



5302 48th Street Taber, Alberta T1G 1H3

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Michelle Nevil, Principal • Mary Tilleman, Associate Principal

February 2024

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
				1  4/5W, 4/5P & 2/3D – 9 AM Mass at Church - Grade 1 Skating at 9 AM	2 Groundhog Day – Wear PJs or Shorts	3
4 SPT Choir is singing at 9 AM Mass at Church	5 Lacrosse with Dave during Gym classes	6 	7  Choir is cancelled for today	8  - Hot Dog Hot Lunch today 2/3G & 1V – 9 AM Mass at Church - School Council Mtg @ 3:45	9	10
11	12	13  - Red/Pink Day - Shrove Tuesday – Pancake Lunch for all students - Little Love Market (5-8 PM)	14  Ash Wednesday Mass at 11 AM @ Church	15  100th Day of School	16 School PD Day – No School	17
18	19	20 	21 	22 	23	24
Family Week – No School						
25	26	27 	28  - DQ Hot Lunch - Pink Shirt Day - CEC Board Mtg @ 6 PM	29  Gr. 4/5G & 1F – 9 AM Mass at Church	March 1 Lent: Prayer Service hosted by 4/5P at 9 AM	March 2



= Grade 4/5 Choir Practice (3:20-4:00 PM)

= Grade 4/5 Thunder Athletics Program (3:15-4:15 PM)



ROCKS



February
2024

Our Motto is **Learning to Love and Loving to Learn**

Lent Begins at SPT

Shrove Tuesday is February 13. Our school council will provide the entire school with pancakes and ham in celebration of this day.



Ash Wednesday is February 14. Our students will be going to the church for this liturgical celebration. All are welcome.

Our classes have started going to Thursday Mass.



ROCK TIME



Rock Time is our weekly assembly that happens the first day back from the weekend at 8:45 AM in our gathering space. You are welcome to join us.

This month we are reflecting on these Gospel readings at Rock Time. These are all the Sunday Gospel Readings for February

Mark 1:29-34

Mark 1:40-45

Mark 1:12-15 First Sunday of Lent

Mark 9:2-10 Second Sunday of Lent



Thank You



Thank you to all the parents who came out to tie skates and skate with our students. We appreciate you being there, more than you know.



Energy Challenge for February



Use reusable containers in your lunches.

This month the Thunder Athletes will learn dance from Mrs. Visscher.

Feb 6, 8, 13 and 15 at 3:15-4:15



Inside Shoes Please

Now that it is muddy outside it is more important than ever to have a pair of inside shoes that will work for gym class. Please make sure your child has inside shoes they can keep in their locker. Thank you.



Valentine Parties will happen on the 13th since Lent begins on the 14th.

Don't forget about the Little Love Market happening on the 13th at the school.

We welcome Annette Bad Eagle and Julia Newberry to our school. Annette is our First Nations Facilitator and will be here Tuesday mornings. Julia is our Mental Health Capacity Building Coach and she will be here on Mondays.



School Council News:

The next school council meetings will be held on:

Thursday, February 8th @ 3:45 PM

Thursday, March 7th @ 3:45 PM

Follow our SPT School Council on Social Media to stay up-to-date with how they are supporting our SPT School Community. (Click on the links below)

[Facebook](#) - [Instagram](#)

Upcoming Important School Council Dates:

- February 8, 2024 – Hot Dog Hot Lunch
- February 8, 2024 – School Council Meeting at 3:45 PM
- February 13, 2024 – Shrove Tuesday – Pancakes and Ham for all students.
- February 13, 2024 – Little Love Market (5:00 – 8:00 PM) Please come and support our students and local small businesses.
- February 28, 2024 – DQ Hot Lunch

Please email sptschoolcouncil@holyspirit.ab.ca for any questions you may have. Contact your child's room rep if you would like to volunteer to help with hot lunch.

Little Love Market and Bake Sale

♡ SAVE THE DATE ♡

February 13, 2024 5:00pm - 8:00pm

Location: St. Patrick Elementary School, Taber

Looking for Children and Adult Vendors
Email: sptschoolcouncil@holyspirit.ab.ca
if you are interested

Please come and support our SPT students and community members in their businesses

BAKE SALE

SPT STUDENT COUNCIL WILL BE A HOSTING A VALENTINES MARKET "LITTLE LOVE MARKET AND BAKE SALE" FEBRUARY 13TH.

