

Mass Offerings

Tues.	Mar 13	7:00pm	+	Mathew Plathottam	Fr. Jaya Rajan
Wed.	Mar 14	9:00am	+	Jose Plathottam	Crowley Family
Thurs.	Mar 15	9:00am		Louise Crowley	McGill Family
Fri.	Mar 16	9:00am	+	Edwin Moorhie	William McGill
		7:00pm	+	Archbishop Joseph MacNeil	
Sat.	Mar 17	9:00am	+	Aley Kutty Plathottam	Jeanie Brown
		5:00pm		Katherine Banic	Maripaz Ruleau
Sun.	Mar 18	8:30am	+	Mark Free	
		10:00am	+	Tony Rinaldi	
		12:00pm		All Engaged Couples in the Parish	
		6:00pm		Jan Bober	

Calendar

<u>Tues Mar 13</u> Mass 7pm Adoration & Reconciliation 6:00pm	<u>Wed Mar 14</u> Mass 9am Reconciliation 8:30am	<u>Thurs Mar 15</u> Mass 9am Reconciliation 8:30am
<u>Friday Mar 16</u> Masses 9am & 7pm (with Stations of the Cross) Reconciliation 8:30am	<u>Sat Mar 17</u> Masses 9am & 5pm Reconciliation 8:30am & 4pm	<u>Sun Mar 18</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, 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 and now, Boston Pizza \$50 gift cards** are also available for purchase. This is a great way to assist parish projects and also to help the less fortunate. Please take the time to support the program regularly.

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**.

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.

Society of Saint Vincent de Paul: Thank you for all the support you continue to demonstrate for the poor in our community through your donations to SSVP. One of the individuals waiting for assistance is a young woman renting a basement suite with no furniture. She just came out of Lurana Shelter and left her home with nothing. She will be provided with food and bus ticket's, but may have to wait for a while for furniture. Our Conference also recently provided rental assistance to a mother with two children dealing with a marriage break down. Her ex-husband is unemployed and provides no support. With your help, her situation has stabilized a little while she deals with an uncertain future. Please continue to support our work with your donations of food, furniture, and money. 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.



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

March 11, 2018
4th Sunday of Lent

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

March 04

Regular Sunday Collection

\$16,200.00

TWS (Together We Serve)

\$8,860.00

PAD Regular Sunday

\$24,325.00

PAD TWS

\$3,824.00

TWS Annual Lent

\$7,517.00

God Loves Me

My Dear People,

We have reached the 4th Sunday of Lent and it has been given the name "Rejoice-Sunday!" We may wonder why a Sunday in Lent should be given this name, when we are supposed to lament and be sorry for our sins which caused the death of Jesus. And yet, through the Word of God of this Sunday, the Church invites us, her children, to rejoice for *God definitely loves us all*. Each one is invited to put this great news in the singular: "**God loves me!**" In his letter to the Christians of Galatia, Paul puts it more forcefully: "*Christ loved me and gave himself up for my sake.*"

The *Second Book of Chronicles*, written some 250 years before Jesus was born, contains a summary of the history of the people of Israel, narrated already in other books of the Bible. The purpose of the author in writing them was not just to recount events which the people of his time already knew, but to convey to them a precious message which the history of their ancestors made clear, namely:

that God had been extraordinarily loving and merciful throughout the history of the people of Israel;

that their ancestors had been utterly ungrateful and unfaithful to God for most of the time.

In today's passage, we are told of the many misfortunes that God allowed to come upon the Israelites on account of their sins, the greatest among them being the destruction of Jerusalem and of the temple and the banning of most of its population into exile. Yet, the book points out that it was not out of revenge that God allowed those misfortunes to come upon his people. He meant the tragedy to be a medicine, a bitter one no doubt but a medicine nonetheless, to help them get cured of the disease of sin. And again, not for a moment had God abandoned his people. In fact, God had moved persons and events in such a way that, after years of exile, they were allowed to go back home, rebuild the city and the temple, and start living as a people once again.

From reflecting on the history of their ancestors, the writer wanted his people to derive the right conclusions, as follows:

Yahweh loved their forefathers and had been merciful to them all throughout. He loved them too in their exile. They should not act as their ancestors had done but remain faithful to Him.

