

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

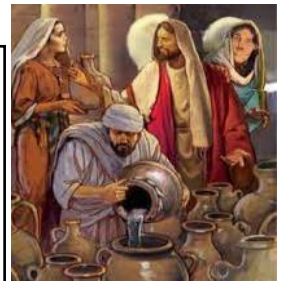
Pastor: Fr. Mark McGee

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

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 19, 2025



JESUS TURNS WATER INTO WINE

WEEKDAY LITURGIES, (JAN 21- 24)

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

SUNDAY MASS TIMES, (JAN 25/26)

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, Jan 21: Confession/Mass: 4:15/5 pm
CWL General meeting at 7pm

Wed, Jan 22: Confession/Mass: 8:15/9am

Thur, Jan 23: 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

Fri, Jan 24: Confession/Mass: 8:15/9am
YAM—Social 8 to 10pm

Sat, Jan 25: Confession/Mass: 3-4pm/4:30pm
Verso L'Alto/Duc in Altum. 5:30 to 7:30pm

Sun, Jan 26: Pancake Breakfast after 8am & 9:30am Masses
Mass at 8am, 9:30am, 11am & 12:30pm
Infant Baptisms 2:30 to 3:30pm.

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



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Sun, Jan 19 "New Parishioners Welcome!" at 2pm

Sun, Feb 2: 1st Eucharist Mass (cycle 2) at 4:30pm

Sun, Feb 9: STM & Young Families at 9:30am Mass
Afro Heritage Mass at 4:30pm

Sat, Feb 22: Christ at the Center-One day Marriage Retreat

Sun, Feb 23: Last Infant Baptisms before Lent

Called To Protect Workshop

January 23, Thursday, 6:30 pm: <https://forms.gle/v6AKnNpQEkEuk6Cf8>

January 29, Wednesday, 1:00 pm: <https://forms.gle/Zh4uXiEoWeiuci2k6>

February 10, Monday, 1:00 pm: <https://forms.gle/eeHFbkTYJF8oPjix6>

February 12, Wednesday, 6:30 pm In-Person at St Charles: <https://forms.gle/hIFweixYvFrXt6Wq5>

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



Archbishop Joseph MacNeil
Catholic Elementary/Junior High School

OPEN HOUSE

JUNIOR HIGH
Thursday,
February 6
at 7:00 PM



Sunday Gospel Reflection

By Deacon Tom



The Good Wine (John 2:1-12)

Understanding the solemn and sacramental nature of marriage, we are filled with joy when Jesus performs his first "sign", at his mother's request, during a wedding feast. The disciples saw the sign, the glory of Jesus as the Son of God was revealed, and the disciples believed.

The abundance of good wine symbolizes how Jesus will renew us and the world. Wine has a symbolic meaning for joy and the blessings of God (Psalm 104:15; Proverbs 3:10; Jeremiah 48:33) and God used the image of wine as a prophetic symbolism of God dwelling with his people, blessing them and restoring them.

The wine running out symbolizes that the Jewish nation has separated itself from God, and no longer receives God's blessings and favour. Jesus challenges the old ways by eliminating the purification jars. The

jars which previously contained water now contain wine. This water was not for drinking but for ceremonial washing. Cleansing now comes through Jesus and purification is found in the Lamb of God, not ritual washings.

Jesus restores the blessings to the nation by his gift of grace and blessings (Good Wine), and that which Jesus offers is so much superior than what the people have ever experienced.

The amount of wine that was produced (120-180 gallons), exceeds the needs of the wedding feast, showing that the abundant grace that Jesus offers us is so much more than we can ever imagine, "From his fullness we have all received grace upon grace" (1:16).

