



Catholic Central High School NEWSLETTER



Principal's Message

As we enter the festive month of December, we are invited once again into the sacred season of Advent—a time of preparation, hope, and joyful anticipation. At Catholic Central, Advent offers us the opportunity to pause in the midst of our busy lives, reflect on the promise of Christ's coming, and prepare our hearts to welcome Him anew.

Advent, from the Latin *adventus* meaning “coming,” calls us to prepare for two profound moments: the celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas and His promised second coming. Beginning on November 28, at the start of Block 3 classes, our students and staff will journey through the four traditional themes of Advent:



- Week 1: Hope** – We light the Prophecy Candle, remembering the hopeful promises foretold in Scripture.
- Week 2: Peace** – The Bethlehem Candle reminds us of the peace Christ brings to a weary world.
- Week 3: Joy** – With the pink Shepherd's Candle, we celebrate the joy proclaimed to those who first heard the Good News.
- Week 4: Love** – The Angel's Candle reflects the boundless love God shares with humanity through His Son.

These weeks guide us in strengthening the virtues that shape our faith and ground us in the true meaning of Christmas.

At Catholic Central, our Advent preparations extend beyond prayer and reflection. Alongside our weekly Advent services—led by Students' Council and supported by our classroom teachers—our school embraces acts of charity and compassion. This year, we again support Santa's Anonymous Christmas Hamper Project, The Angel Tree Project, and our sock/toque/gloves Giving Tree. These initiatives encourage our students and families to recognize and respond to the needs within both the Holy Spirit Catholic School Division and the greater Lethbridge community.

December is a lively month at CCH, filled with basketball, curling, and wrestling, as well as the tremendous work happening in our musical production and in clubs such as Robotics, Yearbook, and Athletic Leadership. In the spirit of tradition, I continue to share the origin story of one of our most beloved initiatives: the Santa's Anonymous Christmas Hamper Project.



Many of you will recognize the name of Mr. Wikenheiser (Mr. Wik)—now retired—who first proposed this project after seeing a large-scale version “up north.” With the support of then-principal Mr. Mombourquette (now board trustee), he launched a modest initiative of “20–25 families” during the 2000–2001 school year. Along with Mrs. Vill (Villeneuve), he coordinated the project out of Trinity Learning Centre with the help of eight students. After only two years, the team outgrew the space and moved to the CCH Vasey Hall Gym, where the project truly took root in 2003–2004.

Over the years, Santa’s Anonymous has been led by many dedicated staff members—including Mr. Wik, Mrs. Vill, Ms. Perron, Mrs. Fetting, Mr. Spiess, Mrs. Gardner, Mrs. Dempsey, Mr. Skretting, Mr. New, and Mrs. Christensen—and has been sustained by countless donors and volunteers. What began as a small outreach has grown into a 20+ year legacy, involving multiple staff facilitators, more than fifty students annually, and generous support from community partners. Schools across the Holy Spirit Division have also contributed through their own fundraisers.

It is humbling to reflect on the impact. Estimated collectively, our community has contributed roughly \$675,000 in-kind, supporting approximately 1650 families with food and Christmas gifts over the years. This year, Catholic Central is committed to supporting 50 families within the division, given the short turnaround time between October 29 (our return to school) and the deadline to have all hampers prepared (December 10).

This is where YOU come in.

If you are able, we invite you to consider donating either:

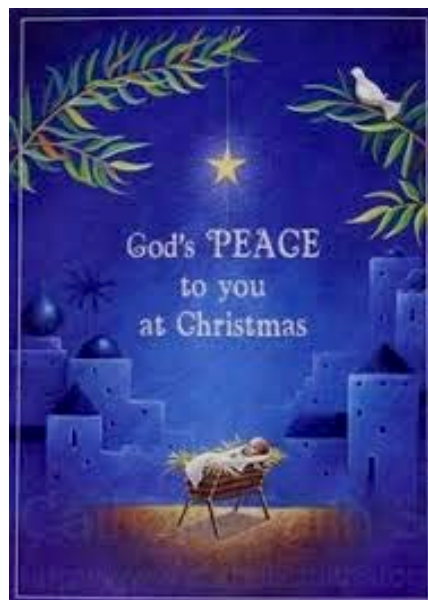
- a complete hamper (\$300–\$350), or
- any financial amount, large or small.

If financial giving is not possible, spreading the word among your family, friends, and wider community is a tremendous support. For those who prefer to contribute food items, please contact Mr. New for a list of accepted donations.

