



## Let your Light Shine

*You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before human beings so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. —Matthew 5:14-16*



## Catholic Schools: Cities on the Hill

The Gospel for February 5 was a powerful reminder of our call to advocacy for Catholic education. We are the light of the world! We are a city on the hill! As advocates we never take for granted the gift of publicly funded Catholic education across our province.

As Alberta prepares for its next provincial election, GrACE invites you to prayerfully be informed, get engaged and challenge your candidates to visibly support our right to authentic Catholic education. The future is in your hands.

### Bishop Barron's Homily - February 5

You Are the Salt of the Earth - Word on Fire Sermon

You are the salt of the earth, not somebody else...You, everyone baptized, you are the light of world. Don't put that light under a bushel... How is your Christianity impacting the world around you? *Who am I to be imposing my values?* That's a secular prejudice. It's not the Gospel. *How is my Christianity impacting the world around us; making it better and getting in the way of evil and wickedness in the world? How do we consider our spiritual lives; for our benefit or for the benefit of the world?* I think everything will change depending on how you take in these words. —Excerpt from the Word on Fire Sermon- Feb 5/23

## Resignations Announced



**Michael Hauptman**, CCSSA Executive Director will be moving on to other adventures at the end of this year. "I have enjoyed this opportunity, the people, and the gift of being part of Catholic Education in the province of Alberta. I look forward to continuing to support this great gift in other capacities and having more time to be present with my family."

**Bonnie Annicchiarico**, Executive Director of GrACE has announced her retirement from her position effective June 30, 2023. Bonnie has been executive director for the past 5 years and since GrACE's inception. "I continue to be passionate about Catholic education and am incredibly grateful for the advocates, colleagues and friends that I have been blessed to work alongside. The future of Catholic education is in great hands."

## Save the Date: Mark Your Calendars

### GrACE Summit 2023

Friday, May 12, 2023

You are invited to gather with advocates from across Alberta to unite, engage, educate and communicate around Catholic education in our province. Be prepared for an exciting and rewarding day!

Co-Hosted by Edmonton Catholic Schools and GrACE  
Lumen Christi Catholic Education Center, Edmonton  
Registration and details to follow



## Walking Together in Catholic Education: Catholic Education Week 2023

May 15-19, 2023



## In it Together! Advocacy Brand 2023

As announced last month, and with deep appreciation for Calgary Catholic schools' design team, GrACE is pleased to release two logos (French and English) for use across the province in support of Catholic education.

In addition, Elite Promotional Marketing has stepped forward to provide all Alberta advocates and stakeholders with promotional material and apparel that can be ordered online and delivered to your site featuring *In it Together* logo, clothing and gear. Please have a look and consider what you could do to promote Catholic education to your stakeholders.

### [GrACE Online Store](#)

The new advocacy brand is an opportunity for you to highlight your support of Catholic education in visible ways and to unite across the province with other advocates. We encourage you to think of ways your school, school councils, parishes, community and advocates can get behind the movement. One Catholic district received a donation last year that allowed every student in their school district to receive a blue Catholic education t-shirt prior to Catholic education week. Perhaps you can do the same! We invite your ideas, suggestions, and innovations to raise awareness and build momentum for Catholic education!

### Minimum orders are required as follows:

For the apparel-12 pieces

For the mugs- 36 pieces

For the journals- 50 pieces

For the pens- 100 pieces

And for the water bottles- 35 pieces

Decals- 75 pieces (per logo)



## Wear Blue & Walk Together for Catholic Education

Thursday, May 18

Calling all parents, trustees, students, clergy, educators, grandparents, supporters, politicians, community members, stakeholders and people of Alberta. Show your support by wearing blue and walking together for Catholic education!

- † Where will you walk?
- † How will you unite?
- † Why are you a supporter and advocate for Catholic education?

You are called...across the province north to south, east to west, to walk in unity for Catholic education. See you May 18!



## Do Something Amazing Retreat- March 4, Edmonton

**Many youth across Canada still don't know Christ and need missionaries to go to them! Will you invite someone to discern this opportunity?**

Do you know a young person who is passionate about their faith? Maybe a relative or someone at your parish who would like to deepen their faith, share their faith, and grow in community alongside other young adults? Who you think should consider becoming a NET Missionary?

