

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



November 30/December 1, 2024 First 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:

Cruzela 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)

First Sunday of Advent

Happy New Year! We begin our journey with Jesus through the liturgical year with a call to be alert. There is a great temptation to close our eyes to the ugliness of the world. But when we choose voluntary blindness, we can often become closed to wonder and grace.

In today's Gospel Jesus call us to "be alert at all times." How do we open our eyes without being overwhelmed by despair at the suffering around us? How do we see with hopeful eyes beyond brutality? The teaching of Jesus gives us gospel lenses. We are taught to see the signs and recognize in them the work that God calls us to do. These are bifocal lenses where we see the global patterns of injustice as well as the local possibilities of building the reign of God.

Advent is a time of deep discernment - the great gift that helps us convert vision into action. Our pre-Christmas preparations are often marked by haste and distraction, but Advent calls us to embody hope, peace, joy and love. We are to become the Advent candles we light.

As we become these Advent candles, may we illuminate the dark places in the world and light the path of the coming of the Christ Child, again and again.

Living with Christ, Dec. 1, 2024 Les Miller

First Sunday of Advent

Readings: First Reading: Jeremiah 33.14-16

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3.12-4.2

Gospel: Luke 21.25-28, 34-36

Instead of fear and anxiety of unbelievers, faithful disciples stand erect with their heads held high, waiting to meet the gracious and faithful One, Jesus the Lord. Rather than panic and despair, Jesus urges to face the future with confidence and hope in God's ultimate redemption of the created order

- What is it that you are waiting for this Advent season?
- Recall a time you felt rather helpless and hopeless; in what way and through whom did God break in?
- What words of Jesus does your parish need to hear at this time?

(Reflection: Diocese of Saskatoon)

YOUTH FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST

The Youth Followers of Christ Christmas Concert would be on Thu., Dec.12, 2024 at 7pm.

Tickets are being sold in the foyer after the weekend Masses. This would be in support of The Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Weekly Mass Intentions: Dec. 2 to Dec. 8

Dec. 2	Mon	9:00am	Samuel Sr & Nelida Aldecoa (RIP) Lawrence Chin (RIP)
Dec. 3	Tue	9:00am	Chance Angel (INT) Paul & Mary Anne Chin (INT) Fe Oriel (INT)
Dec. 4	Wed	9:00am	Rudy Enojo (INT) Dennis & Laurie Velasco (INT) Cen & Tess Marcelo (INT)
Dec. 5	Thu	9:00am	Joseph Maria Nguyen (RIP) Visitacion Cabrera (RIP) Aurora & Bob Velasco (INT) Conception Mirasol (RIP)
Dec. 6	Fri	9:00am	Nikola Jurkovic (RIP) Nguyen Family Thanksgiving (INT) DeLeon Family Thanksgiving (INT)
Dec. 7	Sat	9:00am 4:00pm	Joseph Anna Tran (RIP) Shobine George (INT) Gill Aum Jr. (RIP) Fernando Abuan (RIP) Escanlar Family (INT)
Dec. 8	Sun	8:30am 10:30am 12:30pm 5:00pm	Trevor & Rufina Gonsalves (RIP) Margarita Periabras (RIP) Joyce Chandler (INT) Deceased members of Rego & Dcruz families (RIP) For the people (INT) Joseph Gedel & Samson Eyob (INT)

Together in Action

The TIA 2024 is \$49,139.00
Collection up to date is \$43,592.40

Saint of the Week

St. Francis Xavier - December 3

Francis was born in 1506 in Navarre, Spain. He met St. Ignatius Loyola at the University of Paris, and was one of the first members of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits). Francis spent many years working as a missionary with the peoples of Goa, Southeast Asia, and Japan. He had excellent organizational skills: the communities he established continued to flourish long after his departure. Francis died while on his way from Goa to China, in 1552. He was canonized in 1602 and is a patron of all foreign missions.

Living with Christ, Dec. 2024

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

Mission Cards Ministry

Christmas cards are now available in the mission card stand.
Thank you for your support.

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.



**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: February 14, 2025.



**St. Vincent de Paul
Christmas hampers**

We will be preparing and delivering Christmas hampers in December for families in need. For families with children, we will be including gifts. If anyone is wanting to donate gifts for children, you may do so by picking up a gift tag in the foyer by the small Christmas tree and donating an unwrapped gift for ages 1-9 years old, or a \$25 gift card for ages 10-17 years old. These can be dropped off over the weekends of Dec. 1 and Dec. 8, in the foyer under the small Christmas tree.
Thank you for your generosity.

St. Thomas More Church Christmas Schedule

Advent Penitentiary Rite

Tue., Dec. 10, 2024 6:00 - 8:30pm

Sat., Dec. 14, 2024 1:00 - 3:00pm

Simbang Gabi Novena

Sun., Dec. 15 - Mon., Dec. 23, 2024 at 6:30pm

Tue., Dec. 24, 2024 - Christmas Eve

5:00pm; 7:00pm; 10:00pm

Wed., Dec. 25, 2024 - Christmas Day

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

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

(To be led by Parish Pastoral Council)

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., 2, 2025 - office is closed

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