Every year, I am deeply moved by the generosity and compassion of our CCH community. Thank you for being a part of this mission and for bringing hope, joy, and dignity to families who need it most.

On behalf of all of us at Catholic Central, I wish each of our students and families a blessed Christmas and a joy-filled New Year.

May peace be on your lips and in your hearts. - Mrs. Polec





Important Dates

November 28 - Advent Service #1 in block 3

November 30 - First Sunday of Advent

December 1 - Council of School Council Meeting at the Board Office from 6:00-8:00 pm

December 1 - Football Banquet

December 4 - School Council Meeting 6:00 in CEast library

December 5 - Advent Service #2 in block 3

December 7 - Second Sunday of Advent; Volleyball Potluck and Awards

December 8 - Awards Night at 7:00 p.m. CEast Vasey Hall Gym

December 10 - Advent Mass (with blessing of the Santa's Anonymous hampers) at 9:30 on CEast

December 11 - Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences - 6-8 pm on CEast

December 12 - Advent Service #3 in block 3

December 14 - Third Sunday of Advent

December 15-19 - Christmas Spirit Week

December 16 - Christmas Concert CEast Vasey Hall Gym

December 19 - Advent Service #4 in block 3

December 19 - Last Day of Classes before Break

December 21 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 24 - Christmas Eve

December 25 - Merry Christmas!

December 22-January 4 - Christmas Break!



January 5 - Return to classes after Christmas break; Staff to bless larger gathering areas after school

January 6 - Blessing of the Classrooms in block 1

January 21 - Last Day of Q2 classes - Be reminded that ALL Q2 diploma exams have been cancelled but teachers have scheduled their own exams or final assessments for Thursday, January 22 and Friday, January 23

January 22 - Exam/ Final Assessment Day as scheduled by individual teachers

January 23 - Exam/ Final Assessment Day as scheduled by individual teachers

January 26 - CCH PD Day

January 27 - Transition Day from Q2 to Q3 - offices will be open for business but students are NOT required to attend

January 28 - First Day of Q3 Classes



GRAD 2026 - SAVE THE DATE!

Dear Parents/Guardians of Grade 12 Catholic Central students:

As we settle into the second quarter of the school year, it becomes time to make plans for Graduation 2026. Updates on graduation will be posted on the homepage of our website: www.holyspirit.ab.ca/cch under "School" tab/ "Graduation Information." Additionally, continued updates will be uploaded in the Grad 2026 Google Classroom as we prepare to celebrate the academic achievements of our Graduating Class!



Please note that ALL Grade 12 students/parents are receiving this information letter. This does not necessarily mean that the student is on the Grad 2026 list. The guidance counselor and administration will be contacting Grade 12 students who do not currently meet graduation requirements. A graduation list will also be posted at each campus by the end of quarter 2, and updated regularly. If you have questions about your child's graduation status, please contact the school and speak with an administrator or guidance counselor.

Graduation Parent Meeting – Monday, February 2 at 7:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria on CEast

Grad Photographs: Our photographer this year is Lifetouch Canada. There is NO CHARGE to grads to have their picture taken. Pictures are taken on these dates and times:

- Week of Feb 2nd to 6th
- Week of Feb 9th to 13th
- Week of Feb 17th to 20th

Grads can book these sessions online at <https://schedule.prestigeportraits.ca/schedule/home.html> Grads/ parents/ guardians need to search by the school's postal code - T1J 3E5. There is NO appointment code. The online booking system is now open. If you cannot book any of these times, please call Lifetouch at 780-437-2431 to arrange a time and date. All Grad Photos will be taken at Sandman Hotel on Mayor Magrath Drive- Lower Ballroom, 421 Mayor Magrath Drive South Lethbridge, AB

Grads will have their pictures taken with cap and gown (as provided by Lifetouch at their studio). The following are suggestions for the best photos:

- Look like the "best version" of yourself, which means if grads plan to have hair and makeup done for pictures, make sure you look like you!
- The grad gown is a v-neck, so it is wise to wear either something that is also a v-neck or a shirt with a tie. Do not wear a hoodie or a sweater that adds any sort of bulk to the neckline/ underneath the gown.
- You may also choose to have other pics taken ie: with a grad dress or suit or with "props" like hockey sticks or dance shoes, etc.
- The sessions will be 30 minutes, and we will do formal cap/gown photos as well as casual photos. Graduates may also bring appropriate props to be included in their sitting. (ex. sports equipment, musical instruments, etc). The use of props provided by Lifetouch (roses, diploma scroll) is voluntary, we have implemented safety protocols for sanitizing props or will provide one time use props for each sitting.

