



Newsletter #7

February 26, 2020

Principal's Message

Dear Parents/ Guardians and Students,

As February ends, the Lenten season begins. Lent is a solemn time when we prepare our hearts and minds for the joys of Easter. Lent lasts for forty days and it is used as a time to reflect, renew and reach out. These three elements of Lent are intended for us to have a heightened sense of awareness and gratitude for the blessings in our lives. The 40 days of Lent is also a call for consistent participation in practices that will improve our spiritual well-being by becoming more focused on how God is working in our lives. It is a time to challenge ourselves with taking something on- 40 days of letting the important people in our lives know how much they mean to us, 40 acts of kindness or 40 phone calls or texts to tell others that we care about them. Our faith plan encourages all of us to be mindful and prayerful, so maybe this Lent challenge yourself to see God in everything around us, to pray and to listen.

Wishing you a blessed Lent,

Tina Delinte
Principal

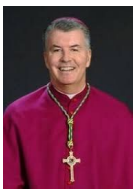


5 things we're smiling about this month:



1

We were thrilled to have Bishop McGrattan stop in and visit us!



2

We had successful Dragon Days with our junior high students experiencing many new and creative activities.



3

Staff and students are back to school this week after Family Week Break!



4

Our mini-basketballers have their first tournament this Friday in Fort Macleod!



5

PSII student teachers from the University of Lethbridge will be starting on Monday, March 2.



FAITH FOCUS:

3-Year Faith Plan – “Making Our Mark: Journey of an Intentional Disciple”

2019-2020 Theme – Beginning the Journey
Calls to Action – Be mindful of God’s presence... Be prayerful...



Things to Know:

1. Student Retreat Days @ SMPC:

- **Face2Face**
 - Thursday, May 14, 2020 – ALL DAY (K to 6)
- **NET**
 - Wednesday, March 18, 2020 – ALL DAY (JH & SH)
 - Wednesday, March 18, 2020- Grad Retreat (pm)

2. Faith Formation - Understanding the Mass: Introductory Rites

- *Learning about “why we do what we do” at mass:*

○ [Introductory Rites Video Click Here](#)

QUESTIONS ANSWERED: When does the mass officially start?

* *There isn't a single moment when the mass begins.* *

1. It begins actually at our homes- when we leave our private homes/places to gather in one communal place; we begin to prepare ourselves for this sacred mystery. Greeting people, smiling, laughing in the entrance or vestibule are a part of preparing ourselves.
2. Blessing ourselves reminds us of our baptism, reminds us of our duties as Christians, reminding us that we are entering a sacred space, that we believe, and that we acknowledge that Christ is present in sacramental form (Tabernacle)
3. Entrance Chant/Song- silence at this time is not recommended. When a celebrant reaches the altar, he places the gospel on it, he kisses it- drawing audience attention to the holiness of the space.
4. Priest greets the audience, “The Lord Be with you,” to which the congregation responds, “And with your spirit”; a means of acknowledging the importance of congregation, and calling all to be involved in the mass. This starts our worship, and then we go into the mystery of faith.
5. The “Gloria” should not be skipped- should be joyful and sung- goes back to the beginning of time when our church first began to celebrate being present with the Lord, and excited that Christ is in our midst.

Important Upcoming Faith Dates:

- **Ash Wednesday** – February 26, 2020
- **Spiritual Development Day** – March 16, 2020
- **Good Friday** – April 10, 2020
- **Easter Sunday** – April 12, 2020
- **Graduation Mass** - May 29th, 2020 @ 7 pm

Words from St. Michael Parish:

- ★ Please visit the Parish website at:
<https://www.catholicdirectory.com/canada/pincher-creek/church/st-michaels-parish>
- ★ **Congratulations to all students who recently received the Sacrament of Reconciliation!**
- ★ Several students from our school are preparing for confirmation with Father Myles, and led by Mrs. Charette. Please be mindful of the following session dates:
 - Saturday, Feb 8, 9 am
 - Saturday, March 21, 9 am
 - Saturday April 25, 9 am
 - Retreat & Rehearsal Sat May 6, 9 am
 - Mass with Bishop McGrattan
 - Saturday, May 23 @ 7 pm

School Events:

March PD Days

Monday, March 9
Divisional PD Day

Monday, March 16
Spiritual Development Day

No classes for students on
these days.



