



St. Michael the Archangel
Our Angel of Protection

St. Michael's School October 2023



"A Community of Faith Devoted to Students"

Orange Shirt Day

September 30th is the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day. This is a day we honour the lost children and survivors of residential schools, their families and communities. We encourage families to wear their orange shirt and take this time to learn more about our indigenous neighbors and what truth and reconciliation means. For more information and resources to help you understand please go to:
<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/>.

Life Chain

The annual Life Chain event will be held Sunday, October 1 from 2:00-3:00 pm at the intersection of Highway 3 and Centre Street in Bow Island. This is a silent demonstration showing we regard ALL LIFE from conception to natural death as sacred.



Birthday Assembly

The first birthday assembly of the new school year is set for October 12 starting at approximately 1:00. Birthday assemblies are an opportunity to recognize our students for their achievements as well as anyone celebrating a birthday that month. All parents are welcome to join us.

Hat Day

Student Council will once again be running "Hat Day" as a fundraiser once a month. Proceeds from "Hat Day" will go towards Chalice, a Canadian Catholic International aid charity focused on child, family and community development for the underprivileged. The first "Hat Day" for this year is set for Tuesday, October 3rd. For \$1.00 (or more if you choose) your child will be allowed to wear a hat in school for the entire day.

Terry Fox Walk

Our annual Terry Fox Walk was another great success. Students met the challenge again this year (at least 60 donors and \$3000). 72 donors raised \$4163.30. Outstanding job once again. The top money earner is each grade threw a pie in a staff member's face. Fun was had by all.

School Council Update

Thank you to the Staff for the delicious Welcome Back BBQ. It is an appreciated tradition! Also, thank you to the parents who attended the School Council mtg & AGM. At the mtg we learned about SPACES, an evidence-based platform built to illustrate your child's growth. Thanks to creativity and hard work from school & playschool leaders, we have largely reversed our staffing cuts with the addition of Miss Almodovar as an EA, the restoration of our librarian hours, and additional nutrition staff hours. At the meeting, parents decided to reallocate some of our budget from a contract position to a high school tutor. Thank you to our volunteers – Jaap Remijn (Vice-Chair), Sara Weatherhead (Secretary), Kim Van Ham (Treasurer), Michelle MacLean (Promotions and Fundraising Chair), and Cassandra Kielstra (Hot Lunch Coordinator). Everyone is welcome to attend our next School Council mtg on Oct 16th starting at 5:30p. Babysitting is available and free!

Harvest Celebration

The Grade 8/9 class along with Mrs. Alma-North will lead us in a Harvest Liturgy on Thursday October 12 beginning at 12:15 in the school gym. All are welcome.

Tasty Tuesdays

Hot lunches will be available again this year! Hot Dog Day, Pizza Day, Pita Pit, and Taco in a Bag will be offered on Tuesday's.

Please remember these are additional fundraisers for the school so you don't have to pack a lunch if you choose to purchase and it's also benefiting the school. WIN, WIN! Forms will be sent home with students with further information

Hot Dog Day - October 10. Proceeds are split 50/50 between Chalice and the concession.

Peter's Pizza - October 17. Proceeds will go to the concession to help offset other activities in the school.

Taco in a Bag - October 24. Proceeds help with Year End Awards

Pita Pit Day - October 31. Proceeds will go toward our Athletics programs.

Thank you for considering to support these lunches.



School Pictures

Picture Day is set for Tuesday,, October 17 starting at 9:30. Lifetouch photography will once again be taking our pictures. Please note you will not automatically receive a Class Picture this year but will have an opportunity to purchase one. Also there will be **NO RETAKES** this year. Everyone needs to put their best face forward.

Halloween

Parents and families are invited to attend our annual Parade of Costumes on October 31 starting at 12:20.

Following the parade, Student Council will have a variety of activities for all students to participate in. We look forward to a fun afternoon.

School Fees

Please remember that school fees are due. This includes sports fees for those students playing a sport this fall. Fees can be paid through School Cash Online.

