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ST CATHERINE SCHOOL *N E W S L E T T E R*

What you'll find

- New bell times
- New staff
- Important dates
- Cellphone policy
- Jr High Option forms
- Coaches needed for Volleyball
- Continuation of SafeArrival
- School Fees
- Say Hello to Mountain West & Picture Day
- Annual Calendar





ST CATHERINE SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER 2026

NEW SCHOOL YEAR, NEW THEME



Holy Spirit School Division: 3 years Faith plan

Year 1: 2025-2026 Know God.

Year 2: 2026-2027 **LOVE GOD**



We are called to love God through the Mass and the Sacred Heart of Jesus.
See how the theme "Love God" is noticed throughout the school year!



NEW BELL TIMES 2026



**ELP &
Kindergarten**
8:32am -
11:45am

Monday-Thursday

DOORS Open: 8:20am

Warning bell: 8:30am

Classes begin: 8:32am

Dismissal Bell: 3:26pm

FRIDAY BELL TIMES

Dismissal Bell: 12:15pm

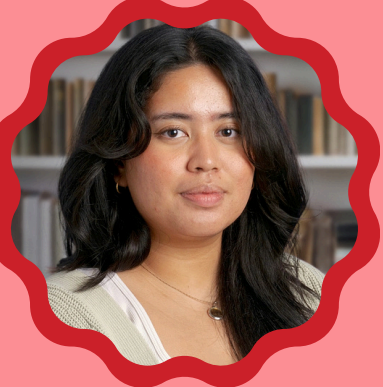
SE WHAT'S NEW **SAY HELLO TO OUR NEW SAINTS**

Pia Virginillo



Will be taking over the remainder of Mrs. Ortynski maternity leave which concludes December. She has been teaching for more than 15 years. Originally from Denmark, she has called Lethbridge home for the past 23 years, and is married with 2 children. She is passionate about reading, creating art, making pottery, biking, and spending time outdoors in the sunshine.

Ms. Alvarez



Will be joining us teaching Grade 7-9 English Language Arts! She moved from the Philippines to Canada many years ago, and has been living here since. She enjoys reading, creating art, and playing video games, so if you're interested in any, or all of those, definitely say hi, and chat with her about it! We look forward to seeing how her passion for learning and new relationships brings a new spin to our junior high crew.

HOME ROOM TEACHERS

Grade 1: Ms. Price

Grade 2/3: Ms. Constant

Grade 4: Mrs. Virginillo/

Grade 5: Mr. Gokarn

Grade 6: Mrs. Harling/Mrs. Nelson

Grade 7: Ms. Alvarez

Grade 8: Mr. Dawydiuk

Grade 9: Mr. Gatner





THINGS TO KNOW! IMPORTANT DATES

Grade 9 Camping Trip to Waterton Lakes National Park September 9-11

- Make sure to sign permission click
- Volunteers needed

Back to School BBQ

September 16

Parent supervision of children is required.

5pm Start!

New Family blessing.

Orange Shirt Day

September 29

**National Day for truth
and Reconciliation.**

September 30 NO SCHOOL





REMINDERS

CELLPHONE POLICY 2026-2027



AWAY FOR THE DAY

St. Catherine School is maintaining a **phone-free policy** for **all students** during the school day.

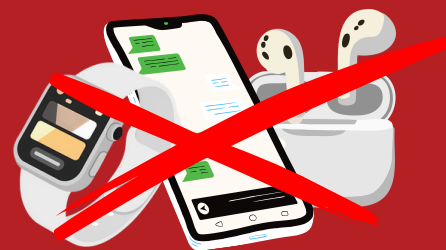
Students below grade 7 are not permitted to have any devices within the school. If as a parent you are wanting them to have a device for "before and after school communication" please contact the school office to work out a plan. The student will still have to follow the policy and their device will remain **off and away for the day**.

Jr High students have to keep phones and other personal electronic devices off and in their lockers **from the first bell at 8:32am to the dismissal bell at 3:26pm**. They are not permitted to access these devices at any point during the school day.

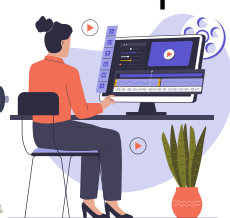
If you need to contact your student, do so through the office by emailing: scpboffice@holyspirit.ab.ca or call 403-732-4359.

What's Included?

