

## *Mass Offerings*

Tues.	Sept 12	7:00 pm	+	Andrew Kalasela All Souls In Purgatory
Wed.	Sept 13	9:00 am		Thanksgiving to Our Lord Joanne & Richard Thompson
Thurs.	Sept 14	9:00 am		Andrew & Adela Tarnowski + Mathew Halbauer
Fri.	Sep 15	9:00 am		Joyce & Dennis Mallet + Pauline Magee
Sat.	Sep 16	9:00am		Molly Siby + Pauline Magee
		5pm		Stasia Seretny + Maria Lamoureux
Sun.	Sep 17	8:30am	+	Miranda Ward
		10:00am		Lema Family
		12:00pm		All Parishioners
		6:00pm	+	Nora Connick

## *Calendar*

<b><u>Tues Sept 12</u></b> Mass 7 pm Adoration & Reconciliation 6:00 pm	<b><u>Wed Sept 13</u></b> Mass 9 am Reconciliation 8:30 am	<b><u>Thurs Sept 14</u></b> Mass 9 am Reconciliation 8:30 am
<b><u>Friday Sept 15</u></b> Mass 9 am Reconciliation 8:30 am	<b><u>Sat Sept 16</u></b> Mass 9 am Reconciliation 8:30 am & Mass 5 pm Reconciliation	<b><u>Sun Sept 17</u></b> Masses 8:30 am 10 am 12 noon 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.

**St. Thomas More** will begin the "***Bible Timeline***" on Sept. 25 at 7pm. For more information or to register for the study, visit the registration table after Mass or contact Erich Reimer at 780 700-7916 or email [erichreimer1954@gmail.com](mailto:erichreimer1954@gmail.com) or Martin Baclig at 780 691-1838 or [mbaclig10@gmail.com](mailto:mbaclig10@gmail.com)

**Catholic Drama at St. Thomas More:** St. Thomas More is starting a "Catholic Drama Ministry," ages 7 and up, starting October 27th, Friday, 5-7 pm. Family rates : 1st child \$80, 2nd child \$60 and 3rd child or more \$40. If you are interested, please email: [god-is-love-trust-him@outlook.com](mailto:god-is-love-trust-him@outlook.com)

**Society of Saint Vincent De Paul:** cares for the less fortunate in our community by offering food, clothing, household goods, furniture and in dire circumstances in order to prevent evictions and utility cut offs we can also assist with payments for rent, gas and electricity. We do this on behalf of parishioners, in the name of Christ who loved the poor. One of the recent calls was from a woman on AISH who normally supplemented her income by babysitting but was unable to do so because she was in hospital with a bladder operation. Thanks to your generosity, the eviction notice she received was withdrawn. 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](http://www.ssvpedmonton.ca)

**Pancake Breakfast:** Sunday, September 24, after the 8:30 and 10am masses in the Parish hall. Come and enjoy pancakes with strawberries & whipped cream, sausages, scrambled eggs, coffee, tea & juice. Cost is \$5 per person or \$20 per family.

**Marriage Preparation:** The following programs are currently available to couples seeking Marriage Preparation:

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

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



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

September 10, 2017

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Clergy:

Pastor: Fr. Antony Fernando, sdb  
Assoc. Pastor: Fr. Sagayaraj Devadoss, 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. 238  
Diane.Middleton@caedm.ca  
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

NEW

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

Olivia Dias at :  
stm.secretary@stmparish.com

**Nuclear war and Catholic stand**

My Dear People,

Robert Jeffress, an evangelical pastor and close adviser to Donald J. Trump, said that the President has Biblical permission and moral authority to “take out” North Korean supreme leader Kim Jong Un. Citing Romans 13, Rev. Jeffress said that God grants governments the authority to punish evildoers with whatever means necessary.

What do you think, is our God wanting war and death and violence?

There is no need to insist that, in a world where another Hitler is very possible, the mere existence of nuclear weapons constitutes the most tragic and serious problem that the human race has ever had to contend with. Indeed, the atmosphere of hatred, suspicion and tension in which we all live is precisely what is needed to produce Hitlers.

Christ, the Prince of Peace, does not simply offer a kind of supernatural peace, rather, he compels those who follow him to actively strive for peace in this life. Christ Our Lord did not come to bring peace to the world as a kind of spiritual tranquilizer. He brought to His disciples a vocation and a task, to struggle in the world of violence to establish His peace not only in their own hearts but in society itself.

