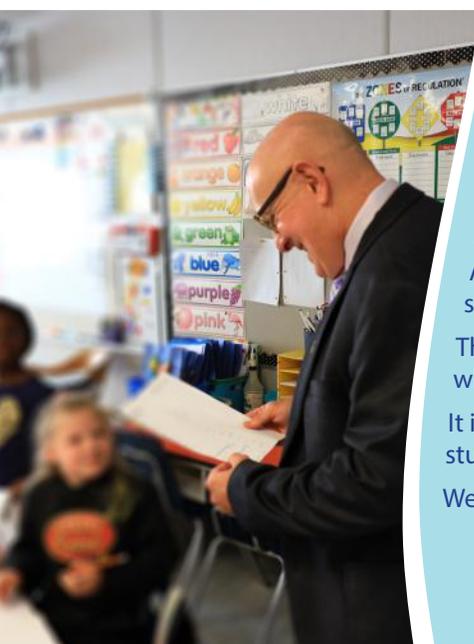


# Regina Catholic School Division Director's Communiqué

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## "Let Your Light Shine"

### A Message from Our Director of Education, Domenic Scuglia



*"Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." James 5:16*

If ever before there were a time to come together as a community in prayer, it is now. These times are certainly extraordinary, and we can rest assured that the power of prayer is also amazing. The Lord is with us, whether we are at home alone, taking care of family while balancing work, or continuing to work outside of the home. Needless to say, all our school families remain in my prayers.

The creativity and resilience of each of you has been a true inspiration as we manage this pandemic. Schools closed March 20, and since then we have watched our teachers, administrators, caretakers, support staff, parents and students come together in a way we never would've imagined possible – or necessary – two months ago. How we deliver learning has changed, but only because teaching has changed. Few things remain the same, not the least of which is who we spend time with. While many of our students are now able to access learning remotely, we know we aren't reaching them all. Thank you for your many efforts to reach out to those who need it the most. School as we know it looks different. Classrooms are gathering via Microsoft Teams. School-wide assemblies now take the form of a video. Paper assignments are picked up by parents in a carefully orchestrated and socially distant new way.

But let's consider as well the things which remain the same.

Students still rely on their teachers for more than just curricular learning. Support staff continue to change lives by sharing a smile (even online) with students, often one at a time. Caretakers, albeit with adjusted hours, continue to take pride in ensuring our facilities are in great shape. Teachers still teach life lessons which go far beyond the reach of any textbook. Administrators stay in touch, reach out for help when needed, and enhance the culture of our school communities.

The world's nations have nearly ground to a halt, while school division staff continues to do what we do best: educate and love our students.

It is humbling to be a part of this with you. Please take care of yourselves, your families, and students.

We are Regina Catholic Schools. Currently closed.... Continually learning.... Constantly praying.

God Bless,

Dom

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## Hearts for Nova Scotia

Melissa Quigly from Holy Rosary Community School worked with her grade 3/4 class online to make hearts to place in the windows of her students' homes to show unity with the people of Nova Scotia after the recent tragedy there.

## Teaching Online

Sacred Heart Community School teacher Mavis Luce was struggling to work at home for the first little while. She was teaching from her kitchen table and it didn't feel right. During the Easter break, she realized what she was missing: her prayer table, which is the centre of everything she does while teaching. So, she created a YouTube channel, uploaded her teaching lessons, and started sharing with students. Feedback from parents and students is positive, and Mavis feels much more comfortable. Great way to adjust to the times, Mavis!



## Even Batman Learns Online

We're so happy to know students are embracing this new way of learning. Even Batman (who attends kindergarten at St. Gabriel School) is getting in on it!