Community Family Movie Night



Mark your calendar! In collaboration with FCSS, our school will be hosting Movie Night October 20. Feature Presentation is Super Mario Brothers. Lots of yummy snacks will be available to enjoy. Bring all your friends. Show begins at 6:30 p.m.

Volleyball

We would like to thank Mrs. Thacker and Mrs. Thurston for volunteering their time to coach our Jr. High volleyball team. The season is well underway. Congratulations to the team on their Silver Place Medal at the Little Storm tournament last weekend. We also have three of our Sr. girls playing with the Foremost Volleyball team as well as one Sr. boy playing with St. Mary's team in Taber.



Rosary

Mrs. Wil Remijn, president of the local CWL (Catholic Women's League) will lead students and staff through a decade of the rosary on October 25 starting right after morning announcements at 8:30. You are welcome to join us at the school.

Free Hot Lunch

Once a month Parent Council will provide a FREE hot lunch to all students and staff. Thank you to Mrs. Kielstra for once again organizing these lunches. If you are able to help prepare/serve these lunches please contact Mrs. Kielstra or the school. The FREE hot lunch dates are:

October 26	March 19
November 23	April 18
December 21	May 16
February 29	

SAVE THE DATE
ANNUAL DINNER AND AUCTION
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1



October 2023



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1 Life Chain 2:00-3:00	2	3 Hat Day	4	5 Harvest Liturgy Celebration 12:15	6 No School for Students & Staff	7
8	9 Thanksgiving No School	10 Hot Dog Day	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 School Pictures Peter's Pizza Day	18	19	20 Community Family Movie Night	21
22	23 No School Division PD Day	24 Taco in a Bag	25 Rosary 8:30 Division Board Meeting	26 FREE Hot Lunch	27	28
29	30	31 Pita Pit Parade of Costumes 12:20				

St. Michael's School Council Meeting

Date: September 19, 2023 (Not yet Approved)

Attendance: Stephanie Hlady, Mrs. Jill Weatherhead, Mr. Tom Machacek, Mr. Kevin Kinahan, Christine Plouffe, Carmen Wudrich, Yolanda Klassen, Brenada Kornelson, Alison Alma-North, Jamie Pahl, Kindra & Ken Hayward, Erin Biegel, Michelle Maclean, Tina Remijn, Kim Van Ham, Justin Weatherhead, Simone Mastel, Sarah Croymans, Dave & Melissa Dyck, Jaap Remijn, Kyle Thacker

Call to Order: 5:50pm

- 1A. Opening Prayer and Treaty Acknowledgement-Mrs. Jill Weatherhead & Stephanie Hlady
- B. Welcome and Introductions- Around the room.
- C. Approval of Agenda-No additions.
- D. Approval of last meetings minutes-Tina motions to approve June meeting minutes.

B. Principal Report- SPACES Presentation-Intro to Digital Portfolios

[SPACES Presentation](#)

-SPACES will be replacing report cards. We want to see the ongoing progress of the students and this is a different view of assessment. Only using SPACES for Grades up to 6. 7 and up will continue to use PowerSchool. Something will be posted once a week in the student profile to view.

To ensure good communication between parents and teachers, teacher office hours will be available at a set time each month to be available for concerns or discussions.

Teachers are always available to connect with by email. When a Teacher receives an email, it is expected to be returned within 48 hours. Literacy and number are top priorities.

-Principal Report-Excited to start the School Year at St. Michael's. This School Year is a Temporary Contract Part Time. We received additional hours for Nutrition/Concession and Library time which have been added to the two part time EA's.

Murielle, who is the Playschool Teacher, is working in Kindergarten classroom on opposite days of Playschool. A big thank you to Bow Island Playschool for making this available for us. With the additional hours and Murielle, this has now freed up the \$19,000 that the School Council approved in the June budget for a part time EA.

Two possible options for that budget money are, tutoring support for high school students and/or mitigating the stigma of triple grading. Conversation was decided that \$1,500 from that budget would go towards tutoring for the high school students. Further discussions for the remainder of that budgeted money can happen in future meetings.

We are down 6 students on our projected enrollment.

Entering year 2 of Building Pilgrims of Hope. Introducing SMILE time with students so teachers can have some collaborating time.

