

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PARISH

210 Haddow Close, Edmonton, AB T6R 2P3 Tel: 780 434 6313 Website: stm.caedm.ca email: communications.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



Presentation of the Lord February 2, 2025

WEEKDAY LITURGIES, (FEB 4- 7)

Tue: Confession/Mass: 4:15/5 pm
Wed: Confession/Mass: 8:15/9 am
Thurs: Confession/Mass: 4:15/5 pm
1st Fri: Confession/Mass: 8:15/9am

SUNDAY MASS TIMES, (FEB 8/9)

1st Saturday: Mass at 9am
 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)



Presentation of the Lord in the temple

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Tue, Feb 04: Confession/Mass: 4:15/5 pm
 CWL Fellowship at 5:30pm

Wed, Feb 05: Confession/Mass: 8:15/9am
 STM Afro Heritage Choir practice at 7pm

Thur, Feb 06: Game Zone 12:30 to 3:30pm
 Confession/Mass: 4:15/5pm
 Children's choir 6 to 7pm
 Adult Choir 7 to 9:45pm
 RCIA 7 to 9pm

1st Fri, Feb 07: Confession/Mass: 8:15/9am
 First Friday Observances, Mass at 9am, Adoration & Benediction at 12pm

1st Sat, Feb 08: Mass at 9am, 1st Saturday Recollection to follow
 Altar Server's Workshop 8:45 to 11:30am
 In person Baptism prep 10 to 11:30am
 Confession/Mass: 3-4pm/4:30pm
 Verso L'Alto/Dc in Altum at 5:30pm to 8pm

Sun, Feb 09: Mass at 8am, 9:30am, 11am & 12:30pm
 Young Families ministry attends 9:30am Mass, fellowship to follow
 STM Afro Heritage Mass at 4:30pm

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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Fri, Feb 14: Valentine's Day, supper and family dance

Mon, Feb 17: Family day long weekend, church and office closed

Wed, Feb 19: Parish Pastoral Council meeting at 7pm

Sat, Feb 22:

- "Christ at the Center"-One day Marriage retreat, 9am to 4:30pm
- Baptism prep, 9:30am to 12:30pm for children, ages 7 to 15 in the Accommodated program

Online Called To Protect Workshop: please check the Catholic Archdiocese website for registration

Monday, **February 10** at 1 pm

Wednesday, **February 12** at 6:30 pm

**St. Thomas More
Parish Afro-Heritage Mass**
 This special Mass will be on
February 9 at 4:30pm.



OPEN HOUSE

**JUNIOR HIGH
Thursday,
February 6
at 7:00 PM**

Sunday Gospel Reflection

By Deacon Tom



Faithfulness in Prayer (Luke 2:22-40)

Anna had been a widow for many years and spent her time, day and night, in prayer and fasting in the temple, praying to see the Messiah.

Simeon, like the prophets of ancient Israel, had been seized by the spirit of God (Isa 61:1), and these two had been waiting for Jesus' coming, as the world had waited thousands of years. Neither Simeon nor Anna belonged to the ranks of formal temple personnel, yet they were the ones who recognized Jesus, while others did not, showing us that God and the ways of God are revealed to those who have faithful minds and hearts.

Jesus (the king of glory, the strong and mighty one) entered the Temple quietly and yet Simeon and the prophetess Anna recognized him. Do we recognize the Lord in the unassuming, the poor or the

vulnerable?

Jesus is brought to the temple to fulfill a religious tradition of the Jewish people in which the child was redeemed, but today it is the world that will be redeemed. This child will be the light that shines in the darkness of the world and Jesus will enlighten all people (Jew and Gentile).

Anna's prayers were not answered immediately, but near the end of her life, as God's plan to send the Messiah included answering the prayers of a humble widow. Faithful praying may mean a lifetime of waiting before we receive an answer, but let us continue to pray for each other until we see God's answer.

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 Greg Nelson, Lucy Longo, Maria Longo, Darren Day, Clare Forton, Marcella Cloran, Carl & Jackie Blansjaar, Orest & Therese Witiw, Mattis Grimoine, Veronica Sprysak, Julie Lee, Marion Coderre, Ashley West, Luciana Fung, Joan Rempel, Tom Kennelly, Murt Kennelly, Flor John Villacillo, Michael Cummings, Sandy Jungblut, Erin Gaudet, Kelli Lavigne, Felix Moya, Baby Elijah Bota, Theresa Imlah, Ashley West, Stelios Kiliaris, Adolfo Cruz Jr, Coen Padilla, Marcus Cruz & Alfred Morrill 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 Efen Salimbogat, Lydia Esguerra, Juana Dacasin Garcia, Patricia Lavender, Frank Chu, Grace Lintz, Gerald Trisko, Nicole Lacousiere, Gail Turchansky, Joe Francese, Mike Francese, Giuseppe Francese, Mariantonia Francese, Dirk Machtans, Leo George, Dorothy Risling & Fred Shinkaruk that He will raise them up to live forever.

The **later Baptism** for children (age 7-15) will be accommodated only on March 2, 2025 for this school year. The accommodated children baptism preparation will be on Feb. 22, 2025. Commitments to prepare and receive other age appropriate sacraments are required. Please call the office for details or check out this [Baptism Requirements document](#) which is also available on [our website](#). Thank you for your attention!

"This is our Faith. This is the faith of the Church."

- Roman Catholic Baptismal Rite

"I believe..."

Session 1: What is the First Council of Nicaea and Why Does it Matter?