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, Mattis Grimoin, Veronica Sprysak, Diane Costigan, Coen Padilla, 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, Sandy Jungblut, Ashley West, Stelios Kiliaris, Adolfo Cruz Jr, Veronica Sprysak, Coen Padilla 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

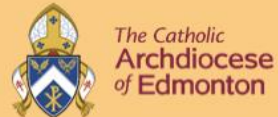
Book of Remembrance, especially for Efen Salimbagat, Lydia Esguerra, Gordon Coderre, Patricia Lavender, Frank Chu, Grace Lintz, Gerald Trisko, Nicole Lacousiere, Gail Turchansky, Joe Francese, Mike Francese, Giuseppe Francese, Mariantonia Francese, Dirk Machtans & Dorothy Risling that He will raise them 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.



caedm.ca/jubilee

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.

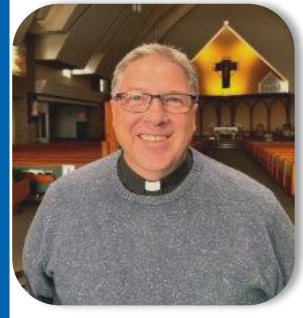
May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*, a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

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 22 - Mom & Tots
- Jan 23 - Game Zone
- Jan 24 - YamJam
- Jan 25 - Duc In Altum
& Verso L'Alto
- Jan 30 - Game Zone
- Jan 31 - YamJam



Jan 17



"Happy Birthday Fr. Mark McGee!"

We are grateful for your presence at St. Thomas More Parish. May God bless you with abundant grace on this day and many days to come.

Christ at the Center – One-Day Marriage Retreat

Might you look forward to a day away with your honey? One in which you could grow closer together?



Following from the Archdiocese pastoral priorities, the "Christ at the Center" 1-day Marriage retreat's development was led by Father Mark and will be held Saturday February 22nd. Space is limited, and registration is open.

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

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

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



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

"A Big Thank you!" from the Knights of Columbus: On December 14, 2024, for the first time in many years, The Knights of Columbus Father Bonner Council 7599, hosted a dinner for 235 seniors who were entertained by some members of the St. Thomas More choir. That evening, Dr. Dennis Bedard and his wife Bev were honored for their long service to the church, the Knights, the local community and the international community. Also, that evening \$4,400 was raised for the children of Ukraine. Food remaining after the dinner was delivered to the Madonna House. A number of relatively new Knights worked on this project. Thank-you all for supporting this special evening for our "Valued Seniors".



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



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

Do you have a spiritual formation goal for 2025? Aurora Living: Formation Through Word & Creation is still accepting applicants for our winter module—*Wilderness: The Journey to Wholeness*— starting January 24, 2025. Come join a formation community growing in scripture, creation care and reconciliation! Each 3-month module includes an opening retreat weekend and two Saturday retreats, smaller Wisdom Circle gatherings, monthly online resources and optional spiritual direction. Our presenters for this module include Debbie Rolfes, Rabbi Laura Duhan-Kaplan, and Ron Rolheiser. Find out more at www.starofthenorth.ca/wilderness

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

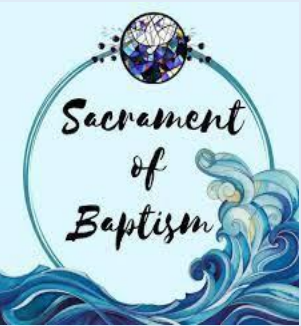
We are a faith community that supports families, and recognizes marriage and family are the core of God's plan.

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](#).



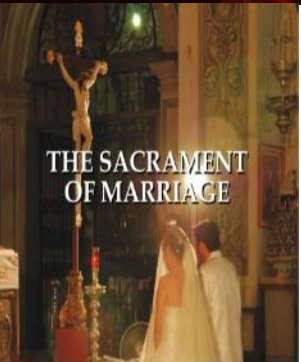
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Infant Group Baptisms are celebrated year-round, except during Advent and Lent. We accept **Infant Baptism** registrations from unborn baby to children under the age of 7 and **Later Baptism** registrations for children between the ages of 7 and 15, who would like to be baptized 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 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 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!!](#)