

Mass Offerings

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| Tues. | Oct 17 | 7:00 pm | + | Theresa Benson Loenard Chelich |
| Wed. | Oct 18 | 9:00 am | + | Clarence Maimann Tom Deutscher |
| Thurs. | Oct 19 | 9:00 am | + | Romeo Brisebois Philip Drapeau |
| Fri. | Oct 20 | 9:00 am | + | Tami Brisebois Phillip Drapeau |
| Sat. | Oct 21 | 9:00am | + | Thanksgiving to Our Lord Phillip Drapeau |
| | | 5pm | + | Sr. Isabel Cid Julieta Beltran |
| Sun. | Oct 22 | 8:30am | + | Modest Kowal |
| | | 10:00am | | Darlene Smigelski |
| | | 12:00pm | | All Parishioners |
| | | 6:00pm | + | David Lacey |

Calendar

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| <u>Tues Oct 17</u> Mass 7 pm Adoration & Reconciliation 6:00 pm | <u>Wed Oct 18</u> Mass 9 am Reconciliation 8:30 am | <u>Thurs Oct 19</u> Mass 9 am Reconciliation 8:30 am |
| <u>Friday Oct 20</u> Mass 9:00 am Reconciliation 8:30 am | <u>Sat Oct 21</u> Mass 9 am Reconciliation 8:30 am & Mass 5 pm Reconciliation 4:00 pm | <u>Sun Oct 22</u> Masses 8:30 am 10 am 12 pm 6 pm |

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 on a regular basis.

Introduction to Centering Prayer at Providence Renewal Centre on Saturday, October 21, 9:30 am to 3:30 pm, \$140 (lunch included) plus six Wednesday evenings. Experience a century's old prayer practice of our Christian tradition. Register online at www.providencerenewal.ca or call 780 701 1854.

St. Joseph's Hospital Auxiliary is seeking donations of gently used Christmas decorations, jewelry, and trinket and jewellery boxes. Please leave your clearly marked donations in the cloakroom of the church. If the item is very large and/or heavy, please contact Yvonne at 780 433 8106 to arrange dropping off. Donations should be dropped off by October 28.

Society of Saint Vincent De Paul: Our Conference received 34 requests for assistance in September, each one of these calls would normally involve a need for 2 or more items. We also received 52 generous donations of furniture and other household items. SSVP cares for the less fortunate in our community by offering food, clothing, household goods, and furniture. In dire circumstances funds can be provided to avoid utility cut offs and pay for a portion of rent in order to prevent evictions. We do this on behalf of parishioners, in the name of Christ who loved the poor. Remember, 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.

Opening to the Presence of God: **Christian Contemplative Practices for Daily Living** with Lucie Leduc at Star of the North Retreat Centre. These evenings will explore the wisdom teachings and practices of early desert fathers and mothers, mystics and saints, and also draw from contemporary contemplative traditions. Thursdays: October 26, November 23, 7-8:30pm, cost is \$15/session. Please register by one week before program date! www.starofthenorth.ca 780 459 5511.

Artist's Retreat Day: at Star of the North, bring your own art form. There will be brief thematic input, time for personal artistic expression and personal reflection. Facilitator: Sr. Elizabeth Poilievre, FCJ. Thursday, October 26, 9:30 am to 3:30 pm, \$25 (includes lunch). Please register by one week before program date! www.starofthenorth.ca 780 459 5511.



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

October 15, 2017

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Clergy:

Pastor: Fr. Antony Fernando, sdb
Assoc. Pastor: Fr. Sagayaraj Devadoss, sdb
Assoc. Pastor: Fr. Samson David, sdb
Permanent Deacon: Deacon Randy Abele

Pastoral Ministries:

Family Co-ord. Monica Bober ext. 227
family@stmparish.com
Youth Co-ord. Sara Dmitri ext. 223
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 Christopher Snaith
ext 228 christopher.snaith@caedm.ca

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

Olivia Dias at
stm.secretary@stmparish.com

Deadline: Tuesday noon

Out of respect for people with allergies, please be mindful of the amount of perfume/cologne you are wearing, Thank you!

