



St. Mary's Roman Catholic Parish

**Our Mission Statement:
“Together Building Up the Body of Christ”**

6 McMillan Avenue, Red Deer AB, T4N 5X8 403-347-3114

WEBSITE: stmarysparishreddeer.ca

E-MAIL: StMarys.RedDeer@caedm.ca

**Parish Staff: Father Robert Lee;
Deacon Roger Reilander;
Rod Steeves, Administrator,
Greer McIvor, Pastoral Assistant;
Catherine Adriás, Administrative Assistant**

December: The Month of the Immaculate Conception



Holy Face of Jesus:

Tuesdays from 1-2pm, in front of the Blessed Sacrament for prayer, devotion and reparation to the Holy Face of Jesus, as well as recitation of the Rosary for priests.

Zoom Rosary

A monthly Rosary is prayed on Zoom, usually on the 22nd of each month at 7 PM, with no obligation to make a monthly commitment. To join, please contact Isabel at 403-314-0031 to get the Zoom link.

**December 21, 2025 - Year A
4th Sunday of Advent**

Isaiah 7:10-14

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-24

“Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel.”

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

~Confirm with calendar inside~

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday: 5:00pm

Sunday: 9am, 11am & 7pm

Live Stream 5:00pm Mass

Visit: stmarysparishreddeer.ca

DAILY MASSES

Tuesday - 7 pm

Wednesday - Friday - 9 am

Rosary:

30 minutes before the 9am daily Mass
and after the 9am daily Mass

24 Hour Adoration

First Friday of the Month

9am Friday to 8:30am Saturday

Adoration:

8 - 9am on Saturdays.

(1st Saturday of the month: 7:30 - 8:30am)

OFFICE HOURS

Monday: 1:00pm - 5:00pm

Tuesday - Friday: 9:30am - 5:00pm

Closed from 12:00 - 1:00pm for lunch

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 8:15 - 8:50am

Tuesday: 6:15 - 6:50pm

Saturday: 4:15 - 4:50pm

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Call the office: 403-347-3114



Mass intentions for the week of December 21 - 27

The intentions in brackets are said by retired priests in Edmonton

Sun., Dec 21	9 am: †Socorro Bongco (Ronald Ramos)
Sun., Dec 21	11 am: Georgia Nadine Alvarez (Sis Lyn Rouleau, †Artemio Oribado, Sr.)
Sun., Dec 21	7 pm: †Peter Minh (Olga Puchala, Eleanor MacNeil)
Tues., Dec 23	7 pm: Ronald Ramos (†Bella Galano, Fr. Robert Lee)
Wed., Dec 24	5 pm: †Dave Borle (Bernadette Brul)
Wed., Dec 24	7:30 pm: †Socorro Bongco (Dan & Marian and family)
Wed., Dec 24	10 pm: Ron Barchuk (Bev & Guy and family)
Wed., Dec 24	Midnight: Margaret Coyle (Dale, †Bob Gallant, †Mary & †Joe Kitt, Phil Liska)
Thurs., Dec 25	10 am: †Carlos & †Elisa Arens
Fri., Dec 26	9 am: Michelle Lambert (Doug & Terri and family)
Sat., Dec 27	5 pm: Rose Villanueva (Olga Puchala)

Special days of this week

Sunday, December 21: Fourth Sunday of Advent

Wednesday, December 24: Christmas Eve

Thursday, December 25: The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Day)

Friday, December 26: Saint Stephen, the First Martyr

Saturday, December 27: Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist



Christmas & New Year Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve Pageant	4:30pm
Christmas Eve Masses	5:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm & Midnight
Christmas Day Mass	10:00am
New Year's Eve Mass	5:00pm
New Year's Day	9:00am & 11:00am



Parish Office Holiday Hours

Wednesday, December 24	Closed at Noon
Thursday, December 25	Closed
Friday, December 26	Closed
Monday, December 29	Open (1:00pm - 5:00pm)
Tuesday, December 30	Open (9:30am - 5:00pm)
Wednesday, December 31	Closed at Noon
Thursday, January 1	Closed
Friday, January 2	Open (9:30am - 5:00pm)

