

**OFFICIAL OPENING OF SISTER ALPHONSE ACADEMY HONOURS 150+ YEAR LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE!**

[October 23, 2018, St. Albert, AB]

Dignitaries, project partners, and the inaugural class of Sister Alphonse Academy will join Greater St. Albert Catholic School officials today to celebrate the Official Opening and Blessing of this new K-9 school in Jensen Lakes, St. Albert.

Sister Alphonse Academy opened its doors on September 4, 2018, and honours the namesake of the founding members of faith-based education in the province, the Sisters of Charity (more commonly known as the Grey Nuns). *"Sister Alphonse was the first teacher in the District who was an exemplary model of community service through witnessing our Catholic faith,"* comments Board Chair, Joe Becigneul. "The opening of Sister Alphonse Academy will serve as a legacy for many students, families and the community for years to come; much like the Grey Nuns influence in our region for more than 150 years."

This is the first school the District has built since J.J. Nearing Catholic Elementary School opened in Deer Ridge in 1998. The school will address current and future growth in St. Albert. The building features modern learning spaces that support 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning and has the capacity for 400 students in kindergarten to grade nine.

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*Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools serves 6,000 students in the communities of Legal, Morinville, St. Albert and areas of Sturgeon County. A range of programming is available including: Full and half-day kindergarten, French Immersion (K-12), International Baccalaureate, Advanced Placement, Sports Academy, and integrated learning for students with diverse needs.*

