

Celebrate and Honour

**EICS RETIREES
2020-2021**



**ELK ISLAND
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**

Seeing Christ in Everyone



I was born in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, and received my Bachelor of Education degree from the University of Saskatchewan. I began my teaching career in Humbolt, Saskatchewan in the fall of 1989 as an itinerant resource teacher. After two years, I moved to Edmonton and worked as a substitute teacher with Edmonton Catholic Schools and Sherwood Park Catholic Schools.

In April of 1992, I accepted a position at St. Theresa as a resource teacher. To further develop skills in helping students with learning challenges, I then completed my Master of Education at the University of Alberta in the area of special education. I was able to put these studies into action with further assignments as a resource teacher at St. Luke and Madonna.

I was the Assistant Principal at Holy Redeemer for 4 years and St. Theresa for 5 years before deciding to return to my passion of classroom teaching full-time. After 11 years in grade 4 at Holy Spirit, I accepted the position of Collaborative Response Coordinator at Our Lady of the Angels and St. John XXIII in Fort Saskatchewan. I am currently the Acting Assistant Principal at St. John XXIII in addition to teaching grade 3 literacy and numeracy.

In my free time, I enjoy spending time with my husband Dan exploring the Edmonton river valley trails, golfing, hiking, kayaking, cycling, and hopefully soon, traveling south to escape some of the winter months.

I would like to express her sincere gratitude to the many colleagues who made her 29 years with Elk Island Catholic Schools truly rewarding and memorable. Teaching during a pandemic has been challenging, but it has also offered new opportunities to respond to the best of our ability, in the best interest of our students, finding joy every day.

**RITA
ASTALOSCH**



**RITA
ASTALOSCH**





Marge Hallonquist

I have been a math teacher coordinator with Archbishop Jordan High School since 1980. I was born in Beaverlodge, Alberta, and grew up all over Alberta including Beaverlodge, St. Albert, Edmonton, Oyen, Wide Water/Kinuso, Slave Lake, Tofield and Edmonton. I am the 3rd eldest of a family of 13 kids – most of whom reside in and around Edmonton/Sherwood Park.

I attended the University of Alberta and received my Bachelor of Education with a Math Major, and Social Studies Minor. I am married to Andy and we will celebrate our 25th anniversary this June.

Organizations that I have been a member of include:

- Chair + co-chair of the Edmonton-Japan Committee from 1996 – 2020**
- Member of the Teachers of the Edmonton Region of Mathematics committee**
- Member of the Executive Alberta Advanced Placement Committee since 1985**

Looking forward to retirement I plan on continuing to enjoy hiking, skiing, biking, golfing, and hopefully travelling soon!

I have really enjoyed being part of the EICS family these past 41 years. I have seen so many of my previous students as colleagues now and great to be part of their lives. I have worked with the Grads since 1981 as their Grad Advisor and will miss all the excitement of the graduating classes. During my career, I have almost seen it all from 8 classes a day to 2 Covid classes a day .. technology R US!

**I have learned so much and appreciated all the fun and joy the staff and students of Archbishop Jordan have brought to my life.
Going to miss it all!**



MARGE
HALLONQUIST





I began my journey with EICS in 2002 as a Facilitator with Father Kenneth Kearns School which at the time was a K-8 English and Ukrainian Bilingual school. I grew up the youngest of six children. My father was born in Provost, Alberta, and my mother was born in Lamoureux near Fort Saskatchewan. We spent quite a bit of time on 'the farm' in Lamoureux. My grandmother on my father's side was one of my mentors and instilled in me the desire to teach. She taught in a variety of school districts in Alberta and continued her career as a teacher and substitute teacher till 75 years of age. My father, another mentor, taught me from a young age to embrace diversity. I graduated high school in 1980 and attended the University of Alberta where I obtained an Elementary Generalist degree in 1984.

My first teaching position was for the County of Parkland in a special education program. During that time, I began working my master's in education and moved to New Zealand, where I worked as a teacher, consultant, and administrator in the field of special education. I completed my Master's in Education while living in New Zealand. Upon returning to Canada in 1992, I received an SSHRC scholarship from the Government of Canada to pursue my Ph.D. in Inclusive Education at the University of Alberta.

