



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

Sunday, Sept 22, 2024

WEEKDAY LITURGIES, (SEP 24- SEP 27)

- Tue:** Confession/Mass: 4:15/5 pm
- Wed:** Confession/Mass: 8:15/9 am
- Thurs:** Sp. Mass at 6pm for Fr. Mark's 25th Anniv.
- Fri:** Confession/Mass: 8:15/9 am

SUNDAY MASS TIMES, (SEPT 28/ SEP 29)

- Saturday:** Communal Rosary 3:55/Mass 4:30 pm
- Sunday:** Communal Rosary 7:25/Mass 8 am
Mass 9:30 am (Rosary in Private)
Mass 11am (Rosary in Private)
Mass 12:30pm (Rosary in Private)



THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Tue, Sep 24:** Confession/Mass: 4:15/5pm
Funeral for +Candace Cook at 11am
Nativity Play practice at 5pm in the Hall
- Wed, Sep 25:** Confession/Mass: 8:15/9am
Pastor/Principal's meeting at 10am
1st Reconciliation/Eucharist Orientation at 6 to 7pm
- Thur, Sep 26:** **Sp. Mass at 6pm for Fr. Mark's 25th Anniversary of his Ordination**
- Fri, Sep 27:** Confession/Mass: 8:15/9am
Funeral for +Therese Dinh at 1pm
Wedding Rehearsal at 6pm
- Sat, Sep 28:** Baptism Prep for Accommodated Program 9:30- 12:30pm
Weddings at 11am & 1 pm
Confession/Mass: 3-4pm/4:30pm
- Sun, Sep 29:** Mass at 8am, 9:30am, 11am & 12:30pm
Pancake breakfast after 8am & 9:30am Masses



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all."
45 MINUTES BEFORE WEEKDAY MASS & Saturday: 3 pm to 4 pm



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- Sept 22** New Catholics Info session "Nicodemus Night" at 2pm
- Sept 25** 1st Reconciliation/Eucharist Parent Orientation session for Fall Cycle
- Sept 30** Truth & Reconciliation Day—Office and Church is closed
- Oct 1** Liturgy Committee meeting at 7pm
- Oct 3** RCIA 1st class 7 to 9pm— call to register/sponsor
- Oct 4** First Friday Observances, Mass at 9am, Adoration & Benediction at 11:30am followed by **blessing of the pets on the feast of St. Francis of Assisi**
- Oct 5** First Saturday, Mass at 9am followed by Recollection
Altar Server's workshop following Mass until 12:30pm
In person Baptism Prep 10 to 11:30am
Children's Liturgy workshop at 12:30pm

Sacrament Registrations are open!! Please see the last page for timely and appropriate sacramental preparation registration dates and times.

1st Reconciliation & Eucharist: Confirmation Cycle 1

- Sept 25:** Parent Info & Orientation **Oct 7:** Parent Info & Orientation
- Oct 8.,9,10:** Catechesis for Cycle 1 "Fall" **Oct 21:** Confirmation session #1

Safe Environment and Abuse Prevention Called To Protect Workshops

In-person at St. Charles Parish on Thursday, Sept 26th from 7 to 9pm

Parish Staff

Pastoral Assistant:	Julie Lee (on leave)	Business Coordinator:	Paul Givens
Pastoral Assistant for Baptism:	Tracy Lam	Bookkeeper:	Salwa Saydeh
Music Coordinator:	Johanna Dietrich	Maintenance & Custodial:	Mark Whaley
Youth and Family Ministry Coord:	Shavi Perera	Administrative Assistants:	Olivia D., Lorraine K., Bernardine Z., & Angela B.

Sunday Gospel Reflection

By Deacon Tom



Be Last to be First (Mark 9:30-37)

Jesus humbled himself to come to earth, choosing the wood of the manger on which to lie on, in birth and the wood of the cross on which to lie on, in death.

Jesus tells us to, "learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart." (Matt 11:29), for at the Last Supper (Holy Thursday), the night before his death, Jesus gave us the great Sacrament of the Eucharist, and spent time washing his Apostle's feet.

When the Disciples argue with one another about who was the greatest, they are told they must take last place to be first with Jesus and be a Disciple of his, to be willing to be like a child ("last of all") and a slave ("servant to all"). With the heart of a servant we are to

welcome others without consideration of what we will receive in return, and refuse to show favoritism or prejudice toward others, especially toward those who are weak and vulnerable.

