

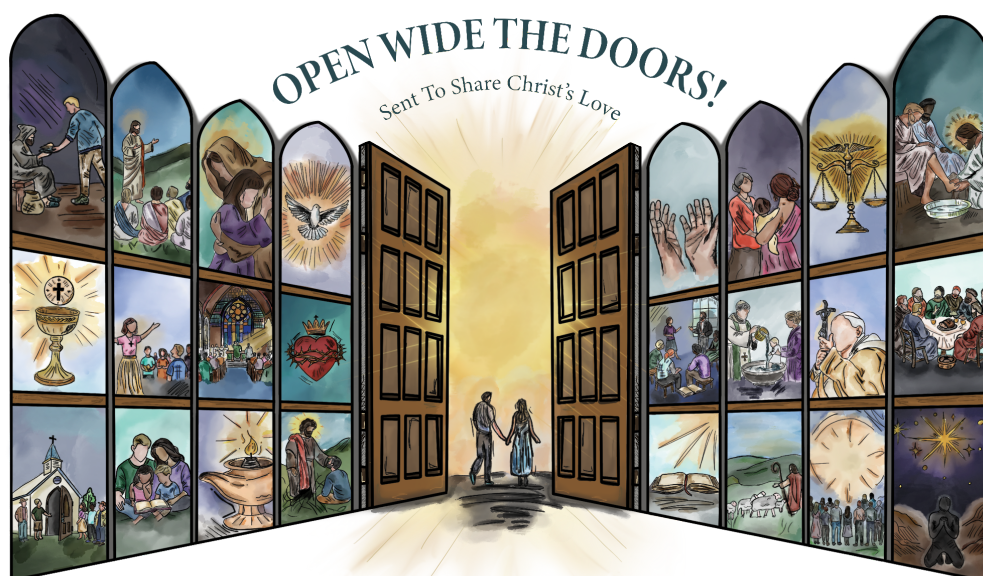


Catholic Central High School NEWSLETTER



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Beloved writer, Maya Angelou, said, "You can't really know where you are going until you know where you have been", and I could not agree more. Past experiences and prior relationships help to guide us toward (hopefully) better choices for the future. Not only that but we can also reflect upon just how much we have grown and developed as individuals and, for us at Catholic Central, as apostles of Christ. Thus, before we delve into Year Two of the Faith Plan: "Open Wide The Doors! Sent to Share Christ's Love", allow us to reflect upon how we grew to "Know God" (Year One).