Prior to joining the EICS family in 2005, I held a variety of positions including lecturer, clinical consultant, and Director of Autism Linkages which is now known as Centre for Autism Services Alberta. I met my husband at the University of Alberta, and we were married in 1988. We moved to Dunedin, New Zealand shortly after we were married. When we returned to Alberta, we started our family. My husband and my two daughters have resided in Sherwood Park since 1992. Hobbies that I enjoy include are all things related to Inclusion, Adult Literacy for All, Digital Photography, Crafting, Nature Walks, and Cycling.



I have been blessed to work for EICS for 20 years. EICS has provided me with many opportunities including working as a Facilitator, Early Learning Teacher, Assistive Technology Consultant, Inclusive Education Consultant, Director of Inclusion, and my current role as Assistant Superintendent of Inclusive Learning Services. I have worked with some amazing Educational Assistants, Consultants, Therapists, School Psychologists, Teachers and Administrators, and of course students and families.

It is because of these amazing individuals that we have been able to achieve a variety of projects including recognition of our use of T.H.E. P.A.C.T. at an international Conference, the opening of our Brighter Beginnings Early Intervention program, establishment of an Assistive Technology Library in the 1990s, launch of a VTRA protocol for our community, the establishment of the Collaborative Response Model, and recently the opening of Flexible Pathways in a variety of our schools. I know that EICS will continue to do what they do best, which I feel is embracing diversity and seeing the unique gifts within each student. I have been proud to work for such an outstanding division!



**SHERRY
MATHESON**

I am currently teaching a Grade One class at Holy Spirit Catholic School. Mr. Frank Bishop offered me an internship at the sum of \$10.00 a day for the months of May and June 1980 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help School and then offered me a full-time teaching position at St. Theresa Catholic School which I began in September 1982 with a Grade Two class.

I am the eldest of three children, born at the original Misericordia Hospital in Edmonton. I grew up on a farm near the small village of Chipman, which my paternal great grandparents homesteaded in the late 1800s after coming from Poland. The combination of rural life and a large family who believed in hard work and devotion to God ensured that I would succeed in whatever I wanted to do. My grandfather could not read or write but 7 of his grandchildren are University graduates.

I started my Bachelor of Education degree at Concordia College, transferred to the University of Alberta, and now have two additional degrees, a Graduate Diploma as a reading specialist and my Masters in Education with a focus in math and science. Over the course of my 41-year teaching career I have taught with Red Deer Catholic, Assiniboine South in Winnipeg, did a one-year teacher exchange to London England, and worked with every superintendent that Sherwood Park Catholic /Elk Island Catholic has had.

I am blessed to be married to my loving husband Duncan and to be the mother of three handsome boys, Adam, Alexander, and Aran. Being the Agency Rep. for EICS for the charitable organization, Dreams Take Flight, has meant that I have been instrumental in giving over 40 deserving students from our school communities the opportunity to make 'magical memories' as they took a one-day whirlwind trip to Disneyland.

I had the pleasure of working with Mr. John Convey in three different schools for a total of 12 years. There has never been a better man to lead a school and to ensure that children and staff are happy.

These last few decades have been dedicated to the positive educational experiences of the students in my care, but if time permits, I enjoy sewing, all manners of crafting, reading, and gardening.

**SHERRY
MATHESON**



**SHERRY
MATHESON**





I have had a career spanning almost 4 decades - 25 plus as a Principal and 9 years as a high school guidance counsellor.

- **Moved from Christ The King High School (STAR Catholic) to Join EICS at John Paul II High school in 2000 as Principal. Stayed 5 years until 2005,**
- **2005 - 2011 Principal of Archbishop Jordan Catholic High School**
- **2011-2012 EICS Central Office**
- **2012 – 2015 Principal of the New Archbishop Jordan Catholic High School.**
- **2015-2017 Principal, Our Lady of the Angels**
- **2017 -2021 Principal, St. Theresa Catholic School**

I grew up in the rural community of Falun Alberta. A small farming community near Pigeon Lake. It was a very active community where sports were a huge part of my life. Being the fastball capital of Alberta and home of Pigeon Lake Regional High School (home of the Playboys and Playmates) I played every sport possible. Summer jobs consisted of teaching swimming lessons at Pigeon Lake and cutting firewood for many of the Cabin owners. While I basically grew up on an outdoor rink, most of the organized hockey I played was 20 miles away in Wetaskiwin. Hockey definitely was a big part of my life leading to college scholarships and providing an opportunity to travel to many parts of the world.



