



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** Supply Priest: **Fr. Jozef Wroblewski** Seminary Intern: **Noah Kungel**

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

December 14, 2025

3rd Sunday of Advent



WEEKDAY LITURGIES (DEC 16 – DEC 19)

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

SUNDAY MASS TIMES (DEC 20 & 21)

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)

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



THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sun, Dec 14: Mass at 8am, 9:30am, 11am & 12:30pm
Tue, Dec 16: Bishop David Motiuk school Mass at 10am
 Confession/Mass: 4:15/5pm
 CWL Advent celebration & Potluck after Mass
 Legion of Mary at 7pm
Wed, Dec 17: Confession/Mass: 8:15/9am
Thurs, Dec 18: Funeral at 11am
No Game Zone
 Confession/Mass: 4:15/5pm
 Children's choir at 6:15pm
 Adult choir at 7pm
Fri, Dec 19: Confession/Mass: 8:15/9am
Advent Waiting Holy Hour, 7 to 8:15pm
Sat, Dec 20: Confession/Mass: 1-4pm/4:30pm
Sun, Dec 21: Mass at 8am, 9:30am, 11am & 12:30pm

ADVENT WAITING HOLY HOUR

Fridays: Dec 19 from 7pm to 8:15pm

Join us for a Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior this Christmas.

- Reflect on the mystery of Christ's incarnation
- Experience the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist
- Prepare your soul for the beauty of Christmas

Through reflection, scripture & prayerful recollection, let us embrace the gift of Advent—awaiting Emmanuel, God with us.



The **ADVENT GIVING TREE** is a St. Thomas More Advent tradition. The support of our parish is needed for the women and children of **Lurana Shelter**, a refuge for those fleeing from family violence. Take one of the stars and angels from the Giving Tree with a needed item or refer to the posted list of items beside the tree and on the parish website. All items must be new, not promoting violence, and unwrapped. Drop off your gifts by the Giving Tree located in the gathering space of the church during Advent (from Nov. 29 to Dec. 21). Giving gift cards is strongly encouraged (suggested maximum amount per card is \$50). The Catholic Women's League is coordinating this project once again and thanks all for their support.

Sunday Gospel Reflection

By Deacon Tom



Humility and Exaltation (Matthew 11:2-11)

Gaudete Sunday is the joyful mid-point in Advent, named from the Latin word "Gaudete," meaning "Rejoice". Though Advent is a time of waiting, the reason for that wait (Jesus' birth) brings profound joy and hope.

Though his ministry lasted only about six months before he was wrongfully imprisoned and executed at the whim of Herod, Jesus said that no one who had come before John was any greater in the kingdom of heaven.

Moses parted the Red Sea; Elijah raised the dead and brought down fire from heaven; Isaiah wrote a revered book of Scripture, and yet John had matched them all in the kingdom of heaven!

As John prepared himself for the task of welcoming and introducing Jesus to others, he is calling on us to prepare ourselves for Jesus's coming this

Christmas; to live for our faith every day and stand firm against the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil,

Modern secular society looks down on those trying to live according to the Ten Commandments, but like John, we must do all in our power, by word, example, and prayer.

Let's think of the message John the Baptist has for us. If we do our best to put these actions into practice, Jesus will do the rest for us. He came to save us and if we do our part, we will hear, at our judgment, the joyful words of Jesus: "You are more than a prophet, you are a citizen of heaven, a Saint."

ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

God of all Blessings, in gratitude for the abundant gifts you have so graciously given to St. Thomas More parish, help us to be faithful stewards that we might return to you the first fruits of these gifts, by generous acts of regular giving, service to our parish, and support of the Divine Mercy Project, Amen. Please consider increasing your regular sustainable donations.



Help build a legacy of Faith, Hope, and Discipleship.