October 8

Regular Sunday Collection
15,760.00

Together-We-Serve (TWS)
\$7,136.00

TWS (to date) \$132,950.00
TWS (Goal) 176,000

Protecting Children in This Digital Age

My Dear People,

As good parents, do you know who are the digital friends of your kids? Do you check on the people who are connected to your loved ones through the network? Pope Francis says we cannot underestimate the harms done to minors in this digital age and says that we must act and be aware of the dangers of the Internet and to foster action to protect children and young people.

Children and adolescents make up over a quarter of the more than 3.2 billion Internet users worldwide today. This generation of over 800 million young users is in danger of becoming victims of sextortion, sexting, cyberbullying and harassment. We need to raise awareness of the gravity of the problems, enacting suitable legislation, overseeing developments in technology, identifying victims and prosecuting those guilty of crimes. They include assisting minors who have been affected and providing for their rehabilitation, assisting educators and families, and finding creative ways of training young people in the proper use of the internet in ways healthy for themselves and for other minors. They also include fostering greater sensitivity and providing moral formation, as well as continuing scientific research in all the fields associated with this challenge, says Pope Francis.

We are living in a new world that, when we were young, we could hardly have imagined. We define it by two simple words as a “digital world”, but it is the fruit of extraordinary achievements of science and technology. In a few decades, it has changed the way we live and communicate. Even now, it is in some sense changing our very way of thinking and of being, and profoundly influencing the perception of our possibilities and our identity.

If, on the one hand, we are filled with real wonder and admiration at the new and impressive horizons opening up before us, on the other, we can sense a certain concern and even apprehension when we consider how quickly this development has taken place, the new and unforeseen problems it sets before us, and the negative consequences it entails. Those consequences are seldom willed, and yet are quite real. We rightly wonder if we are capable of guiding the processes we ourselves have set in motion, whether they might be escaping our grasp, and whether we are doing enough to keep them in check.

This is the great existential question facing humanity today, in light of a global crisis that is all at once an environmental, social, economic, political, moral and spiritual crisis. The Holy Father is urging us to make an examination of conscience: ‘What are we doing to ensure that those children can continue smiling at us, with clear eyes and faces filled with trust and hope? What are we doing to make sure that they are not robbed of this light, to ensure that those eyes will not be not darkened and corrupted by what they will find on the internet, which will soon be so integral and important a part of their daily lives?’

While completely and firmly agreed on these principles, we must work together on their basis. We need to do this decisively and with genuine passion, considering with tender affection all those children who come into this world every day and in every place. They need our respect, but also our care and affection, so that they can grow and achieve all their rich potential.

Yours in Christ and our Blessed Mother

Fr. Tony Fernando, sdb

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, November 4th 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. 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>

Baptism For children (Infants to 7 years)

Diane is away from October 16 through November 3. Before October 16, please call Diane Middleton at **780 434 6313 ext. 233** to book upcoming registration/office visits or sign up for Baptism Preparation.

While I'm away please:

- call to book a registration/office visit time on November 27 etc. by leaving a voicemail. I will call you back to schedule your appointment, once I have returned. Do not email me for this.
- email to sign up for Baptism Preparation Sessions offered over the two Monday evenings of November 6th & 20th from 7 to 9pm. These sessions are for parents & godparents and may be taken before the arrival or registration of the child to be baptized. Please provide all the names of the people who will be attending to assistant@stmparish.com. Do not call me to sign up for baptism preparation.



Please refer to the baptism brochure for process, requirements, documentation and dates. It can be found on the parish website (Ministries link) or in the brochure stand near the main doors.

Catholic Education Sunday. Sunday November 5th is dedicated to Catholic Education. St. Thomas More Parish will celebrate the gift of Catholic Education at the 10 am mass. The family of schools that are associated with STM will be honoured and celebrated at this mass. Children will read, carry the gifts and help with offertory at this special mass.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE is back!! Will you help us save lives on Tuesday, October 17th? We need volunteers who can commit one hour, half an hour, half a day or a whole day to pray from home, at church or across the Abortion Clinic in Edmonton during the 40 Days for Life Campaign on Tuesday, October 17th, 2017. We also invite parishioners who would like to fast on this day for the intention that babies will be saved from abortion in Edmonton. If you would like to join us in peaceful prayer, next to the Back Porch (across from the Abortion Clinic) anytime between the hours of 8 am to 6 pm, then please sign up at the entrance of the church.