Please note: Students are NOT required to purchase packages from Lifetouch but each graduate must have this picture taken from Lifetouch as CCH will not accept other headshots taken by another photographer.

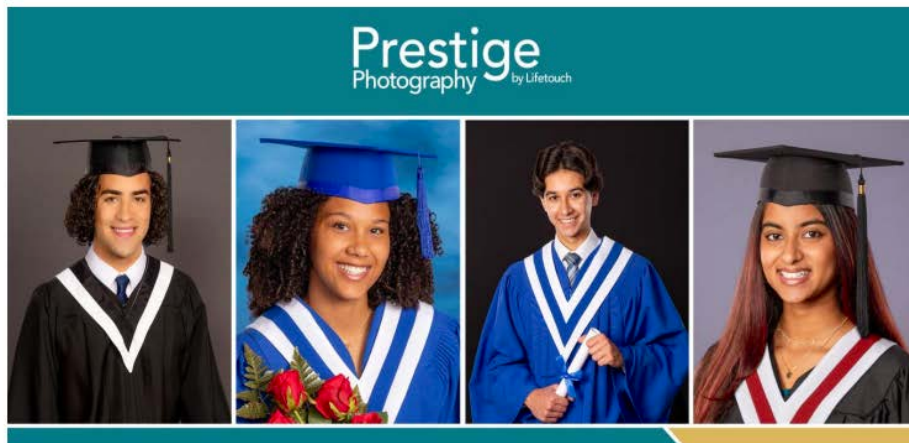
Dates and Details:

1. Grad Mass, Friday, May 8, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m, VisitLethbridge.com Arena (plan for 1 ½ to 2 hours)
2. Grad Ceremonies, Saturday, May 9, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m, VisitLethbridge.com Arena (plan for 3 hours)
3. Grand March (with Grad Dance to follow), Saturday, May 9, 7:00 p.m., VisitLethbridge.com Arena (plan for 2 hours)

Grad Fees – are \$160. Fees will be attached to all students (regardless of graduation status) in DECEMBER 2025. They will be due before/on March 2, 2026. Only those students who do not meet graduation requirements will be refunded (if payment(s) has/have been made); this will be the ONLY reason that refunds will be issued. No other refunds will be made. Fees can be paid through School Cash Online, which can be accessed from our homepage: <https://holyspirit.schoolcashonline.com/> For your convenience, we will be able to accept payment at the grad parent meeting. If you require assistance with this, please contact Tamara Wilson at the school when it is time. Please note that all SCHOOL FEES must be paid with or before GRAD FEES can be paid.

Graduation information will be updated regularly in the Grad 2026 Google Classroom and on our website. Reminders will also be provided on Instagram. Thank you for your time and assistance with this important event in the lives of our students.

Blessings, Joanne Polec, Principal



Congratulations, Class of 2026!

Schedule your grad picture session today.

You only graduate once,
your grad pictures matter.

As a part of the Lifetouch + Shutterfly family, Prestige Photography by Lifetouch is excited to help you celebrate this once-in-a-lifetime event!



BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT:
Catholic Central High School
Feb 2nd to Feb 20th, 2026



LOCATION: At the Sandman Hotel, 421 Mayor Magrath
Dr. S- Lower Ballroom

Online Booking Site - [Prestige Booking](#)
Search by Postal Code – **T1J 3E5**

Notes: Please come to your session 10 minutes prior to start time
If you have any questions regarding booking an appointment or what to expect please contact us:
(587) 200-2791

Welcome to CCH!

We are happy to welcome **Steve Payne** back to Catholic Central High! He was caretaker a while back on Campus West, and now you can see him keeping Campus East spic and span!



Hello everyone! My name is Nuvia Alfaro De Alegria. I'm excited to be joining the caretaking team on Campus East. I have several years of experience working in supportive and community focused roles, and I'm passionate about helping others and creating a positive environment. I look forward to meeting the CCH family and contributing to the great work being done here.





Hello! You may be curious about what is happening this year for **Santa's Anonymous**. We are currently right in the middle of our annual Food Drive. Students from CCH are bringing in items to help build our 50 hampers of food for families throughout our community. We have a wonderful group of students here at CCH that have been fundraising and committing countless hours toward making a better Christmas for those in the community.

