

Newsletter



December 2025

Issue #03

Dear St. Alphonsus Parents/Guardians:

December has arrived, bringing with it a season of reflection, celebration, and joy. As we move into the final weeks of 2025, we look forward to the many meaningful activities happening throughout our school. This month provides wonderful opportunities for learning, community-building, and embracing the spirit of the holidays.

As we journey through the season of Advent, students are learning about themes of hope, peace, joy, and love. Many classrooms are engaging in weekly reflections, lighting Advent candles, and taking part in activities that remind us of the importance of kindness and preparing our hearts for Christmas. Please watch for details coming up on our Advent Project this year.

We are delighted to announce our Christmas Concert, taking place on Tuesday, December 9th at 1:00 and 7:00 in the school gym. Our students have been rehearsing with excitement, and we can't wait for them to perform for our school community. The SCC will have raffle tickets to purchase at the door. Thank you to our staff and students for their creativity and hard work in preparing this memorable event.

Our last day before the Christmas break will be December 19th. Classes will resume on January 6th.

We hope your holiday season is filled with warmth, peace, and time spent with loved ones. May the coming weeks bring rest, joy, and many wonderful memories.

From all of us at St. Alphonsus School, we wish your family a joyful Advent, a festive Christmas season, and a happy New Year!

Mr. M. Cristo,
Principal

Mrs. C. Bohn,
Vice-Principal



Calendar of Events	
December 1	Advent Week 1 Celebration Boys Basketball Practice (3:30 - 4:30 p.m.)
December 4	Boys Basketball Practice (3:30 - 4:30 p.m.) Curling Practice (3:45 - 5:00 p.m.)
December 8	Advent Week 2 Celebration
December 9	School Christmas Concerts (1:00 and 7:00 p.m.)
December 10	Band Christmas Concert @ Sacred Heart High School Pajama Day
December 11	Boys Basketball Practice (3:30 - 4:30 p.m.) Curling Practice (3:45 - 5:00 p.m.)
December 15	Advent Week 3 Celebration Candy Cane Day Boys Basketball Practice (3:30 - 4:30 p.m.)
December 16	Holiday Character Day
December 17	Whoville (Crazy Hair) Day
December 18	Boys Basketball Practice (3:30 - 4:30 p.m.) Curling (3:45 - 5:00 p.m.) Present Day
December 19	Advent Week 4 Celebration Pajama Day
December 22 - January 5	No school - Christmas Break
January 6	School Resumes (Day 4)



From the MHCB

As the Christmas season approaches, many people feel the pressure to create a perfect holiday—beautiful gifts, abundant meals, and joyful gatherings. But with the current economic climate tightening household budgets, the usual stressors of the season can feel even heavier. The good news? A meaningful, joyful Christmas doesn't depend on spending power. With mindful planning and realistic expectations, you can navigate the season with less stress and more ease. One way is to try to simplify gift giving.

Handmade or DIY Gifts

- Baked goods (cookies, fudge, sweet breads, hot chocolate jars)
- Homemade candles or wax melts
- Knitted or crocheted items like scarves or dishcloths
- Personalized ornaments using inexpensive craft supplies
- DIY sugar scrubs or bath salts



Meaningful, Personal Gifts

- Framed photo of a special memory
- Handwritten letter expressing appreciation
- A "memory book" of shared moments or inside jokes
- Custom playlists themed to the recipient's tastes
- A printed recipe card of a favorite family dish

Experience or Coupon-Based Gifts

- "Service coupons" (e.g., babysitting, car wash, cooked meal, tech help)
- A planned movie night at home with popcorn

Creative and Crafty Ideas

- Decorated tote bags or T-shirts using fabric markers
- Personalized calendars (printed cheaply at home)
- Bookmarks, handmade cards, or art prints
- Upcycled jars turned into candle holders or treat containers

Group or Family-Friendly Options

- Secret Santa with a low spending cap
- White elephant swap with a humorous twist
- Shared family activity kits (baking kit, craft kit, movie kit)

Upcoming MHCB News

Save the date for the December Family Event! Family events will return in February.

In the new year, St. Alphonsus students in Grades 5-8 will be learning about Mental Health Literacy.

In January, there will be a parent learning opportunity about Helping Children Develop Healthy Screen time Habits.

**Do you have ideas or suggested around Mental Health in the school or Family events? Please reach out to Ms Devos at mhcb@cttcs.ca

May this season bring us closer together, fill our homes with laughter, and remind us of the love we're fortunate to share. No matter what the year has brought, having each other is our greatest gift. Here's to peace, joy, and cherished moments with the ones who mean the most. Wishing your family a very Merry Christmas!

