ROOTED IN JOY

St. Charles Catholic Elementary School

November 1, 2026

Dear St. Charles Families,

October was a wonderful month of learning, faith, and community at St. Charles! We spent time reflecting on our Faith and Wellness focus of Gratitude and Generosity, encouraging students to recognize the many blessings in their lives and discover the joy that comes from giving to others. Our school was also filled with creativity and imagination during a successful writing residency, providing all students with opportunities to explore their ideas, develop their writing skills, and share their voices as authors. Throughout the month, our celebrations, learning experiences, and faith activities reminded us of the beautiful gift of Catholic education and the importance of nurturing the hearts, minds, and spirits of our students.

As we welcome November, we look forward to another meaningful month together! This month, we will celebrate our St. Charles Faith Day, taking time as a school community to reflect on what it means to live a life Rooted in Joy. We will explore how we can put Jesus first, show love and care for others, and recognize that each of us is a beloved child of God. Our hope is that students come to understand that true joy is found not only in the happiness we experience, but in our relationship with Jesus and in the way we treat ourselves and those around us.

We will continue to deepen our understanding of Catholic Social Teaching, with a particular focus on Option for the Poor and Vulnerable. Thank you to all of our families who helped support our collection for the World Day of the Poor. Your generosity provides a meaningful opportunity for our students to put their faith into action and recognize our shared responsibility to care for those who are most vulnerable in our community.

November also invites us to reflect on the importance of peace, remembrance, kindness, and compassion. As we honour Remembrance Day, we will take time to remember those who have served and sacrificed for the peace and freedom we enjoy. Our school wellness focus will encourage students to be peacemakers through their words and actions, showing kindness and compassion towards

themselves and others. As part of our ongoing commitment to learning about First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples, we will also take time to recognize and celebrate Métis culture, history, and contributions during Métis Week.

There are so many exciting learning opportunities, celebrations, and community events happening throughout November! Please take a moment to review our monthly calendar and visit our school website regularly for upcoming dates and important information.

Thank you for your continued partnership, generosity, and support. It is a blessing to be part of such a caring school community. May we continue to grow together in faith, lead with kindness, and bring the joy of Jesus into all that we do.