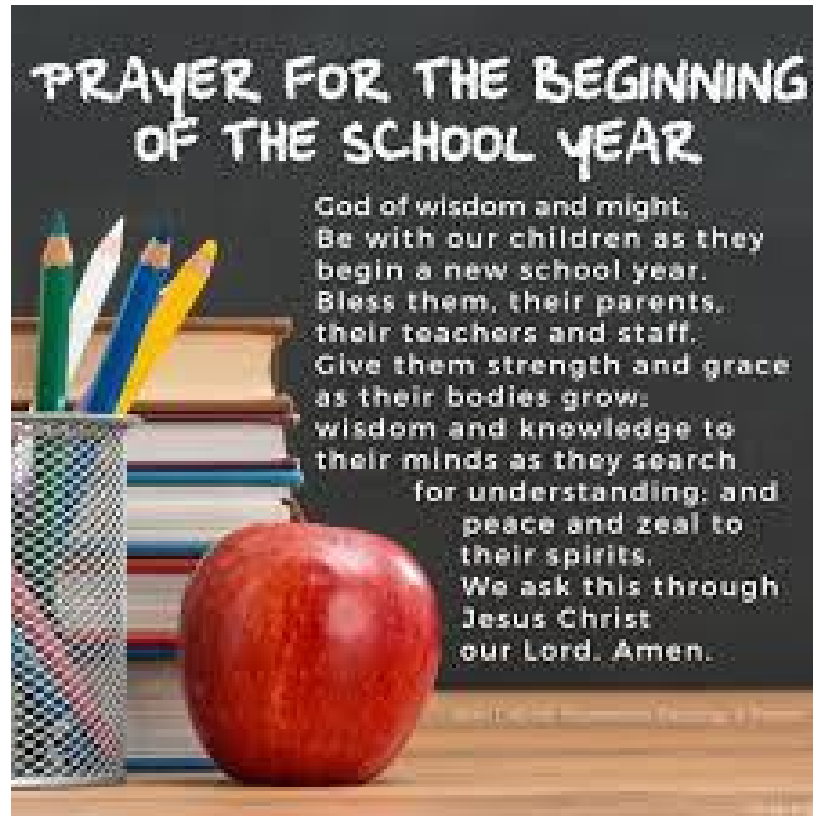


Last year, we encountered Christ in the Gospels, specifically the parables of Luke, asking ourselves - where do I fit in these stories, and what do they teach me about my relationship with God? We connected to the Liturgy of the Word in the Mass and sought out ways to listen to others' lived experience, and to engage all of those who are part of our community. Folks, we had an excellent year, filled with many celebrations, including six zone banners, one provincial team banner and many individual provincial achievements, a colorful display of talents in our musical production that not only showcased students from CCH but also welcomed students from St. Patrick's Fine Arts Elementary and St. Paul's Elementary, a variety of student-driven community endeavors and works of service, and incredible academic performances that reinforced our commitment to attendance, discipline, and hard work. Moreover, students and staff alike walked together, shared their diverse gifts, and respected one another as unique images of God.

In Year Two, the 2026-2027 school year, our call is to **LOVE GOD**, by loving kindness. Building on our foundation of knowing God, this year we focus on loving Him with all our heart, soul, and mind. Our call to love kindness invites us to experience and share God's unconditional love and mercy. We encounter Christ deeply through prayer, the Sacraments, and particularly in the Liturgy of the Eucharist/The Sacred Heart of Jesus. We reflect on the calls to become witnesses to a life lived in relationship with Jesus and to participate actively in the life of the Church. As is outlined in Acts 2:42, it is our vision this year that the CCH community "devote themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and prayers."

We invite you, our parents/ guardians, and greater CCH family, to journey with us - in prayer, in conversation, and in community to find opportunities to love kindness, love each other, and love God. Blessings to you all as we embark on this new journey!

- Mrs. Polec - Principal of Catholic Central



WAYS TO CONNECT WITH US AT CCH!



As a school, we endeavor to keep you informed through our website, newsletters, emails, PowerSchool, and through our social media channels. Please ensure that you are not missing out on keeping informed! A couple of ways of staying connected are:

- Check out our website <https://cch.holyspirit.ab.ca/> for access to calendars, school fees, re-entry updates, newsletters, bell times... you name it, it's there!
 - Follow us on Instagram (cch.school).
 - Download the PowerSchool App or bookmark it on your device for information about your child's progress and attendance. This is a good way to check the "Daily Bulletin" as well!
 - Download the Safe Arrival/ School Messenger app to report your child's absences and to receive emailed information from the school <https://www.holyspirit.ab.ca/safe-arrival>
 - Subscribe to our monthly (sometimes twice a month) newsletter.
 - Ensure your email information and phone numbers are up-to-date in PowerSchool by letting the office know as there are often call outs and frequent email updates.
 - If all else fails, call the school at (403) 327 4596 and someone will help you find the information you are searching for.
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Upcoming Quarter 1 Dates

September

- 1 First Day of Q1 Classes - all students begin at 8:10 am - please go directly to your block one class! There will be important information outlined by teachers including: school fees, personal device agreement, attendance procedure, lockers, flex time, transportation, and other basic information.
- 1 B3 grade 10 grade level meeting and B4 grade 11 grade level meeting EAST in gym
- 2 B3 grade 10 grade level meeting and B4 grade 11 grade level meeting WEST in gym
- 3 B3 grade 12 grade level meeting EAST in gym
- 4 B3 grade 12 grade level meeting WEST in gym
- 7 Labor Day - No School
- 8 CEast Picture Day AM
- 9 CWest Picture Day AM
- 16 Day 1 of Truth and Reconciliation (10 Days towards Truth and Reconciliation from Sept 16-Sept 30)
- 21 Full day School-Wide Retreat with Opening Mass on CEast
- 29 Q1 Midterm and Orange Shirt Day
- 30 National Day of Truth and Reconciliation - No school

October

- 1 Quarter 1 Midterm and Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences from 6:00-8:00pm
- 8 Picture Retakes AM both campuses
- 12 Thanksgiving - No school
- 13 IPP PD Day for Staff - No classes
- 14 CCH PD Day - No classes
- 29 ELA Part A diploma AM
- 30 Last day of Q1 classes and Social Part A diploma AM