Ms. Jamie De Vos
MHCB Coordinator



Advent/Christmas Preparations

During Advent, we prepare for the birth of Jesus through prayer. Our school has been celebrating the Advent season with an Advent celebration at the beginning of each week. Advent Gospel Assemblies are planned for the following times:

Week 1 of Advent - Hope: Dec 1, 10:00 a.m.

Week 2 of Advent - Faith: Dec 8, 10:00 a.m.

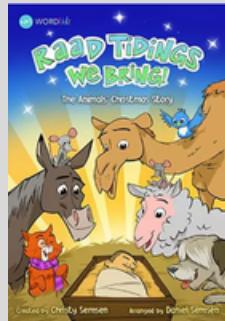
Week 3 of Advent - Joy: Dec 15, 10:00 a.m.

Week 4 of Advent - Peace: Dec 19, 9:00 a.m.



St. Alphonsus School Presents: Raad

Tidings We Bring!



Raad Tidings We Bring! The Animals' Christmas Story

Created by: Christy Semsen

Arranged by: Daniel Semsen

December 9th, 2025
Showtimes 1:00 and 7:00 p.m.

Cold Weather Guidelines

With winter conditions upon us, please keep these reminders in mind:

-29° C and above: Students are expected to be outdoors at recesses.

-30 to -35° C: Students are encouraged to get fresh air; however, going outside is optional.

-36° C and below: Students will not be allowed outdoors.

- We ask that drivers not do U-Turns in the main intersection in front of the school. This is not safe for our students trying to cross the street.
- Please do not park on the crosswalks in front of the school. Our safety patrol uses these to help our students cross the street safely.
- We ask students not to play on any snowbanks near the alleys or parking lots. We are concerned someone may slip under a parked vehicle. Please be aware of this as a driver and remind your children not to play on snowbanks.
- The alleys along the school grounds may not be cleared right after snowy weather. Please ensure the alleys are cleared before trying to drive down them.
- The two parking lots on either side of the school are for staff only.



HOLIDAY SPIRIT WEEK

Keep yourself informed about everything related to the holidays this week!



WEEK OF DECEMBER 15-19

MONDAY

"CANDY CANE DAY"
RED AND WHITE DAY

Dress in red and white!



TUESDAY

HOLIDAY CHARACTER DAY



WEDNESDAY

WHOVILLE WEDNESDAY
crazy hair day



THURSDAY

PRESENT DAY

Dress up like a Christmas gift!



FRIDAY

PJ DAY

Wear your coziest pjs!



Stockings for Seniors

St. Alphonsus School is proud to support our local Stockings for Senior campaign again this year. Please consider donating (\$2 or more suggested per student) towards your classroom stocking. Please hand in money to your classroom teacher by December 5th.

St. Gerard's Holy Mass

Please note the following dates and times for mass over the holiday season:

Tuesday December 9 at 7 p.m. - Parish Advent Penitential Service

Thursday December 11 at 6:30 p.m. - Celebration of First Reconciliation

Sunday December 14-22 at 7 p.m. daily - Simbang Gala Novena Masses

Wednesday December 24 at 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. - Christmas Eve Mass

Thursday December 25 at 10 a.m. - Christmas Day Mass

Saturday December 27 at 5 p.m. and Sunday December 28 at 10 a.m. - Feast of the Holy Family

Wednesday December 31 at 5 p.m. - New Year's Eve Mass

Thursday, January 1 at 10 a.m. - New Year's Day Mass

*Note that registration for Communion and Reconciliation is due January 15.

Please email office@stgerard.ca for information packages and forms.



Early Childhood Celebration Build a Furry Friend Pet Adoption Theme

Do you have a child aged 3-5 who hasn't started Kindergarten yet? Join us for a heartwarming event where your little one can build and adopt their very own furry friend!



Scan the QR code to register!

Date: Monday, January 19, 2026

Time: 1:00-2:30pm

Location: Yorkton

St. Mary's School Gym



This is for Christ the Teacher School Division families.

Please arrive at 1:00 pm, so you don't miss any of the fun!

Heart icon Adopt • Name • Play • Learn!

Paw icon Stuff and adopt
their own furry friend

Music icon Enjoy a story, music &
movement activities

Paintbrush icon Visit various
learning stations

Heart icon Learn about kindness
feelings and empathy

Our fun, educational, and interactive stations
help children develop the skills needed for a successful
school experience while celebrating caring for animals and each other!

Parents/Caregivers must attend with their child.

All aboard the Holiday Train!

The CPKC Holiday Train is rolling into Yorkton on Saturday, December 6, 2025

Time: 12:15-12:45 p.m.

Location: Livingston Street & 4 Avenue S

Musical Guests: Jade Eagleson and Teigen Gayse

Bring non-perishable food items or make a cash donation to support our local food bank.