Thursday, February 13, 7:00 pm

Holy Family Parish

75 Poirier Avenue, St. Albert

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

No cost – no registration required.

Join in person at the parish or watch on the ArchEdmonton YouTube channel.



Presented by Deacon Dr. Cyril Kennedy
Director of liturgy for the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Edmonton. Deacon Cyril teaches at Newman Theological College and St. Joseph's College.



Reflection by Archbishop Richard Smith

Fellowship hosted by Holy Family Youth

"I believe" is a seven-part catechesis series on the Nicene Creed, offered during the Jubilee year to mark the 1700th Anniversary of the First Council of Nicaea.



The Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton

Christ at the Center – One-Day Marriage Retreat

"Putting Christ at the center of our married lives is crucial for maintaining a strong marriage"

This one-day course will be a chance to step away from our everyday lives, to reflect on our relationship with Christ, our relationship with our spouse and on how we can build and 'grow' in our marriages

Saturday, Feb 22 9 am to 4:30 pm

We will encounter Christ and be cleansed through Reconciliation, be fed through the Word and the Blessed Sacrament and go out to be leavened to the world. Marriage and family life are the domestic Church and through our marriages we proclaim God's love to others.

[One-Day Marriage Retreat Feb 22, 2025 \(9:30 am - 5:30 pm\) | Flocknote](#)

Reconciliation will be available



Fun night out before Lent?

The Knights of Columbus Fr. Bonner Council along with the Refugee Committee are hosting the **Valentine's Day Dinner and Dance** at the Parish Hall, February 14th.

Tickets are available for sale at the entrance of the church following all weekend Masses leading up to the event.

Sacrament of Marriage

Step 1: When preparing for marriage is to talk with our Pastor, Father Mark.

Catholic Marriage Preparation will take place on March 14 to 16, 2025, at our parish.

Register bit.ly/MarriagePrep2025

The registration deadline is on February 14, 2025.



Marriage Preparation

The Knights of Columbus, Fr. Bonner Council #7599, invites all boys and girls ages 9 to 14, to our **"Basketball Free Throw Championship"** on February 22.

Registration and practice will be from 9 to 9:45 a.m., with the competition from 10 to 1pm. The event will be held at Joan Carr Catholic school, 1140 Keswick Drive SW, Edmonton.



Certificates and pizza/drinks will be provided to participants, along with door prizes. Information packages, including entry forms, are available at the grocery card counter at the back of the church or in front of the parish office.

Jan/Feb 2025

Youth & Family Ministry Events

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| Jan 29 - YamJam | Feb 12 - YamJam |
| Jan 30 - Game Zone | Feb 13 - Game Zone |
| Feb 05 - YamJam | Feb 19 - YamJam |
| Feb 06 - Game Zone | Feb 20 - Game Zone |
| Feb 08 - Duc In Altum
& Verso L'Alto | Feb 22 - Duc In Altum
& Verso L'Alto |
| Feb 09 - Younger Family
Fellowship | Feb 26 - Mom & Tots
Feb 26 - YamJam |
| Feb 12 - Mom & Tots | Feb 27 - Game Zone |



St. Vincent De Paul Pantry is in need of the following items: pancake mix and syrup, jams, canned tomatoes, pasta sauces, Cheez Whiz, canned fruit, juices, & canned meats (ham, chicken)

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

At St. Thomas More, we are beginning the Spring 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, March 4, 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.



Scan to sign up for more information



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

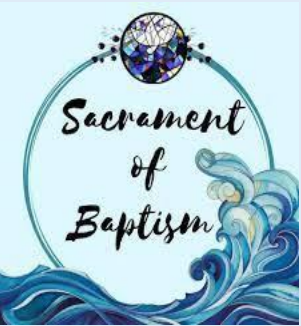
We are a faith community that supports families, and recognizes marriage and family are the core of God's plan.

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.



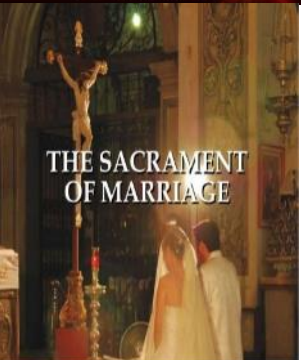
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Infant Group Baptisms are celebrated year-round, except during Advent and Lent. We accept **Infant Baptism** registrations from unborn baby to children under the age of 7 and **Later Baptism** registrations for children between the ages of 7 and 15, who would like to be baptized and receive all other age-appropriate sacraments. A Baptism Preparation program is required for both parents and godparents. We offer 3 different options for both in-person and online preparations. Upcoming In-person preparation classes for Infants are on Feb 8, Mar 15 & Apr 26 from 10-11:30 am while the Zoom meetings for the 2nd part of the "Belonging" online program are available on Mar 8 & Apr 12 from 10-11 am. Preparation for Later Baptism will be held in-person on Feb 22 from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. We encourage families to register and complete their preparation as early as possible. Baptisms will be celebrated on Feb 23 and May 4 & 25. More dates for preparation and Baptism for the remainder of 2025 are available on our website in the [Baptism Requirements](#) document under [Sacraments-Baptism](#). Please email all baptism enquiries to Baptism.STM@caedm.ca or contact Tracy 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 \(Spring Cycle 3\) 2025 is 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 2025 \(Spring Cycle 2\) is 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: This one day, "Christ at the Center" retreat (Feb. 22nd, 2025) is your opportunity to refocus your marriage on Christ. Even when a marriage is going smoothly, there are always opportunities to make it work better.



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 to 9 pm.



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