

# St. Thomas More Parish: 15 Templebow Road NE, Calgary AB T1Y 6J3

Phone: (403) 285-3773 | Fax: (403) 293-8754

**Pastor:** pastor@stthomasmore.ca

**Associate Pastor:** associate@stthomasmore.ca

**Parish Office:** secretary@stthomasmore.ca | **Website:** www.stthomasmore.ca

**Office Hours:** Monday & Sunday - Closed

Tuesday to Saturday - 10:00am to 3:00pm

*A collaborative ministry of the Carmelite Fathers and Lay Parishioners*



## The Epiphany of the Lord, January 4/5 2025

### **Pastor:**

Fr. Jerald D'Souza, OCD

### **Associate Pastor:**

Fr. Alexander Braganza, OCD

### **Permanent Deacons:**

Deacon Norman Dumais

Deacon Dale Laing

### **Deacon in Training:**

Cruzel Lacao

### **Office Assistant:**

Rachael Ramaswamy

### **Administrative Assistant:**

Fe Badajos

### **Bookkeeper:**

Cindy Kreutzer

### **Hospitality:**

Everyone in the Parish!

### **Weekday Mass Schedule:**

Monday to Saturday: 9:00am

### **Weekend Mass Schedule:**

Saturday: 4:00pm

Sunday: 8:30am, 10:30am,

12:30pm & 5:00pm

### **Igbo Mass:**

First Sunday of the Month:

2:00pm

### **Adoration:**

First Friday of the month:

9:30am to Noon

### **Reconciliation:**

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday:

After the morning Mass

Saturday: 3:00pm to 3:45pm

### **Baptisms:**

An initial appointment with

one of the Priests is required

before attending a session.

### **Confirmation:**

Registration is open online.

### **Society of St. Vincent De Paul:**

(403) 975-4318 (Food Hampers)

## A Catholic approach to the New Year

*Aleteia.org*

As the final bells of December fade, a fresh year stretches before us. Renewed enthusiasm mingles with anxiety. What will the New Year hold? How can we navigate its uncertainties with (at least some) grace and purpose?

For Catholics, the answer lies not in resolutions fleeting as confetti, but in the enduring pillars of hope, faith, and charity.

The New Year isn't considered a major religious holiday in Catholicism. (January 1 is, instead: the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God.) It is nothing like Christmas or Easter. And still, it is a significant occasion marked with thanksgiving and anticipation. **We acknowledge the passage of time**, reflecting on the past year with gratitude for blessings received and seeking forgiveness for shortcomings. We also look ahead with a hopeful heart, praying for God's guidance and grace in the year to come.

### **HOPE**

The kind of hopes we bring into the new year are not just personal. Oftentimes, they extend to the wider world. **We pray for peace, for justice, for the healing of our planet and its people.** We remember God's promise of a renewed creation, and this hope fuels our commitment to working toward a better future. Hope is thus not just some vague daydreaming, but a stark resolution to build the Kingdom of God.

### **FAITH**

Our faith in God's unfailing love is **the compass guiding us through the uncharted territory of the New Year.** In more ways than one, faith is, in the end, all we have. We trust that even in times of uncertainty, when we need to *fly blind*, God will be with us, leading us through darkness and toward light. This faith strengthens our resolve to face challenges with courage and compassion.

### **CHARITY**

Charity is not just about giving alms. It implies **actively building bridges of love and understanding in the world.** In the spirit of the New Year, we recommit ourselves to serving those in need, to reaching out with kindness and empathy, and to making a positive difference in the lives of others. As Catholics, we step into the New Year not just with resolutions, but **with a renewed sense of purpose, guided by the light of hope, faith, and charity.** We pray for a year filled with God's grace, where we can be instruments of his love and build a brighter future for ourselves and the world around us. The New Year is a time for both reflection and anticipation, an opportunity to deepen our faith, strengthen our hope, and to let love shine brightly in the world.

