

Faith

FORMATION MONTHLY

*Faith, hope,
and love abide,
these three;
and the greatest
of these is love.*

1 Corinthians 13:13

MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

DR. BRYAN SZUMLAS

As we enter the first year of our Faith Theme: "Faith, hope and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love" (1 Corinthians 13:13), we are invited to enter into a personal journey of faith. We are blessed to have many tools and supports to help us in this journey. We have our sacraments and our parishes to celebrate with. We have our families and friends. We have our school and work communities where we have the privilege of pronouncing and living our faith. We also have scripture and personal prayer that calls each of us individually.

This *Faith Formation Monthly* is a tool to be used to assist you in starting or continuing that personal journey. I invite you to use the resources and ideas contained here to spend some time in prayer and reflection. There are many ways to do so, and hopefully this resource will lead you to a method that speaks to you. As we create Calgary Catholic together, we do so with a yearning to grow in Faith!

Bryan

How to Use Your Faith Formation Monthly

THIS IS A SPACE FOR YOU TO...

LEARN

GROW

EXPLORE

GET INSPIRED

DISCOVER

REFLECT

SAINT OF THE MONTH

Each month we will feature a saint to introduce and give a brief history on. Each saint is chosen for that particular month because that month either has a Feast Day or Memorial taking place in honour of them. Learning about the saints is important in our Catholic Faith, as it continues to educate us on Catholicism's history and references people of faith who have led by example.

FEAST DAYS & CELEBRATIONS

Each month we will highlight the feast days and celebrations happening that month. These days are important to celebrate as members of the Catholic faith, as they all pay homage to special events, people and lessons in our history.

REFLECTION

Each month has the gospel passages for you to read as the month progresses, as well as some wide open space for you to reflect. Reflection is intended to help you understand the content more deeply, and how it can relate to your daily life and experiences. We encourage you to fill this space with anything that came to mind as you read these scriptures- quotes, lessons, colours, images, memories, emotions, etc.

HASHTAGS

Social media can be a great way to build community, particularly in these unprecedented times where in-person meetings may not always be possible. We have provided you with a list of hashtags to use when posting on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook, and also to "follow" on those platforms for like-minded content and connection.

SYMBOLS OF OUR FAITH

While many of us are familiar with these terms, such as the Crucifix or the Pulpit, we may not know the history behind them, what they are used for, or what they represent. This area is to deepen your understanding of common symbols in our Faith.

SACRED SPACE

This section of your Faith Formation Monthly explains how best to set up a sacred space in your classroom. This is important because it helps get the students engaged in their faith, and gives them a spot to remind them of important religious colours, symbols and themes for the various times of the year.

SHARE YOUR GOODNESS

Every day presents endless opportunities for you to "share your goodness." Even the smallest of acts, like a smile to a stranger or holding the door for someone, has the ability to make an impact on someone else's life. We have provided you with suggestions for each month on how to help your neighbour, but we encourage you to find other creative ways to help others that correspond to your own passions, hobbies and interests.

BULLETIN BOARD ITEMS

These items are topics of importance for you to focus on inside of your classroom. You can incorporate them into your lessons, into your bulletin board decorations, or discussions throughout the month.

September

REFLECTION

The Sunday Gospel readings this month bring up the themes of mercy, forgiveness and loving others through our actions. What theme resonates most with you at this time? Why?

SUNDAY GOSPELS

YEAR A

September 6, 2020 September 20, 2020
Matthew 18:15-20 Matthew 20: 1-16

September 13, 2020 September 27, 2020
Matthew 18: 21-35 Matthew 21:28-32

Proverbs 23:12

*Apply your mind to
instruction and your ear
to words of knowledge.*

SEPTEMBER FEAST DAYS

AND CELEBRATIONS

SEPTEMBER 1	World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation
SEPTEMBER 3	Memorial of St. Gregory the Great
SEPTEMBER 7	Labour Day
SEPTEMBER 8	Feast of The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
SEPTEMBER 14	Feast of The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
SEPTEMBER 15	Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows
SEPTEMBER 16	Memorial of St. Cornelius and St. Cyprian
SEPTEMBER 21	Feast of St. Matthew
SEPTEMBER 23	Memorial of St. Pius of Pietrelcina
SEPTEMBER 26	Feast of St. John de Brébeuf and St. Isaac Jogues and Companions
SEPTEMBER 27	World Tourism Day Collection for the Needs of the Church in Canada World Day of Migrants and Refugees
SEPTEMBER 29	Feast of St. Michael, St. Gabriel, and St. Raphael
SEPTEMBER 30	Memorial of St. Jerome

