

Parish News, Sacraments and Ministries—January 21, 2018

Basket Ball Free Throw Championship: Knights of Columbus, Fr. Bonner Council invites entries for this event. All boys and girls ages 9 to 14 are invited to participate in the local level of competition for the 2018 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Competition. The local competition will be held on 27 January, 2018 at **9:30 am** at Monsignor Fee Otterson Elementary/Junior High School, 1834 Rutherford Rd, Edmonton, AB T6W 0N5. The Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship is sponsored annually, with winners progressing through local, district, and state competitions. All boys and girls 9 to 14 years old are eligible to participate and will compete in their respective age divisions. Trophies will be given to winners in each category and all contestants will be given participation certificates and refreshments will be provided during the event. Entry forms can be collected from the parish youth office. For more details, see the Knights of Columbus bulletin board or contact youth@stmparish.com.

I will turn their mourning into joy; I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow (Jeremiah 31:13) At St. Thomas More, we are piloting a new 10-week program in the Archdiocese of Edmonton for those who are grieving the death of a loved one. The format is a special weekly seminar/support group for those who are trying to cope with the troubling effects of grief. In this faith-based program, you can be with people who understand how you feel and the pain of your loss. You will learn valuable information that will help you through this difficult time in your life. We are commencing the meetings here at St. Thomas More parish on Wednesday, February 7, 2018 after the 9am Mass (at around 9:40am) in the Library Room. If you cannot make the first session of the 10-week program you may join when you feel ready but we encourage you to come out for the first session. Please contact Deacon Randy or Roseanne Abele at **780 435 5070** or **780 493 1972** or by email rabele@telus.net for more information or to register.

Will you Help Keep Our Church Clean? At the entrance of the church, we have signs indicating that food and drink are not allowed in the church. This is not being followed as we often find various food items throughout the pews and on the floor, including cookies, cereal, gum, candy and candy wrappers, Tim Horton's coffee cups, water bottles, and other liquids that cause staining. Also, in the Blessed Sacrament chapel, please do not move or change the arrangement of the votive candles. Do not replace used candles yourself, instead, notify a staff member, or one of the priests, if all the candles have been used up. The church is our sacred space, and it is God's house. We ask that you please respect the church rules to keep it well kept and clean, just as you would if you were visiting a friend. The Dust Angels ministry cleans our church weekly. If you are interested in volunteering with them, please come to the office on Monday, between 7 and 8am. Thank you.

All Ladies of St. Thomas More Parish are invited to begin their Lenten journey with a Day of Spiritual Reflection with Sr. Susan Scott on Saturday, February 17, 2018. Coffee and registrations are after the 9am Mass, with sessions starting at 10:15 am to 2:45 pm. Cost is \$15, which includes lunch. Tickets can be purchased after masses on the weekends of February 3/4 and February 10/11 at the entrance of the church or, contact Maureen Maynard at **780 435 4917** or mmaynard@telus.net. Registration deadline is February 13, 2018. Sr. Susan will reference Pope Francis' Encyclical "Laudato Si": On Care of Our Common Home, in her talks on the 8th Work of Mercy - Our Lenten Pilgrimage and Care for the Earth Day of Reflection coordinated by the Catholic Women's League. Join us for a day of spiritual reflection, private prayer and fellowship.

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Looking for Volunteers to help with Children's Liturgy at the 12pm Mass on Sundays. If you are interested please contact Cheryl at **780 440 0316** or Renata at **780 438 0516**.

You are invited to our 2nd Annual Faith & Fun Day at Rogers Place the Archdiocese is sponsoring an afternoon game between the Edmonton Oil Kings and Red Deer Rebels at 1:30p.m. on Saturday, February 10, featuring a special price of \$18 a ticket (regular \$29) with \$2 for bus fees. St. Thomas More will be arranging a bus to the arena this year. The bus will be departing from our parish at 12:30pm and will be arriving back at the parish around 4pm; just before the 5pm Mass. This is to avoid the parking downtown near the arena and allows an afternoon of Church fellowship. To purchase your tickets, please see our youth ministers at the back of the Church, following the Masses or email them the number of tickets you would like before Sunday, February 4th at corinasantaera@stmparish.com. We will also be giving away free tickets to one family. Enter the draw at the entrance of the Church. We hope to see you there!

2018: Year of Prayer for ALIES & The Back Porch : Cover The Back Porch and the pro-life movement in prayer every day of the year. Located across the street from the abortion clinic in Edmonton, The Back Porch is a pregnancy resource centre that serves as an 11th hour ministry to abortion-minded women and men. Head to www.alies.ca for monthly devotions and to sign up for a specific week in 2018, where you can commit to intentional daily prayer. Join us on your own, as a family or with your small group. Through prayer, we believe that we will see the end of abortion. Call **780 421 9941** for more information.

STM Scripture Study: A Scripture Study will begin with an information night on Tuesday, January 23, 2018 after the 7pm Mass at 7:40pm here at the church in the Library room. At this time, the study booklets will be distributed. The cost is \$12 for materials. The study is called "The Mass in Scripture". The study explores the biblical roots of the Mass in each of its parts. This study is ideal for seasoned Catholics who desire a deeper understanding of the biblical roots of the Mass, and may also be helpful for inquirers who are searching for the biblical foundation of Catholic worship. We will meet for the following 10 weeks. Come for fellowship and to learn, pray, and share your faith. The time commitment is 90 minutes each week. Those who have participated in other scripture studies have noted a positive impact upon faith life. For registration or information call Deacon Randy Abele at **780 435 5070** or **780 493 1972**.



**A drama about God and Science.
It's full of fun experiments and dancing.
All are welcome!**

**JANUARY 21ST AT
ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH**
210 Haddow Close NW, Edmonton, AB T6R 2P3

1:30pm-3:30pm

We appreciate a \$5 donation per child or \$15 per family to help cover the cost of the performance.

Please call Renata @ 780-438-0516 if you have any questions.