

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

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

CONFESSION

1 hour before all morning & evening weekday Masses

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.*





First Sunday of Lent

March 10, 2019



“Man does not live by bread alone.”

The temptation story is a private moment in the otherwise very public life of Jesus. Away from the crowds, He has gone into the desert for one of the greatest spiritual struggles of His life. He will not battle for the life of His mission this way again until the final hour in Gethsemane. He has to lay down his will and take up the will of His Father. Even for Jesus, this is not easy.

Jesus spent forty days in the desert, fasting and praying. In Luke, the devil presents three temptations to Jesus. The devil tempts Jesus to use His power to appease His hunger, he offers Jesus all the kingdoms of the world if Jesus will worship him, and he tempts Jesus to put God’s promise of protection to the test. In each case, Jesus resists, citing words from the Scripture to rebuke the devil’s temptation.

The Gospel highlights for us one of the central themes of the Season of Lent. We are dependent upon God for all that we have and all that we are. We are called to adopt the same confidence that Jesus had in the face of temptation, fear and anguish:

God’s love is steadfast; God’s promise of protection can be trusted.

Stations of the Cross

*Every Friday during Lent at 7:00 pm,
followed by the evening Mass*

Here are six reasons from our Holy Father as to why we should pray the Stations of the Cross:

- + they allow us to place our trust in Him;
- + they put us into “the Story”;
- + they remind us that Jesus suffers with us:
- + they compel us to action:
- + they give us the certainty of God’s love for us:
- + they guide us from the Cross to the Resurrection!



Lenten reflection materials

Resources are available at the entrance of the church, which will provide individuals, families and children with daily reflections, prayers and actions during the holy season of Lent.

Please take one and leave a small donation in the offering box.

Celebrating Anniversaries: Pope Francis asked us to celebrate anniversaries. If you have an anniversary in March or April, please contact the office so we can acknowledge you and celebrate with you!

Formed.org

Especially during Lent, we encourage you to pray the Stations of the Cross. The Stations of the Cross is a devotion and reflection in which we walk alongside Jesus on His way to Calvary. By prayerfully participating in this meditation, we are able to see clearly in His passion and death the depths of God's love for mankind and the price He paid for our salvation. Our suggestion for you this week is *Meditations on the Stations of the Cross* by Dr. R Thomas.

Our code to register for this service is **TBQYW9**.



Mass Intentions



| | | | |
|--------|--------|--|--|
| Mon. | Mar.11 | 7:00pm | +Stephanie Sprysak +Katherine Pisesky |
| Tues. | Mar.12 | 7:00pm | +Rose Stasuk +Janice McCormick |
| Wed. | Mar.13 | 9:00am | Thanksgiving to St. Anne for favours received Thanksgiving to St. Rita for favours received |
| Thurs. | Mar.14 | 9:00am | Thanksgiving to St. Anne for favours received +Garth Billington |
| Fri. | Mar.15 | 9:00am 7:00pm | +Melecio de Castro +Leo Blackburn +Lina A. Ella & +Ely D. Ella |
| Sat. | Mar.16 | 9:00am 5:00pm | Edwin Moorthie +Juan Carlos Morales +Julieta Serofia +Democrito Bacos Sr. |
| Sun. | Mar.17 | 8:30am 10:00am 12:00pm 6:00pm | +Paul Vanderelst All STM Cantors All Engaged Couples +Joe Walchuk +John McGhee |

All bulletin items and announcements should be directed to:
stm.secretary@stmprish.com Deadline: **Tuesday noon**

Next Sunday Readings:

Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18, Psalm 27,
Philippians 3:17-4:1, Luke 9:28b-36

Next Sunday Hymns:

BB 125 *Led by the Spirit*,
BB 126 *Beyond the Days*,
BB 665 *Loving and Forgiving*, CBW 365 *Jesus, Lord*,
CBW 367 *O Lord Throughout These Forty Days*

Our Offerings: Mar. 3

Regular Sunday Collection: \$15,324.00
Together We Serve: \$3,945.00

Novena to St. Joseph



The Knights of Columbus would like to invite all parishioners to participate in a special novena to St. Joseph, which is to begin on **Monday, March 11th and end on Tuesday, March 19th - the Solemnity of St. Joseph**. Copies of the novena can be obtained at the back of the church this weekend from the Knights of Columbus or can be downloaded from the parish website. You can also participate via email by signing up online through the parish website.