WE ARE ASKING PARENTS IN PRE-K TO GRADE 5 TO HELP SUPPORT US BY BRINGING IN BAKED GOODS. PLEASE BRING ALL BAKED GOODS TO THE SCHOOL BY 12PM ON FEBRUARY 13TH

NOTE: PLEASE LABEL ALL BAKED GOODS WITH ANY ALLERGEN INGREDIENTS INCLUDING DAIRY, WHEAT/GLUTEN, ETC.

OUR SCHOOL IS A NUT FREE ZONE



Annette Bad Eagle
(OOTah koi sii Pis Taa Kii)
First Nations (Niitsitapi), Métis
and Inuit Facilitator



Contact me by phone, text or email any time!

Annette Bad Eagle
OOTah koi sii Pis Taa Kii
First Nations (Niitsitapi), Métis
and Inuit Facilitator
Cell: 587-394-7325
Email: badeaglea@holyspirit.ab.ca

- Teaching Blackfoot Culture
- Liaison with Families & School
- Supporting Students

St. Patrick 403-223-3352
St. Mary 403-223-3165
Available: Tuesday

St. Patrick Fine Arts 403-327-4386
Available: Wednesday

St. Catherine 403-732-4359
Trinity E-Learning 403-327-0714
Available: Thursday



Building Connections



R.E.A.L.
For Talking
with Youth



Respect



Love



Wisdom



Humility

**Please join us in welcoming Annette Bad Eagle to
St. Patrick School.**

She is a First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Facilitator for Holy Spirit
Catholic School Division. She will be working at SPT every
Tuesday morning.



**Please join us in welcoming Julia
Newberry
to St. Patrick School.**

She is a Mental Health Capacity Building (MHCB)
Wellness Coach. She will be working at SPT every
Monday. Here is a brief bio:

My name is Julia Newberry, your kids will call me
Ms. Julia. I am very excited to join the St.
Patrick's team. I have grown a strong passion for
our youth and love connecting with them on
their journey. Your children may come home
talking about the "Worry Woo's", "Kimochi" or
"Kelso" just to name a few. The programs
provide a basic understanding of social
emotional support, growth and coping. All the
programs I offer, support students with mental
health promotion and stronger understanding of
self. I can facilitate universal mental health
programming for students ranging from
kindergarten all the way through to grade 12 for
the entire division.

It is important that your child comes to school prepared to go outside for recess. The only time
our students stay inside for recess is when the weather feels colder than -20 degrees Celsius.

Please make sure your child comes to school with warm clothes. A winter coat, snow boots,
gloves/mittens and toque/earmuffs are very important. **Please label all of your child's winter
gear.**



It's Winter Time!

SPT Teacher Office Hours:

The teacher office hours are set aside for you to get to know your child's teacher, address any concerns you may have about your child's learning, or if you need help with SPACES, etc. Let your child's teacher know you would like to meet with them during their scheduled office hours.

Grade 1		Mrs. French (1F)	3 rd Thursday of each month from 3:30 – 4:30 PM February 15 th <i>None in March</i> April 17th
		Mrs. Visscher (1V)	
Grade 2/3		Mr. De Coste (2/3D)	Last Thursday of each month from 3:30 – 4:30 PM February 29th <i>None in March</i> April 25th
		Mrs. Gutfriend (2/3G)	Last Wednesday of each month from 3:30 – 4:30 PM February 28th <i>None in March</i> April 24th
		Mrs. Krishnan (2/3K)	Last Thursday of each month from 3:30 – 4:30 PM February 29th <i>None in March</i> April 25th
Grade 4/5		Ms. Gross (4/5G)	3:30 – 4:30 PM February 13th <i>None in March</i> April 9 th
		Miss Paul (4/5P)	
		Mrs. Wickson (4/5W)	3:30- 4:30 PM February 8 th <i>None in March</i> April 9th

Important Reminders:

Late or Absent Students – Please call our school office by 9:00 AM if your child will be late or absent from school! Our phone number is 403-223-3352.

Agenda Notes – The agenda is an important communication tool between home and the school. If there are any changes in your child's schedule, a change in bus/kidzone schedule, or a change in who is picking up your child, please make note in your child's agenda. If the change occurs during the day, give our school office a call and we will pass on the message to the classroom.

Picking up Students During School Hours – Parents, if you are picking up your child during school hours, please check-in at our office to sign out your child. While signing out, the office will contact your child's homeroom teacher to have your child sent down to the office. Thank you in advance for your cooperation by helping us to continue to create a safe and supportive learning environment for all of our students.

Medical Notes/ Medication – If your child needs to take medication at school, please see Mrs. Mankow in the office to fill out the required paperwork. Additionally, please keep us updated on any allergies or medical changes the school should be aware of.

