

March 26, 2021

Superintendent's Update: Students, Parents/Legal Guardians, and Staff

As we enter into Spring Break, we welcome the warm weather and time to decompress with family and friends. We look forward to Palm Sunday to begin Holy Week, which culminates with Easter Sunday, which marks the end of Holy Week, the end of Lent, the last day of the Easter Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday), and is the beginning of the Easter season within the liturgical year. As part of entering this joyous Easter season, our Building Communities of Hope students have been working with Youville senior citizens to learn firsthand about their advice about how to lead hope-filled lives. Take a moment to enjoy this [video](#) created for our students by our community members from Covenant Health Youville Home.

On March 25, 2021, Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Deena Hinshaw said variant cases now account for 21 per cent of active cases provincially, and she reported that Alberta also leads the country in cases of the B.1.1.7 strain first identified in the United Kingdom. Although 365 schools are in alert (1-3 cases) or outbreak (5-9, 10+ cases) status in Alberta, we have had success in our schools with current health measures. We will sustain these health measures in Step Two of Premier Kenney's [Path Forward](#) and continue to update our [Parent Guidebook for School Re-Entry: 2020-2021](#) as well as our [website](#) and official social media channels ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#)), which are also reliable sources of Division news and announcements.

A unique way to mark the beginning of Holy Week as a family in the Domestic Church is to go for a "God walk" on Palm Sunday. Look for signs of new life; a blade of green grass, insects, buds on trees. Discuss the miracle of new life as a family. Help your children live in the wonder of God and reawaken a sense of wonder at the miracles that happen around us each day. Talk about the greatest miracle of life that we will soon be celebrating - the resurrection of Christ!* The Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton has numerous [family resources](#) that can help us prepare for and celebrate Easter with our families in the Domestic Church, including tips for reading scripture, information on the Holy Thursday washing of feet, and colouring pages for Palm Sunday and Good Friday.

May we all continue to care for one another as we adhere to provincial health guidance, particularly in light of the recent surge in COVID-19 variant cases. With the hope of vaccinations for all Albertans who choose to receive them by the end of June, better days with a greater sense of normalcy are on the horizon. I wish you and your families a wonderful spring break and many blessings for a joyful Easter as we celebrate the hope of our eternal life in Christ's resurrection!

Sincerely,

Dr. Clint Moroziuk
Superintendent of Schools