Holy Spirit School Division is once again raising funds through Chalice. This year with a focus on St. Odilia School. See link below for more info.

<https://www.chalice.ca/st-odilia-school>

Stephanie asked if we could send out the exit survey to the student families that left this school year. Kevin will follow up and complete.

Hot Lunch- looking for volunteers to help

AGM Meeting

Yolanda approves September 22, 2022 meeting minutes. Kim seconds. All in favour.

Election

Treasurer- Kim Van Ham will let her name stand for Treasurer.

Secretary- Sara Weatherhead will let her name stand for Secretary.

Vice Chair- Jaap Remijn will let his name stand for Vice Chair.

Chair-Stephanie Hlady will let her name stand for Chair.

Presentation of 2022-23 Audited Financial Statements-Kim presented Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Budget for the past School Year.

As of Aug 31, \$65,117.72 in Assets. \$45,117.72 in Chq, \$20,000 in total GICs.

Nora Van Tryp and Ryan Thurston audited the Financial Statements.

Kim makes a motion to approve Financials as presented. Justin seconds. All in favour.

To Date 2023-24 Financials-Kim presented.

As of Sept 15. \$63,690.57 in Assets.\$43,690.57 in Chq, \$20,000 in total GICs.

Kim motions to accept Financials as of September 15 , 2023. Erin seconds. All in favour.

School Council Report

Stephanie will submit to the Division.

The following needs to come to the School Council for any Fundraising: Purpose of Fundraising, how it aligns with the school mission, details of the fundraiser, and proposed budget.

For upcoming School Council Meetings, please have reports submitted to save time on our meetings.

Engagement Task Force is asking for help from School Councils to provide input on relevant education issues. This would mean Stephanie asking questions for our rural voice to be heard.

Everyone agrees and Stephanie will sign up for this.

Next Meeting: Monday October 16 5:30pm.

Adjournment: 7:10pm.



Holy Spirit Catholic School Division

(I)SWAG

(Indigenous) Student Wellness Access Guide

#STRONGERTOGETHER

(I)SWAG PRESENTS

UNDERSTANDING MENTAL HEALTH AND TAKING AWAY THE STIGMA

Join us as Kim Clark from Elite Training Solutions will present while you enjoy your complimentary dinner and the chance for door prizes at a night of great learning.

OCTOBER

19

5:30 - 8:00pm

THE CEDAR ROOM

Sandman Signature
Lethbridge Lodge
320 Scenic Drive S,
Lethbridge, AB

Please RSVP at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7R9L8CC>





(I)SWAG Mental Health Learning Sessions

Understanding Mental Health & taking away the stigma

Ft. Kim Clark from Elite Training Solutions

Oct
19
2023

Nov
16
2023

How do we support our children when they might not be okay

Ft. Kim Clark from Elite Training Solutions

Resiliency and Self-Care

Ft. Lethbridge Family Services

Jan
16
2024

Feb
15
2024

Healthy Relationships

Ft. Lethbridge Family Services

ADHD - Understanding the Diagnosis and Treatment Strategies

Ft. Aleigha and Ashley from True Balance
Counselling

Mar
20
2024

Apr
18
2024

Emotional Regulation - How to Help Our Kids When They Have Big Feelings

Ft. Allie and Bailee from True Balance Counselling

Digital Detox

Ft. Lethbridge Family Services

May
14
2024

LOCATION

All sessions will have dinner served at 5:30pm, with the presentations running from 6-8pm at the Sandman Signature Lethbridge Lodge at 320 Scenic Drive S, Lethbridge, AB

Please RSVP at

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7R9L8CC>



OFF-CAMPUS NEWS

Green Certificate Information

- There will be a Virtual Zoom Information & Induction Meeting on October 3 at 7pm and again on October 4 at noon. Any students interested in the Green Certificate Program or any students who have just signed up should attend one of these meetings. Zoom link: <https://lethbridgecollege.zoom.us/j/99735020585?pwd=eUVHUIRrRjM3VjA0NWlZWfJSbE1ldz09>
- An in-person Ag3000 Safety Class will be held on Friday, October 20 from 9am to 4pm at Lethbridge College. Students must bring a device for the online quizzing—laptop, tablet or phone. Cost is \$25.00. Online registration and payment link: <https://lcfitness.ca/Program/GetProgramDetails?courseId=bc52a124-b446-487f-a666-a6d4e2832522&semesterId=079af9ad-02ff-4bec-8d78-e18b3e8e85d9>
- For more information on these events or to sign up for the Green Certificate Program talk to Mr. Boschee or contact Marina Grant (South Regional Green Cert. Coordinator) at 403-634-6308. *Alberta*

