

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



5th Sunday in Ordinary Time February 9, 2025

WEEKDAY LITURGIES, (FEB 11- 14)

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, (FEB 15/16)

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)



"Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people."

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Tue, Feb 11: Confession/Mass: 4:15/5 pm
CWL Fellowship at 5:30pm
Liturgy Committee meeting at 7pm
Knights of Columbus General meeting at 7pm
Wed, Feb 12: Confession/Mass: 8:15/9am
Funeral of Ralph Falvo at 1pm
Thur, Feb 13: 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, Feb 14: Confession/Mass: 8:15/9am
Valentine's Day, supper and family dance at 6pm
Sat, Feb 15: Confession/Mass: 3-4pm/4:30pm
Sun, Feb 16: Mass at 8am, 9:30am, 11am & 12:30pm

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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

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

Called To Protect Workshop (online): please check the Catholic Archdiocese website for registration:

Monday, **February 10** at 1 pm
Wednesday, **February 12** at 6:30 pm

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!

St. Thomas More Parish Afro-Heritage Mass

for the feast of St. Josephine Bakhita

This special Mass will be on
Sunday, February 9 at 4:30pm.



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). These items go towards helping those in need.

Sunday Gospel Reflection

By Deacon Tom



Our Call (Luke 5:1-11)

The call described today is not just a summons to faith, but a call to ministry. As Isaiah is called in order to be sent and the fishermen are called in order to gather others to Jesus, each of us has been given a special call (or vocation) to follow a particular path in life. Not all vocations are the same. Some of us are called to religious life, others to a married state. Some of us know quite early in life what we want to be and some of us are undecided for many years.

As life transforming as this call may be, it comes to us in the ordinary times of life, like it did for St. Peter and his companions. Like St. Peter, the call of God will usually come to us as we wash our nets

or our dishes, as we teach or raise children, prepare a brief for the office, examine a patient, repair our car or work at the computer. We are called by God to be sent out into the world. The faith has been given to us, and we in turn are to give it to others.

Let us pray for the strength to accept the call and not be afraid; stepping forward to continue the mission of Jesus, proclaiming, teaching and preaching, nursing the sick, caring for the elderly, taking the Word of God to our workplaces, weeding out prejudice and violence, and changing the world for ourselves and our children.

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.



Recognition & Appreciation Weekend of Our Deacons



Deacon Randy



Deacon Tom



Deacon Gordon

Prayer for the Sick



PRAYER CORNER.....

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 Grimois, 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 & Diane Costigan 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 Grace Lintz, Gerald Trisko, Nicole Lacousiere, Gail Turchansky, Joe Francese, Mike Francese, Giuseppe Francese, Mariantonia Francese, Dirk Machtans, Leo George, Dorothy Risling, Fred Shinkaruk, Ralph Falvo & Wayne MacDonald that He will raise them up to live forever.

In our Parish, we have three Permanent Deacons – Randy Abele, Tom Sudsbear, and Gordon Taylor. Each of them celebrates Liturgies, attends special events as requested, and ministers to schools and senior homes in our parish. They also assist in the spiritual life of the parish by preaching regularly at Mass, and in the preparation of our parishioners and their children for sacraments.

A permanent deacon's ministry evolves in response to specific needs and his God-given talents. There are three dimensions of diaconal service: Ministry of Love and Justice, Ministry of the Word of God, and Ministry within the Liturgy. Permanent deacons prepare the faithful to celebrate the sacraments and to carry out their vocations as baptized Christians. They are commissioned to preach, to teach, to counsel and to give spiritual guidance. They baptize, witness marriages, and preside at Liturgy of the Word services and funerals. Deacons offer direct service to those in need, especially to those who are marginalized and most vulnerable. In all that they do, permanent deacons act as servants of the Church.

We are most appreciative of the work they do as servants of the Church! Please feel free to thank them personally for their service.

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 5:30 pm
(including Mass)**

We will encounter Christ and be cleansed through Reconciliation, be fed through the Word and the Blessed Sacrament and go out to be leaven 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](#)



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.



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.

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.

February 2025 Youth & Family Ministry Events

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|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Feb 06 - Game Zone | Feb 13 - Game Zone |
| Feb 08 - Duc In Altum & Verso L'Alto | Feb 20 - Game Zone |
| Feb 09 - Younger Family Ministry | Feb 21 - YamJam |
| Feb 12 - Moms & Tots | Feb 22 - Duc In Altum & Verso L'Alto |
| | Feb 26 - Mom & Tots |
| | Feb 27 - Game Zone |
| | Feb 28 - YamJam |



Scan to sign up for more information



I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

Congratulations to the following 10 children who entered into the community of our Catholic church in January through the Sacrament of Baptism,

Thomas Bratti Oliveira, Chimamanda Mira Emesiobi, Matteo Eze, Juliet Klassen, Céleste Mballa, Chizitel Onyeje, Felix Rebstock, Geoffrey Rotimi, Jidenna Ezimoha, & Lidia Madejski.

Please remember our new little brothers and sisters in Christ, in your prayers.

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

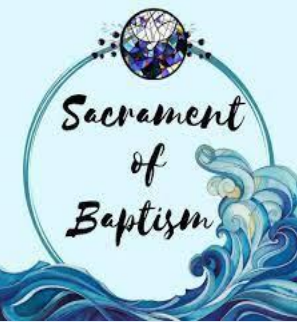
We are a faith community that supports families, and recognizes marriage and family are the core of God's plan.

Learn more at: CAedm.ca

PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE OR SEE THE WEBSITE FOR INFORMATION ABOUT:

Welcome New Parishioners

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.



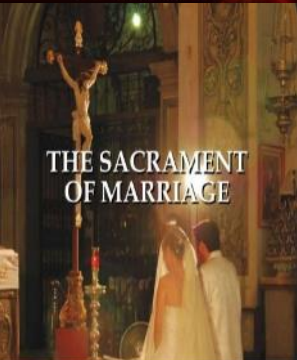
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Infant Group Baptisms are celebrated year-round, except during Advent and Lent. We accept **Infant Baptism** registrations from unborn baby to children under the age of 7 and **Later Baptism** registrations for children between the ages of 7 and 15, who would like to be baptized and receive all other age-appropriate sacraments. A Baptism Preparation program is required for both parents and godparents, and we offer both, in-person and online preparation options. Upcoming In-person preparation classes for Infants are on Mar 15, Apr 26 & May 10 from 10-11:30 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 2025—2026 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 FULL. Stay tuned for announcements for new sessions.](#)



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!!](#)