

St. Thomas More Catholic Parish

210 Haddow Close, Edmonton, AB, T6R 2P3

Office: 780-434-6313

1st Sunday of Lent February 26, 2023

Pastor: Fr. Mark McGee

Permanent Deacons: Randy Abele, Tom Sudsbear, Gordon Taylor

Office Hours: Tues.-Thurs. 9 AM-9 PM, Fri. 8 AM-4 PM, Sat. 8:30AM-2 PM, Sun. 1 PM-4:30PM

Website: stm.caedm.ca

Email: communications.stm@caedm.ca



WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday 5:00 PM
Sunday 8:00 AM
10:00 AM
12:00 PM
5:00 PM

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Monday 9:00 AM
Tuesday 5:00 PM
Wednesday 9:00 AM
Thursday 5:00 PM
Friday 9:00 AM
Saturday 9 AM on 1st Saturdays of the month only

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

Mon after 9AM Mass during Adoration; 1 hour before Mass Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri; Sat 3:30-4:30PM **All confessions end 10 minutes before Mass.**

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday 9:30 AM -12:30 PM and First Fridays 9:30 AM-3:00 PM

PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE FOR INFORMATION ABOUT:

Baptism

- Baptism for infants and children under 7 are celebrated at liturgies throughout the year, twice a month on Sunday afternoons (except during Advent and Lent)
- Parents & godparents are required to take preparation classes (unless previously completed in the last 4 years)
- Email baptism.stm@caedm.ca for forms and schedules.

First Reconciliation and First Communion

- For baptized children 7 years of age and older
- Preparation classes are required
- Registration for the second cycle for the 2022-2023 school year is now closed. Please check back in the fall for the 2023-2024 dates.

RCIA and RCIC (Adapted for Children 7-15 yrs.)

- For those who wish to learn more about the Catholic faith or who wish to become Catholic
- Please inquire at the parish office for more information

Confirmation

- For those in grades 6-12, 11 years (& older) by Confirmation date
- Information about the 2023 program will be available in August

Marriages

- Contact the office to schedule an appointment as an important first step
- An approved Catholic pre-marriage course is required (stm.marriagepreparation@gmail.com)
- A minimum of 6 months of notice is required
- Married civilly: Complete the Sacrament of Marriage through convalidation

Pastoral Care

- Sacrament of the Sick: by appointment
- Regular pastoral visits can be arranged for the home-bound

PARISH STAFF:

Pastoral Assistant: Julie Lee
Pastoral Assistant: Tracy Lam
Liturgy & Music Coordinator: Johanna Dietrich

Business Coordinator: Paul Givens
Maintenance/Custodial: Mark Whaley
Admin Assistants: Emilie Spak, Lorraine Kasha, Elaine Ho

Reflection by Deacon Tom

Prayers and Fasting (Matthew 4:1-11)

There are many lessons to be learned from the temptations of Jesus.

First, if Jesus, who was God, permitted Satan to tempt him, we cannot expect to be immune from temptation.

Second, we learn from Jesus the way to overcome temptation. He did not have to go into the desert and fast for forty days, yet he did fast to teach us the necessity of practicing fasting (self-denial). Fasting reminds us of our own mortality, making our prayers much more real and genuine because they are made with both the body and the mind.

Instead of “giving up” things such as chocolate or coffee, we should pray an extra chaplet, visit a shut-in, devote more time to spiritual reading, or some other such activity—or if we feel an obligation to “fast”, let it be from vices such as unkindness or social media (i.e. Facebook).

Meaningful, sincere, and authentic Lenten observance makes Easter that much more of a celebration. When Lent is over, it is time for glory, and we consume the good things we have gone without. They are a reminder of the glory that Christ has purchased for us and that awaits us in the next life.

The Church takes the observance of fasting seriously and no one appreciates a feast like the Church. For 2,000 years, she has been preparing for one. “Blessed is the one who will dine in the kingdom of God” (Luke 14:15).

