

Mass Offerings

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| Tues. | Apr 17 | 7:00pm | + Aloysius Fernando + Louise Crowley |
| Wed. | Apr 18 | 9:00am | Rosa Luong + Wayne Hanatuke |
| Thurs. | Apr 19 | 9:00am | Judy Lam Emmanuel Jem V. Magalona |
| Fri. | Apr 20 | 9:00am | + Dan Pavelick + Arturo Teijeiro |
| Sat. | Apr 21 | 9:00am | + Keira Yufei Jin + Luzviminda Oligario |
| | | 5:00pm | + Valentina D'Sa Donna Molloy |
| Sun. | Apr 22 | 8:30am | + Michael & Maria Wanat |
| | | 10:00am | Thanksgiving |
| | | 12:00pm | All Parishioners |
| | | 6:00pm | Carla Smiley |

The Parish of St. Thomas More will be having a Day of Recollection on Friday, June 8, 2018, the Feast of the Sacred Heart, from 8:25am (Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet), Mass at 9am, lunch at noon, closing with BENEDICTION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT at 3pm. (The day will be hosted by the Eucharistic Study Group). The guest speaker is Fr. Miguel Irizar. Everyone is welcome!

Calendar

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| <u>Tues Apr 17</u> Mass 7pm Adoration & Reconciliation 6pm | <u>Wed Apr 18</u> Mass 9am Reconciliation 8:30am | <u>Thurs Apr 19</u> Mass 9am Reconciliation 8:30am |
| <u>Fri Apr 20</u> Mass 9am Reconciliation 8:30am | <u>Sat Apr 21</u> Masses 9am & 5pm Reconciliation 8:30am & 4pm | <u>Sun Apr 22</u> Masses 8:30am 10am 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, Sobeyes & 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 and now, Boston Pizza \$50 gift cards** are also available for purchase. This is a great way to assist Parish projects and to help the less fortunate. Please take the time to support the program regularly.



2018 St. Thomas More's VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

July 9 – 13, 2018
Monday to Friday 9 am–12 pm

AGES 4 – 14
\$50 per child (4-10 yrs. *must be 4 by July 1st*)
\$25 Captains (11-14 yrs.)

JOIN OUR CIRCUS OF STARS TEAM!
Sign up today!

Registration Dates are:

Wednesday, April 11 6:30pm – 8:30pm
Saturday, April 14 10am – 12pm AND before and after 5pm Mass
Sunday, April 15 before and after 8:30am, 10am, 12 noon & 6pm Masses
Wednesday, May 2 6:30pm – 8:30pm



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

April 15, 2018
3rd Sunday of Easter

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. 223
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

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

April 08

TWS
\$4,325.00

Regular Sunday
\$14,740.00

Saint Kateri Tekakwitha: the “Lily of the Mohawks” and Protectoress of Canada

My Dear People,

On April 17th, the Catholic Church, especially in North Americas, marks the feast of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha (1656 - 1680): the first Native American Woman Saint. While *Kateri* is a Mohawk form of Catherine, *Tekakwitha* is a native name which means "one who places things in order." It is a day of joy and honour to Canada for she is its "protectoress." Kateri was born in today's New York state in 1656 in the Mohawk village of Ossernenon. Her father was a Mohawk chief and her mother was a Christian Algonquin who gave her daughter a sense of the living God. She went through hard times as a child. At four years old, she contracted smallpox which scarred her skin. The scars were a source of humiliation in her youth. Worse, her entire family died during the outbreak of smallpox. Tekakwitha was subsequently raised by her uncle, who was the chief of a Mohawk clan. Despite difficulties, Kateri proved herself to be of good character. She was known as a skilled worker, who was diligent and patient. However, she refused to marry. When her adoptive parents proposed a suitor to her, she refused to entertain the proposal for which she was punished and was given more hard work to do, but she did not give in. Instead, she remained quiet and diligent. Eventually they were forced to relent and accept that she had no interest in marriage.

At age 19, Kateri Tekakwitha converted to Catholicism, taking a vow of chastity. Her decision was very unpopular with her adoptive parents and their neighbours. Some of her neighbours started rumours of sorcery. To avoid persecution, she traveled to a Christian native community south of Montreal. Besides being very devout, she often used to practice mortifications. For instance, she would put thorns on her sleeping mat and often prayed for the conversion of her fellow Mohawks. According to the Jesuit missionaries that served the community where Kateri lived, she often fasted and when she would eat, she would taint her food to diminish its flavour.

