But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed,…and how from childhood
you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you
for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. (2 Timothy 3:14-15)

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

I would like to introduce you to the Religious Education program that is now being used in all Catholic schools in Alberta, *Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ*. This program, published by Pearson Canada for Religious Education in Grades 1-8, is the result of collaboration and consultation among our Catholic Bishops and many Catholic educators. The program is intended to provide students in each grade with the foundational knowledge of the faith and classroom experiences that will help them grow in relationship with God. We have now implemented the programs for Grades 1-3 in Evergreen Catholic Schools and are eagerly awaiting the publication of the Grade 4-8 programs over the next few years.

Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ is organized to follow the sequence of the liturgical year of the Catholic Church. It highlights the major celebrations of the Church that coincide with many family and cultural celebrations. The program builds strong links between the home, the school, and the parish community by inviting participation and providing opportunities for students to experience and celebrate the faith in each environment.

A key element of these new programs is that they are available digitally and the publisher has developed a portal for school, home and parish. We have purchased a Home Access License for all of our students. Each student has the ability to access the resources at home as well as at school. This gives you, our parents and caregivers, the opportunity to see first-hand what our students are learning and allows you to easily share in your child's faith journey. You can access the content either by going to the *Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ* website or by installing a free app on your iPad to access the eText. Please see the back of this page for instructions on how to access both.

Thank you for your support and we hope you will enjoy participating in *Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ*.

Blessings,

Karen Koester   Dave Sheehan
Religious Education Coordinator   Principal
Evergreen Catholic School Division   St. Joseph Catholic School
kkoester@ecsrd.ca   dsheehan@ecsrd.ca
780-962-5627 or 1-800-825-7152   780-962-8788

Directions for Accessing *Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ* Resources at Home

Website – http://www.pearsoncanada.ca/school/growinginfaith/student-home/

- Click on "Student/Parent"
- Find your child's Grade level
- Click on "Sign In"
- Student Login:

  Grade 1: ECSRD_student1 **OR** **Grade 2:** ECSRD_student2 **OR** **Grade 3:** ECSRD_student3

  Student Password: Evergreen2 (same password at all grade levels)
- Click on "Sign In"
- You will then see a screen that looks like this:

- You can choose to read stories from the eText, watch videos, listen to songs, etc. You will notice at the top of the page that there is a link called "This Week at Home". If you click on that and follow the calendar that is provided, you will generally be close to where the teacher will be in the program. Feel free to touch base with your child's teacher so you know exactly where they are in the program each month. Have fun exploring and be sure to feel free to ask your child's teacher if you have any questions.

Free App – "Pearson eText Canada"

- If you have an iPad, you can install this free app to access the eText that goes along with your child's grade. The app is currently not accessible on phones. When you open the eText, you will see that there are videos and songs embedded on many pages. You will notice an arrow in the top right corner as well. If you click on it, it will read the text to your child while highlighting the words. You will also notice a button that says "Try It" that will connect to activities that your child can use to reinforce the content. Your child's teacher will be happy to walk you through the app so you can see what you can access.