Cellphones, Smart watches, wireless earbuds, all bluetooth headphones and fitness trackers.



JR HIGH options forms due Sept 1!



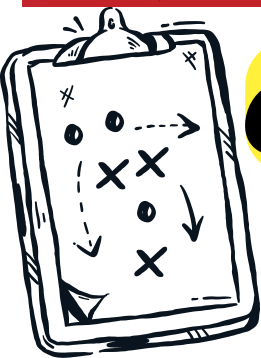
Option lists were mailed out with report cards.

Please review the available options and **bring the filled out document back** on

September 1st to select your options for the 2026-2027 school year.

Option classes are filled by a first come first serve basis.

SAINTS SPORTS



COACHES NEEDED

FOR VOLLEYBALL AND BASKETBALL
JV AND SV FOR BOYS AND GIRLS



COACHES WOULD ATTEND PRACTICES (TIMES THEY SET)

- HELP STUDENTS GROW IN FORM, GAME UNDERSTANDING, SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND TEAM WORK.

ATTEND GAMES AND TOURNAMENTS.



- SUPERVISING AND LEADING THE TEAM AT EVENTS.
- COMMUNICATE WITH PARENTS INFORMATION PERTAINING TO GAMES AND TOURNAMENTS AND PRACTICES. INCLUDING START TIMES AND DOWN TIMES BETWEEN GAMES.

*If you are interested please contact the office at
scpboffice@holyspirit.ab.ca or our Athletic Director Brian
Dawydiuk at dawydiukb@holyspirit.ab.ca*



VOLLEYBALL



Starting SEPTEMBER.

Depending on coaches Volleyball will begin the first few weeks of September. We will be sending out information regarding the season as soon as we can!

SAFE ARRIVAL



SCHOOLMESSENGER®

YOU can now put in your child's attendance as absent, late, or leaving early right into our system! Through **SafeArrival**.

If you haven't yet, please create your account, or save the toll free number to use for reporting absences. **(833)-225-4644**

- Download the **SchoolMessenger Home** app
- Use **SafeArrival** website (SchoolMessenger Canada).



2026-2027 SCHOOL FEES

SchoolCashOnline

Log in/register for your School Cash Online account to get ready for the upcoming school year.

How to register

Go to <https://holyspirit.schoolcashonline.com> and click **Register**.

- Enter your first name, last name, email address, and create a password you won't forget, or write it where it won't be lost.
- Select a security question, YES to emails, this will send you the confirmation email.
- *Check your Spam folder if you don't receive it.*
- Use your email address and password to log in to your account.

How to add children to your account

- Sign in to SchoolCash Online:
<https://holyspirit.schoolcashonline.com>
- At the top of the page click **My Account**.
- From the dropdown menu, select **My Students**.
- Type your school board name: **Holy Spirit Catholic School Division**
- Choose your school from the list: **St Catherine School Picture Butte**
- Enter your child's details:
- **Click Confirm**.

KINDERGARTEN PARENTS!

You will need to re-register your child in School Cash online. They will be receiving their Alberta Student Number ASN in August. This number will be their number for the rest of their academics in Alberta. It is 9 digits and begins with a 3.

If you have any questions, require more information or are in need of financial support, please contact n Daniel Scott-Perry at scottperryd@holyspirit.ab.ca or call 403-732-4359

SCHOOL COUNCIL

School Council AGM *September 23*

CLASS REPS SIGN UP SHEETS WILL BE
AT THE BACK TO SCHOOL BBQ SEPT 16

We are seeking a Chair and Vice-Chair for School Council!

We need

- Chair: The Chair serves a maximum of 3 years, and will be....
 - 1. Be responsible/preside over all meetings of the School Council;
 - Act as representative for the Council assisting in general supervision of School Council activities
 - Participate and present to the School Board, at meetings.
- Vice Chair: Serve a maximum of 3 years
 - 1. Assist the Chair and help supervise meetings
 - Will take over for the Chair if situations arise preventing the Chair to do so
- Classroom Reps! - Communicate with and come to understand the views of the parents of the grade you represent.
 - Come to meetings throughout the school year, with multiple reps from each grade you would be able to rotate meeting attendance.

HOME & SCHOOL

FIRST MEETING:
SEPTEMBER 15 @ 7 PM

First School Mass: September 2nd at 9am @ St Catherine's Parish

Sacraments: St. Ambrose & St. Catherine Twinned Parishes



If you or your child are in need of a sacrament please
call 403-345-3000
or email office@stambroseparish.ca to register for this
upcoming year.