By receiving a child, we are receiving Jesus, and by receiving Jesus we are receiving the Father. We must make ourselves servants to each other and all people, living a humble life of giving, thinking about the needs of others, and helping them to be all that God has called them to be, as no one is too small for the kingdom and no work is too small for God's kingdom.

Let us imitate the humility of Jesus, and let our greatness be in serving others.

Parish Nativity Play!

Would you like to be an angel? St. Joseph? King Herod? Everyone aged 3-19 is invited to participate in the Parish Nativity Play, being offered for one final year by the Jewell family! Theatre performance will be on Sat, Dec 7, 2024. Rehearsals are on Tuesdays from 5-7 beginning Sept 24. Please register by emailing nativityplay2007@gmail.com



Fall 2024 STM Scripture Study

"For ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ."

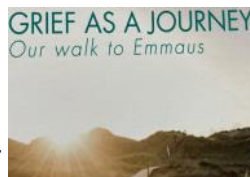
St Jerome



A scripture study will begin on Monday, September 30, 2024 from 7 to 9 pm in the Marguerite d'Youville room (Library) at the parish. There will be 9 weekly sessions, the last one on December 9, 2024. We will be studying: "Mysteries of the Rosary". This study explores the biblical roots of each of the mysteries of the rosary and the meditative tradition of this popular prayer. Enhance your reflection on the joyful, luminous, sorrowful, and glorious mysteries by understanding their biblical underpinnings. I will bulk-order the workbooks to save money and the cost should be \$12 per book. The books will be distributed at the first session. Join to learn, pray, and share your faith. Because of room space limitations there will be a limit of 15 participants. For registration or information call Deacon Randy Abele at (780) 435 5070 or (780) 493 1972 or email: randy.abele@caedm.ca

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted" – Matthew 5:4

At St. Thomas More we are beginning the Fall session of "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 you about the questions and the pain of your loss. We are commencing the meetings at St. Thomas More parish, in the St. Marguerite Room (Library) on Tuesday, October 1, 2024 from 7-9 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 or to register.



ANNUAL DAY OF PUBLIC WITNESS FOR CHILDREN KILLED BY ABORTION

Life Chain is a public witness to the sanctity of life, which takes place annually across North America. Participants peacefully gather for an hour and pray silently for an end to abortion and for those harmed by this injustice. Life Chain is held simultaneously in ~300 locations across Canada each year. Life Chain Edmonton takes place:

When: Sunday, October 6, from 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm

Where: 111 Ave NW between 124 St & Groat Rd NW

St. Thomas More Parishioners are invited to gather and pray outside St. Andrew's Parish.

Presented by Campaign Life Coalition, endorsed by Archbishop Richard Smith. Please join this prayerful and peaceful demonstration in support of life!

For more information: <https://www.campaignlifecoalition.com/life-chain>

NICODEMUS NIGHT



Do you or anyone you know want to become Catholic?

Come join the "Nicodemus Night" Sept 22 at 2 pm here in the parish. Ask questions and learn more about the RCIA process in a non-judgmental, no-commitment environment. In the meantime, if you have questions about RCIA or receiving the sacraments as an adult, please feel free to call the office at 780 434 6313.

PRAYER CORNER.....

Prayer for the Sick



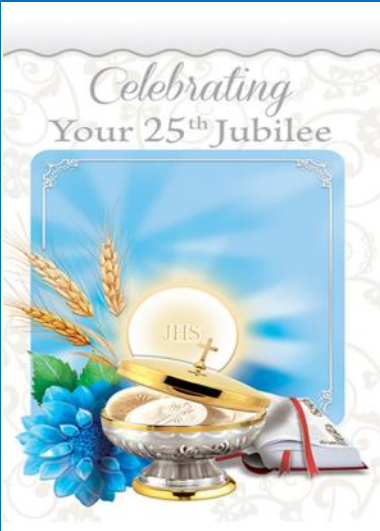
PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

For those struggling with sickness, facing surgery, or in recovery, especially Chris Simpson, Lucy Longo, Darren Day, Anna Rayar, Rebecca Ramos, John McAuley, Juanita Smith, Andy Hull, Edith Borle, Earl Brown, Clare Forton, 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, Sabina Zutter, Marcella Cloran, Liz Sawyer, Joseph Serrano, Jean Buchart, Larry Mandrusiak, Joyce Makarowski, Carl Blansjaar, Orest Witiw, Claudette McGee, Rochelle Angel Lim, Wayne MacDonald, Betty McGowan & Julie Lee 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 Hanaa Qandla, Ruth Pelechaty, Marie de Lourdes Rodriguez, Urtencia Conti, Esther Lazzari, Emily Grabusic, Manuel Cruz, Remedios Veloso, Elizabeth Macor, Joyce Tkach, Milagros Gesulga, Frank Dendwick, Candace Cook, Peyton McIntyre, Therese Dinh & Shauna Chong that He will raise them up to live forever.