On October 21, 2012, when Pope Benedict XVI canonized her, he said these beautiful words about her: *“Leading a simple life, Kateri remained faithful to her love for Jesus, to prayer and to daily Mass. Her greatest wish was to know and to do what pleased God. She lived a life radiant with faith and purity. Kateri impresses us by the action of grace in her life in spite of the absence of external help and by the courage of her vocation, so unusual in her culture. In her, faith and culture enrich each other! May her example help us to live where we are, loving Jesus without denying who we are.”*

At a thanksgiving Mass in Rome, on October 22nd, following her canonization, our own Archbishop Richard Smith (then the president of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops) came out with the following expressions: St. Kateri teaches us that our response in faith to Jesus Christ brings healing. Among the most striking aspects of her witness is the miraculous transformation of her face soon after her death. From the age of four, terribly scarred by the smallpox, her face was restored to its original beauty only minutes after she had died. St. Kateri said *“Jesus, I love you,”* just before she died, showing how her response to Christ's love preceded the healing. How greatly do we need this lesson from St. Kateri today. We may not bear physical scars, but so many today carry deep emotional and psychological ones which are inflicted not by smallpox but by poverty, addiction, loneliness and betrayal. Yet St. Kateri teaches us that no wound, however deep, should leave us without hope. Her facial healing is “an outward sign of the interior transformation that is given to all who hand over their lives to Christ, and who do so in love.” Just five years after her conversion to Catholicism, Kateri Tekakwitha became ill and passed away at age 24, on April 17, 1680. She is the patroness of ecology and the environment, people in exile and Native Americans. As we celebrate her feast, let us cherish her witness of faith and strength of character.

Fr. Sagayaraj Devadoss, SDB
Parochial Administrator

Sacraments, Ministries & Other

Marriage Preparation:

Programs available are:

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

On-line Marriage Preparation: [http://caedm.ca/PastoralParishServices/LifeandFamily/](http://caedm.ca/PastoralParishServices/LifeandFamily/MarriagePreparation/MarriagePreparationPrograms/OtherPrograms/OnlineMarriagePreparation)

[MarriagePreparation/MarriagePreparationPrograms/OtherPrograms/OnlineMarriagePreparation](http://caedm.ca/PastoralParishServices/LifeandFamily/MarriagePreparation/MarriagePreparationPrograms/OtherPrograms/OnlineMarriagePreparation)



Baptism: **Next Registration/Office Visit** is Monday, April 23, for both parents, day and evening appointment times available, 30 to 45 minutes in duration.



Next Baptism Preparation is offered over the two consecutive Monday evenings of June 4 & 11 from 7 to 9pm. **This is the last opportunity to take baptism preparation classes at St. Thomas More until September.** The preparation classes are a requirement for parents and godparents. Classes may be taken before registration or office visit and even before the baby arrives. Please note that there are no classes offered in May, July and August.

If a godparent is not able to be present at the time of baptism, a proxy may stand in for them. The role and responsibilities remain with the godparents. Proxies do not need to take baptism preparation.

Baptism Brochure is available in the brochure stand at the main entrance of the church or on the parish website (Ministries link). Please refer to the brochure for specific information about documentation requirements, schedule of dates and contact person to arrange a baptism for your 7 year old or younger child.

Conversio – There will be no more Conversio, young adult catechism ministry, for the rest of the year. Thank you to all those that attended over the year and the clergy that took time out of their schedules to catechize those in this ministry. Hopefully all the young adults that came are able to come to the Family Life Conference this year. Please visit <http://www.catholicfamilyministries.com> for more details OR hopefully we see you with the St. Joseph Basilica 2019, World Youth Day Panama group.

12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care:

The Catholic Women's League of Canada calls all people of faith to join nationwide in **12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care** on **Friday, May 11**, during National Hospice Palliative Care Week, as a profound witness to the sanctity of human life. All parishioners, family and friends are invited to join the St. Thomas More CWL council in prayer and solidarity from **8am to 8pm at St. Thomas More Church**. Those unable to attend at the church are encouraged to join in prayerful support at home. Signup sheets are located at the entrance of the church. It is important that you make your commitment to pray known. For more information contact Annette at 780 437 4044.

Ministries, Sacraments and Parish News

STM Scripture Study: A Scripture Study will begin with an information night on Tuesday, May 1, 2018 after 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 \$12.00 for materials. The study is called "The Psalms: Gateway to Prayer". This illuminating Bible study shows us why these beautiful and timeless songs have such universal appeal. As we learn how to make the words of the ancient psalmists our own, the psalms become our gateway to deeper prayer. We will meet for the following 6 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**.

Pancake Breakfast: Sunday, April 29, 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.

Society of Saint Vincent de Paul: Our Conference received 36 calls for assistance in the month of March. Two examples illustrate the needs of those less fortunate who you help with your understanding and generous donations. One of the recent friends our volunteers visited was a mother and four children who fled an abusive relationship and called us after a 21 day stay at WIN House. She and her children had nothing and required furniture and kitchen utensils. A second visit was made to an AISH beneficiary who required food. Usually a good money manager, in this one month he ran into problems and for AISH beneficiaries there is no margin for error. As well, his health issues made it difficult to access the Food Bank during winter months. If you are a donor of food, please consider that we require these items; pancake mix, syrup, jam, and cheese whiz. SSVP founder, Frederic Ozanam, shared his vision with a simple statement, "I would like to embrace the whole world in a network of charity." 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.

Do you Like Books?



The St. Thomas More LIBRARY MINISTRY is in need of volunteers to assist the library co-ordinator in setting up the library in preparation for parishioners to borrow items. If you are able to help, or would like more details, please email **libraryatstm@gmail.com** or call Theresa at **587 987 7915**.