

# January 2018 Newsletter

## JANUARY 2019 DATES TO REMEMBER

Jan 7	Classes resume
Jan. 24	Musical Showcase 7:00 pm
Jan. 28	School Council Meeting 7:00 pm (Library) - Everyone is welcome
Jan. 30	Gr. 9 P.A.R.T.Y. Program

### MUSICAL SHOWCASE

Help us bring some warmth to a blustery January evening as we celebrate the artistic talents of the students of FMT.

Please join us at our Musical Showcase on Thursday, January 24th at 7:00 p.m.

Our celebration will feature all 7, 8 & 9 Band students. Please bring donations for the Food Bank!

### CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION

For more information, please visit our website at: [fathermichaeltroy.ecsd.net](http://fathermichaeltroy.ecsd.net) and click on the Catholic Faith tab for a Link to each of our Parishes where you will find Confirmation information.

### FATHER MICHAEL TROY - OPEN HOUSE

Registering a student for Grade 7?

Join us for our Open House on Thursday **February 7 at 7:00 PM**. Come and learn about the programs and learning opportunities at Father Michael Troy Junior High School. Students entering Grade 7 are encouraged to attend along with their parents.



**SCHOOL FEES ARE DUE!**



**You can pay your child(ren)'s Fees on-line in PowerSchool or with Cash/Debit or Credit Card (Please – no cheques)**

**[Click Here to sign in and pay your Fees!](#)**

Parents please be aware that the front doors are open at 8:15 a.m. each morning and students may come into the building to prepare for the start of morning classes which start at 8:40 a.m. We encourage students to dress appropriately for the weather if they are arriving prior to 8:15 a.m.

Also, students who are involved in after-school sports, drama and/or other school-sponsored activities may stay behind after school. Students not connected to **directly supervised** activities, may not remain in the school or wait for friends. Supervision ends at 3:15 (12:10 on Thursday) and therefore, students need to exit the school promptly.



### Dress Code Updates!

**Are you having trouble finding a Navy or White Shirt without a bit of another color on it as a crest? We have ordered some fabulous iron-on crest patches that will be available for \$3.00 each. They should arrive in January. You can pay on-line!**

Common Student Misconceptions:

- 1) "I can have a different colored logo if it is smaller than my fist." **No, you can't.**
- 2) "Logos must be smaller than your fist." **No, they don't. Just stick with the colors.**
- 3) "I can wear my hood up while working in class." **No, you can't.**

### ATTIRE

Students are required to wear clothing appropriate for a school/work environment and school related activities during the day. This includes honoring the campus wear policy as outlined below. While some outfits may seem fine, in reality, the tasks of sitting in desks, reaching into lockers and participating in various activities may not suit certain clothing choices. We ask for your assistance in providing guidance in this area for your child, and we also ask for support in ensuring that beach type clothing, exposed underwear, see through clothing, and shorts and shirts that may become too revealing during School Activities, do not make it to school. Where necessary, school staff will discreetly approach students not appropriately attired and ask them to change and/or refrain from wearing the same outfit in the future.

### CAMPUS WEAR

Navy or white upper body wear which adheres to the guidelines below:

- Navy or white shirts
- Navy or white stripes or patterns
- Collars and cuffs with a combination of navy or white
- Crests or lettering must be either navy or white
- Navy or white scarves are permitted to accessorize campus wear • Special blue or white FMT issued campus wear (Ambassadors, Troy TV, Renaissance, FLEX) is acceptable.
- Teams are permitted to wear their uniforms on game days
- Headwear and sunglasses may not be worn indoors
- Outerwear (i.e. coats and jackets) is not permitted in class and must be stored in student lockers
- Policy applies during off-campus school sponsored events unless otherwise indicated · Phys Ed gear must adhere to campus wear policy
- Students are encouraged to carry their gear in their backpacks on gym days
- Footwear cannot markup school floors

**Thank you!**



# WALKING TOGETHER IN GOD'S LOVE

January 2019

*Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.*

~Isaiah 43:18-19~

The new year brings new beginnings and new opportunities. In this passage from Isaiah, the prophet is telling the people that God's great acts in their lives are so wonderful that they need not dwell in the past but look forward to their new path. Essentially, he is telling us not to focus on 'things of old', but to look forward with excitement to the new journey ahead. This is a great way to start 2019; move forward to positive places with enthusiasm, joy, and peace knowing that God is with you!

As always, January marks the time when we start to plan for the next school year. It is a time for families to look at registering for Early Learning, Junior, or Senior High. It is extremely important for those families who have students who will need to transition to a new level or program in the upcoming school year to research their options with Edmonton Catholic Schools and to go out and visit the sites that they are interested in. Our website [www.ecsd.net](http://www.ecsd.net) has a wealth of information for families. Beginning the third week of January, when you click on the **Open House Information** link on our homepage you will find our 2019 Guide to Schools and Open House dates. You will also find many useful tools including our School Locator and Kindergarten Calculator.

