

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



1st Sunday of Lent March 9, 2025

WEEKDAY LITURGIES, (MAR 11- 14)

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

SUNDAY MASS TIMES, (MAR 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)



Jesus' Temptation in the Desert

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Mon, Mar 10:**
 - Confirmation (cycle 2) Parent Info. & Orientation, 6 to 7pm
- Tue, Mar 11:**
 - MMM catholic school Retreat, 9am to 2pm
 - Confession/Mass: 4:15/5 pm
 - CWL Fellowship at 5:30pm
 - Grief as a Journey at 7pm
 - Knights of Columbus meeting, 7 to 8:30pm
- Wed, Mar 12:**
 - Confession/Mass: 8:15/9am
 - Finance meeting, 10am to 12pm
 - 1st Recon/1st Communion, (cycle 3) Parent Info & Orientation, 6 to 7pm
- Thur, Mar 13:**
 - **Mass at 9am (no 5pm Mass)**
 - Game Zone, 12:30 to 3:30pm
 - 1st Recon/1st Communion, (cycle 4) Parent Info & Orientation, 6 to 7pm
 - Children's Choir 6 to 7pm
 - Adult Choir 7 to 9:45pm
 - RCIA 7 to 9pm
- Stations of the Cross**
 - Confession/Mass: 8:15/9am,
 - Funeral of Lois Comeau at 11am
 - Marriage Prep, 6 to 10pm
 - **Way of the Cross 7 to 8pm (CWL Lectors)**
- Sat, Mar 15:**
 - Marriage Prep, 9am to 6pm
 - Confession/Mass: 3-4pm/4:30pm
- Sun, Mar 16:**
 - Mass at 8am, 9:30am, 11am & 12:30pm
 - Marriage Prep, 9am to 12:30pm

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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- Mon, Mar 17:** In-person Baptism Prep, 7pm to 8:30pm
- Tue, Mar 18:** **Mass at 7pm, Holy Hour to follow (No 5pm Mass today)**
- Sat, Mar 22:** Junior/Senior High school- "Fast then Feast" Retreat.
- Wed & Thurs, Mar 19 & 20** 1st Reconciliation class, (cycle 4), 6 to 7:30pm
- Thurs, Mar 20:** No Game Zone
- Sat, Mar 22:** Divine Mercy Parish steering comm. Meeting, 9 to 10:30am



Banns of Marriage- First Call

Augustine Okoh Benard
 &
Osamede Lucy Eke

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS The **Knights of Columbus** invite parishioners to participate in Rosary prayer services to pray for a culture of life. A **Silver Rose**, part of a nine-month international pilgrimage, will be the centerpiece of special prayer services on **Sunday, March 16th**. This event will honor **Our Lady of Guadalupe** and express international unity and dedication to the sanctity of human life. The **Silver Rose** journey begins in March and will end its pilgrimage at the **Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe** in Mexico on **December 12th**.

Sunday Gospel Reflection

By Deacon Tom



Words and Actions (Luke 6:39-45)

Before Jesus, Moses and Elijah had fasted for 40 days at critical times in their ministry and whereas Adam (in Paradise) and Israel (for 40 years in the wilderness) failed the test of temptation and trial, Jesus did not.

Jesus tells us that if he, who was divine, was subject to temptation, then we, who are human, must also expect to endure it. We cannot escape it, but like Jesus we must face temptation and fight it! By enduring these temptations, Jesus shows us not only that we are to be tempted, but He shows us how to deal with temptations and reject them.

First, we are to pray, as Jesus did for forty days in the desert as praying is an appeal for divine help in achieving communion with God

and God gives help to those who pray to him and seek his aid.

Secondly, we must make the spiritual welfare and the good of our souls take precedence over earthly desires through fasting and penance.

God never permits us to be tempted beyond our strength and His grace is always with us, whenever temptation comes our way.

As the gospel concludes by observing that "when the devil had finished every test, he departed from Jesus until an opportune time" (i.e. the Passion, when "Satan entered into Judas called Iscariot" (Luke 22:30), during this holy season of Lent, let us trust in God's power to protect us as we face temptations, whenever and wherever they may arise.



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

"Spaces for **Infant Baptism** in May 2025 are filling up quickly! To begin the process, please email baptism.stm@caedm.ca or call the office to speak with Tracy/Dorothy".



