



# St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School



December 2011

## School Information

- ☺ Principal  
Mr. Ray Renaud
- ☺ Assistant Principal  
Mrs. Cathy Schiiler
- ☺ School Address  
195 Weston Drive  
Spruce Grove AB  
T7X 1V1
- ☺ School Phone  
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[www.sjcs.ca](http://www.sjcs.ca)



## Celebrating Advent at St. Joseph Catholic School *Advent 2011*

November 27<sup>th</sup> was the first Sunday of Advent marking the beginning of another Advent season. At home and at St. Joseph Catholic School, we are charged with the responsibility of educating our children about the true meaning of Christmas. A prayerful, reflective Advent season can help us achieve this goal. We will provide opportunities for our students to participate in various social justice projects and to join together in weekly Advent celebrations. St. Joseph Catholic School will continue to support our local *Parkland Food Bank* and the *Kinette Hamper Campaign*. We hope that the focus on these charitable projects will remind students of the important responsibility we have to assist all of our brothers and sisters in need. On behalf of the St. Joseph School Staff, we hope that our students and their families experience a joyful Advent season.



Ray Renaud  
Principal



*Ever Growing, Learning, and Living in Christ*

### **Parent Volunteer / Visitors**

During class time, from 8:45am —3:00pm, all visitors are required to register at the office. All parent volunteers register in the Library and wear their St. Joseph school name tags. If you do not have a name tag then please stop by the office to see about having one made up for you. All our volunteers are required to have a criminal record check completed and to sign a volunteer agreement. Once those are completed a name tag is made up for you. All presenters in either classrooms or in the gym should also stop at the office for a red visitor's badge.

### **Inclement Weather Protocol**

In the event of inclement weather that results in a decision to suspend bus service, announcements will be made on a variety of radio stations in the Edmonton area. Please listen for "those students residing in Parkland County... buses are not running". Also check the Evergreen website for any bus cancellations and/or school closures. [www.ecsrd.ca](http://www.ecsrd.ca) Please note all schools in the Evergreen Catholic district will remain open even when buses are not running.



### **Hot Lunch**

One more month before Christmas break, with that in mind we have decided to send out January Hot Lunch forms before we break for Christmas. So keep your eyes open they will be coming home the first week of December, so we can get them back before Christmas break. If there are menu items on the forms you are not sure about or what it has in it please contact me at [fit4life@xplornet.com](mailto:fit4life@xplornet.com) Also if you have any menu ideas for the new year please let me know.



Happy Holidays!!  
The Hot Lunch Ladies

### **Help the Environment**

We have a number of students who request forks or spoons from their teachers or the office each day. We are requesting that students remember to pack their own cutlery each day for their lunches. It can then be taken home to be washed and reused. We appreciate your assistance.

### **When the Weather Outside is Frightful**

With winter on its way and the temperature dropping outside we would like to remind you to make sure your children are dressed appropriately for going outside and playing. Proper boots, snow pants, jackets, hats and mittens should be accompanying your children to school each day to ensure that they are prepared to thoroughly enjoy our winter weather. The school has no designated area for students who are unwell at recess therefore all students must be prepared to go outside.



### **Holy Trinity Parish Volunteers Needed**

Celebrate the New Year with Holy Trinity's New Year's Eve Dinner & Dance "A Night at the Ballroom". Featuring the Edmonton Swing Band. Tickets are available at the Church office. Any proceeds help support the Jamaica Sponsorship Projects. For more information call (780)960-0135 or (780) 233-3221.

### **Remembrance Day Celebration**

Thank you to all the parents, grandparents and special guests who joined us for our Peace Celebration. Your support is appreciated by both the staff and students.



### **Christmas Concert– Grade 3 & 4**

Critical Thinking for Christmas?!

Our students have used criteria to help make decisions about what they would like to include for our Christmas concert this year. Within the music program along with classroom teachers, students are preparing a concert that we hope will fit the following criteria: Special, Memorable & Entertaining.

Each class is busy working toward

**“How to interpret and perform the “Hope, Love, Joy or Peace of Christmas”.**

Having students involved in the planning of our concert is an exciting opportunity to incorporate our AISI project of inquiry and critical thinking.