We will be constructing the hampers just after the Advent Mass held on December 10th, and then distribute them via our colleagues in other Holy Spirit schools. If you would like to get involved, it's not too late. We will continue to take online donations right up to December 19th. Please see the Holyspirit website for more details. Just look for the donations tab and select CCH - Santa's Anonymous

Thank you so much for your ongoing support of this important and longstanding tradition at CCH!



ANNUAL AWARDS NIGHT
December 8 at 7:00 p.m.
CCH East Gymnasium

Congratulations to all students being recognized at our Annual Awards Night for the 2024-2025 school year! We are extremely proud of your academic success. Also, thank you to all of our donors. Without your support, we would not be able to host such an amazing evening!

Students, be reminded that if you receive a letter for an award, please do your best to be in attendance. Should you be unavailable that night, please have someone accept the award on your behalf. Also, as it is a formal event, please dress appropriately (semi-formal, which basically means no workout gear or jeans).

December 4th SCHOOL COUNCIL INVITATION!

Follow CCH School Council on Instagram  and join us on December 4 at 6pm in the CCH East library for an informative meeting — including an update from our principal, Mrs. Polec, Alberta Classroom Insight Survey and the Alberta Education Assurance Measure .

All parents/guardians are welcome!

 [cchschoolcouncil](https://cchschoolcouncil.com)



SCHOOL FEES REMINDER

This year's school fees are now due. Kindly remit as soon as possible. Fees may be paid using School Cash On-line, or at the school office by cash or cheque only. Debit/credit card payments can also be made at the EAST office. Should you have any questions or issues, please contact Mrs. Tamara Wilson.

Advent Services – We will be having our regular Advent Services held in Block 3 classes on the following Fridays – November 28, December 5, December 12, and December 19



WE BID FAREWELL AND CONGRATULATIONS TO THE INTERNS WHO HAVE BEEN WITH US SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THIS SCHOOL YEAR. TO MR. BAY AND MS. BROWN, WE WISH YOU ALL THE BEST IN YOUR FUTURE CAREERS!

Co-Curricular Athletics Update

Our Cougars have had an outstanding and energetic start to the 2025–2026 athletics year, with several teams accomplishing remarkable milestones this fall.

November marks the end of both Volleyball and Football seasons.

In Volleyball, Junior Varsity Boys finished first in the Year-End League Championship. The Junior Varsity Girls fought hard but ended up short in their year-end tournament.

Both our Senior Girls and Senior Boys Volleyball teams had incredible seasons, earning their spots at Zones in Medicine Hat. The SV Boys finished with a perfect win record during the regular season of play and were recognized with the Prairie Sky Conference League Champions Award for the second year in a row. Their hard work and consistent play propelled them to qualify for Provincials in Fort McMurray, where they proudly represented Catholic Central with determination, skill, and sportsmanship. The SV Girls came close to advancing to Provincials as they lost to a strong MHHS team (and defeating Raymond and WCHS). Good news: They were offered the first wildcard spot as they were previously ranked second in the province for 4A schools final rankings; they will accept the wildcard and go into Provincials ranked 5th! We are immensely proud of the achievements of both these teams and the way they carried themselves throughout the season.



Our CCH Cougars Football team delivered an exciting and hard-fought season, advancing all the way to the Provincial Quarterfinal. In a tight and competitive matchup, the team narrowly fell 23–26. Despite the tough loss, they brought home the South Zone Banner—our first since 2019. This is a tremendous accomplishment and a testament to the team's resilience, dedication, and unity. Congratulations to all players and coaches for an unforgettable season.

As we transition into December, our Basketball, Curling, and Wrestling seasons are now underway. Teams have begun training and early competitions, and the energy in the gym and on the ice is already electric. We look forward to cheering on our athletes as they continue to grow, compete, and represent CCH with pride.