O Most Chaste Heart of St. Joseph - intercede for us!

Prayers for the Sick

We care about the sick and suffering in our parish and pray for them daily. These prayers are included in the intentions of the rosary that we pray before the Eucharist.

We pray for:

Gwen Leibel



May they receive the peace & healing of the Lord

Culture of Life Ministry

General Membership Meeting

*Monday, March 11, (7:30-9:00pm) after
7:00pm Holy Mass (6:40pm Holy Rosary)*

For further information please email prolifestm@gmail.com



Liturgical Schedule for Lent

Way of the Cross and Mass, Fridays throughout Lent -
March 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5, 12, at 7 PM.

Archdiocesan Day of Confession: March 12, 9AM - 9PM

Parish Lenten Mission: March 23 – 28, at weekend
Masses, and 7 PM during the weekdays.

Facilitated by: Fr. John Paul Ouellette, CFR

and by: Fr. Xavier Mariae Meiergerd, CFR

Parish Penitential Service: (part of the Mission),
March 28, at 7 PM.

Palm Sunday Masses: April 13, at 5 PM
April 14, at 8 AM, 10 AM, 12 Noon, 5 PM

Holy Thursday Mass: April 18, at 7 PM

Good Friday: April 19, at 9 AM, 12 Noon, 3 PM

Holy Saturday Basket Blessing: April 20, at 12 Noon

Easter Vigil: April 20, at 9 PM

Easter Sunday: 8 AM, 10 AM, 12 Noon, 5 PM

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS)

at St. Thomas More Parish

is coming **July 8-12, 2019**

for children ages **5 – 10 years (\$50)**

and

youth 11 – 14 years (\$50) for the

Captains Leadership Program (NEW - all day).



Registration Drop In dates

for VBS will be held on:

Monday, April 29, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Saturday and Sunday, May 25/26
following all masses

Thursday, June 6, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

SAVE THE DATES!!!

Family Movie Night: **JOSEPH OF NAZARETH**

St. Thomas More Parish Hall

SATURDAY, March 23, 2019 at 6:30 pm

SATURDAY MOVIE NIGHT

Popcorn and drinks provided/Free will offering

The first feature film ever on the story of St. Joseph, who was a carpenter, the husband of Mary, and the foster father of Jesus Christ. Scripture tells us that St. Joseph was a "just man" and that God gave him the most daunting task ever asked of a man—to be the husband of the woman who would give birth to the Messiah and the father and protector of this Holy Family. He would be the man closest to Christ.

1 hr. 47 mins. / NR / 4/5 stars

Society of St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry Request

Our pantry is in need of the following items:

Shampoo, Coffee, Cookies & Hand Soap.

Your assistance is greatly appreciated.



SOCIETY OF SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

At the end of February we received a call for assistance from a single Dad, who has a 2-1/2 year old daughter.



Right now they have nothing. He is requesting food, bus tickets, and small items to get by. He will be registering at the Food Bank.

If you wish to make a donation to help one of our needy families, or if you have furniture or household items that you no longer need, please call **780-471-5577**. If you know of someone who needs help or want to learn more about SSVP please visit our website at www.ssvpedmonton.ca

You are welcome to attend our monthly meetings at STM Parish—Chapter Room—7:30pm on the first Tuesday of each month, after 7:00pm Mass.

Refugee Committee Update

St. Thomas More Parish welcomed its most recent family on Feb. 14th. The family is from Iraq, but has spent the last five years in Lebanon waiting for permission to come to Canada. You may have met them at February's pancake breakfast or the pasta dinner.

The family consists of mother, father, two sons, aged 5 and 8, the father's sister and soon to arrive, the father's parents. The boys are settled into school and despite the snow and cold, are enjoying playing in the outdoors! Both parents are professional pharmacists.

