



## Special Edition

*Catholic Education Week  
May 2020*

### **Catholic Education Week May 18-22, 2020**

*United in Prayer and Grateful for Catholic Schools*

#### *United in Prayer*

Join the Bishops of Alberta, as they lead prayer at **9:00 AM** each day.

May 19	Holy Rosary- Bishop Terrio	<a href="#">Holy Rosary</a>
May 20	Divine Mercy- Archbishop Pettipas	<a href="#">Divine Mercy</a>
May 21	Holy Mass-Archbishop Smith	<a href="#">Holy Mass</a>
May 22	Liturgy & Blessing-Bishop McGrattan	<a href="#">Blessing</a>

#### **Catholic Education Prayers of the Faithful for May**

For Catholic Education...

- That our Catholic schools may be a source of hope for the young, we pray to the Lord.
- That our Catholic schools may fill students with a love for learning and a desire to change the world for the better, we pray to the Lord.
- That our Catholic schools may be always able to draw excellent and faith-filled teachers to serve in the classroom, we pray to the Lord.
- That our Catholic schools may be a blessing to families through their work with the young, we pray to the Lord

***Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.***

*Colossians 4:2*

# Grateful for...

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•frontline workers serving those most in need</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Bishops, priests and clergy who shepherd us with love</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•families who make faith real minute by minute</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•teachers, leaders and staff who serve as gospel witness</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•communities: parish, school and beyond who care for each other and share God's love</li></ul>



Thank you to the Diocese of Calgary for designing and launching “*Thank You for Having the Heart of Jesus*” campaign. Thank you for sharing your logo for Catholic Education’s use. Thank YOU for having the heart of Jesus.

To access these resource click on the link [Heart of Jesus](#)

## Catholic Schools

[Daily Video for Mark of a Catholic School](#)

Each day of Catholic Education Week will celebrate and focus on one of the 5 Marks of a Catholic School.

1. View a daily video available at [Daily Video for Mark of a Catholic School](#).
2. Encourage social media postings that focus on one mark each day.

May 18	Mark 1
May 19	Mark 2
May 20	Mark 3
May 21	Mark 4
May 22	Mark 5

Thank you to our GrACE partners

- Elk Island CSRD
- Holy Family CRD
- Edmonton CSSD
- Christ the Redeemer Catholic Division
- Calgary Roman Catholic Separate School District

## The 5 Marks of a Catholic School

In 2014, ACSTA hosted a symposium on Catholic Education in Sherwood Park. Keynote speaker, Archbishop Miller of Vancouver, presented to the participants. His work on the 5 Marks of a Catholic School became the focus of a subsequent ACSTA document titled: **Growing Forward**. CCSSA (Council of Catholic School Superintendents of Alberta) continued this work by writing two subsequent resources for Alberta Catholic Schools: **The Marks of an Excellent Catholic Teacher** (2015) and **The Marks of an Excellent Catholic Leader** (2016).

The 5 marks allow us to deepen our understanding of Catholic education. They give us common language; they give us opportunities to recognize and celebrate authentic Catholic education in action. As we continue to focus on the marks that make us genuine Catholic schools, we are able articulate our distinctness and grow in unity.

### Mark 1 Created in the Image of God

*Catholic schools are driven by a mission which views all men and women with an inherent dignity as sons and daughters of God.*



### Mark 2 Catholic Worldview

*Catholic schools have a visible and tangible Catholic vision evident in their physical space, liturgical celebrations, and prayer life.*



### Mark 3 Faith Permeation

*Catholic schools have an academic curriculum that integrates a vision of faith within the learner outcomes and teaching strategies.*



### Mark 4 Witness

*Catholic schools nurture teachers that are living witnesses to the Gospel, and intentional disciples of Jesus Christ and his Church.*



### Mark 5 Community

*Catholic schools recognize that each and every stakeholder is responsible for the common good.*



## Mark 1 Created in the Image of God

*In a Catholic school we...*

- Believe that each person is created in the image of God
- Know that each person has an eternal destiny
- Embrace the dignity of all
- Recognize and celebrate the gifts and talents of others
- Allocate resources to support and enhance the well being and the physical, emotional, academic and spiritual development of staff and students

