

FEBRUARY 25, 2024

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



Tri - Parish Contact Information

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Assistant: Roger Barba

Office Hours: Mon - Wed & Fri. 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM (**Thursday - CLOSED**)

Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton—<https://www.caedm.ca>

PPC Chair: Guy Giroux 780.940.2751

Finance Chair: Mary Jablonski 780-789-2363

Liturgy: Rosemarie Zurek 780-789-3622

PPC Chair: Travis Schoenfelder 780-566-7417

Finance Chair: Matt Yarmuch 780-987-5470

Liturgy: Connie Schumacher 780-458-6487

PPC Chair: Barbara Abel 780-985-3655

Finance Chair: Cheryl Hancar 780-980-3046

Liturgy: Barbara Abel 780-985-3655

Stations of the Cross during Lent

after Friday morning Mass at St. Maria Goretti - Devon, and after Tuesday morning Mass in St. Margaret Mary - Calmar.

Guideline for Fasting and Abstinence from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and during Lent

Roman Catholics must fast and abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Wednesday, February 14, 2024 and Good Friday, March 29, 2024. *Additionally, they must abstain from meat on all Fridays during Lent.*

Ash Wednesday is one of two yearly days of obligatory fasting and abstinence for Roman Catholics, along with Good Friday. According to the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, the norms of fasting are obligatory from age **18 until age 59**.

Fasting means a person is permitted to eat one full meal. Two smaller meals may also be taken, but they are not to equal that of a full meal.

The rule of abstinence from meat is binding upon Catholics aged **14 and onwards**.

For those outside the age limits, Canon Law notes that "Pastors of souls and parents are to ensure that even those who by reason of their age are not bound by the law of fasting and abstinence, are taught the true meaning of penance."

Cemetery Contacts:

Our Lady of Victory - Thorsby: Mark Bendoritis - 780.985.3779

St Francis: Ed Naprawa - 780.789.2195 and/or George Cygan 780 918 3412

Holy Trinity - Nisku: Ron Chamulka 780.955.8031

St. Margaret Mary - Calmar: Barb Abel 780-985-3655 and/or Cheryl Hancar 780-980-3046

2nd Sunday of Lent – February 25, 2024

1st Reading: Genesis 22.1-2, 9-13, 15-18

2nd Reading: Romans 8.31b-35, 37

Gospel: Mark 9, 2-10

Glory Overshadowing the Cross

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Mark 9:2–3

Just six days prior to this glorious event of the Transfiguration, Jesus spoke for the first time to His disciples about His pending crucifixion and death. He taught them that “the Son of Man must suffer greatly and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and rise after three days” (Mark 8:31). Recall that Peter had a difficult time accepting this teaching. Jesus went on to rebuke Peter for his refusal to accept this prophetic teaching and further explained that “Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me” (Mark 8:34). These disciples then had six days to ponder this prophecy of our Lord before witnessing the Transfiguration.

In your life, is there something that God is trying to say to you that you have difficulty accepting? If so, it will most likely be related to God’s call to you to take up your cross and follow Him. The Cross of Christ comes in many forms throughout life. It might be experienced when we allow the passion of anger to die so that pure mercy can be offered to one who has hurt us. Or it might be that God is calling you to step out in faith to embrace some endeavor that requires courage and trust. Or it might be that God is calling you to accept some hardship in life that is difficult to accept, such as the loss of a loved one, an illness, the loss of a job or any other difficulty that you struggle to accept with love and trust. Bitterness, resentment, anger, fear and the like are often the most difficult crosses we are called to embrace and let die.

If this resonates with you, then this story of the Transfiguration is for you. After giving these disciples six days to ponder the difficult news of His coming Cross, Jesus gives them hope and inspiration through this sacred encounter. Though it lasted for only a short time, this manifestation of Jesus’ glory was all that these disciples needed to begin to accept Jesus’ prediction of His passion. On one hand, they feared what Jesus said was going to happen. But on the other hand, they saw His glory and majesty. By combining these two experiences, these disciples were given a new hope and strength to trust that whatever was to happen in the future, God was in control.

