



WALKING TOGETHER IN GOD'S LOVE

April 2019

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb. (Communion Rite)

In his [General Audience of April 1, 2015](#), Pope Francis gave a beautiful explanation of the Easter Triduum, unfolding for us the significance of each of the days from Holy Thursday to Easter Sunday. He shares that “with the Mass of the Lord’s Supper, we will begin the *Easter Triduum* of Christ’s passion, death and resurrection, which is the culmination of the whole liturgical year and the pinnacle of our Christian life as well.” It presents us with an excellent opportunity to reflect on this sacred time for Christians.

Edmonton Catholic Schools has been named one of Alberta’s Top 75 Employers for the fourth consecutive year! This annual competition, which is held by Postmedia Network Inc. and Mediagroup Canada Inc., takes a comprehensive, comparative look at various aspects of operations and human resources practices to determine which organizations have the most progressive and forward-thinking programs. We are proud to be one of the leaders in our field in creating exceptional conditions for our employees.

Each year, the Council of Catholic School Superintendents of Alberta sponsors the Excellence in Catholic Education Awards. These awards honor individuals who provide our students with exceptional learning experiences that are deeply rooted in our Catholic faith. We are delighted to share that 3 of our staff are receiving this prestigious award: Anna Fialka, teacher at St. Matthew Catholic Elementary School; Dean Sullivan, Principal of St. Dominic Catholic Elementary School; and Cecilia Fenrich, Manager of District Programs. Congratulations Anna, Dean, and Cecilia!

In the 2019-2020 school year, Edmonton Catholic Schools will be expanding dual credit offerings, in partnerships with additional post-secondary institutions and industry/business. We have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with MacEwan University to offer students 2 courses to explore their passions and interests in Police Studies. The courses will be offered through Alternative Education – PASS at St. Joseph High School to interested grade 11 and 12 students from across the District who meet the prerequisites and are part of the MacEwan Police Studies Diploma.

We have also signed an MOU with Concordia University of Edmonton to offer students the opportunity to develop their gifts and talents in Choral Ensemble. The courses are part of the Concordia Bachelor of Fine Arts Program and is being offered at Louis St. Laurent through Alternative Education – PASS to interested students who are currently in the All City Senior High Choir. By offering these courses after school hours, it will enable students from across our District to enroll. For more information, please contact cheryl.shinkaruk@ecsd.net.

Information about all our dual credit opportunities will be shared at a Dual Credit Information night to be held on April 8 from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. at St. Joseph High School Theatre, 10830-109 Street. Please register at <https://BIT.LY/dualcreditinfonight> or email Danielle.Weran@ecsd.net.

We are in the process of preparing our 2019/2020 budget. The Ministry of Education has extended the deadline for school boards to submit their budgets to June 30, 2019 in order to provide additional time to accurately prepare their submissions. Once our budget is complete, it will be presented at the June Public Meeting of the Board.

I leave you with our Holy Father's closing thoughts from his General Audience:

Dear brothers and sisters, during these days of the Holy Triduum let us not limit ourselves to commemorating the passion of the Lord, but let us enter into the mystery, making his feelings and thoughts our own, as the Apostle Paul invites us to do: "Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus (Phil 2:5). Then ours will be a "Happy Easter".

Have a blessed April!

Sincerely,

Joan Carr
Superintendent