**5 Marks of a  
Catholic School**

## Mark 2 Catholic Worldview

*In a Catholic school we...*

- Share a Catholic worldview through activities and events
- Create physical spaces in our schools that reflect our Catholic perspective
- Foster a Catholic worldview of reflection, service and sacramentality
- Make decisions rooted in Gospel teaching
- Embed sacramental routines (prayer, mass, liturgies, scripture and worship) and reminders in the culture of the school and district

## Mark 3 Faith Permeation

*In a Catholic school we...*

- Incorporate a religious dimension in all learning
- Advocate for a sacred perspective within a secular context
- Encourage a critical evaluation of contemporary culture
- Provide opportunities for staff to develop their abilities to infuse faith into curriculum and pedagogy
- Teach Catholic values by fostering a love for wisdom and truth

## Mark 4 Witness

*In a Catholic school we...*

- Witness to others a life lived in relationship with Jesus
- Participate actively in the life of the Church
- Pray personally and lead others in prayer
- Demonstrate a knowledge of faith and commit to faith development
- Create a vision for evangelization and ministry

## Mark 5 Community

*In a Catholic school we...*

- Live in community, spiritual unity and relationship
- Recognize that God will be found in each other
- Foster reconciliation
- Develop priorities and protocols to address the needs of the marginalized
- Honor parents/guardians as primary partners in education



## Celebrating the 5 Marks in Your Community

1. Learn about the 5 Marks of Catholic education
2. Pay attention and notice them happening in your school
3. Identify and share the 5 Marks whenever and wherever they are
4. Take pictures of each mark and share on social media
5. Tell stories of the 5 Marks in action
6. Teach your stakeholders about the 5 Marks of Catholic education

### Celebrate Catholic Education on Social Media. Focus on Faith by:

#### Uniting

- Connect Catholic schools in Alberta
- Bring the voices of all stakeholders into the conversation: bishops, trustees, teachers, parents, students and community

#### Engaging

- Celebrate positive news in Catholic education
- Encourage interaction, conversation and joy

#### Educating

- Educate all in the mission, goals and values of Catholic education
- Educate all in the broader mission of the Catholic Church

#### Communicating

- Communicate with all stakeholders and the larger community
- Communicate between Catholic school districts and Catholic schools

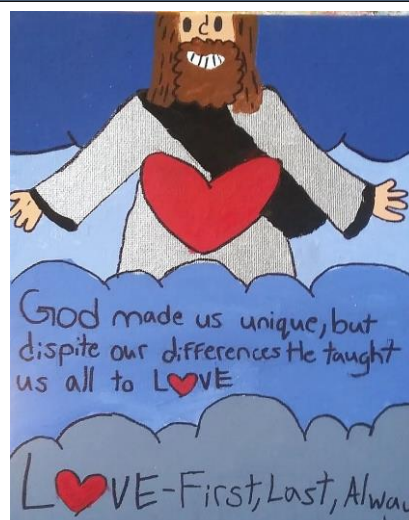
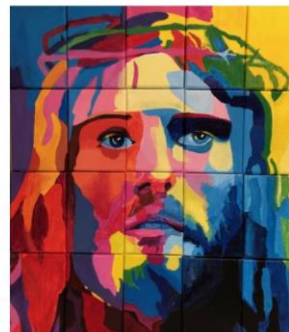
### Guiding Questions when posting:

How does this post celebrate and distinguish the Catholic aspects of our school?

Which of the 5 marks does it embody?

- 1 The dignity of the human person
- 2 Permeation of Faith
- 3 Catholic worldview
- 4 Gospel Witness
- 5 Catholic community

Art  
20/30 St.  
Andre  
Bessette  
Catholic  
School  
  
EICS



Gr.7  
student at  
Holy  
Redeemer  
Catholic  
School  
  
EICS

I'm happy to be  
an advocate. If  
not us then  
who? We must  
be vocal  
cheerleaders  
and bearers of  
the faith.  
Edmonton  
Clergy

I have been inspired  
by the **unity** of the  
GrACE movement.  
Evergreen  
Administrator

## The Catholic Picture

*The Catholic Church feeds more people, houses more people, clothes more people, visits more imprisoned people, takes care of more sick people and educates more people than any other institution on the planet earth could ever hope to.*

Matthew Kelly, *The Genius of Catholicism*

### The Genius of Catholicism

#### Catholics in Alberta by diocese (2019)

Diocese	Total Catholics (Est)
Edmonton	428 228
Ukrainian Eparchy of Edmonton	4 819
Calgary	508 848
St. Paul	107 381
Grouard-McLennan	64 835
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 114 111</b>