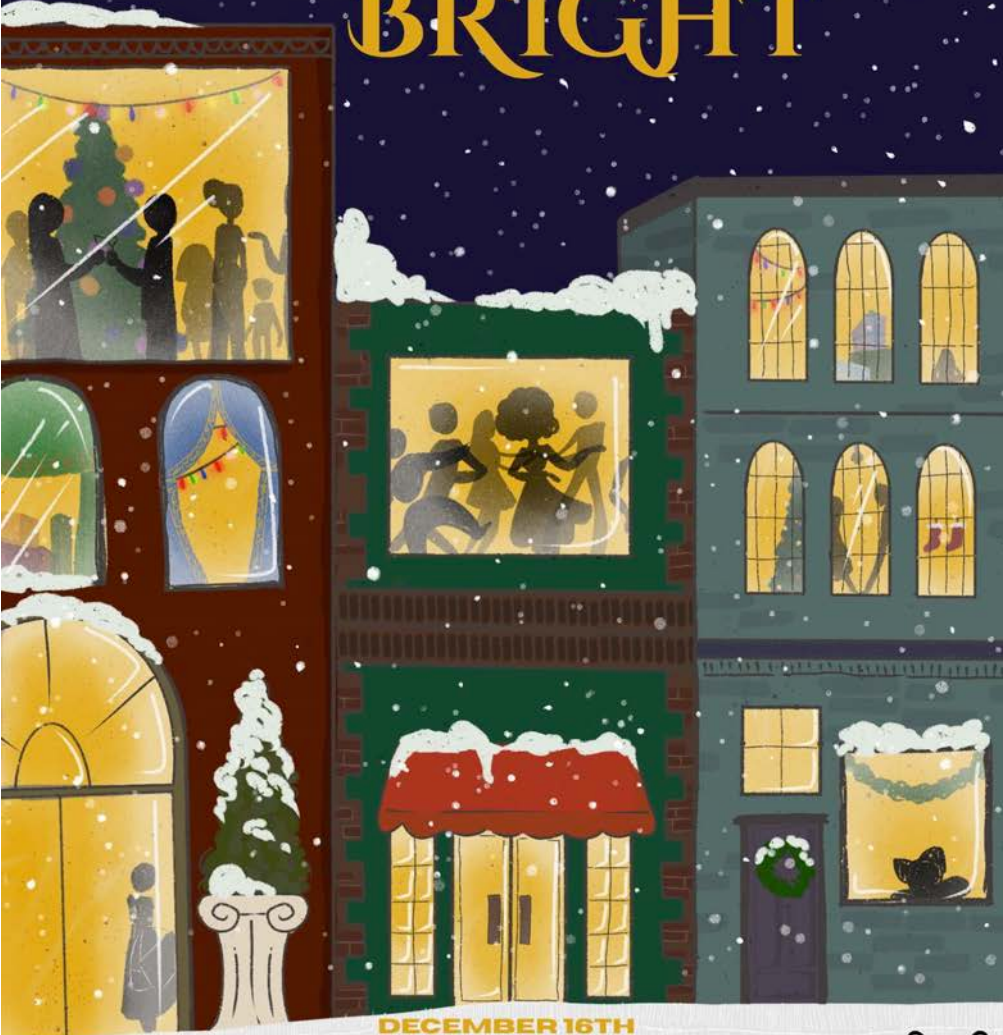
Our Cougar athletes continue to inspire us with their commitment, teamwork, and character. Best of luck to all teams as the winter season gets underway!

- Mr. Comchi,
Athletic Director



CCH MUSICAL ARTS PRESENTS

MERRY & BRIGHT



DECEMBER 16TH
DOORS OPEN AT 6:45 CONCERT STARTS AT 7
CCH EAST GYMNASIUM
ADMISSION \$5 OR FOOD BANK DONATION

CASH ONLY
COOKIE SALE!
\$5 A DOZEN

PROCEEDS WILL GO TO VENUE RENTAL, INSTRUMENT MAINTENANCE
AND REPAIR, MUSIC PURCHASE, ACCOMPANIMENT FEES AND
PROGRAM COSTS.



Notes from the Music Department:



- The Music Parents Association will be holding a meeting on December 1st at 5:30 PM in the CCH Library. We invite you to join us as we discuss fundraising plans and next steps for our program.
- Our "Merry and Bright" Christmas Concert will take place on December 16th at 7:00 PM in the CCH East Gym. Admission is by donation, or free with a food bank contribution!
- During the concert, we will also be hosting a Cookie Bake Sale! Each music student has been asked to bring three dozen baked goods, and a dozen treats will be sold for \$5. All proceeds support our music program, including instrument purchases and repairs, music acquisitions, accompanist fees, and other program-related costs. Left over cookies will be sold the Wednesday-Friday in the East Campus Cafeteria.
- If you have any instruments or music equipment you'd like to donate, please reach out—we would greatly appreciate it! We are especially seeking an electric drum set to support our recording projects.
- If you are interested in joining one of our ensembles, it's not too late! Students can earn 3-5 credits, and our door is always open.