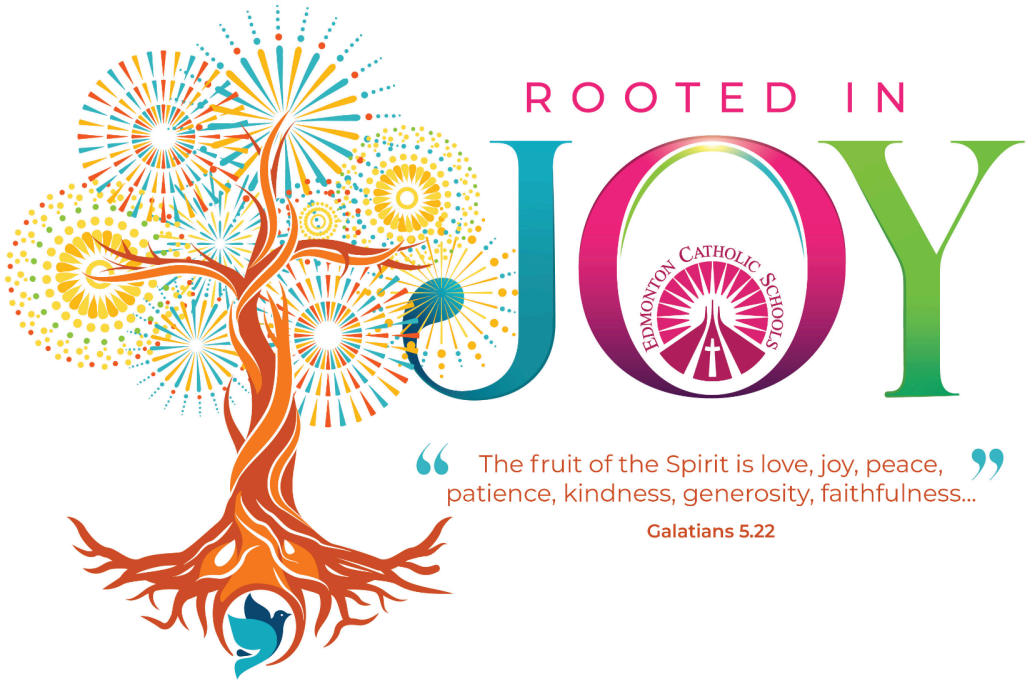
With gratitude and blessings,

Laurie Bonanni-McGee

Principal

Erin Pruski

Assistant Principal



✦ NOVEMBER 2026 ✦

WE REMEMBER • MÉTIS WEEK

♡ WELLNESS FOCUS Kindness & Compassion	♡ ASSEMBLY FOCUS Peace

ROOTED IN JOY • JESUS FIRST • OTHERS ALWAYS • YOU MATTER

Sunday, November 1	All Saints Day	✦
Monday, November 2	All Souls Day Bishop Greschuk vs. St. Charles Exhibition Volleyball, 3:15 pm — Go Cardinals! Classroom newsletters posted to SpacesEDU after school	♡
Tuesday, November 3	Grade 4 Glass Sculpture Art in-school field trip	✿
Wednesday, November 4	St. Charles Feast Day / Faith Day Rooted in JOY: Jesus First, Others Always, You Matter SAC meeting at 6:00 pm — all are welcome	†
Friday, November 6	November Assembly — Peace, hosted by Grade 3 at 12:30 pm	♡
Saturday, November 7	International Inuit Day	✦
Sunday, November 8	Indigenous Veterans Day	✿
Monday, November 9	St. Charles Volleyball Team at Bishop Greschuk, 3:15 pm Pizza lunch with the Principal for October Assembly honourees	★
Tuesday, November 10	Remembrance Day Ceremony — time TBD	✿
Wednesday, November 11	Remembrance Day	†
November 11–13	November Break	✦
November 14–20	Métis Week	✿
Sunday, November 15	World Day of the Poor Rock Your Mocs 2026	♡
Monday, November 16	Métis Day • International Day for Tolerance Grade 1B at Fort Edmonton School — Inquiring Minds (Nov. 16–18) Grade 6A at Legislature School — Inquiring Minds (Nov. 16–20) Alien Inline for K–6 (Nov. 16–27)	✿
Wednesday, November 18	Last day to register for Family Math Games Night — call or email the office	✎
Thursday, November 19	Parish visit with Seminarian Marc Bérubé Cardinal Leger Volleyball Tournament	†
Friday, November 20	National Child Day	♡
Monday, November 23	Family Math Games Night with Box Cars & One-Eyed Jacks, 6:00–7:15 pm	★
Thursday, November 26	Parent–Teacher Interviews 1:00–4:30 pm and 5:30–8:00 pm Booking link will be shared one week prior	✎
Saturday, November 28	Holodomor Memorial Day	✦
Sunday, November 29	First Sunday of Advent	†

Kind Hearts ♥ Peaceful Words ♥ Joyful Service

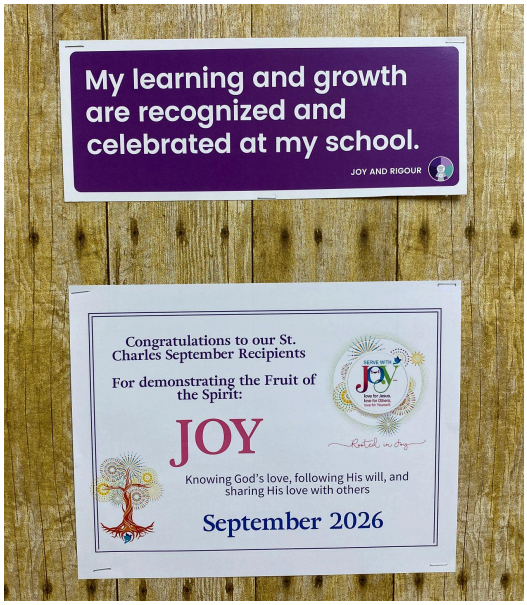
St. Charles School • Growing together in faith, kindness, and community

Please visit our school website St. Charles Catholic Elementary School or follow us on Instagram stcharles_ecsd for updates and announcements, and do not hesitate to reach out to us at (780) 456-5222 or email us at 8057PublicEmail@ecsd.net if you have any questions or need assistance.

OPTIMAL LEARNING

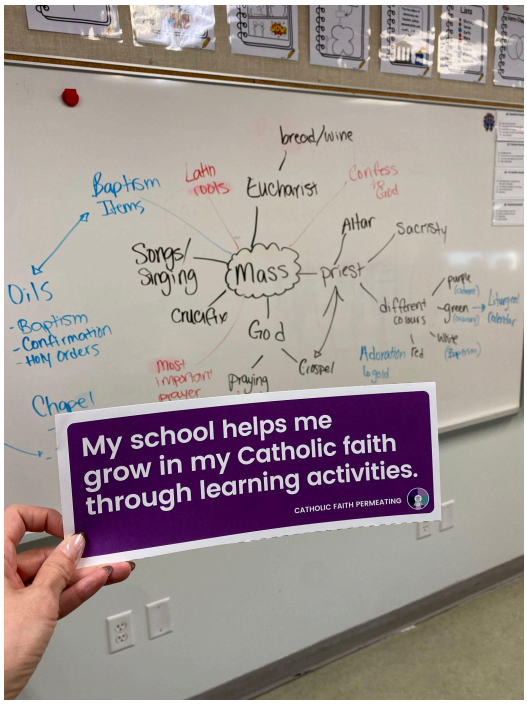
Wondering how we are meeting our School Education Plan Goals?

