

# December News



December, 2008

Volume 4 Issue 4

## Special points of interest:

- Advent Reflection
- Advent Celebration
- School Council News
- Important Dates

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## Reflection

Advent Prayer

Come, long-expected Jesus.

Excite in me a wonder at the wisdom and power of your Father. Receive my prayer as part of my service of the Lord who enlists me in God's own work for justice.

Come, long-expected Jesus.

Excite in me a hunger for peace: peace in the world, peace in my home, peace in myself.

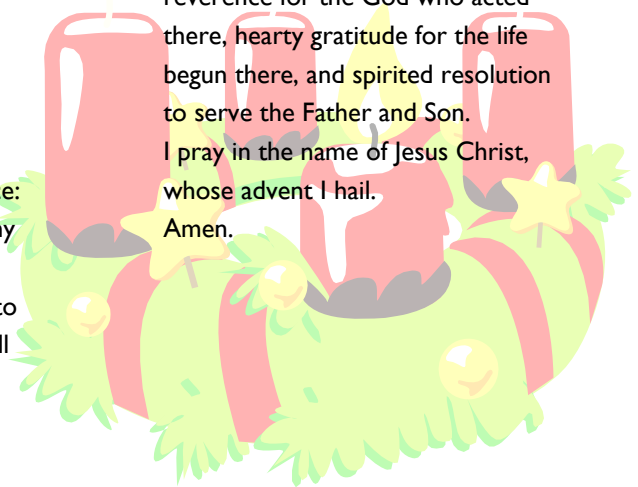
Excite in me a joy responsive to the Father's joy. I seek His will so I can serve with gladness, singing and love.

Come, long-expected Jesus. Excite in me the joy and love and peace it is right to bring to the manger my Lord. Raise in me, too, sober

reverence for the God who acted there, hearty gratitude for the life begun there, and spirited resolution to serve the Father and Son.

I pray in the name of Jesus Christ, whose advent I hail.

Amen.



## Administrators' Message

Dear Parents,

During the month of December our Advent Celebration will take on the theme of giving and sharing as we await the arrival of our Savior Jesus. St. Theresa Church will be the venue that we participate in the lighting of the candles and reflect on the messages of the readings. The Date is

Friday December 12th @ 10 AM.

We invite all parents to join us for this Celebration.

May your holidays be filled with the peace and joy of the season.

Mrs. Cathy Nissen, Mrs. Theberge, Mrs. Ramsankar, Mr. Hatch



*How beautiful upon the mountains*

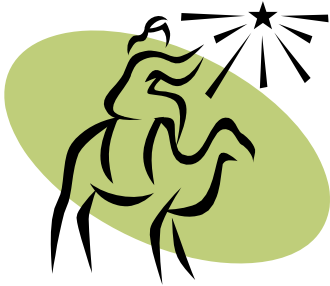
*are the feet of him who brings glad tidings,*

*Announcing peace, bearing good news,*

*announcing salvation and saying to Zion,*

*“Your God is King!”*

## Isaiah (52.7)



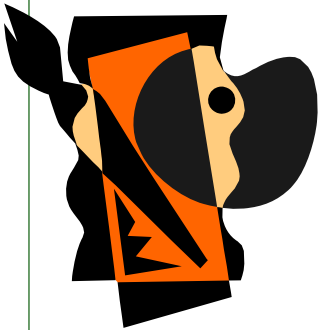
## ParentCONNECTxp

Hopefully this information will help with the ParentCONNECT (PCxp) web site.

When on the ParentCONNECT (PCxp) site, click on the Assignments pencil on the left side (not Grades). Then there will be a tool bar that says Assignments and Schedule. Click on Schedule. The classes, percentages and teacher names should appear. Click on the underlined percentage and it will pop up a screen showing how the percentage was arrived at. If you need to email a teacher with any concerns, click on the underlined teacher name and an email box will appear.

ParentCONNECT accounts follow the eldest child in the district. If you have a child in high school, you must register with that high school and all your children will be accessible with that account.

## FINE ARTS GALA

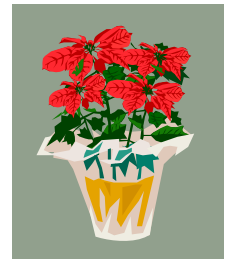


WILL BE HELD ON DECEMBER 11 AT  
HOLY TRINITY SCHOOL FROM 7-9 PM.

