

MARCH 3, 2024 THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



Tri - Parish Contact Information

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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>

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

Lent penitential service will be on Tuesday March 12 at 6:30 pm in Devon

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.

3rd Sunday of Lent – March 3, 2024

1st Reading: Exodus 20, 1-17

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1.18, 22-25

Gospel: John 2, 13-25

A Dual Cleansing

He made a whip out of cords and drove them all out of the temple area, with the sheep and oxen, and spilled the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables, and to those who sold doves he said, "Take these out of here, and stop making my Father's house a marketplace." John 2:15-16

The Jewish Temple, at the time of Jesus' public ministry, was the place people traveled to each year for Passover to offer the sacrifice of a spotless male lamb in commemoration of the first Passover in Egypt when God set the Jews free from slavery. During this annual celebration, Jewish families who traveled to Jerusalem would purchase a lamb for sacrifice. At the appointed time, they slaughtered the animal in the courtyard of the Temple and then presented it to the priest who gathered some of the blood and sprinkled it on the altar, and then removed the skin, organs and fat to be burned in sacrifice. The meat was returned to the family and roasted on a pomegranate branch so that they could feast on it as they recalled the saving action God granted their ancestors in Egypt.

Today, we see the Jewish Temple as a symbol and prefiguration of Christ, the New Temple Who is also the priest and the Lamb of Sacrifice. Recall, also, that at Jesus' death, the veil of the Temple was torn in two, opening it up to the whole world so that all may share in the Sacrifice of the Lamb of God. We are now invited into this Holy of Holies to share in the new life of grace accomplished by His Sacrifice. Since the grace of this Sacrifice of our Lord enters into each and every heart that believes, to cleanse and purify, then every person receiving this grace becomes a new dwelling place of God, a member of His new Temple, the Body of Christ.

When Jesus came to the Passover feast and witnessed the buying and selling of these animals in the Temple, He drove them out with much zeal. It was clear that this holy celebration of the Passover had become less of a celebration of faith and more of a marketplace for profit. Jesus' action is also a symbol of the zeal with which He now seeks to cleanse the temple of your soul. At first, when sin and disorder pervade our souls, our Lord may take the approach of a gentle rebuke, as He did in His first cleansing of the Temple in John's Gospel. If we persist in our sins, then our Lord will become more zealous in His cleansing as He was in His final attempt to cleanse the Temple the week before He died.

Are there new sins that you have fallen into recently that require a gentle rebuke from our Lord? Are there sins that Jesus has been revealing to you for years now that you obstinately persist in? Allow Him to rebuke you in love and to cleanse you so that His saving Sacrifice as the Lamb of God will indeed purify you, and allow His judgment and wrath to "passover" you this Lent.

My cleansing Lord, You cleansed the Temple of Jerusalem not once, but twice. Your zeal for its purity of worship was clear. Please come and make my soul Your dwelling place today and cleanse me of all sin. Please help me to especially see any ways that I have remained obstinate in my sin, and please cleanse those sins with much vigor. 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 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



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
1	Fri	Connie Schumacher Personal Intentions
2	Sat	Repose of the souls of Joseph & Laura Savoie R.I.P.
2	Sat	Rhodes & Hills Family members, Living & Deceased
3	Sun	Repose of the Soul of Fr. Martin Anthony O’Riordan
5	Tue	Chris Simpson - Health
6	Wed	Repose of the Soul of Margarite Moore R.I.P.
8	Fri	Repose of the Soul of Dave Ottie
9	Sat	Maureen Savoie Personal Intentions

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.” Deutoronomy 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 !