The **Culture of Life** ministry at St. Thomas More invites you to participate in 40 Days for Life this lent by praying, fasting, and keeping vigil for an end to abortion. Participation is encouraged **throughout Lent from March 5th - April 13rd**. You are invited to stand and peacefully pray during the 40-day vigil in the public right-of-way near: Woman's Health Options (12409 109A Ave).

For more information and to sign up for vigil hours:

<https://www.40daysforlife.com/en/local-campaigns/edmonton/>

If you would like to volunteer to help, please contact:

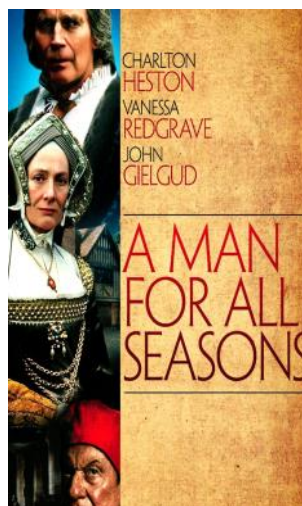
Edmonton Prolife (780-425-1637) or email :

info@edmontonprolife.org



Society of St. Vincent de Paul: There will be a 'reverse collection' Food Drive this weekend. Parishioners will be given a slip of paper with the name of a suggested food donation. If you are able, please bring the grocery items to the church next weekend (March 15/16) or at another time that is convenient for you. We would prefer that the food items be in smaller portions. Thank you in advance for your generosity in helping those in need!

Knights of Columbus Family Movie Night - March 28th



Join us for a special evening of faith and history at the Knights of Columbus Family Movie Night, which will take place **following the Stations of the Cross at 7pm**. We will be screening the multiple Academy Award-winning film, **A Man for All Seasons**, which powerfully depicts the final six years of the life of **St. Thomas More**, our parish patron saint. The movie explores the courageous stand of Thomas More, the 16th-century Lord Chancellor of England, who refused to sign a letter petitioning Pope Clement VII to annul King Henry VIII's marriage to Catherine of Aragon. More also refused to take the **Oath of Supremacy**, declaring Henry VIII as the Supreme Head of the Church of England.

This inspiring story of integrity, faith, and moral conviction will be a meaningful way for families to come together and reflect on the example of St. Thomas More. We hope to see you there!

Lenten Retreat for Women: The Catholic Women's League invites all women of the parish to a Lenten Retreat on Ignatian spirituality in daily life, presented by Faith Nostbakken.

Date: Saturday, March 15 **Time:** 9:30 am to 3pm

Location: Providence Renewal Centre, 3005 - 119 Street NW

Includes: Lunch **Reg. Fee:** \$10 for CWL members, \$20 for non-members

To register, please e-transfer to stmcwl@gmail.com and include **"2025 Lenten Retreat"** in the message. **Registration deadline: March 5.**



Way of the Cross

every Friday during Lent at 7pm on the following days:
March 14, 21, 28 April 4 & 11.

Ash Wednesday and Lent

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and continues for forty days, recalling Jesus' forty days fasting and praying in the desert. During Lent, we are invited to pay special attention to our spiritual lives through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. We also prepare by renewing our baptismal vows at Easter and through Penance. **Our day of Confessions is 1pm to 4pm on April 5th.**

Create a new heart in me, O Lord.

We encourage your participation in:

- + Eucharistic Adoration
- + Praying the Stations of the Cross.
- + The Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- + Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving.



The **Catholic Renewal Services** of the Archdiocese of Edmonton is hosting their next Mass with Healing Service on Saturday March 15, 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 3:30-5pm 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

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, Veronica Sprysak, Julie Lee, Jack Macken, Ashley West, Luciana Fung, Joan Rempel, Flor John Villacillo, Michael Cummings, Sandy Jungblut, Erin Gaudet, Kelli Lavigne, Felix Moya, Baby Elijah Bota, Ashley West, Stelios Kiliaris, Coen Padilla, Marcus Cruz, Alfred Morrill, Anni Mary, Andrew Cave, Diane Costigan & Pope Francis 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 Macrina Kan, Lorelle Wheat, Nicole Lacousiere, Gail Turchansky, Dirk Machtans, Laurier LaPrise, Leonardo Meneses, Fred Shinkaruk, Ralph Falvo, Wayne MacDonald, Helen Ulep, Lois Comeau, Adolfo Cruz Jr. & Joyce Makarowski that He will raise them up to live forever.



