

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



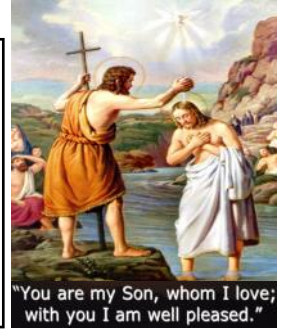
Baptism of the Lord January 12, 2025

WEEKDAY LITURGIES, (JAN 14– 17)

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

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)

SUNDAY MASS TIMES, (JAN 18/19)



THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Tue, Jan 14:** Funeral Mass for Lydia Esguerra at 11am
 Confession/Mass: 4:15/5 pm
 CWL Fellowship at 5:30pm
 1st Eucharist (cycle 2-class 1)- 5:50 to 6:50pm
 Grief Support 7 to 9pm
 Knights of Columbus meeting at 7pm
- Wed, Jan 15:** Confession/Mass: 8:15/9am
 Funeral Mass for Grace Lintz at 1:30pm
 1st Eucharist (cycle 2-class 2) 5:50 to 6:50pm
- Thur, Jan 16:** Game Zone 12:30 to 3:30pm
 Confession/Mass: 4:15/5pm
 1st Eucharist (cycle 2-class 3) 5:50 to 6:50pm
 Children's choir 6 to 7pm
 Adult Choir 7 to 9:45pm
 RCIA 7 to 9pm
- Fri, Jan 17:** Confession/Mass: 8:15/9am
 YAM—Social 8 to 10pm
- Sat, Jan 18:** Divine Mercy project steering Committee meeting 9 to 10:30am
 In person Baptism Prep, 10 to 11:30am
 Confession/Mass: 3-4pm/4:30pm
- Sun, Jan 19:** Mass at 8am, 9:30am, 11am & 12:30pm
 New Parishioners Welcome at 2pm.

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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Jan 25 & 26 Knights of Columbus membership drive after all Masses

Sun, Jan 26 Pancake breakfast after the 8 & 9:30 am Masses

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

Catholic Renewal Services of Edmonton

The Catholic Renewal Services of the Archdiocese of Edmonton is hosting their next Mass with Healing Service on Saturday January 18, 6:30 pm start, with Fr. Matthew Hysell presiding. It will be held at St. Emeric's Hungarian Catholic Church (12960-112 St NW, Edmonton). Reconciliation on Saturday, with Fr. Matthew, will only be available between 3:30 to 5 pm at St. Emeric's. Jesus said, "I am the Bread of Life, he who comes to Me will not hunger and he who believes in Me will never thirst." John 6:35 www.crsedmonton.ca/events

Sunday Gospel Reflection

By Deacon Tom



Jesus' Baptism (Luke 3:15-16, 21-22)

Jesus had no need of Baptism as his soul was free from any kind of sin, yet he asked for and willingly received Baptism from John, confirming the work and mission of John the Baptist, and showing us the importance of the future sacrament.

The baptism of Jesus is the beginning of His ministry as the anointed one, the Messiah of God, the servant, the one who is mighty, but merciful, filled with the gentle, compassionate spirit of God.

Jesus came as a servant to the broken, suffering, blind and imprisoned. He gave justice, compassion and healing to all people. What Jesus accomplished on the cross began at His baptism.

As disciples of Jesus we are to continue the ministry Jesus first took

upon himself, helping others both physically and spiritually. If Jesus said John was the greatest person born of a woman, and John said that he was not worthy to untie the thong of Jesus' sandals, then let us not conform to the expectations of a proud and self-absorbed world, but see ourselves only as servants of Jesus.

Baptism holds the first place among the sacraments because it is the door of the spiritual life and prepares our soul for the reception of future sacraments like Holy Eucharist, Reconciliation, etc..

Baptism wipes away sin from our soul and makes us an heir of heaven. When a baptized soul, in the state of sanctifying grace departs this life, it has God's promise of eternal happiness in heaven.

Do you know of a young man who displays signs of a call to the Priesthood? St. Joseph Seminary will be hosting a **Come and See weekend January 24-26, 2025**. Interested men are asked to contact Fr. Kris Schmidt prior to submitting the registration for the weekend: Kris.Schmidt@caedm.ca or 780 995 3930.

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, John Gougen, Betty McGowan, Pauline Modeste, Felipe Cortes, Julie Lee, Andre Mickelson, 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, Sandy Jungblut, Ashley West, Stelios Kiliaris, Adolfo Cruz Jr. and Marcus Cruz 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 Lolita Santos, Rev. Donald MacDonald, Efen Salimbagat, Lydia Esquerro, Ed Zawada, Lukose and Annamma, Gordon Coderre, Patricia Lavender, Frank Chu, Grace Lintz, Gerald Trisko, Nicole Lacousiere Gail Turchansky and Olga Frost that He will raise them up to live forever.



Hope does not disappoint!" (Rom 5:5)

In 2025, the Church will celebrate The Ordinary Jubilee of the Year 2025 – a special time of forgiveness, reconciliation, conversion, and re-commitment to our mission to serve God through the Church. In the Archdiocese of Edmonton, Catholics will have a number of opportunities to embark on the "Pilgrimage of Hope."

Watch for more information in the parish bulletin, Window, social media and on the Archdiocesan website.



The Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton

The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,

May the *faith* you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of *charity* enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed *hope* for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.

