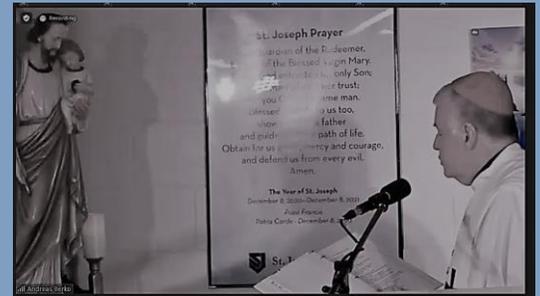


Alberta's Catholic Schools: Consecrated to St Joseph

On World Catholic Education Day, May 13, 2021, Bishop William McGrattan, Bishop of the Diocese of Calgary consecrated Alberta's Catholic Schools to St. Joseph. With 1000 faithful logged on to zoom, Bishop McGrattan offered our schools to the fatherly care of St Joseph and asked him to "lead us on the path of holiness."



A Consecration to Saint Joseph.

By entrusting ourselves completely to the fatherly care and powerful intercession of the Church's patron saint, we are beseeching his help in living out those same virtues he did and so grow in the likeness of Christ evermore. We consecrate our lives and all those dear to us to him as to a spiritual father who shows us the Fatherhood of God Himself and we place ourselves in his loving care so as to better witness our faith and live lives pleasing to God and in service to our sisters and brothers.

With the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the proclamation of St Joseph as Patron Saint of the Universal Church, Pope Francis has invited the People of God to undertake the interior path of the carpenter of Nazareth so as to "increase our love for this great saint and to encourage us to implore his intercession and to imitate his virtues and his zeal."

Taken from:

[Celebrating the Year of Saint Joseph - Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops \(ccb.ca\)](http://www.cccb.ca)



Why a Consecration?

Consecration is setting oneself apart to be of greater service. We draw closer to God by praying to him and by being of service to our neighbour. The act of consecration inspires prayer and specifies those gestures that build up Christ's Kingdom. Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Guardian of the Redeemer, Patron of the Church, of workers and of a good death assists us in drawing closer to the Lord and deepens our Christian commitment. We can give ourselves to Jesus more wholly and deeply through Mary and Joseph.

***St. Joseph, Patron Saint of the Universal Church,
pray for us.***

Celebrating schools named for St Joseph in Alberta and the Northwest Territories

In this May issue, we introduce you to the St. Joseph Schools in:

- † Brooks, Christ the Redeemer Catholic Schools
- † Spruce Grove, Evergreen Catholic Schools
- † Lloydminster Catholic Schools
- † Yellowknife Catholic Schools
- † Edmonton Catholic Schools



St Joseph's Collegiate, Brooks

St. Joseph's Collegiate is located in Brooks, Alberta. Opened in 1999, St Joseph's Collegiate serves approximately 400 students in grades 9 to 12. Our school is "a community, rooted in faith, seeking excellence for all". This is our vision statement and something that we work to be every day. We are a school that lives out our touchstone and pillars - EXemplify Christ, EXceed Our Potential, EXtend a Hand of Friendship, and EXpect Respect.

We are so proud to be in a school where we can not only talk about our faith, but also grow in our faith. The diversity of our school allows us to learn from each other, understand each other, and build a culture of "many and one" where we celebrate both our diversity and the things that unify us. We are so proud of the leadership capacity on our staff and in our student body and the work we do to be a school that has excellent academics, authentic faith, and a safe and caring environment.



