

# Nova Mariana

A Newsletter for the Stakeholders of  
St. Mary's High School



December  
2017  
Issue #2

Principal: Mr. Luigi Fortini

CATHOLICITY

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

LIFELONG LEARNING

## Administration News

It is December already, the Christmas holidays are only a few weeks away, and we are entering into the Advent season. During the Advent season we will be inviting our Teacher Advisors and students to join in prayer with the school family over the intercom. Special thanks to Chaplain Dawna for putting together an entire group of readings and prayers that will get us ready and waiting in hope.

We are also looking forward to the upcoming Basketball Season. Thank you to the many coaches for the time they have spent during the Fall Sports season with our students. As well, the many clubs and the Band and Choral students who are working hard preparing for the many upcoming concerts and events. The Drama students are also preparing for their play on December 13-15. Tickets can be purchased at the school or at the door for the play, "Wo/men in Politics".

Congratulations to all the students who achieved Honour Roll this quarter. These students received a letter of achievement and Honour Roll certificates. The entire St. Mary's family is proud of your academic accomplishments.

As a school community, we celebrate the birth of our Savior and listen to God's message as he speaks to us so tenderly and simply through the loving image of the Holy Family. Joseph and Mary's acceptance of His will, moved by faith, trust and love in God, guided them to that "night of nights". We pray that God will guide us as we journey through the coming year. May we live with courage, love with compassion and be the voice of Peace on Earth.

Please keep in mind that students last day of school is on December 21<sup>st</sup> and all will return to school on January 8<sup>th</sup>. Please enjoy the much deserved break.

On behalf of the entire staff at St. Mary's High School, may we wish you a safe and happy holiday!

**Luigi Fortini**  
Principal

## International Baccalaureate

### 1. General Regulations Document

For all parents and guardians of students taking IB courses at St. Mary's in Grade 11 and 12 (diploma, anticipated or certificate students):

The General Regulations document defines the relationship between the IB Organization and its students together with their legal guardians. When students enroll in our DP Programme the school has a duty to supply all legal guardians with a copy of the General Regulations document. We are accomplishing this expectation by posting a copy of the Regulations on our St. Mary's website under the International Baccalaureate tab. Please visit [www.stmaryshs.calgary.ab.ca](http://www.stmaryshs.calgary.ab.ca) to review this important document.

Please note, there are no forms to sign, just to read and be familiar with the document.

If you have any questions regarding this please contact Catherine Harradence, International Baccalaureate Coordinator, 403.500.2028 Ext 399 or by email at [cathy.harradence@cssd.ab.ca](mailto:cathy.harradence@cssd.ab.ca)

### 2. From the Eyes of an IB Student

Often, IB news comes from the perspective of the IB Coordinator. In this edition of the Nova Mariana, I thought it would be most interesting to include the perspectives of three Honours/IB students. I hope that the highlights from Alessia DiMarzo, Joshua Purba, Alexandre Bernard and Ryan Costello provide insightful views on the trials, tribulations and benefits of the IB Programme.

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**CALGARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT**

High school is a difficult mountain to navigate and choosing the right high school to attend is the first challenging step. As a student who pondered over many different high schools to attend, I am confident that choosing St. Mary's High School has been one of the best decisions of my life. The community, academics and resources offered at this welcoming school have exceeded my highest expectations.

St. Mary's High School is an inclusive, welcoming community. Coming to a new high school only knowing two other people, I was apprehensive about making new friends. However, within the first week of school I had made an exponential amount. I believe this was made possible by the abundance of opportunities the school provides to build the community. A multitude of teams and clubs are offered and encouraged. Students can join to meet other people with the same interests and goals. In these opportunities, friendships are built on common interests which in turn can become strong lifelong relationships. For me, having the opportunity to join the soccer team in the first few days of school, allowed me to establish a core of friends that set me up for success. Furthermore, the clubs offer opportunities to meet students who aren't necessarily in the same grade. In fact, relationships between grades are extremely common. Unlike other schools where it seems to be forbidden to interact with students who are not in the same grade level, at St Mary's High School students are regularly interacting with students from other grades.

In addition to the fluidity of relationships between peers, the staff have strong bonds with their students. In my personal experience, every day, without fail, when I am walking through the halls I encounter someone with a smile on their face. Teachers will address students by name which re-enforces the fact that the school is a close community that genuinely takes the time to get to know and understand one another. At St. Mary's everyone is included and students genuinely feel like they belong.

