



# ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PARISH

210 Haddow Close, Edmonton, AB T6R 2P3 Office: 780-434-6313 Website: [stm.caedm.ca](http://stm.caedm.ca)

Pastor: Fr. Mark McGee

Associate Pastor: Fr. Avinash Francis

Permanent Deacons: Randy Abele, Tom Sudsbear, Gordon Taylor



## WEEKDAY LITURGIES, (MARCH 11– 15)



Mon: Rosary 8:30am/Mass 9am

(Adoration ff. Benedict. 12 noon)

Tue: Rosary 4:30pm/Mass 5 pm

Wed: Rosary 8:30am/Mass 9 am

Thu: Rosary 4:30pm/Mass 5 pm

Fri: Rosary 8:30am/Mass 9 am



Stations of the Cross: 7pm

## SUNDAY MASS TIMES (MARCH 16/17)

Sat, Mar 16: Rosary 4:25/Mass 5 pm

Sun, Mar 17: Rosary 7:25/Mass 8 am

Rosary 9:25/Mass 10 am

Rosary 11:25am/Mass 12 pm

Rosary 4:25pm/Mass 5 pm

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** 45 minutes before Mass on Tue, Wed, Thurs, Fri. and **Saturdays 3:30-4:30 pm or by appt.**

Confessions on Mondays are available during Adoration.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** 45 minutes before Mass on Tue, Wed, Thurs, Fri. and Saturdays 3:30-4:30 pm ending minutes before Mass or by appointment.

Confessions on Monday are available during Adoration.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:** Parents wishing to have their child baptized are asked to pre-register with Tracy Lam. The next in person Baptismal class is scheduled for March 16 and April 6 and 20. The course is scheduled for 10-11:30 am. The next online Baptismal Prep is Mar 9, 9-10am. Parents/Legal Guardians should be registered parishioners. Women who are nearing their expected delivery date may consider attending even before the child is born. Upcoming Sundays for Baptism celebrations will be celebrated on April 14, 28, May 5 and June 9. Please call Tracy at the office, 780 434 6313 or check out our website under "Sacraments and Baptism" for details.

**RCIA:** Adults (16+ years old) seeking to become Catholic, please speak to Paul Givens. Enquirers are always welcome. Please drop by the Parish office or call (780) 434-6313. This is also an opportunity for renewal of Catholic Adults. Runs early September to Easter/Pentecost. Meets Thursday evenings 7-9 pm.

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:** Please give 6 months notice in booking your wedding date! Time is needed to accommodate the preparation of wedding documents and attending a Catholic Marriage Preparation program. St. Thomas More runs it's program annually in mid-March. Watch for details. Other programs are available in the diocese. If you are considering a non-Catholic wedding, please don't! Civil Weddings or ones done by a non-Catholic minister of religion are not sacramentally valid. The logic is simple. Weddings outside the church often result in families outside the church. Catholics are obliged to be married in the presence of a priest, in the consecrated space of a church dedicated to the celebration of all sacraments. Being married by a random person in a random place does not represent the kind of intention one would hope to have on one of the most anticipated days of one's life. Consider prayerfully the dignity of this sacrament of love at the service of the gospel, that, as St. Paul says, is a symbol of the love of Christ for his bride, the Church. We welcome the opportunity to support you in your journey towards the joyful celebration of your marriage!

**For later marriages:** For those married civilly or in a common-law arrangement, please consider completing the Sacrament of Marriage by a process of Convalidation. A suitable later marriage preparation can be made available to you. We are happy to accommodate you.

**SICK OR SHUT-INS** –To request Holy Communion please call the parish office, (780) 434-6313.

**NEW PARISHIONERS** – Welcome! We value your friendship and your dedication to the life of this parish. Registration clearly announces your arrival in the parish and enables us to communicate with you as soon as possible. Opening the lines of communication between parish and family is very important. Parish membership is essential before some sacraments may be administered. This is particularly true of Baptism, Confirmation, and Marriage. Registration is an effective initiation tool into the life of the parish and helps us to best serve your interests and that of your family.

## SUNDAY GOSPEL REFLECTION—By Deacon Tom

God's love for the world is so deep and so great that nothing is spared, not even his only Son.

God raised the eyes of the people in the wilderness so they might be healed, raised the nation from exile so it might be restored, and raised Jesus from the dead so he might be the Savior to us all.

When Jesus referred to himself, the Son of Man, as being lifted up, he referred to his crucifixion. Jesus is the one who is lifted up and through him we gain eternal life. God is rich in mercy, mercy lifts us up, and the blessings of God flow from being lifted up by the mercy of God. God's mercy raises us out of loss and hopelessness, out of darkness and sin, so that we may enjoy the

blessings of life. Jesus is the true light, and those who choose Jesus live in the light of truth, and those who do not believe, live in darkness.

God's purpose is not that the world be lost but that all come to have eternal life. Eternal life does not mean an endless state of our human existence but the joy of dwelling in God's presence forever.

We have been raised up so we might live in truth and become the visible sign of God's mercy in the world. This is the world that God loved, the world into which the Son was sent and the world into which the light came.

