



# Walking TOGETHER in the Light of Christ

*...let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works... (Matthew 5:16)*

August 2019

Welcome back to the exciting 2019-2020 school year with Edmonton Catholic Schools! Our theme for this year, *Walking Together in the Light of Christ*, provides us with a beautiful image of the learning and relationships that your children experience daily as part of their Catholic educational journey. The verse of scripture shared above, which will guide us throughout the year, comes from a passage in the gospel of Matthew where Jesus is telling his disciples what the role of his followers is to be. He tells them, "You are the salt of the earth...You are the light of the world" (Matthew 5:13-14). In Jesus' time, salt was vital not only to improve the taste of food, but also to preserve it. He is telling his disciples that they are, through their actions, to enhance and preserve the lives of others. Those actions should serve as an example for others, as a light to guide their way in this world. In turn, when we let our light shine before others so that they can see and emulate our good works, we give glory to God. Our wonderful journey this year will help lead our students to become salt and light for the world.

As we live out our mission to provide a Catholic education that inspires students to learn and that prepares them to live fully and to serve God in one another, we have established our [District Plan for Continuous Growth 2019-2022](#) to guide the work of our schools. We begin with our faith foundation as a Catholic school district, followed by five goals that focus on teaching, learning, and student experiences. I invite you to visit our website to learn more about our goals and the key strategies that we will be implementing to achieve them by clicking [here](#).

*Edmonton Catholic School District Goal: Live and enhance the distinctiveness of Catholic education.*

*Goal One: ECSD students are successful.*

*Goal Two: ECSD supports First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students' success.*

*Goal Three: ECSD respects diversity and promotes inclusion.*

*Goal Four: ECSD has excellent teachers, and school and school district leaders.*

*Goal Five: ECSD is well governed and managed.*

New to our work this year is the establishment of our Catholic Identity Plan, which is an appendix to the District Plan for Continuous Growth. This plan provides us the framework to better understand, articulate, and live our Catholic identity as members of the Body of Christ.

I wish each one of your families an exciting and rewarding year where you experience the abundant joy that comes from walking together in the light of Christ with your school community!

Sincerely,  
Joan Carr  
Superintendent

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