

## *Mass Offerings*

Tues. Jan 16 7:00 pm + Augustine & Maria Wong  
+ Teresa O Toole

Wed. Jan 17 9:00 am Thanksgiving  
+ Catalina Joven

Thurs. Jan 18 9:00 am + John Caballero  
+ William Ewanyk

Fri. Jan 19 9:00 am Claude & Brenda Amyotte  
Natalia Stinn

Sat. Jan 20 9:00am + Sr. Agnes Wong  
Terry & Donna de Bruin

5pm + Ephraim Parayil  
Karim Castillo & family

Sun. Jan 21 8:30am + Gerald Green  
Pierrette Bouchard  
10:00am + Ernie Ray  
+ Rubena Goulet  
12:00pm All Parishioners  
6:00pm + Liberfad Solano Barrister

## *Calendar*

Tues Jan 16  
Mass  
7 pm  
Adoration &  
Reconciliation  
6:00 pm

Wed Jan 17  
Mass  
9 am  
Reconciliation  
8:30 am

Thurs Jan 18  
Mass  
9 am  
Reconciliation  
8:30 am

Friday Jan 19  
Mass 9:00 am  
Reconciliation  
8:30 am

Sat Jan 20  
Mass  
9 am & 5pm  
Reconciliation  
8:30 am & 4pm

Sun Jan 21  
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.

***Society of Saint Vincent de Paul:*** During 2017 our Conference supported 402 adults and 230 children. A recent call from a woman who left an abusive husband called for help. She has 6 children between the ages of 3 and 12 and she needs beds, dressers and other household items. Typical of abusive situations, the women and children flee with nothing but with our help they are safe and have hope for a better life. Saint Vincent de Paul is quoted as having said, "Go to the poor: you will find God". Thank you for all your support. The donations you provide allow us to go to the poor on your behalf in the name of Christ. 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 14, 2018

2<sup>nd</sup> 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

January 7

**Regular Sunday Collection**

\$14,056.00

**TWS (Together We Serve)**

\$4,081.00

**PAD Reg Sun** \$24,497.00

**PAD TWS** \$3,874.00

**Mary Mother of God Collection**

\$4,585.00

God makes us Agents of his Hospitality

My Dear People,

On this Sunday (**14 January**), we mark the 104<sup>th</sup> *World Day of Migrants and Refugees*. In an effort to promote a culture of encounter and to encourage people to receive migrants and refugees with open hearts and minds, on 27 September, 2017 Pope Francis announced and launched a 2-year campaign of action and awareness entitled "*Share the Journey*". As we know, right from his first year of pontificate, the Holy Father has been expressing his particular concern for the lamentable situation of many migrants and refugees fleeing from war, persecution, natural disasters and poverty and thus pointing out the Church's genuine interest in the wellbeing of migrants, displaced people, refugees and victims of human trafficking.

At his Christmas Eve Mass last month, Pope Francis once again strongly defended immigrants, comparing them to Mary and Joseph who found no place to stay in Bethlehem and saying that faith demands that foreigners be welcomed. He said "*So many other footsteps are hidden in the footsteps of Joseph and Mary. We see the tracks of entire families forced to set out in our own day. We see the tracks of millions of persons who do not choose to go away, but driven from their land, leave behind their dear ones*". Elsewhere he mentioned that our document of citizenship comes from God, making respect of migrants an integral part of Christianity. This is the joy that we are called to share, to celebrate and to proclaim. The joy with which God, in his infinite mercy, has embraced us pagans, sinners and foreigners, and demands that we do the same.

Besides, the Pope also condemned human traffickers who make money off desperate migrants as the "*Herods of today*" with blood on their hands, a reference to the Biblical story of the king who ordered the killing of all newborn male children near Bethlehem because he feared Jesus would one day displace him.

Let us not forget the words of the Pontiff who said that every stranger who knocks at our door is an opportunity for an encounter with Jesus Christ, who entrusts to the Church every person forced to leave their homeland in search of a better future. The Mother Church shares this solidarity (of encountering Jesus in the migrants) and the responsibility (of caring for the refugees) with all believers and people of good will, who are called to respond to the many challenges of contemporary migration with generosity, promptness, wisdom and foresight, each according to their own abilities.

In this regard, Pope Francis says that we as Christians have the unique opportunity to advocate and support the concrete actions as articulated by four verbs: "*to welcome, protect, promote, and integrate our migrant and refugee neighbours,*" and to share this message with all, especially our political and social leaders.

At this point I must say that our Parish is sponsoring 14 families that need our support. On behalf of the parish, let me thank all those who have been contributing to this great cause and let God bless them for their generosity. In Jesus, let God make us agents of his hospitality and of the hope and tenderness of our people.

Source: [http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/migration/documents/papa-francesco\\_20170815\\_world-migrants-day-2018.pdf](http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/migration/documents/papa-francesco_20170815_world-migrants-day-2018.pdf)  
[https://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/homilies/2017/documents/papa-francesco\\_20171224\\_omelia-natale.html](https://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/homilies/2017/documents/papa-francesco_20171224_omelia-natale.html)

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 3<sup>rd</sup>, 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](mailto: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>

**Baptism For children (Infants to 7 years)** The last opportunity to baptize, until after Easter is February 10 or 11 please call Diane at 780 434 6313 ext. 233. **Baptism Preparation:** January 15, 2018, from 7 to 9pm. These preparation classes are for parents & godparents and may be taken before the arrival or registration of the child to be baptized.

**Baptism Registration/Office Visit:** Monday, January 29, day & evening appointments available approximately 45 minutes in duration. Please refer to the brochure on the stand by the main doors or on our parish website (Ministries link) for process, requirements and other upcoming dates.

Also note that baptisms are not offered during Lent, which begins on February 14 (Ash Wednesday). The Catechism of the Catholic Church CCC 2156 states that we are to baptize our children as soon after birth, as possible (not waiting until the first birthday) and we are to give our children names of Christian sentiment. Godparents assist the parents in passing on the Catholic faith to the child but it is not necessary that they be relatives. If you are having difficulty finding a suitable godparent for your child please contact Diane.

*Baby on the Way? Maybe you didn't know but . . . . . the Second Commandment;*

- I. The Name of the Lord is Holy - *prescribes respect for the Lord's name CCC\* 2142*
- II. Taking the Name of the Lord in Vain – *forbids false oaths CCC\* 2150*
- III. **The Christian Name CCC\* 2156** *The sacrament of Baptism is conferred "in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." In Baptism, the Lord's name sanctifies man, and the Christian receives his name in the Church. This can be the name of a saint, that is, of a disciple who has lived a life of exemplary fidelity to the Lord. The patron saint provides a model of charity; we are assured of his intercession. The "baptismal name" can also express a Christian mystery or Christian virtue.*

***"Parents, sponsors, and the Pastor are to see that a name is not given which is foreign to Christian sentiment."***

**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](mailto: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 on the first week end of January 2018 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.



Since 1984, **Development and Peace/Caritas Canada** has benefitted from the collection and sale of stamps affixed on envelopes. Since 1992, sales have been recorded and \$500,000 has been raised. We encourage everyone to be mindful of their letters received and to set aside envelopes on which stamps are affixed. Please drop these envelopes in the box at the entrance of the church which will be passed onto Development and Peace/Caritas Canada. Thank you for participating in this most worthwhile initiative. Any questions? please contact Elaine Smith **780 436 8324**.

**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, November 26 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.