May God bless us all in our Lenten observances.

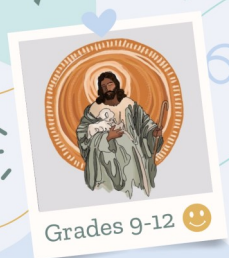
The **Knights of Columbus** are excited to host the Pancake Breakfast this **Sunday, February 26 after the 8am and 10am Masses** in the parish hall. Rekindle connections with your fellow parishioners while enjoying pancakes with all the fixings.



We extend to Pat Choma a wholehearted **THANK YOU** for her many years of work coordinating the funeral lunches for this parish. She has demonstrated true leadership and compassion in her time running this ministry. Pat has put her time and effort into the succession of this work. She retires from this ministry in the coming month. Moreover, thanks also to those who have responded to the invitation to continue providing this service to those we help in their time of need.



St. Thomas More Youth Group



The St. Thomas More high school youth group is gathering this **Sunday, February 26th, from 6-8pm.**

We have fun games planned for the night, as well as snacks, and fellowship afterwards. All students in Grades 9-12 are invited to attend. Feel free to bring anyone you think might enjoy!

WYD Spaghetti Supper & Silent Auction

Our parish **World Youth Day (WYD)** committee, with the support of the Knights of Columbus, will host a Spaghetti Supper and Silent Auction on **Saturday, May 6, 2023.** At this time, we are **inviting parishioners to provide Silent Auction items** (suggested min. value of \$50). For more info, please call **Wally** (Silent Auction coordinator) at **780-988-8719** or **Julie** (WYD coordinator) at **780-434-6313.**



The **Society of St Vincent de Paul** is a lay Catholic organization whose mission is to live the Gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice and joy. We respond to calls for help and assistance. Volunteers are needed in various areas. To volunteer or learn more, call Maria at 780 893 8419 or email: mariakssvp@gmail.com



The Society of St. Vincent de Paul's Pantry in our parish is also in need of the following items:

Coffee (small size), jam, Cheez Whiz, canned fruit, rice, canned salmon, dish soap

Please drop off your donations at the church. Thank you for your continued support to ensure that our friends in need continue to get the help they require.

Featured Ministries for February

The Featured Ministries for February are some of the more “Behind the Scenes” ministries. Please stop by Featured Ministries table at the back of the church to learn about the **Counting Ministry, Funeral Lunch Ministry and the Dust Angels.**

Mother Teresa - No Greater Love 2022 Movie

March 11th at 6:00 PM

Produced by Knights of Columbus and provided by St. Thomas More World Youth Day Pilgrims

To enter deeper into Lent, watch a movie about St. Teresa and practice love! The movie is **free** for all parishioners. Popcorn & drinks will be available for donations.





Together We Serve Update

Our parish achieved the **Most Dollars Raised by a Large Parish** (>2,000 families):
\$147,281 (98% of our 2022 goal). Well done!

The **2023 TWS target** is also **\$150,000**, and the campaign kicks off March 1, with donation envelopes for people who use them available in their boxes of envelopes. For those using pre-authorized donations, and who have chosen to support TWS, their annual TWS withdrawal will happen on March 1 as usual for St. Thomas More.

Thank you for your charitable support of this program, which funds so many social justice initiatives in the Edmonton region, including Catholic Social Services, St. Joseph Seminary, Newman Theological College, and St. Joseph's Priests' Foundation.



Way of the Cross (except for Good Friday) All Fridays of Lent at 7:00 PM

Friday 03 March
Friday 10 March
Friday 17 March
Friday 24 March
Friday 31 March

Confirmation Candidates
Knights of Columbus
Legion of Mary
Catholic Women's League
World Youth Day Pilgrims

Lenten Penitential Service St. Thomas More

Wednesday, March 8th
7:00 PM

Several priests will be available to hear confessions. No confessions will be available



ADORATION FOR LIFE Wednesday, March 1

Adoration 6 pm, Mass 7 pm

St. John the Evangelist Parish,
9830 148 Street, Edmonton

SAVING LIVES, ONE PRAYER AT A TIME!

