

MARCH 10, 2024

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



Tri - Parish Contact Information

8 St. Clair St. Devon, AB T9G 1J3
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 Parish E-mail : dcc2006@telus.net
 www.smgparish.ca

<https://olvthorsby.wordpress.com/>

Pastor: **Rev. Luan Vu**
 Pastor's E-mail: Luan.Vu@caedm.ca
 Assistant: Roger Barba

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

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

Lenten Penitential Service - Tuesday March 12, 2024

St. Maria Goretti	Devon	6:30 PM
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Palm Sunday (March 23 and 24, 2024)

St. Maria Goretti	Devon	Saturday evening: 5:00 PM
Our Lady of Victory	Thorsby	9:00 AM
St. Margaret Mary	Calmar	10:15 AM
St. Maria Goretti	Devon	11:30 AM

Holy Thursday - Mass of the Lord's Supper (March 28, 2024)

Our Lady of Victory	Thorsby	5:00 PM and Adoration until 8:00 PM
St. Maria Goretti	Devon	7:00 PM and Adoration until 8:00 Midnight

Good Friday - The Passion of the Lord (March 29, 2024)

Our Lady of Victory	Thorsby	11:00 AM
St. Maria Goretti	Devon	3:00 PM

Blessing of the Easter Baskets on Holy Saturday March 30, 2024

St. Maria Goretti	Devon	1:00 PM
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Easter Vigil - Holy Saturday March 30, 2024

St. Maria Goretti	Devon	8:00 PM
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Easter Sunday (March 31, 2024)

Our Lady of Victory	Thorsby	9:00 AM
St. Margaret Mary	Calmar	10:15 AM
St. Maria Goretti	Devon	11:30 AM

4th Sunday of Lent – March 10, 2024

1st Reading: 2 Chronicles 36.14-17a, 19-23

2nd Reading: Ephesians 2, 4-10

Gospel: John 3, 14-21

Seeking the Full Truth

Jesus said to Nicodemus: "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life." John 3:14–15

The line quoted above concludes a dialogue that Jesus had with Nicodemus, a Pharisee and a member of the Sanhedrin. This is the first of three times Nicodemus is mentioned in the Gospel of John. The second time he appears is when he reminds the other members of the Sanhedrin that a man must be first heard before he is condemned. The third time was when Jesus was killed and Nicodemus brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes to prepare Jesus' body for burial.

Jesus was not accepted by most of the Pharisees and within the Sanhedrin. For that reason, Nicodemus was taking a risk by going to him at night to talk. But Jesus clearly senses faith in the heart of Nicodemus, which is why when Nicodemus asks Jesus about His teaching, Jesus answers him. Unlike the other Pharisees, Nicodemus was not trying to trap our Lord; he sincerely wanted to understand.

At the beginning of this dialogue between Jesus and Nicodemus, Nicodemus professes the beginning of faith in Jesus when he says, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you are doing unless God is with him" (John 3:2). Interestingly, Jesus then speaks to Nicodemus in figures of speech, saying that one can only enter the Kingdom of God when they are "born from above" and "born from water and the Spirit." Nicodemus tries to understand but fails. Jesus then gently rebukes him by saying, "You are the teacher of Israel and you do not understand this?" (John 3:10). Jesus then goes on to speak further in symbolic language and figures of speech, concluding with the beginning of today's Gospel quoted above when He speaks in a veiled way about His coming crucifixion.

One thing that is important to understand from this dialogue between Jesus and Nicodemus is that Jesus' language is veiled in symbolic language because, even though Nicodemus was on the right path, he was not yet ready for the full revelation of the Gospel. He could not yet fully comprehend all that our Lord came to reveal. Thus, Jesus spoke in veiled language and invited Nicodemus to keep seeking its hidden meaning.

In our own lives, we can come to God and want Him to speak clearly and definitively to us, revealing His perfect will for our lives. But often He doesn't. Why? Because God knows we are not yet ready for the full truth. When He speaks to us and when we gain insight in one way or another, this is good and reveals we are on the right path. But the Gospel, in its fullness, is so radical and so demanding that most people are not yet ready for the full truth. Therefore, in His compassion, God gives us only what we can handle at the moment. But this humble truth should encourage us, as it did Nicodemus, to not give up and to continue opening ourselves to the fullness of the Word of God. (mycatholiclife.com)

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."

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.