Call for Hospitality Volunteers

We are currently seeking additional Hospitality Ministers to assist at our upcoming New Year's Masses. If you feel called to serve and would like to be part of this welcoming ministry, please contact the Parish Office for more information. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Pope Leo XIV Twitter

Saint Augustine described our hearts as restless. That restlessness is oriented towards heaven, whose doors are open to us as a result of the incarnation, passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. If we enter into the dynamism of His love and grace, Jesus will be victorious in us—not just at the hour of our death, but also today, right now, and every day hereafter.

Prayer for the New Archbishop

O Lord, who for the feeding of your flock have set your servant Stephen over it as a successor to the Apostles, grant him, we pray, a spirit of counsel and fortitude, a spirit of knowledge and piety, so that, by faithfully governing the people entrusted to him, he may build up in the world the sacrament of the Church.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.



Sunday Offering Envelopes/Donations

You can now pickup your Sunday Offering Envelopes on the table at the front entrance of the Church.

Contact the parish office if you would like to receive your own Sunday Offering Envelopes.

NOTE: Please make all 2025 donations by December 31. Anything after will be 2026 donations.

Did you move?

Please ensure we have your correct address before tax receipts are issued in the new year.



Please continue supporting the Food Bank. Thank you.

E-transfer donations
Send your e-transfer donations to StMaryRD.etransfer@caedm.ca



Bill C-218 has been introduced in Parliament to stop the expansion of euthanasia to those with mental illness. Your Member of Parliament needs to know you want them to support this bill!

Mental health supports should never include assisted suicide.



Thank you for your past donations of poinsettias. They are very much appreciated. You are so welcome to donate again this year.

Please drop them off at the church between December 18 to 23.



Pray an AVE today

- AVE is an apostolate of prayer for parish priests. Parishioners are encouraged to make a commitment to pray one Hail Mary everyday for our pastor, Father Robert.
- Together we can provide thousands of prayers to offer our love, appreciation, and care for God's great gift to us in our parish priest.



CWL NEWS

Prayer Shawl Ministry is cancelled for the month of December but will resume in January.

Line Dancing will begin Wednesday, January 7 from 2:00 till 3:30 and every Wednesday thereafter ending on March 25th. A suggested donation of \$2.00 per session would be appreciated. It's a fun afternoon to learn something new and get in shape for Spring.

The CWL wishes each of you a Blessed and Holy Christmas. May you draw closer to Jesus through the celebration of His birth as we look forward to His coming at the end of the world.

Save the Date and Your Bottles!!

St Mary's Justice and Mercy Committee will be having a bottle drive January 3,4,10,11,17,18.

Please save your clean bottles and milk containers. Parishioners are encouraged to drop off empty and clean beverage containers and flattened milk containers at the parish rectory garage before weekend masses. When the garage doors are open, please place items in the garage. When the doors are closed, place them in front of the garage door closest to the alley. Proceeds from the sale of the bottles will be spent on food cards for the needy. Thank you for your support and awesome generosity in

donating to the Christmas Backpacks. You made many unfortunate and needy people have a Merrier Christmas.

God bless!

BOTTLE DRIVE



If you have not registered or have not yet received an email please email the parish office or register online now at <https://www.stmarysparishreddeer.ca/>



Jubilee Year Closing Mass, December 28

Fr. Paul Kavanagh will preside at the Closing Mass for the Jubilee 2025 Year of Hope at 10:30am on Sunday, December 28 at St. Joseph's Basilica. This is also the Feast of the Holy Family. All are invited to attend the special Jubilee Mass.

Walking with Jesus Toddler Storytime

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all our families!

Toddler Storytime will resume on Thursday, January 8 at 10:30 a.m.

We hope you enjoy a joyful and restful holiday season. We look forward to seeing you in the New Year!