GrACE Top Toolkit Tips

1. Share the GrACE newsletter widely; with family, friends and fellow advocates
2. Thank a teacher...this year especially.
3. Ensure that Catholic Education intentions are prayed in your parish and school

St. Joseph Catholic School in Spruce Grove

St. Joseph Catholic School is located in the community of Westgrove in the City of Spruce Grove. St. Joseph was the first Catholic school in Spruce Grove. When the school began in the fall of 1979, the staff and students of St. Joseph were housed at St. Angela Catholic School in Edmonton as construction on the building was not quite completed. The building officially opened in January 1980. The original staff of 11 and approximately 190 students grew quickly that first year. When the next school year began, the school had a staff of 20 and almost 300 students! The families of St. Joseph Catholic Parish in Spruce Grove were delighted to finally have a local Catholic school which could grow alongside their growing community. One staff member from those early years noted that St. Joseph was a wonderful place for her to start her career. What impressed upon her most was the big family they became. She remembers many staff members coming to school early so they could visit in the staff room before the day's lessons began.

By the fall of 1983, St. Joseph Catholic School had reached its capacity. Each year had added another grade and now it was time to move the grade 7 to grade 10 students to a new school. Thus, St. Marguerite Catholic School opened in 1984, returning St. Joseph to a K-6 school. St. Joseph went through another transition in 1992 as growing numbers in all grade levels meant 20 large homerooms from K-6. In the fall of 1992, St. Thomas Aquinas High School opened to serve grade 10 to 12 students. This made room for the grade 5 and 6 students from St. Joseph, making St. Marguerite officially a middle school. Since this transition in 1992, St. Joseph Catholic School has continued to serve students from kindergarten to grade 4.

Presently, St. Joseph Catholic School is bustling with 432 students and 39 staff members. Just as St. Joseph was an important strength and foundation for the Holy Family, our St. Joseph Catholic School is the patriarch for the family of Catholic schools in Spruce Grove which now includes St. Marguerite, St. Thomas Aquinas, and St. Peter the Apostle. St. Joseph Catholic School was the beginning of a journey of faith and hope for the Catholic community in Spruce Grove that continues today.



[Why we love our St Joseph School](#)



Grandin Media | Alberta Catholic News

5,058 Tweets

Following

Grandin Media | Alberta Catholic News Retweeted

Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton @archedmonton · May 13

On this #WorldCatholicEducationDay, we tell a story of a first year teacher during the pandemic.



Being a First Year Catholic Teacher in the Pandemic
Grandin Media is a Catholic online news portal based in Edmonton.
Through the use of creative journalism, quality photography and ...
[youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)

Prayers of the Faithful for June 2021

For Catholic Education:

- † That our Catholic schools may reveal the glory of God in all that they do, we pray to the Lord.
- † That the teachers in our Catholic schools may be strengthened for their important task in our world, we pray to the Lord.
- † That our Catholic schools may celebrate the richness of the Catholic faith that we have inherited, we pray to the Lord.
- † That our Catholic schools may inspire students to a life of

St Joseph's School, Lloydminster Catholic Schools

Our school is located in Lloydminster, Alberta. St Joseph's School opened in 1982 and hosts 303 students from Little Learners to Grade 7. We are a tight-knit school family at St. Joseph. We love to celebrate our faith through prayer services, masses, assemblies, and promote Christian values. Each day we start our day with an Our Father followed by St. Joseph, Pray for us. We love to get together for buddy activities, exploratory events, and virtual events such as assemblies, mass, prayer services. We welcome each student by name when they enter our school to show them we care.

Our vision statement really sums us up. *At St. Joseph School, we strive to create a welcoming, caring, and Catholic school environment in order to cultivate in each student a positive self-image, respect for others, and nurture a love for learning.*

Over the past 5 years our school community with our SCC have been working on an outdoor classroom. Our future plans include a rock inscribed with St. Joseph...Pray for us. As well we have lined our pathways with rocks. We plan on painting the rocks to reflect the rosary and in a future year host a living rosary in our outdoor classroom.