Goal 1: (Catholic Faith Permeating) Students will experience the Catholic faith as a living presence, woven into learning, relationships, and daily experiences across all aspects of school life.





Each month, we celebrate student achievement at our assemblies. This supports the Optimal Learning Condition of Wellbeing and Catholic Spiritual Formation which encourages students to put virtues into action.





Our Grade 6 and Grade 5 classes had the opportunity to walk to St. Charles for a morning retreat where they participated in Mass and had a guided behind-the-scenes tour of the parish.
Through 'The Mass Revealed' videos, and classroom discussions, students develop a deeper understanding of our Catholic faith.
We look forward to grade level Parish retreats for all our students.

Living Our Faith through Our Parish & School Connection



Weekly Bulletin – St. Charles Parish

A reminder to all parents to send in a picture of your child once they have celebrated their sacraments.

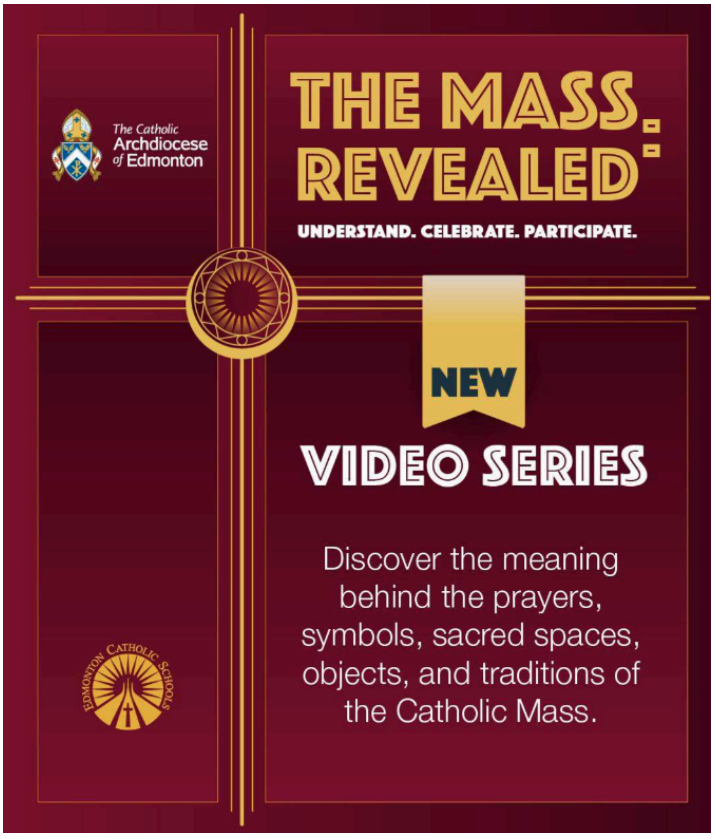
The Mass Revealed: Understand. Celebrate. Participate.

A new video series and companion learning guide are now available to help students and families learn about the different elements that make up a Catholic Mass.

Created in partnership with the Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton, Edmonton Catholic Schools, and St. Thomas Aquinas Roman Catholic Schools, The Mass Revealed features 16 short videos that provide information on the prayers, symbols, gestures, sacred spaces, objects, and traditions of the Catholic Mass.

We invite families to watch the videos together, talk about what they learn, and then experience Mass with a deeper understanding by actively participating in its celebration.

Visit ecsd.net/massrevealed to learn more.



Bringing Community Together



K-6 Family Math Games Night

St. Charles School

Come to St. Charles School and spend an evening playing a variety of K-6 math games using regular cards and dice! Each registered family will receive a packet of math games to play along with the presenter, and materials will be provided for use during the event. Bring your best energy and get ready to PLAY!

Benefits for Kids:

Games are a fun way to review and strengthen basic math skills at home!

Children who are secure in their math skills will grow in self-esteem and have greater success in school.

Benefits for Parents:

Games are a motivating, simple and economical homework support that reinforce concepts taught in school.

Your presenter will provide you with strategies, tips and tricks to help your child with math fluency.

