



# ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PARISH

210 Haddow Close, Edmonton, AB T6R 2P3 Office: 780-434-6313 Website: stm.caedm.ca

**Pastor: Fr. Mark McGee Associate Pastor: Fr. Avinash Francis**

**Permanent Deacons: Randy Abele, Tom Sudsbear & Gordon Taylor**

Office Hours: Mon - Thu 9 am - 9pm | Fri 9 am - 4 pm | Sat 8:30am - 2 pm | Sun 1 pm - 4:30 pm, Closed on Stat Holidays



## May 19, 2024



*Ascension of the Lord*

### WEEKDAY LITURGIES, (MAY 13 - MAY 17)

- Tue:** No Mass-Priest Assembly
- Wed:** No Mass-Priest Assembly
- Thur:** No Mass-Priest Assembly
- Fri:** No Mass-Priest Assembly

### SUNDAY MASS TIMES, (MAY 18/19)

- Saturday:** Rosary 4:25/Mass 5 pm
- Sunday:** Rosary 7:25/Mass 8 am  
Rosary 9:25am/Mass 10 am  
Rosary 11:25am/Mass 12pm  
Rosary 4:25pm/Mass 5 pm



### THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Mon, May 13:** No Mass  
First Eucharist Prep 5:50pm to 6:50pm  
Scripture Study at 7pm
- Tue, May 14:** No Mass-Priest Assembly  
First Eucharist Prep 5:50pm to 6:50pm  
Knight of Columbus Meeting at 7pm  
CWL Christmas Market Planning Meeting
- Wed, May 15:** No Mass-Priest Assembly  
First Eucharist Prep 5:50pm to 6:50pm
- Thurs, May 16:** **Game Zone**  
No Mass-Priest Assembly  
K of C Exec. at 7pm
- Fri, May 17:** No Mass-Priest Assembly  
Missionary Families of Christ, "Handmaids" at 7pm  
Throne of Mercy, Catholic Charismatic Prayer Grp. 7:45pm
- Sat, May 18:** Confession/Mass: 3:30-4:30/5pm  
YamJam 6 to 7:30pm
- Sun, May 19:** Mass at 8am, 10am, 12pm and 5pm

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** Saturday: 3:30pm to 4:30 pm

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- Mark your calendars**
- May 18 & 19** Fr. Ken Forster OMI (Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate) will be concelebrating & preaching at all the Masses this weekend followed by a presentation in the Hall. All are welcome!
- Heads Up!** There will be no weekday Masses, the week of May 13 to 17 due to the Assembly of the Priests in Jasper
- May 20** Victoria Day—No Mass, Office is closed
- June 1 & 2** Sunday Mass times change to 4pm on Saturday, 8am, 9:30am, 11 am, 12:30pm & 5pm (only until June 30) on Sunday



Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for the 58th World Day of Social Communications: Artificial Intelligence and the Wisdom of the Heart: Towards a Fully Human Communication <https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/communications/documents/20240124-messaggio-comunicazioni-sociali.html>

## Parish Staff

<b>Pastoral Assistant for 1st Recon, Eucharist &amp; Confirmation:</b>	Julie Lee	<b>Business Coordinator:</b>	Paul Givens
<b>Pastoral Assistant for Baptism:</b>	Tracy Lam	<b>Bookkeeper:</b>	Salwa Saydeh
<b>Music Coordinator:</b>	Johanna Dietrich	<b>Maintenance &amp; Custodial:</b>	Mark Whaley
<b>Youth and Family Ministry Coord:</b>	Shavi Perera	<b>Administrative Assistants:</b>	Lorraine K., Bernardine Z., Shannon V. & Olivia D.

# Sunday Gospel Reflection

By Deacon Tom



## The Ascension of the Lord (Mark 16:15-20)



The Ascension of Jesus is the first time a human body entered heaven. When Jesus came down to earth he took on a human body and when he ascended, he was enthroned in heaven in both his divinity and his glorified humanity, overcoming his enemy (death) and reigning over his new creation (the Church).

Jesus's ascension reopened heaven to all mankind, leading into heaven a triumphant army of souls, prophets and the holy men of the Old Testament, to their eternal reward. All were united with God, saw God face to face and began to enjoy the happiness of heaven.

Jesus ascended to his true home after living on earth for thirty-three

years, performing miracles and establishing his Church as his mission to come to earth to redeem mankind was accomplished.

Jesus promised us that all who were baptized, believed in his teachings, and obeyed his commandments could also enter heaven.

Through the Church, Jesus continues to heal and to comfort, to forgive and to include. He was with the Apostles as they went into the entire world and confirmed their ministry through wondrous signs. Like the Apostles, we live between the time of Jesus' departure and the time of his return and like the Apostles, the Lord is with us, providing the inspiration and the grace we need to be successful.

As we work and pray, let us remember that heaven is the home God created for us and that one day we may obtain it, as Jesus did.