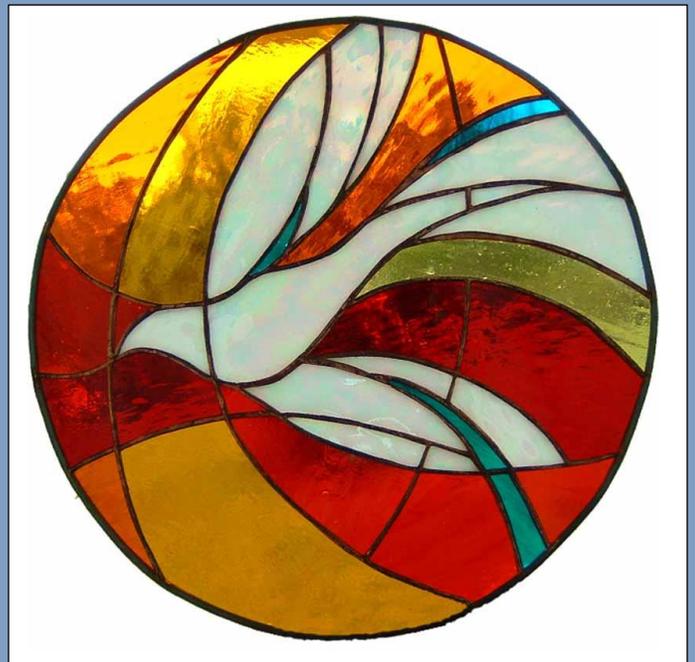
Stories of Catholic Education

In recognition of Catholic Education Week, Calgary Diocese' **Faithfully** published three stories of Catholic Education. We thank them for their support and extend our deep appreciation to those who have submitted Catholic Education stories.

[John deJong- Trustee](#)

[Olivia Liboiron- Teacher](#)

[Cherie Phinney- Chaplain](#)





École St. Joseph School , Yellowknife, NT, is a dual track school offering English and French Immersion programming from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 7. We have 625 students and 70 staff. Opened and blessed in 1978, we are the largest elementary school in the Northwest Territories.

As a Catholic school, everything we do is guided by our faith. Daily prayers, monthly liturgies and service projects enhance our Religious Education Programme. Please visit our website and like us on Facebook ! [Facebook](#)

We are a diverse school celebrating many cultures. We place a major emphasis on Indigenous Education. Our students attend Culture Camp, led by Elders. We use Wiilideh Yeti as often as possible and have a daily focus on the Dene Laws.



Catholic board unveils new look May 13

The Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education is updating its look with a new logo. Emphasizing the combination of faith, families and staff, the new brand shows how the school division supports students with quality education as its foundation. "Our logo is the most visible representation of our division," said MHCBE superintendent Dwayne Zarichny. "I am incredibly proud of our new logo as it captures the essence of who we are and what we believe is most important."

Unveiling the logo on May 13 is important because it coincides with World Catholic Education Day. The main colour of the division — blue — symbolizes Catholic education in Alberta. One modern feature of the design is that the secondary logo colour can change based on the liturgical calendar. In ordinary time that means green, but versions of the logo will also show purple and gold. Green represents hope and life. Purple is used during Advent and Lent, and describes times of preparation, penance and sacrifice. Gold is used during Christmas and Easter and symbolizes glory, joy, innocence and purity of soul.

"Our new logo tells our story. It exemplifies our mission and vision and what we hold most sacred." said Zarichny.

St. Joseph Catholic High School
Edmonton Catholic Schools

[Video Tour](#)



We are in the heart of downtown Edmonton at 10830 – 109 Street. We currently have 980 students but have a projected enrollment of 1300+ for the 2021-2022 school year.

Our school opened in 1930. We celebrated our 90th anniversary! Our school was originally a school for girls – St. Mary's, and a school for boys – St. Joseph. Both opened in 1930. St. Mary's became part of St. Joseph in 1953. During WWII, 500 students and staff went to war. Sadly, 50 did not return. We hold the largest Remembrance Day Observance in all of Edmonton Catholic Schools.