November

- 2 ELA Part B diploma AM
- 3 Math diploma AM
- 4 Chemistry diploma AM and Social Part B diploma PM
- 5 Physics diploma AM and Biology diploma PM
- 6 Science diploma AM
- 9 First Day of Q2 classes
- 10 CCH Awards Night (2025) @ 7:00 PM
- 11 Remembrance Day - No school
- 12 Division PD Day - No classes
- 13 CCH PD Day - No classes



SchoolCash Online and School Fees

The Holy Spirit School Division uses *School Cash Online* which provides you with the convenience of paying online for school items such as school fees, trips, co-curricular fees, etc. Go to <https://holyspirit.schoolcashonline.com/> to register online. Once you have registered your child, you will be able to see all fees owing for your student. If you

have any questions during the registration process or while shopping online, please call Mrs. Tamara Wilson at our Campus East office and she can assist you. If you prefer to pay by cash or cheque you can always do so by coming into the office. All fees are posted on the CCH website, under the "Our School" tab on our main page.

PowerSchool

Catholic Central High, as part of the Holy Spirit Roman Catholic School Division, uses Power School as its student information system. It provides parents and students access to real-time information including attendance, assignments/ tests/ exams, grades, and the Daily Bulletin. For students new to Catholic Central, information on how to access the parent Power School portal was provided to students on day one of classes. If you require assistance logging onto the parent portal for PowerSchool, please contact the school office at 403-327-4596 and speak to Ms. Kim Magill.



Student Contact Information

If you have moved over the summer or changed phone numbers or email addresses, please contact the school with your new information. The government requires the school to have correct contact information for all students. The correct information is vital in case of an emergency! Additionally, much of Catholic Central's communication is now done by email, Synervoice calls, Twitter, Instagram or Facebook. Don't miss out on important and interesting information!

School Bussing Information

For information about transportation (busing), please click on the following link: <https://cch.holyspirit.ab.ca/transportation-status> Any inquiries about bus routes, shuttle buses, etc. can be directed to Mrs. Cheryl Shimbashi, Transportation Coordinator at (403) 380-5303.



- Transportation information and codes
 - Office Hours and Bell Times
 - New faces and interns
 - Club and team information
 - Notice to Parent of Religious Permeation
 - Fair Notice Letter
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New to HolySpirit: Safe Arrival!

Go to: <https://www.holyspirit.ab.ca/safe-arrival> for more information



SafeArrival is an absence management system that improves student safety and makes it easy for you to let the school know about your child's absence.

You are asked to report your child's absence in advance whenever possible using one of these convenient methods.

SM Home Mobile app

To download and use the free SchoolMessenger Home mobile app:

- Provide your email address to the school during registration.
- Get the app from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store (or from the [SchoolMessenger Canada](#) website).
- Tap **Sign Up** to create your account.
- Select **Attendance** from the menu, and then select **Report an Absence**.

Website

To use the web or mobile web version:

- Provide your email address to the school during registration.
- Go to SchoolMessenger website. Users in Canada can access the [SchoolMessenger Canada](#) website.
- Click **Sign Up** to create your account.
- Select **Attendance** from the menu, then select **Report an Absence**.

Pictures will be taken the morning of the following days. If you have a spare, please come first thing in the morning to have your picture taken.

Campus East - September 8

Campus West - September 9

Re-takes on both campuses - October 8



Campus East

Monday - Thursday: 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Friday: 7:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

Campus West

Monday - Thursday: 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Friday: 7:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.



10 DAYS TOWARD TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

Year 2 – People, Places, and Practices

This year, Catholic Central High School is embarking on a meaningful journey for the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation centered around our division's Faith Plan theme, "Open Wide the Doors! Sent to Share Christ's Love", our Year Two call to Love God, and our theme **"People, Places, and Practices."** Leading up to Wednesday, September 30th, our classroom slide series will explore Indigenous history, traditions, and lived experiences with a focus on life at Catholic Central, featuring the Feather Blessing, student interviews, the Blackfoot Seasonal Round, and Blackfoot prayer. The slide series will run in classrooms on the following schedule:

Afternoon Classes:

