

Mass Offerings

Tues.	Jan 23	7:00 pm	Julien Robin Shannon de Bruin
Wed.	Jan 24	9:00 am	Patricia & René Foisy & fly Patrick & Angela de Bruin
Thurs.	Jan 25	9:00 am	Jennifer & Patrick Knox Michelle de Bruin
Fri.	Jan 26	9:00 am	Christine & Bill Bedard Gen Howland
Sat.	Jan 27	9:00am 5pm	+ Anna Chan + P.K. & Maria Chan Pat Coe Michelle Spak
Sun.	Jan 28	8:30am 10:00am 12:00pm 6:00pm	+ Nepomuceno & Silvina Bura Pierrette Bouchard + Shumirai Bowora All Parishioners + Poulouse Manavalan

Calendar

<u>Tues Jan 23</u> Mass 7 pm Adoration & Reconciliation 6:00 pm	<u>Wed Jan 24</u> Mass 9 am Reconciliation 8:30 am	<u>Thurs Jan 25</u> Mass 9 am Reconciliation 8:30 am
<u>Friday Jan 26</u> Mass 9:00 am Reconciliation 8:30 am	<u>Sat Jan 27</u> Mass 9 am & 5pm Reconciliation 8:30 am & 4pm	<u>Sun Jan 28</u> Masses 8:30 am 10 am 12pm 6pm

Grocery Card Program

The St. Thomas More Parish grocery card program welcomes more participation. Members of the Knights of Columbus sell grocery cards (**Safeway, Superstore, Sobeys & Save-On**) before and after all Sunday morning Masses. They will also be selling grocery cards on the first and third Saturday of each month before and after the 5pm Mass. **Tim Horton's \$25 gift cards** are also available for purchase. This is a great way to assist parish projects (i.e. upgrading the church lighting and the cement entrance steps) and also to help the less fortunate. Please take the time to support the program regularly.

Sanctity of Human Life Sunday – January 21st, 2018

On the 3rd Sunday of January we celebrate God's gift of life, we commemorate the many lives lost to abortion, and we recommit ourselves to protecting human life at every stage. Since January 1988, Canada has had no law to protect children in the womb. With over 100,000 abortions in Canada each year, we need to come together in prayer to ask God to change our culture and end abortion.

Society of Saint Vincent de Paul: Last Sunday we marked the 104th World Day of Migrants and Refugees. The bulletin message from our Pastor noted the Holy Father's wish that Catholic communities "welcome, protect, promote, and integrate" our migrant and refugee neighbors. Along with others, SSVP contributes to this effort for our parishes. Approximately 40% of our visits are to refugee and immigrant families. One of the most recent calls came from a couple from Nepal who had not yet found work and were in need of everything to make their apartment livable. On your behalf and with your generous support, we provided them with assistance as we respond to the Pope's vision. Thank you for your support. If you or someone you know needs help or wishes to donate furniture or household goods, please give us a call at **780 471 5577** or visit us at - **www.ssvpedmonton.ca**. If you want to learn more about SSVP or get involved with the Divine Mercy Conference please come to our meetings held in the Chapter Room on the first Tuesday of the month following the 7pm Mass.

The Light of Christ Drama & Dance Ministry has made St. Philomena the patron saint of the ministry. St. Philomena is the patron saint of infants, babies, and youth. She was only 13 years old when she became a martyr for the faith. Her name means 'daughter of light'. We welcome children who would love to learn about the faith through drama or dancing to come and join us on Fridays from 5:45-7:45pm. Currently we are working on developing the Beauty of Conversion play. Please text or call Renata at **780 438 0516** if you are interested.



St. Thomas More Parish
210 Haddow Close, Edmonton, AB, T6R 2P3

P: (780) 434-6313 F: (780) 438-2088
www.stmparish.com

Office Hours: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

January 21, 2018

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Clergy:

Parochial Administrator:

Fr. Sagayaraj Devadoss, sdb

Assoc. Pastor: Fr. Samson D. Antony, sdb

Permanent Deacon: Deacon Randy Abele

Pastoral Ministries:

Family Co-ord: Monica Bober ext. 227
family@stmparish.com

Youth Co-ord: Sara Dmitri ext. 228
youth@stmparish.com

Youth Co-ord: Corina Santaera ext. 237
youth@stmparish.com

Sacrament Asst: Kathleen Eistetter ext. 235
stm.sacrament@stmparish.com

Sacrament Asst: Diane Middleton ext. 233

Music Co-ord: Johanna Dietrich
Johanna.Dietrich@caedm.ca

RCIA Co-ord: Darlene Smigelski ext. 226
stm.rcia.coord@stmparish.com

RCIA Asst: Kathleen Gust ext. 226

Office Staff:

