



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

Easter Sunday

April 20, 2025



WEEKDAY LITURGIES, (APR 22– 25)

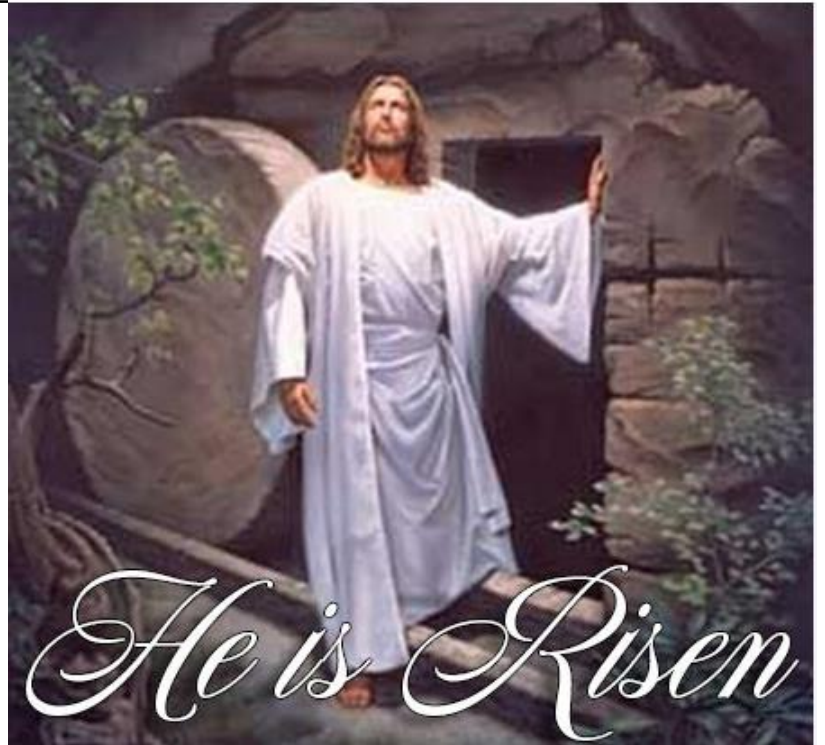
Tuesday: Mass: 5 pm
Wednesday: Mass: 9:30am
Thursday: Mass: 5 pm
Friday: Mass: 10am

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)

Regularly scheduled Confession resumes April 29

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Mon, Apr 21:** Church & Office is closed (No Confirmation class)
- Tue, Apr 22:** AJM school Mass at 9am
 Sr. Annata Brockman school Mass at 1pm
 Mass at 5pm
 CWL Fellowship, 5:30 to 7:30pm
 CWL meeting at 7pm
 Grief as a Journey at 7 to 9pm
- Wed, Apr 23:** St. Boniface, St. Mary & St. Teresa school Mass at 9:30am with Parish
 City of Edmonton Open House, 4 to 8pm
- Thur, Apr 24:** Game Zone is cancelled for today
 Mass at 5pm
 Adult Choir 7pm to 9:45pm
 RCIA 7pm to 9pm
- Fri, Apr 25:** St. Stanislaus school Mass, 10am with Parish
 Mgr. William Irwin school Mass at 1:15pm
- Sat, Apr 26:** Divine Mercy Parish Project Steering Committee meeting at 9am
 In person Baptism Prep, 10 to 11:30am
 Mass at 4:30pm
- Sun, Apr 27:** Mass at 8am, 9:30am, 11am & 12:30pm
 Pancake breakfast after 8 and 9:30am Mass
 Divine Mercy Devotion at 3pm



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- Mon, Apr 28:** Confirmation (class#3), 6 to 8pm
- Tue Apr 29:** Liturgy Committee meeting at 7pm
- Wed Apr 30:** Fr. Jozef's 25th Anniversary of his Ordination, Mass at 5pm

Sunday Gospel Reflection

By Deacon Tom



Our Resurrection (John 20:1-18)

Christ was the Messiah promised for centuries, the suffering servant foretold by Isaiah, whose perfect obedience to his Father led him to the Cross. He was the Son of God who had emptied Himself of His divine glory in order to be the perfect human servant, and who was now raised by the Father, with His divine glory restored, and His glorified resurrected body sharing in that glory.