Christians may not excuse themselves from the work of building peace in the world. It is the vocation Christ gives us in baptism. Amid North Korean nuclear missile tests and American promises of “fire and fury,” calls for peace may sound naïve. As the world commemorates and mourns the 72nd anniversary of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Merton’s critique of Christian failure to recognize this vocation is especially poignant:

There can be no doubt that Hiroshima and Nagasaki were, though not fully deliberate crimes, nevertheless crimes. And who was responsible? No one? or “history.” We cannot go on playing with nuclear fire and shrugging off the results as “history.” We are the ones concerned. We are the ones responsible. History does not make us, we make it—or end it.

I do not mean to say that you have to swim out to nuclear submarines carrying a banner, but it is absolutely necessary to take a serious and articulate stand on the question of nuclear war.... The passivity, the apparent indifference, the incoherence of so many Christians on this issue, and worse still, the active belligerency of some religious spokesmen, especially in this country, is rapidly becoming one of the most frightful scandals in the history of Christendom.

What are we, the dwindling and confused Christian minority in the West, going to do? Or at least, what do we really want to do? Do we intend to settle our problems peacefully or by force? Have we anything left to say about it at all? Have not the decisions been taken, to a great extent, out of our hands? Not yet. Among our leaders, some are Christians.... These leaders will (we hope) take kindly to suggestions and to pleas that are based on Christian ethical norms.

Yours in Christ and our Blessed Mother

Tony Fernando, sdb

Aug 27

**Regular Sunday Collection**  
**\$15,319.30**

**Together-We-Serve**  
**\$3,264.70**

**Pre-Authorised Donation**  
**Regular Sunday \$24,667.70**  
**Together We Serve \$3,934.60**

## *Sacraments, Ministries & Other*

**First Holy Communion:** The First Reconciliation/First Holy Communion sacrament program begins when the children are in grade 2. First day of registration is Saturday Oct 7th from 9am to 11am. Brochures available at your Catholic school or in our Parish, on our brochure stand.

***Do you have or know a child between the ages of 8 and 15 who would like to become a Catholic?***

Our **R.C.I.A.** (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults ADAPTED FOR CHILDREN) Program is for children 8 to 15 years of age who are inquiring and seeking initiation into the Catholic Church. This includes children who have not been baptized and wish to be fully initiated into the Catholic Church (receiving the Sacrament of Baptism, Confirmation and First Holy Communion) **OR** for children who have been baptized as members of another Christian community and wish to be initiated into the Catholic Church (receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation and First Holy Communion). We begin in October, 2017 and continue to May 2018. To find out more, call Monica at 780-434-6313 ext. 227 or email [family@stmparish.com](mailto:family@stmparish.com)

**Front Step Replacement:** The work to replace the front steps is scheduled to start on Monday, September 18. The work is going to take two weeks to complete. This is all weather dependent. While the replacement is taking place the front doors will be closed to all traffic. We are asking all parishioners to use either the south east door or the patio doors to enter and exit the church. For the weekend of September 23/24 we will not have coffee after mass, this is to allow parishioners free access to enter and leave via the patio doors. Thank you to everyone for your patience and understanding during this time.

**Confirmation 2017:** We would like to remind parents that it is mandatory to come to the Parent Night! Thank you to all who came out last Wednesday. If you did not attend and your child is registered in the confirmation program, then you must attend the Parent night TOMORROW, Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm in the Church Hall!

**Conquest & Challenge Clubs :** Challenge and Conquest are gender specific programs for youth 10 to 16 years of age, where we focus on instilling virtues, building catholic character, growing in our faith and putting all this knowledge into action through apostolic projects! If you are interested, look for the brochures at the back of the church for more information. The registration dates are as follows:

Wednesday, September 13, 2017 6:30 pm– 8:30 pm

Wednesday, September 20, 2017 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

**RCIA: Do you know someone who would like to become Catholic?**

***Would you like to Sponsor someone who would like to become Catholic?***

For Adults wishing to be initiated into the Catholic Church, the ***Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)*** will run from 7th Sep 2017 to 20th May 2018.

For practicing Catholics who wish to be a **Sponsor**, this is a richly rewarding experience of sharing faith and an opportunity to learn more about the “treasure” that is yours! A pamphlet depicting the four-phase RCIA process is located at the entrance of the Church. Visit the RCIA links at [www.stmparish.com](http://www.stmparish.com) for more details including audio & slide shows of the teaching sessions. Contact Darlene Smigelski at 780-434-6313 ext. 226 or 780-435-3370; [stm.rcia.coord@stmparish.com](mailto:stm.rcia.coord@stmparish.com)

**Baptism:** Congratulations to the newly Baptized! In August the following children were received into our Parish family through the sacrament of Baptism: Hudson A. Emerich A. Winifred B. Xyrelle R. Olivia Z. Adrienne G. Avery G. Kenzo M. Evangelia M. Dominic M. and Jordyn Y. Please remember these children in your prayers.

