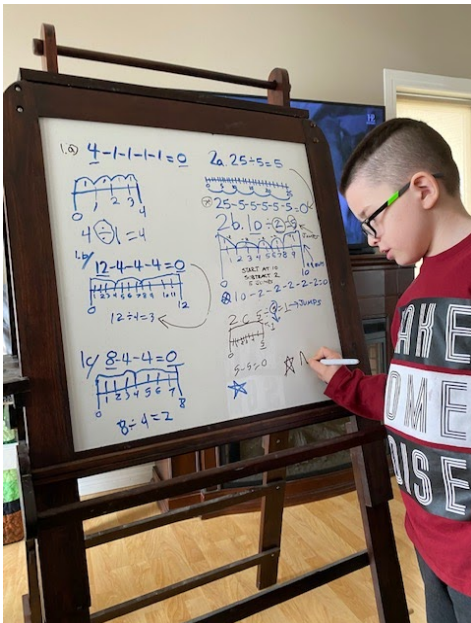


SERVE - ACHIEVE - ASPIRE

Happy Easter Knights! Here are a few pictures that show the creative ways families celebrated Easter this year!



Learning is getting creative at home! Students are using all kinds of tools to help deepen their learning!





Grade 1 is keeping busy being active, creative and getting work done with a smile!



All Knights were encouraged to get active this week and share their pictures with us on social media. Here are some of our KNIGHTS and how they are moving daily!!



School News - Take a look at what's coming up next week! April 20 - 24

Monday (20)	
Tuesday (21)	
Wednesday(22)	Wacky Wednesday SAA Virtual Theme Day - dress in your wackiest way! Online School Council Meeting@6:30 pm - April 22 School Council Agenda
Thursday(23)	
Friday(24)	No Online Kindergarten Classes Early Dismissal Gr. 1-8 - No Online Learning Classes after 11:45 am. - Staff Meeting

Our School Goals

We have two primary school goals at SAA:

Our Learning Goal - TO PROVIDE MULTIPLE PATHWAYS TO DEEP LEARNING

- Fostering authentic relationships and connections with students and parents
- Differentiating instructional practices
- Learning Attribute Planning
- Leveraging Technology

Our Faith Goal - TO BUILD A CULTURE OF FAITH AND SERVICE WHERE EVERY CHILD AND FAMILY FEEL WELCOMED

- Continue to build and expand connections with parish, CSS and D&P
- Staff will build capacity to know, model and witness Jesus Christ and share this with students
- Continue to ensure that our faith is prominent within our school
- Develop further awareness of connections between our faith and spiritual beliefs/practices of Indigenous brothers and sisters

Greetings

We hope Bulletin #29 reaches you and your family safe and well. From all the staff at SAA we hope you had a special, blessed Easter.

Contacting the School

Please be advised that all staff are now working from home until further notice. Parents can still call the school and leave a voicemail message. This message will be forwarded to a contact person at the school immediately and then forwarded to the appropriate person. The best way to contact staff is via email.

Student Registration 20/21

We still have a very small percentage of parents who have not completed registration for next school year. Please do this ASAP or if you will not be returning to SAA we would kindly ask that you let Mrs. Despina know this via email - sdespins@gsacrd.ab.ca.

School Calendar

The [2019/20 School Calendar](#) that was adopted by the Board of Trustees is still in effect. This includes all Statutory Holidays and PD/Staff Meeting Days as well as any non-instructional days for kindergarten. As always you can check our [School Calendar](#) and our Weekly Bulletin for updates.

Staff Availability

As much as possible we have attempted to keep our staff available to students from 8:30 am to 3:15 pm. As we had indicated earlier, this has been a very steep learning curve for staff and we are not able to check in with each other as we would normally do at school on a daily basis. Our staff will be Meeting Online the first day of every school week from 2:30 to 3:15 pm in order to stay connected, support one another and pass on information from the Division Office. Occasionally staff members will also block off some times during the week when relevant P.D. opportunities are being presented, and we will take advantage of some opportunities during the day to support their mental health and well being. Our staff know that it is critical that they are available to students and that will continue to be our priority.