#### Start with the Facts

Catholic Populations	
Catholics in the World	17%
Catholics in Canada	38.8%
Catholics in Alberta	24.3%

#### Indicators of Growth: Baptisms (2018)

Diocese	2018
Edmonton	3033
Ukrainian Eparchy of Edmonton	168
Calgary	3248
St. Paul	417
Grouard-McLennan	528
<b>Total</b>	<b>7 394</b>

#### Catholic Post-Secondary Education in Alberta (2018)

St Joseph's College- University of Alberta	2 649
Newman Theological College	433
St Mary's University	894
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 976</b>

#### From the field....

#### Provincial Catholic School District Submissions

Living Waters Catholic Separate School Division

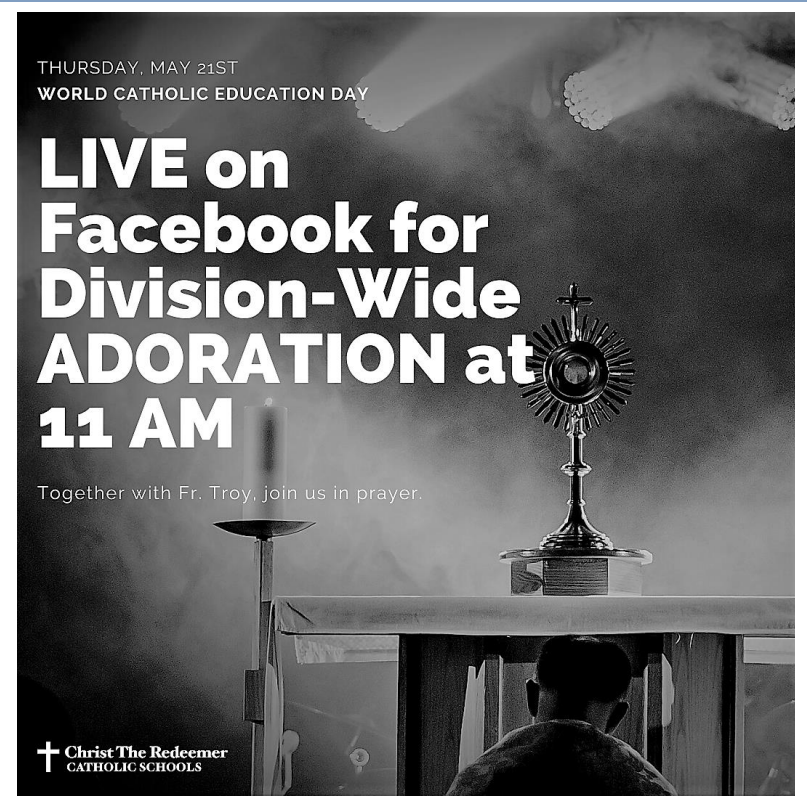
***Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.*** Joshua 1:9

Celebrating Catholic Education week takes on special meaning during the pandemic. Faith is a source of comfort during times of hardship. While the pandemic presents many challenges, there is also the opportunity to strengthen the connection between home, school, and the parish. At-home online learning provides a format to bring faith to the homes of our students and their families as Religion is part of our foundational core of learning. This is a return to the grassroots of our faith: sharing the good news. The pandemic has given us an appreciation for the little things. As Dr. Deena Hinshaw would say, we may be apart, but we are all in this together. To Living Waters, this speaks of the power of faith to unite us all. Each day of Catholic Education Week, we will share out on social media platforms an example of the Five Marks of a Catholic school, which shows the small acts that build a tapestry of faith and hope between our schools and homes. On May 21, in honour of World Catholic Education Day, we will encourage our students, parents, and staff to wear blue and create a collage of the many faces of faith. In the end, faith is really about coming together, even when we must remain physically apart.

## Elk Island Catholic Schools

Elk Island Catholic holds an annual GrACE contest where students from all of our schools can submit an entry based on our district's theme. This year our theme is: **Love, First, Last and Always**. It is based on 1 John 4:19 *We Love because He first loved us.*

## Christ the Redeemer Catholic Schools



## Holy Family Catholic Regional Division



This is a photo of Good Shepherd School celebrating our division-wide Faith Day on Monday April 20th. Our division usually celebrates our annual Faith Day in person altogether as a family, but this year we adapted to an online format. The response from staff was very positive!