The Fine Arts Gala is an evening of celebration. It includes a program of Music, featuring our various musical ensembles, a gallery of art, featuring at least two pieces from each art student, and some drama activities. We will have cake and drinks to purchase - \$2.00 for both. Come and join us for this exciting evening.

## School Council

Please check the web site for the minutes of the last meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for February 10th 2009 in the CTS lab at 7 PM



## Advent Celebrations

Advent Celebration will be held at St. Teresa Parish at 10:30 AM on December 12th . Please join us!

## INTERVIEWS

The number of parents who attended parent-teacher interviews was great. If you still feel that you need to speak to your child's teacher, please make arrangements by emailing the teacher. The interest that you take in your child's education does make a difference.

Post Secondary Visitation  
event on Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> 12:30-2:30  
in the gym

# Athletics

## Holy Trinity Swim Team 2008

Holy Trinity has a large, enthusiastic swim team this year. We have had a great showing at all five swim meets, placing in the top 6 times in many of the events. We are looking forward to the city championships that will take place on December 3<sup>rd</sup> at Bonnie Doon

Pool.



### Swim Team 08

- Parker Bertamini
- Shawna Blais
- Kitrina Bradhecker
- David Cadieux
- Mitchel Diaz
- Alysha Duncombe
- Kristen Eckert
- Joel Fehr
- Jordan Fehr
- Vanessa Gomez
- Nicole Goudie
- Andrew Gunn
- Zoltan Havas
- Heather Hewitt
- Kaitlynn Holmes
- Charlotte Kruszewski
- Madison Lalonde
- Christina Law
- Timothy Lenk
- Alex Matthews
- Schyler Palm

- Stephanie Petruchik
- Daeton Robertson
- Eva Sawitski
- Adam Sellsted
- Alisha Singh
- Bonita Singh
- Mariola Slawinski
- Katherine Sliwinski
- Jeffrey Smith
- Jared Syson
- Christian Tokarski
- Xezar Tambal
- Shauna Thanath
- Tohler Van Denderen
- Orlando Vilorio
- Kyle West
- Calynn Westgust
- Marya Kutev
- Lindsey Dent (timer)
- Coaches Cara Sellsted & Paulette Poirier**



### PHYSICAL EDUCATION SKI TRIP

We are planning a downhill ski trip to Jasper on March 23-25. The phys. ed. 10, 20, and 30 students will have a wonderful time on the slopes at Marmot Basin ski resort. The ski school will provide lessons and the trip provides the opportunity to enjoy the mountains, the skiing, and meet new friends.

Permission forms can be picked up from the phys ed office. This trip always fills up very quickly so don't delay.

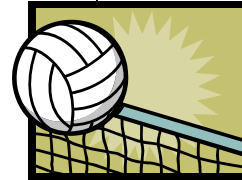
## Junior Girls Basketball Team

- Alexis Conti
- Alexis Devilla
- Alysha Duncombe
- Alysha Kutschinshi
- Angela Marr
- Arlene Lam
- Julie Nunez
- Katharina Gonzales
- Lorraine Lei
- Miranda Dela Cruz
- Natalia Molina
- Nicole Goudie
- Stephanie Naong
- Tara Larson



### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE TOURNAMENT ALL STARS

- Holy Family
  - Ainsley Revidad
  - Michael Lubczia
- St. Hilda
  - Georgina Campos
  - Shane Massaneuve
- Father Michael Troy
  - Ivanna Babbick
  - Kevin Ruiz
- Vernon Barford
  - Lillian Zuo
  - Drew Gingras
- DS MacKenzie
  - Jessie Olsen
  - Jake Peake
- Ellerslie
  - Chelsea Wiltermuth
  - Vick Nijjar
- St. Clement
  - Kelsey Lalonde
  - Patrick Barayaga
- St. Cecilia
  - Julia Zwada
  - Alex Corelingley



### Junior High Volleyball Tournament

Sixteen junior teams competed in our annual volleyball tournament on November 7 and 8. Thank you to all students that were involved in the organization and minor officiating during the weekend. Volunteerism is so important and we appreciate all the time our students contribute in order to make this event a success. We saw tremendous talent and great competition.

**TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONS**  
**ST HILDA GIRLS & VERNON**  
**BARFORD BOYS**

# ST. Theresa Church news

## **CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF CHILDREN (C.I.C)**

Students registered in the Christian Initiation of Children have been faithful in coming to the C.I.C. classes at St. Theresa's Church. Please continue to encourage your children to attend classes every Wednesday at 7:00-8:00 p.m.

*Special thanks to the parents of these children and to the principals and teachers of St. Theresa's "Family of Schools" in Millwoods*

## **BAPTISM PREPARATION MEETINGS/WORKSHOPS**

(Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. MacDonald room, St. Theresa's Church)

**Dec. 2 & 9**

**Jan. 6 & 13**

If you want to change the date for Baptism celebration previously arranged, please call at least 1 week before the celebration. Do not call at the last minute. Certificates need to be printed days before the celebration.

## **BAPTISM CELEBRATION (Sunday at 2:00 p.m.)**

**Dec. 14 & 21**

**Jan. 18 & 25**

## **DATES for FIRST RECONCILIATION CELEBRATION**

(for those who have finished studying the First Reconciliation book)

**December 6, 2008** Jan. 17, 2009

*Congratulations to the following students who received 1st Reconciliation on November 8:*

Special thanks to their parents, principals and teachers of St. Theresa's "Family of Schools".

Julien Rey Baniqued	St. Richard	Brendon Rey Cubacub	Mary Hanley
Allison De Guzman	Mary Hanley	Elyssa L.Villena Favis	Blessed Kateri
Jacob Ian Marte	Mary Hanley	Emmanuel A. Molina	St. Clement
Jason Perez	St. Clement	Laura Robbins	Holy Family
Tatiana Roque	Blessed Kateri	Jordan Sims	John Paul I

### **Important Reminder for Parents of Grades 2-8 Students:**

**Dates for meetings of parents preparing their children for 1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation and 1<sup>st</sup> Eucharist were published in the Church bulletin and school newsletter in September. If you missed the meetings, please call (780) 463-8646. If your children have not yet received First Reconciliation and First**

**Eucharist, please prepare them for the reception of these Sacraments before the end of the school year. Grade 2 students are supposed to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation this year; Grade 3 students – Sacrament of Holy Eucharist after First Reconciliation (confession). When your children are ready for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist, call one week before the date scheduled for the celebration. Don't call at the last minute, please! First Reconciliation certificates are now given to the children after confession. This document and the First Eucharist certificate will be presented to the Confirmation coordinator when the students register for Confirmation. Students cannot receive the Sacrament of Confirmation without First Reconciliation and First Eucharist. If your child is ready to receive the Sacraments and if you show up with him/her on First Confession or First Communion day without previous notice, certificate will be given 2 or 3 weeks AFTER First Reconciliation or First Eucharist celebration. Thank you for your cooperation.**

## **FIRST EUCHARIST CELEBRATION**

*(for those who have finished studying the First Eucharist book, "We Share in the Eucharist" and are ready to receive the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist). 2008*

# Superintendents Message

Dear Parents/Guardians:

*“Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “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 Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.”*

*(Luke 2: 9-11)*

The birth of Jesus Christ, in a stable, witnessed by shepherds, heralded the beginning of a new world. It is a time when God came to be with us and created a reign of peace and goodwill. The birth of Christ brought a message of hope that continues to inspire all of us today.

This Christmas, as we enjoy the benefits of the progress and achievement that our school district and community have shown, let us renew our commitment to one another, especially to those among us who are struggling and for whom a helping hand could make a difference. The central message of Christmas has always been one of peace and goodwill. By renewing our commitment to one another we will truly experience the true meaning of this holy season.

Here are a few highlights of the past month. “Setting the Direction for Special Education in Alberta” is a major project to create a new framework for students with special education needs. You can provide valuable input into this provincial initiative by completing the on-line consultation survey which is available at [www.settingthedirection.alberta.ca](http://www.settingthedirection.alberta.ca).

Construction has begun on our new schools in south Terwillegar, Rutherford and The Hamptons; our new high school in Terwillegar is in the design process. The modernization of St. Francis Xavier High School is nearing completion and the construction of the St. Francis Xavier Sports Centre, a joint initiative with the City of Edmonton, will begin in December. These building projects provide our school community with much needed room to accommodate the growth we are experiencing and to provide students with world-class facilities.