Keep the celebration going at the Yorkton Christmas Market at the Godfrey Dean Art Gallery, open from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Want to know more?

Visit yorkton.ca/HolidayTrain



Contact Us



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Bus Schedule Changes

Added stops are highlighted in yellow. Please ensure you check if your child's stop has changed position or arrival time!

Christ the Teacher R.C.S.S.D. No. 212 - Bus Routes

Southland Transportation Ltd.

Route 1 - Sacred Heart High School, St. Al's & St. Michael's

Effective November 27, 2025

NOTE: Drop Off Times are Estimates and are dependent upon weather conditions, construction and traffic flow.

Pickup Point #	Morning Pickup Time	Location		After School Pickup /Drop Off Point	Estimated Drop Off Time	Location
1	7:58 AM	York Road & McBurney		P1	3:15 PM	Sacred Heart High School - Express
2	7:59 AM	McBurney/Matheson South Entrance		P2	3:20 PM	Poplar Gate
3	8:00 AM	Whitesand Dr & Madge Way		P3	3:27 PM	St. Michael's School
4	8:01 AM	Riverside Drive - Mail Boxes		P4	3:30 PM	Riverside Drive (Mailboxes)
5	8:02 AM	Morrison & Darlington		P5	3:31 PM	89 Riverside Terrace
6	8:03 AM	Morrison & Spice Drive		P6	3:33 PM	Whitesand Dr & Madge Way
7	8:04 AM	Morrison Dr & Blackwell East Entrance		P7	3:35 PM	McBurney & McNeil
8	8:05 AM	Darlington & Delaere Dr		P8	3:37 PM	Langrill & MacKenzie
9	8:07 AM	Darlington & 8th Avenue North		P9	3:38 PM	McBurney & Langrill
10	8:08 AM	Dunlop & 6th Avenue North		P10	3:39 PM	York Road & McBurney
11	8:10 AM	Darlington (Grassy area) & Myrtle		P11	3:44 PM	St. Al's School
12	8:12 AM	Sacred Heart High School		P12	3:47 PM	Dracup & Henderson
13	8:14 AM	Gladstone & Wellington Park Rd.		P13	3:49 PM	78 - 1st Ave N (Boys & Girls Club #1)
14	8:16 AM	Victoria & Collacott		P14	3:50 PM	54 Smith Street West (Boys & Girls Club #2)
15	8:17 AM	Victoria & Dunlop		P15	3:52 PM	Victoria & Smith
16	8:18 AM	Victoria & Catherine		P16	3:53 PM	Victoria & Duncan
17	8:19 AM	Victoria & Duncan		P17	3:54 PM	Victoria & Catherine
18	8:20 AM	Victoria & Smith		P18	3:55 PM	Victoria & Dunlop
19	8:21 AM	Smith & Myrtle		P19	3:57 PM	Victoria & Collacott
20	8:22 AM	78 - 1st Ave N (Boys & Girls Club #1)		P20	4:01 PM	Gladstone & Wellington Park Rd
21	8:24 AM	6 th Ave. North & Darlington		P21	4:04 PM	Sacred Heart High School
22	8:25 AM	Dracup & Henderson		P22	4:05 PM	Myrtle & Collacott
23	8:29 AM	Betts Ave. North & Dunlop		P23	4:06 PM	Henderson & Myrtle
24	8:30 AM	Myrtle & Henderson		P24	4:08 PM	Betts Ave. North & Dunlop
25	8:31 AM	Myrtle & Collacott		P25	4:09 PM	Dunlop & 6th Avenue North
26	8:33 AM	St. Al's School		P26	4:10 PM	6th Avenue North & Darlington
27	8:38 AM	York Road & McBurney		P27	4:11 PM	Darlington Street & 8th Ave North
28	8:39 AM	McBurney & Langrill		P28	4:12 PM	Dracup & Dunlop
29	8:41 AM	Langrill & MacKenzie		P29	4:14 PM	Darlington & Delaere
30	8:42 AM	McBurney & McNeil		P30	4:16 PM	Gordon & Harris
31	8:44 AM	Whitesand Dr. & Madge Way		P31	4:17 PM	Morrison Dr. & Blackwell Cres
32	8:45 AM	89 Riverside Terrace		P32	4:18 PM	Morrison Dr. & Spice Drive
33	8:46 AM	Riverside Drive (Mail Boxes)		P33	4:20 PM	Morrison Dr. & Darlington
34	8:48 AM	St. Michael's School		P34	4:21 PM	Riverside Drive (Mail Boxes)
				P35	4:22 PM	Whitesand Dr. & Madge Way
				P36	4:23 PM	Whitesand Dr. (North Entrance)
				P37	4:24 PM	York Road & McBurney