Games Reinforce:

- Counting
- Basic Facts: +, − , x, ÷
- Problem Solving
- Place Value

WHEN: Monday, November 23rd, 2026
6:00-7:15 PM

WHERE: St. Charles School Gym

RSVP To: StCharles@ecsd.net

RSVP By: November 18th, 2026

BOX Cars & One-Eyed Jacks

Families can also call the office at 780 456-5222 to register. Come join the fun!

Health & Wellness



We want to remind families that students learn best when they feel their best. If your child is feeling unwell, please keep them home to rest and recover. This helps maintain a healthy learning environment for everyone. If your child needs to miss school due to illness, please submit an absence through SchoolMessenger or contact our office. Our teachers and staff are here to support your child's learning and can provide catch-up plans or resources to help them stay on track.

General Information Children, Youth & Families – Addiction and Mental Health provides a wide range of publicly-funded mental health services and support for children and youth (5-17 years of age) and their families, residing within Edmonton and area (and areas extending to central and northern Alberta).

Important Phone Numbers

Crisis Team: 780.407.1000
Northgate Clinic: 780.342.2700
Spruce Grove Clinic: 780.342.1370
St. Albert Clinic: 780.342.1410
Canadian Mental Health Association Distress Line: (780) 482-4357

Kids Help Phone: Phone 1-800-668-6868

- **Text 686868** • **Message online kidshelpphone.ca**



St. Charles Catholic Elementary Wellness Program 2026-2027

Rooted in Joy: A Faith & Wellness Journey

Kindergarten to Grade 6 | September–June

Guiding Belief: *"We are created by God, known and loved by Him, and called to grow in faith, relationship, and purpose. When we care for our minds, bodies, hearts, and spirits, we are better able to experience and share God's joy."*

This year-long wellness program is designed to build a common language around well-being across our school. Each month introduces a new focus through a **school-wide morning announcement**, followed by opportunities for teachers to continue the learning through **conversations, activities, and mentor texts** appropriate for Kindergarten through Grade 6.

The program connects naturally to our school community's focus on being **Rooted in Joy** and reminds students that wellness is nurtured through our relationships with ourselves, one another, and God.

At-a-Glance Monthly Wellness Calendar

Month	Focus	Key Message	Catholic Faith Connection
September	Welcome & Belonging	There is a place for everyone here.	We are all part of God's family
October	Gratitude	Joy grows when we notice the good.	Recognizing God's blessings
November	**Kindness & Compassion**	**Small acts can make a big difference.**	**Sharing the love of Jesus**
December	Giving & Generosity	Joy is multiplied when it is shared.	Serving and caring for others
January	New Beginnings & Hope	Every day is an opportunity to begin again.	Trusting in God
February	Friendship & Connection	We are better together.	Loving one another
March	Courage & Resilience	I can do hard things.	God gives us strength
April	Acceptance & Celebrating God's Creation	Everyone belongs, and everyone has something to offer.	Every person is created and loved by God
May	Mindfulness Peace & Finding Joy	Joy can be found in the present moment.	Noticing God's presence
June	Reflection, Celebration & Joy	Look how far we have come.	Giving thanks for our journey

Supporting Wellness in our Schools and Families

Meet Our School Support Team

Laura Moniz, our **Family School Liaison Worker (FSLW),** offers support to our students and families here at St.Charles School. Mrs. Moniz will be at our school on **Mondays, Tuesdays and alternate Thursdays**.
Her email is Laura.moniz@ecsd.net

Ms Fenisha, our Emotional Behavioural Specialist (EBS) works alongside our teachers to provide support for our students. She will also be working directly with students to help support their development. Ms. Fenisha will be here Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons. Her email is fenisha.francis@ecsd.net
In addition to our EBS, we have 2 therapeutic assistants who work collaboratively to provide additional support to our students.



Families Helping Families at St. Charles

Please reach out to our office or Mrs. Moniz, if you are experiencing challenges. Our school team is here to support all our families.

We continue to have our School Pantry open to any family in need of food support. Donations are always welcome.

Winter Clothing

For families requiring assistance with winter clothing, please contact our office. We have sizes available.

Important Reminders:

Parking Lot/ Drop Off & Pick Up

Please be aware that the parking spots opposite the school are Community league parking. We ask parents to avoid using the staff parking lot for pick up and drop off so that teachers have space to park when they arrive at work. Let's be good neighbours and do our part.

Thank you to our families who are using the drop and go in the morning. The students are able to come in safely and traffic moves smoothly.

Just a reminder to not stop in the bus zones before our buses arrive as they need to let the students off in a timely fashion.