Many thanks to our parish for the overwhelming response to the request for furniture and household items. In the past parishioners kindly donated older surplus vehicles. If you have, or know of someone who has such a vehicle to donate, it would be greatly appreciated. Because of the size of the family, a van or similar vehicle would be most useful.

Please contact Eric Green at 780-953-3435. Thank-you!

The Knights of Columbus would like to remind you that we are into the last two weekends of this year's Charities Appeal raffle. Tickets are available from the Knights of Columbus at the entrance to the church. All proceeds from the Charities Appeal raffle returned to Father Bonner Council go to support local organizations such as Lurana Shelter, Alberta Special Olympics and Habitat for Humanity Edmonton.

The Knights would like to thank the parishioners of St. Thomas More for their generous support!

Baptism - Infants & children to 7 years of age.

Preparation: There is still room in the next Baptism Preparation Class on **Monday, March 18 (7 - 9pm)**.

This class is a requirement for parents and godparents and can be completed before the child arrives or is registered for baptism.

Godparents? Lent is a great time to prayerfully & carefully consider who your child's godparent(s) should be. Being a godparent is more than a social honour. At the baptism, the godparents make promises to God, the child and the community to support the parents in raising the child within the Catholic faith, which comes to us directly from Jesus Christ through Apostolic succession. This is why the godparent(s) needs to have received the Sacrament of Confirmation, be actively practicing their faith by attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days, regular reception of the Sacraments of Eucharist & Reconciliation and is leading a life in harmony with the Catholic Faith (including Marriage).

Please call Diane 780-434-6313 ext. 233 to sign up for the class & or to arrange a baptism. For additional information regarding baptism, refer to the brochure in the stand at the main entrance or on the parish website.



RCIA/ RCIA-C Rite of Sending/Rite of Election:

We have celebrated the *Rite of Calling Candidates to Lenten Renewal* on March 3 at the 10am Mass, and will be celebrating the *Rite of Sending* on March 9 at the 5pm Mass and the *Rite of Election* at *St. Joseph's Basilica* for all those adults and children who have been on a Catholic journey of faith. Please pray for:

Cherry A., Danny L., Greg N., Jerica P.,
Nelly W., Divina R., who are **Baptized Catholics**
seeking Catechesis, Holy Eucharist and Confirmation.

Jade N., Lorraine N., William S.,
Jessica T. & Uchenna O.,
who have been **Baptized in other Christian denominations.**

Jessica K., Sara M., Joy M., Atinuke A., Bryan F.,
Josh H., Shawn J., Alexandra M., Tatjana N.,
John P., Ethan P. & Lucas S.,
who are our **Catechumens** seeking Baptism.



Solemnity of St. Joseph

Please join us to mark the Solemnity of St. Joseph on **Tuesday March 19th**. Adoration will start at 6 pm, followed by the rosary at 6:30 pm and Mass at 7 pm. Following mass the K of C will be providing light refreshments and hosting a screening of "God's Doorkeeper", which tells the story of Br. André Bessette of Montreal - the first male Canadian-born saint and example of someone who had a powerful devotion to St. Joseph.

Please join us for this special evening to honour the patron of unborn children, fathers, immigrants, workers, the unemployed, travellers, and our nation of Canada.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE.

The *Culture of Life Ministry* at St. Thomas More invites you to participate in 40 Days for Life this lent by praying, fasting, and keeping vigil for an end to abortion. Participation is encouraged throughout lent from Mar. 6th - Apr. 14th.

You are invited to stand and peacefully pray during the 40-day vigil in the public right-of-way near: Woman's Health Options abortion centre, 12409 109A Ave., Edmonton.

For more information and a map of the 50 meter access zone visit:

<https://40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/edmonton/>

<https://www.facebook.com/40DaysForLifeEdmonton/>

If you'd like more information - and especially if you'd like to volunteer to help, please contact:

Edmonton ProLife: info@edmontonprolife.org

or call 780-425-1637