



ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PARISH

210 Haddow Close, Edmonton, AB T6R 2P3

Office: 780 434 6313 Website: stm.caedm.ca

Pastor: **Fr. Mark McGee**

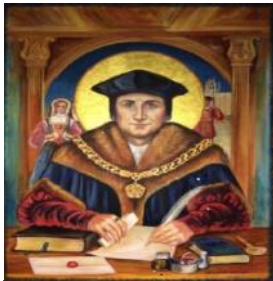
Associate Pastor: **Fr. Avinash Francis**

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

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

November 24, 2024



WEEKDAY LITURGIES, (Nov 26– Nov 29)

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

SUNDAY MASS TIMES, (Nov 30/DEC 01)

- 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

- Mon, Nov 25** Confirmation Catechism (session 5)- 6pm to 8pm
Marriage Enrichment—7 to 9pm
- Tue, Nov 26:** Confession/Mass: 4:15/5 pm
Nativity Play rehearsal at 5pm
Adult Confirmation Catechesis 7 to 9pm
CWL Fellowship 5:30 to 7:30pm
Grief Support 7 to 9pm
- Wed, Nov 27:** Confession/Mass: 8:15/9am
Funeral of Lois Spenrath at 11am
Youth & Family Ministries Council meeting 6 to 8pm
- Thur, Nov 28:** Game Zone is cancelled
Funeral of Bill Grace at 11am
Confession/Mass: 4:15/5pm
Children's choir 6 to 7pm
Adult Choir 7 to 10pm
RCIA 7 to 9pm
- Fri, Nov 29:** Confession/Mass: 8:15/9am
Advent Waiting Holy Hour, 7 to 8:15pm
- Sat, Nov 30:** Youth Confirmation Retreat 10am to 3pm
Confession/Mass: 3-4pm/4:30pm (RCIA, Rite of Acceptance at 4:30pm Mass)
- Sun, Dec 01:** Mass at 8am, 9:30am, 11am & 12:30pm
(RCIA, Rite of Acceptance) at 12:30pm Mass

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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- Tue, Dec 03:** Session 2 Catechesis for Adult Confirmation at 7pm
- Sat, Dec 07:** Parish Advent Day of Confessions 1 to 4pm
In-person (last) Baptism prep, 10 to 11:30am
- Mon, Dec 09:** Special Mass at 7pm for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception
- Sat, Dec 14:** Knights of Columbus Senior's Dinner at 6pm
- Sun, Dec 15:** St. Thomas More Christmas Concert at 3pm in the Nave
- Mon, Dec 16:** Cycle 1: Confirmation Mass at 7pm

Celebrating Anniversaries

As requested by Pope Francis, we celebrate the commitment to Marriage:

Amanda & Juan Moreno

28th Wedding Anniversary on Nov 29

May God bless you and deepen your love for each other!



Please purchase your grocery cards as well as Boston Pizza & Tim Hortons gift cards at the church entrance. Payments can be made by cash or credit card. Proceeds from these sales support various church projects and other charitable initiatives.



Parish Staff

Youth and Family Ministry Coord:	Shavi Perera	Business Coordinator:	Paul Givens
Pastoral Assistant for Baptism:	Tracy Lam	Bookkeeper:	Salwa Saydeh
Music Coordinator:	Johanna Dietrich	Maintenance & Custodial:	Mark Whaley
Youth Sacramental Prep Catechists:	Monica Bober & Mona Timko	Administrative Assistants:	Olivia D., Lorraine K., Bernardine Z., Angela B. & Dorothy J.

Sunday Gospel Reflection

By Deacon Tom



My Kingdom is not of this World (John 18:33b-37)

Jesus is the King, who came to testify to the truth. He declared that anyone open to the truth listens to his voice, belongs to the truth and belongs to his kingdom.

Jesus's kingdom is a kingdom of truth and life, of holiness and grace, of justice and love and peace. We should not be afraid to approach him because of our sinfulness, but know that he is the one who loved us so much that he handed himself over to suffering and death so that we might live. By his blood, shed for the life of the world, Jesus set us free and 'made us to be a kingdom', subjects of his kingdom.

