### **November 27-December 1**





# St. Angela School Week at a Glance



@stangelaschoolecsd



@stangelaelementaryschool



@8013stangela



St. Angela Catholic Elementary School is challenging students, families and friends to donate items to support the Veterans Association Food Bank by Nov 30th. The Veterans Association Food Bank is dedicated to supporting and enriching the lives of Veterans and their families. Please donate if you can. God Bless You!

- Mixed juices 1L & lunch size
- Mixed Canned Vegetables
- Beans of all kinds
- ☐ Rice
- Cereals
- Soups of all kinds
- Chunky Soups
- Canned meats: Tuna, Salmon,
   Ham, Turkey, Chicken, Spam

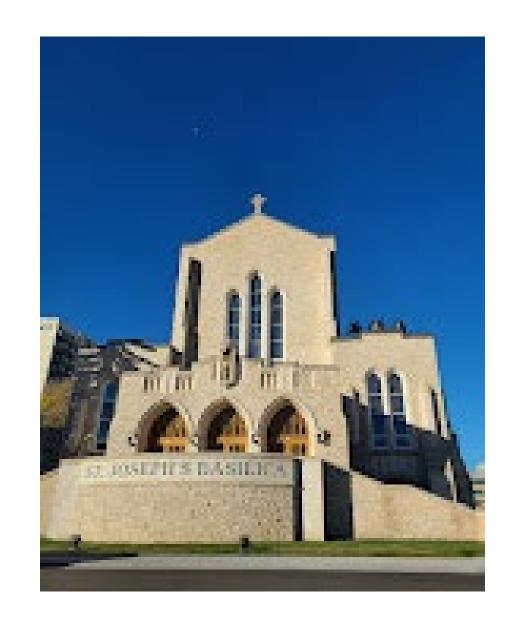
- Assorted Broths
- Pasta Sauces
- Canned Fruit
- ☐ Canned Milk
- Bags of sugar
- Bags of flour
- Crackers
- Pancake mix
- Crackers
- Toilet paper



# St. Joseph Cathedral Basilica

We are soon entering the season of Advent, where we anticipate and prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ.

Parents and family members are invited to join us for our Advent mass at St. Joseph Cathedral Basilica (10044 113 St) on Wednesday, November 29 at 10:00 am.





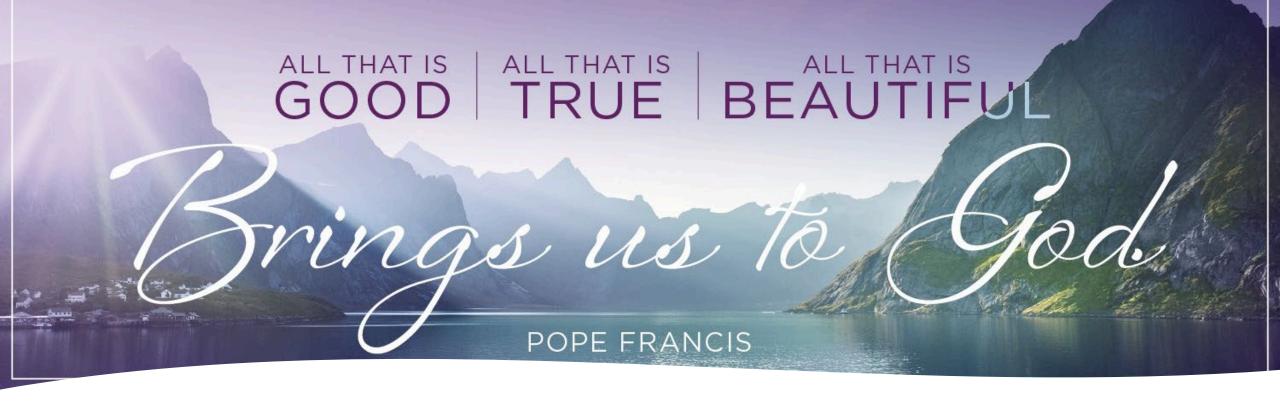
## **DECADES DAY**

Thank you to our staff and students for showing your SCHOOL SPIRIT!



# Candlelight Vigil

Edmonton Catholic School Division's Indigenous Learning Services invites First Nations, Métis & Inuit Families & Staff to a **Candlelight Vigil on Dec 13, 2023** from 5:30pm-8:30pm at Lumen Christi Catholic Education Centre. To attend, a parent/guardian needs to register by completing this google form. For further information on this event please contact Donita Large, Four Directions Wellness Specialist at: **Donita.Large@ecsd.net** 



Chief Superintendent's Message You can read Chief Superintendent Lynnette Anderson's December message <u>by clicking here</u> or by visiting <u>https://ecsd.net/december-2023-message</u>.