May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*, a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever.
Amen

January 2025 Youth & Family Ministry Events

- Jan 11 - Duc In Altum & Verso L'Alto
- Jan 16 - Game Zone
- Jan 17 - YamJam
- Jan 23 - Game Zone
- Jan 24 - YamJam
- Jan 25 - Duc In Altum & Verso L'Alto
- Jan 30 - Game Zone
- Jan 31 - YamJam

Scan to sign up for more information




Christ at the Center – One-Day Marriage Retreat

This one-day retreat is your opportunity to refocus your marriage on Christ. Even when a marriage is going smoothly, there are always opportunities to make it better.

It will be a time to step away from our everyday lives, to reflect and discuss our relationship individually with Christ, as a couple, and with our spouse. We will also receive the sacrament of Reconciliation and attend Mass together.




**February 22, 2025 at
St. Thomas More Parish**

<https://stmedmonton.flocknote.com/signup/195256>



Save the Date!
NATIONAL VISITATION OF
THE RELICS OF
**St. Jean de Brébeuf
and of
St. Kateri Tekakwitha**

MARTYRS' SHRINE
JESUITES OF CANADA




Wednesday, January 22, 2025
9:00 am-12:00 pm | Sacred Heart Church of the First Peoples, 10821 96 Street NW, Edmonton
2:00-8:00 pm | Corpus Christi Parish, 2707 34 Street NW, Edmonton

ENCOUNTER SCHOOL OF MINISTRY EDMONTON CAMPUS

JANUARY 18, 2025
ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
6 MCMILLAN AVENUE RED DEER - ALBERTA CANADA

HEALING SERVICE



PRESENTER FR. PAUL MORET
PRESENTER WILLIAM SMILEY

JESUS PROMISED, "THESE SIGNS WILL ACCOMPANY THOSE WHO BELIEVE...THEY WILL LAY HANDS ON THE SICK AND THEY WILL RECOVER." MARK 16:17

JESUS CHRIST IS THE DIVINE PHYSICIAN. LET US ENTRUST OUR HEARTS & BODIES TO HIM.

COME & EXPERIENCE GOD'S SUPERNATURAL LOVE!

5:00PM	OPTIONAL MASS
6:00PM	OPENING PRAISE & WORSHIP
6:30PM	GOSPEL HEALING PRESENTATION BY FR. PAUL MORET
7:00PM	CORPORATE PRAYER FOR HEALING & TESTIMONIES LED BY WILLIAM SMILEY
8:00PM	INDIVIDUAL PRAYER MINISTRY

encounterschool.org/edmonton

MANY THANKS FOR GIVING TREE DONATIONS IN SUPPORT OF LURANA SHELTER:

Once again, the St. Thomas More parishioners opened their hearts and their wallets and generously donated to the women and children at Lurana Shelter. **Over \$5,400** was donated in gift cards with many of them purchases from the Knights of Columbus, making it a double donation. In addition, **almost 3,000 items** of toiletries, women's clothing, toys, crafts, books, baby items including diapers, and other gifts were placed under the tree. These generous gifts provide comfort and support at Christmas and throughout the year for the women and children who are fleeing domestic violence. The *Giving Tree's* success shows how the parishioners of our parish reflect the true meaning of Christmas.

Winter 2025 STM Scripture Study: The scripture study will begin on Monday, February 3, 2025 from 7:30 to 9pm. There will be 10 weekly sessions – the last one on April 7, 2025. Sessions will be virtual meetings on Zoom, so one would need to have this free app to access the study. We will be studying "Divine Mercy". Both the Old Testament and the New Testament reveal our God who shows His mercy in Word and deed. A great Lenten preparation for the Triduum – the mercy of His death and resurrection. I will bulk-order the workbooks to save money and the cost should be \$15 per book. Once I have your contact information (email and phone number), I can make arrangements to get the booklets to you. Those who have participated in other scripture studies have noted a positive impact upon their faith life. For registration or information call Deacon Randy Abele at (780) 435-5070 or (780) 493-1972 or email: randy.abele@caedm.ca

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

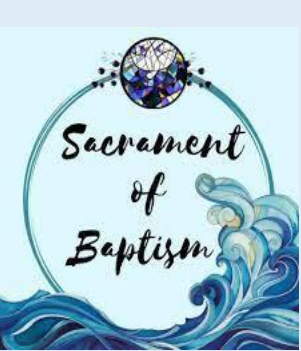
We are a faith community that supports families, and recognizes marriage and family are the core of God's plan.

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. The next welcome is [Sunday January 19th at 2 pm](#).



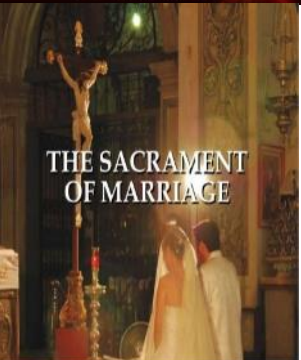
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Infant Group Baptisms are celebrated year-round, except during Advent and Lent. We accept **Infant Baptism** registrations from unborn baby to children under the age of 7 and **Later Baptism** registrations for children between the ages of 7 and 15, who would like to be baptized 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 Jan 18, Feb 8 & Mar 15 from 10-11:30 am while the Zoom meetings for the 2nd part of the "Belonging" online program are available on Jan 11, Feb 15 & Mar 8 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 January 26, Feb 23 and March 15. 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!!](#)