"Grief as a Journey: Our Walk to Emmaus"

This program is from the Archdiocese of Edmonton and is for those who are grieving the death of a loved one. The format is a weekly seminar/support group for those who are trying to cope with the troubling effects of grief. In this faith-based program, you will learn valuable information that will help you heal in this difficult time in your life. You will be together with others who are able to empathize with how you feel in the pain of your loss. We are commencing the meetings at St. Thomas More parish, in the St. Marguerite Room (Library) on **Tuesday, March 14, 2023, at 7:00 pm**. Please contact Deacon Randy or Roseanne Abele at (780) 435-5070 or (780) 493-1972 or by email: Randy.abele@caedm.ca for more information.

VIGIL FOR UKRAINE

A DAY OF SOLIDARITY TO MARK THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE RUSSIAN INVASION OF UKRAINE, HONOUR THE RESILIENCE AND HEROISM OF UKRAINIANS AND PRAY FOR PEACE.

**WEDNESDAY,
MARCH 1, 2023**
ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE - U OF A CAMPUS

11 AM: Prayer Service for Peace (Molebny)
11:45 AM: Ukraine, her neighbours, and her adversaries:
A Conversation with Professor Oleksandr Melnyk
1 PM: Writings from the War, lecture by Alex Averbuch
2 PM: Rewriting history by Rewriting landscapes: Soviet
distortion of Crimean Tatar toponyms,
lecture by Oleksandra Kushnir
4 PM: The 2014 Maidan as a Student Spirit(ual) Protest,
discussion with Rev. Yossafat Khaimyk, OSBM
5 PM: Free Supper (Borshch and Perogies) with
testimonials from Ukrainian students

**6PM: CANDLELIGHT VIGIL
FOR VICTIMS OF THE
INVASION (PANAKHYDA)**

Ukrainian Catholic
Parish of Edmonton

Українська Католицька
Парафія Едмонтону

USS

St. John's
centre

CANADIAN INSTITUTE OF
UKRAINIAN STUDIES

SJC

Confirmation for Baptized Catechized Adults

The adult confirmation process is an opportunity for baptized, catechized Catholics who have not had the opportunity to receive the sacrament of confirmation to complete their **full initiation into the Catholic Church**. This process provides adult candidates a moment to deepen their faith, ask questions about our faith, and further enter into the graces God offers to us through the sacraments. Two special catechesis workshops are being planned for **April 18th and 25th**. Please call the office for details.

Youth Altar Servers Needed

We are recruiting boys and girls who have had their First Holy Communion to serve at the altar. We are in need of servers for Sunday 8am, 12 noon, and 5pm Masses. If you are interested, please contact the altar server coordinator Greg Nelson (altarservers@live.ca or 780-231-7129) for more information.

There will be a retreat for altar servers on Saturday, March 4.



Marriage Preparation

Suitable for couples who have convalidations, second marriages, later marriages, or common-law. If you are seeking to receive the Sacrament of Marriage, please call the office (780-434-6313) for eligibility. We're here to support you on a case-by-case basis to help complete what is already begun.



World Day of Prayer

March 3, 2023 1:30 pm

Dayspring Presbyterian Church

11445 - 40 Ave. NW

Edmonton, AB

I Have Heard About Your Faith

Join us for an ecumenical prayer service that invites us to enrich our faith experience with the experience of Christians from other countries and bring hope to women touched by injustice.