Grade Three concert is December 13<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7:00

Grade Four concert is December 15<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7:00

### **Kinette Christmas Hampers**

Once again this year, St. Joseph School is assisting the Kinette Club of Spruce Grove in undertaking the Christmas Hamper Project to help the less fortunate families in our community. Staff members will purchase the gifts for the families, and we ask that the students lend a helping hand by bringing in non-perishable food items for these hampers.

We ask that all the food be sent to the school by **December 9th**. The gifts and food will then be combined into family hampers. If you are able to come into the school on the morning of Monday, Dec. 12th from 9:00-11:00 am, to help sort the food for the hampers, your assistance would be very much appreciated. Christmas is a time of celebration, please help us give a less fortunate family an opportunity to celebrate this most holy season.

### **Alberta Winter Games Volunteers Needed – St. Marguerite School; Feb. 9-12, 2012.**

We are asking for additional parents to help staff our **St. Marguerite Venue for the Alberta Winter Games** during Teacher’s Convention weekend **Feb. 9 -12, 2012**. We have a few parents that have already submitted their interest in volunteering directly to Mr. Fraser in the office at St. Marguerite School. We still need more than 16 volunteers willing to work a 6 hour shift at the school during these 4 days, beginning at noon on Thurs., Feb. 9, through to noon on Feb. 12. We are a non sporting venue, and are only housing athletes to relax and sleep. If you are able to vol-

unteer please contact Mr. Fraser in the school office **(780) 962-8787**.

### **School Council**

The next school council meeting will be held on February 6, 2012. All parents are invited and welcome to attend. Please join us in the staff room at 6:30 pm.

**Thank you,**

**St. Joseph School Council**

### **Music for Grade 1 & 2 Students**

**PARENTS of Grade One and Two Students** are invited to visit a Music class to see and hear what the class is learning. You may already be familiar with some of the songs your child is singing at home but now you will get the chance to also hear some of the students’ instrument accompaniments. Students are also invited to dress in red and green plus wear their own Christmas Santa toques, reindeer headbands, etc. We hope you are able to attend on the following date and time specific to your child’s class.

Thank you.

Mrs. Grace Robertson - Gr.1 Music Teacher

Mrs. Cathy Gomes - Gr.2 Music Teacher

**Grade One Mr. Chorney 12:30 - 1:00 Monday, Dec.19**

**Grade One Ms. Sereda 1:30 - 2:00 Monday, Dec.19**

**Grade One Mrs. Reid 2:30- 3:00 Monday, Dec.19**

**Grade One Mrs. Nelson 9:00 – 9:30 Tuesday, Dec. 20**

**Grade One Mrs. Markowski 9:55 – 10:25 Tuesday, Dec. 20**

**Grade One Mr. Purcell 11:00 – 11:30 Tuesday, Dec. 20**

**Grade Two Mrs. Prest 9:00 – 9:30 Monday, Dec. 19**

**Grade Two Miss Rudiger- 9:45 – 10:15 Monday, Dec. 19**

**Grade Two Mrs. Murdoch-11:00 – 11:30 Monday, Dec. 19**

**Grade Two Mrs. Daly 12:30 – 1:00 Tuesday, Dec. 20**

**Grade Two Mrs. Machin 2:30 -3:00 Tuesday, Dec. 20**



# December 2011



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1 <i>Hot Lunch</i>	2	3
4 <i>Second Sunday of Advent</i>	5	6	7 <i>Hot Lunch</i>	8 <i>Reconciliation with Father Jader</i>	9 <i>Reconciliation with Father Jader</i>	10
11 <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i>	12	13 <i>Grade 3 Christmas Concert 7:00PM</i>	14	15 <i>Hot Lunch Grade 4 Christmas Concert 7:00</i>	16	17
18 <i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>	19	20	21	22	23 <i>Last day of School</i>	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
<i>Christmas Break December 24-January 8</i>						

ECS Polar Express



## January Events

December 24-January 8: Christmas Break  
 January 12, 18, 26: Hot lunch  
 January 13: Epiphany Celebration  
 January 31(Tuesday) : PD Day—No School