CCH WELDING CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISER!

WE HAVE TWO OPTIONS THIS YEAR!!

**OPTION 1: CHRISTMAS TREE
TREE ORNAMENT - PAINTED GREEN
PRICE: \$15 EACH**

**OPTION 2: NATIVITY SCENE ORNAMENT
PAINTED BLUE AND WHITE
PRICE: \$10 EACH**

50% OF THE PROCEEDS
GO TOWARDS
SANTA'S ANONYMOUS

50% OF THE PROCEEDS GO
TOWARDS PURCHASING A VIRTUAL
WELDER FOR THE WELDING PROGRAM

SUBMIT ORDERS BY
DEC 10 TO ENSURE
DELIVERY BY
CHRISTMAS BREAK

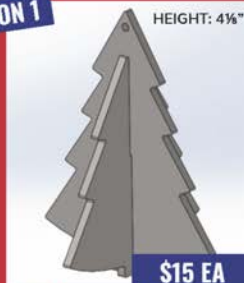
[ORDER THROUGH SCHOOL CASH ONLINE](#)



PROUDLY SPONSORED BY:



OPTION 1



OPTION 2



*ACTUAL PRODUCTS ARE SIMILAR TO
THE ONES ABOVE, ALTHOUGH THEY MAY
VARY SLIGHTLY*



IT'S TIME FOR THE 25TH ANNUAL

SOCK IT TO 'EM



NOV. 1ST - DEC. 12TH 2025

Nord-Bridge Seniors Centre, the caretakers, maintenance and support staff in Lethbridge and area schools are collecting **NEW SOCKS** to be donated to local charities for those less fortunate for Christmas. Please join them and make someone's Christmas a little bit warmer!

TO DONATE, CONTACT ANY CUSTODIAL STAFF AT YOUR SCHOOL

- Nord-Bridge Seniors Centre
- Lethbridge School Division
- Holy Spirit School Division
- Palliser Regional School

QUESTIONS? CALL:

Trevor Clinton - (403) 627 - 8071

Gail Petrie - (403) 327 - 6520

Charlene Kocken - (403) 239 - 3222



OC

OFF CAMPUS NEWS

01 work EXPERIENCE



Please keep emailing proof of hours worked to
hsoffcampus@holyspirit.ab.ca

02 RAP APPRENTICE

Please keep emailing proof of hours worked to
hsoffcampus@holyspirit.ab.ca



03 Green CERTIFICATE

Check email for up and coming testing dates.



04 NOTE

WHAT IS NEXT

December 11 - For students enrolled in dual credit fall 2025 semester. Check email.

INTRO FINAL

December 5th - Presentation day for students who are registered in Intro to the Trades fall 2025.

DUAL CREDIT

January 26 - Orientation night for students enrolled in dual credit Winter 2026 semester. Check email. NOTE: Not for Trades students

TRADES DUAL CREDIT

January 30 - Orientation night for students enrolled in dual credit Winter 2026 trades course. keep checking emails for more information.

06 who are we

Off-Campus Education provides programs and services for Holy Spirit School Division Students during their high school years.

We offer 3 Off-Campus programs, 3 Workplace Safety Courses, Dual Credit Courses, Career Services, Post Secondary Services and Scholarship Services.

These programs and services are available to all high school students in the Division.

HOLY SPIRIT CAREER CENTRE CONTACT

MARK BOSCHEE

Room 154 CCH Campus East
boscheem@holyspirit.ab.ca
587 220 4358



University of Lethbridge
Conservatory of Music

Digital Music Production Classes

For Beginners & Intermediate/Advanced

Section 1: Beginners (Thursday, 5 - 6 p.m.)

Section 2: Intermediate/Advanced (Thursday, 6-8* p.m.)

WINTER 2026: JANUARY 15, 22, 29, FEB 5, 12, 19, MARCH 5, 12, 19, 26

NO CLASS: FEB 26

LOCATED AT CASA (230 8 ST S)



*This class will be split into 2, 60-minute classes (i.e. 6 - 7, or 7 - 8).