Students thrive academically because of the class atmosphere, engaging teaching styles and peer support. In my experience, the teaching styles are exceptional because the staff sincerely want to see their students achieve. Because teachers work hard for their students, students reciprocate hard work. There are so many varying programmes available, like IB and Extended French, where students are able to thrive. In the classroom, students are all of similar capacity and therefore the working environment is collaborative and focused.

The resources offered at St. Mary's High school are bountiful. To begin, the counsellors and coordinators are down to earth and personable. In my personal experience, the IB Coordinator, Ms. Harradence, has helped me on numerous occasions. Students genuinely trust the counsellors and coordinators because they develop strong relationships. In addition to the staff who work for student success, ILO which stands for individual learning opportunity is inexplicably helpful for students. In essence, ILO is the opportunity in which students can work, ask questions and get help from their teachers, before school from Monday to Thursday. Although attending ILO is not mandatory, I have built it into my regular schedule and many of my peers do the same. Having the opportunity to connect with a teacher outside of instruction is extremely beneficial. ILO is an advantageous way to grow academically and additionally build stronger relationships with teachers.

What better way to learn than a supportive academic environment...hearing the lessons from your peers. Peer tutoring is offered in addition to the numerous amount of resources students can access for help. Peer tutoring exemplifies how students help other students at St. Mary's High School. Students feel comfortable asking more experienced students for help.

Choosing to attend St. Mary's High School is the right choice for an abundance of reasons. The difficulties students face while embarking up the mountain of high school are alleviated in this welcoming community. I would sincerely recommend to all students St. Mary's High School.

**Alessia DiMarzo**

The International Baccalaureate program challenges students to excel in their studies and expand their horizons. The IB program is essentially a university preparation program. Students are given the opportunity to study a high-quality education while learning the skills and ways of learning to excel in university level education. The IB program introduces students to the fundamental skills required in a post secondary education such as university style essay writing, reports, source citing and how to conduct individual research. Students are encouraged to drive their education independently and are taught the importance of time management and self-study. The IB's heavy workload forces students to learn good study habits and minimizes the discrepancy in difficulty in the change from high school to university education.

In the IB program, individuals grow not only as students, but as humans. The component of CAS (Creativity, Activity and Service) hours stimulates social and emotional growth. CAS provides a chance for students to take a break from the books and focus on cooperative and leadership skills. Personally, my CAS hours came predominantly from football and peer tutoring, but also include volunteer work at food banks and with churches. Through CAS I expanded my horizons and got a chance to connect with multiple and different communities in many different ways. In my interactions with local communities I learned more about the global community and what it means to be a global citizen.

The IB program consists of a massive workload and may seem difficult at first glance, however, it proves to be very rewarding. The busy schedule allows for greater time management skills. IB teaches leadership and cooperative skills as well. Regularly IB students are those who are involved in clubs and most clubs at the school are even led by IB students. Although the IB program is rigorous and very mentally taxing, students are taught core skills for university education. Students are taught fundamental skills for university, proper time management and many of the higher level courses are potentially

available to redeem for university credit. All in all, IB may be challenging, but for me pushing through it has already been very rewarding and I know it will continue to do so.

**Joshua Purba**

Je dois dire que le programme d'Extended French avec la composante BI a été extrêmement enrichissant pour moi. J'ai eu l'opportunité d'apprendre et de développer une deuxième langue qui me sera utile à travers de toutes mes études et mon travail plus tard. En même temps, j'ai bâti des relations coulées dans du béton avec mes amis proches que j'ai rencontré en 10<sup>ième</sup> année et que j'adore énormément. C'est sûr qu'il y a des défis auquel nous devons faire face dû au programme mais vue d'en haut, je recommande fortement que n'importe quel individu qui cherche à se défier de façon académique et qui cherche à se surpasser, de toutes les façons, essaye le programme BI.

Au début, je voulais essayer le programme BI à cause de sa réputation difficile et unique. Je voulais me surpasser. Il y en a qui croient que le programme du diplôme BI essouffle des jeunes avec sa charge de travail rigoureuse et le stress énorme qu'il emporte. Tu sais quoi ?! Dans certains cas c'est vrai, mais à mes yeux, le programme aide ceux qui veulent travailler plus fort à atteindre de bonnes habitudes de travail requises pour réussir maintenant et plus tard dans la vie. Oui, les profs nous poussent plus et nous avons plus de devoirs à remettre mais cette charge supplémentaire nous a aidé à grandir en tant qu'individus et collectivement. Un programme accéléré a des obstacles à surpasser, mais j'ai appris comment passer à l'entour de ces obstacles et avoir du succès. Dans nos classes, un aspect qui est différent des classes régulières est que l'on apprend comment se faire des stratégies solides pour rendre possible les dates limites rigoureuses, et cette compétence me sera bien utile lors de mes études universitaires, ainsi que plus tard dans la vie.