Do Something Amazing Retreats give young adults a chance to encounter God, encouragement and inspiration to share their faith, and an opportunity to experience parts of the NET life-style to help them discern if God might be calling them to be a missionary! The retreat will be held at **Newman Theological College in Edmonton, AB, on Saturday, March 4th from 10am to 5:00pm**. The registration fee is \$20 and lunch will be provided! Thank you for helping to share this opportunity!

If you know someone who might be interested in attending, please let them know or get in touch with us! You can email [recruit@netcanada.ca](mailto:recruit@netcanada.ca) or text 613-292-9991! For more information, please visit [netcanada.ca/apply](http://netcanada.ca/apply).

[Do Something Amazing Retreat Registration - Formstack](#)



## Meet the REN Board 2023

In our goal to build the community of Catholic education in Alberta, GrACE is pleased to introduce the executive of REN. The Religious Education Network (REN) is a community of Religious Education leaders who advance and promote Catholic Education through professional learning, faith formation and collaboration.



**Colin Loiselle**  
President  
Greater St. Albert  
Catholic Schools



**Kathleen Nguyen**  
Vice President  
Edmonton  
Catholic Schools



**Aaron Skretting**  
Secretary  
Holy Spirit  
Catholic Schools



**Susanna Kaup**  
Treasurer  
Edmonton  
Catholic Schools



**Michael Hauptman**  
Executive Director  
of CCSSA

## Catholic Education Prayers of the Faithful for March 2023

- † For Catholic Education: That our Catholic schools may make known God's plan for all creation, we pray to the Lord.
- † For Catholic Education: That the leaders of our Catholic schools may be encouraged and comforted in the love of God, we pray to the Lord.
- † For Catholic Education: That our Catholic schools may always receive their identity from the teachings of Christ Jesus, we pray to the Lord.
- † For Catholic Education: That our Catholic schools may be a place of healing and safety in a hurting world, we pray to the Lord.

### ACSTA SPICE and Blueprints Retreat: Walking Together in Catholic Education

You are invited to register for the 2023 SPICE Retreat (April 27-April 30) and Blueprints Retreat (May 2-5) with guest speaker Mike Patin at the beautiful Pomeroy Kananaskis Mountain Lodge.

Please see the ACSTA Website (linked below) for more detailed information about registering and your accommodations.

- † [SPICE Retreat](#)
- † [Blueprints Retreat](#)

## Top Advocacy Tool Kit Tips

- Educate**  
Attend GrACE Summit 2023 on May 12 with your team!
- Engage**  
Plan your "Wear blue and walk for Catholic education" May 18
- Unite**  
Incorporate "In it Together" logo into your promotions
- Communicate**  
Share events and plans with your stakeholders

## Blog links from ACSTA

Read and share these articles on Catholic education with YOUR stakeholders!

[What is Permeation? \(acsta.ab.ca\)](#) - Brett Fawcett Elk Island Catholic Schools

[Catholic Education Embarking on a Synodal Journey \(acsta.ab.ca\)](#) - Dr. Eugenia Pagnotta-Kowalczyk

**The mission of GrACE is to inspire, invigorate and embolden the spirit of Catholic education in order to unite, engage, educate and communicate with one voice on its behalf.**

### GrACE Newsletter

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

# Edmonton Catholic Schools gather 100 chaplains to engage around Catholic Education

## Reigniting a Passion for Catholic Education with Edmonton Catholic School Chaplains

Submitted by Susanna Kaup, Secondary Religious Education Consultant, Edmonton Catholic Schools

On January 25th ECS School Chaplains participated in a GrACE engagement session to learn more about the history of educational rights as they apply to Catholic Education, and the importance of being advocates!

Sandra Talarico, Brittany Ottens, Kathleen Nguyen, and Susanna Kaup, together with Father Glenn McDonald and Father Julian Bilyj (Division Chaplains) presented to all ECS School Chaplains on the important role in being stakeholders in Catholic Education and GrACE's mission.

