



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 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.

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