The Scripture makes it very clear that God loves us all. No amount of ingratitude on our part ever deterred God from carrying out his plans to save mankind. Our salvation isn't something that we earn, it is a pure gift. God is not obliged to offer this to us. He does so because he loves us, not because we believe we are good enough. No one is good enough.

During these days of Lent, let us all the more recognize God's goodness and love for us all. Let us live a life of gratitude to the Father for his forgiving love that shines at its best in Jesus our Lord and Saviour.

Fr. Sagayaraj Devadoss, SDB
Parochial Administrator

Sacraments, Ministries & Other

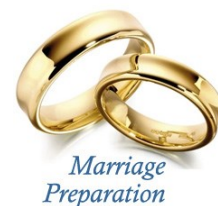
Marriage Preparation

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, March 26th, for both parents, day and evening appointment times, 30 to 45 minutes in duration.

Next Baptism Preparation is offered over the two consecutive Monday evenings of April 9th & 16th from 7 to 9pm. The preparation classes are a requirement for parents and godparents. Please note that there are no classes offered in May, July and August.

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.

Going to be a parent? Before the arrival of your little one is a great time to prayerfully and carefully consider who the godparent(s) should be. Choosing godparents for your child is more than a social honour - at the font the godparents make promises to God, the child and the community to support the parents in raising the child within the Catholic faith which comes to us directly from Jesus Christ. This is why the godparents need to have received the Sacrament of Confirmation, be actively practicing their faith by attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days, regular reception of the Sacraments of Eucharist and Reconciliation and living out their faith in word and action.

Parents and Godparents if you are no longer able to find your original certificate for your Sacraments of Baptism or Confirmation, then please contact the church of your baptism. The Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation & Marriage (in a Catholic Church) are entered into the register at the church where you were baptized. This church will be able to create and provide you with an 'updated baptism document' from the information they have in the register. Be sure that you ask the church to include notation of Confirmation & Marriage on the updated document. This a common request of Catholic churches around the world.

The Catholic Woman's League: invites everyone in grades 1 to 6 to join a poster contest. The poster should include the theme of "Unwrapping and Using the Gifts of the Spirit". They are to be 2D only, and no bigger than 11x17". There are 2 prizes - 1st place is \$50 and 2nd place is \$25. Submissions can be mailed in until March 16th. Full contest rules and submission forms are on the CWL diocesan homepage at edmontoncwl.org.

Ministries, Sacraments and Parish News

Easter Flowers: The Church is accepting donations for Easter MUMs. We have decided to go mainly with MUMs due to a high number of parishioners with allergies to Lilies. If you wish, the donation can be made in the name of a loved one. The suggested donation is \$20. You can take your donation to the parish office or place the donation in the collection basket, in an envelope, marked "MUM" along with the name of your loved one. *The deadline for MUM donations is March 25.*

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

Holy week and Easter will soon be upon us. EMHC are invited to sign-up to serve at the various masses. The sign-up forms are located just outside the Vesting sacristy.



K. of C Fr. Bonner Council's 40 Cans for Lent Drive: The Knights of Columbus Father Bonner Council would like to invite our council members and the St. Thomas More parishioners to help fight hunger by participating in a 40 Cans for Lent Drive. You can contribute one can of food for each of the days of Lent. The food will be donated to the parish food pantry, community food bank and soup kitchen. You can drop off the cans of food in the boxes that will be placed at the main entrance of the church. For more information, please contact Brother Wilson Figueroa, K of C Council Director, at wgfigu@gmail.com or **587 336 8989**. Thank you and God bless!

Development and Peace/Caritas Canada invites you to attend a presentation by Vansey Sao on his work with the Indigenous Community Support Organization in Cambodia (a partner of Development and Peace) March 13th at 7pm at the Pastoral Centre. Contact the Edmonton office of Development and Peace at **1 844 480 3387**.

The **Dust Angels** are our parishioners and volunteers looking for help. They meet every Monday morning at 7am to clean the church, to give us a clean space in which we meet and worship. If you are interested in joining this ministry, please come on Monday morning at 9am and ask for Arthur Connick.

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 BENEDECTION 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!