

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 14/15, 2024 Third 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:

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)

Third Sunday of Advent

It's Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday, and most of today's readings shimmer and pulsate with joy. It's the Gospel that, at first blush, seems anti-climatic, as an ascetic John the Baptist preaches sacrifice to those wishing to receive his baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And yet there are three causes of rejoicing here that can also transform our lives.

The first is the stirring of desire for a holy life from such unlikely characters as tax collectors, soldiers and, well, *ordinary* people. The second is their humble, courageous and fearsome question: "What should we do?" They so longed for the forgiveness of their sins that wealth, power and position faded away before the promise of a clean heart. And John's response — his good news — was within their reach: act fairly and honestly. But the greatest cause for rejoicing is the glimpse John gave of the Saviour coming to baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire: a baptism of holiness beyond their comprehension and beyond his own grace.

As we approach the Advent of our Lord into the very marrow of our humanity, washing away our sins and promising a baptism into his divinity, let us muster the hope and the audacity to ask, "What must I do, to open my heart to this grace today?"

Living with Christ, Dec. 15, 2024 Cheryl Ann Smith

Readings:- 1st Reading: Zephaniah 3.14-18a

2nd Reading: Philippians 4.4-7

Gospel: Luke 3.10-18

True conversion always comes with a desire to do the right. John the Baptist's advice is to be acted on differently according to each person, as they seek where God is calling them. For each one of us the "doing something" flows out of conversion and is done out of love and always in great rejoicing.

- How would John the Baptist answer your question about what to do?
- What needs to happen in your parish in order to prepare for the Lord's coming.

(Reflection Diocese of Saskatoon)

Divine Mercy & Healing Advent Retreat in Calgary

Join us on **Sat., Dec. 21, 2024, at Our Lady of the Assumption**

Church in Calgary for an Advent retreat starting at 11am with Holy Mass, followed by prayers, a talk, Eucharistic Adoration, and veneration of St. Faustina & St. John Paul II relics. For more info, contact 587-755-1019 or visit sistersofdivinemeracy.org.

All are welcome!

I will not allow myself to be so absorbed in the whirlwind of work as to forget about God.

St. Faustina Kowalska

Weekly Mass Intentions: Dec. 16 to Dec. 22

Dec. 16	Mon	9:00am	Lucila Nuestro (RIP) Isabelita Abokahin (RIP) Frank Palmer (RIP)
Dec. 17	Tue	9:00am	Annamma P.T. (RIP) Manny Quilino (INT) Flor & Ernie Miranda (INT)
Dec. 18	Wed	9:00am	Florence & Bert Perez (INT) Becky Molina & family (INT) Valery DeLay (INT)
Dec. 19	Thu	9:00am	Jesus Espedido (RIP) Frank Palmer (RIP)
Dec. 20	Fri	9:00am	Teresa Trinh Nguyen (RIP) Martina's Grandchildren (INT)
Dec. 21	Sat	9:00am 4:00pm	Fr. Alex Braganza (INT) Martin Rego (INT) Shobine George (INT) Phyllis & Stanley Fernandes (RIP)
Dec. 22	Sun	8:30am 10:30am 12:30pm 5:00pm	Valentin Francis (RIP) Rosa Edanol (RIP) Fidel Revilla (RIP) Favours & blessings received (INT) For the people (INT)

Together in Action

The TIA 2024 is \$49,139.00
Collection up to date is \$47,508.90

Saint of the Day, December 21

Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor

Peter Canisius was born in Nijmegen, Holland, in 1521. He studied at Cologne, entered the Society of Jesus, and was ordained a priest in 1546. Sent to Germany, he worked strenuously for many years by his writings and teachings to safeguard and confirm the Catholic Faith. Of his numerous books, the *Catechism* is most renowned. Saint Peter died at Fribourg, Switzerland in 1597.

Christian Prayer: The Liturgy of the Hour



**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.

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.

Simbang Gabi 9-day novena starts on Sun., Dec. 15. At 6:30pm Caroling, 6:45pm Novena and 7pm Mass.



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

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

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.