En lien avec le programme d'Extended French, il y a bien de choses qu'un étudiant peut profiter. Le programme m'a apporté une expérience du secondaire excitante qui ne peut pas être comparée. Nous prenons tous part aux événements culturels amusant comme écouter un film en français, manger de la tige d'érable, un dîner de Noël avec de la tourtière, dîner smoked meat et aussi nous avons eu un dîner à La Chaumière. Ces petites activités ont rendu mon expérience du secondaire à St. Mary's inoubliable. Avec la deuxième langue vient aussi des perspectives différentes et j'apprécie énormément ces opportunités intellectuelles dans mes cours. Les étudiants sont dévoués et apportent tous des perspectives différentes où l'on peut avoir notre propre perspective et la raffiner en profondeur. De plus, à cause du nombre d'étudiants limité dans le programme de diplôme BI, j'ai la chance d'avoir des classes où la majorité des élèves sont mes amis. Dans mes classes, on fait vraiment partie d'une communauté. Apprendre à connaître mes profs et camarades m'a donné un sentiment d'appréciation, où je peux parler sans crainte dans ma communauté. Finalement, il y a beaucoup d'avantages du programme en français. Certains de ces avantages j'ai déjà pu utiliser. J'utilise mon niveau de français pour poursuivre mes études en français au Campus Saint-Jean de l'Université de l'Alberta. J'ai aussi été éligible à de nombreuses bourses du campus à cause de mon français acquis. C'est difficile de décrire la valeur de mon éducation en français car elle est tellement vaste mais j'espère que cet échantillon vous en a donné une idée.

En fin de compte, mon expérience à l'intérieur du programme Extended French BI a eu plusieurs hauts et bas. J'ai fait face au stress lié à une charge plus grande mais j'ai aussi appris comment surpasser des obstacles comme celui-ci. J'ai eu des difficultés avec ma deuxième langue mais le programme m'a offert tous les outils nécessaires pour arriver au succès académique que je connais aujourd'hui. Toute mon expérience comporte tous les jours des événements intéressants et collègues engagés dont j'ai la fortune de pouvoir appeler mes amis. Pour finir, le programme n'est pas pour tout le monde et je ne peux pas décider pour vous, mais voici ci-dessus mon expérience avec le programme. Je vous encourage à considérer où tu te tiens aujourd'hui, comment tu te sens et sache qu'il n'y a pas de bonne ou de mauvaise réponse.

Que la meilleure des chances soit avec vous et que vous faites ce qui est le meilleur pour vous,

**Ryan Costello et Alexandre Bernard**

## **Counselling Department**

Ms. Leah Moore -Counsellor  
 Mrs. Michelle Brown -Counsellor  
 Mrs. Louise Vant Erve -Counsellor (CT)  
 Mrs. Carmen Delgado – Administrative Assistant  
 Mrs. Cathy Harradence – IB Coordinator  
 Mrs. Susan Huvenaars – Career Practitioner  
 Mrs. Jacquie Uhrich – Work Experience

### **Mental Health – All Counsellors**

All students can make appointments with Counsellors through our Administrative Assistant Mrs. Carmen Delgado in the Counselling office. Students can see us for personal, academic and post-secondary concerns. Each student has a designated Counsellor assigned to them by their T.A. Our Counsellors are trained teachers with Master's in this field. We see students throughout the year for various issues; course planning, stress, anxiety, grief and many other problems.

Students are encouraged to join our clubs which help to build student support in the school:

- Mental Health Club – Mrs. Brown – Biweekly Wednesdays – 8:30 am.
- Rotary Interact Club – Mrs. Vant Erve – Mondays – Noon
- Indigenous Group – Ms. Moore - Monthly meetings TBA.

### **Special Presentations**

This year we have been very fortunate to have presentations in the theatre with all of our grades.

- Grade 10 – October – Mental Health
- Grade 11 – November – Drug Prevention and Education on Fentanyl Use
- Grade 12 – February – A Safe Grad – A Better Grad for life

### **Online and Self Directed Courses**

Any students enrolled in these courses from St. Anne's must ensure that their course work is completed by the beginning of January 2018. Students need to see Mrs. Polivchuk in the Exam Centre to complete quizzes and exams. Students enrolled with ADLC, must ensure they follow the deadlines given by their online teacher with that system.

2nd Semester registration for these courses will begin in February. Students are allowed to register for one online course if they have a spare or are missing a critical subject needed to graduate. All students must complete a registration form with their Counsellor and then be approved by Mr. McKenty our Vice Principal.