## Cookie Delivery

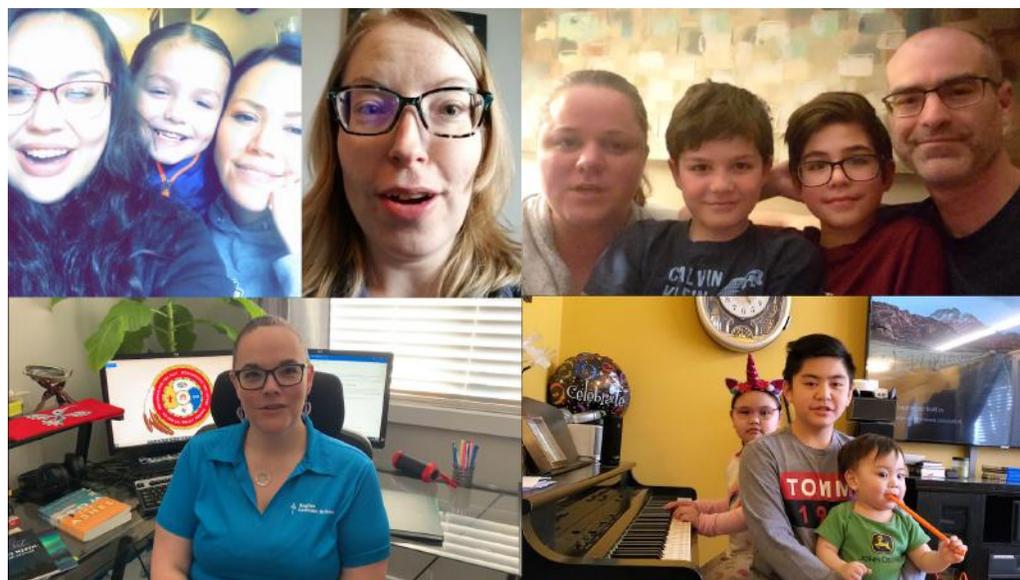
St. Theresa School staff surprised families with a yummy treat! They left all their students a treat bag filled with cookies! The treat was very well received by all families, and was a great way to reconnect without any pressure. Very cool idea, St. Theresa!!!



## A Beautiful Gift

St. Michael Community School had a family gift these beautiful handmade crosses to them when they came to get their food hamper. It was such a wonderful act of generosity & a good reminder that "it is in giving that we receive".





## We Are Regina Catholic Schools

What began as a quick answer for schools to use as a message on signs became a rally cry for the school division. The idea of a common message which shared several messages (schools are closed, we're still delivering learning, and we are always praying) turned into a theme we can lean on during the COVID-19 pandemic.

This theme spilled from signs, into letters, social media posts, and even videos. Thank you for embracing this common message.

## #TakeBackYourYear

Regina Catholic Schools is part of a group of school divisions which collaborated to build a social media campaign to increase engagement in supplementary learning. #TakeBackYourYear is a technology-themed, positive, empowering campaign geared toward secondary students, but applicable to all levels. The primary concept is to hand power of the school year back to students by giving them the opportunity to participate in learning despite the global situation. Please continue to spread the message that though schools are closed, learning doesn't stop.



Take a break from streaming.  
#TakeBackYourYear

Where do you want to go?  
#TakeBackYourYear



Now is the time to charge up your future.  
#TakeBackYourYear



Take back control of your future.  
#TakeBackYourYear

## Virtual Assembly

Sacred Heart Community School Buffalo may not be in the bricks and mortar building, but the school culture continues to grow. Vice-Principal Tricia Erlendson created a [video](#) for their daily assembly. Including our national anthem, Treaty Land Acknowledgement, prayers, and motivation for the day, this is as close as any of us will get to an assembly for a while. It won't continue to be a daily event for Sacred Heart, it will be frequent, and brings even more normalcy to staff and students, and keeps the "Grit to Grad" culture alive.



## We Miss You, Knights!

St. Nicholas School staff put together a little video, reminding their students how much they miss being together. Another sweet video! Click [here](#) to watch.

## Tweets from Pope Francis @Pontifex

"The pandemic reminds us there are no differences or borders between those who suffer. We are all frail, all equal, all precious. May we be profoundly shaken: Now is the time to eliminate inequalities and heal the injustice undermining the health of the entire human family!"