Our school is a school for everyone, offering a wide variety of programming for students of all abilities. Our Guided Customized Learning (GCL) program is designed to help students become self-directed learners upon graduation. We are part of the Canadian Coalition of Self-Directed Learning schools (CCSDL). There are six high schools in the coalition and St. Joseph is the only one in Edmonton. Counted among our Blue & White Alumni are judges, lawyers, doctors, teachers, elite athletes, and red seal journeyman. We are proud to be the oldest Catholic High School in Edmonton. Celebrating many traditions started by our alumni years ago.



faith

The mission of GrACE is to
inspire,
invigorate and
embolden

the *spirit* of Catholic education
in order to **unite, engage,**
educate and **communicate**
with one voice on its behalf.

Thank you for being an advocate for Catholic Education. Please follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

GrACE Facebook address is

www.facebook.com/GrACE4cathed

Grace email is gracedirector7@gmail.com

GrACE Twitter address is [@GrACE4cathed](https://twitter.com/GrACE4cathed)

Watch for it....

The GrACE website is under construction.
Special thanks to CCSSA for hosting.
Details to come!



Celebrating Catholic Education Week
MARK FIVE: COMMUNITY



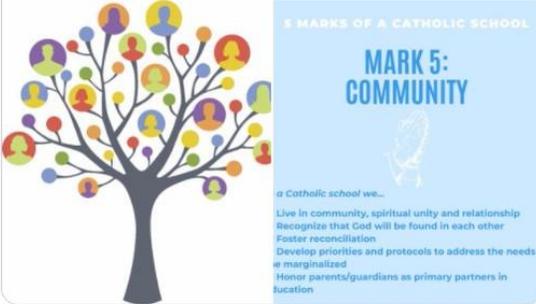
Loving God, You are present to us whenever we gather as a community of faith. We pray that our schools will be a bit of heaven where everyone feels accepted, loved, safe, and cared for. Help our schools and our local communities be places of faith so that we can help others believe in You. Fill us with Your Spirit so that as one Body of Christ, we may reflect Your light and love each other and the whole world. We ask this of Jesus, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

#iBelieveinCatholicEd

Bishop O'Byrne High School @BOB_CCSD · May 14

We pray that our Catholic schools may be blessed with courage and energy to continue to live out their invaluable role in our society.

Thank you for celebrating #catholiceducationweek with us!



GrACE @GrACE4cathed · May 14

#iBelieveinCatholicEd

St. Bede Elem YYC @StBedeCCSD · May 14

United by our faith and our outstanding teachers, we celebrated Catholic Education Week 2021

@calgarydiocese @CCSD_edu @GrACE4cathed

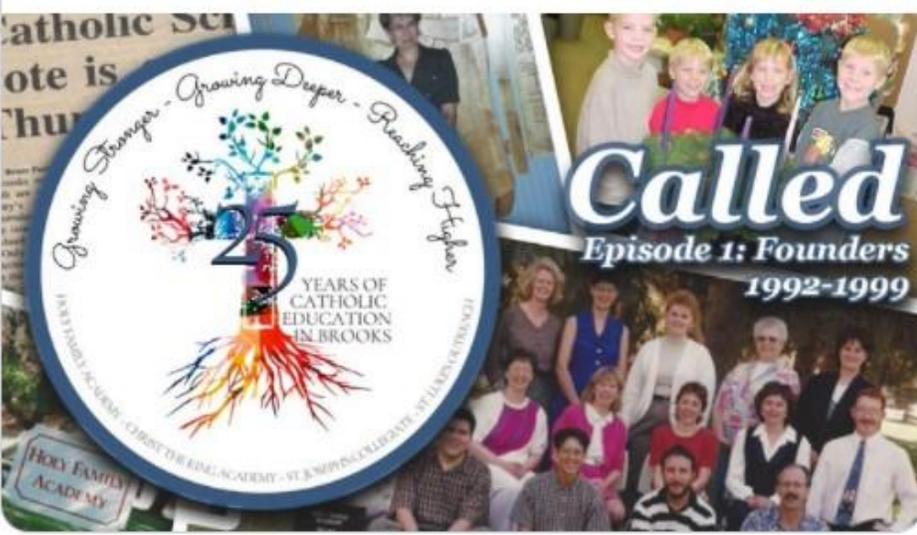


Celebrating Catholic Education Week across Alberta

GrACE @GrACE4cathed · May 14

Brooks' Catholic Schools and CTR Catholic are proud to share Episode 1 of their four part series on 25 Years of Catholic Education in Brooks. We are Growing Stronger, Growing Deeper, Reaching Higher as we celebrate this milestone.

youtu.be/b5_3YYh0bJA



ESM @ESMhs4 · May 14

Day 5, Mark 5: Shaped by a Spirituality of Communion.