### "Pop-Up Sale" for hospital residents at St. Joseph's Auxiliary Hospital

Many of you may know that the St. Joseph's Hospital Auxiliary has folded. However, the small Pop-Up sales events for the hospital residents will continue under the direction of the hospital's Recreation department and the Hospital Program Manager. We are requesting donations for a June Pop Up sales event for the Residents. If you have small items such as ball caps, sun hats, and fun socks, please contact one of the event team for pick-up or leave the donations at Reception in the Hospital. You will find a poster with more suggestions for donations on the bulletin board at the entrance of the church. Contacts: Maureen (780) 433 1892; Jackie (780) 438 4631, Marie (780) 438 4454, or Claire (780) 438 0327.



The Missionary Association of Mary Immaculate (MAMI) includes friends and family who have a unique relationship with the Oblates and their missionary works, especially with the late Province of OMI Lacombe Canada. We are called to be partners with the Oblates in serving the poor through our prayers, finances and participation in missionary activities.

The OBLATE KENYAN MISSION WILL CELEBRATE the 27TH ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR. On the Feast of the Pentecost, **May 18-19th**, we will welcome Fr. Ken Forster OMI, one of the founding Fathers of the Kenyan Mission 27 years ago, who served as Mission Superior for nine years. He will celebrate (concelebrate) and speak at all the Masses. After each Mass a video will be shown in the hall. Parishioners are encouraged to plan to give some extra time this weekend as Pentecost is the Sunday of Evangelization and Mission. You will be invited to the Hall to share time together, reflect on the Mission of the Church and share observations and questions.

There will be no special collection for the mission during the Masses, but you will be receiving a brochure about MAMI, encouraging you to become a partner and consider membership in MAMI (Missionary Association of Mary Immaculate).

All Proceeds go towards the St. Thomas More Refugee Sponsorship Ministry

# Heritage Dinner

AFRICAN NIGHT

6 PM | SATURDAY | JUNE 1 | 2024  
MUSIC | FOOD | SILENT AUCTION

\$50 a Ticket, Cash Bar



### May Featured Ministry:

Do you enjoy working with school age children? "Game Zone" and "Vacation Bible School" are recruiting volunteers! Please see the Monthly Featured Ministries bulletin boards during the month of May for more information.



### Are you a business owner or an artist looking for a place to sell crafts/goods?

We are looking for you! The Catholic Women's League will be hosting its Christmas Market:



**AT: St. Thomas More Parish**

**ON: Saturday, December 7, 2024.**

If you would like to be a vendor, please contact Stephanie at [stmcw/christmasmarket@gmail.com](mailto:stmcw/christmasmarket@gmail.com) or (780) 499 0206. Vendor

**Application deadline is June 23, 2024.**



*Awake! Arise! "Occupy Until I Come" Luke 19:13.*

**Catholic Renewal Services** of Edmonton invites you to participate in the **Pentecost Conference** May 17 from 6:30pm until 5pm on May 19. Conference fee is \$30 with lunch (must register by May 15), \$20 without lunch.

**Speakers:** Pastor Joe Gongalski and Rev. Matthew Hysell.

**Pentecost Vigil Mass** Saturday, May 18, at 7pm.

All are welcome to the Mass!



You are invited to the **Roots of Change Fundraiser** on Saturday June 1, 2024 at Holy Family Parish, at 75 Poirier Avenue, St Albert

**Mass at 5pm**

**Refreshments at 6:30pm**

**Dinner at 7pm**

Tickets: \$80, a \$50 tax receipt will be given (Students: \$30)

Tickets available online from May 1 to May 27 at

<https://www.rootsofchange.ca/> or call Jocelyne at (780) 405 8084.

Amazing door prize: a trip for 2 to Nicaragua with a guide. See details at <https://www.rootsofchange.ca/>



### Prayer Corner...



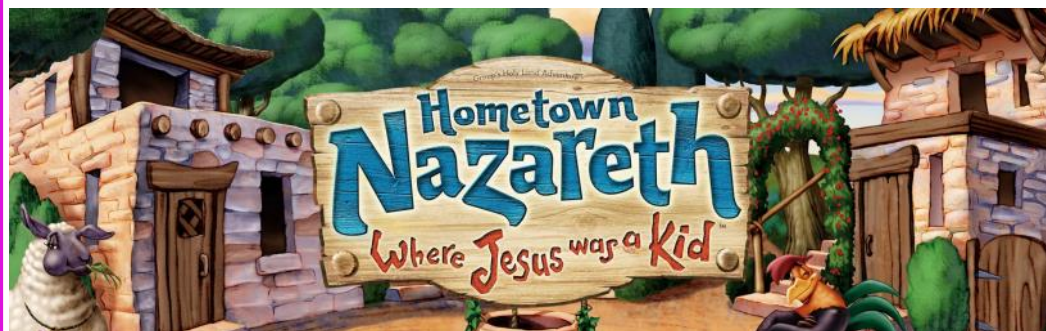
### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

