



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 08, 2024

WEEKDAY LITURGIES, (SEP 10- SEP 13)

- Tue:** Confession/Mass: 4:15/5 pm
- Wed:** Confession/Mass: 8:15/9 am
- Thurs:** Confession/Mass: 4:15/5 pm
- Fri:** Confession/Mass: 8:15/9 am

SUNDAY MASS TIMES, (SEPT 14/ SEP 15)

- 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)

Jesus heals.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Tue, Sep 10:** Confession/Mass: 4:15/5pm
Knights of Columbus General Meeting at 7pm
- Wed, Sep 11:** Confession/Mass: 8:15/9am
- Thur, Sep 12:** AJM Catholic School Mass at 9am
Confession/Mass: 4:15/5pm
- Fri, Sep 13:** Confession/Mass: 8:15/9am
- Sat, Sep 14:** Liturgy Committee workshop 11am to 1:30pm
Confession/Mass: 3-4pm/4:30pm
Verso L'Alto 5:30pm to 8pm
- Sun, Sep 15:** Mass at 8am, 9:30am, 11am & 12:30pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

45 MINUTES BEFORE WEEKDAY MASS & Saturday: 3 pm to 4 pm

Sacrament Registrations are open!!

Please see the last page for timely and appropriate sacramental preparation registration dates and times.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- Sept 17** Pastor/School Principal's Meeting at 9am
- Sept 18** PPC meeting at 6pm
- Sept 19** Deanery Day 10:30am to 4pm
Music Ministry workshop for schools at 2pm
Knights of Columbus Open House
- Sept 21-22** Cupcakes after all Masses to celebrate Fr. Mark's 25th Anniversary of his Ordination
- Sept 26** Special Mass at 6pm for Fr. Mark's 25th Anniversary



Safe Environment and Abuse Prevention Called To Protect Workshops

- Sept 18, Wed 1 to 3pm On-line
- Sept 21, Sat 9:30am to 12pm On-line
- Sept 26, Thurs 7 to 9pm In-person at St. Charles Parish

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



“Ephphatha: Be Opened!” (Mark 7:31-37)

Jesus frequently laid hands on afflicted people, but the miracle today is accomplished by his command, “Be opened!”

Jesus’ healing of a man struggling to hear and speak is paralleled with the healing in stages of the blind man of Bethsaida (Mark 8:22-26). These two miracles testify to Jesus’ compassion that he wishes that each of us might see, speak and hear ‘spiritually’ (“Do you have eyes, and fail to see? Do you have ears, and fail to see?” (Mark 8:18). When our eyes and ears are touched by Jesus, our world is transformed and we begin to see God’s presence around us, in the goodness of people and understand with our hearts the tenderness of life, even in its frailness.

Ephphatha is celebrated in the Sacrament of Baptism when the sign of the cross is made on the ears and mouth of the child; giving them grace, bringing them spiritual life and opening their mind to spiritual things.

Jesus offers us a vision of God’s plan when our eyes will be opened, ears unstopped and hearts leap for joy, inviting us to enter His world by accepting the cross in our lives, as he did.

The loss of our hearing or sight is a tragic affliction, but the loss of our faith is a greater one. If God has given us the gifts of hearing, speech and sight, we should thank him, imitating the man Jesus cured today by lifting up our voices in praise of God.



St. Thomas More is excited to be launching a Junior High Youth Group called Duc In Altum, the words Jesus commanded Simon Peter in Luke 5:4 “Cast out into the deep”. We hope all Junior High students can attend our first event on October 12.

Excited to see you there!

We’re looking for **liturgical volunteers** in adult altar servers, junior altar servers, Ushers, greeters, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, choir members and sound board operators. Ministry workshops are happening early September so please sign up today at the entrance of the church. Hey, we also need a few more priests.

Church Volunteers



St. Thomas More Scripture Study Groups

“For ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ.”

St Jerome



“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.

GRIEF AS A JOURNEY
Our walk to Emmaus



Wednesday Morning Ladies Scripture Study Group will begin its Fall Session on Wednesday, September 11, meetings will be in the Rosary Room from 9:30 am to 11:30am. We will be studying Psalms, a Little Rock Catholic Scripture Study, which will include video lectures and written material. If interested, please contact Annette at 780 437 4044, by August 12.

