

# St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church

## Catholic Education Sunday

Celebrating the gift of publicly funded Catholic Education is a long-standing tradition at St. John the Evangelist Parish. On Saturday and Sunday, **Nov. 2 and 3**, all staff of Catholic schools present at each Mass will be acknowledged and blessed by Fr. Dean. Staff and students from our Parish schools will be serving in Liturgical Ministries at the 10:30 am and Noon Masses as a way of highlighting the close relationship between Parish, school, and family. **Holy Cross, Our Lady of Peace, Our Lady of Victories** and **St. Vincent** schools will be at the 10:30 am Mass and **St. Paul** and **St. Rose** schools will be at the noon Mass. All Edmonton Catholic Schools' students, staff and families are encouraged to wear their school colours or shirts to Mass this weekend.

Our Parish is collecting new school supplies to make sure *all* children have the joy of holding a new pencil, writing in a new scribbler, and colouring with new crayons this year. Your donations of school supplies at these Masses will be greatly appreciated.

### Thanksgiving Celebrations, Faith Day, Read in Week, and Grade 4 Bible Blessings

The month of October was filled with many happy school visits. We celebrated Thanksgiving with Mass or Liturgies of the Word at as many schools as we could, participated at St. Rose's Faith Day, and had a great time reading at some schools. An especially beautiful and formative liturgy is part of presenting Bibles to grade 4 students. The children prepared with songs and readings, learning the components of the Liturgy of the Word. Fr. Dean blessed the Bibles and presented their own bible to each student by name, with a personal blessing. The presence of parents at such Liturgies is always welcome and very important to the children; these parents represent all those who could not but otherwise would like to attend.

### Baptism Preparation for Older Children and Adults

Is your child asking to be baptized? Are you seeking a closer relationship with Jesus through Baptism, or want to be Catholic? We can help you or your child prepare for this beautiful sacrament! Please contact the Parish and ask about Baptism (or becoming Catholic) for yourself, or your child or children.

### Reconciliation (Confession), Eucharist (Communion) and/or Confirmation Preparation for High School Youth and Adults

Many young people and adults have not completed their initiation into the Church through the sacraments of Eucharist or Confirmation. Christian initiation begins with Baptism and is sealed with Confirmation. The Eucharist renews both of these sacraments weekly. God calls each of us to a life-long faith journey, and the Church's sacraments supply us with all of the necessary spiritual resources. St. John the Evangelist Parish invites you and your older child to contact the Parish to prepare for these sacraments with other youth or adults.

Join us for a **Pancake Breakfast** on **November 24**, after the 9 am and 10:30 am Masses. This is a Knights of Columbus initiative. Your donations contribute to the charities supported by this Catholic organization and are much appreciated. Give the happy memories of social time with friends and family at Church by continuing this tradition with your own family.

p.s., if your young people (gr 6 and up) are looking for service hours or just want to help, we would appreciate their assistance in setting up, serving and take-down. St. Rose students have been dependable helpers and we really enjoy their service. Call or email us!



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