Online Learning Considerations

According to research one of the most important factors in your child being successful with online learning is to stay involved in your child's schoolwork. Your level of interest must remain consistent. Rather than asking your child how they are doing in school, ask them specifically about what they are doing in each subject. Ask them to tell you about something interesting that they discovered while studying or ask about a particular assignment they may have completed. Having students explain their learning to others is a great way to help students truly master the ideas and concepts they learn every day.

Review schoolwork frequently. Before your child submits assignments, especially longer written assignments, help/encourage them to proofread their work, checking for spelling, punctuation, or other grammatical errors, before turning it into the teacher.



Google Resources for Parents

Click on the [link](#) to access some resources for online learning including a video tutorial on how parents can access a Google Classroom and a Google Meet. (video conference).

Read & Write for Google Chrome

Learn how to use Read & Write for Google Chrome to support reading and writing

- Read and Write for Google Chrome is a Chrome Application that supports students with reading and writing. Our Division pays for the subscription for Read & Write for Google Chrome.
- When your child is signed into Google Chrome from his or her account, he or she has access to this tool.
- Click on the [Chrome Read and Write link](#) for more

Knights Virtual "Show your Spirit" Theme Days

The staff was thinking it may be a great way to have some fun during online learning and we could "show our school spirit" by having a fun theme day once a week. Students will be encouraged to be creative and dress up/wear something to "online school" that would do with the theme day and share their pictures with teachers for bulletins and social media. Watch the calendar and weekly announcements for what's coming up each week! **WE have SPIRIT, how about YOU??** Our first Virtual Theme Day will be next Wednesday the 22nd - WACKY WEDNESDAY! Let's see who has the most SPIRIT!!

Don't Forget About Recess and Play

At school students get time to play and enjoy recess. With the warm weather coming we want to remind parents to encourage children to take breaks for play and activity in the backyard while still being mindful of COVID 19 Social Distancing orders.

Plant a Flower or Vegetable

There are all kinds of great learning opportunities and questions that can be discussed by digging or planting in the garden! This spring have your child plant a couple of flowers or vegetables in a pot or spot in the yard. They can send us pictures and give us updates on the growing and report on things they are observing.



Mental Health Resources - COVID 19

Are you looking for Mental Health Resources that will help you with anxiety and worry around COVID 19. Are you looking for ideas and support on how to talk with children about this. Click on the links below for support in regards to these topics.

[Mental Health Resources for K-6](#)

New Students to SAA after October 18/19 - Yearbook Picture

Unfortunately our spring pictures have been cancelled. So if your child transferred into Sister Alphonse Academy after October 18 and you would like their picture to be in the class groupings of our school yearbook please take a picture (shoulder and head only in a neutral background) and send it to Mr. Lamer (glamer@gsacrd.ab.ca) before the end of April.

Support Staff Layoffs

Early in April the Government made an announcement that they were reducing education funding to School Boards for transportation and some services, such as substitute teachers, educational assistants, and other school based support staff to support Alberta's COVID-19 response. April 30 will be the last working days of our two Education Assistants, our Library Technician and our Food Coordinator. On behalf of all our staff, we would like to thank Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Bokenfohr, Miss Gamache and Mrs. Kovacevic for their dedicated service and passion to support our students at SAA. We wish them well and can't wait until the day when we can all gather at school; staff, students and parents once again.

Plans are being developed to redeploy certificated staff in critical areas that require support and continuity.

Jr. High Assessment and Reporting

Please be advised that students will continue to receive grades in the PowerSchool system during Online Learning. Parents are reminded that the number of grades and assessment updates may not be as frequent. Assessment in the online world will usually involve less summative quizzes and tests and more project, written work and one to one online questioning. You are likely to see more formative grades as well. Parents were provided with access to the Powerschool Portal in October. If you have lost your password information or require assistance with accessing your child's Powerschool marks please do not hesitate to email Mrs. Despina at sdespins@gsacrd.ab.ca.

School Counselling Services

Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools cares for our students and remains committed to supporting their well-being. We will continue to provide support during this unprecedented and evolving situation. Despite schools being closed, our School Counsellors remain accessible to all of our students and families.