#iBelieveinCatholicEd

#hs4 #begrateful #begracious



OLW Chestermere @OLWChestermere · May 14

Today is the final day of Catholic Education Week. We are focusing on Mark #5 - Community. Parents, students and staff are invited to join Bishop McGrattan's liturgy of the word this morning from 11-11:30 a.m.

Zoom link - [zoom.us/j/99274799089?...](https://zoom.us/j/99274799089?) @GrACE4cathed

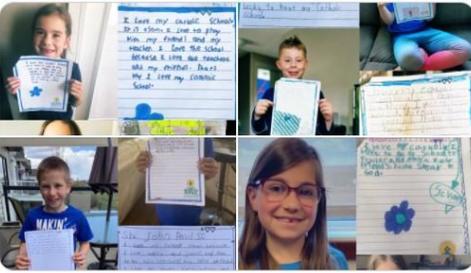


St. JP II Catholic @STJPIICATHOLIC · May 14

Why we love our Catholic school!

#eccsdLOVE

#iBelieveinCatholicEd




Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.

Isaiah 40:31

ESM @ESMhs4 · May 14

Day 5, Mark 5: Shaped by a Spirituality of Communion.

#IBelieveinCatholicEd

#hs4 #begrateful #begracious



St. JPII Catholic @STJPIICATHOLIC · May 13

It's a wave of blue for #WorldCatholicEducationDay

#IBelieveinCatholicEd

@GrACE4cathed

#ecssdLOVE



FrancoSud @CSFrancoSud · May 13

† SEMAINE DE L'ÉDUCATION CATHOLIQUE 2021 †

Merci à Monseigneur Noël de la Paroisse Sainte-Famille de Calgary pour sa présentation à nos finissants au sujet de la justice sociale.

#franco #IBelieveinCatholicEd #JeCroisEnl'ÉducationCatholique

@ACSTANews @GrACE4cathed



Chelsea Marshall @CMar325 · May 11

Catholic Ed Week Continued. 🌟 Mark 2 - Catholic World View.

Highlights for me have centered around singing faith-filled music in gyms filled with kids, parents, staff and clergy. The richness of scripture, prayer and liturgy is palpable and life-giving. 🙌🙏 #IBelieveinCatholicEd



Saint John XXIII CS @StJohnXXIII

Today is World Catholic Education Day! ❤️ Please join us in wearing blue to show your support. We are so grateful to learn and grow in our faith every day!

#IBelieveinCatholicEd #BlueforCatholicEd #choosejoy @EICSCatholic @GrACE4cathed



Fort McMurray Catholic Schools is at SMS Equipment Stadium.

May 12 at 10:18 PM · Fort McMurray · 🌐

Thank you to Shell Place at MacDonald Island for lighting up their canopy blue for World Catholic Education Day!

#WeAreFMCS

Grace: Grateful Advocates for Catholic Education



ACSTA @ACSTANews · May 13

Our #worldcatholiceducationday Liturgy was offered by Bishop Paul Terrio

of the Diocese of St. Paul, Alberta. #IBelieveinCatholicEd

Thank you to all who participated! @MHCatholic @CCSD_edu

@GrACE4cathed



Grace: Grateful Advocates for Catholic Education

May 14 at 11:14 AM · 🌐

#IBelieveinCatholicEd

Thank you for continuing to share your support for Catholic education! Your WITNESS is powerful!! 🙌🙏