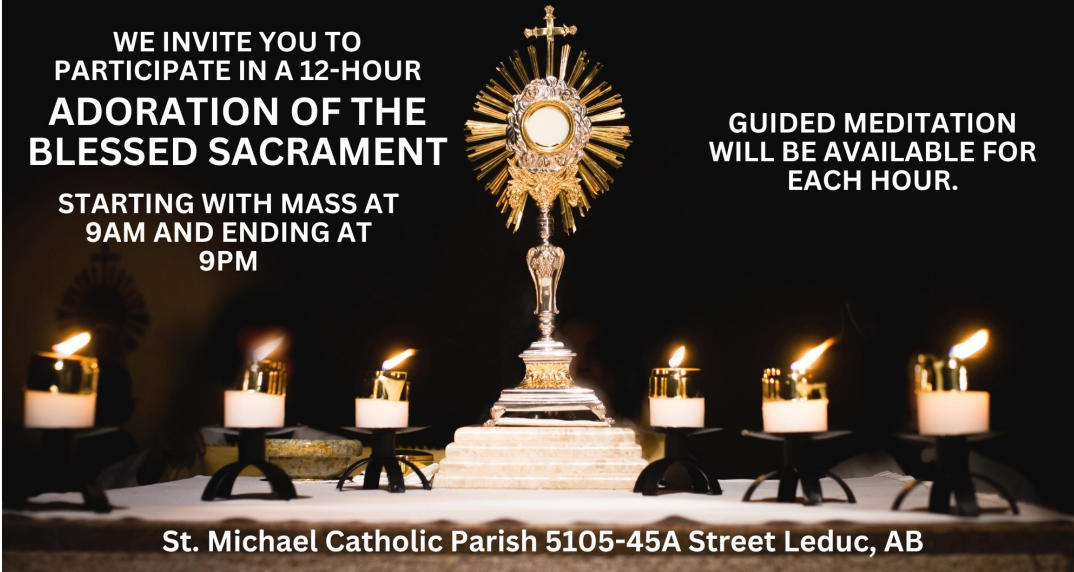
The Passion of our Lord Eucharistic Adoration

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

WE INVITE YOU TO
PARTICIPATE IN A 12-HOUR
**ADORATION OF THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT**

STARTING WITH MASS AT
9AM AND ENDING AT
9PM

GUIDED MEDITATION
WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR
EACH HOUR.



St. Michael Catholic Parish 5105-45A Street Leduc, AB

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
9	Sat	Maureen Savoie Personal Intentions
10	Sun	Rest of the Soul of Joseph Breau - R.I.P.
11	Mon	Thanksgiving for the Birthday of Martha Logan
12	Tue	Thanksgiving for the Birthday of Judy Briscoe
13	Wed	Rest of the Soul of Ken Bills R.I.P.
14	Thu	In Honor of the Holy Spirit
15	Fri	Rest of the Soul of Derek Persson - R.I.P.
16	Sat	Donovan and Hug Families - Living and 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 !

Our Lady of Victory

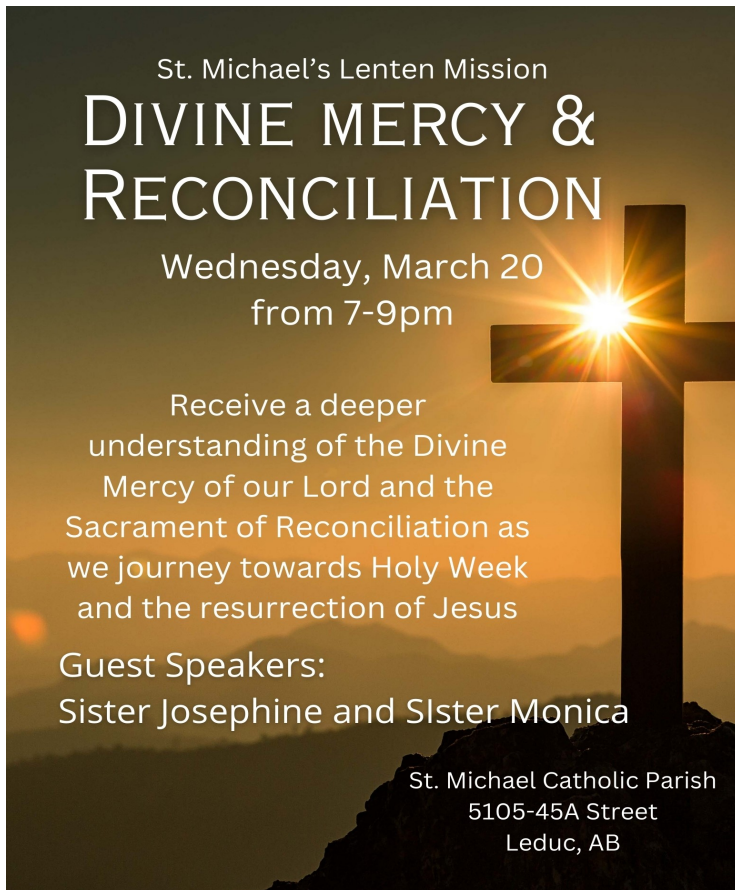
PPC Chair: Guy Giroux 780.940.2751
Finance Chair: Mary Jablonski 780-789-2363
Liturgy: Rosemarie Zurek 780-789-3622

St. Maria Goretti

PPC Chair: Travis Schoenfelder 780-566-7417
Finance Chair: Matt Yarmuch 780-987-5470
Liturgy: Connie Schumacher 780-458-6487

St. Margaret Mary

PPC Chair: Barbara Abel 780-985-3655
Finance Chair: Cheryl Hancar 780-980-3046
Liturgy: Barbara Abel 780-985-3655



St. Michael's Lenten Mission
**DIVINE MERCY &
RECONCILIATION**
Wednesday, March 20
from 7-9pm

Receive a deeper
understanding of the Divine
Mercy of our Lord and the
Sacrament of Reconciliation as
we journey towards Holy Week
and the resurrection of Jesus

Guest Speakers:
Sister Josephine and Sister Monica

St. Michael Catholic Parish
5105-45A Street
Leduc, AB



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

No MASS or ADORATION on Thursday March 14 at St. Maria Goretti - Devon

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 15 at 10:00 AM** following the morning Mass and the Stations of the Cross during Lent. The group meets **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.

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