Jesus brought us to birth in his kingdom through our Baptism, and he has taught us how to live in it, although we live in it only by faith.

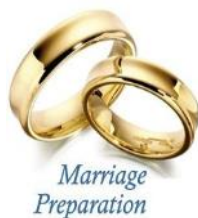
Jesus wants his kingship to be proclaimed by worship, prayer, love and good works and we proclaim his reign when we show an act of love to our neighbour. He is the true king, the shepherd who treats the wounded sheep with tenderness and compassion.

Enthroned in heaven, Jesus is revealed as the faithful witness to all that God has done and will continue to do, and as the firstborn from the dead Jesus' resurrection is the promise of our own resurrection.

Let us acknowledge Christ to be our King upon this earth, so that one day we may be his subjects in the kingdom of heaven.

Sacrament of Marriage

Step 1 when preparing for marriage is to talk with our Pastor, Father Mark. **Catholic Marriage Preparation** program will take place on March 14 to 16, 2025. **Register** bit.ly/MarriagePrep2025



The registration deadline is on February 14, 2025.

The Advent Giving Tree is a cherished tradition of St. Thomas More. We invite the support of our parish community to help the women and children of Lurana Shelter, a safe haven for those fleeing family violence.



You can participate by taking a star or angel from the Giving Tree, each labeled with a needed item, or by referring to the list of requested items posted beside the tree and on the parish website. Please note that all donated items must be **new, non-violent in theme, and unwrapped**.

Drop off your gifts by the Giving Tree in the gathering space of the church during Advent, from November 30 to December 22.

Gift cards are especially encouraged (suggested maximum: \$50). Purchasing gift cards through the Knights of Columbus allows your generosity to go even further, as it supports two causes at once.

PRAYER CORNER.....

Prayer for the Sick



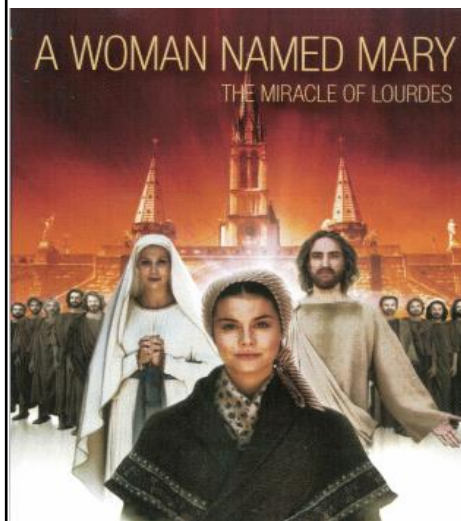
PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH: For those struggling with sickness, facing surgery, or in recovery, especially Lucy Longo, Darren Day, Clare Forton, Adolfo Cruz, Maria Longo, Marcella Cloran, Carl Blansjaar, Jackie Blansjaar, Orest & Therese Witiw, John Gougen, Betty McGowan, Pauline Modeste, Felipe Cortes, Frank Chu, Julie Lee, Andre Mickelson, Emily Stecyk, Luciana Fung, Joan Rempel, Maria Paulina Acevedo, Marion Coderre, Tom Kenelly, Murt Kenelly, Americo Coco, Michael Cummings, Felix Moya, Israel Akhigbe, Ed & Louise Zawada 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 Jonathan Abcede, Joan Kucharski, Mary Ann Beaulieu, Lydia Erickson, Shauna Chong, Anita Benito, Bill Grace, Isabel Werner, Lois Spennath, Jana Van Driel, William Huk, Belinda Bernaldez, Alma Monforte & Fr. Jack Hamilton that He will raise them up to live forever.

Family Movie Night



Where: St. Thomas More Parish

When: Sun, Dec 8 at 6:30pm on the Feast day of the Immaculate Conception.

Cost: Entrance & concession by free will donations, to support Pro Life causes.

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus!

Scripture and Song

MUSIC TO PREPARE FOR CHRISTMAS

St. Thomas More Music Ministry

Invites you to an afternoon of scripture, song and prayer

Sunday, Dec. 15 at 3 pm



St. Thomas More Catholic Church

210 HADDOW CLOSE
(CORNER OF 23 AVE AND TERWILLEGAR DRIVE)

A freewill offering will be taken

Advent Waiting Holy Hour

Friday, Nov 29, Dec 6, 13, & 20

7pm to 8:15pm

Join us for a Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior this Christmas.