For those struggling with sickness, facing surgery, or in recovery, especially Lucy Longo, Darren Day, Anna Rayar, Rebecca Ramos, John McAuley, Juanita Smith, Andy Hull, Edith Borle, Earl Brown, Clare Forton, Manuel Cruz, Adolfo Cruz, Felix Moya, Lillian Laforge, Diego Rosales, Alwin Jr. 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, Chris Simpson, Sabina Zutter, Alfred Morrill, Vi Simpson, Sean Spicer, Graham Chambers, Sam Amelio, Marcella Cloran, Fr. Jozef Wroblewski, Harry Buddle, Samantha Davis, Joan Rempel, Liz Sawyer, Joseph Serrano, Robert Chomey, Barry Devlin, Greg Nelson, Jose Bollani, Larry Mandrusiak & Lillian Larsen 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 Lucie Ray, Mary Elizabeth McDonald, Anthony Mackenzie, Claudia Balcerio, Dan Friesen, Mark Belanger, Margaret Rogers, Gary Ballash, Luke Stares, Sergio Gallardo, Ines Gutierrez, Tyler Lafontaine & Marianna Szymanska that He will raise them up to live forever.



### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**July 22 to 26 & July 29 to Aug 2**

This summer, we are excited to be offering two weeks of VBS. Kids between ages 5-10 yrs. are considered "Villagers" and kids aged between 11-14 can also participate and help lead as "Captains". This year's theme is "Hometown Nazareth". We will be transported to where Jesus grew up and learn to stand up for our faith among people who doubt that a

carpenters son is really God's Son. We will talk with Mary, explore the marketplace, and play fun games. VBS runs Monday to Friday from 9am to 12pm. Cost to attend is \$50 per child per week. Money should not be a reason, why someone misses out on camp, if you have any questions or you would like to register please see the office or talk to Shavi.



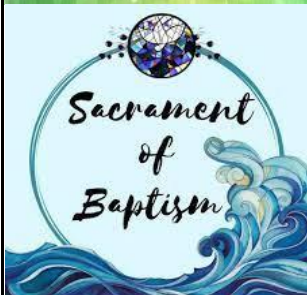
**PRAYER SHAWLS** are wraps or covers that are knit with prayers and blessed by a priest. Shawls come in many shapes and colors. At present there is a good selection of shawls to choose from. A shawl is a GOOD GIFT for a child/family celebrating a sacrament: Baptism, First Reconciliation or First Eucharist. Contact Linda, (780) 988-9229 if you would like a shawl for someone special. Shawls CANNOT be sold but a donation is appreciated.



**PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE OR SEE THE WEBSITE FOR INFORMATION ABOUT:**



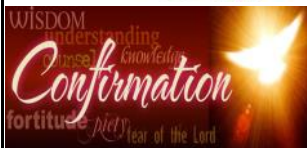
**NEW PARISHIONERS:** Welcome! We value your friendship and your dedication to the life of this parish. Registration clearly announces your arrival in the parish and enables us to communicate with you as soon as possible. Opening the lines of communication between parish and family is very important. 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. A "New Parishioner Welcome" happens usually twice a year. Watch for the date in early Fall or in the New Year.



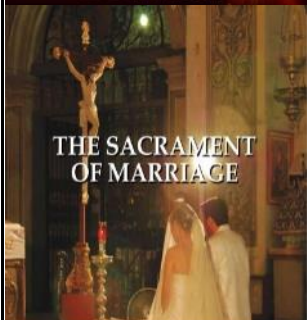
**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:** Group Baptisms are celebrated during all seasons, except during Advent and Lent. We are accepting Infant Baptism registrations year round, from unborn baby to children under the age of 7. Baptism Preparation program is required for both parents and godparents. We offer 3 different options for both in-person and online preparations. In-person preparation classes are available on June 1 & 15, July 6 and Aug 3 from 10-11:30am while the Zoom meetings for the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the "Belonging" online program are available on June 8, July 13 and Aug 10 from 10-11am. We strongly encourage families to register and complete their preparation as early as possible. Baptisms will be celebrated on June 9, July 14 & 28 and Aug 18. For more details, please see the [Baptism requirements and schedule](#) document on our website under [Sacraments and Baptism](#). Kindly email all baptism enquiries to [Baptism.stm@caedm.ca](mailto:Baptism.stm@caedm.ca) or contact Tracy/Bernardine/Shannon at the office (780) 434 6313.



**SACRAMENT OF First Reconciliation & First Eucharist:** Most Catholic children receive their First Holy Communion when they are 7 or 8 years old as this is considered the age of reason. 2024-2025 dates and registration instructions will be announced at the beginning of August before Sunday Masses, via parish bulletins and website: <https://stm.caedm.ca/first-reconciliation-first-eucharist/> You could email our Pastoral Coordinator [firsteucharist.stm@caedm.ca](mailto:firsteucharist.stm@caedm.ca)



**SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION:** In the Archdiocese of Edmonton, most young people receive the sacrament when they are 11-12 years old. 2024-2025 dates and registration instructions will be announced in August before Sunday Masses and via parish bulletins and website: <https://stm.caedm.ca/confirmation-prep> In 2024-2025 there will be 2 cycles offered in Fall and Spring on Monday evenings. You could email our Pastoral Coordinator [confirmation.stm@caedm.ca](mailto:confirmation.stm@caedm.ca)



**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 its 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.



**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 Thurs evenings 7 to 9 pm.



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