Microwave Use at Nutrition Times – We have two 15-minute Nutrition Breaks for our students to eat and the entire school eats at the same time. Due to the limited time please send your child with lunches that do not require a microwave. This will ensure that all students will have ample time to eat their lunch. More time will be provided in class for those students who need to eat more.

Milk and Juice Program - We are excited to be offering our chocolate milk and juice program again this year. The program will be run by our Grade 5 students with the help of Mrs. Gross and Mrs. Wickson. Chocolate milk and juice will be available for purchase during the 1st Nutrition Break. Milk cards can be purchased at the office or on SchoolCashOnline. **If you pay for a card online, please have your child come to the school office to request the card. Thank you.**

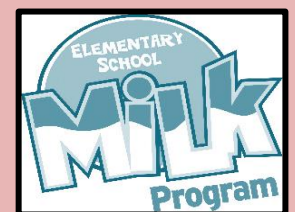


We have two types of cards available:

- 1) \$10 punch card valid for 10 individual milk/juice purchases
- 2) \$20 punch card valid for 20 individual milk/juice purchases.

If you don't want to purchase a punch card, students are also able to purchase milk or juice individually. Each drink is \$1.00

*****Proceeds from the milk program support school activities, STEM, our SPT Leadership Program and our Grade 5 Farewell. *****



Stay Connected:

Check out our school website: spt.holyspirit.ab.ca

School Calendar: spt.holyspirit.ab.ca/school/calendars

Follow us on Social Media:



[St. Patrick School - Taber](https://www.facebook.com/St.PatrickSchool-Taber)



[@spttaber](https://www.instagram.com/spttaber)



[@SPTtaber](https://twitter.com/SPTtaber)

Board Briefs:

Each month, the School Division Trustees publish a summary of their meetings:

https://www.holyspirit.ab.ca/board_administration/board_of_trustees/board_meetings



FEBRUARY 2024

Breakfast Program Menu

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
♥	♥	♥	♥	Yogurt Cookie Fruit 1	Trail mix Bananas 2	♥
♥	Granola Bar Fruit 5	Muffins Vegetable 6	Crackers Cheese Fruit 7	Cereal milk Fruit 8	Smoothie Day! 9	♥
♥	Crackers Cheese Fruit 12	Cereal milk Fruit 13	Egg Wraps Veggies 14	Granola Bar Fruit 15	PD Day No School 16	♥
♥	No School This WEEK! 19 20 21 22 23					♥
♥	Granola Bar Apple sauce 26	Cereal milk Fruit 27	Egg Wraps + Veggies 28	Crackers Cheese Fruit 29	Smoothie Day! 1	♥
♥	♥	Notes:				

Take the next step with...

Holy Spirit Catholic School Division

2024/2025 REGISTRATION

Re-Registration Starts January 15, 2024

Families with students currently enrolled in our system should expect an email during the week of January 15-19, 2024 asking that the online "Registration Update Form" be completed for each child attending one of our schools in the 2024/2025 school year.

Parents/guardians who are hoping to register younger siblings new to the division will also have the opportunity to do this at the same time that they re-register older students.

New Student Registration Starts February 1, 2024

All Early Learning to Grade 12 students who are new to the division and wish to enroll for the 2024/2025 school year are invited to register online starting on Thursday, February 1, 2024.

- Through play, our **Early Learning Program** is designed to stimulate the growing curiosity of children 3 and 4 years of age.
- **Kindergarten** is designed for children 5 years of age on, or before, December 31, 2024.
- **Grade 1** registrants must be 6 years of age on, or before, December 31, 2024.
- **French Immersion** is also available. Enrollment starts:
 - in Kindergarten/Grade 1 at École St. Mary in Lethbridge.
 - in Grade 1 at St. Michael's School in Pincher Creek.

For More Information

Contact our Early Learning Supervisor to discuss Early Learning or your child's specialized programming requirements by phone (403-381-8495) or email (earlylearning@holyspirit.ab.ca).

To inquire about Kindergarten, you can contact your local school.

Contact our French Language Consultant to discuss French Immersion programming by phone (403-331-4458) or email (urquhartw@holyspirit.ab.ca).

Contact your child's school, or visit the division's website (holyspirit.ab.ca), if you need assistance with the online registration process or have any questions.



Holy Spirit Catholic School Division
...where children are cherished and achieve their potential.

February

Build!

Pilgrims of Hope



"Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people."

