

# THE 5 MARKS OF CATHOLIC SCHOOL IDENTITY

Division Newsletter



# This month - Mark 5: An excellent Catholic school is shaped by a spirituality of communion.



#### In our schools 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



### École Notre Dame School

This event coincided with the new display of the Seven Sacred Teachings that was put up in our foyer Learning Commons windows. These teachings are values based on First Nations cultural tradition. They reinforce the teachings of our Catholic faith.

Each teaching honours one of the basic virtues to help us to live a full and healthy life. Each of them is represented by a different animal and provides practical and positive traits for everyday use.

- Monique Tellier-Phillips, Principal









#### St. Benedict School

At St. Benedict Catholic School we live together "virtually" as a school community. At the beginning of each school week, we come together to pray and learn about our Catholic faith. We celebrate birthdays and various celebrations.

Recently, the school community celebrated our faith by all participating in a school wide Retreat!! Celebrating our faith through the retreat allowed students to grow together as well grow in our faith.

- Rebecca Boorse, Grade 6 Teacher



# Christ the King School

Chargers for Charity is one of the service groups we have at Christ the King School. This group's key focus is to address the needs of the marginalized. This school year we focused on fundraising for St. Michael's Parish (Planning for Tomorrow), Catholic Social Services, and Victim Services (Leduc and District).

God is alive in our school even with Covid 19 restrictions. Father Silvichan has made several visits to the school to visit students and bless our classrooms. Our supportive parent community treats the staff with Education Week snacks, flipped pancakes for Shrove Tuesday and provides sage advice during our School Council meetings.

- Lynn Karasiuk James, Acting Vice Principal and Learning Support Facilitator

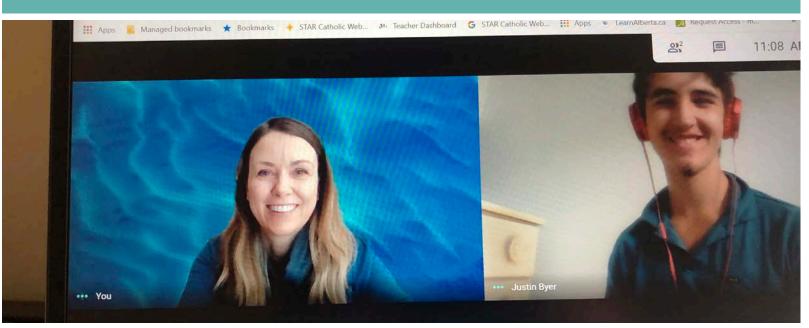


## STAR Catholic Outreach

STAR Catholic Outreach works collaboratively with high school students across the division and, in particular, with students who are in need of off-campus or Outreach learning. We celebrate the needs of our students and build a different style of student and teacher relationship as many of our students are adults or working toward some of their graduation requirements online.

Mrs. Clement, one of our Outreach teachers, is featured in the photo with one of her English students as they celebrate Catholic Education Week. Faith messaging to families is an essential piece of communication with all of our online and off-campus high school students.

#### - Lynn Karasiuk James, Learning Support Facilitator



#### Father Lacombe Catholic School

We received a lovely Thank You card from Youth Unlimited that read: "Thank you so much for filling the pantry of the Yu-Turn homes, the gift cards and the messages of worth and hope...What a blessing and sacrifice you have made to serve others...We have been abundantly blessed!"

As the song goes..."We are family, I got all my students with me!"

- Maria Wagner, Principal



### Father Leduc Catholic School

At Father Leduc Catholic School, we are grateful for the opportunity to connect and share as a community. Whether that is over Zoom for a quick game of Rock, Paper, Scissors or sharing kind messages with chalk around our neighbourhood, our students and staff are always looking to connect with one another and share God's love.

Our grade 3 teacher, Sarah Hughes, had the opportunity to help teach the Sacrament of First Reconciliation to students across Leduc this past month. We are grateful for opportunities like this to share our faith and connect with our parish, parents and fellow schools.







Father Ledu

Father Leduc students from K-8 spent Mental Health Week spreading positive messages and chalk drawings throughout the Southfork neighborhood. Creating a caring atmosphere and being part of a greater community in and out of school are important aspects of Catholic Education!







## Father Leduc Catholic School

The fifth mark of a Catholic School places an emphasis on the school as a "genuine community of faith." This communal dimension is rooted both in the social nature of the human person and in the reality of the Church as "the home and the school of communion."

The Catholic philosophy of education has always paid special attention to the quality of interpersonal relations in the school community, especially between teachers and students. This concern shows that the student is seen as a person whose intellectual growth is harmonized with spiritual, religious, emotional, and social growth. This picture shows our students receiving their Bibles at St. Michael's Parish.



#### St. Augustine School

COVID-19 has impacted the St. Augustine Community to a great extent this month. We have leaned on each other as staff, students, and families, grounded in the greatest gifts of each other. Indeed, we are Easter people, seeking to choose joy. God is indeed alive in our community.

Pictured: Religion 35A leads a virtual Easter Mass; the Grade 1K Cohort is excited to return to school following quarantine; We trust that Jesus walks beside us in our faith and this brings us hope.

- Kari Davidson, Acting Principal



"Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil.

For if they fall, one will lift up the other; but woe to one who is alone and falls and does not have another to help. Again, if two lie together, they keep warm; but how can one keep warm alone?

And though one might prevail against another, two will withstand one. A threefold cord is not quickly broken."

- Ecclesiastes 4:9-12