faith into action. She is dedicated to helping build capacity and foster community development through embodying the eight characteristics of Catholic identity.