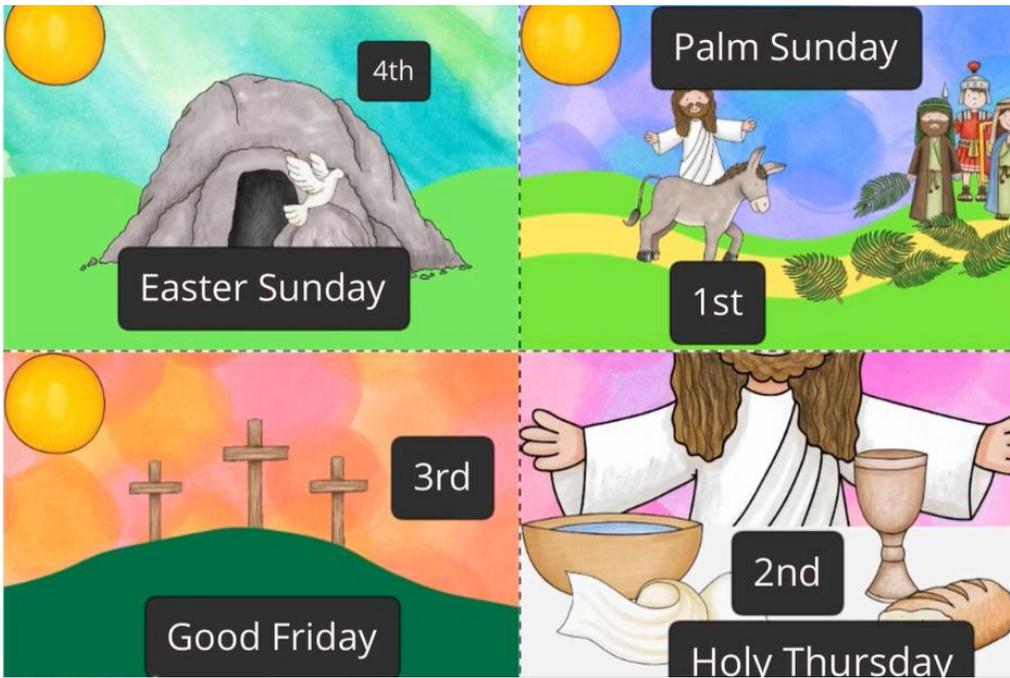
"The Lord frees and heals the heart, if we call on Him with humility and trust."

"Tonight we acquire a fundamental right: the right to hope. It is a new and living hope that comes from God. It is not mere optimism; it is a gift from heaven, which we could not have earned on our own."

"By ourselves, we cannot remove the dust that sullies our hearts. Only Jesus, who knows and loves our heart, can heal it. Lent is a time of healing."

"The tragedy we are experiencing summons us to take seriously the things that are serious, and not to be caught up in those that matter less; to rediscover that life is of no use if not used to serve others. For life is measured by love."

"The Lord waits for us to offer him our failings so that he can help us experience his mercy."



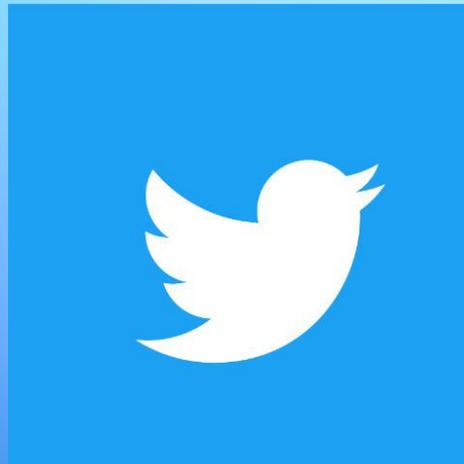
## Luke's Easter Story

St. Gabriel kindergarten student Luke Murray learned a lot about the Easter story. He did a great job relating to the story, and sharing it with his teacher.

Watch his video [here](#).

## Find us on Social Media

Click on the Twitter or the Facebook logos on the right to find Regina Catholic Schools on Social Media.



## Month at a Glance

Monday, May 4 - Public Board Meeting 5:00

Wednesday, May 6 - Feast Day of St. Dominic Savio

Sunday, May 10 - Mothers' Day

Friday, May 15 - TPD/PLC/Staff Meeting Day, No School for Students

Monday, May 18 - Victoria Day Stat

Saturday, May 30 - Feast Day of St. Joan of Arc

Sunday, May 31 - Pentecost Sunday