Edmonton Catholic Schools has developed a new resource to support self-regulation both at home and in the classroom. Our children need the ability to self-regulate in order to be ready. Children need to be ready to attend and inhibit impulses. They need support and time to understand how to regulate so that they can build skills, learn, participate and socialize. Learn the special FOCUS Sequence that integrates research-based strategies into a single sequence of regulating activities that can be done with any age, across any environment and all in about 5 minutes! We will be hosting a **Parent Night on Wednesday, January 23, 2019 from 6:30 - 8:00pm at St. Anthony Centre (10425-84 Avenue)**. To register, please visit <http://bit.ly/ECSD-Parent-Series> or email [Yvonne.Casey@ecsd.net](mailto:Yvonne.Casey@ecsd.net).

Our annual Faith Development Day for staff will take place on Tuesday, February 5, 2019. All our schools and sites will be closed so that our staff may gather together to continue our lifelong journey of faith formation and to celebrate Eucharist together.

As you contemplate all that the new year holds for you and establish your dreams and goals, I leave you with an encouragement from Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation Rejoice and Be Glad: *"The important thing is that each believer discern his or her own path, that they bring out the very best of themselves, the most personal gifts that God has placed in their hearts."* (Rejoice and Be Glad, 11)

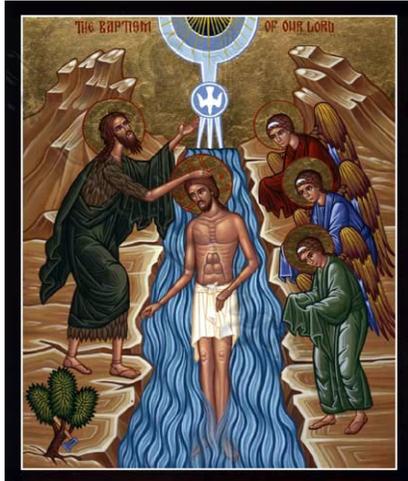
Have a wonderful 2019!

Sincerely,

Joan Carr

Superintendent

## THEOPHANY- CHRIST'S BAPTISM- FEAST OF LIGHTS



*The Baptism of our Lord, Jesus Christ*

Jesus came as a "great light" to those who languished in darkness. No other word describes Christ as accurately as the word light. He comes as a light to those who sit in the darkness of despair. He lights candles of love, joy, forgiveness, peace, and meaning in the lives of people today.

In the early Church, Theophany - the day of Christ's baptism - became the day on which the converts to Christianity were received into the Church through baptism. Each newly baptized person held the baptismal candle during the liturgy. Christians who had already been baptized brought their baptismal candles to church on this day to renew their baptismal vows; to renew the commitment to Christ which they had made at baptism.

As a result, everyone in the congregation held a lighted candle on the feast of Theophany. The churches became the sea of lights. For this reason, this day came to be called the Feast of Lights.

The baptismal candle, in the early Church, was a symbol that the one who was baptized had received Christ who is the Light of the world. The candle would be kept by the one baptized and then brought to Church on the anniversary of one's baptism, the feast of Theophany and for the Easter Vigil liturgy. If the person was married, the same candle was used at the wedding. If he was ordained, he would light the candle at his ordination. When the final hour of life approached, it was lit again as the soul went forth to meet the Lord. The baptismal candle was a constant reminder for the Christian to live and die by the light of Christ.

The baptismal candle may be compared to the lamps used in the story of the maidens who awaited the arrival of Christ the Bridegroom in the darkness of the night. When the newly baptized person was given the lighted candle, she was urged to keep it to meet Christ at his return, like the wise maidens who kept their lamps burning for the coming of the Bridegroom. Thus the candle becomes a symbol of the perseverance of the baptized soul until Christ's return. Among the ancient Greeks the runner who had won the race was not the one who crossed the line in the shortest time, but the one who crossed it in the least time with his candle still burning. Our goal as Christians is that we may cross the line into eternity with the light of our baptismal faith still shining brightly.

Christ Himself is the light. His light shines today proclaiming to all of us: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life" (John 8:12). The light that God gives us for our present darkness was expressed so well by Louise Haskins:

I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:

"Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown."

And he replied: "Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God.

That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way."

Resources: "A Byzantine Rite. Liturgical Year." Julian J. Katrij, OSBM. Basilian Fathers Publication. Detroit, 1983.  
<http://lit.royaldoors.net/2013/12/09/january-6-2014-the-holy-theophany-of-our-lord-god-and-saviour-jesus-christ/>

Christ is Baptized! In the River Jordan!

Fr. Julian Bilyj

District Chaplain