SUPERVISION REMINDERS/ Morning Drop off/ Afterschool Playground

Just a reminder that there are no teacher supervisors on the playground before or after school. If you are dropping off your child and will not be supervising them, we ask that you send them to the back of the school where the supervisors are located.

In addition, Baturyn School's lunch recess overlaps with our early dismissal on Thursdays. This has caused some issues at the park. Baturyn teachers are out to supervise their students and many of our students are going to the park to play unsupervised. For safety, we ask parents to speak to their child about going home after school if they are without a parent to supervise them.

Student Safety Reminder: Reduced Daylight and Winter Weather

As Alberta transitions to Alberta Time (ABT), we remind families to continue safe travel practices, especially around school zones. With reduced daylight and changing winter weather conditions, we encourage everyone to take extra care when travelling to and from school and cross at designated crosswalks.

Inclement Weather



The health and safety of students is a paramount consideration in the organization of outdoor activities and recess. Decisions regarding outdoor activities are to take into consideration inclement weather that may result from the following conditions or combination of conditions:

Continuous rain, Extreme wind, Extreme cold and/or Air Quality.

Environment Canada's weather for Edmonton is the site that is consulted at https://weather.gc.ca/city/pages/ab-50_metric_e.html.

The suggested guideline is that students do not go outside if the temperature is -20° C or colder, or if the temperature and wind chill factor are -20° C or colder.

• During inclement weather (e.g. temperatures below -20° C with windchill) students will be permitted in the school at 7:45 am. Indoor supervisors will be assigned to supervise areas inside the school. Outside bus supervision will still occur from 7:45 am to 8:00 am.
• Recess will occur indoors during inclement weather. Students will remain in their homeroom classes and schedules may be prepared for classes to access the gym during indoor recess breaks.
• Late arrivals of all students after 8:00 am, are, at all times, asked to enter the main doors.
• Students are to re-enter the school at the end of the day if they miss their bus, the bus is delayed, a sibling forgets to meet the student, etc.

Bus Transportation

REMINDERS FROM EDMONTON CATHOLIC SCHOOLS TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT



Information regarding pick up and drop off times for your child are found on PowerSchool.

Parents of kindergarten and grade one students are reminded that there must be an ADULT (not an older sibling) at the stop to receive the student. If there is no

adult at the stop, the student will remain on the bus and will be returned to school to await pick up.

All transportation enquiries/concerns are to be addressed to the Edmonton Catholic Schools Transportation department at 780-441-6078, NOT the school, bus driver or bus carrier.



What to do when your yellow school bus is running late?
One of the most common questions from families is "What do I do when my yellow school bus is running late?". The website ecsd.net/busdelays has recently been updated to clarify our recommendations for families in the event of bus delays.

We want all families prepared in the event of bus delays. While bus drivers will complete their route, no matter how late they may be running, we recommend that families make alternate arrangements if a bus does not arrive within 20 minutes of its scheduled time.

To help prepare for a delayed bus, families are reminded to:

- Check for delays before you head out the door via the BusPlanner Delays App or the website.
- We recommend children wait with a friend or trusted adult at the bus stop.
- Have a plan in case the bus does not arrive. For example, return home or go to a neighbour's house.
- Make alternate arrangements for getting their child to school if needed.
- Dress children appropriately for the weather to withstand any delays or wait times .

Stay Notified
Our Transportation Services team uses several methods to keep families informed about bus delays:

- BusPlanner Delays App: Download the free app on Android or iPhone to receive notifications
- Division Website: Delayed routes are posted at Alerts.
- Call Transportation Services at 780-441-6078.

Bus delays can happen, but being ready can make all the difference.

Volunteers at St. Charles



All people wishing to volunteer with us will need to complete a **volunteer form** for the year. Some parents will require a police record check (PIC) and child welfare check (IRC) if they are going on field trips or working with students. Please provide your child's teacher with your email address and interest in volunteering.

Police Information checks for volunteers, ages 18 and above, can be obtained free of charge directly from Edmonton Police Services, with a voucher which is provided by our Division. The voucher must be **used within 1 week of obtaining** it. Please check your junk mail if you haven't received it.

Some field trip volunteers may also require an IRC to be completed, which is free. **Please contact your local Children's Services office or email CS-IRCrequest@gov.ab.ca for a blank form.**

Please note that the clearance is ***valid for one year from the date it was issued***. Once you have received your documents, please send them to the office.

Community Partners

Community Board Baturyn Community League

Visit https://www.baturyn.ca/ to learn more about events and to sign up for their newsletter

Child Care Available at St. Charles



Castledowns - Kids & Company

Phone: +1 780-472-1936

Hours: Monday to Friday, 6:30 AM –6:00 PM (Closed Saturday and Sunday)