SPIRITUAL LIFE AND WORSHIP MINISTRIES

Lenten Penitential Services Around the Archdiocese

Assumption Parish	Wed, March 22	7:00 PM
Holy Family Parish	Thurs, March 23	TBD
St. Matthew Parish	Wed, March 29	7:00 PM
St. Agnes Parish	Thurs, March 30	6:30 PM
St. Joseph's Basilica	Sat, April 1	1:00 PM



Women's Lenten Retreat On Christ's Encounter with the Samaritan Woman

Saturday, March 11
10:00am – Noon

Retreat materials and refreshments will be provided. For more information, contact Brenda (780-490-8692).

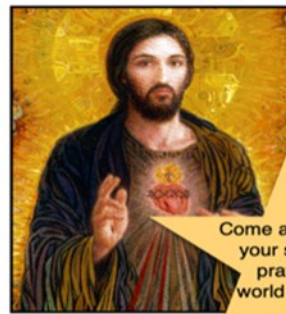


Growth in the Spirit Prayer Group/ Catholic Renewal Services

The next Growth in the Spirit Prayer Group Meeting is on Wednesday, March 8, at 6:30 PM, St. John Paul II Room.

A Revival Gathering led by Fr. Matthew Hysell will be held March 3 @ 7 PM at St. Emeric's Hungarian Catholic Church 12960 112 Street, Edmonton.

The next *First Friday* & *First Saturday* are March 3 & 4



Friday, March 3
Devotion to the
Sacred Heart of Jesus. Mass
9am, Adoration of the Blessed
Sacrament until Benediction at
3pm. Come anytime. Stay for
as long as you wish.



Saturday, March 4
Devotion to the Immaculate
Heart of Mary
Rosary 8:30am. Mass 9am.
9:45am Teaching on The An-
unciation. All are welcome.

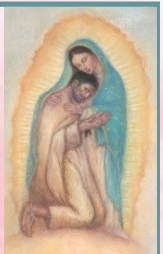


Come and refresh
your soul and
pray for a
world in need.

FAMILIES OF NAZARETH MOVEMENT

IN THE ARMS OF MARY FOUNDATION

This Spirituality group seeks to live life in communion with Christ through Mary. We seek to serve Holy Mother Church through humble means. We look to such Saints as St. Therese of Lisieux - St. John of God - Maximillian Kolbe - St. Therese of Avila. We meet weekly (**Wednesdays 7-8 pm**) at STM. We share different experiences of our faith and to discover God's presence in our lives. For further information please contact Heather Reimer - 780-430-9745 or ewrhir@telus.net, or see inthearmsofmary.org



Coffee, Kids, and Catholic Moms

We meet the **2nd and 4th Wednesdays** of the month at **9:15-11:00 am in the St. John Paul II room**. We are currently reflecting on the Beatitudes. If you have any questions, contact Steph at sunshine.schulte@gmail.com

The Silver Rose Program

Wednesday, March 15th
Pray the Rosary for victims of abortion



Photo Credit: KofC.org

"The Silver Rose program is a rosary-centered occasion for Knights, parishioners and community members to pray for respect for life, for the spiritual renewal of each nation" (Canada, the U.S. and Mexico), and for the advancement of the message of Our Lady of Guadalupe."

"From early March through mid-December, Silver Roses are stewarded by Knights of Columbus councils along routes from Canada to Mexico." - KofC.org The Silver Rose arrives at St. Thomas More on **Wednesday, March 15. Please join us to participate in this special Rosary prayer service.**



flocknote

Join St. Thomas More on
Flocknote!

You will receive weekly bulletins and other timely communications from the parish electronically. There are 3 options for joining:

1. Go to this URL: stmedmonton.flocknote.com
2. Scan this QR code:
3. Or contact the office so we can add you as a member.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

For all who are suffering with ill health, that they may experience the loving kindness of the Lord, especially Gordon Heddleston, Lucy Longo, and Arnold MacNeil.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO RECENTLY DIED

For all of our departed brothers and sisters, that they be reunited in God's kingdom, especially Pierrette (Pat) Bouchard, Theresa Gorsak and Fr. Mitch.