- | | |
|---|--|
| Mar 7 - YamJam | Mar 14 - YamJam |
| Mar 7 - Verso L'Alto & Duc In Altum: Stations of the Cross | Mar 18 - Mass with Archbishop Smith |
| Mar 8 - Verso L'Alto & Duc In Altum | Mar 20 - Game Zone |
| Mar 9 - Younger Family Mass & Brunch | Mar 21 - YamJam |
| Mar 12 - Moms & Tots | Mar 22 - Verso L'Alto & Duc In Altum: Fast then Feast Retreat |
| Mar 13 - Game Zone | Mar 26 - Moms & Tots |
| | Mar 27 - Game Zone |
| | Mar 28 - YamJam |

Email shavi.perera@caedm.ca or Scan for more information



ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH

LENT, HOLY WEEK & EASTER 2025

LENTEN SERVICES

ASH WEDNESDAY March 5

9 am, 5 pm, 7:30 pm
There will be no confessions on Ash Wednesday

DAY OF CONFESSIONS Saturday April 5

12 noon - 1 pm for First Reconciliation
1 pm - 4 pm for all parishioners

WAY OF THE CROSS

Friday evenings during Lent at 7 pm
March 7, March 14, March 21, March 28, April 4, April 11

LENTEN MISSION

Celebrated by Archbishop Richard Smith
Tuesday March 18
Mass at 7 pm followed by Adoration



750-454-6315
stm.caedm.ca

HOLY WEEK

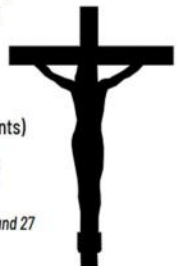
- Palm (Passion) Sunday** - Sat. April 12 - 4:30 pm, 7 pm
Sun. April 13 - 7:30 am, 9:30 am, 12 noon, 7 pm
- Mon. April 14 - no mass (Chrism Mass at St. Joseph Basilica)
- Tues. April 15 - Mass 8:30 am
- Wed. April 16 - Mass 8:30 am
- Holy Thursday** - April 17: 7 pm* *with incense
- Good Friday** - April 18: 9 am, 12 noon, 3 pm
- Holy Saturday** - Apr. 19: 1 pm Blessing of Easter Baskets
- Easter Vigil** - April 19: 8 pm*
- Easter Sunday** - April 20: 7:30 am, 9:30 am, 11:30 am, 1:30 pm*

Regularly scheduled confessions are suspended during Holy Week and the week after Easter during the Easter Octave.

EASTER OCTAVE

- Mon. April 21 - no mass
- Tues. April 22 - Mass at 5 pm
- Wed. April 23 - Mass at 9:30 am (with school students)
- Thurs. April 24 - Mass at 5 pm
- Fri. April 25 - Mass at 10 am (with school students)

The regular weekend mass schedule resumes on April 26 and 27



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

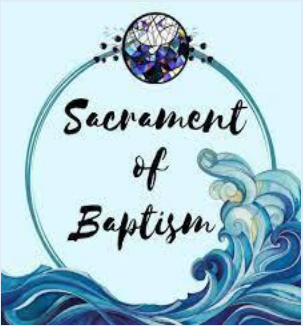
We are a faith community that supports families, and recognizes marriage and family are the core of God's plan.

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.



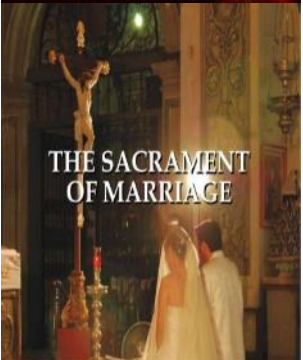
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Infant Group Baptisms are celebrated year-round, except during Advent and Lent. We accept **Infant Baptism** registrations from unborn baby to children under the age of 7 and **Later Baptism** registrations for children between the ages of 7 and 15, who would like to be baptized and receive all other age-appropriate sacraments. A Baptism Preparation program is required for both parents and godparents, and we offer both, in-person and online preparation options. Upcoming In-person preparation classes for Infants are on Mar 17, April 7 & 26. Baptisms will be celebrated on May 4, 25 & June 22. 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 2025 \(Spring Cycle 2\) is now CLOSED.](#) Stay tuned for our Summer Intensive class!



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! Step one is to meet with the priest, even before booking a hall. 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.



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!!**