Report Cards

Elementary report cards go home
on Tuesday, March 17

Junior high reports available to
view online in PowerSchool on
Tuesday, March 17

High school reports available to
view online in PowerSchool
On Friday, March 13

Mini-basketball Tournament



Friday, February 28
in Fort Macleod

Bus leaves the
school at
8:45 and returns to
the school
at approximately 4:30 pm

The Friends of St. Michael's

The Friends of St. Michael's are our school booster club. They support our school in many ways including: school activities, Dragon athletics, student awards, bussing, Scientists in the Classroom and much more.

The Friends meet on the First Monday of the month in the Den, all are welcome to attend!

[Friends of St. Michael's Information Page](#)

Current Fundraiser: Cash Calendar

- January 13: Jeff High \$25
- January 15: Don Hayden \$50
- January 17: Lisa Salonen \$50
- January 20: Kim Gelber \$25
- January 22: Tim Clinton \$25
- January 24: Earl Higginbotham \$50
- January 29: Denby Ettenhofer \$25
- January 31: Beth Hilliard \$50
- January 31: Raylynn Symonds \$100
- February 3: Ken Wittkopf \$25
- February 5: Sariah Brasnett \$25
- February 7: Lorraine Bruder \$50
- February 10: J.J. Marsh \$25
- February 12: Maureen Akitt \$25
- February 14: Lisa Schmidt \$50

School Council

St. Michael's School Council

Monthly meeting dates are now the fourth
Monday of every month.

**Next Meeting: Monday, March 9
7:00 pm in the Den!**

**School Council Speaker:
Child Mental Health
Date TBA**

[School Council Information Page](#)

Please come out to the meetings and
have your voice heard.



Le coin français - The French Corner



"J'aime le français" Merit Award

1F Olivia Holloway 5F/6F Amelia Van Bussel
2F Nolan Van Bussel 7F Adrianna Cooley
3F Felix Fredette 8F Jaxson Speelman
4F Sylas Henderson & Kate Bennett

"En classe":

"Félicitations" to our Dictée PGL competition winners!

1F Olivia
Holloway
2F Hailey Baird
3F Rylee Baird
4F Jasmine Hochstein
5F Clayton Barfuss
6F Sienna Poulsen

French Words of the Month:

Joyeuse Saint-Valentin!
Happy Valentine's Day!

Je t'aime!
I love you !

Mon ami (e)
My friend

chocolat
Chocolate

Sienna will now be representing St. Michael's School
and competing at the provincial level.
Bonne chance!

We're happy to share with you the fact that all of our
grade 7 & 8 students have Aced the first level A1 of
the DELF practice. We are now practicing A2.

[Apprendre le français - Cours et exercices gratuits
avec Bonjour de France](#)

Bonjour de France provides worksheets covering
grammatical functions, exercises adapted to your
level (for beginners and up)

Listen to French music, learn new expressions,
practice your pronunciation with these tunes:

[Paroles de clips](#)

And a playlist:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL9Zem-RY_wS8gpQ1NCR5E2B2WCqt4dqml

Library Corner

Book Fair!!

Our scholastic book fair is coming up!

The week of March 23rd - March 27th the library
will transform into a book fair!

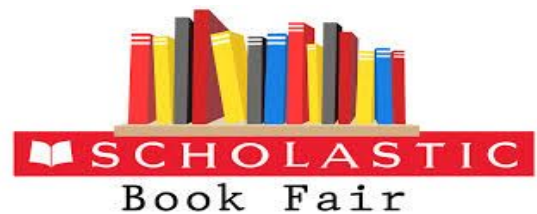
A Scholastic Book Fair is a literacy event for the
whole community, you can browse a book store
right here in the school!!



We are excited to bring the book fair back, it has
been a few years since our last fair.

If you are interested in volunteering for the fair
please let Kathryn know.

The library is busy cataloging new to us books
and preparing for the book fair!



Please check out the link below at home so
students can decide what books they may like!

[Book Fairs: Videos](#)

be in the
Know

School Messenger

When your child is absent from school, please call the office to let us know. If a child is absent from school without a reason provided, School Messenger will contact you to let you know (via phone, email) that he/she is not at school.
This is done for the safety of our students.

When students need to leave school parents must come into the office and sign them out (for elementary & junior high students). Senior high students can sign themselves out, however, if we have not heard from parents School Messenger will be calling you.