Many stories were shared about what inspires us about Catholic Education and why we chose to be Catholic educators. For some, the initial decision made by our parents to send them to Catholic school inspired a lifelong opportunity to share, nurture, and develop faith. Others found community in Catholic Education and loved being a part of sharing that with young people. For others still, we believe they make a true difference in nurturing the development of the whole child: mind, body, and spirit. Whatever the reason, the passion and conviction with which these educators teach compels them to make a true difference in the lives of their students!

After spending time listening to individual stories, the chaplains were guided through the history of Catholic education in the province of Alberta. Much learning occurred around how Catholic education began, how it is embedded in our constitutional rights, as well as what Catholic education looks like today.

Moving forward in Catholic Education, chaplains were reminded about the individual ways they could be advocates:

1. Pray for Catholic education to thrive.
2. Speak with a confident and positive voice both online and in conversation.
3. Ask questions of your elected officials.
4. Tell your story!
5. Get informed.

Last, we sent our chaplains off with a toolkit to help them reignite the passion for Catholic Education at their school sites. The presentation we gave chaplains will be segmented into 'bite-sized' bits so they can share the information with their colleagues at staff meetings. As more awareness about the beauty of Catholic Education is created, the more the value will be found.



## Connect Online

We ask you to help us celebrate Catholic education in Alberta. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Post your pictures and tag us so we can share them and celebrate too. Thanks for being a grateful advocate in support of Catholic education!

- † GrACE Facebook address is [www.facebook.com/GrACE4cathed](http://www.facebook.com/GrACE4cathed)
- † Twitter: [@GrACE4cathed](https://twitter.com/GrACE4cathed)
- † Instagram: [@grace4catholiceducation](https://www.instagram.com/grace4catholiceducation)
- † GrACE website
- † Email: [gracedirector7@gmail.com](mailto:gracedirector7@gmail.com)

## Catholic School District's Publications

- † [Calgary Catholic School District](#)
- † [Redeemer Revelations](#)



# Catholic News

## Our Lady of Victory Camp

Our Lady of Victory Camp – Encounter Christ, Encounter Community, Encounter Creation ([camps.caedm.ca](http://camps.caedm.ca))



**BACK FOR 2023!**

SATURDAY, JULY 8  
GRAND RE-OPENING BBQ  
(ALL ARE WELCOME)

JULY 9-13  
HIGH SCHOOL CAMP  
(GRADES 10-12)

JULY 16-20  
ELEMENTARY CAMP  
(GRADES 4-6)

JULY 30-AUGUST 3  
JUNIOR HIGH CAMP  
(GRADES 7-9)

AUGUST 6-10  
ALL AGES CAMP  
(GRADES 4-9)

**OLVCAMP.COM | 587.447.2837**

## Social Media from Around the Province

**St. James CCSD** @stjamesCCSD · Feb 8

What a great start to our day...Father Adrian (CCSD's Chaplain) joined our Div. I and Div. II Hymn Sings to talk about consecrated life and share stories about Jesus.  
@CCSD\_edu @GrACE4cathed



## Pastoral Letters

The Bishops of Canada have published pastoral letters to the First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Peoples of Canada. The letters outline a set of specific commitments, which the bishops are prepared to address and discern together with Indigenous leaders to enable continued reconciliation, especially at the local level.

Archbishop Smith: 'We are called to be united as ambassadors of reconciliation' - caedm



Pastoral Letter "That We May Walk Together" - ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF CALGARY ([catholicyc.ca](http://catholicyc.ca))

**Roman Catholic Diocese of Calgary** @calgarydiocese · Feb 10

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops has released four pastoral letters on reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. Read now: [catholicyc.ca/blog/pastoral-...](http://catholicyc.ca/blog/pastoral-...)

#CatholicYYC




**PofPCCSD** @PofPccsd · 5h

Hearts and love are everywhere today and so is our love for Jesus ❤️  
#IBelieveinCatholicEd




**Dean Sarnecki** @sarneckid

Great promotional video for St. Patrick Catholic School in Camrose AB.



vimeo.com  
St. Pats Promo Video  
This is "St. Pats Promo Video" by Meghan & Nicole Films on Vimeo, the home for high quality videos and the people w...