### **Graduation – Checklist for Grade 12's to do**

Grade 12 students wanting to graduate this year must ensure that they have the required 100 credits to graduate and that they understand the process of applying for Post-Secondary.

We had a meeting in September with parents and students to go over many of these concerns. We have also sent out phone messages and emails to all students in grade 12 to begin their credit checks in order to receive an Alberta High School Diploma. Students and their parents must do the following:

1. Register with MY PASS – [www.myPass.alberta.ca](http://www.myPass.alberta.ca) This site gives you access to your transcript
2. Check your Learn Account for the Grad Check list form. Complete it and meet with your TA for a review
3. Meet with their assigned Counsellor for any questions or concerns

### **Career Planning – Mrs. Huvenaars – Career Centre by the Cafeteria**

Any students needing help with finding a career path can book an appointment through the Counselling office. Mrs. Huvenaars is able to do some assessments and work with students individually on their Post-Secondary Plans. She is available Tuesdays, Wednesdays and alternate Fridays for appointments in the Career Center .

All grade 12 students graduating and going to Post-Secondary institutions in Alberta or any other places in Canada, must go through this site in order for your transcript from Alberta Education to be electronically sent to your college or University.

### **Scholarships – Mrs. Vant Erve**

There are many out of school scholarships that students in grade 12 can apply for. A booklet has been created for students and they can access this information on the Brightspace (D2L) platform where they have their marks. Our Internal Scholarships, St. Mary's High School gives out scholarships every year. This scholarship form will come out in March and is specifically geared for our graduating grade 12 students that have been at St. Mary's for a minimum of 2 years. Students need to book appointments to review any scholarship applications.

### **Cinderella Project**

This is a project developed within the City of Calgary by several businesses to provide gowns and accessories to young ladies that are graduating from grade 12. Students can apply through the Counselling office and must have financial need in order to be approved. Deadline to apply is February 1st.

### **Diploma Prep**

Any student writing a Diploma in grade 11 or 12 can sign up for a Diploma Preparation course with the District. Cost is \$75 per course and gives the student 12 hours of instruction. Register online at: [www.cssd.ab.ca/academicsservice](http://www.cssd.ab.ca/academicsservice) or call 403-500-2012 ext. 412.

**Work Experience/RAP – Mrs. Uhrich**

Students that are working part-time can receive credits for the hours they work. Please see Mrs. Uhrich in the Career Centre to sign up and receive further information.

**All in for Youth – Ms. Amy Brown**

We are very pleased to again receive funding from the United Way for an All in For Youth program at our school. Amy Brown is our Youth Worker and she is here for students every day in a special office located by the Cafeteria. Amy has an abundance of resources available for students

**Mrs. Louise Vant Erve**

**Success Teacher at St. Mary's High School**

A new position was allocated at St. Mary's this year and I have been given the task of Success Teacher. The general mandate is to act as a position of support and encouragement for student growth and success. Mr. Fortini has been very helpful and supportive in allowing the job to unfold naturally to find the best fit for the St. Mary's community.

My role is to contribute to not just individual student success but to try to build community within the entire student body.

The role thus far has taken shape as follows:

1. Student referrals from counsellors, the learning center and individual teachers. The total number of files I currently have is 60 students. My role on with any student is specific to the student needs (many deal with attendance and/or student performance)
2. Credit Recovery. I am dealing with a number of credit recovery issues at the moment. There have been 8 students that have done credit recovery thus far
3. The Administration and myself see the role of the Success teacher at St. Mary's as being integral in attempting to continue and add to the sense of community at St. Mary's. To that end I try to spend a portion of every day simply being in the learning commons and/or cafeteria to talk to students in an informal and supportive manner
4. There are a number of students that are ELL students that I am tutoring over lunch periods to review major themes and concepts in support of their class work

The successes are many and daily with so much contact with the school population. Seeing and encountering students I would never have met is a great reward in itself. It is a great challenge and honor to have been asked to take on this responsibility for St. Mary's High School

**Sincerely, Bruce Gillespie**

**Cosmetology**

Cosmetology would like to Congratulate the following students for completing their "Hairstylist First Period Apprenticeship" in the 2016-2017 School year. This is 28 credits worth of studies recognized by the Apprenticeship Board of Alberta. Students can now proceed to Apprentice in a salon to complete their Hairstylist Licence.

**Congratulations to:**

Elisabeth Hillaby  
Milka Kahsey  
Emma MacLeod  
Shelby Mortiz  
Edmy Palma  
Micaela Ramos

"Thank you to everyone who has supported our students by being clients and purchasing products. The students develop many skills from serving your hair care needs, we really appreciate your patronage. Have a Merry Christmas!"

