

# St. Thomas More Catholic Parish



**Pastor: Fr. Mitchell Fidyka**

**Associate Pastor: Fr. Joy Vadakkan, CFIC**

**Permanent Deacons: Randy Abele, Chris Ashdown**

210 Haddow Close, Edmonton, AB, T6R 2P3

Office: **780.434.6313** Rectory: 780.434.9483, Pastor's Cell: (emergency only) 780.907.7782

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Website: <https://stm.caedm.ca> Email: [webmaster@stmparish.com](mailto:webmaster@stmparish.com)

## WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Mondays	7:00 pm
Tuesday	7:00 pm
Wednesday	9:00 am
Thursday	9:00 am
Friday	9:00 am
Saturday	9:00 am

## WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday	5:00 pm
Sunday	8:30 am
	10:00 am
	12:00 pm
	6:00 pm

## CONFESION

45 minutes before weekday Masses  
Saturday 4:00 pm

## ADORATION

Tuesday 6:00 pm  
1st Fridays 9 am - 3 pm

## PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE FOR INFORMATION ABOUT:

### Pastoral Care

- Sacrament of the Sick: any day at any hour
- Regular pastoral visits can be arranged for the homebound

### Baptism

- See Baptismal brochure in stand or look on website
- Parents & godparents are required to take preparation classes

### Marriages

- Schedule an appointment before you book any other facilities
- An approved pre-marriage course is required
- A minimum of 4 months of notice is required

### First Reconciliation and First Communion

- For baptized children 7 years of age and older
- Preparation classes are required
- See green sacrament brochure for details

### Confirmation

- For those 11 years of age and older who have received the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion
- Preparation classes are required.

### RCIA and RCIA - Adapted for Children (8-15 yrs.)

- For those who wish to learn more about the Catholic faith or who wish to become Catholic.
- Classes start each fall.

## PARISH STAFF:

### PASTORAL STAFF

Family Coordinator:	Monica Bober
Youth Coordinator:	Sara Dmitri
Sacrament Assistant:	Kathleen Eistetter
Sacrament Assistant:	Diane Middleton
Music Coordinator:	Johanna Dietrich
RCIA Coordinator:	Darlene Smigelski
RCIA & Sacrament Asst.	Olivia Dias

### OFFICE STAFF

Business Administrator:	Christopher Snaith
Receptionist:	Shannon Van Soest
Interim Bookkeeper:	Joey Kolinsky
Custodian:	Arthur Connick
Evening Receptionist:	Gideon Boyle

\*To email the staff, please visit the [Contact](#) page of our website for details.

**December 9th, 2018**

## **2nd Sunday of Advent**

### **"Prepare the way of the Lord!"**

This week and next, our Gospel readings invite us to consider John the Baptist and his relationship to Jesus. John the Baptist appears in the tradition of the great prophets: preaching repentance and the forgiveness of sins ...preparing for the way of God's salvation.

John's preaching of the coming of the Lord is a key theme of the Advent Season. As John's message prepared the way for Jesus, we too are called to prepare ourselves for Jesus' coming. We respond to John's message by repentance and reform of our lives. We are also called to be prophets of Christ, who announce (through our words and our actions) the coming of the Lord, as John did.

### **The Annual Advent Mass with Archbishop Richard Smith**

 will be held on Saturday, December 15th at 9:30am at Holy Cross Cemetery and Mausoleum, 14611 Mark Messier Trail.

Featuring: Choir from Annunciation Parish.  
Light refreshments after Mass provided  
by Park Memorial.

### **2019 Sunday Missals**

can be purchased after weekend Masses at the K of C table at the front entrance of the church or from the Parish office.



 **Another friendly reminder:** please do not bring any food or drinks into the church during Masses.

### **Mass Intentions for the Week**

Mon.	Dec. 10	7:00pm	+Mrs. Lenny Gaffney Mrs. Carmel Gaffney and Family
Tues.	Dec. 11	7:00pm	+Elba Rosa Pineda +Jan Nigrin
Wed.	Dec. 12	9:00am  <b>6:30pm Mass</b>	+John McGhee +Paul Abele +Antonio Rafael Marin Rivas <b>(Our Lady of Guadalupe)</b>
Thurs.	Dec. 13	9:00am	+Carl Reimer Fr. Matthew Hysell
Fri.	Dec. 14	9:00am	+Michael Liou Rick & Patricia Stephens
Sat.	Dec. 15	9:00am  5:00pm	+Felipe Rint Jr. +Laurette Hughes Cherrie & Watson Muir +Edward Coady
Sun.	Dec. 16	8:30am 10:00am 12:00pm 6:00pm	+Anjelene Gonsalves +Carl Reimer +Castora Pasion Jude & Joy Gnanapragasam & Family

### **Gaudete Sunday Toy Collection**



The third Sunday of Advent is Gaudete Sunday, the joyful Sunday. To share our joy this day, we will have a collection of toys that will be shared with Sacred Heart inner city parish. Please bring an unwrapped toy for ages 6 months to 12 years on December 16. Perhaps this could become a lesson for your children in giving and sharing, allowing them to choose a toy and placing it at the altar. All toys will be delivered on December 17. If possible, please avoid battery operated toys.