### We Are People of the Eucharist Towards a renewed love for Holy Communion

Reflections on the Eucharist By Bishop David Motiuk, Eparchy of Edmonton

### December 2023 The Eucharist and Baptism – From Rags to Riches

In the early Church, when people became members of the Body of Christ, they were fully initiated, that is, they received at one and the same time the mysteries (sacraments) of baptism, chrismation (confirmation), and Holy Communion.

As the 1996 Eastern Liturgical Instruction teaches us: "Initiation is, in reality, the one and indivisible celebration of the entrance into the life of Christ, into the community that lives in him. This entrance, initiated with the first call to the faith reaches its culminating point in the Paschal Mystery of Christ, in whose death we are immersed to be raised in his resurrection which renders us children of God and the temple of the Spirit. 'Anointed' by the Spirit for the work of the Kingdom, we are thus rendered fit to participate in the banquet of the Kingdom [Divine Eucharist]" (paragraph 42).

The Instruction continues: "In Baptism, the person is freed from sin, reborn to new life, reclothed in Christ and incorporated in the Church. In Chrismation with the holy Myron [myrhh], he or she is signed with the seal of the gift of the Holy Spirit. The full initiation is made final by the reception of the Eucharist, a sacrament not only of the communion of the individual with Christ, Head of the Mystical Body, but also of the communion among all the faithful, members of the Body who live the new life in Him. The nourishment of the Body and the Blood of the incarnated Word brings the Christian to perfection, in such a way that it is no longer he that lives but Christ that lives in him" (paragraph 43).

With this teaching in mind, let us reflect further on our baptism, which leads us by the grace of the Holy Spirit to the Eucharistic Table.



Did you know that for the first three centuries, Christians did not have a separate feast for Christmas? Rather, they celebrated both the Nativity and Baptism of Our Lord on January 6.

Only in the fourth century did the Roman Church first begin celebrating Christmas on December 25. It did so in order to replace the pagan feast of the Sun-god, regarded as the birthday of the sun and its triumph over the darkness of the night. Christian Rome eventually substituted the pagan Sun-god with its Christian Sun-the God-Man and began celebrating Jesus' birth on December 25.

In time, the Eastern Christian Churches followed, but continued to celebrate Jesus' baptism on January 6, and do so even day.

Baptism. Swaddling clothes. Burial robes.

When Jesus was born, Mary and Joseph wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger.

What are swaddling clothes?

Well, when a baby is born, hospitals use a cloth sometimes called "swaddling" cloth to wrap the newborn. However, contrary to popular belief, tradition has it that swaddling cloth had more to do with death than birth.

In the Middle East, when people travelled long distances oftentimes through hardship, they carried with them thin, gauzelike cloth to wrap the body of a loved one in preparation for burial should someone have died during the long journey.

When Jesus was born in a stable, for there was no room in the Inn, Mary and Joseph used swaddling cloth to wrap him, cloth usually reserved for someone's death.

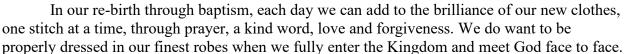
And they weren't far off. After all, Jesus was born in order to die. To die for our sins and our salvation.

At Jesus' death, after his crucifixion and passion upon the Cross, we see these same swaddling clothes. Joseph of Arimathea went to Pilate and asked him for Jesus' body. "They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews" (John 19: 40).

At our baptism, we are given new clothes, a new white robe to signify that we have been washed clean of sin and have been given new life. Saint Paul puts it this way: "Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life" (Romans 6: 3-4).

Old rags just won't do! At baptism they were thrown away. After all, we have entered a Kingdom, the Kingdom of God. The King of King himself awaits us and welcomes us. And he says, "What fine robes you are wearing!"

Let us remember that even in his birth, Jesus was already preparing for his death.



From rags to riches.

We are people of the Eucharist.



# December 2023

# Calendar of Events

Monday

Tuesday

Sunday



Friday

Saturday

	Sunday	Monday	ruesaay	weanesaay	Inursday	Friday	Saturday
						1	2
	3 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent	4	5	6	7	8 North Pole Day	9
}	10 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent	11	12	13	14 Christmas Concert at 6:30 pm	15 Christmas Sweater Day Hot Lunch	16
•	17 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent	18	STEM Assembly and wear GREEN Day	Tour Band Christmas	Full Day	22 Early Dismissal at 11:31 am	23
	24 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent Christmas Eve	25 Merry Christmas!	26	27 Christmas Break	28	29	30

Wednesday

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