Matthew 4:23

St. Dulce Lopes Pontes 1914-1992 (Feast Day: August 13)

When Maria de Souza Pontes was 13, her aunt took her on a trip to the poor area of her hometown. She was struck by the poverty and need that she encountered, and began to start to care for the homeless in her own neighbourhood. At 18, she joined a missionary order and became known as Dulce. Immediately, she began to serve the neediest in Salvador, supporting workers and housing those in need. Initially, this was done in abandoned homes and buildings, but each time they were evicted. Finally, she asked the permission of the convent to convert their chicken coop - which over time became a hospital. That hospital today serves more than 3,000 patients per day and is the largest free hospital in Brazil.

In 1959, she created a foundation known as OSID, which oversees the hospital, as well as other welfare and education services, and is a well known and respected organization in Brazil. It serves the homeless, elderly, children, those with addictions and disabilities and other marginalized groups. Dulce was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 1988, and lived the last years of her life with respiratory problems prior to her death in 1992. St. Dulce Lopes Pontes was canonized by Pope Francis in 2019, becoming the first Brazilian female saint.

"Building" In Our Schools

At St. Joseph School in Coaldale, their Leadership class is spearheading a fundraising campaign for our divisional Chalice campaign. As they raise funds, through ice cream float and hot chocolate sales, they are visually tracking their contributions by adding bricks to their school diagram - building a school of kindness. What a great way to show solidarity with St. Odilia!



Corporal Works of Mercy

— Visit the Sick —

Those who are sick are often forgotten or avoided. In spite of their illness, these individuals still have much to offer to those who take the time to visit and comfort them. Consider one or more of these practical ways to show this work:

- Give blood.
- Take time on a Saturday to stop and visit with an elderly neighbour.
- Next time you make a meal that can be easily frozen, make a double batch and give it to a family in your parish who has a sick loved one.
- Spend quality time with those who are sick or homebound.
- Take the time to call, send a card or an e-mail to someone who is sick.

Pope's Prayer Intentions - For the Terminally Ill

Let us pray that the sick who are in the final stages of life, and their families, receive the necessary medical and human care and accompaniment.



Catholic Social Teaching

— Solidarity —

Through the course of this year, we will look each month at one of the Catholic Social Teachings. The aim of Catholic Social Teaching is to shine the light of the Gospel on our contemporary world, allowing us as disciples of Christ to look at the world around us with new eyes, and to take action.

Last month, we looked at the preferential option for the poor and vulnerable. We saw how keenly interested God is in those at the margins. When we act in ways that align with this, recognizing our interdependence, seeing ourselves in others and seeking to secure the good of others, we are showing solidarity. As St. Pope John Paul II wrote,

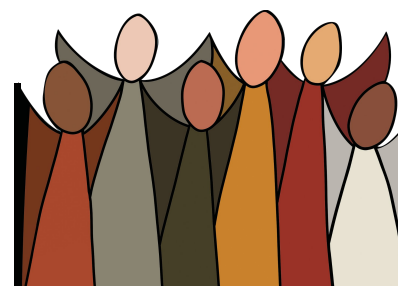
"[Solidarity] is not a feeling of vague compassion or shallow distress at the misfortunes of so many people, both near and far. On the contrary, it is a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to the common good; that is to say, to the good of all and of each individual, because we are all really responsible for all."

Learn more about Solidarity with one of these resources:

CST 101 - [Solidarity](#)

Development and Peace - [Solidarity](#)

USCCB - [Solidarity](#)



"We are like a pencil with which God writes the texts He wants said in the hearts of men."

(St. Dulce Lopes Pontes)

Gospel Readings

February 4, 2024

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gospel Reading: Mark 1:29-39

"All this I do for the sake of the gospel, so that I too may have a share in it." — 1 Corinthians 9:23

Do WHAT for the sake of the gospel? In today's scripture verse, we are called to do EVERYTHING for the glory of God. The Gospel tells of Jesus' life and how he tried to please God with all he did and said, the way he loved, the way he treated others, the way he did everything! We too are called to do everything in our lives to live out the Gospel. The word "gospel" means "good news." We want to have a share of this Good News, just like St. Paul did. All we have to do is live the Gospel in our own lives. So listen carefully to the scripture readings at Mass. They will guide you to live for God!

What do you think it would be like to have a share of the Good News?



Prayer:

*Dear Lord, we want to experience your Good News today and be with you in heaven someday!
Please help us to learn what we need to do to have a share in that gift.*

February 11, 2024

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gospel Reading: Mark 1:40-45

"...Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God." — 1 Corinthians 10:31

How could what I eat or drink glorify God? St. Paul reminds us in this reading to remember God and give him glory for all the normal, everyday things we do in our lives. It's easy to forget and take things for granted, but everything is a gift from God. Paul also reminds us to be kind to others in everyday situations. We can make choices like holding the door for others, when all we want to do is get into the place we are going. We can choose to be last in line, allowing others to go before us and offering that as a prayer. These are all small ways we can give glory to God—and show God's love—in our daily lives.