St. Michael's Live Calendars:

[SMPC Events Calendar](#)
[SMPC Athletic Calendar](#)
[School Year Calendar at a glance](#)

Holy Spirit Board Meetings: To view the Holy Spirit Board meeting dates and meeting briefs:
[Board Meetings and Briefs](#)

Alberta Health Services

For more information:
[Healthy Children March](#)
[Healthy Teens March](#)



Off Campus News: For information on post-secondary fairs, open houses, RAP and work experience:
[Off Campus Information](#)
[Off Campus Newsletter](#)

On January 1, 2020, *Bill 201: [Protection of Students with Life-Threatening Allergies Act](#)* came into force.

As a result, all schools within the Holy Spirit Catholic School Division are now equipped with an epinephrine pen to be used in emergency situations for students with undiagnosed allergies who present with an unexpected and severe allergic reaction.

We are happy to have this life-saving tool within our schools.

Please know that this legislation does not impact students diagnosed with severe allergies for whom parents and caregivers provide a prescribed epinephrine pen to the school.



If you are an MD Resident, please take the online survey at: [MD Survey](#), or through the web or facebook pages: <https://mdpincercreek.ab.ca>

This survey is in regard to exploring options for financially supporting the building costs of the Pincher Creek Community Early Learning Centres.

Alberta Health Services - Coronavirus Update

While we know the current risk of this virus impacting Albertans is low and that there are no confirmed or probable cases in the province, we also know that it is still influenza season. As it is always wise to minimize the spread of any infection, the AHS makes the following recommendations:

- Make sure everyone in your household washes their hands with soap and water often. If soap and water are not readily available, you can use alcohol-based hand sanitizer, if hands are not visibly dirty.
- Avoid touching your face with unwashed hands.
- Use a tissue when you cough or sneeze and throw it in a garbage bin lined with a plastic bag.
 - Wash your hands immediately after that. If you don't have a tissue, sneeze or cough into your sleeve.
 - If your children are sick, keep them home from school.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces that are used often and shared by everyone in your home.

To receive the most up-to-date information about Novel Coronavirus, check in with reliable resources like the Public Health Agency of Canada, the World Health Organization, and the AHS, who will be updating the following websites:

www.alberta.ca/coronavirus

www.ahs.ca/ncov



Class of 2020 – Make It Your Best Year



Order Day - Wednesday, March 4

(get your finger sized, ask questions, try on rings, place your order)

Time - 11:15 to 12:15



FREE WORKSHOPS

Session 1 – 3:00pm to 5:00pm
“He went away sad!”
Understanding and responding
to the disaffection of young people
with the church.

Session 2 – 7:00pm to 9:00pm
“Wonderfully Complicated Lives”
Ministry to Families and Parents.

You are welcome to attend one or both workshops.

Friday, March 20
St. Francis Junior High
333 - 18th Street S. (Gym)






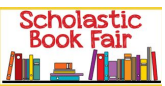
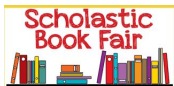


Guest Speaker: David Wells

Author and entertaining Catholic speaker, David has travelled the globe inspiring thousands. His focus is helping people work through “life” issues with inspiration, relatability and a healthy dose of wit. You will leave his sessions feeling refreshed, engaged and above all, with a new perspective on life.



Holy Spirit Roman Catholic Separate School Division
Phone: 403.327.9555
www.holyspirit.ab.ca

March 2020

23 February	24	25	26 Ash Wednesday Mass at 9:00 am Pink Shirt Day 	27	28 Mini basketball Tournament in Fort Macleod	29
March 1	2 Friends of St. Michael's meeting 7:00 pm	3	4  Jostens Jewelry will be here at noon for grads to purchase graduation jewellery	5 Italy 2020 parent meeting 6:30 pm room 117 	6 Day 2	7
8  Daylight savings begins... move your clock ahead!	9 Divisional Collab Day No classes for students	10	11	12	13 Day 1 High School Reports available to view online in PowerSchool	14
15	16 Spiritual Development Day No classes for students	17  Junior High Reports available to view online in PowerSchool Elementary report cards go home today	18 NET Retreat for junior/senior high	19	20 Day 2	21
22	23 Scholastic Book Fair all week! 	24 Book Fair 	25 Elementary parent/teacher interviews Book Fair 	26 Junior/Senior parent/teacher interviews Book Fair 	27 Day 1 Book Fair 	28
29	30	31	1 April	2	3	4