**Cheers, Pamela Dittrich and Antonia Lanza**

## Choir

### Choir Notes

The St. Mary's Choral program is off to another great musical year and indeed, it is a BIG year! We welcome all the new students who have joined this year! Our Choral family includes three dynamic ensembles: Concert Choir and Women's Vocal Ensemble and they have been rehearsing morning, noon and night (literally!) as they prepare for many upcoming musical events.

In September, the St. Mary's Concert Choir led our school in songs of praise and worship at our Opening Mass. In October, our Thanksgiving liturgy was celebrated in TA class and students enjoyed the sounds of our Women's Vocal Ensemble. In late October, Choir students traveled to picturesque Banff for a fantastic three-day choral retreat with vocal clinics from the very talented and award-winning Artistic Director, Frank Gndt and Calgary's own composer, performer and educator, Lorna MacLachlan.

November marked the beginning of our BIG events! Here's a summary:

- November 1 - Our Choir joined with 500 voices from other Calgary Catholic high schools in a flash mob performance of the Hallelujah Chorus at this year's Faith Day.
- November 9 - The Concert Choir collaborated with our Fine Arts departments in our annual Remembrance Day Solemnity for the whole school. Students and staff were moved with emotion as we remembered our fallen soldiers.
- November 15 - The St. Mary's Vocal Ensembles sang for the St. Thomas More Lawyers' Guild of Calgary at the Red Mass with Most Reverend William McGratton presiding.
- November 16 - Choir Alberta presented the inaugural celebration of Canada's 150th Anniversary with the Alberta BIG SING - and St. Mary's Choir students represented with pride! They participated in an all-day workshop under the direction of the iconic Canadian composer, conductor and clinician, Dr. Mark Sirrett, as well as artistic directors, Tim Shantz and Elaine Quilichini. 600 voices performed a massed choir concert at the Jack Singer Concert Hall, complete with three choirs
- November 18 - The St. Mary's Concert Choir, Women's Vocal Ensemble and Mixed Vocal Ensemble entertained a full house at our annual Musical Extravaganza and Big Band Dance Fundraiser! They performed a set filled with repertoire from several cultures and four languages!

A special "THANK YOU" goes out to all who have supported St. Mary's Music programs in our Cookie Dough fundraiser and Musical Extravaganza! Your support is greatly appreciated in helping to make our Music programs the very best they can be! Watch for more Music Foundation fundraisers this Spring!

### Upcoming Choral Performances

- Tuesday, December 5 - District Advent/Christmas Choir Concert at St. Michael's church (7:00 pm)
- Thursday, December 7 - St. Mary's Day Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral (10:30 am)
- Thursday, December 14 - Vocal Ensemble Christmas Carolling for Rotary Club Luncheon (12:00 pm)

**Musically Yours,  
Mrs. M. Hnatiuk, Director of Choirs**



## Kananaskis Trip 2017 with Biology 35IB HL

On September 12th and 13th, 2017, St. Mary's Biology 35IB HL students embarked on a field trip to the UofC Biogeoscience Centre at Barrier Lake, Kananaskis. We enjoyed two days of learning the methods of biology/science and researching the ecology behind two ecosystems; a forest (Aspen and Lodgepole pine) and an aquatic (Lusk Creek). This hands-on experience of collecting data, in such majestic surroundings, allowed us to further develop our inquiry processes, as well as use models to prove certain theories suggested by these models. In addition, this trip brought us together as a class, through group activities, extensive lab work and fun time together. Special thanks to Ms. Tomcala, Mr. Prosciak, Mrs. Bilek, and the staff at the UofC Biogeoscience Centre, who made it happen, even in the rain. This was truly an unforgettable experience!

**Chiamaka Onwuekwe**



## Athletics

Big congratulations to all fall sports teams, walking away with three city championship banners (Senior Girls Soccer, Senior Boys and Girls Volleyball). Thanks to everyone who came out and supported these teams during the season.

We are looking forward to the Basketball Season. Our junior boys host Kris Kringle Dec 8th-9th and our Saints Senior Tournament is Feb 1st-3rd. If your interested in coming out to league games, please take a look at the schedule on the following website: [calgaryhighschoolsports.ca](http://calgaryhighschoolsports.ca)

**GO SAINTS GO**





### Soccer

It was a tremendous year. The girls' soccer program had a record 39 participants on both the senior and junior teams. We started the season promptly on August 31st in anticipation of two friendly matches with Saskatoon high school teams Aden Bowman and Evan Hardy. In all, 24 players travelled to Saskatoon where we won both matches as well as two subsequent games that were played in Calgary.