## FR. MARK'S MESSAGE

Dear Parishioners,

This past week was such a blessing on so many levels with our Lenten Mission facilitated by the Queenship of Mary Community. My prayer is that this mission helped parishioners to go deeper into their observance of Lent and to a more intense encounter with Christ, particularly by drawing closer to him through the heart of Mary, His mother.

The sisters of the Queenship of Mary brought a Marian focus to our reflections and our penitential evening by a meditation on the Seven Sorrows of Mary. What a rich and lasting prayerful experience! The witness of the sisters' community and vocation of religious life also provided a lasting inspiration. They also took the time to accompany the parish in really personal ways through their vulnerability, personal sharing, remaining to pray with us and taking time to engage parishioners individually. I hope these were rich and meaningful days for all of you.

The sisters of the Queenship of Mary also shared from their community charism the invitation for parishioners to enter into a personal act of consecrating themselves to Christ through Mary... As they said: "Mary is gathering a spiritual army!" This is a gift they have left for us. Please see the handout they have made available to us.

*In Christ, Fr. Mark*

## PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Lord Jesus, you asked your apostles to "go out to the entire world and tell the Good News." Today we are the bearers of that same message of faith. Strengthen us to spread the Gospel and call forth among us priests, brothers, sisters, and consecrated laity to teach the Good News in word and deed. Amen.



## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL PANTRY

The St. Vincent De Paul pantry is in need of some items including juice, meals in a can, cookies, crackers, cheez whiz, coffee, rice, pancake mix, syrup, canned ham, canned chicken, pasta sauce and canned fruit. If you would like to donate please put the items in the St. Vincent De Paul box in the foyer. Thank you for your contribution.



## HOLY THURSDAY BREAD BAKING

The tradition of baking bread on Holy Thursday began in 2005 during Fr. Sylvain Casavant's first Easter at our parish and continued under his leadership until he departed in 2010. The tradition continued under the capable leadership of a small group of dedicated volunteers. Although bread baking stopped abruptly for three years during the pandemic, the return in 2023 was the largest and last baking event.

We remember +Peter Lema and +Louise S. (2011-12) for their significant contributions. Many thanks to Annette K., Delores M. and Pat C. who organized and coordinated for many years. Thank you also to the many volunteers who came every year to help. Blessings to all of you!

Recipes and instructions have been collected and saved in the event that there is interest in restarting this tradition again in a future year.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Spring is a time of new beginnings!

**The Wedding Rehearsal team** is recruiting volunteers to assist couples during their wedding rehearsals and on their wedding days.



**Baptism Ministry** is also looking for helpers for infant baptisms.

Please see the Monthly Featured Ministry bulletin boards at the front and office entrances for details.

## PROLIFE PRAYER

We pray that just as God made a covenant with all the living, so may we, His people grow in our sense of responsibility and respect for the gift of life in every person, and actively nurture and protect it. The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a prolife movie night in the hall on March 17th after 5pm Mass! The movie will be "Fr. Stu"! Parental guidance advised.



## February 14 - March 24 40 DAYS FOR LIFE® THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF ABORTION

You can protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide mobilization!

Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired 1,000,000 volunteers!

With God's help, here are the proven results in 26 coordinated campaigns:

- 24,242 babies saved from abortion
- 256 abortion workers converted
- 148 abortion centers closed

Come join St. Thomas More parishioners for an hour or more in prayer.

**Vigil location:** 50m from Woman's Health Options (12409-109A Avenue)

**Vigil hours:** 7 am to 7 pm daily

**Local contact:** Edmonton Prolife,  
780-425-1637  
info@edmontonprolife.org

Culture of Life Ministry at STM,  
prolifestm@gmail.com

Learn more and get involved by visiting:  
[40daysforlife.com/Edmonton](http://40daysforlife.com/Edmonton)  
[Facebook.com/40DaysForLifeEdmonton](https://www.facebook.com/40DaysForLifeEdmonton)



The Culture of Life Ministry at St. Thomas More Parish invites all parishioners to join for an hour or more in prayer at the vigil location; we also invite parishioners to pray during Adoration on Monday mornings during Lent, from 9:30am to 12pm that babies will be saved from abortion in Edmonton and for those who have been affected by abortion.

## PRAYER SHAWLS

A Prayer Shawl is a wrap or cover that is crocheted or knit with prayers. When complete it is blessed and recorded in a book. Those who receive a Prayer Shawl are continually prayed for by the women in the ministry. At present there is a very good selection of shawls for adults, children and babies. These make great gifts for those who are celebrating sacraments or maybe suffering (mentally or physically). To get a shawl contact Linda 780-920-9359, or for more information, pick up a brochure in the brochure holder at the entrance of the church.



## Prayer Corner...



### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

For those struggling with sickness, facing surgery, or in recovery, especially Lucy Longo, Darren Day, Anna Rayar, Rebecca Ramos, John McAuley, Juanita Smith, Linda Luczak, Andy Hull, Edith Borle, Earl Brown, Clare Forton, Manuel Cruz, Adolfo Cruz, Felix Moya, Lillian Laforge, Diego Rosales, Alwin Miguel and his mother Jennifer, Victor Brown, Charlotte Henderson, Maria Longo, Marion Coderre, Joshua Bernardo, Mary Kutty Matthew, Kristen Raworth, Terry Witiw, Stelios Kiliaris, Corazon Abalajon, Raymond Sanscartier, Chris Simpson, Sabina Zutter and Vi Simpson that they may be given the strength and guidance they seek.



### PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE RECENTLY DIED

For those who have gone into the presence of our Father, and for those whose names are recorded in the parish Book of Remembrance, especially for Roman Wozniak & Mark Navarro that He will raise them up to live forever.





## THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Tue, March 12:	Knights of Columbus meets, 7 pm
Wed, March 13:	Finance Committee meets, 10 am -12 pm
Thur, March 14:	Game Zone, Noon-4 pm RCIA, 7-9 pm
Fri, March 15 to Sun, March 17:	Regular Marriage Preparation weekend, <b>Blessing of Couples at 12 noon Sunday Mass</b>
Fri, March 15:	5 pm, Wedding: Congratulations David and Elohor 7 pm, Throne of Mercy prayer group 7 pm, Missionary Families of Christ, Singles 7 pm, Stations of the Cross, led by KOC
Sat, March 16:	In person Baptismal Prep. 10-11:30 Ministry Scheduling Pro.Training, 10 -11 am Lector Workshop, 11am-12:30pm <a href="#">RCIA, 3rd Scrutiny at 5 pm mass</a> 6-7:30 pm "Yam Jam" in the JPPII room with Shavi
Sun., March 17	RCIA, 3rd Scrutiny at 10 am mass Pro-Life theme movie: "Fr. Stu", 6-8 pm, (Parental Guidance Advisory)

## SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

We are having have a 'reverse collection' Food Drive this weekend. Parishioners will be given a slip of paper with the name of a suggested food donation. If you are able, please bring the grocery items to the church next weekend or at another time that is convenient for you. We would prefer that the food items be in smaller portions. If you would prefer to make a financial donation to our local conference, cheques payable to "SSVP Divine Mercy Conference" can be placed in the St Vincent de Paul donation box at the back of the church or dropped off or mailed to the parish office. A donation receipt will be sent to you. Financial donations can also be made online at <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/The-Society-of-Saint-Vincent-de-Paul-Divine-Mercy-Conference/> Thank you in advance for your generosity in feeding those in need! We are also in need of volunteers. Please contact Maria at [mariakssvp@gmail.com](mailto:mariakssvp@gmail.com) to learn more.



## Archdiocese of Edmonton

### CATHOLIC RENEWAL SERVICES

The Catholic Renewal Services of the Archdiocese of Edmonton will have their next Mass with Healing Service on Saturday March 16 at St. Emeric's Hungarian Catholic Church, presided by Rev. Dr. Matthew Hysell, as well as, a Life in the Spirit Seminar, on March 22 & 23, at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Sherwood Park.

### MASS WITH HEALING SERVICE

The Catholic Renewal Services of the Archdiocese of Edmonton is hosting their next Mass with Healing Service on Saturday Mar 16, 6:30 pm start, with Fr. Matthew Hysell presiding. It will be held at St. Emeric's Hungarian Catholic Church (12960-112 St NW, Edmonton). Reconciliation on Saturday, with Fr. Matthew, will only be available between 3:30-5 pm at St. Emeric's. Jesus said, "I am the Bread of Life, he who comes to Me will not hunger and he who believes in Me will never thirst." John 6:35 [www.crsedmonton.ca/events](http://www.crsedmonton.ca/events)

### LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR (LSS)

Abounding Grace (Romans 5:20)

The Catholic Renewal Services of Edmonton invites you to participate in the LSS to be given at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 13 Brower Dr., Sherwood Park, on March 22 beginning at 6:30 pm and continuing to March 23 from 9 am until 5 pm. Free lunch on Saturday served for registrations received before March 20, 2024.

Seminar fee is \$20.00 including the free lunch when you register on time. Walk-ins are welcome (lunch not included).

Come and be baptized anew in the Holy Spirit and receive a fresh infilling of the Holy Spirit! Rev. 22:17.

For registration visit [www.crsedmonton.ca/events](http://www.crsedmonton.ca/events)

### BE NOT AFRAID

Be Not Afraid is a series of videos and companion articles that tells the stories of 12 religious sisters and priests who serve within the Archdiocese of Edmonton.

New episodes are released every Thursday. Subscribe to the Archdiocese of Edmonton [YouTube channel](#) to watch new episodes each week.

### ADOREMUS ("LET US ADORE") - APR 6

Adoremus ("Let us Adore") is an evening of Eucharistic Adoration held at St. Joseph Basilica from 7 – 8:30 pm on the first Saturday of every month (Apr 6, May 4, Jun 1). The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available and music will be provided by St. Joseph Basilica's Schola Cantorum led by Roderick Bryce. Please join us afterwards in the Basilica basement for a social (refreshments provided). Adoremus is geared towards young adults (ages 15 – 30) but all are welcome! Here is the link:<https://bxvi.newman.edu/index.php/events/adoremus>

