

March 12, 2021

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

As we continue on our Lenten journey, we are reminded of the 150th anniversary of Blessed Pope Pius IX's naming St. Joseph as the patron of the universal Church as we prepare for and celebrate the Solemnity of St. Joseph on March 19. As the Solemnity is within the 40 days of Lent, it is an opportunity for us to learn how to grow in devotion to St. Joseph during the Lenten season.

Because Lent is a season in which we humble ourselves through penance and almsgiving, we can learn much from St. Joseph, who epitomized service to God. St. Joseph devoted his life to one of prayer in which he led the prayers in his home in the morning, evening, and on principal religious feasts, and he protected Jesus and Mary from Herod's wrath. St. Joseph spent his life in service to others, and such service demanded of him a humility achieved through self sacrifice. Let us learn together from St. Joseph throughout the Lenten season about the beauty of self sacrifice and humility.

We continue with health measures that stem from Premier Jason Kenney's messages on March 1, 2021 in which he shared that a recent spike in the COVID-19 positive testing rate and the number of active cases, including more variant cases, meant that other parts of Step 2 were on hold. "That's why we have to proceed cautiously, while still moving forward. I know that many Albertans want us to relax many more health restrictions today, but we cannot and we must not allow exponential growth to start to take hold driven by these new more contagious variants," Kenney said. In our division as well as in surrounding divisions, we will continue to monitor possibilities for extracurricular activities after Spring Break. Please continue to check the [Alberta Health website](#) for updates from the Minister of Education about changes to such measures as they relate to school jurisdictions. We continue to update our [Parent Guidebook for School Re-Entry: 2020-2021](#) and our [website](#) and official social media channels ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#)) are also reliable sources of Division news and announcements.

I would like to leave you with the following Novena to St. Joseph, which we encourage you to pray daily over the course of the next week up to and including the celebration of the Solemnity of St. Joseph next Friday, March 19. The prayer is particularly fitting as we continue through the pandemic.

Glorious Patriarch Saint Joseph, whose power makes the impossible possible, come to my aid in these times of anguish and difficulty. Take under your protection the serious and troubling situations that I commend to you, that they may have a happy outcome. My beloved father, all my trust is in you. Let it not be said that I invoked you in vain, and since you can do everything with Jesus and Mary, show me that your goodness is as great as your power. Amen.

Take care, God bless, and have a great weekend!

Sincerely,

Dr. Clint Moroziuk
Superintendent of Schools