Congratulations to the following 20 children

who entered into the community of our Catholic church in November through the **Sacrament of Baptism** **Rina Aluebhosele, Andy Paredes, Azriel Protacio, Hannalise Addo, Damiano Chanchan, Gwen Eichmann, Llyod Nguigi, Mariella Oriola, Beckham Paliwoda, Marik Rentuza, Jetoluwa Yemi-Adetayo, Catalina Trompetter, Warner Konkle, Adeline Konkle, Amelia Konkle, Elizabeth Malkewich, Emily Malkewich, Harley Ho, Madison Ho & Aiden Ho.** Please remember our new little brothers and sisters in Christ in your prayers.



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

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 Albert Chrumka, Lucy Longo, Darren Day, Marcella Cloran, Carl & Jackie Blansjaar, Orest Witiw, Julie Lee, Ashley West, Stelios Kiliaris, Alfred Morrill, Lillian Gartner, Bob Gerow, Mary Jane Olivier, Guenivere Swan, Bishop Greg Bittman, Rudy Pisesky, Anna Rayar, Marion Coderre, Ron McCarthy & Mary Kutty Matthew 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 Wilfred Borle, Michael Viola, Nenita Gatdula, Georges Chartouney, Amal Daher, Umberto Daher, Isabelle Daher, Jan Gonciarz, Walter Kurth, John Lazaruk, Joan Silberio, Michael Cummings & William Petraschuk that He will raise them up to live forever.

'PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD; MAKE HIS PATH STRAIGHT.'

The Knights of Columbus is happy to announce the Keep Christ in Christmas (KCIC) Program to help shift from a preoccupation with materialism to the light of Christ and the spirit of giving. All are invited to participate in the Keep Christ in Christmas Contest, to prepare the way for Jesus. This contest is for youth from grades 1 through 9 and may participate in either or both events.

Event 1: Make a Room in your inn - Nativity Scene Creation: Participants may get together with their family or a group of friends to create a model of the nativity scene that demonstrates the Catholic understanding of Christmas. Any materials can be used for your entry. There are no size restrictions for the nativity scene model. Entries can be submitted by sending a picture(s) (JPEG) or a video to family@kofc7599.org or jason.kalapurakal@kofc7599.org by Dec 15.

Event 2: 'Keep Christ in Christmas' Poster Contest: Youth from grades 1 through 9 are invited to submit a poster, using a medium of their choice (i.e. paint, crayon, marker, etc.). The size requirements of the poster is 11"x17". The poster should depict your concept of 'Keeping Christ in Christmas'. The submissions can be made by emailing a scanned image or picture (JPEG) of your poster to family@kofc7599.org or jasonkalapurakal@kofc7599.org. The deadline for entries is December 15, 2025. **Please ensure your name, contact number and email address are included with your entry.** Please contact Family Programs Director Tony Joseph and (780)-977-4921 or Jason Kalapurakal at (587)-985-0450, or email family@kofc7599.org. Please contact Family Programs Director Tony Joseph and (780)-977-4921 or Jason Kalapurakal at (587)-985-0450, or email.

St. Thomas More
celebrates

Advent & Christmas



ADVENT WAITING HOLY HOUR

FRIDAYS IN ADVENT
NOV. 28, DEC. 5, 12 & 19
7 - 8:15 PM

ADVENT DAY OF CONFESSIONS

SATURDAY, DEC. 6
11 AM - 4 PM

CHRISTMAS MASSES

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 24
3 PM + 5 PM + 7 PM + 9 PM + 10:30 PM
12 MIDNIGHT (WITH INCENSE)

THURSDAY, DEC. 25
9 AM + 11 AM (WITH INCENSE)

MASS SCHEDULE

MON. DEC. 8 - **IMMACULATE CONCEPTION** - 7 PM MASS

MON. DEC. 22 - NO MASS

TUES. DEC. 23 - NO MASS

FRI. DEC. 26 - NO MASS

SAT. DEC. 27 - 4:30 PM VIGIL MASS ONLY

SUN. DEC. 28 HOLY FAMILY

8 AM, 9:30 AM, 11 AM, 12:30 PM

MON. DEC. 29 - NO MASS

TUES. DEC. 30 - 9 AM MASS

WED. DEC. 31 - 5 PM VIGIL MASS ONLY

THURS. JAN. 1 - SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

(NEW YEAR'S DAY) 9 AM AND 11 AM (WITH INCENSE)