We also need the consoling revelation of our Lord’s glory to help us navigate the difficulties we will endure. For some, life is good, very good, and they walk with joy and ease with our Lord. But for others, life has taken a difficult turn and confusion has set in. If life is good for you right now, then rejoice that you are currently sharing a taste of the glory of the Transfiguration. Give thanks to God and tell Him with Saint Peter, “Rabbi, it is good that we are here!” Give thanks to him for the joy and consolation you currently experience. But if life is difficult for you right now, ponder those six days during which the disciples struggled with the prediction of the Lord’s passion. Think about their confusion, doubts and fear. As you do, turn your eyes up the mountain. Know that the glory of God awaits you and that He wants to free you from all fear and anxiety. The mountain is climbed by a firm faith that is grounded in prayer. Make that journey with our Lord through prayer.

My Transfigured Lord, You revealed Your glory to these disciples as a way of helping them accept Your Cross. Help me to also embrace Your Cross in my life and to see clearly the glory that results from its embrace. I trust in You, dear Lord; help me to trust You more. Jesus, I trust in You. (mycatholiclife.com)

YOUCAT Study Group: St Maria Goretti Parish

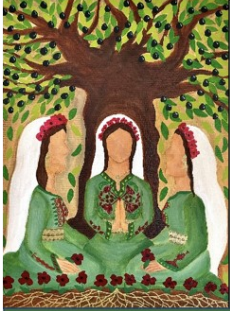
The YOUCAT is the Youth Catechism of the Catholic Church. Although written for the youth, it is relevant for all to study and learn from. It has a different format from the Catechism of the Catholic Church as it clusters various passages from the catechism and poses them as a question. The four major parts include: What We Believe, How We Celebrate the Christian Mysteries, How We Are to Have Life in Christ, How We Should Pray.

The next YOUCAT Study Group will be on **Friday, March 1 at 10:00 AM** following the morning Mass and the Stations of the Cross during Lent. The group will meet **every second Friday**. This group is sponsored by the Catholic Woman’s League and as our Spiritual Advisor, Father Luan will be with us. All parishioners are welcomed to attend.

To Register, email pmarch@shaw.ca or sign up on the bulletin board in the gathering space.

Sick? Shut-in?

Would you like to receive communion? Please call the office at 780-987-2858 to arrange communion, and/or to be put on our prayer list.



World Day of Prayer 2024

Please join us for World Day of Prayer, a prayer movement that invites us to enrich our faith experience with the experience of Christians from other countries and cultures and to bring hope to women touched by injustice. The service was written by the World Day of Prayer Committee of Palestine.

I Beg You... Bear With One Another in Love

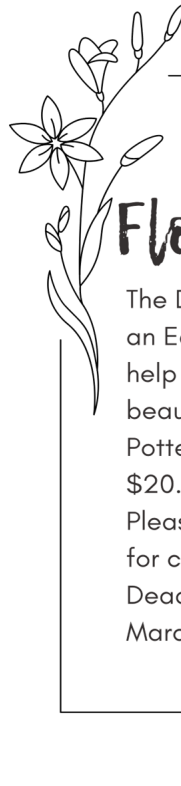
St. Maria Goretti Parish - Devon
is hosting the

ECUMENICAL WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE

Friday March 1, 2024 at 7:00 pm

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Please join us for hospitality after the service.



Easter Flower Sale

The Devon CWL is holding an Easter Flower Sale to help make our church beautiful for Easter.

Potted flowers are \$20.00 each.

Please see the order forms for complete details.

Deadline for orders is March 24th

MASS INTENTIONS

When a priest celebrates Mass every day, he offers each celebration of the Eucharist for a particular person or intention. By doing so, he applies special graces from God upon that person or intention. To request a Mass intention, please visit or call the parish office.

Mass Intentions for this week

Date	Intention
23 Fri	Connie Schumacher - Personal Intentions
24 Sat	Savoie and Schumacher Families - Living and Deceased
25 Sun	Thanksgiving for the Birthday of Maria Palma
27 Tue	Thanksgiving for the Birthday of Jason Forchuk
28 Wed	Thanksgiving for the Birthday of Tammy Aguiar
29 Thu	Chris Simpson - Health
1 Fri	Connie Schumacher Personal Intentions
2 Sat	Rest of the souls of Joseph & Laura Savoie R.I.P.
3 Sun	Rhodes & Hills Family members, Living & Deceased

Carmelite Sisters and Food Bank Drive

For there will never cease to be poor in the land. Therefore I command you. "You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in your land." Deuteronomy 15:11

Part of Lent:

- Prayer - Thank God for all your blessings.
- Fasting - sustain from eating meat on Fridays.
- Almsgiving - give monetary or items to the less fortunate.

Help us fill the donation baskets located at the entrance of the Church !