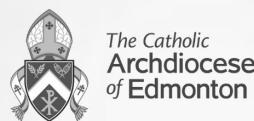
Thank you from Your Justice and Mercy Committee!

The excitement and gratitude on the faces of the folks at Safe Harbour when the backpacks and contents were dropped off is a true indication of how much your donations are appreciated! Along with the mountains of donations, \$2085 in gift cards, and \$620 allocated to the Food Bank were delivered and gratefully accepted. Thank you and God bless you for your support of our ministry.

How should I respond when a loved one asks for euthanasia or assisted suicide?

Invite them to talk about it and then listen to what they say. Affirm and accompany them with Christian love and truth. Remind them of how much you love them and also how much God loves them. Reassure them that you and others will accompany them during this difficult and trying time, and that they are not alone on this journey. Let them know specifically that they are not a burden and that their life matters to you and to others.

For suggested conversation starters and other helpful information, visit the Caregivers and Families page at hopeanddignity.caedm.ca



The Catholic
Archdiocese
of Edmonton

Catholics Urged to Take Immediate Action on Bill C-9

The Archdiocese of Edmonton is calling on all Catholics in Alberta and across Canada to take immediate action regarding the federal government's proposed Bill C-9 (the Combating Hate Act) and its potential impact on religious freedom.

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) has issued an open letter (Dec. 4) to Prime Minister Mark Carney urging the government to halt plans to remove the long-standing religious-text exemption from Canada's hate-speech laws. This letter was also sent to key federal officials. Catholic leaders warn that removing this protection could put legitimate religious teaching and pastoral ministry at risk.

You are encouraged to contact your MP to express your opposition to removing the religious-text exemption in Bill C-9.

Share your concerns about how this amendment could affect preaching, teaching, pastoral care, and the Church's public witness.



SCAN ME

OUR HEARTFELT THANKS TO PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS WHO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE PARISH. YOUR SUPPORT IS ESSENTIAL TO US AS WE CONTINUE OUR MISSION.

The Pope's Monthly Intention

For December: For Christians in areas of conflict

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.



Last Chance to Register!

Register your child for 1st Eucharist or Confirmation, before December 31.

No registrations will be taken in the new year.

Sacrament Preparation starts in January

If you have not registered or have not yet received an email please email the parish office or register online now at <https://www.stmarysparishreddeer.ca/>

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24-Hour Adoration

Start your month with Adoration! Join us for 24-Hour Adoration held every First Friday of the Month, starting after morning Mass and continuing through Saturday morning. Come spend time in quiet prayer and reflection. Please contact the parish office for more information.

Coffee & Fellowship

Everyone is warmly invited to join us in the parish hall after the 11:00AM Sunday Mass for coffee, and fellowship. It's a wonderful opportunity to connect with fellow parishioners and build our community. We look forward to seeing you there!



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Women of Faith

Join us every first Friday of the month following the morning Mass. Together, we'll watch and discuss a Bishop Barron homily connected to the Sunday Mass readings.

Bring your coffee or tea and share in faith, fellowship, and conversation with other Catholic women. Come for any or every gathering—you are always welcome!

Any questions can be directed to the parish office.

PRAYING THE ROSARY

Have you been thinking about how to enrich your prayer life? Come, pray the rosary with us!



No experience necessary!
Group recitation of the rosary:

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
after daily Masses – in the church

Support our Pastor through Prayer

"Devotion to the Holy Face
of Jesus"

Tuesdays at 1pm



Baptism Preparation

We are delighted to walk with you as you prepare to celebrate your child's Baptism!

Parents are asked to attend a Baptism Preparation session before scheduling the Baptism. These gatherings are a wonderful opportunity to learn, ask questions, and connect with other families in our parish community.

Please call or email the parish office to pre-register.

Upcoming dates:

- January 10 at 2:00 PM
- February 14 at 2:00 PM
- March 14 at 2:00 PM