- Day 1 (Sept. 16) - Introduction to the 10 Days of Truth and Reconciliation
- Day 2 (Sept. 17) - Introducing the Feather Blessing
- Day 3 (Sept. 18) - Impact of the Feather Blessing
- Day 4 (Sept. 22) - Celebrating Taatsikioyis' First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Students
- Day 5 (Sept. 23) - The Blackfoot Seasonal Round

Morning Classes:

- Day 6 (Sept. 24) - Blackfoot Class Student Interview
- Day 7 (Sept. 25) - Stone House Game
- Day 8 (Sept. 28) - Exploring Blackfoot Prayer
- Day 9 (Sept. 29) - The Blackfoot Experience at Taatsikioyis

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

- Day 10 (Sept. 30) - Moving Past the Ten Days

At the heart of this initiative is our spiritual call to **Love God** by seeking encounter through the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Mass. As Jesus invites us in Matthew 11:29, *"Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."* Loving God requires an active commitment to justice, kindness, and humility. Learning about and honoring Indigenous experiences is a direct, sacred response to God's call to love Him and share Christ's love with one another.

We will also celebrate the gifts, talents, and leadership of our First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students at Catholic Central High School. By sharing personal stories and traditional practices, our students will lead and guide our community. Their knowledge enriches our school and helps us live out our call to **Love God** by building a culture grounded in mutual respect, empathy, and understanding.

New Staff 2026-2027



Hello CCH! My name is **Noah LeBleu**, and I will be teaching math, photography, and social studies at Catholic Central for the 2026-2027 school year. I am a proud CCH alumni who is very excited to be back in the school community. I am now entering my second year as

an educator and there is nowhere I would rather be teaching.

My interests are mainly in sports and technology. I will be coaching the JV boys volleyball team this year. I have been the pitching and catching coach for the Cougars baseball team for the last 4 years, and the head coach of the JV Cougars baseball team for the last 2. I also very much enjoy volleyball and badminton, which I myself was very involved in during my days as a student here. Now it has shifted to coaching those sports and playing golf when it is nice out as much as possible. I also enjoy all things computers and technology, so teaching photography is a great way for me to be involved with that.

I am thrilled about the opportunity to be involved here now in my professional career. Go Cougars!



Hi! My name is **Zaira Miller-Shackleton** and I will be joining Catholic Central High School this fall, teaching math and CTS courses. This past April, I graduated from the University of Lethbridge with a Bachelor of Science and a Bachelor of

Education in math. One of my passions is playing and coaching sports (especially volleyball), therefore I will be coaching varsity girls volleyball in the 2026 school year! I also enjoy hiking and travelling, as I have backpacked some special places including Guatemala, Vietnam, Indonesia and my most recent trip, Peru! During these past summers, I worked as a lifeguard/manager at an outdoor pool, it's a pretty sweet job! I can't wait to begin in the classroom and be a part of the wonderful Catholic Central High School community!



I'm **Brant Melchin**. A few of you may know me as "Mr. Tall" from when I subbed across the division last year. Most of my life I lived in Calgary, except for two years after high school when I lived in northern Mexico. There I learned Spanish and that God truly watches over us. A year ago, I

moved to Lethbridge with my four amazing children. I have taught for eight years now, including band, music, English, social studies, Spanish, and drama. Music is a passion for me, and I play the trombone well, and about 10 others alright. For fun, I love reading, hiking, Lego, board games, and stories (especially good sci-fi like Star Trek). I'm thankful to be welcomed to the CCH team and look forward to a wonderful year.



Alea Navratil is excited to join the Catholic Central team this year. She is joining us from St. Joseph's School in Coaldale, where she worked as an Inclusive Education Lead Teacher and taught English Language Arts for Grades 6-9. Her ten years of teaching has brought her a breadth of experience across

grades levels and subjects.

Mrs. Navratil loves to learn. She always has a book on the go and a docuseries to watch. Most recently, she has completed her Master's Degree in Educational Leadership through the University of Lethbridge.

In her spare time, Mrs. Navratil likes to garden with her husband and Norwegian Elkhound, Baldur, who digs all the required holes. She also enjoys painting, writing, and cooking



Hello! My name is **Ann-Marie Giannetti**, and I am excited to be joining the Catholic Central High School community, teaching math and religion. I have been teaching at Father Leonard Van Tighem School for the past 8 years, following the completion of my Internship at Catholic

Central, and I am VERY excited to be returning! Math and religion have always been passions of mine, and I love being able to spark interest within our students and watch them grow confidently as young adults. Outside of the classroom, I enjoy being outdoors, taking on a variety of different adventures and exploring the world around us; but I can also be found with a good book, or any "yarn" craft, in my hands. I am looking forward to meeting and working with the students and staff, getting involved in the school community, and beginning this new chapter!