FRI. JAN. 2 - 9 AM MASS FOR 1ST FRIDAY WITH

ADORATION TO FOLLOW. BENEDICTION AT 11 AM

SAT. JAN. 3 - 9 AM MASS FOR 1ST SATURDAY,

FOLLOWED BY ROSARY TALK

REGULAR WEEKEND SCHEDULE RESUMES JAN. 3/4

*The office will be closed Dec. 23 at noon until Jan. 2 at 9 am.
No regularly scheduled confessions between Dec. 21 and Jan. 1.
Regularly scheduled confession times resume on Jan. 2.*

2025 donations can be made
at the office until Dec. 23 at
noon, and up to Dec. 31
online or by electronic money
transfer to:
stm.etransfer@caedm.ca

Christmas Blessings

My dear friends,

May the Spirit of this Advent bring us the peace and joy that come from giving, loving, and caring for one another.

May the celebration of Jesus' birth be a treasured gift for ourselves and for all — a gift of truth, faithfulness, and openness to the Spirit. May Jesus' love continue to guide us as we grow in faith and discipleship.

May the Blessings of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be upon you and your families this Christmas season and throughout 2026.

My heartfelt thanks to all who have contributed to the beauty and prayerfulness of our worship in this holy season.

Merry Christmas!

Fr. Mark McGee, Pastor



780-434-6313 + 210 Haddow Close + Edmonton AB + stm.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

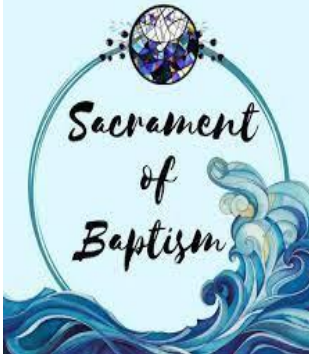
We are a faith community that supports families, and recognizes marriage and family are the core of God's plan.

Learn more at: CAedm.ca

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, this is 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: We are delighted to celebrate the Sacrament of Children's Baptism throughout the year, except during Advent and Lent. For infants and children under 7 years old, baptisms are typically held once or twice monthly. For older children, aged 7 to 15, we offer "Later Baptism" followed by other age-appropriate sacraments 2-3 times per school year. Please note that Feb. 7, 2026 is the only remaining Accommodated Baptism available for the older children during this school year. Parents and godparents are required to complete a Baptism Preparation program. We encourage you to review the [Baptism Requirements document](#) on our website [under the page of Sacraments & Baptism](#). This document provides details on registration (pages 1-2), preparation options (page 3), and available baptism schedule (pages 4-6). Please be aware that registration requirements must be completed 2 weeks prior to the baptism date, and bookings fill up quickly. We strongly encourage all parents, including expectant parents, to begin the registration process as early as possible. If you wish to register for the upcoming baptism celebrations on Jan 25, or the in-person preparation sessions on Dec. 13, please contact Tracy Lam at (780) 434-6313 ext. 233, or email Baptism.STM@caedm.ca for assistance.



SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION & FIRST COMMUNION: 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 cycle 2 is now open!**



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION: In the Archdiocese of Edmonton, most young people receive the sacrament when they are 11-12 years old. **Registration for Cycle 2 is now open!**



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. Later marriage preparation is available to you. We are happy to accommodate you.



RCIA: Adults (16+years old) seeking to become Catholic, please speak to Paul Givens. Inquirers 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 9pm.



PASTORAL/TEACHER REFERENCES Teacher references for registered parishioners, are completed twice a year, in the Fall and late Spring. Please complete your portion of the reference provided by your school district and send it via email to communications.stm@caedm.ca or drop off a copy at the office.

SICK AND SHUT-IN's: To request Holy Communion please call the parish office, (780) 434 6313. **Volunteers needed!!**