

March Catholic Education Prayers of the Faithful

For Catholic Education:

- That our Catholic schools may reveal the glory of God in all that they do, *we pray to the Lord.*
- That the teachers in our Catholic schools may be strengthened for their important task in our world, *we pray to the Lord.*
- That our Catholic schools may celebrate the richness of the Catholic faith that we have inherited, *we pray to the Lord.*
- That our Catholic schools may inspire students to a life of love and service, *we pray to the Lord.*

January 28, 2020



GrACE gratefully recognizes the advocacy work of Joan Carr as a founding GrACE board member. Joan's tireless efforts on behalf of Catholic education have made and continue to make a difference.

Congratulations Evergreen Catholic Schools' on your first GrACE engagement. With a wonderful turnout and great conversation, your passion for Catholic education is evident! Well done!

[Teachers] are "artisans" who shape the coming generations. By their knowledge, patience and dedication, they communicate a way of living and acting that embodies a richness that is not material, but spiritual, and creates the men and women of tomorrow.

Pope Francis
Address at the seminar "Education: the Global Compact", February 7, 2020.

Holy Spirit Catholic School District GrACE Engagement

33 priests, teachers, staff, trustees and leaders gathered on a beautiful January evening to talk about Catholic education. The enthusiasm was palpable. As one of the participants said, "This evening reaffirmed my belief in Catholic education." Another shared that their "eyes are wide open; the knowledge and the facts are so necessary."

Holy Spirit Catholic serves 5000 students in southern Alberta. They are looking forward to bringing the message of GrACE to their schools and parishes through a variety of means. Most powerfully one participant stated: "I simply must practice what I preach without hesitation."



Welcome GrACE #24



McLennan- Holy Family Catholic Schools

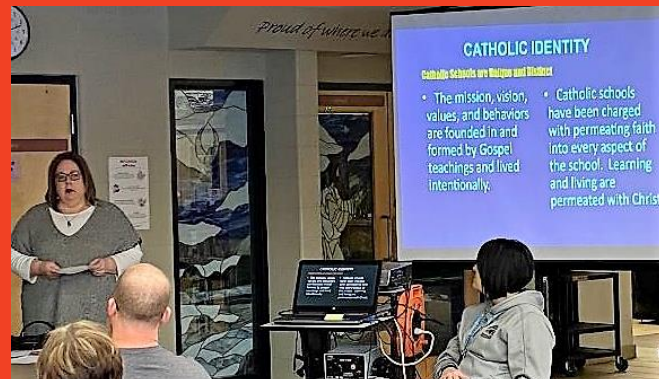
The mission of GrACE is to *inspire, invigorate* and *embolden* the *spirit* of Catholic education in order to **unite, engage, educate** and **communicate** with one voice on its behalf.

GrACE Top Toolkit Tips

1. Educate yourself. Read Pope Francis' recent address "Education: the Global Compact" February 7, 2020 [Pope Francis' Address](#)
2. Subscribe to Faithfully. Read and share stories on Catholic education and our Catholic faith [Faithfully](#)
3. Link your school, district and parish websites to GrACE

Living Waters Presents Catholic Education to Staff in Edson

On January 31, 2020, our Living Waters community schools in Edson, Vanier and Holy Redeemer, came together to share stories in support of Catholic Education. Gemma Christie, a pioneer of Catholic Education, was proud to present to thirty-five teachers and support staff about GrACE (Grateful Advocates for Catholic Education). As a trustee for over thirty years, Gemma spoke about the value of Catholic Education in rural communities like Edson. Others were moved to help. For example, Peter Taylor, drama and social studies teacher at Holy Redeemer, was inspired to share the good news of Catholic Education over social media as his commitment. The next engagement session is scheduled for March 20, 2020 in Whitecourt. It is exciting to see Catholic Education growing and thriving!



Recognizing the power of story, GrACE invites you to reflect on your moments in Catholic education, put them on paper, and share them. The Calgary Diocese publishes *Faithfully* on-line and in-print every month. *Faithfully* gives a snapshot of faith at work in the lives of everyday people. This diocesan online publication is sent by email to all subscribers and posted on the diocesan website monthly. Each month they will post 1-2 stories submitted by GrACE on the topic of Catholic education.

How can you support this initiative?

1. Prayerfully reflect on one of your stories of Catholic education.
2. Write the story. *Faithfully* limits each story to a maximum of 500 words.
3. Attach 1-3 pictures to support the story.
4. Submit the Catholic School story to GrACE gracedirector7@gmail.com
5. Tag (personally invite) someone you know to write the next story.
6. Subscribe to *Faithfully* (see above Toolkit)

Thank you for your efforts and for sharing your commitment to Catholic Education.
We are grateful.

Regional spring GrACE meetings have been set up across the province

- February 27 Calgary Diocese
- Calgary Roman Catholic Separate School District, CTR Catholic, Conseil scolaire FrancoSud, Holy Spirit RCSRD, Medicine Hat CSRD
- March 17 Diocese of St. Paul
-FM, Lakeland, St Paul, Conseil scolaire Centre-East
- March 27 Archdiocese of Grouard-McLennan
-Conseil scolaire du Nord-Ouest, Grande Prairie RCSSD No., Holy Family CRD
- April 7 Edmonton Archdiocese
-Conseil scolaire Centre-Nord, Edmonton CSSD, Elk Island CSRD, Greater St. Albert RCSSD, Lloydminster
- April 8 Edmonton Archdiocese
-Evergreen, Living Waters, East Central Alberta CSSRD, Red Deer CRD, St. Thomas Aquinas RCSRD



Thank you to Bishop McGrattan, Father Wilbert and GrACE leaders from Southern Alberta Catholic Schools who gathered for the first Calgary Diocesan GrACE Regional Meeting in 2020. Growing advocacy is evident!



Key Insights

- We are called to lead and build capacity within our community
- Tight leadership is necessary at the beginning stages of local GrACE

Key Insights

The new 5 Marks presentation will be a great resource for GrACE groups. It can be done in a 90 minute meeting or divided into 5 smaller engagements.

GrACE Facebook address is www.facebook.com/GrACE4cathed
Grace email is gracedirector7@gmail.com
GrACE Twitter address is [@GrACE4cathed](https://twitter.com/GrACE4cathed)

Mark Your Calendars

Catholic Education Week- May 18-22, 2020
World Catholic Education Day- May 21, 2020