



# ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PARISH

210 Haddow Close, Edmonton, AB T6R 2P3 Tel: 780 434 6313 Website: [stm.caedm.ca](http://stm.caedm.ca) email: [communications.stm@caedm.ca](mailto: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

**3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
January 26, 2025



The Spirit of the LORD is upon me, because He has anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor.

## WEEKDAY LITURGIES, (JAN 28- 31)

**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, (FEB 1/2)

## THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

**Tue, Jan 28:** Confession/Mass: 4:15/5 pm  
CWL Fellowship at 5:30pm

**Wed, Jan 29:** Confession/Mass: 8:15/9am  
Afro Heritage Choir practice at 7pm

**Thur, Jan 30:** 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 31:** Confession/Mass: 8:15/9am  
YAM Jam—Social 8 to 10pm  
Baptism Prep—Belonging Part 2 (zoom) 10 to 11am

**Sat, Feb 01:** Confession/Mass: 3-4pm/4:30pm

**Sun, Feb 02:** Mass at 8am, 9:30am, 11am & 12:30pm  
1st Eucharist Mass (cycle 2) at 4:30pm

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



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**Wed, Feb 5:** Afro Heritage Choir practice at 7pm

**Sun, Feb 9:** Young Families ministry attends 9:30am Mass, fellowship to follow  
STM Afro Heritage Mass at 4:30pm

**Sat, Feb 22:** Christ at the Center—One day Marriage Retreat, 9am-4:30pm

**Sun, Feb 23:** Last Infant Baptisms before Lent at 2:30pm,

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

Wednesday, **January 29** at 1 pm

Monday, **February 10** at 1 pm:

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

## 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](http://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



## Jesus Preaches (Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21)

In Nazareth, where Jesus was brought up, he announces that he is the anointed one of God, that he has come to preach the gospel to the poor, and that he is the long-awaited Redeemer.

The rejection in his hometown represents what will happen to Jesus as he preaches to the Jewish people and it is the Gentiles, hated by the Jews and considered not worthy of God, who would instead be the recipients of God's blessings.

When the people heard Ezra proclaim the Word of God, they cried out, "Amen!, Amen!" as they understood that they needed God to break the enslavement of sin, and to have eternal life.

Through one body in Christ, we respond as different members of that body as our diversity does not separate us but enriches us. Some

respond with their hands (sharing), some with their feet (religious) as we learn to live with one another as members of one body, respecting each member as being important and contributing to the total health of the entire body.

Jesus has come offering to heal our lives and change us, bringing purpose, meaning and light to our lives. Prompted by the Spirit, let's show more patience and understanding in our families; give more generosity in our community; share each others' hurts and celebrate each other's blessings.

Jesus' mission is our mission and we are called upon to put our trust in him, knowing that faith in Jesus is the first step on the road to salvation.

### 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, 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 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 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 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

Interested as a couple in stepping away from everyday life, reflecting and discussing your marriage relationship centered on Christ?

### STM's "Christ at the Center"

#### 1-Day Marriage Retreat

Sat. Feb 22, 9 am - 4:30 pm

Followed by Mass with a blessing for couples

Lunch and snacks provided



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



## 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.

## St. Thomas More

### Parish Afro-Heritage Mass

This special Mass will be on

**February 9** at 4:30pm.



2025 registration opens on January 27th. See you this summer!

**OUR LADY OF VICTORY CAMP**

[www.OLVC.ca](http://www.OLVC.ca)

# Jan/Feb 2025

## Youth & Family Ministry Events

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



Scan to sign up for more information



**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)

**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](mailto:randy.abele@caedm.ca)



# 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

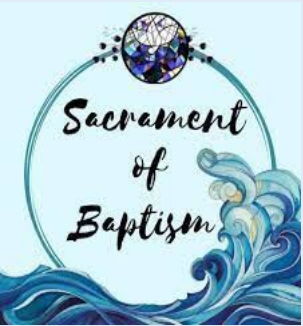
We are a faith community that supports families, and recognizes marriage and family are the core of God's plan.

Learn more at: [CAedm.ca](http://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.



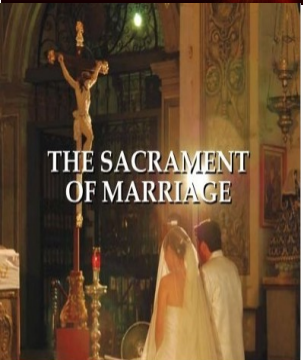
**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:** Infant Group Baptisms are celebrated year-round, except during Advent and Lent. We accept **Infant Baptism** registrations from unborn baby to children under the age of 7 and **Later Baptism** registrations for children between the ages of 7 and 15, who would like to be baptized 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 Feb 1, 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](mailto: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!!](#)