Advent Fridays

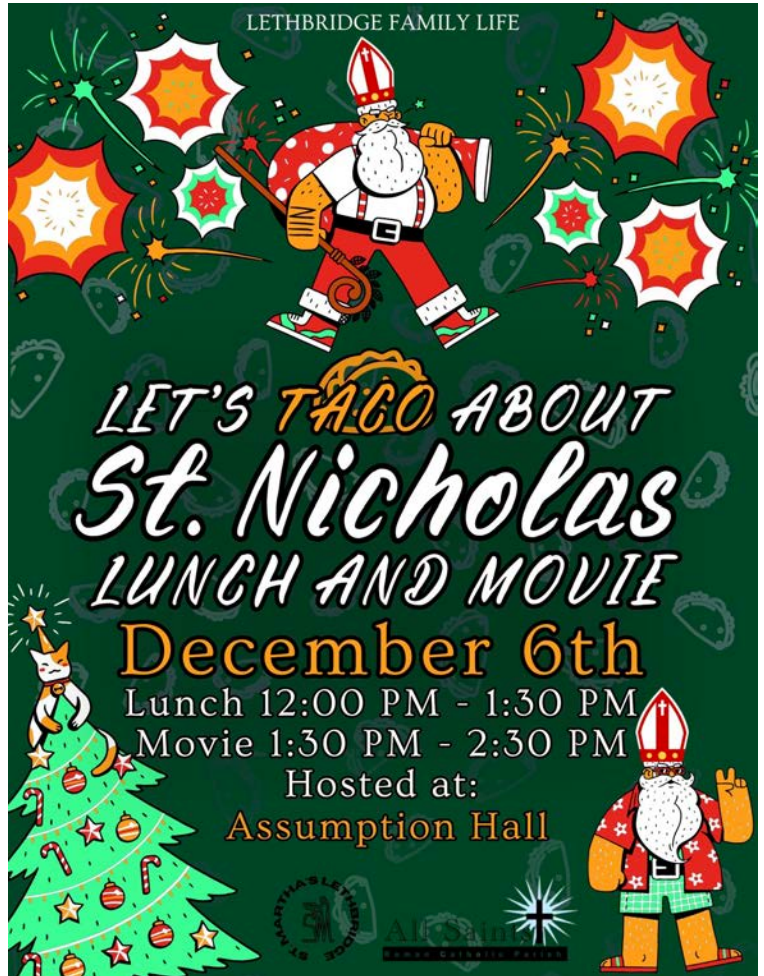
ADORATION & SOUP SUPPERS

DECEMBER
5TH 12TH 19TH
HOSTED AT ASSUMPTION HALL

Schedule:

- Mass & Adoration
9:00AM - 8:00PM
- Soup Supper
6:00PM - 7:00PM
- Teaching
7:15PM - 7:45PM

Icons: church, bowl of soup, cross.



LETHBRIDGE FAMILY LIFE

LET'S TACO ABOUT St. Nicholas LUNCH AND MOVIE

December 6th

Lunch 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM
Movie 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

Hosted at:
Assumption Hall

Icons: cat on Christmas tree, St. Nicholas.



ST. MARTHA'S LETHBRIDGE

All Saints
PARISH CATHOLIC CHURCH

Klaus

Family Movie Night

December 20th 2025
At 6:15 PM
Assumption Hall
2405 12 Ave S Lethbridge
COME FOR POPCORN, COOKIES AND MORE



LETHBRIDGE FAMILY LIFE

CHRISTMAS -KINDNESS DINNER -

- Assumption Hall -
2405 12 Ave S, Lethbridge

DEC.25, 2024

JOIN US AS WE PREPARE AND DELIVER HOT CHRISTMAS DINNERS TO THOSE IN NEED, FOLLOWED BY A COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS MEAL TOGETHER.

- 12pm - 3pm COOKING DINNERS •
- 3pm - 4pm DELIVERING DINNERS •
- 5pm COMMUNITY DINNER •

For More Information, or to RSVP, Call/Text
Shelley Thom 403-308-5925

**CHRISTMAS
MASS TIMES**



DECEMBER 24 **DECEMBER 25**

ST. MARTHA'S PARISH 5:00PM 8:00PM 11:00PM	ST. MARTHA'S PARISH 10:00AM
ST. BASIL'S CHURCH 6:00 PM 9:00PM	ST. BASIL'S CHURCH 7:30AM 11:00AM
OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION CHURCH 6:00 PM 9:00PM 12:00AM	OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION CHURCH 9:00AM

*Do not be afraid, for see I am bringing
you good news of great joy for all the people:
to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour,
who is the Christ, the Lord.*

LUKE 2:10-11