After a successful pre-season, both the junior and senior teams started off their campaigns with victories. The senior team, with few setbacks, continued in this winning direction, ending the regular schedule with a 4-1-1 record while the junior team's record was 5-1-0. The seniors entered the division one playoffs as the second seed in pool A (one point behind top seed William Aberhart). During their run, the girls defeated Centennial 3-2 in the quarter finals and Bishop Carroll 3-0 in the semi-finals. On October 20th, in front of a capacity crowd (of primarily St. Mary's fans) the team won their second division one title in the past three years by defeating William Aberhart 2-0.

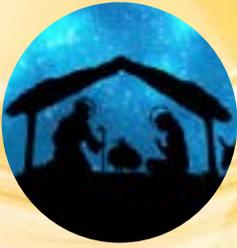
My heartfelt congratulations to all the players on both teams. I couldn't be more proud of your accomplishments this season. You are truly a remarkable bunch and it has been my privilege to work with you.

**Stan Janz**



## January Exam Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p><b>8</b> <i>School resumes after Christmas Break</i></p> <p><b>Regular Classes</b></p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p><b>Regular Classes</b></p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p><b>Regular Classes</b></p>	<p><b>AM</b> <b>11</b> <b>9am-12pm (+3 hrs)</b> ELA 30-1/ELA 30-2 Part A</p> <p><b>9am-12pm</b> ELA 10-1/10-2</p> <p><b>PM</b> <b>12:30pm-3:30pm</b> ELA 20-1/ELA 20-2 <b>No classes</b></p>	<p><b>AM</b> <b>12</b> <b>9am-12pm (+3hrs)</b> Social 30-1 Part(ie)A <b>9am-11:30pm (+2.5 hrs)</b> Social 30-2 Part A <b>9am – 11pm</b> Social 10-1/Social 10-2 Etudes Sociales 10-1/10-1 H</p> <p><b>PM 12:30pm – 2:30pm</b> Social 20-1/Social 20-2 <b>No classes</b></p>
<p><b>AM</b> <b>15</b></p> <p><b>9am-12pm (+3hrs)</b> FLA 30-1 Partie A <i>Regular Classes all week</i></p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>Regular Classes</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>Regular Classes</p> <p><b>RE District Exam (During class time)</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>Regular Classes</p> <p><b>RE District Exam (During class time)</b></p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p><b>Last day of Regular Classes Semester 1/Q2</b></p>
<p><b>AM</b> <i>No Classes until Jan.31</i> <b>22</b></p> <p><b>9am-12pm (+3hrs)</b> FLA 30-1 Partie B <b>9am-12pm</b> FLA 20-1/20-1 IB</p>	<p><b>AM</b> <b>23</b> <b>9am-12pm (+3 hours)</b> ELA 30-1/ELA 30-2 Part B</p>	<p><b>AM</b> <b>24</b> <b>9am-11:30pm (+2.5 hrs)</b> Social 30-1/Social 30-2 Part(ie) B</p>	<p><b>AM</b> <b>25</b> <b>9am-12pm (+3 hours)</b> Math 30-1/30-2 Mathématiques 30-1 IB</p>	<p><b>AM</b> <b>26</b> <b>9am-12pm (+3hrs)</b> Biology 30 <b>9am – 12pm</b> Science 10 Science 20</p>
<p><b>PM</b> <b>12:30-3:30pm</b> Chem 20 <b>1-3pm</b> ELL Exam</p>	<p><b>PM</b> <b>12:30 – 3:30pm</b> Physics 20</p>	<p><b>PM</b> <b>12:30 – 3:30pm</b> Biology 20</p>	<p><b>PM</b></p>	<p><b>PM</b> <b>12:30 – 2:30pm</b> Math 20-1/Math 20-2</p>
<p><b>AM</b> <b>29</b> <b>9am-12pm (+3hrs)</b> Chemistry 30</p>	<p><b>AM</b> <b>30</b> <b>8:30am- 11:30am (+3 hrs)</b> Physics 30</p>	<p><b>31</b></p> <p><b>Semester 2/Quarter 3 Begins</b></p>	<p><b>Note:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All Diploma exam times are listed with regular time allocation &amp; the time listed in brackets is the extra time students may take if needed.</li> <li>10 &amp; 20 level exams are listed with total maximum time for the exam. Extra time is factored into the listed time.</li> <li>Locations of exams will be published by Jan. 9.</li> <li>For conflicts, please speak to your 10/20 level teachers to arrange for alternative writing times.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>PM</b> <b>12:30pm – 2:30pm</b> Math 10C Mathématiques 10C&amp; 10C H</p>	<p><b>PM</b> <b>12:30pm – 3:30pm (+3 hrs)</b> Science 30</p>			