St. Stephen's School in Valleyview is praying with families through social media, and maintaining strong bonds with students through their faith. The videos are posted on Facebook and Google Classroom so all students and families can participate. Throughout the month of May, they are praying to our Mother Mary. They are including prayer videos from special guests like parish priests, our Board Chair, Superintendent and several other staff members. What a wonderful way to join in prayer at a distance!



"The opportunity for students, staff and parents to be able to openly pray, talk, and learn about God and Jesus is critical to the overall education of a community. The opportunity for parents to choose the education they desire for their children and be able to play an active role develops the strong partnership of home, school, Church and community; Powerful Partners In Education."

-George McGuigan

Fort McMurray Catholic Schools Superintendent



**CATHOLIC EDUCATION  
MATTERS**

#WeAreFMCS

On March 9<sup>th</sup>, Racette Junior High School teachers met to continue their professional development on the 5 Marks of a Catholic School. Racette staff has been deepening their understanding of the 5 Marks throughout the school year with monthly PD which began in September. Their task for March was to do a visual storyboard that showed how their school lives out these marks. Divided into groups, the staff had 20 minutes to create a short video/slideshow that showed the mark they were assigned. They did awesome! Sometimes, less time is better than more.

Here is the result: [5 Marks of a Catholic School](#) by Racette staff.

**Telling the Stories of Catholic Education:  
A GrACE Initiative in Cooperation with the Diocese of Calgary**



The mission of GrACE to **inspire, invigorate** and **embolden** the spirit of Catholic education in order to **unite, engage, educate** and **communicate** with one voice on its behalf summarizes the work of CÉFFA (Le Conseil de l'éducation de la foi catholique chez les francophones de l'Alberta). Created in May 2003, in partnership with the Catholic Dioceses of Alberta and the Alberta Francophone Catholic School Boards to promote Catholic faith formation for Francophones in Alberta, CÉFFA plays a key role in **uniting, engaging, educating** and **communicating** with its Alberta Francophone Catholic population.

CÉFFA was formed in response to the increasing number of Catholic Francophone schools being established in Alberta and the challenges being faced by bilingual and Francophone parishes scattered across the province. Since its creation in 2003, CÉFFA has established:

- a forum for discussion, direction and action to ensure **leadership development in faith education**;
- a network of collaboration, exchange and training for **educators and catechists**;
- a timely access to updated human and material **resources** in French for faith education in **families, schools and parishes**;
- an equitable recognition for and sustained reinforcement of the **Francophone culture** and character in faith education;
- opportunities for Catholic Francophones in Alberta to **gather, learn and celebrate** in order to break the isolation of the Francophone Catholic communities scattered throughout the province.



Some of CEFFA's many successes since 2003, which include the CEFFA'S Provincial Francophone Catholic Conference every three years, alternating between Edmonton and Calgary, are:

- **Francophone Catholic Schools:**

- Adopting a homogeneous curriculum & basic resources (Ontario Catholic Francophone Schools approved curriculum) and providing province-wide teacher inservicing;
- Formation sessions for Catholic school leaders;
- Creation of new resources in French to support Catholic teaching and developing parent course content brochures;
- Organizing evangelization teams to tour the Francophone Catholic Schools throughout the province;
- Creating online support in collaboration with the Francophone Professional Development Consortium.

- **Francophone Parishes and Families**

- Organizing provincial forums for sharing with pastors and pastoral assistants;
- Organizing workshops and Faith Formation for parishioners;
- Adopting homogeneous catechetical materials for **sacramental preparation and providing inservicing as per need.**
- Providing support and inservicing for the church ministries
- Organizing Holy Land pilgrimages and local spiritual pilgrimages at designated sites in the province.

For the Francophone Catholic population of Alberta, we can truly say that CEFFA has played a critical role in **inspiring, invigorating** and **emboldening** the spirit of Catholic Francophone Education throughout the province.

CEFFA is overseen by the seven partners with the Coordinating Council overseeing the operations in coordination with the CEFFA Coordinator, Mme Caroline Maillet-Rao. You are invited to visit the [CEFFA](http://www.ceffa.ca) website.



The annual CEFFA Partner Meeting is held annually in June at the Archdiocese of Edmonton with Archbishop Smith, as chair. June 2019



A glazed cross, created by a local Edmonton artist, is given to each of the Francophone Catholic Schools of Alberta upon their school opening.



