

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



December 21/22, 2024 Fourth Sunday of Advent

Pastor:

Fr. Jerald D'Souza, OCD

Associate Pastor:

Fr. Alexander Braganza, OCD

Permanent Deacons:

Deacon Norman Dumais

Deacon Dale Laing

Deacon in Training:

Cruzal 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)

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Some 50 years ago, I had a profound spiritual awakening. Being touched by the Holy Spirit in such a real and deep manner compelled me to enthusiastically go and share the experience with everyone. In today's Gospel we are privileged to witness just such a movement of the Spirit in the lives of Mary and Elizabeth.

Luke gives us an insight into the heart and person of Mary: prompted by the Spirit, she unselfishly forgets her own needs and visits her cousin who has miraculously conceived in her old age. Mary did not think twice, but in haste took the arduous journey to share the joy of her own impending motherhood. We are also given a glimpse of the Spirit at work in the heart of Elizabeth who cannot contain her joy but must bestow blessings upon her young cousin.

This Gospel invites us to journey with Mary into the Judean hill country — a journey that will continue with Joseph to Nazareth, in flight after the Nativity and ultimately to the Cross. When our own journey is challenging, we can take heart from Mary. She followed the promptings of the Spirit, found the strength to carry out her journey and received blessings in return.

In this holy season, may the intercession of Mary and the saints give us a deeper intimacy with the Holy Family.

Living with Christ, Dec.22, 2024 Denis Grady, OFS Calgary, AB

Readings:- 1st Reading: Micah 5.2-5a

2nd Reading: Hebrews 10.5-10

Gospel: Luke 1.39-45

Advent is at full term, and today's readings overflow with the promise of impending birth. Again, as in today's first reading, God has chosen the lowly, the insignificant: two ordinary women, one teenager and one advanced in years, both trust God's promises to them. They find comfort and reassurance in their high regard for one another. Mary's "yes" is a model for us all.

- When was the last time you "leaped for joy?"
- What excuses have you used to withhold your "yes" from God?
- Have you ever struggled with saying "yes" to God? What happened? .

(Reflection Diocese of Saskatoon)

Winter Clothing Drive

The Diocese of Calgary and Salvation Army are once again organizing a "Winter Clothing Drive" for all participating parishes within the diocese. If your parish would like to receive a donation box, and participate in this worthwhile cause, please get in touch with Mara at mara.capili@calgarydiocese.ca or 403-218-5521.

Opening of the Jubilee Year

Join Bishop McGrattan for the Opening Mass of the Jubilee Year!

When: **Sunday, Dec. 29 at Noon, at St. Mary's Cathedral.** All are welcome as we begin this special Jubilee year, "*Pilgrims of Hope.*"

Weekly Mass Intentions: Dec. 23 to Dec. 29

Dec. 23	Mon	9:00am	Ana Marie Pinto (RIP) Irene Roxas (INT) Evelyn Que Velasco (INT)
Dec. 24	Tue	9:00am 5:00pm 7:00pm 10:00pm	Valerie Delay (INT) Rochelle Ouellette (INT) Mable Serao (INT) Reynan & Joyce Perez (INT)
Dec. 25	Wed	8:30am 10:30am 12:30pm 5:00pm	Baginda family thanksgiving (INT) & Babita and family (INT) Martin Rego thanksgiving (INT) Valery Delay (INT) For the people (INT)
Dec. 26	Thu	9:00am	Bill Meunier (RIP) Frank Palmer (RIP) Fe Oriel (RIP)
Dec. 27	Fri	9:00am	Teresa Trinh Nguyen (RIP) Martina Rebello-Good health (INT) Kyle Velasco (INT)
Dec. 28	Sat	9:00am 4:00pm	Shobine George (INT) Fe Oriel (RIP) Deceased members of Gonsalves and Paul families (RIP)
Dec. 29	Sun	8:30am 10:30am 12:30pm 5:00pm	Mujib Baginda (RIP) Hildebrando Raposo (RIP) Edward Seamus Garagan (RIP) Deceased family members of Rego & D'Cruz family (RIP) For the people (INT)

Together in Action

The TIA 2024 is \$49,139.00
Collection up to date is \$49,351.40



**Knights of Columbus
Fundraising for the Knights**

The Knight of Columbus are doing a fund-raising for the council #7938. Kindly support the Knights as they are doing a raffle for a Big Screen TV. Your support goes a long way for the Knights. \$5.00 for one ticket or five tickets for \$20.00. Draw date: Feb. 14, 2025.

**Saint of the Week, December 27
St. John the Apostle**

The apostle John was the son of Zebedee and the brother of James, and a fisherman. John was very close to Jesus and was present at the Transfiguration, the raising of Jairus' daughter and the Agony in the Garden. John is the "beloved disciple" referred to in the Gospels. While ancient scholarship linked him to the Fourth Gospel, the Book of Revelation and the three epistles that bear his name, modern scholarship disputes this notion. John is believed to have died at Ephesus in extreme old age. In Christian iconography, his symbol is the eagle.

Living with Christ 2024



St. Vincent de Paul

(Serving families within our Parish boundary)

Hampers requested and served:

Month	# of hampers	Adults Served	Children Served
Oct	66	125	95
Nov	76	147	143

A record month in November. We are currently in need of canned tomatoes, pasta sauce, peanut butter, canned fruit and canned meat. Any canned or boxed food is most welcome. Place food items in the food bin, in the foyer. If you wish to make a tax deductible donation there are envelopes above the food bin located in the foyer. The secured box for donations is also located above the food bin. Thank you for your past food and financial donations 🙏.

St. Thomas More Church Christmas Schedule

Tue., Dec. 24, 2024 - Christmas Eve

9:00am, 5:00pm; 7:00pm; 10:00pm

Wed., Dec. 25, 2024 - Christmas Day

8:30am, 10:30am, 12:30pm, 5:00pm

Igbo Mass at 2:00pm

Tue., Dec. 31, 2024 - New Year's Eve

9:00am & 5:00pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 3:00pm

Wed., Jan. 1, 2025 - New Year's Day

9:00am, 11:00am & 5:00pm

Multicultural Mass - Sat., Jan. 4, 2025 - 5:00pm

Feast Day of St. Joseph Vaz

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

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

Office hours at St. Thomas More Church

Mon., Dec. 23, 2024 open from 10am till 3pm

Tue., Dec. 24, 2024 open from 10am till noon only

Wed., Dec. 25 to Mon., Dec. 30 - office is closed

Tue., Dec. 31, 2024 open from 10am till 3pm

Wed., Jan. 1 & Thu., Jan. 2, 2025 - office is closed

Fri., Jan. 3, 2025 open from 10am till 3pm

Envelopes for Christmas flowers offering are in the foyer. Your donations help beautify our Church. Thank you for your generosity.

Note to all parishioners If you have moved in the past year, kindly let us know of the new address so it can be changed in our system before the year ends

Confirmation 2025

Registration is open and online only. Visit our website: www.stthomasmore.ca. Children in grade 6 and up (aged 13 and above) are invited to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation.