



## Pray for us, O holy husband of the Mother of God,

As the year of St Joseph continues and Advent approaches, it's impossible to underestimate the witness and inspiration Joseph is to each of us engaged in Catholic education. When Bishop McGrattan consecrated our Alberta Catholic schools to St Joseph, he entrusted every child, parent, educator and staff member to Joseph's protection. We are blessed.

We have just completed our nine days of Journeying with St Joseph and we reflected on the story of Joseph's faith and trust in God. The memorare in the novena reminds us: "Remember, O most pure spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, my great protector, Saint Joseph, that no one ever had recourse to your protection or implored your aid without obtaining relief."



GrACE invites each Catholic school to celebrate and recognize our consecration to St. Joseph

- † Educate your students and community about St Joseph and the act of consecration
- † Share information about St Joseph
- † Bring prayers of St Joseph into your daily routines
- † Create a St Joseph sacred space that allows for prayer and reflection
- † Continue to use the prayers provided in the novena as a way to stay connected and prayerful.

Father, in your loving providence, you entrusted our Saviour to the care of St Joseph. By the help of his prayers, may your Church continue to serve its Lord, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

*Gratefully,*  
*Bonnie*

## GrACE Newsletter

GrACE newsletter seeks to build a provincial Catholic community by celebrating Catholic education across Alberta.

## #gottagracedgroup2.22

2022 is just around the corner and GrACE is ready to rebuild, restore and renew together! With new leaders and stakeholders advocating for Catholic education, we invite you to take an updated photo of your "new" GrACE group, share it and post it using the tag #gracedgroups2.22

## Catholic Education Prayers of the Faithful for December

- † For Catholic Education: For protection and graces during this time of Pandemic, we pray to the Lord.
- † For Catholic teachers: that their witness to hope in the Lord will be manifest daily, we pray to the Lord
- † For Catholic education: For unity and solidarity within our communities and province, we pray to the Lord
- † For Catholic education: That each one of our Catholic school districts will seek to build Bethlehem in our schools and our hearts, we pray to the Lord



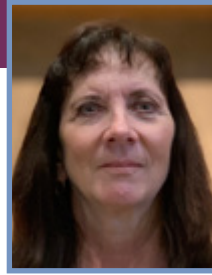
# Meet the Chairs of Alberta's Catholic School Districts



**Cathie Williams**  
Calgary Catholic  
School District



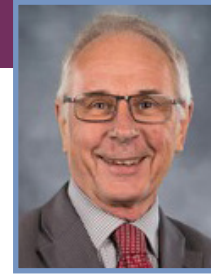
**Andrea Keenan**  
Christ the Redeemer  
Catholic Schools



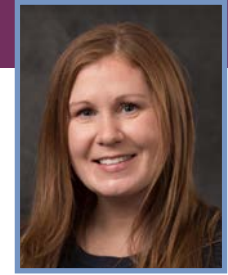
**Debra Klein**  
East Central  
Catholic Schools



**Sandra Palazzo**  
Edmonton  
Catholic Schools



**Ted Paszek**  
Elk Island  
Catholic Schools



**Natasha McBride**  
Evergreen  
Catholic Schools



**Cathie Langmead**  
Fort McMurray  
Catholic Schools



**Russ Snoble**  
Grande Prairie  
Catholic Schools



**Joe Becigneul**  
Greater St. Albert  
Catholic Schools



**Kelly Whalen**  
Holy Family  
Catholic Schools



**Carmen  
Mombourquette**  
Holy Spirit  
Catholic Schools



**Diane Bauer**  
Lakeland  
Catholic Schools



**Dana Kentner**  
Living Waters  
Catholic Schools



**Paula Scott**  
Lloydminster  
Catholic Schools



**Kathy Glasgo**  
Medicine Hat  
Catholic Schools



**Kim Pasula**  
Red Deer  
Catholic Schools



**Heather Starosielski**  
St. Paul School  
Division



**Henry Effen**  
St. Thomas Aquinas  
Catholic Schools



**Étienne Alary**  
Catholic Board Chair  
Conseil Scolaire  
Centre-Nord



**Geneviève Poulin**  
President of Society  
of Catholic Trustees  
Conseil Scolaire  
FrancoSud



**Sylvianne  
Maisonneuve**  
President  
Conseil Scolaire du  
Nord-Ouest



**John Williams**  
Catholic Education  
Association of Yukon



**Tina Schauerte**  
Yellowknife  
Catholic Schools

# Pope Francis to Receive Canadian Delegation Archbishop Richard Smith of the Archdiocese of Edmonton

[Archbishop Smith Responds to Announcement of Pope Francis Coming to Canada | @ArchEdmonton - YouTube](#)

## Canadian Delegation December 17-20

Pope Francis will hear directly from Indigenous peoples on the historical and ongoing legacy of residential schools, as well as their hopes and desires for his visit to Canada. The Catholic Bishops of Canada have invited a group of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Elders, knowledge keepers, residential school survivors, and youth to meet with Pope Francis at the Vatican from December 17-20, 2021, accompanied by a small group of Canadian Bishops including Archbishop Smith and Bishop McGrattan from Alberta.

As part of the delegation, the Holy Father will participate in three private meetings with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis delegates respectively to hear their personal stories about the lasting legacy of residential schools. Delegates will also have the opportunity to speak with the Holy Father about their hopes and expectations for his eventual pilgrimage to Canada.

Please keep this delegation and their meetings with Pope Francis in your prayers.

## Overview of REN for GrACE October 2021

The Religious Education Network, or REN exists as a community of Religious Education leaders who advance and promote Catholic Education through professional learning, faith formation and collaboration.

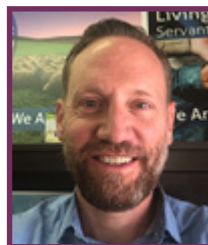
### The Religious Education Network is composed of:

- † One Superintendent appointed representative from each Catholic School Division in the Province (Religious Education Consultants, Associate Superintendents, Directors of Curriculum)
- † One representative from each Alberta and NWT Dioceses and Eparchy
- † The Past President of CCSSA
- † The Executive Director of CCSSA

The Religious Education Network (REN) originated around 1993 in response to an identified need among Catholic educators to connect with colleagues around the province. Since that time, REN has established itself as a significant forum for collaboration and a vehicle for action in fulfilling the dual mandate of Catholic schools of teaching through the eyes of Faith in the Province of Alberta.

REN assists school communities as they strive for excellence in their Catholic mission in Alberta and Northwest Territories. Emboldened by our collaboration and faith formation, we go forth as disciples of Christ called to serve those we encounter in Catholic Education.

## Current REN Executive Members 2021-2022



**Colin Loiselle**  
*President*

*Religious Education Consultant,  
Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools*



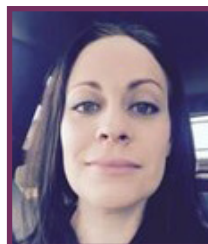
**Kathleen Nguyen**  
*Vice-President*

*Religious Education Consultant,  
Edmonton Catholic Schools*



**Chelsea Marshall**  
*Secretary*

*Religious Education &  
Family Life Consultant,  
Calgary Catholic  
School District*



**Laura Houle-Tapson**  
*Treasurer*

*Supervisor of  
Religious Education,  
Grande Prairie Catholic  
School District*



**Michael Hauptman**  
*Executive Director  
of CCSSA*

## Catholic School Districts' Publications

- † [Calgary Catholic Schools](#)
- † [Christ the Redeemer Catholic Schools](#)
- † [Living Waters Catholic Schools](#)

## Connect Online

- † GrACE Facebook address is [www.facebook.com/GrACE4cathed](https://www.facebook.com/GrACE4cathed)
- † Grace email is [gracedirector7@gmail.com](mailto:gracedirector7@gmail.com)
- † GrACE Twitter address is [@GrACE4cathed](https://twitter.com/GrACE4cathed)
- † [GrACE website](#)

## Telling our Catholic Education Stories

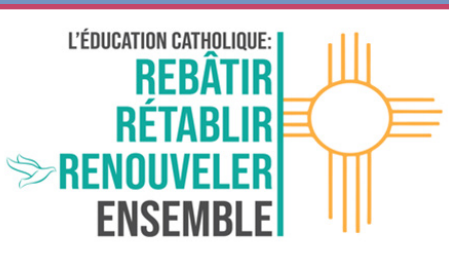
[Kneeling at Mary's feet - ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF CALGARY \(catholiccyyc.ca\)](#)



[The love we show - ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF CALGARY \(catholiccyyc.ca\)](#)



## Catholic Education Around the Province Conseil scolaire FrancoSud



At Église Sainte Famille, southern Alberta's only Francophone Catholic Church south of Edmonton, the November Catholic Education Mass is prepared annually by Conseil scolaire FrancoSud and its two Calgary Francophone Catholic Schools, École Notre-Dame-de-la-Paix and École Sainte Marguerite Bourgeoys. This year, as a follow-up to the October Municipal elections, FrancoSud's three newly acclaimed Catholic trustees, Mme Hélène Emmell, Mme Geneviève Poulin and Mme Chantal Desjardins, were invited to be part of this mass to receive a benediction from the parish priest, Monseigneur Noël. It was a very touching moment as it brought back memories on the how and the why Sainte Famille was established as a church and parish in the early 1900s.



The first Francophone Catholic settlers had congregated at Notre-Dame-de-la-Paix parish, a parish founded by Father Lacombe, OMI, and located in the Mission District of Calgary which was then known as Rouleville. With the arrival of English and Irish immigrants, the parish was then changed to St Mary's and the St Mary's Cathedral was built on this site. Initially, the French Catholic community was reallocated to Ste Anne's parish in south east Calgary. Wanting to return to the Mission area, the Francophone Catholic community fundraised to buy an unfinished Protestant church on 17th Ave & 5th St SW, Calgary and then built Sainte Famille church on that site. The church was housed in the basement from 1928 to 1963 and then moved into the newly built white building now known as Église Sainte Famille.



Daniel Therrien, Superintendent, FrancoSud, closed his message to the assembly by stating "that it is now our turn to rebuild, restore, renew together the precious heritage of Francophone Catholic education in Calgary and area. The GrACE mandate was truly made visible as parishioners in attendance were reminded that this beautiful church in which we now meet, is truly the result of a very determined group of French Catholic pioneers who recognized the importance of maintaining one's Catholic Faith in a Francophone environment.

## New Chair for CTR GrACE

Hi Everyone!

I would like to take this opportunity to express my excitement and gratitude as a new member of the GrACE team for Christ The Redeemer Catholic Schools. I have the honour of being the Chairperson for our local Christ The Redeemer GrACE Committee this year and look forward to working closely with a team that is dedicated to our GrACE mission. I had an interesting start to my own experience with Catholic Education, as it was coming to an official end, sadly and ironically, as I was starting Kindergarten in New Brunswick in 1970. My real exposure to the many gifts and richness of Catholic education came later in life when I joined Christ The Redeemer Catholic Schools in 1991. Since then I have seen many lives transformed, including my own, by the experience and blessing of having faith-based education in our schools. As a cautionary tale, Catholic Education ended with a whimper in my province and once lost, was never to return. The missing key back in 1970 was the lack of “voice” and advocacy. GrACE needs to be a stalwart and vigilant beacon against any hint of diluting Faith in our schools. As a former administrator in both brick and mortar and online schools, I have seen firsthand the measure of importance that Catholicity has had on the journeys of many, including some conversions of families and students during their tenure at our schools.

Our CTR GrACE Committee is launching several activities this year in reference to our short-term goals of having more youth experiences inside and outside of our schools, focus on service, and promoting GrACE more actively in all schools and Parishes. Some of these activities will include Monthly Youth Masses, more youth involvement in Catholic Education Sunday, feature an online event with a formative guest speaker, sharing the “Five Marks” with parents, and a parent/teacher Panel Discussion event later this year.

In addition, communication of GrACE initiatives will be important and we will embark on the creation of school liaisons for GrACE at each school, regular GrACE reports at staff meetings, having School Council parents give regular updates, and continuing to highlight GrACE events, activities and initiatives through our social media portal.

Above all, we see our CTR GrACE Committee as a catalyst for action for those we serve...students, families, and staff and to be a faithful guide for them in all aspects of their Catholic lives.

**Mark MacDonald**

Trustee, Christ The Redeemer (High River Ward)  
Christ The Redeemer Catholic Schools



CTR GrACE #gottagracedgroup2.22

## Social Media from around the province...

✚ East Central Catholic Schools @ecacs16 · Oct 24  
Congratulations to our new trustees. “Growing in Christ, Making a Difference!”



East Central Catholic School Division  
“Growing in Christ, Making a Difference!”



Ms. Welte, Mme Scott, Deacon Ron and Father Dennis celebrate Catholic Education Sunday at St Mary’s Cochrane @CCSD\_edu @CCEF\_YYC @GrACE4cathed @CSFrancoSud



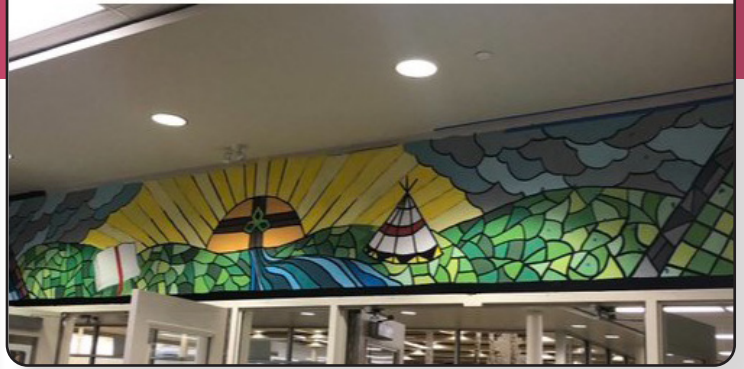
**Tina Madden** @MrsTLMadden · Nov 7

Today we came together as a community of faith to celebrate the gift of publicly funded Catholic Education. We are grateful for the blessing of Catholic Education. Thank you for your prayers and generous donations that help to ensure equity in education. #CCEF @OLWchestermere



**Susan Wilkie** @Mrs\_SWilkie · Nov 9

The mural painting team at @HolyTrinityYMM has been hard at work. Check out this beautiful new mural! #artists #WeAreFMCS



**STAR Catholic School Division**

4d · 🌐

It's Catholic Education Sunday! We are so grateful to be able to share the blessing of publicly funded Catholic Education with the communities we serve. Help spread the good news of Catholic Education today and every day!

Download an informative flyer for Catholic Education Sunday on our website: <https://www.starcatholic.ab.ca/division/news/post/celebrating-catholic-education-sunday2>

#IBelieveInCatholicEd



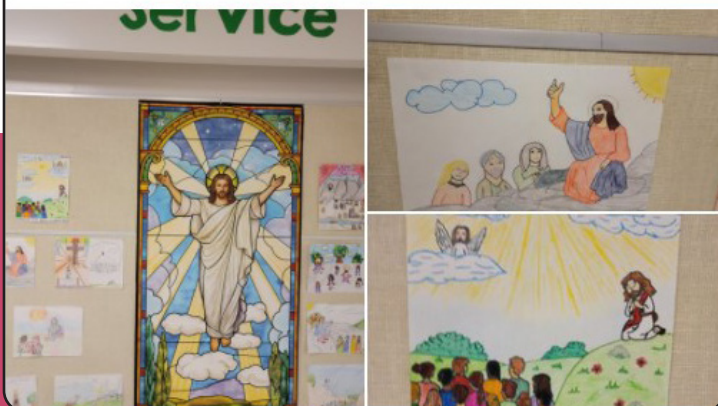
**St. Kateri Academy** @SKTAcademy\_ · Nov 7

Celebrating our faith on Catholic Education Sunday with our students! @GrACE4cathed #gsacrd #faith



**St. Matthew School** @StMatthew\_CCSD · Nov 8

Our 7-1, 7-4 and 7-5 Religion classes did renditions of the Sermon on the Mount. They sure did an amazing job.



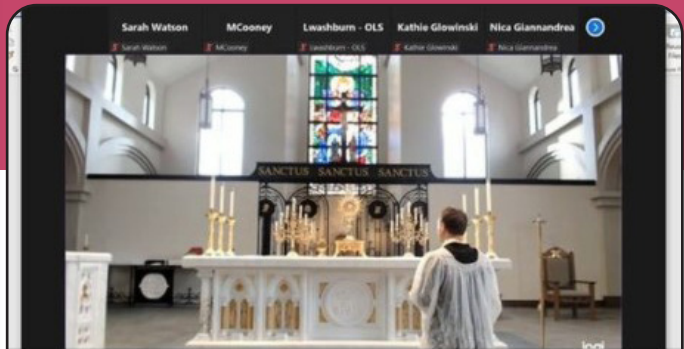
**Holy Family CRD** @HFCRD37 · Nov 7

Today Ecole Providence School staff celebrated their annual recommissioning mass, where staff reaffirm their commitment to Catholic education and lead by example. Thank you to Board Chair Kelly Whalen for attending today to support our staff! #WeBelieveInCatholicEd #acsta #hford



Board of Trustees to begin their new term as advocates for Catholic education and stewards of our Division. (1/2) #ECSDfaithinspires #iBelieveinCatholicEd

[Show this thread](#)



**Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Academy**

November 4 at 10:58 AM · 🌐

Today we spent time in Adoration with Father Nathan. Adoration is the devotional tradition of spending time in Eucharistic adoration in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Thank you to Mr. Targa who volunteered to live-stream from the church so we could spend this time with God.

**ECSD** @EdmCathSchools · Nov 5

Banners in our parishes help link the Home-School-Parish relationship, so families easily identify which Catholic schools are available in their area. Parishes & the schools have a collaborative relationship that builds community & promotes the Catholic faith. #ECSDfaithinspires



Evergreen Catholic Schools Retweeted **St. Teresa Learning Centre** @stcl1444 · Nov 7

Grateful for the gift of Catholic education. It was lovely to gather with students and colleagues today to celebrate such an incredible gift. #ecssdHOPE #iBelieveinCatholicEd



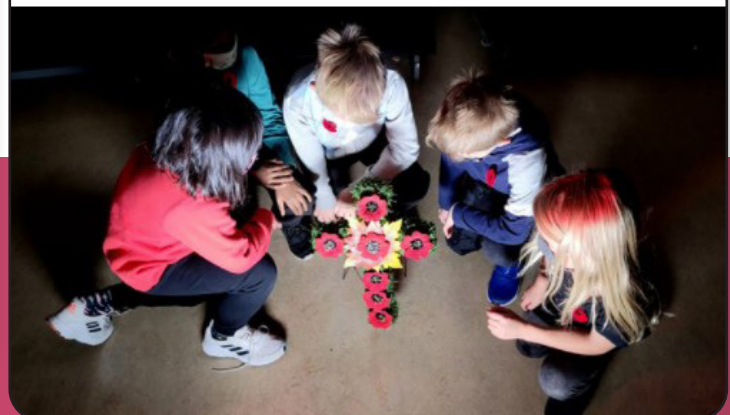
**Caroline McDonald** @apstgreg · Nov 7

So blessed to be an administrator and teaching in our Evergreen Catholic schools! This Catholic Education Sunday we remember how grateful we are for the treasure of Catholic Education! ❤️ #CatholicEducationSunday



**stdominic\_ccsd** @stdominic\_ccsd · 22h

Remembrance Day Ceremony and Liturgy led by Gr. 3Y and Mrs. Yu! Thank you so much for a great job! @CCSD\_edu #poppies #WeWillRememberThem 🌻



**Andrea Haston** @teacherhaston · Nov 21  
 Today we are blessed at Elk Island Catholic Schools to celebrate the gift of Catholic Education @EICSCatholic @EICSfaith\_well #ibelieveincatholiceducation #calledtomore

**Bishop O'Byrne High School** @BOB\_CCSD · Nov 8  
 Thank you to Gr 10 student, Cecilia McLaughlin, for representing our school at St. Albert the Great Parish yesterday on behalf of Catholic Education Sunday. @CCFEF\_YYC #catholiceducationsunday @CCSD\_edu #ibelieveincatholic

**St. Louis School Medicine Hat**  
 Nov 3 · 🌐

What a Blessing! Today students and staff were blessed to experience the Face to Face school retreat! Thank you to Ryan a... See More

**Holy Family CRD** @HFCRD37 · Nov 3  
 Here's what Catholic Education means to a staff member at Glenmary School! What does Catholic Education mean to you? #webelieveinCatholicEducation #acsta

What Catholic Education means to me:  
 As a staff member I strive to remember that every day, every class, every hour, every minute, every second we are teaching but we are also learning, learning how to be good and just and more like Jesus.

**GRACE CTR: Grateful Advocates for Catholic Education at Christ The Redeemer**  
 November 9 at 9:41 AM · 🌐

"When you look at the Crucifix, you understand how much Jesus loved you then. When you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loves you now," - Mother Teresa of Calcutta #IBelieveinCatholicEd ❤️

**Medicine Hat Catholic Schools** @MHCatholic · Nov 5  
 Sunday, Nov. 7 is #CatholicEducationSunday!

This year's theme, "Rebuild, restore, renew, together." resonates deeply with the context of our lived reality. Rooted in our faith, we remain people of hope trusting in the Lord.

📺 Video narrated by @stjohnpaul2mh Grade 4 students