**LORNE
MONAGHAN**

Education/Training:

- **Grade 2 Mrs. Nichols always threw the chalk brush at me.**
- **University of Alberta, Bachelor of Education**
- **San Diego State University- Master's Degree in Educational Leadership and Administration.**

My wife Cherisse and I raised 3 girls here in Sherwood Park. All three girls Cassidy, Keely and Keltie are ABJ Grads and have experienced a great deal of success in Academics, Athletics and the Arts, largely due to their Principal. We have been busy, but very blessed! Cherisse continues to work right here at our Strathcona Community Hospital as a Lab Technologist and loves being part of our community.

Over the years I have been very involved in coaching and giving back to youth and school sports. During the first 16 years of my teaching career I coached a minimum of 2 teams a year, mostly at the high school level for a total near 35 teams. I think of how fortunate I have been to share a special team bond and share in a significant life journey for many young men and women athletes in their high school years.

As life progressed I coached several of my daughter's teams from Hockey to Basketball and Lacrosse. Oh ya ... I also taught Keltie how sing and use a cow bell. I continue to try to keep active and fit and continue to play hockey as an old man, being fortunate to play for team Alberta at the Canada Games in New Brunswick. I plan to continue to play hockey, golf, tennis and cycle as I move into this next chapter of my life.



There are so many people that have had a significant impact on my career in education, that have both encouraged me and walked with me in serving several communities. I often think of the positive impact students and staff have had on me over my 39 years and the possible influence I may have had on them. When I think that the number could be well over 10,000 students and staff that I have had the opportunity to lead and connect with, it seems unbelievable.

The word retirement is a little awkward for me. I would say that I am moving on to new possibilities and adventures in my life which may include new career opportunities, travel, recreation, or much more!

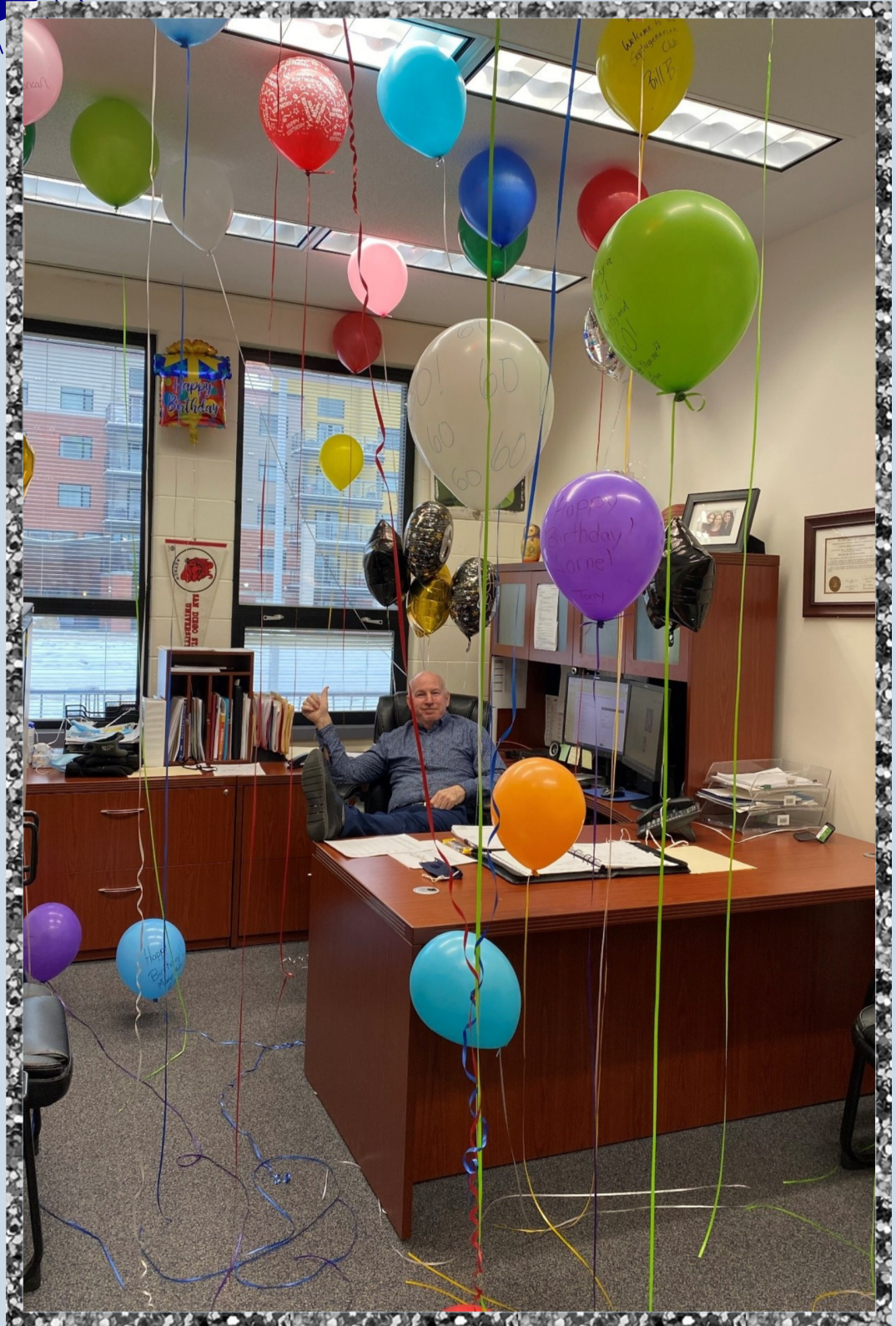
Thanks for sharing this journey with me!