The one who was maliciously singled out and shamefully hung on a cross was really the one set apart by God to judge the living and the dead. With the resurrection of Christ, we now share in the glorious privilege to be able to call God 'Our Father', being made worthy of becoming heirs to the kingdom of God and one day rising like Christ from the grave in glorified bodies.

God's love for us may appear infinite and incomprehensible, but He loves us all and it is through the Incarnation, Death and Resurrection of His Divine Son that we are guaranteed our resurrection from the dead to a life of unending happiness and glory.

On this Easter Sunday, let our hearts and souls rejoice, as the souls rejoiced when Christ came on Good Friday to lead them from hell to the Kingdom of God, while His body was in the tomb and when He returned to life on Easter Sunday, rising from the dead!

Let Christ's Resurrection be for us a source of inspiration and of hope, for our own resurrection.

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, Darren Day, Clare Forton, Marcella Cloran, Carl & Jackie Blansjaar, Orest & Therese Witiw, Veronica Sprysak, Julie Lee, Jack Macken, Luciana Fung, Joan Rempel, Flor John Villacillo, Michael Cummings, Sandy Jungblut, Erin Gaudet, Charlotte Henderson, Felix Moya, Baby Elijah Bota, Ashley West, Stelios Kiliaris, Coen Padilla, Marcus Cruz, Alfred Morrill, Terry McGhee, Andrew Cave, Marion Coderre, Barry French, Lilian Magaya, Jayantha Wickrama & 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,

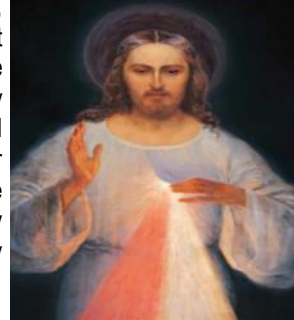
and for those whose names are recorded in the parish Book of Remembrance, especially for Joyce Makarowski, Mary Anne Day, Patricia Smith, Claudette Cecotka (Demers) & Maria Longo that He will raise them up to live forever.

COME AND JOIN US FOR DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY HOLY HOUR

ON APRIL 27th at 3 pm. :

There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, reflections from the Diary of St. Faustina, the singing of Divine Mercy Chaplet and more! In the 1930's, Our Lord Jesus, Himself, requested through St. Faustina, that a very, special Feast of Divine Mercy be established, in His church, and solemnly celebrated every year. Saint Pope John Paul II did fulfill this request in the Jubilee Year 2000 and established the Feast of Divine Mercy be celebrated each year on the Sunday following Easter and calling it Divine Mercy Sunday

*Divine Mercy
fully revealed in Christ*



Jesus, I trust in you!

TO FIND OUT MORE, About Divine Mercy GO TO:

<https://www.divinemercysunday.com/pdf/DMSBulletinInsert8Word.pdf> & <https://www.thedivinemercy.org/message/devotions/novena>

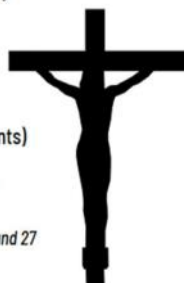
ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

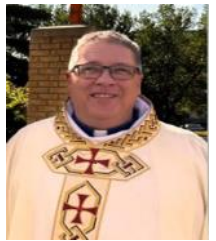


Psalms, Saints & Ancient Prayers Retreat with Steve Bell!

Join acclaimed songwriter, storyteller, and troubadour Steve Bell for a powerful Saturday of scripture teaching and song. Using selected songs from Steve's body of work, this retreat delves into the treasury of psalms and ancient prayers, as well as the lives of particular saints, considering more deeply how they fashion and nourish the community of faith. **Saturday, April 26 from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm.** Registration: In-person \$245|Online \$190. Friday night concert tickets are also available. Full information www.starofthenorth.ca/stevebell or call Star of the North at 780 459 5511.



Easter Message from our Pastor



In these days of the Holy Triduum—Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil/Easter Sunday, we enter into a ritual recalling of the pivotal moments of Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection. Through these holiest of days, we take our time to unpack the central mysteries of our faith. We enter into them, and let them enter into us. Together we give voice, song and ritual to these central mysteries. Natural symbols speak to our spiritual instincts and help make us more available to them—ashes, the smell of fresh palm branches, bread that recalls the last Supper—the Passover and Covenants of God converging in Jesus. There are contrasting moments of light and darkness. Water, fire, earth, rocks, oil of anointing, rising incense. There is so much that marks our journey to Easter Sunday.