Edmonton Catholic Schools 2007-2008 Annual Education Results Report is a review and celebration of the last school year. This report details the wide variety of programming in our school district and discusses the successes and areas of growth we have experienced. It will be available on-line after December 9<sup>th</sup> at [www.ecsd.net](http://www.ecsd.net).

Please accept my sincerest wishes for a joyful and restful Christmas, filled with the blessing and love of those around you.

Sincerely,



Joan Carr  
Superintendent

## Vehicle Idling Awareness Campaign

The Board of Trustees has approved an Anti-Idling Awareness Campaign for this school year. As part of this awareness campaign, we have produced posters that will be displayed in all schools in our District. In addition, teachers will be discussing the effects of idling vehicles on the environment and we are inviting you to join us by turning off your vehicle when you are sitting in it. Here is some information on vehicle idling that will be shared with students:

There are 40 hazardous air pollutants released in engine exhaust that are associated with increased illness and even death. (source: Climate Change Central)

The by-products from the combustion of fossil fuels decrease lung function, cause asthma, increased respiratory, cancer and cardiovascular deaths. (Source: Climate Change Central).

A notable public health concern is the fine particulate matter found in air contaminants. The primary source of this fine particulate matter is vehicle exhaust.

The World Health Organization has identified diesel fuel exhaust as a known or probable carcinogen.

Vehicle idling wastes fuel, money and also increases unnecessary vehicle wear.

If every citizen in Alberta with a registered vehicle decreases idling by five minutes per day, green house gas emissions in our province would drop by 302 thousand tons a year and would equal a savings of 125M litres of fuel – more than \$146 M at today's rates.

Edmonton Catholic Schools is committed to ongoing efforts to promote health awareness for our students, staff and families. Our Vehicle Idling Awareness Campaign complements the City of Edmonton's Idling Awareness Campaign.

## Important Dates:

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- Dec. 11- Fine Arts Gala
- Dec. 11—Post Secondary Event 12:30—2:30
- Dec. 12 - Advent Celebration @ 10:30 a.m.
- Dec. 19 - Early Dismissal @ 12:00
- Jan. 5 - Return to Classes after Christmas **(DAY 2)**



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### *A Christmas Message*

Advent allows us to prepare for a life changing encounter with Jesus Christ at Christmas. By personally entering our world through Jesus' birth, God has fully revealed his inexhaustible goodness, grace, and love for us. "The kingdom of God has come near;\* repent, and believe in the good news" (Mark 1:15). This is truly good news in its highest form because rather than information it is God inviting us to relationship. Entering into this relationship with Jesus Christ transforms and changes us, for in him we discover that God is our Father who loves us more than we ever thought possible and that we can become his children. This Advent may all of us prayerfully consider the magnitude of Christmas and order our lives accordingly, so that we may experience the moment "when the goodness and loving-kindness of God our Saviour appeared..." through which he saved us "not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water\* of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit... poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that... we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life (Titus 3:4-7).

Yours sincerely in Christ, Richard W. Smith Archbishop of Edmonton



*May the Joy of the season remain with you through the 2008 year.*

CHECK OUT OUR  
WEB SITE AT  
[www.holytrinity.ecsd.net](http://www.holytrinity.ecsd.net)

# DECEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 DAY 1	2 DAY 2	3 DAY 1	4 DAY 2	5 DAY 1	6
7	8 DAY 2	9 DAY 1	10 DAY 2	11 FINE ARTS GALA DAY 1	12 ADVENT CELEBRATION DAY 2	13 
14	15 DAY 1	16 DAY 2	17 DAY 1	18 DAY 2	19 STUDENT/TEACHER HOCKEY GAME (12:00 DISMISSAL) DAY 1	20
21	22 CHRISTMAS VACATION	23 CHRISTMAS VACATION	24 CHRISTMAS VACATION	25 	26 CHRISTMAS VACATION	27
28	29 CHRISTMAS VACATION	30 CHRISTMAS VACATION	31 CHRISTMAS VACATION	January 1 		



*Classes Resume January 5, 2009- Day 2*