**God Bless,
Lorne Monaghan**

**LORNE
MONAGHAN**



**LORNE
MONAGHAN**





LISA MORIN

When people speak about their dream job - without a doubt, teaching has been mine for 36 years. When it came to making a decision as to what I would do when I grew up? Being a teacher was my only choice. My greatest mentor was my dad. He was an amazing teacher and principal, and I am so proud to follow in his footsteps.

I grew up in the small town of Chipman and attended Chipman Elementary for grades one and two. We then moved to Lamont, where I completed the rest of my school years. Upon graduating high school, I moved to the big city of Edmonton and attended the University of Alberta, and received my B.Ed. degree in 1984. As teaching positions were few and far between, I accepted a position in the Intern Program with EIPS, team-teaching in grades 2 and 3. The following year, I taught in my hometown of Lamont. So exciting for me! My first full-time contract was with Fort Saskatchewan Catholic School Board at Pope John XXIII and it has been my home ever since.

Working at the same school for 34 years is very unique, but I am so grateful. My favourite classroom activity each year was my year-end picnic for my students at my house. My husband cooked and my mom and kids helped to make sure that every student was fed and well looked after. Not a year was missed until Covid. I will always cherish the memories and the amazing people of St. John XXIII.

My husband Tim and I are looking forward to planning out our retirement together. Both of our kids have grown up, married, and live in homes of their own. We look forward to grandchildren someday! We love spending time at our cabin at Bonnie Lake where we enjoy golfing, fishing, reading, relaxing, and going for long walks with our dogs. One day we hope to travel again too. I wish to extend a big thank you to all of the staff and students of EICS for an amazing journey. I am also so very grateful for the friendships that I have made along the way.

I have always said, "Once a part of the St. John family, always a part of the St. John family!" It has been my honour to work with such strong, resilient people.



LISA MORIN





**CATHERINE
MYKYTIUK**

I started my career with EICS in my youngest son's grade 5 class. Though I was excited to be there, I don't think he shared that sentiment. One thing for sure, he never forgot to do his homework.

I am blessed to have worked in all four schools in Fort Saskatchewan. I remember the day the twin towers fell and we had all of the students stand together in the hallways at Pope John XXIII to pray for the victims. We were probably more terrified about what this meant to the world than the students, but we all put on a brave face.

I experienced my first (and thankfully only) lockdown at OLA. My student and I stayed relatively silent, certain it was only a drill. Then the bell rang at the end of the day and the school remained quiet. Boy were we stunned when we looked out the window and saw a ton of anxious parents and police cars.

St. JPll was my next move, and remember my son from grade 5? I was now in his school for his grade 12 year. Lucky for him, I wasn't smart enough to be in any of his classes. In 2012 I was blessed to join a group of students travelling to Anaheim for the Religious Congress. It was truly a life altering trip, and many lasting relationships were formed. In fact, I was honored this year to be a reference for one of those students applying for a career with the Department of National Defence.



**CATHERINE
MYKYTIUK**

2018 saw a move to SAB, the new high school. It is a spectacular campus. We have experienced some strange times recently with remote learning, the first drive-by graduation ceremony, and reacquainting ourselves with students we know but don't recognize because of masks.

Twenty years ago I didn't imagine how fast the time would go. I will miss SAB immensely. We have shared joy, laughter, tears, loss, teasing and disagreements ..just like siblings. You are my family, and I thank you.