B U S S I N G

School Bus expectations:

To help drivers stay focused on the road and surroundings.

- Students need to be sitting facing forward, not obstructing the aisle.
- Have inside voices, when in the bus.
- You cannot consume food or drinks on the bus.
- Stay seated, and remain respectful.

*Please refer to the **TRANSPORTATION** page, found through Parents & Students,
on the website to access ride along forms, as well as new bus riding forms.*

Transportation Status



UPDATE



On our website we have
TRANSPORTATION STATUS
This helps you to see the status of
the bus, and if any busses are
running late. You will also find "Ride
along bus forms"

≡ Say hello to ≡



Your School Photography Partner! 



HIGH-QUALITY
PHOTOS



EASY ONLINE
ORDERING



SAFE, SECURE
& TRUSTED



FRIENDLY
PHOTOGRAPHERS

Hello school community,

We're excited to introduce ourselves. We are **Mountain West Studios** and we'll be your official photography provider beginning **Fall 2026!**

We are a **proudly Canadian** company with over 46 years experience of working with schools and families, capturing memories that last a lifetime. From school portraits to graduation and class photos, we make the process fun and easy. ✨

Continue

Continued

✓ WHAT FAMILIES CAN EXPECT:

- High-quality photos and keepsakes you'll be proud to share
- Easy online ordering
- Safe secure process
- Friendly, professional photographers who care

♥ We can't wait for you to meet the Mountain West team!

👥 Be on the lookout for more information about picture day and ordering details in the fall.

Thank you for being a part of the school community. Here's to a great year ahead! ♥

The team at
Mountain West Studios



Picture Day!
October 1st

HOLY SPIRIT SCPB 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

Aug 25 First day for staff
Aug 28 Opening Mass

O – 5
I – 0

AUGUST '26						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

SEPTEMBER '26

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27	28	29	30			

Sept 1 First day for students
Sept 7 Labour Day
Sept 23 Div. Board Meeting
Sept 30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

O – 20 (25)
I – 20

Oct 9 School PD Day
Oct 12 Thanksgiving Day
Oct 13 PD Day
Oct 28 Div. Board Meeting

O – 21 (46)
I – 19 (39)

OCTOBER '26						
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

NOVEMBER '26

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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Nov 11 Remembrance Day
Nov 12 Div. PD Day
Nov 13 PD Day
Nov 25 Div. Board Meeting

O – 20 (66)
I – 18 (57)

Dec 16 Div. Board Meeting
Dec 18 Last day before break
Dec 21-31 Christmas break
Dec 25 Christmas Day
Dec 26 Boxing Day

O – 14 (80)
I – 14 (71)

DECEMBER '26						
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JANUARY '27

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31						

Jan 1 New Year's Day
Jan 4 First day after break
Jan 27 Div. Board Meeting
Jan 29 School PD Day

O – 20 (100)
I – 19 (90)

Feb 15 Family Day
Feb 16 & 17 Non-operational days
Feb 18 & 19 SWATCA Teachers
Feb 18 & 19 CUPE – with the exclusion of EAs
Feb 24 Div. Board Meeting

O – 17 (117)
I – 15 (105)

FEBRUARY '27						
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28						

MARCH '27

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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Mar 24 Div. Board Meeting
Mar 25 Last day before Easter break
Mar 26 Good Friday
Mar 29 Easter Monday
Mar 26-31 Easter break

O – 19 (136)
I – 19 (124)

Apr 1-2 Easter break
Apr 5 First day after break
Apr 26 PD Day
Apr 28 Div. Board Meeting

O – 20 (156)
I – 19 (143)

APRIL '27						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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25	26	27	28	29	30	

MAY '27

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

May 24 Victoria Day
May 25 Spiritual Dev. Day
May 26 Div. Board Meeting

O – 20 (176)
I – 19 (162)

Jun 23 Div. Board Meeting
Jun 24 Last day for students
Jun 25 Last day for teachers

O – 19 (195)
I – 18 (181)

JUNE '27						
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

JULY '27

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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

No students
Stat Holidays
School PD/Div. PD/Spiritual Dev./Collab. Days
Div. Board Meetings
First and last days for students
First and last days for teachers