Career Transitions

Virtual Career Exploration Sessions Sessions in October



Lifeguard - Oct 11, 4:00pm
TV Producer - Oct 17, 4:00pm
Conservation Biologist - Oct 24, 4:00pm
Recreation Therapist - Oct 26, 4:00pm

Register for any of these sessions at:
<https://careersteps.ca/>

CAREERS: The Next Generation

Virtual Young Women in Trades and Technologies
Discovery Night



October 5 from 6 to 7pm

Learn about Young Women in Trades and Technologies (YWITT) opportunities and events across the province. Join us virtually for a night of fun, learning, and empowering young girls to take on the future.

Register at: <https://www.tfaforms.com/5086573>

Try a Trades Night is on November 22.

Contact Mr. Boschee for more information and registration.

Post-Secondary Open Houses

Olds College - Saturday, **October 14**, 10am - 2 pm <https://www.oldscollege.ca/campus/plan-a-visit/index.html>

U of L - Saturday, **October 21**, 10am - 3pm Register at: <https://www.ulethbridge.ca/future-student/fall-open-house>

Lethbridge College - Wednesday, **October 25**, 1pm-7pm Register at: <https://lethbridgecollege.ca/>

(Students who attend the LC Open House and apply there the application fee will be 50% off)



Your Off-Campus Team



Mark Boschee - Off-Campus Coordinator Cell: 587-220-4258 or Email: boscheem@holyspirit.ab.ca

Wendy Gurr - Career Practitioner - 403-327-4596 Ext 312 or Email: gurrw@holyspirit.ab.ca

October

Build! Pilgrims of Hope



*"To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit
for the common good."*

1 Corinthians 12:7

Saint Marguerite d'Youville 1701-1771 (Feast Day: October 16)

St. Marguerite d'Youville is the first native-born Canadian to become a canonized saint in the Catholic Church. She was born just outside of Montreal in 1701 into a growing family, but at the age of seven, her father died, which left the family impoverished. She left school to help work and take care of the family, and later married Francois d'Youville. Her marriage and family life were challenging; Francois was a dishonest businessman and did not care deeply for Marguerite, and four of their six children passed away at young ages. Upon Francois' death in 1730, a priest told Marguerite:

"Console yourself, Madame, God has destined you for great works,
and you will rebuild a crumbling house."

Despite all of the sadness and challenges of her early life, Marguerite was convinced of God's presence in her life, and sought to make real to others his compassionate love. In 1737, Marguerite and some other women established a home for the poor in Montreal. Over time, the group became a religious order and took over the General Hospital in Montreal. The Grey Nuns, as they were commonly known, cared for the elderly, the ill, and the poor of the surrounding communities, and eventually spread to nearly every continent to feed the hungry and serve the common good.

"Building" In Our Schools

This year, the call in our Holy Spirit Catholic School Division Faith Plan is to *Build!* St. Patrick Fine Arts is celebrating all the ways community members can *build* others up through their words and actions. Students are encouraged to fill out a "Project BUILD Slip" when they've experienced or seen a kind word or action and place it in the "Project BUILD Box". During morning announcements, the slips are read as an encouragement to all, that we are created with a purpose and a calling to build God's Kingdom through service to others.



Corporal Works of Mercy

— Feed the Hungry —

So many people in our communities and world do not have enough food to eat. As we enjoy Thanksgiving this month, it is a good time to pause and reflect on how we may be blinded to our own waste or excess. On top of hunger, we also know about the expansion and impact of food insecurity. According to a Caritas study, only 19% of countries worldwide have full food security, and inside those we know that experiences vary drastically. As Pope Francis said,

"Consumerism has led us to become used to an excess and daily waste of food, to which, at times, we are no longer able to give a just value, which goes well beyond mere economic parameters. We should all remember, however, that throwing food away is like stealing from the tables of the poor, the hungry!"