If students require emotional or social support, you can reach out to our School Counsellor Mrs. Laurie McCurdy by email: lmccurdy@gsacrd.ab.ca. Emails will be checked and responded to during regular school hours. In the event of a crisis or emergency, please contact your local hospital, police department or call 911.

Additional support services you can also reach out to include:

Kids Help Phone - text 686868 or call 1-800-668-6868 or visit www.kidshelpphone.ca

211 Alberta – text 211, call 211 or visit www.ab.211.ca

Distress Line (24/7) 780-482-4357

Mental Health Helpline (24/7) 1-877-303-2642

Alberta Health Services [Help in Tough Times](#)

Keep Sending us Your Pictures

Teachers will be very happy to accept pictures of your children working online, pictures of their projects, etc while learning at home. We still need photos for our weekly bulletin and for our school yearbook.

Thanks to the Current Sponsors of our SAA Field Trip Fund



School Council

We are planning to have an **Online School Council Meeting using Google Meet on Wednesday April 22 at 6:30 pm.** You do not need to have a Google Account to participate. **If you would like to participate in our Online School Council Meeting**

you need to send Mr. Lamer an email - glamer@gsacrd.ab.ca . A confirmation of your RSVP will be sent out to you prior to the meeting. All you will need is a laptop/tablet or desktop computer with a camera and microphone to participate. Approximately 30 minutes prior to the start of the meeting an invite link will be sent to your email account so that you can join the meeting. Click on the [April 22/20 Agenda](#).

Friends of SAA Society

Thank you to everyone who supported the Easter Mundare Sausage Fundraiser. Many thanks to Stawnichy's Meat Products for their understanding that the school closing impacted the number of orders, yet they still honoured the fundraiser pricing! This resulted in proceeds of \$225.30 going to the Society. Happy Easter!!

St. Albert Parish News

A Message From Father Ignacy

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ!

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead" (1 Peter 1,3) As I write to you, the whole world is gripped by fear & uncertainty in ways that most of us have hardly known before. The challenge of the pandemic affects every person and every community. However, as we look at all of this in the context of these Holy Days, we need to remember that as followers of Jesus Christ we are the custodians of a living hope; nothing less than the firm and joyful conviction that in Jesus Christ God has already won the victory over sin, desolation, uncertainty and death. This means that as we remain sensitive to the sufferings of the world and take the same precautions as everyone else, we need not be overtaken by despair. Even more, we have a particular vocation to offer others the hope and medicine of the gospel. This is the Easter message. The one who was put to death has been raised and goes before us always. Jesus promises to be with us wherever we find ourselves.

Wherever it is that life takes God's children to, Jesus is already there. Jesus is not limited to time and space. Jesus has broken free from the bonds of death and shares life now and always with the children of God.

The good news of Easter is not just a message for a single day. Even the 50-day season of Easter is not enough to contain it. The message of Easter is a message for every day of life. Not just in the extraordinary events of life, but also in the everyday ordinary things. Jesus is present to strengthen and sustain the weary with a word of hope and promise, a word of victory over sin and death and anything that might hold God's children in captivity.

Easter is a celebration of the fullness of life offered through Christ for the sake of the whole of God's creation. The Easter message means new opportunities to live as God's children, even in a world that continues to be broken.

We can see perhaps within this crisis a great opportunity to live and share the gospel. Because even if the world finds a vaccination tomorrow and all this quickly fades away, what is happening at the moment reminds us of our mortality, of the fragility of so many things we think of as secure, and opens up a space where each of us may find ourselves asking: what really matters in life? Where is life going? Amid life's fragilities and uncertainties, where shall I place my hope?

I have to say that I have found myself feeling uncertain and anxious at times when I have turned on the news and watched the spread of this pandemic. But I also have to say that my hope is in Christ. He is the one who, in sharing our life on earth, even our suffering and death, has brought us into an everlasting communion with God. Please be assured of my prayers, and please join me in praying, that the living hope we have in Christ may be our security and peace.

God bless you and your loved ones in this strange but holy time.