### **Formed.org**

This week our suggestion is something for our children. It is the fascinating story of the boy whose love and care for others makes him one of the most popular figures of all times. Today, more than sixteen centuries later, the entire world celebrates the kindness and generosity of the man we call Santa Claus. Based on historical facts and traditions, **Nicholas: The Boy Who Became Santa**, is the beautifully animated film worth watching at this time of year.

St. Thomas More is accepting donations for **Poinsettias**.

If you wish, the donation can be made *in memory of a loved one*.



The suggested donation is \$20. You can drop off your donation at the parish office or place your donation in the collection basket in an envelope marked "POINSETTIA." *Please print the name clearly, if your donation is in memory of a loved one.*

### **Advent Penitential Service : December 19th 7:00pm**

**Christmas Eve Masses : December 24th**  
4:00pm 6:00pm 8:00pm 10:00pm 12:00am (Midnight)

**Christmas Day Masses : December 25th**  
10:00am 12:00pm (Noon)

**New Year's Eve Mass: December 31st 5:00pm**  
**New Year's Day Masses: January 1st**  
10:00am 12:00pm (Noon)

All bulletin items and announcements should be directed to: [stm.secretary@stmparish.com](mailto:stm.secretary@stmparish.com)  
Deadline: **Tuesday noon**

### **Dec. 2**

#### **Donations**

\$5,130.00

#### **Regular Sunday Collection**

\$18,275.00

#### **TWS (Together We Serve)**

\$7,541.00



**THE GIVING TREE**  
*is a St. Thomas More Advent tradition.*

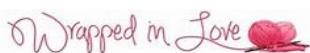
As a parish, we take time to share our good fortune with the women and children of the **Lurana Shelter**, a refuge for those fleeing from family violence. The angels and stars hanging on the Giving Tree have items that are needed by Lurana Shelter (a list of needed items is also posted by the tree). Each family is encouraged to pick an angel or star from the tree and return the **new** item requested during the following weekend of Advent. **Do not wrap any of the gifts.** Giving gift cards is strongly encouraged (suggested maximum amount per card is \$25) and, grocery gift cards purchased from the Knights of Columbus, results in double giving. Gift cards can be placed in the locked box outside the office.



**The Catholic Women's League is coordinating this project and thanks all for their support.**

**Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Do you know someone who would like to be wrapped in God's Love? Consider giving them a prayer shawl. At present there is a good selection for babies, children and adults. Contact the office or Linda 780-988-9229 or Maureen 780-435-4917.



**Parish Sacrament News:**

1st Reconciliation and 1st Holy Communion are offered to children in grade 2. What an exciting year for these young children to celebrate **TWO** sacraments. See the green brochures in your school office or STM parish for details.



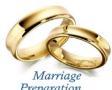
**DROP-IN REGISTRATION.**

**Drop in** to St. Thomas More parish to register your child for the two sacraments.

**Drop-in registration** will occur from 9:00-11:00 a.m. on the **1st Saturday of each month** (Oct. thru Feb.).

Register your child at **the parish on the 1st Saturday of the month**. Please contact Kathleen at the Parish for further details.

**The next Marriage Preparation program at St. Thomas More will take place March 15, 16 and 17, 2019.**



For information email:

[stm.marriagepreparation@gmail.com](mailto:stm.marriagepreparation@gmail.com)

Please indicate your names, wedding date and location when emailing for information.

Other Marriage Preparation programs available: Catholic Engaged Encounter:

<http://ceewest.com/communities/edmonton/>

On-line Marriage Preparation:

<http://caedm.ca/PastoralParishServices/LifeandFamily/MarriagePreparation/MarriagePreparationPrograms/OtherPrograms/OnlineMarriagePreparation>

**Baptism:** Infant to 7 yrs - **Contact:** Diane Middleton 780-434-6313 ext. 233



**Brochure:** For process, requirements, dates offered for preparation etc. please refer to the baptism brochure. You will find it in the stand at the main entrance to the church and at the **Sacraments** link on our website [stm.caedm.ca](http://stm.caedm.ca).

**Photo Albums:** The 2017 and 2018 Baptism photo albums are ready to be assembled. If you had a child baptized in either of these years and did not provide a photo but would still like to then please put it in the drop off box outside the main reception office. It should be in an envelope with the child's first and last name and year of baptism on it.

**Congratulations to the Newly Baptized:** In November, the following children entered into the community of the Trinity through the Sacrament of Baptism:

Paul A. Josiah S. Jackson T. Ethan T. Evan T.  
Keegan T. Xochitl B. Leo D. Adriel L. Arianna T.  
Brianna T. Giorgio R. Jacquelyn B. Rayhem B.  
Evan D. Presley K. Emma K. Jude L.  
and Esomchukwu O.

*Please remember our new little brothers and sisters in your prayers.*

**S.S.V.P. FOOD PANTRY REQUEST:**



Our pantry is in need of the following items:  
Canned ham, Cookies, Jam, Toilet paper,  
Shampoo & Conditioner and Rice (2lbs pkgs).