DECEMBER 2017

# Connections



CALGARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT MONTHLY NEWS

## Board of Trustees' Christmas Message

The Advent season is an opportunity to prepare for the joyful celebration of Christ's birth through prayer and reflection. This ties perfectly into our faith theme for the year, "Ask, and it will be given you" (Matthew 7:7). Together, as a district, we have been exploring the power of our faith through prayer, reflection and gratitude. Advent is also an opportunity to reflect on the things we are grateful for. Like all of us, I am grateful for my family, friends and health. To read the full message, visit our website under [News](#).

## Chief Superintendent's Christmas Message

We hope our Calgary Catholic community is feeling the spirit of the season as we prepare for Christmas. We also hope that during this festive season, we can all find a moment or two to thank God for our blessings and reflect. For the 2017-2018 school year, we have been exploring the power of prayer. Every year we choose a faith theme to guide us in our journey and this year it is, "Ask, and it will be given you," as the first part of a three-year theme, "Ask, and it will be given you; search and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." (Matthew 7:7). To read the full message, visit our website under [News](#).



## Celebrating Faith Day & Shepherd Leadership Recipients 2017

On Wednesday, November 1, the Calgary Catholic School District came together as a community to celebrate the annual Faith Day event at the BMO Centre. Over 5,000 employees gathered to listen to keynote speaker, Bishop McGrattan, lead the district in prayer and reflection and help explore the 2017-2018 faith theme, "Ask, and it will be given you" (Matthew 7:7). Faith Day is also an opportunity to recognize employees in the district who model the qualities of a shepherd leader. Visit our website under [News](#) to learn more.

## Auburn Bay & Airdrie Sod Turnings

CCSD recently celebrated two sod turnings and site blessings in the communities of Auburn Bay and Airdrie. On Friday, October 27, members of the CCSD community, along with government representatives, gathered in the community of Auburn Bay, where a new K-6 school is scheduled to open in fall 2020. On Monday, November 13, a sod turning and site blessing was celebrated in the community of Morningside in Airdrie where a new Catholic elementary school is also expected to open in fall 2020. Currently, CCSD has five new schools in various stages of development. Learn more on the CCSD website under [Schools/Future Schools](#).

## CCSD Partners with the National Women's Hockey Team

CCSD has an exciting new partnership with the National Women's Hockey Team. Watch some of the best female hockey players in the world as they train for the 2018 Winter Olympics at WinSport. Tickets are only \$10 and \$7.50 will go back to your school for fundraising. Buy tickets and learn more on our website under [News](#).

## Diploma Preparation Courses – December 2017 & January 2018

Diploma Preparation Courses are being offered at Bishop Grandin, Notre Dame and Father Lacombe High Schools in December and January to prepare students for exams. Visit our website under [Students/Academic Support/Diploma Preparation Courses](#) to learn more and register.

## Hear the Angels Sing

Join us in celebrating the songs of Advent and Christmas at the annual Calgary Catholic School District High School Choral Festival, featuring Bishop Carroll, Bishop McNally, Bishop Grandin, Bishop O'Byrne and St. Mary's. The event takes place on Tuesday, December 5 at 7 p.m. at St. Michael's Catholic Community (800 - 85 Street SW). Hope to see you there!

## Christmas Holidays

Calgary Catholic schools and administrative offices will be closed beginning on Friday, December 22 and will reopen on Monday, January 8. We wish everyone a joyful Christmas season!

## Did you know?

Our annual District Day with the Calgary Hitmen will take place on Friday, February 23. Mark your calendars and check the district website soon for more information on ticket sales.

**DECEMBER**

1	Fri.	Snow Ball Dance 6:00 pm (Gym)
5	Tues.	Advent Choral Concert 7:00 pm (St. Micheal's Church)
7	Thurs.	St. Mary's Day & Mass 10:40 am, lunch & P4
8-9		Kris Kringle Basketball Tournament
13-15		Drama Production & Art Exhibit 7:30 pm
19	Tues.	Advent Instrumental Concert 7:00 pm
20	Wed.	Cantabile Concert 7:00 pm (Cafeteria)
21	Thurs.	Last Day of Classes before Christmas Holidays (full day)
22	Fri.	Christmas Holidays begin