Catholic Drama at St. Thomas More: The Light of Christ Drama and Dance Ministry is seeking actors and dancers for a play called "Beauty of Conversion." Practices will be held on Fridays from 5 to 7pm starting November 17th. The performance will be on April 20th and 21st. You must be at least 7 years of age in order to participate in this ministry and have a desire to act or dance, no experience is necessary. The cost is \$80 for the first family member and \$60 for the second and \$40 for any more children in the family. If a family is struggling financially but has a child who would like to participate, please talk to me because every child is welcome. Please contact Renata at god-is-love-trust-him@outlook.com or 780 438-0516.

Ministries, Sacraments and Parish News

First Week of Conversio – Young Adult Catechism: is a program for anyone above the age of 18; all are welcome! This program is designed to teach adults the foundation of their Catholic faith by working through the Catechism. This program happens every 1st, and 3rd Saturday of the month @ 7:30 to 9pm **starting October 21, 2017** to May 19, 2018. Please contact Corina Santaera at CorinaSantaera@stmparish.com she can send you more information. If you or anyone you know would like to be a leader for this ministry, please also contact Corina and she can get you set up.

Youth Rally in Red Deer: The deadline to register for this great event is October 16th. We cannot accept any late registrations, so if you're interested in signing up, be quick! All youth from grades 7 to 12 are invited to join us for a youth rally in Red Deer on Saturday, October 28th. The cost of this rally is \$65 for the day; meals, t-shirt, registration, and bus fees included; if money is an issue, but your child is interested in attending, please contact the parish. Pick up a form from the bulletin boards. Please contact Corina if you have any questions at youth@stmparish.com or **780-4343-6313 ext. 237**

Donations: St. Thomas More is pleased to offer the ability for you to use your credit card or Pay Pal account to make donations to the Parish. Donations can be made by going to stmparish.com and selecting the donate button. This will then forward you to Canada Helps secure website. Here you will set up a monthly or a onetime donation. You can make donations to General, Building Fund or Together We Serve. Donations will be accepted for the current year up to and including midnight of December 31. Tax receipts will be issued by Canada Helps.

World Youth Day 2019: Are you someone who is interested in travel and would love to go to Panama with a whole bunch of young adults? You could get to experience a different culture, meet friends from all around the world, and enjoy great food that you have never tried before. Will you be 18 by January 2019? Come to our information night about World Youth Day on Saturday, November 4th at 6pm in the Chapter Room at St. Thomas More! Whether you are sure you can make it or not – if you are interested at all, please come!! Contact Corina or Sara for more information.



Prayer Shawl Ministry: Would you like to wrap someone in God's Love? Consider giving a “**PRAYER SHAWL**” to someone who is suffering from an illness, has lost a family member, or is struggling with the challenges of life. A Prayer Shawl can also be given to someone who is celebrating a birthday, anniversary, marriage, birth of a child or moving to a new location. Prayer Shawls are knit with prayer and blessed by a priest. At present, there is a good selection of prayer shawls. Shawls are not sold but a monetary donation is gratefully accepted to purchase more yarn. To obtain a shawl contact Linda at **780 988-9229**. For more information on the Prayer Shawl ministry, pick-up a Prayer Shawl brochure in the brochure holder at the entrance of the church.

33 Days to Morning Glory—Parish-Wide Consecration to Jesus through Mary

St. Thomas More Parish invites parishioners to make or renew your **Consecration to Jesus through Mary** on **Saturday, December 9th**.

To prepare for the consecration, participants are invited to make a 33 day personal “retreat” using the book, **33 Days to Morning Glory** by Father Michael Gaitley, MIC. This retreat requires about 10 minutes of reading per day, which can be done on your own, where and when you choose. The retreat begins on Monday, November 6th. You can purchase a copy of **33 Days to Morning Glory** through the Church Office for \$6.

For those who are interested, the 33 Days to Morning Glory DVD series is available on Formed.org to assist in preparing for your consecration. To register on Formed.org, use the Parish Access Code TBQYW9.

If you would like to join in the 33-day preparation beginning November 6th, please sign up with June (**780 633 0123/ iwanicka@telus.net**) or Kathy (**780 436 2455/gust1@telusplanet.net**) or the Church office by submitting your email and phone number. On the weekend of Oct 21/22 parishioners can sign up for the consecration at the Church entrance following all Masses.