My name is **Rose Jodoin**.

Some of you may remember me from when I subbed at CCH last year. This will be my 5th year working as an EA in the Holy Spirit School Division. I love hanging out with my son, husband and my dog! I love drawing, creating and crocheting cute things. Oh, and I love donkeys!!



Hi! My name is **Christine Karwandy** and I have been an EA with the Holy Spirit School Division for eight years. I'm excited for the opportunity to join the CCH team.



My name is **Rhett Feser**, and I am excited to join the Catholic Central High School community as a new teacher this school year. I will be teaching Social Studies and Physical Education, two subjects I am passionate about.

Originally from Unity, Saskatchewan, I grew up playing baseball and was fortunate to play collegiately and professionally, which took me to places such as Utrecht, the Netherlands, and Adelaide, Australia. My passion for teaching grew through coaching, including four years of college baseball and work with the High-Performance Team alongside Pronghorn Athletics and the University of Lethbridge.

I am grateful for the opportunity to be part of Catholic Central and look forward to getting to know the students, staff, and community. I am excited for the year ahead and the opportunity to learn and grow together!



Hi! My name is **Anjana Jahnke**. I love cooking, baking, swimming, hiking, listening to birds sing, and listening to music. I love all God's creations. Thank you for letting me be a part of this

school year. I am looking forward to being a part of the Catholic Central High community!



Meet our 2026–27

PS 3 Interns



Meet Dr. Andrew Lawfield

I'm a geologist with a Ph.D. From the University of Alberta. I have several years' experience working as a university Lecturer and college Instructor in Malaysian Borneo, Manitoba and Alberta. I've also worked as a museum palaeontologist in British Columbia. I'm retraining to share my passion for science with high school students. I'm originally from England and love western Canada and exploring its beautiful landscapes and wilderness.



My name is **Koen Altrogge**.

I'm 22 years old and am going into my last year at the University of Lethbridge. I love to ski, golf and stay active, so outdoors is where I love to be, especially in the mountains. Looking forward to the fall and meeting everyone at Catholic Central!



My name is **Deneile Burbank/Williams**!

I am so excited to teach Social Studies 20-1 over the next 2 quarters. I have been studying sociology and social studies education at the University of Lethbridge and am looking forward to putting what I have learned to use. I did my first practicum at Raymond elementary school and my second at Chinook High School. I am eager to expand my personal field of knowledge, as I work with the students and staff here at CCH. Some things that I enjoy include the outdoors, art, music, reading, baking, and hiking.

Sharing Our Faith

The Eucharist



The Eucharist looks like bread and wine, but it's more than that. The word "Eucharist" means thanksgiving. At Mass, when the priest blesses the bread and wine, the bread becomes the body of Jesus and the wine becomes the blood of Jesus. Not just a symbol. Not just a reminder. It is really Jesus with us, just like He promised.



You can receive Jesus in Holy Communion after you've made your "First Communion."

When you receive Him, Jesus comes into your heart in a very special way. He fills you with His love, peace, and strength. He is near; not far away.



At the Last Supper, Jesus sat with His apostles and said "This is my body, given for you. This is my blood poured out for you. Do this in memory of Me" (Luke 22:19-20). And ever since then we celebrate the Eucharist at every Mass. When you go to Mass and see the priest holding up the white host, that's Jesus! When you see the chalice of wine, Jesus is there too!

When receiving the Host (the bread), children are taught to fold their hands, say "Amen," and step forward to eat it, welcoming Jesus into their hearts.

He's really and truly present in the Eucharist because he loves us so much.

Please use the following links for your reference:

School Year Calendar:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1s79mEGw1ICnMPLjkARh1wJ8g9-2ZyPno/view?usp=sharing>

Quarter 1 Calendar:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1BIX16OjUQPERzpqeSXuHNATnOtN4T3-3NNPr6rUDi38/edit?usp=sharing>

Bell Times:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1XZtkB-mfVDVxEsegYS48Oi6Jbe5Su7NSb7STr4Y0uIO/edit?usp=sharing>

Have a great year!