**JANUARY / JANUARY DIPLOMA EXAMS**

8	Mon.	School Re-opens
11	Thurs.	English 30-1, 30-2 Part A
12	Fri.	Social Studies 30-1, 30-2 Part A
15	Mon.	FLA 30-1 Part A
19	Fri.	Last Day of Classes (Semester 1)
22-30		Diploma Exams Continue & School Exams Begin
22	Mon.	FLA 30-1 Part B
23	Tues.	English 30-1, 30-2 Part B <b>Parent Council Meeting 5:00 pm (Learning Commons)</b>
24	Wed.	Social Studies 30-1, 30-2 Part B
25	Thurs.	Math 30-1 and 30-2
26	Fri.	Biology 30
29	Mon.	Chemistry 30
30	Tues.	Physics 30 & Science 30 Quarter 2 Semester 1 Ends
31	Weds.	Quarter 3 Semester 2 Begins

**FEBRUARY**

1-3		Saints Sr. BB Tournament
7	Wed.	Open House 7-9:00 pm
8	Thurs.	Progress Report Distribution (end of day)
14	Wed	Ash Wednesday Liturgy (Cathedral)
15	Thurs.	Teacher's Convention ATA (no school)
16	Fri.	Teacher's Convention ATA (no school)
19	Mon.	Family Day (no school)
20	Tues.	<b>Parent Council Meeting 5:00 pm (Learning Commons)</b>

**MARCH**

5-9		Graduation Photos by appointment
14-16		Theatre 35 IB Production 7:30 pm (Theatre)
20	Tues.	<b>Parent Council Meeting 5:00 pm (Learning Commons)</b>
23	Fri.	PD Day (no school)
29	Thurs.	Last Day of Classes before Spring Break (full day)
30	Fri.	Spring Break begins

**APRIL / APRIL DIPLOMA EXAMS**

9	Mon.	School Re-Opens
9-17		Diploma Exams (ELA; Social; Math, Chem., Bio., Science, Physics)
11	Wed	Easter Mass 10:40 am (Cathedral) End Quarter 3
12	Thurs.	Start Quarter 4
17	Tues.	Spring Choral Concert 7:00 pm (First Church of the Nazarene)
19	Thurs.	Progress Reports Distribution (end of day)
20	Fri.	PD Day (no school)
20	Fri.	P/T Conferences 4:30 - 7:30 pm

23	Mon.	P/T Conferences 9:00 - 3:30 pm (no school)
27	Fri.	<b>Course Withdrawal Deadline (Sem 2)</b>

**MAY**

1	Tues.	<b>Parent Council Meeting 5:00 pm (Learning Commons)</b>
2-18		IB Exams
18	Fri.	PD Day (no school)
21	Mon.	Victoria Day (no school)
23	Thurs.	Meet Your TA Night 7:00pm
24	Thurs.	Grade 12 Retreat (all day)
25	Sat.	Graduation Banquet 6:30 pm (BMO Centre)
28	Mon.	Principal's Address to Graduates (P4) Graduation Rehearsal & Gown Pick up
29	Tues.	Graduation Day - No School Graduation Mass 9:30 am (Cathedral) Graduation Ceremonies 2:30 pm (Jubilee)

**JUNE / JUNE DIPLOMA EXAMS**

5	Tues.	<b>Parent Council AGM Mtg 5:00 pm (Learning Commons)</b>
6	Wed.	Athletic Banquet 4:00 pm (Gym/Cafeteria)
7	Thurs.	Academic Awards 7:00 pm (Gym)
8	Fri.	French Graduation Fine Arts Light Night
12	Tues.	Last Day of Classes (Semester 2)
13	Wed.	Diploma & School Exams Begin English 30-1, 30-2 Part A
14	Thurs.	Social Studies 30-1, 30-2 Part A
18	Mon.	FLA 30-1 Part A
19	Tues.	FLA 30-1 Part B
20	Wed.	English 30-1, 30-2 Part B
21	Thurs.	Aboriginal Day (no exams)
22	Fri.	Social Studies 30-1, 30-2 Part B
25	Mon.	Math 30-1, 30-2
26	Tues.	Chemistry 30
27	Wed.	Biology 30
28	Thurs.	Physics 30 & Science 30
29	Fri.	Teacher Organization (am)

***Halo's Hampers - Kick-off December 4<sup>th</sup>***

During the Advent Season, students are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items to the school in support of the Calgary Inter-Faith Food Bank.

Kick-off was Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup> with boxes delivered to all TA classrooms. All donations will be collected until Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, when they will be presented to the Calgary Inter-Faith Food Bank.

We thank everyone for supporting this worthwhile event.