**Medicine Hat Catholic Schools** @MHCatholic · Feb 10

Chaplain Update: Our Chaplain, BJ Grove, hosts Bible study every Wednesday during flex time at Monsignor McCoy High School. It's fantastic to see students choose to spend their flex time at Bible study! What a great way to explore their faith! 



**Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton** @archedmonton · Feb 13

On February 11th and 12th, Archbishop Smith made an episcopal visit to the parishes of Stettler, Castor and Bashaw in the south-eastern part of our Archdiocese. He especially spent time administering the Sacrament of the Sick, on World Day of the Sick!.



**Joseph Dumont** @PrincipalDumont · Feb 9

It is always great to see our Faith leads collaborating with one another and our Religious Ed Consultant Colin!! I appreciate your support in leading our schools!! @GSACRD @gsacrd\_faith



**Julia Toscano** @Miss\_T2019 · 1h

We started our day with a Valentine's Prayer Circle inspired by @snoble\_cheryl — the grade 3s looked for their buddy that completed their bible quote heart halves, we shared each quote- then went to our desks for quiet prayer reflections through calm colouring!



**abigail jane** @abigailunruh · 23h

@EdmCathSchools Students from Mary Hanley Catholic School handmade over 150 Valentines to give to the wonderful resident @AllSeniorsCare #LaurelHeights 🇨🇦 #ValentinesDay2023 #ye #love



**St. Boniface CCSD** @StBonifaceCCSD · Feb 7

What a great visit we had with His Excellency, Bishop McGratta loved taking part in Grade 1 computer time!



**Mrs. Oliverio** @mrs\_oliverio · Feb 9

What a nice surprise! We had a special visitor, Father John, pop by this morning to meet the kids and talk a little bit about Ash Wednesday.

👉 @stjerome\_ccsd @CCSD\_edu @RCAscensionYYC



**St. Matthew School** @StMatthew\_CCSD · Feb 6

We had our 1st school Liturgy of the year today.



**Pia Goodman** @PiaGoodman5 · 6h

For this month of love, our ES II students are learning what it means to love God, love others and love themselves. #ValentinesDay #BlackHistoryMonth 🍷 #ilovemyhair #inclusion @OLOF\_CCSD @CCSD\_edu #CCSDedu



**Holy Family School** @HolyFamilyECSD · Feb 9

A beautiful day for our Holy Family Chapel Blessing. We were blessed by so many who joined us for our special occasion. A place to pray and grow together in Christ. #ecsdfaithinspires @EdmCathSchools



**PofPCCSD** @PofPccsd · 9h

Many blessings to Peter, seminarian, who is on his pastoral year at St. Luke's parish. He is visiting all of the grade 7s this morning to talk about the Sacrament of Holy Orders and answer any questions the students have. 🙏 #IBelieveinCatholicEd



**Archbishop Jordan** @AbjJordan · 5h

Last week, our Ukrainian students and teachers were able to go to St. Basil's with Edmonton Catholic to celebrate a liturgy together! #bettertogether @EICSCatholic @EdmCathSchools



**EICS @EICSCatholic** · 2h

Many of our schools participated in the @cssalberta Love a Shelter campaign by making Valentine cards for the women, children, and staff at Lurana Shelter. Lurana is a first-stage emergency shelter for women leaving domestic abuse.

#eicscatholic



**St. Boniface CCSD @StBonifaceCCSD** · Feb 7

Congratulations to our Art Walk submission!



**St. James CCSD @stjamesCCSD** · 9h

God Is Love...message at our front entrance for all students and visitors. Thank you to the students and staff that created this beautiful reminder of God's love for us all. ❤️ @GrACE4cathed @CCSD\_edu



**St. Josephine Bakhita School @SJBakhita\_CCSD** · Feb 8

Today is our feast day at St. Josephine Bakhita. Thank you to Father John and 3/2G for leading our liturgy this morning.



**Tina Madden @MrsTLMadden** · Feb 9

Thank you to Fr. James @angels\_on\_high for coming out to @OLWChestermere to teach our gr. 2 classes about Adoration. We praise God for who He is knowing He is big and we are small. God's love endures forever! #IBelieveInCatholicEd