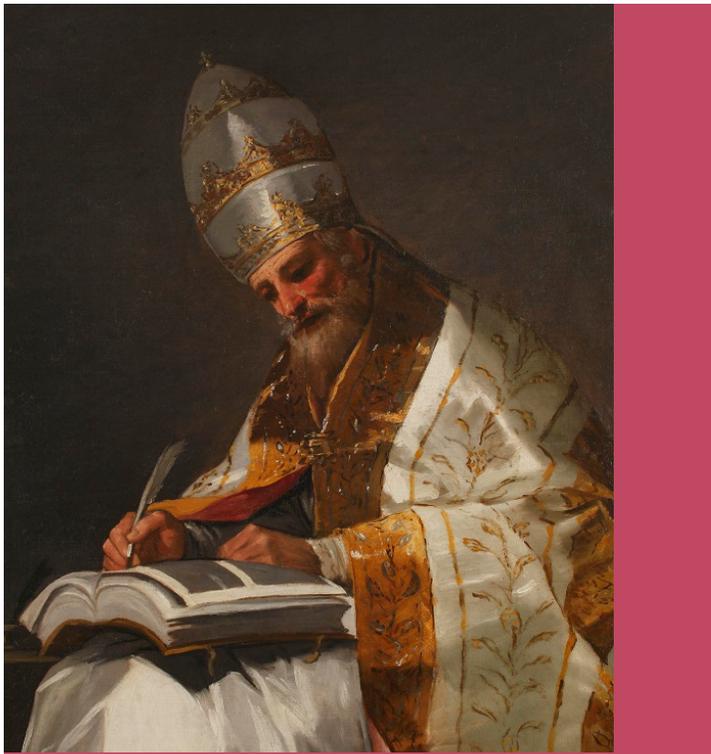
A SACRED SPACE FOR SEPTEMBER

Use a white or green tablecloth in your sacred space. In addition to a cross or image of Jesus, a battery operated candle, and a bible, add a symbol for Mary to mark the Marian celebrations during the month.

#

SOCIAL MEDIA TAGS

#CCSDedu #ibelieveinCatholicEd #Bible #CareofCreation
#liveandlearninfaith #CatholicYYC #Prayer #TerryFox #GrACE
#VocationinEducation #ProfessionalGrowth #VirginMary



Saint of the Month

SAINT GREGORY THE GREAT

Saint Gregory the Great is one of the four great Doctors of the Latin Church and is the patron saint of students and teachers.

He wrote, "Put on the power of patience, and gain your souls by it, since he who is the redemption of all is also the strength of all."

Sermon 31, 3

Catholic Saints: Gregory the Great

Image: Francisco Goya / Public Domain

SHARE YOUR GOODNESS

September means back to school, and for a lot of children in Calgary that might mean wondering where their next meal is coming from. Consider donating food, money or your time to a local charity such as Brown Bagging for Calgary's Kids. Check out www.bb4ck.org for more information.

BULLETIN BOARD ITEMS

Welcome One and All

Who Am I? – A Child of God

We Live by the Light of Faith

SYMBOLS OF OUR FAITH:

CROSS AND CRUCIFIX

Is it a cross or a crucifix? The cross is a T-shaped symbol that represents Christ, our Christianity and our redemption. The crucifix is a cross bearing the crucified figure of Christ. We use a processional cross with the figure of Christ crucified in liturgy.

A PRAYER

FOR THE BLESSING OF A CLASSROOM

Ever-present God, come and fill this classroom with your love and mercy. Give us eyes to see that you reside in the heart of each person who shares this space with us. Teach us how to be respectful and kind that all may encounter the love of Christ. Open our hearts and our minds to learning new things and help us discover our talents, gifts and abilities. Make us grateful for the gift of our teachers and guide them in their efforts to enlighten us with the teachings of our faith. Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



Video Learning:
What is the meaning
of the word "Gospel?"

September's
Liturgical Colour:
Green

Meaning:
Ordinary Time