What are some ways you can show glory to God in your life every day?



Prayer:

Dear Lord, I don't always feel like I can do great things to show you my love. Please help me to find small ways every day in my own life to give you glory.

Download this month's [Saint Prayer Card](#) - St. Dulce Lopes Pontes



Gospel Readings

February 18, 2024

1st Sunday in Lent

Gospel Reading: Mark 1:12-15

"The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert, and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan." — Mark 1:12

Even Jesus was called for forty days to fast and pray. It was not easy for him. Satan was there whispering in his ear to try to get him to stop fasting and walk away from his prayer. He could have done that. He was God. But he chose the harder way. He chose to offer up his discomfort to glorify God and grow closer to him. We too are called to forty days of fasting and praying. We may even be tempted as Jesus was to walk away from the sacrifices. But just as the Spirit gave Jesus the strength to keep going, he will give us what we need to continue and grow closer to him.

What are some ways that you can fight off temptations? What are your favourite ways to pray?



Prayer:

Dear Lord, thank you for giving us the opportunity to join with you in this time of fasting and praying during Lent. Please give us the grace not to give in to temptation.

February 25, 2024

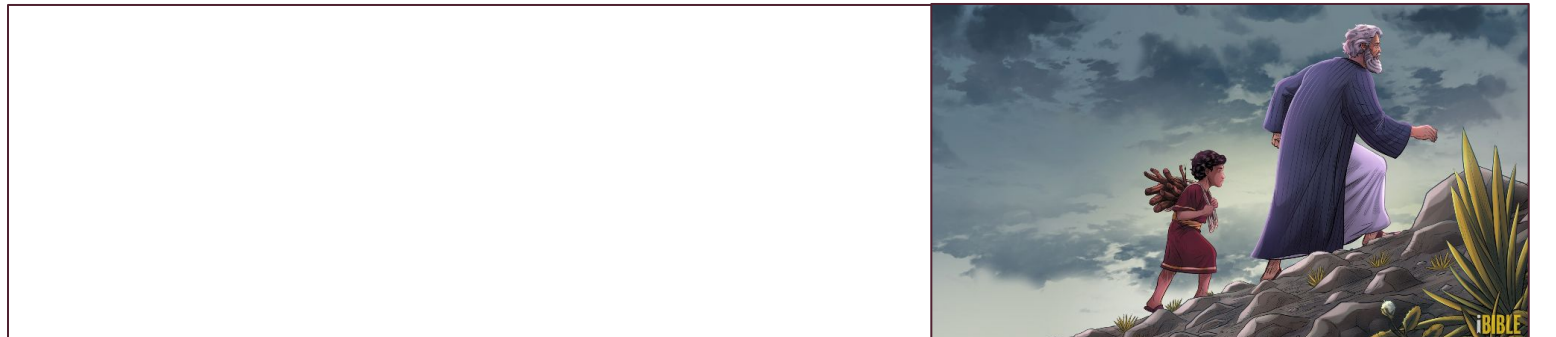
2nd Sunday in Lent

Gospel Reading: Mark 9:2-10

"Then God said: 'Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love...there you shall offer him up as a holocaust...'" — Genesis 22:2

Think of the one person you love the most in the world. Is it your mom, dad, a brother or sister? Maybe it's a best friend or a cousin. Can you imagine if you heard God ask you to give them up forever? That would be the hardest thing you'd ever have to do. Yet, in today's scripture, that is what God asks Abraham to do. Abraham is a great example of faith and trust in God. He didn't understand why God wanted him to give up his only son, whom he loved with all his heart. But he trusted in God. In the end, we learn that God didn't want him to give up his son, he just wanted to test Abraham's faith and trust. I think he passed the test, what about you?

Are there things in your life that God may want you to give up that would help you grow closer to him?



Prayer:

Lord, may we learn to have the same faith and trust in you that Abraham had, even when we don't understand your ways.

Sources:

[All about Blessed Dulce Lopes Pontes – the Good Angel of Brazil](#)
[Irmã Dulce](#)
[Dulce Lopes Pontes: From serving the sick to Nobel nominee](#)

[History, Prayer, and Phrases of Saint Dulce of the Poor](#)
Image Source: [The Life of Isaac \(Part Two: The Sacrifice\)](#)



**VALENTINE'S DAY
STORY TIME
2:00 PM**

Taber Public Library

**Join Mrs. Croft for stories, songs and snacks
everyone welcome**