Our hearts are held captive by the sights and sounds, smells and actions of these days: The washing of feet on Holy Thursday. The invitation to take up the towel and basin ourselves. On Holy Thursday, we celebrate the Mass of the Lord's supper—the Eucharist is given along with the ministerial priesthood. One does not exist without the other; and neither exists without being fully realized within the (bridal, sacramental) church. Jesus keeps His promise: "I will be with you always until the end of time."

On Good Friday we stand in collective awe of a God who takes on flesh and dies rejected, bloodied and alone on a cross. Holding vigil at the tomb of Christ in prayerful meditation, we feel the immense weight of Jesus' sacrifice and of that impossible/impassable stone. Perhaps Good Friday will be for many an emotional joining of our own experience of loneliness, darkness and suffering with Jesus on the cross. Let Him be the one who brings us into the grace of surrendering completely to God—emptied out to be filled with Christ. Love is stronger than death. No stone is large enough to hold it back.

At the Vigil, the darkness of the night is pierced by the light of the Easter fire and the air fills with the fragrance of incense as a sign of our prayers rising to heaven. The Christ candle reaches into every space—taper to taper, heart to heart. The chanting of the ancient Exultet, proclaims again that 'happy fault that gained for us so great a redeemer'. The night of vigil recalls the moments of salvation history. In our observance of this night, we are joined by countless churches all around the world. The Elect and Candidates have prepared and are ready for the Easter Sacraments. We are His church born of water and the Holy Spirit. The church is not just an institution that has sacraments, it is a sacrament that has institutions. The newly Baptized are welcomed into a great mystery. Their initiation is accomplished. They live already held by grace. Our love and prayers attend them in a special way as they have for many months.

We are invited to plunge the depths of Holy Week. Like Israel wandering in the desert for 40 years, hopefully our 40 days of Lent has helped us discover what it is to be God's chosen people— not only turning toward God, but away from all and any former ways of spiritual bondage. Like Israel, perhaps we have been learning a deeper faith, and un-learning the distractions of a secular culture. The Risen Lord comes to us this week – so that we, in turn, may be His presence to others. We are His suffering, yearning, confident and hope-filled body. Our love for God finds expression in our love for neighbor. It is one love. We are His Eucharistic people—blessed, broken and shared out to the hungry that "cross" our lives. Jesus makes His home in you and with you. You are the temple of His Holy Spirit in which the mystery of the Triduum will be celebrated and observed. Each of us is that sign where the story of salvation history shall be retold and reborn in convincing ways.

"Christ is risen—for you. He has overcome sin—for you. Take hold of these gifts by taking hold of Jesus. Then watch, as your heart is filled with joy." (*The Word Among Us*) Have a beautiful Easter! May the Power of the Resurrection lift your hearts and fill them with His life, His love, His peace, His hope, His joy and His courage. With Christ, we are undefeatable! God bless you all! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Fr. Mark



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

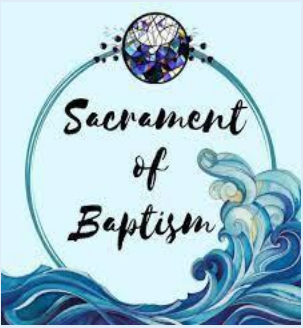
We are a faith community that supports families, and recognizes marriage and family are the core of God's plan.

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.



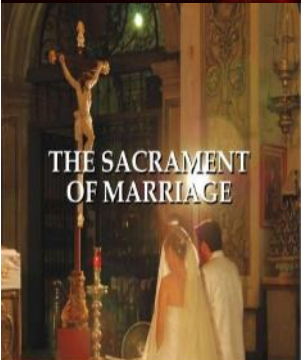
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Infant Group Baptisms are celebrated year-round, except during Advent and Lent. We accept **Infant Baptism** registrations from unborn baby to children under the age of 7 and **Later Baptism** registrations for children between the ages of 7 and 15, who would like to be baptized 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 April 26, May 5 & 10. Baptisms will be celebrated on May 4, 25 (full), June 22, July 13 & 27. 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. [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. [Stay tuned for our Summer Intensive class!](#)



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!!](#)