Office Admin: David Matwie ext. 236
stm.manager@stmparish.com

Secretary: Olivia Dias ext. 228
stm.secretary@stmparish.com

Bookkeeper: Dora Jankowska ext. 222
stm.bookkeeper@stmparish.com

Custodian: Arthur Connick ext. 231

Evening Receptionist: Gideon Boyle
gideon.boyle@caedm.ca ext. 228

Weekend Receptionist: Joey Kolinsky
joseph.kolinsky@caedm.ca ext. 228

All bulletin items and after Mass
announcements should be directed to:

stm.secretary@stmparish.com

Deadline: Tuesday noon

*Just a kind reminder not to
leave any valuables in the pew
unattended.*

January 14

Regular Sunday Collection

\$12,230.00

TWS (Together We Serve)

\$1,482.00

To be for All an Inseparable Sacrament of Unity

My Dear People,

The **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** is an international Christian ecumenical observance. It is observed annually between 18 January & 25 January and it lasts for eight days. It all began in 1908 as the Octave of Christian Unity, and focused on prayer for church unity. Pope Pius X officially blessed the concept, and Benedict XV encouraged its observance throughout the entire Roman Catholic Church.

For this year 2018, the theme for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, “**Your Right Hand, O Lord, Glorious in Power**” (the song of Moses and Miriam that recounts triumph over oppression as given in Exodus 15:1-21) is chosen by the churches of the Caribbean region. As one can understand, the Caribbean region is deeply marked by the dehumanizing project of colonial exploitation. In their aggressive pursuit of mercantile gains, the colonisers codified brutal systems which traded human beings and their forced labour. However, today, Caribbean Christians of many different traditions see the hand of God active in the ending of enslavement. It is a uniting experience of God’s saving action which brings freedom as seen in the salvation history of the people of Israel.

Obviously, inspiration is taken from the Biblical narrative of salvation which shows the unrelenting determination of the Lord to form a people whom he could call his own. The formation of such a people, united in a sacred covenant with God, is integral to the Lord's plan of salvation and to the glorification of his name. The prophets repeatedly reminded Israel that their covenant demanded that relationships among its various social groups should be characterized by justice, compassion and mercy. Reconciliation often demands repentance, reparation and healing of memories.

As Jesus prepared to seal the new covenant in his own blood, his earnest prayer to the Father was that those given to him by the Father would be one, just as he and the Father were one. When Christians discover their unity in Jesus, they participate in Christ's glorification in the presence of the Father, with the same glory that he had lived in the Father's presence before the world existed. Therefore, God's covenanted people must always strive to be a reconciled community that serves as an effective sign of how to live in justice and peace for all the people of the earth.

Together with all Christ's disciples, the Catholic Church bases upon God's plan its ecumenical commitment to gather all Christians into unity. It is fully aware that it is sent to the world to announce and witness, to make present and spread the mystery of communion which is essential to it, and to gather all people and all things into Christ, so as to be for all, an *inseparable sacrament of unity*. Division openly contradicts the will of Christ, provides a stumbling block to the world, and inflicts damage on the most holy cause of proclaiming the Good News to every creature. No wonder why the Holy Father clearly tells us that the credibility of the Christian message would be much greater if Christians could overcome their divisions and thus realize the fullness of catholicity proper to her: *to gather all people and all things into Christ, so as to be for all an inseparable sacrament of unity*. One of the best ways to realize this unity is certainly through prayer. Besides, let us unite our efforts in order to be at the service of peace and reconciliation, justice and solidarity, especially at the side of the poor and the least of the earth. Unity among us will happen.

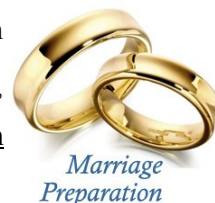
Fr. Sagayaraj Devadoss, SDB
Parochial Administrator

Sacraments, Ministries & Other



First Holy Communion: The First Reconciliation/First Holy Communion sacrament program begins when the children are in grade 2. The next registration is Saturday, February 3rd, 2018 from 9am to 11am. Brochures are available at your Catholic school or in our Parish, on our brochure stand. Space is limited. Please register early to ensure the dates you want are available.