*Your assistance is greatly appreciated.*

**SOCIETY OF SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL**

Our conference responded to 55 calls for assistance during the month of November – one of the highest numbers seen in recent years. This may be related to general economic challenges being experienced throughout Alberta. One recent

call is from a mother with two children (5 and 1) who fled her home in Slave Lake to enter a shelter in Edmonton. As she leaves the shelter for her own apartment she requires assistance with everything – food, furniture, bus tickets, etc. Please pray that she and her children will experience a better future and help us, through your donations, meet her immediate material needs and provide her with some hope for the future.

*If you or someone you know needs help or wishes to donate furniture or household goods, please give us a call at 780-471-5577 or visit us at - [www.ssvpedmonton.ca](http://www.ssvpedmonton.ca).*



If you want to learn more about SSVP or get involved with the Divine Mercy Conference please come to our next meeting being held in the Chapter Room on Wednesday, January 2, 2019 at 7pm.



## *Keep Christ in Christmas' Poster and Nativity Scene Making Contest Year 2!*

The Knights of Columbus, Fr. Bonner Council is inviting families and children of St. Thomas More participate in the organization's international "Keep Christ in Christmas" campaign. There are two main contests -poster making and Nativity Scene making.

### **Poster Contest**

The poster contest is open to youth ages 5-14. Poster entries with approximate size of 11-inch X 17 inch (using any color, charcoal, chalk, pastel) can be submitted to the St. Thomas More Church youth office or Knights of Columbus grocery card desk.

***The winning entries will serve as the basis for a series of new Christmas posters that encourage a deeper understanding of the holiday.***

### **Our Lady of Guadalupe**

This Wednesday, December 12th we celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. After the evening Mass (6:30pm) we will enjoy the movie called: *The Miracle and the Message*.

***Please come and honour Our Lady, Mother & Evangelizer of the Americas.***



### **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**

Please sign-up to serve as an EMHC throughout the Christmas season from December 23, 2018 to January 6, 2019. The sign-up sheets are located just outside the Vesting Sacristy on the east side of the church.



If you will be away anytime between January 12 and April 7, please let Sharon know so that she doesn't schedule you by sending an email to [srvpisesky@gmail.com](mailto:srvpisesky@gmail.com).

### **THE STM PARISH GROCERY CARD PROGRAM**



**Members of the Knights of Columbus sell Safeway, Superstore, Sobeys, Save-On, Tim Hortons \$25, and Boston Pizza \$50 cards**

before and after all Sunday morning Masses, and also on the first and third Saturday of each month.

***Please take the time to support the program regularly.***

***We thank all parishioners who participated in the Parish Directory program.***

Online registrations and after-mass sign-ups are no longer available.

**To change, cancel or register your appointment, please contact Rose Lorenz at (780) 988-5634 / [rmlorenz@telus.net](mailto:rmlorenz@telus.net).**



**St Thomas More Council of the Catholic Women's League** will be holding a **membership drive on the weekend of December 8<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>** after all the Masses. **All Women of the Parish** are invited to stop by our display to discuss or register for membership.

**For more information please contact Organization Chairperson Pam De Luca at 780-434-1034**

### **Nativity Scene Making Contest**

Get together with your family and create an original nativity scene (i.e., not store bought) or other creative visual display around the concept of 'Keeping Christ in Christmas'. The only rule is that your creation must fit within a 24" x 24" footprint base - otherwise you are limited only by your creativity (and craftiness)!!!



The detailed rules will be available at <http://www.kofc7599.org/home> and Knights of Columbus Notice Board. You can also contact Tony Joseph at 780-399-8250 [josephktony@gmail.com](mailto:josephktony@gmail.com) or Glenn Elle [gellewfg@gmail.com](mailto:gellewfg@gmail.com) for more details.

**Attractive cash awards and certificates will be given to the winners and all participants will be given a certificate.**



The Catholic Women's League and the Knights of Columbus will be hosting the **2018 Seniors Christmas Dinner and Dance** on Saturday, December 15th after the 5pm Mass in the Parish hall. Tickets are \$25 dollars each and can be purchased this weekend at the entrance of the Church.

**For more information, please contact Blaine Benson ([threebensons@gmail.com](mailto:threebensons@gmail.com)) or Al Girard ([algirard@telus.net](mailto:algirard@telus.net)) with the Knights of Columbus.**

### **REMAND CENTRE CHRISTMAS BAG PROJECT: WILL YOU PLEASE HELP US?**



**3000 Chocolate Bars & Bookmarks NEEDED by December 16th!**

St. Thomas More Parish is once again asking all parishioners to kindly donate chocolate bars (100 grams or less) and pick up blank bookmarks to write and/or draw encouraging words/picture for our inmates at the Remand Centre. This project supports the men and women being held awaiting trial. Chocolate bar drop off and Bookmark pick up and drop off is located next to Family Coordinator's office.

**JUST A REMINDER NOT** to place any stickers or ribbons (including gel pens & glitter) on the bookmarks!

For more information, call Donna at 780-803-0121.

***We greatly appreciate your support!***