



# Walking TOGETHER in the Light of Christ

October 2019

*"I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them." (John 17:26)*

This scripture passage comes from a time that is very close to Jesus' death. He is praying to God for his disciples. It paints a beautiful picture of divine love. Jesus ensured that we knew that he loved us and named God as the source of that love. His goal is that we always know the deep and enduring nature of the glorious love of the Father and the Son for all people.

There is a very famous phrase from Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*: "that which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet." On September 1, the new Education Act reformatted the names of school jurisdictions in Alberta. Our legal name is now Edmonton Catholic Separate School Division, but we will continue to also use our familiar names of Edmonton Catholic Schools and ECSD. You can rest assured that our commitment to excellent Catholic education remains as our foundation.

Our promise to provide innovative ways to meet the needs of students is creating exciting new opportunities. We are pleased to announce that we opened up a Millwoods Campus at 7319-29 Avenue for our [Cardinal Collins High School Academic Centre](#). This classroom-based learning model is designed for students who are in their fourth and fifth year of high school and require an alternative way of finishing high school or need to upgrade Grade 12 diploma courses. The end result of this model is that our Division has outstanding high school completion rates, excellent transition rates, and a very low drop out rate. We are so pleased to be able to now offer this educational option in the south side of the city.

We have some upcoming opportunities for parents and guardians to engage in various aspects of our faith and faith formation. Edmonton Catholic Schools is proud to be sponsoring an evening with the highly engaging Father Richard Leonard as part of Newman Theological College's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. The session is on Tuesday, October 29 from 7-9 pm at the Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton, 8421 – 101 Avenue. Visit [www.newman.edu/FrLeonard](http://www.newman.edu/FrLeonard) to register for this free public lecture.

ECSD will be offering 2 identical sessions, one at Corpus Christi Parish (Nov. 6) and one at St. Charles Parish (Nov. 7) from 6:30 – 8 pm, that will provide parents and guardians with the opportunity to celebrate Mass with Archbishop Smith and then learn more about the religious education programs of study across the grades. Please visit <http://bit.ly/religiouseducation> by Wednesday, October 30 to find out more and to register.

Pope Francis shared a tweet on August 27 that is a lovely reflection of our yearly theme and the learning that takes place in our Edmonton Catholic Schools. He shared, "The light of God enlightens those who welcome it." Our work with the over 44,300 students who join us each day is to help them to welcome that light into their hearts and minds!

Have a blessed Thanksgiving and month of October!

Sincerely,

Joan Carr