What might some practical suggestions be?

- See to the proper nutrition of your loved ones
- Support and volunteer for food pantries, soup kitchens, and agencies that feed the hungry
- Make a few sandwiches to hand out as you walk through areas where you might encounter people in need
- Educate yourself about world hunger
- Avoid wasting food
- Share your meals with others

Pope's Prayer Intentions - For the Synod - Let us pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a style of life at every level, allowing herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the world's peripheries.

Catholic Social Teaching

— Common Good —

Through the course of this year, we will look each month at one of the Catholic Social Teachings. The aim of Catholic Social Teaching is to shine the light of the Gospel on our contemporary world, allowing us as disciples of Christ to look at the world around us with new eyes, and to take action.

All of the Catholic Social Teachings are embedded in our relationship with God and others. Because we each have inherent dignity, being created in the image and likeness of God, we are called to live, learn, and work together in community. We are built for relationship, in the same way that our triune God is a relationship. The Catechism of the Catholic Church notes that: "The good of each individual is necessarily related to the common good...The common good concerns the life of all."

There are three main elements required for the common good:

(1) Respect for the person; (2) Social well-being and development; and (3) peace. Lastly, "The dignity of the human person requires the pursuit of the common good. Everyone should be concerned to create and support institutions that improve the conditions of human life." (CCC 1905-1926)

As we build our societies, we are called to organize in ways that promote human dignity, and consider what is good for all human persons.

Resources:

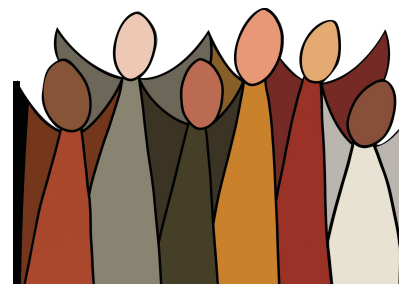
[The Common Good](#) (The Religion Teacher)

[The Common Good](#) (Caritas Australia)

[What exactly is the Common Good](#)
(Duquesne University)

[The Common Good](#) (CAFOD)

*"The Lord calls us to share in his work of creation and to contribute
to the common good by using the gifts we have received."* (Christus Vivit 253)



Gospel Readings

October 1, 2023



26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gospel Reading: Matthew 21:28-32

"Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather humbly regard others as more important than yourselves, each looking out not for his own interests, but also for those of others." — Philippians 2:3-4

In my family it is not always easy to think of others before myself. There are many days that I just want to do my own thing, and maybe even be left alone. But today's scripture tells me not to be selfish—thinking only of myself—but to consider others as more important than what I want. Jesus taught us the same thing when he gave us the two great commandments. He told us to love God with all our heart, mind, and strength. He also taught us to love our neighbors as ourselves. This sounds easier than it is sometimes, but if we ask the Lord to help us, he always will.

What are some ways I can put others in my family first?



Prayer:

Lord, please teach me how to love those around me in a self-sacrificing way. As I do, I know I will grow closer to you.



October 8, 2023

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gospel Reading: Matthew 21:33-43

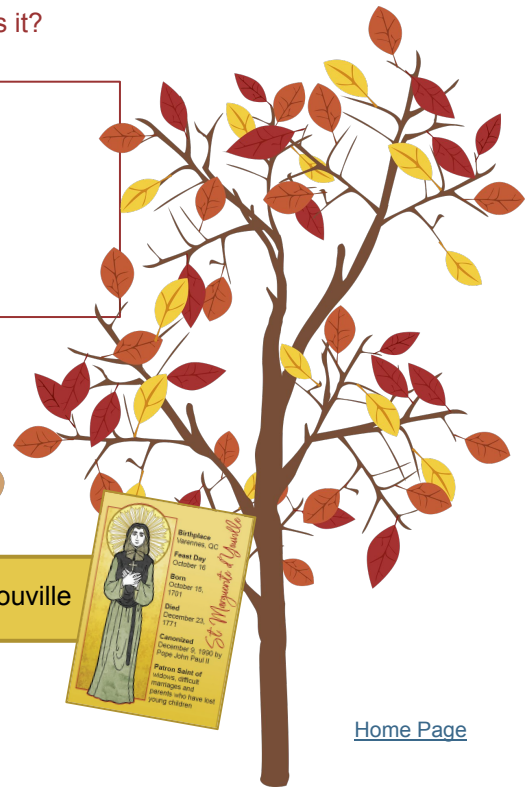
"...whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things." — Philippians 4:8