Bottes et Vélo pilgrimages invites Francophone Catholics to explore Alberta outdoor sites while deepening their Catholic faith.

Lac la Biche, May 2019  
Banff, May 2018  
Jasper, May 2020 (postponed)



Leadership in a Catholic Francophone school: shared leadership regrouping the administrative teams from each of the Francophone schools in the province.

March 2020



CÉFFA

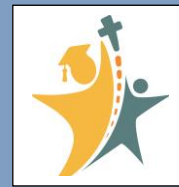
organizes a conference for Francophone schools and parishes every three years, alternating between Calgary and Edmonton. Next conference, October 2020, Edmonton



Holy Land Pilgrimage

- pilgrimages are organized yearly for the Francophone Catholic population of the province. Upcoming Holy Land pilgrimage is scheduled for October 2020.

## Evergreen Catholic School District: The Brief Project



Four years ago, at the invitation of Catholic Social Services, Evergreen Catholic launched the 'Brief Project'. It is named in this way because it runs during Lent – 40 days is a brief period – and because students and staff donate new underwear (briefs) or socks for those in need. These are distributed at the annual Uplift! Day of Mercy sponsored by Catholic Social Services in Edmonton.

This year, despite classes being cancelled early in Lent due to the pandemic, students and staff donated over 3,700 pairs of underwear and socks! The total over four years is around 14,000 pairs.. Superintendent Mike Paonessa, Deputy Superintendent Dave Dempsey and other Division Office staff are seen loading the underwear and socks into the back of Mike Paonessa's vehicle to be transported to Catholic Social Services Headquarters in Edmonton. As the boxes were unloaded at CSS, those unloading noticed thoughtful notes for those who would receive the donations from students. Evergreen Catholic Schools is delighted to be part of this worthy collaboration with CSS.



## Catholic School Districts in the Calgary Diocese



Attached please find daily prayers of Catholic Education Week developed by Edmonton Catholic Schools.

*[Teachers] are "artisans" who shape the coming generations. By their knowledge, patience and dedication, they communicate a way of living and acting that embodies a richness that is not material, but spiritual, and creates the men and women of tomorrow.*

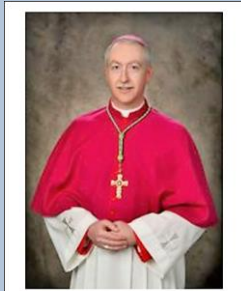
Pope Francis  
Address at the seminar "Education: the Global Compact", February 7, 2020.

Introducing....

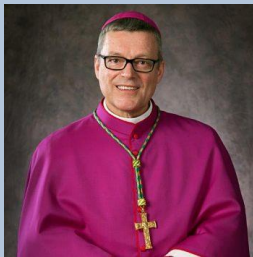
## GrACE Board 2019-2020

GrACE is led and supported by the Alberta Bishops, Alberta Catholic School Trustees (ACSTA) and the Council of Catholic School Superintendents of Alberta (CCSSA). The GrACE board consists of two representatives from each of the partner-boards.

### Bishop Designates

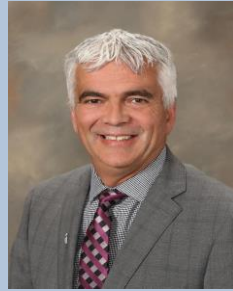


Archbishop Richard Smith  
Archdiocese of Edmonton



Bishop Paul Terrio  
Diocese of St. Paul

### ACSTA Designates



Michael Ouellette  
Grande Prairie Catholic  
School District



Pat Bremner  
Holy Spirit  
Catholic Schools

### CCSSA Designates



Dr. Scott Morrison  
Christ the Redeemer  
Catholic Schools



Paul Corrigan  
Elk Island  
Catholic Schools

**To all Catholic School stakeholders... THANK YOU!**

**Thank you for gratefully advocating for Catholic Education. Through your commitment and faith we continue to build a community of support that is inspired, invigorated and emboldened on behalf of Catholic Education.**

Email [gracedirector7@gmail.com](mailto:gracedirector7@gmail.com)  
Follow us on and Twitter! [@GrACE4cathed](https://twitter.com/GrACE4cathed) and  
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/GrACE4cathed/>



Dr. Bonnie Annicchiarico  
Director of GrACE