**Weekly Mass Intentions: Jan. 6 to Jan 12**

Jan 6	Mon	9:00am	Jacqueline & Bill Camier (RIP) Irene Roxas (INT) Estelle Heath (RIP)
Jan 7	Tue	9:00am	Lyndon Gedorio (RIP) Andrew Blanco (RIP) Fe Oriel (RIP)
Jan. 8	Wed	9:00am	Ram Chander (RIP) Frank Palmer (RIP) Fe Oriel (RIP) Hermina & Ariston Sr. Mayormente (RIP)
Jan. 9	Thu	9:00am	Bienvenido Velasco (RIP) Fe Oriel (RIP) Fr. Melvin Pinto (INT)
Jan. 10.	Fri	9:00am	James Walton (RIP) Aurora & Fortunato Benitez (RIP) Teresa Trinh Nguyen (RIP)
Jan. 11	Sat	9:00am 4:00pm	Shobine George (INT) Ramon Reyes (RIP) Fe Oriel (RIP) Fortunata Trinidad (RIP)
Jan. 12	Sun	8:30am 10:30am 12:30pm 5:00pm	Maria De Braganza (RIP) Mickey & Juliet Mendes (RIP) Hilda Kearney (RIP) Fe Oriel (RIP) Frank Palmer (RIP) Dominga Corpus (RIP) For the people (INT) Florito Pozon (RIP)

**St. Thomas More Church Mass Schedule**

**Feast Day of St. Joseph Vaz**

Sun., Jan. 12, 2025 at 2:00pm

**Sinulog** Sun., Jan. 19, 2025 at 6:30pm

**January : More than resolutions**

*Aleteia.org*

Whether you're looking to embrace healthy habits, spend time with loved ones, or deepen your faith, here are some meaningful ways to make the most of this important day. January 1 marks the start of a new calendar year, sure. But it is also an opportunity for renewal — in body, mind, and soul. Whether you're looking to embrace healthy habits, spend time with loved ones, or deepen your faith, here are some meaningful ways to make the most of this important day.

Start the year by offering thanks for the blessings of the past year and seeking grace for the one ahead. Catholic families begin January 1 with the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God — a holy day of obligation. Attending Mass is a beautiful way to honor Our Lady and place the New Year under her guidance.

**Strengthen Bonds**

Instead of writing down a list of ambitious resolutions that may quickly fade, focus on setting small, achievable goals rooted in faith and personal growth. Consider adopting a virtue — such as patience, generosity, or humility — as your focus for the year.

**Connect with Loved ones**

January 1 is **a perfect day to reconnect with family and friends**. Share a meal, play games, or take a walk together. For many, this is also the World Day of Peace, a reminder to seek harmony in relationships. A simple gesture, like resolving a conflict or sending a thoughtful message, can help mend or strengthen bonds.

**Get outdoors for a fresh start**

If the weather allows, take a walk, go for a hike, or simply step outside to enjoy the beauty of creation. Being in nature reminds us of God's presence and offers **a moment to reset after the holiday rush**. Use the time to pray, meditate, or simply breathe deeply.

**Organize and simplify your space**

Decluttering your home can feel symbolic of starting fresh. Tackle one small area, like a closet or kitchen drawer, and give away items you no longer need. Consider donating to a charity or parish that supports those in need. Clearing physical space often clears mental space, too.

**Dive into Scripture or spiritual reading**

Start the year with a renewed focus on God's Word. Consider reading the daily Mass readings, diving into a spiritual classic, or revisiting a favorite saint's biography.

**Bird's Eye View**

**at St. Thomas More Parish in 2024**

**Sacramental Data**

Baptisms 170

Weddings 11

Anointing of the Sick 7

Funerals/Memorials 20

**Major Developments in the Parish**

Furnace has been upgraded

New Camera system has been installed

Parish has set up a new lighting system

**There will be an altar server meeting next Saturday, Jan. 11 at 11:30am. Those inquiring to become an altar server and current altar servers are welcome to attend.**