Baptize your up to 7-year-old\* child(ren) at mass on October 14 or 15 (no Liturgy baptism available) by:

-Gathering docs listed in baptism brochure in brochure stand or on parish website under Ministries.

-Make an appt. to register your child(ren) for baptism on Monday, Oct. 2, various day and evening time slots available, 30 to 45 minute duration.

-Parents and godparents sign up with Diane to take baptism prep. class over two consecutive Monday evenings of Sept. 18 and 25 (7 to 9pm)

- Class can be taken before the child arrives and prior to registration/office visit.

Contact: Diane 780-434-6313 ext. 233 to book

*\*Baptism of children by the time they are entering grade 2 at the latest is prudent.*

**Would you like to meet other families, couples and singles (young or older) in the parish?**

Would you like to grow in your faith and form friendships, then join the **Family Prayer Cells!** Family Prayer Cells gather once a month to pray, learn, engage, discuss and socialize which results in building a stronger community and developing an effective support system for families. If you are interested, contact the facilitator Mary Ann Kalapurakal at [familyprayercellsstm@gmail.com](mailto:familyprayercellsstm@gmail.com)

## *Ministries, Sacraments and Parish News*

**STM Scripture Study:** A Scripture Study will begin with an information night on Tuesday, September 12th after Mass, at 7:30 P.M here at the church, in the Library room. At that time, the study booklets will be distributed. The cost is \$10.00 for materials. The study is called "Threshold to God's Word". We will meet for the following 10 weeks. Come for fellowship and to learn, pray, and share your faith. The study will help connect the transforming power of Scripture to the heart of our own spirituality - this powerful book is an invitation to unlock the door to God's word. 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.

**Wednesday Morning Scripture Study Group:** will meet again starting September 13, 2017, at 9:30 am. We will begin a new series by Ascension Press called "Acts: The Spread of the Kingdom." Study Guide for this series will be about \$40.00. If you are interested in learning more about the New Testament please join our group. Contact Annette at 780 437-4044 or Jan at 780 434-1576.

Register now for the **Catholic Girls' League** - this is a youth group for girls ages 10-15 which meets twice each month on Saturday afternoons in the Youth Room. The first meeting is on September 23rd from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. We do a variety of activities - games, crafts, volunteer work, spiritual development which provide fun, friendship and faith development in a Catholic setting. There is no registration fee. To register, send your contact information and age to **stmorcgl@gmail.com** or phone Jean at 780 435-1861.

**Welcome Back to School:** We are excited to welcome back all the students to school! We are looking forward to spending time in the Catholic Schools affiliated with St. Thomas More. Those 13 schools are: Archbishop Joseph MacNeil, Louis St. Laurent, Monsignor Fee Otterson, Monsignor William Irwin, Mother Margaret Mary, St. Augustine, St. Boniface, St. John XXIII, St. Mary, St. Monica, St. Stanislaus, St. Thomas Aquinas, and St. Teresa's. We pray this school year is a blessed year for all students, teachers and parents!

**K4J -Kids for Jesus Program:** ages 4 - 9! Parents! Are you looking for a great program that teaches your child the tools they need to know and live the Catholic faith? Then sign them up for our Kids for Jesus (K4J) Virtue Program, ages 4 to 7 or the K4J Captains Leadership Program ages 8 & 9 beginning October 4, 2017. Cost is \$50 per child.

Drop-In Registration Dates will be as follows:

**Wednesday, September 13, 2017**– 6:30pm to 8:30pm

Brochures are available at the entrance of the church or take a look at our parish website. You can also call Monica at the office.

**Children's Liturgy:** Would you like to assist with Children's Liturgy this year? We need leaders for Saturday at 5pm, Sunday at 8:30am, 10:00am and 12:00pm. You will always be paired up with another person to lead the children.

Lesson plans and activities are provided. The children in our parish look forward to Children's Liturgy, so we need volunteers to help out. Please email Cheryl at **shinkarukc@shaw.ca** to volunteer.

### **Grief Support**

***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 that has been adapted from a successful existing program in the Archdiocese of Hamilton 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 Monday, September 11 at 7:00 P.M 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.