Happy Easter!

Fr. Ignacy Waras, OMI

Weekly Mass Schedule

Daily Mass intentions will still be included in Masses during the COVID-19 Isolation period. Fr. Ignacy will still offer Mass daily in solitude and will share the weekend Mass intentions with his fellow priests so please rest assured, the Mass intentions received by the Parish will still be included as per schedule.

SAPY QuarantEAM Photo

A Daily Photo Challenge to help: pass the time, grow in Holiness and bring your family closer together. During this time of Self Quarantine and Social Distancing.

Each day we will post a challenge on Instagram and Facebook. Complete the task either individually or as a team and send a photo or video to SAP4Youth on Instagram or Facebook (can be private messaged or posted public). SAPY points will be awarded for each challenge completed and the team with the most points at the end, will win an epic prize. If you don't collect SAPY points you can start now! Points can be used toward items in our SAPY store or toward upcoming trips. We do want to share some photos and videos so please let me know if you do not want your photos to be shared. We encourage your youth and/ or yourself to Follow us on Instagram or Like us on Facebook @SAP4Youth...the first challenge will be posted soon! You can also contact Rebecca, rebecca.sakowich@caedm.ca with any questions you may have!

Holy Week Activities for kids are found on the bulletin. Click on the link below.

Televised Mass

Salt + Light TV has arranged with cable companies across Canada (Rogers, Bell, Telus, Shaw Direct, Videotron) to make their service available free of charge to all subscribers until 1 May 2020. This means that anyone who subscribes to cable TV will be able to access Salt + Light TV and therefore the Daily TV Mass and Sunday TV Mass produced by the National Catholic Broadcasting Council. Also, "La Messe du jour" that is produced and televised by Salt + Light TV six days a week from the crypt at Saint Joseph Oratory in Montreal will likewise be televised on Sundays now through arrangements with the Archdiocese of Montreal. Salt + Light TV is televising the daily Mass celebrated by Pope Francis from Casa Santa Marta. This airs every morning and will be televised in both English and French. The channel number on each cable company that carries Salt + Light TV can be found at <https://saltandlighttv.org/subscribe>. The Daily TV Mass is available on other faith-based television networks, and schedules can be found at dailytvmass.com/about/broadcast-schedule.

Click on the [SAP Parish Link](#) to access the weekly bulletin for **St. Albert Catholic Parish**.

Holy Family Parish News

STAY SPIRITUALLY INVOLVED

In light of recent restrictions on our faith practices, here are some ideas or ways to continue your faith at home and while still respecting social distancing:

Prayer:

Continue your prayer life, first thing in the morning, mealtimes and before bed. All are easy ways to incorporate more prayer into your daily life.

Confession:

Fr. Joe has agreed to hear confessions on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9:00 am until 12:00 pm (noon) and on Thursdays and Fridays from 6:00 until 9:00 pm.

Mass:

Although currently attending Mass in person is not available, we are all strongly encouraged to attend virtually.

The Archbishop will be live streaming Sunday Masses at: <http://caedm.ca/>

Bishop Baron will also be

live streaming Masses at: <https://www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass/>

Salt and Light has Masses at: <https://saltandlighttv.org/mass/>

EWTN has Masses at:

<https://www.ewtn.com/tv/shows/sunday-mass-live>

Click on the [HF Parish Link](#) to access the weekly bulletin for **Holy Family Parish**.

PRAYER

A Prayer to Combat the Coronavirus Pandemic

Most Merciful and Triune God,

We come to You in our weakness.

We come to You in our fear.

We come to You with trust.

For You alone are our hope.

We place before You the virus present in our world.

We turn to You in our time of need.

Bring wisdom to doctors.

Give understanding to scientists.

**Endow caregivers, first responders and those who ensure food
is abundant strength and protection.**

Bring healing to those who are ill.

Protect those who are most at risk.

Give comfort to those who have lost a loved one.

Welcome those who have died into Your Eternal Home.

Stabilize our communities.

Unite us in our compassion.

Remove all fear from our hearts.

Fill us with confidence in Your care.

Jesus, I trust in You.

Amen.