For a Special Priest, honoring your 25 Years of Service to God and his people.

Happy Anniversary Fr. Mark, thank you!

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF ABORTION.

From **September 25 to November 3**, you are encouraged to join other Christians for 40 Days for Life - 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. You are also invited to stand and peacefully pray during the 40 day vigil in the public right-of-way outside Women's Health Options (124409 109 A Ave.). If you would like more information-and especially if you would like to volunteer to help, please contact: Edmonton Prolife (780-425-1637) or info@edmontonprolife.org.

For more information and to sign up for vigil hours:

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

Our Food Bank shelves are empty—We need your help!!

Society of St. Vincent de Paul



There will be a 'reverse collection' Food Drive on the weekend of September 28/September 29. If you are able, please bring the grocery items to the church the following weekend (October 5/6) or at any other time that is convenient for you. We would prefer that the food items be in smaller portions. We will also have a small household goods drive on the weekend of October 5/6 for items which can be distributed to the poor in our community. Suggested items include large cooking pots, cutlery, chopping knives, cooking utensils, e.g. flippers, large spoons etc., coffee pots, teapots, kitchen towels, bath towels, and tea towels. *Small household goods can be dropped off before or after each Mass on the weekend of October 5/6.*

Thank you in advance for your generosity in helping those in need!

We are also in need of volunteers. Please contact Maria at mariakssvp@gmail.com to learn more.

be it done *Pastoral Priorities of the Archdiocese*

worship

We are a faith community that understands and joyfully celebrates the Eucharist.

witness

We are a faith community confident in proclaiming the Great Story to our work and life communities.

service

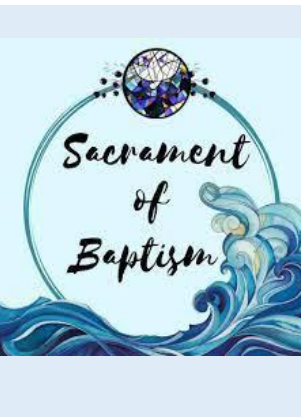
We are a faith community that supports families, and recognizes marriage and family are the core of God's plan.

Learn more at: CAedm.ca

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: Infant 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 Oct 5, Nov 2 & Dec 7 from 10-11:30am while the Zoom meetings for the 2nd part of the "Belonging" online program are available on Oct 19, Nov 9 & Dec 14 from 10-11am. We strongly encourage families to register and complete their preparation as early as possible. Baptisms will be celebrated on Sept 22, Oct 27, Nov 17 and more dates in 2025 are available on our website .

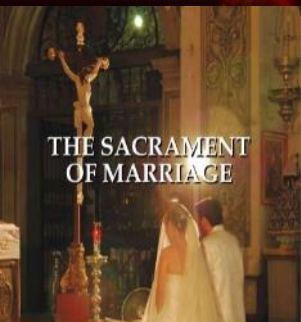
For Later Baptism: We are happy to accommodate children between the ages of 7 and 15 , who would like to be baptized and receive all other age appropriate sacraments. All infant and children baptism requirements, preparation options and schedule details are available on our website in the [Baptism Requirements](#) document under [Sacrament and Baptism](#). Kindly email all baptism enquiries to Baptism.STM@caedm.ca or contact Tracy/Bernardine at the office (780) 434 6313 for further assistance.



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. [Registration for 2024-2025 1st Reconciliation & 1st Holy Eucharist are now OPEN. To register your child please fill the \[Online Registration Form\]\(#\) or use the QR code](#) 



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION: In the Archdiocese of Edmonton, most young people receive the sacrament when they are 11-12 years old. [Registration for 2024-2025 Confirmation are now OPEN. To register your child please fill the \[Online Registration Form\]\(#\) or use the QR code](#) 



SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: "Time to buy the ring!" 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.

Marriage Enrichment: Marriage Enrichment Retreat dates Sep 16, 23, Oct 7, 21, 28, Nov 4, 18, 25 & Dec 2 & 9.



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.