



FATHER LEONARD VAN TIGHEM, OMI, SCHOOL

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**HONEST
ACCEPTING
WISE
KIND
SPIRITUAL**

Shannon Collier, Principal
Justin Molas & Cason Machacek, Associate Principals

Jan. 15, 2025

Dear choir parents and guardians,

I am pleased to offer the opportunity to your child to accompany the choirs of Father Leonard Van Tighem and St. Francis Junior High on our spring music retreat to Banff, Alberta. This trip will give the choir students an opportunity to partake in world class musical instruction in an amazing atmosphere. This worthwhile and educational retreat will provide a music experience that I hope will be a highlight of your child's junior high experience. It is also a wonderful opportunity to build community around the arts.

Please make note of the following important details and proposed itinerary for our retreat:

- **Date of Trip:** Monday, March 30 - Wednesday, April 1, 2026
- **Teachers Attending:** Dana Larsen (FLVT) & Chris Hartman (SFJH)
- **Mode of Transportation:** Getaway Charters
- **Retreat Organizer:** Banff Music Retreats
- **Accommodations and Meals:** Arranged by Banff Music Retreats
 - All information regarding accommodations, such as rooming lists, the phone number and address of the hotel, and dietary restrictions and requests will be communicated once our registration and numbers have been finalized.
- **Itinerary:**
 - Please note that this is a proposed itinerary at this point. A personalized schedule will be developed for our group and communicated to you once our registration numbers have been finalized. Based on our trips to Banff in the past, our personalized itinerary should look similar to the schedule below:

Monday, March 30th

9 am	Leave SFJH by bus to Banff
1pm	Arrive at the Hotel in Banff (Hotel will be finalized by Banff Music Retreats)
1:30pm	Choir departs hotel for our first choral clinic
1:45-4:45	Choir – Guest Conductor
4:45pm	Choir returns to hotel on bus
4:45pm	Check into hotel and get settled into rooms
5:30pm	Dinner at hotel
6:45pm	Sulfur Mountain Gondola
10pm	In Rooms

Tuesday, March 31st

"Many Hands Building A Better World"

8am	Breakfast
9-11am	Guest Conductor – Choir
11am	Lunch
12pm-2pm	Guest Conductor – Choir
3pm-4pm	Sight-seeing and shopping time downtown Banff
5:15pm	Dinner downtown Banff
6pm	Walk back to hotel
6:30pm	Evening Activity – Choir Concert
10pm	In Rooms

Wednesday, April 1st

8:15am	Breakfast
9am	Final music workshop
11:30am	Lunch
12pm	Depart Banff

• Safety Rules :

- Students are expected to adhere to the safety rules presented by their teachers and represent themselves in a manner that reflects the high standards of behaviour expected at St. Francis and Father Leonard Van Tighem.

• Dress Code:

- Students may wear their usual ‘school’ clothes while participating in the choir sessions.
- Students will need to bring their black FLVT Fine Arts choir shirts to wear on this trip.
- Students should bring appropriate outdoor clothing and footwear for walking in the mountains.

In the event of an injury or illness, parents will be notified by phone immediately, and emergency services will be contacted if necessary. Should you need to contact the adults during the field trip time, please call Dana Larsen at 403-894-8344 or Chris Hartman at 403-332-3564. The schools can be reached at 403-327-3402 for SFJH, and 403-381-0953 for FLVT.

It is very important that we know if you are wanting your child to go on this trip by signing this permission form and returning it to the school by this Friday, January 24th. Along with completing the online permission form, please include a \$75.00 deposit (cash or cheque) so that we can secure the dates, hotels and activities of our trip. The anticipated price per student to go on this trip is around \$600.00-\$700.00. Once we have confirmed the trip, there will be some fundraising opportunities to offset this cost, taking place on Feb. 4 and Feb. 28. Your deposit will of course be included in your fee. If there is not enough interest and we don't have a minimum of 50 students confirmed, then unfortunately we will be unable to proceed with the trip. Should you have any questions prior to signing, please contact me at school at your convenience.

Once again, I am excited to offer this opportunity to your child. Thank you for your continued support of the fine arts in our schools.

Musically yours,

Dana Larsen

“Many Hands Building A Better World”