- Reflect on the mystery of Christ's incarnation
- Experience the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist
- Prepare your soul for the beauty of Christmas



Through reflection, scripture & prayerful recollection, let us embrace the gift of Advent—awaiting Emmanuel, God with us.

CWL Christmas Market

Date: Saturday, December 7th

Time: 9 am to 4 pm

Location: Parish Hall



Join us for a festive day of shopping, treats, and holiday fun! Discover unique gifts, delicious goodies, and support over 40 vendors at the market.

Highlights: Bake sale, book and puzzle sale, gift basket raffle – purchase tickets for a chance to win an amazing prize!

Calling all bakers! Parishioners are invited to contribute to the bake sale by dropping off homemade Christmas treats on **Friday, December 6th, from 3 pm to 7 pm** at the Parish Hall.

We look forward to seeing you there!

2024 Nativity Play

There's nothing like it... be part of the miracle! Celebrating our 18th year! Experience the wonder of the Advent season with a **live theatre production** featuring all the key events:

- The Annunciation
- The Visitation
- Zechariah's Canticle
- King Herod, and more!



starring some 40 children and youth of St. Thomas More parish.

Saturday, December 7th at 3pm at The Orange Hub Theatre,

10045 - 156 Street

Tickets: \$25 (adults) \$15 (children)

Choose your seat online:

grindstonetheatre.ca/calendar

Text/Call: (780) 717 5761



Join us for a heartwarming celebration of the season!

Dear Parents,

We still have available spaces for infant baptisms on January 5, 2025. However, please contact us soon at Baptism.STM@caedm.ca to make a tentative booking and to register for the in-person baptism preparation class on December 7, 2024. All details can be found on our website stm.caedm.ca, under Sacraments-Baptism in the Baptism requirements document.

Thank you!



e4c School Lunch Program: Thank you for supporting the e4c Brown Bag School Lunch collection!



To date, we have raised over **\$9,500**. Lunch bags with contributions can be dropped off at the church until **mid-December**.

Your generosity helps provide meals to students in need—thank you for making a difference!

Join us for a
Seniors (55+)
Christmas Dinner
on Saturday, Dec 14

The Knights of Columbus will be selling tickets after the weekend Masses.

To reserve a table, contact

Wally Streit at 780 988 8719



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

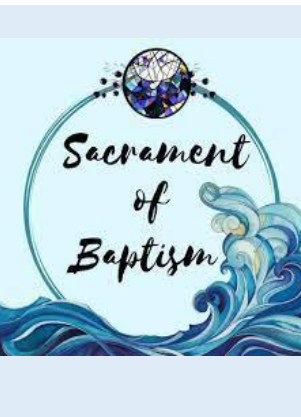
We are a faith community that supports families, and recognizes marriage and family are the core of God's plan.

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 Dec 7, Jan 18, Feb 15 & Mar 15 from 10-11:30am while the Zoom meetings for the 2nd part of the "Belonging" online program are available on Dec 14, Jan 11, Feb 8 & Mar 8 from 10-11am. We strongly encourage families to register and complete their preparation as early as possible. Baptisms will be celebrated on January 5 & 26, Feb 23 (no Baptisms in Dec, Mar & Apr) more dates in 2025 are available on our website .

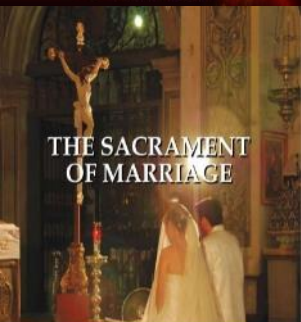
For Later Baptism: We are happy to accommodate children between the ages of 7 and 15, who would like to be baptized and receive all other age appropriate sacraments. All infant and children baptism requirements, preparation options and schedule details are available on our website in the [Baptism Requirements](#) 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: One day Marriage Retreat on February 22, 2025.



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.