I thank all of the people I met along the way for the incredible memories and experiences. And to my fellow retirees, congratulations, and as Confucius said

“Wherever you go, go with all your heart.”

**CATHERINE
MYKYTIUK**





**ANGELA
PRENOSLO**

My first contract was in 2005 at the old St. Theresa. I have had the opportunity to teach in several of the Catholic schools in the district: old St. Theresa, Holy Redeemer, St. Nicholas, and Madonna. I have taught Grades 1, 5, 3, 4, Music, Early Reading Intervention, and most recently has enjoyed the role as school chaplain while teaching grade 4 at Madonna Catholic School. Throughout my career, I have always felt blessed to work in the Catholic Schools. I have connected with many families, students and staff over the years. I have fond memories of the wonderful administrators that I have worked with: Brian Mittelsteadt, John Fraietta, Dave Kornder, Bill Tonita, Michael Smith, Arlene Littlemore and most recently, Karen Antoniuk.

The School, Home, Parish connection has been an integral part of my teaching. A life long friend, Fr. Don Stein, a great supporter of Catholic education has been a true mentor throughout my vocation as a Catholic school teacher. I feel very fortunate to have created many meaningful connections with the parish priests: Fr. Wilf, Fr. Jack, Fr. Jojo, Fr. Sathia, Fr. Joe, Fr Mario, and Fr. Jim. I have participated in several OLPH Parish ministries: Baptism Preparation Classes, Music Ministry, Parish Council Representative, and RCIA. Catholic faith has always permeated my life. I have enjoyed leading many celebrations and retreats with the students and staff of EICS and sharing my love of music.



**ANGELA
PRENOSLO**

I received my Certificate of Faith Formation and Masters in Religious Education from Newman Theological College along the journey. In 2020 I was honored and humbled to receive “The Excellence in Catholic Education” award.

I am looking forward to having more flexibility as my husband and I visit our grown children who are spread out conveniently along Highway 2. We have been blessed this year with 2 precious grandchildren whom we are looking forward to spending more time with. Our family enjoys spending time in the outdoors hiking, biking, golfing, cross country skiing, and most recently, kayaking.

I feel very blessed to teach in the Catholic Schools throughout my career including Wetaskiwin, Leduc, Whitecourt, and Whitehorse. Everyone I have met throughout this incredible journey has become part of the fabric of my life. I am looking forward to retirement and continuing my journey to become the person that God calls me to be.

**ANGELA
PRENOSLO**



**ANGELA
PRENOSLO**



ANGELA PRENOSLO





**CAROL
WEIR**

I started my journey as an Educational Assistant in March 2004 at Madonna Catholic School. My next EA assignment, which lasted fifteen years, was at Holy Spirit Catholic School from its inaugural year in September 2004 to June 2019. I worked with students in all grades and spent some time at the front desk in the main office as well. When Holy Spirit became a K-4 school, I felt best-suited working with the older students so transferred to ABJ for the 2019-2020 school year.

I was born in Nova Scotia and spent my early years in Cape Breton. Our family moved to Ottawa, where I spent my elementary years. I then moved to the Greater Toronto Area to complete High School and went on to post-secondary education.

I received my Advanced Honours Diploma in Musical Theatre from Sheridan College in Oakville. I performed in various musical-theatre productions throughout Toronto and, in fact, Carol was one of the original Canada's Wonderland performers in the live shows when the theme park opened in 1981! My other credentials include Unit Clerk diploma from NAIT, Special Needs Educational Assistant Diploma from Grant MacEwan and Medical Laser Technician Certificate from the Laser Training Academy at the Alberta Dermasurgery Centre.



**CAROL
WEIR**

I met my husband, Scott, at Sheridan College, married, and moved to Alberta in 1989 on a new adventure. The calling to “Go West” did not disappoint. We have been married for 35 incredible years and have an amazing son, Bretton, who is an ABJ 2010 grad!

I have danced and performed with Edmonton School of Ballet in their Adult Tap program for many years as well, enjoy Pilates, and am an avid downhill skier with my family. Paris is my home away from home and I look forward to my next trip to Europe!

Some of the best memories over the years include implementing and facilitating the Talent Shows at Holy Spirit, being part of the production team for the Junior High musical, Alice in Wonderland, the music ministry, and joining Mr. Lemire and the Grade 9 French class on the annual trip to Jasper for many years. Of course, the main highlight was always working with the students and making a difference in their lives!

**CAROL
WEIR**