Fall 2024 STM Scripture Study

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

**Do your children like to sing?
Are you looking for ways to
involve them in Sunday Mass?**

Consider enrolling your children in the St. Thomas More Children's Choir for children in Grade 3 through 9. We rehearse on Thursday evenings at 6:15 p.m. for 45 minutes and sing regularly at Sunday Masses and special occasions in the parish. Call the office or Johanna Dietrich, Music Ministry Coordinator, at johanna.dietrich@caedm.ca or 780 919 3747 for more information or to register for the fall.



Music Ministry – Do you like to sing? Are you looking for a way to develop and share your musical talents with our parish? STM Music Ministry is looking for voices to help the choir lead the congregation in worship

through sung prayer. The Massed choir sings at all parish special events (including Christmas and Easter Triduum) and smaller groups sing at all Sunday Masses. Combined rehearsals are Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm September to June. For more information, please contact Johanna Dietrich, Music Ministry Coordinator, at johanna.dietrich@caedm.ca or 780 919 3747.

Sound Ministry – We are looking for volunteers to assist with the operation of the sound board during parish liturgies and celebrations. No technical experience is necessary; training and mentoring is provided. Please contact Johanna Dietrich, Music Ministry Coordinator, at johanna.dietrich@caedm.ca or 780 919 3747.



Congratulations to the following 12 children who entered into the community of our Catholic church in August through the *Sacrament of Baptism* Margot McLeod, Logan McLeod, Kiiara Castillo, Juliana Chee, Luisa Comique, Gaaniko Dakatumbako, Layla Delera, Felix Ferguson, Lincoln Larsen, Aurora Leung, Malaika Quadros & Sophie Sturwold.

Please remember our new little brothers and sisters in Christ, in your prayers.

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, Candace Cook, Orest Witiw, Claudette McGee, Fr. Jozef Wroblewski, Rochelle Angel Lim, Wayne MacDonald & 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, Frank Dendwick & Shauna Chong that He will raise them up to live forever.

Prayer Shawl Ministry meets every Friday 9:30-11:30am in St Joseph Room. New members are welcome. There is no registration required, just come and meet the ladies. There is lots of yarn and needles to get started on a project and an experienced knitter is usually present to help. Besides Prayer Shawls we also knit toques and scarves for the homeless. For more information see the brochure in the brochure holder at the entrance of the church or contact Linda 780 920 9359.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul is having their semi-annual **Charity sale** on October 24 to 26. All proceeds from the sale go directly to our many clients in need. Our jewelry counter at this sale is very popular and our inventory is low. We are in need of gently used jewelry to add to this sale. If its time to clear out items you no longer want, we will gladly accept your donations. Please call **Adelle** at (780) 222 7624 for further information and pickup. With gratitude, Adelle Prather; Charity Sale Chair



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

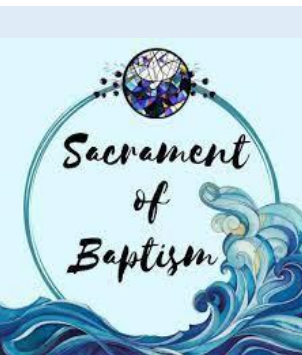
We are a faith community that supports families, and recognizes marriage and family are the core of God's plan.

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.




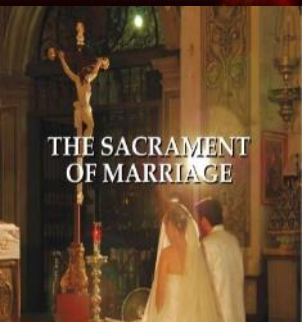
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Group Baptisms are celebrated during all seasons, except during Advent and Lent. We are accepting Infant Baptism registrations year round, from unborn baby to children under the age of 7. Baptism Preparation program is required for both parents and godparents. We offer 3 different 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 Sept 14, 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. 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 or contact Tracy/Bernardine at the office (780) 434 6313. **Children between the ages of 7 and 15 , who would like to be baptized and receive all other age appropriate sacraments, please contact the office for the accommodated program. Details are also available on our website under Sacraments and Baptism in the Baptism requirements document.**



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.