Marriage Preparation: The next Marriage Preparation program at St. Thomas More will take place on March 16, 17 and 18, 2018. For information and to register, email stm.marriagepreparation@gmail.com, please indicate your name, wedding date and location when emailing for information. The registration deadline is February 28, 2018. Other Marriage Preparation programs available are:



Catholic Engaged Encounter: <http://ceewest.com/communities/edmonton/>

On-line Marriage Preparation: <http://caedm.ca/PastoralParishServices/LifeandFamily/MarriagePreparation/MarriagePreparationPrograms/OtherPrograms/OnlineMarriagePreparation>

Baptize your 7 year old or younger child after Easter by

- Reading the brochure (brochure stand or on parish website; ministries link)
- Carefully and prayerfully selecting godparents
- Gathering required documents
- Call Diane Middleton at **780 434 6313** ext. 233 to book:
 - ⇒ Registration/Office Visit
date for baptism is chosen once all documents are presented
 - ⇒ Baptism Preparation class (required by parents and godparents).



Please note that Baptism Preparation classes are not offered during July & August.

Prep for Blessing of Marriages for Catholics married outside the Church: on Saturday, February 10 at St. Thomas More. If you or your spouse are Catholic and were married outside of the Catholic Church and desire to have your civil marriage ‘blessed’ in the Church, sign up for a one day adapted Marriage Preparation for “Convalidation Couples”. Convalidation is required in order for Catholics in this situation to be able to receive the Eucharist and other Sacramental graces. The program will take place on 10 February from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm facilitated by Paul and Carol Quist who lead the Marriage and Family Ministry at Holy Trinity Parish. The cost is \$50 per couple. Couples will also be required to complete the Prepare-Enrich program, from the Archdiocese which involves addressing a series of questions followed by a structured interview with the Quists scheduled either before or after the Marriage Preparation Program for Convalidation. The cost of Prepare-Enrich is \$100 per couple. This preparation will pave the way to the beauty and gift of a sacramental marriage with all its graces and blessings. **There are spots available for ten couples only.** Please contact the office for more information or to sign up.

Ministries, Sacraments and Parish News

Coffee, Kids, and Catholic Moms: We are building a community of Catholic moms at St. Thomas More Parish. Join us in the parish hall from 9:30 am to 11:30 am on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month. Relax, sit back, and enjoy some coffee and faith-filled conversation with other moms from our parish while we watch our kids play. Don't worry if you need to show up late or leave early – we're moms, we get it! In January, we will be meeting on the 10th and the 24th. For more information, email us at coffeekidsandcatholicmoms@gmail.com, or just drop in. We'd love to have you!

Knights of Columbus Fr. Bonner Council is hosting the 2018 Family Pasta Dinner and Dance at the St. Thomas More



Parish hall on Saturday, February 10, following the 5pm Mass. This annual event features a delicious pasta dinner, a piñata, and live music by Barry and the Decades. Tickets for the event are available for sale before/after Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses at the entrance of the church. Tickets are \$15 for adults and youth 13+, \$10 for children ages 5 to 12, and free for children under 5 years old. You can also purchase tickets



for a full table of eight for the discounted price of \$80. Ticket sales go fast, so please reserve your tickets and tables before the event sells out. Thank you and God bless.

Development and Peace-Caritas Canada : expresses gratitude to donors for their quick and generous response to the crisis affecting the Rohingya people of Myanmar. Donors gave \$546,820 which was matched by our Canadian government. (Plus an additional \$750,000 from Global Affairs Canada) Together, Development and Peace will contribute over \$1 million in humanitarian aid to this Caritas Bangladesh project. This project includes construction of solid shelters, access to clean water and initiatives to protect children and women. 630,000 refugees live in Bangladesh, please visit www.devp.org.

St. Thomas More Refugee Initiative: We are pleased to report that one of our sponsored families has now received final government approval, and will arrive in Edmonton on February 6. This family of six is from Iraq, and includes a couple with their three sons, aged 13, 12, and 7, as well as one grandmother.

As we prepare for their arrival, we are asking for your assistance in donating gently used household items if possible. We require specifically the following: furniture and lamps; kitchenware, including small appliances; bedding and towels. If you can help with this, please contact Real Demers at **780 438 5498**. Our parish has been tremendously successful in this initiative over the past three years, and with your generous support we're blessed to be able to continue helping. Thank you again.

Pancake Breakfast hosted by the Knights of Columbus, will be held on Sunday, January 28 from 9:30 am to noon in the parish hall. You and your family are invited to enjoy pancakes with strawberries and whipped cream, sausages, scrambled eggs, coffee, tea, and juice. Cost is \$5 per person or \$20 per family.

AB March for Life Pasta Supper & Silent Auction on Saturday, Feb 10, 2018 at 5:30pm at St. Joseph's Basilica. Help support Alberta's annual pro-life march. Great food, great bake sale, great deals! Tickets \$15, children 7 and under free. **780 807 8972** or Patsy **587 589 3194**, or contact your parish's CWL or KC councils.