There are many ways for us to be entertained these days: video games, movies, books, social media, television, and much more. It can be difficult sometimes to decide what we should and should not be taking in. Are all of these activities making me a better person? Today's scripture helps us to have a holy focus. If we apply what it is telling us about being true, honorable, just, pure...then the things we use to entertain ourselves will help us grow closer to the Lord, not farther away from him.

Are you aware of any entertainment your family engages in that God may not like? What is it?
Can you substitute other activities that are more in line with today's scripture?

Prayer:

*Dear Lord, help me to always be thoughtful about the things I let into my heart and mind.
May they always be things that will cause me to praise you.*



Download this month's [Saint Prayer Card](#) - Saint Marguerite d'Youville



[Home Page](#)

Gospel Readings

October 15, 2023



28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gospel Reading: Matthew 22:1-14

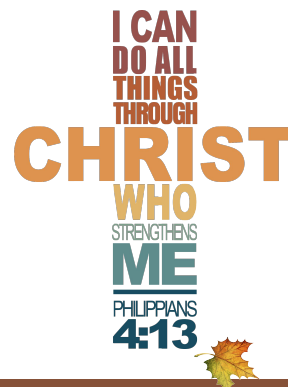
"I can do all things in him who strengthens me." — Philippians 4:13

There are times when a task makes me feel overwhelmed. I talk myself out of being able to even try it. I put it off until I convince myself that I can't do it. Today's scripture gives us hope that because we are children of God we can do ANYTHING because it is Christ who gives us what we need to do the task before us. When we feel defeated, we simply need to remind ourselves of the grace we received at baptism. Jesus is on our side, and he makes us stronger!

Name some times that you felt defeated, then asked God to help you.

Prayer:

Dear Lord, thank you for your overflowing grace that makes use strong, even when we feel down. Your love and grace are never ending.



October 22, 2023

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gospel Reading: Matthew 22:15-21

"We give thanks to God always for all of you, remembering you in our prayers." — 1 Thessalonians 1:2

It is common that people turn to God in their need, asking for help and for God to fix bad things. But today's scripture encourages us to always give thanks to God in prayer, for the good things and even the bad. Most especially, remember to pray for others and their needs. It can be a blessing to others to have someone praying for them, even if they are not aware of it. They may feel a little happier the day you pray for them, without knowing why. You could consider yourself a "secret agent of prayer" working for God.

Who are some of the people you can pray for on a regular basis?

Prayer:

Dear Lord, we thank you for all the special people you have put into our lives. Please bless them in a special way today.



October 29, 2023

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gospel Reading: Matthew 22:34-40

"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." — Matthew 22:37

I really love watching TV. I also really love eating ice cream. I especially love getting presents. But this kind of love always leaves me wanting more and never feeling satisfied. Jesus gave us hints of how we could be truly fulfilled, by turning our focus to God and giving him all the love we have inside ourselves. By giving God all the love we have inside of us, we are able to give him the credit he deserves for all the good things in our lives, which in turn can also help us appreciate them more. What an awesome God we have, so deserving of all our love.

What are some things that you "love" that can get in the way of your love for God?

Prayer:

Lord, thank you for loving me more than I could ever understand. Please help me to love you with all the love I have, to show you how glad I am to be your child.

[Home Page](#)



Sources:

[St. Marguerite d'Youville](#)
[Marie Marguerite d'Youville](#)
[Saint Marguerite d'Youville](#)

[Practical Suggestions for Practicing the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy](#)

