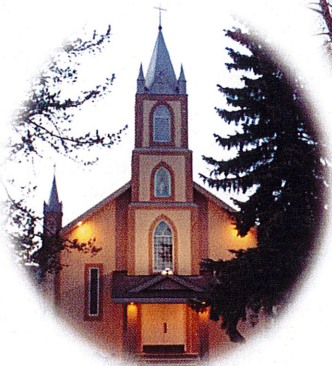


# APRIL 6, 2025 5TH SUNDAY IN LENT



Our Lady of Victory Parish

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



## Tri - Parish Contact Information

8 St. Clair St. Devon, AB T9G 1J3  
Phone: (780) 987-2858 Fax: (780) 987-2837  
Parish E-mail : dcc2006@telus.net  
www.smgparish.ca



St. Margaret Mary Parish

Pastor: Rev. Luan Vu

Pastor's E-mail: Luan.Vu@caedm.ca

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

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

Please be considerate with other parishioners - Refrain from using strong scents when attending Mass

### OUR LADY OF VICTORY PARISH

Weekend Mass  
Sunday Mass: 9:00 am

Weekday Mass  
Wednesday: 10:30 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation  
by appointment.

### ST MARIA GORETTI PARISH

Weekend Masses  
Saturday: 5:00 pm  
Sunday: 11:30 am

Weekday Masses  
Wed. & Fri. Rosary: 8:40 am  
Wednesday & Friday: 9:00 am  
Adoration: Friday 9:30 to 10:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation  
Saturday half an hour before Mass  
or any day by appointment.

### ST MARGARET MARY PARISH

Weekend Mass  
Rosary at 9:45 am  
Sunday Mass: 10:15 am

Weekday Mass  
Tuesday: 10:30 am  
Adoration: 10:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation  
by appointment.

### 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  
St Charles: Clem Coffey - 780.696.2221 and/or Barry Gidosh 780 910 1003  
Holy Trinity - Nisku: Gerry Chamulka 780.955.8048  
St. Margaret Mary - Calmar: Barb Abel 780-985-3655 and/or Cheryl Hancar 780-980-3046

**MISSION STATEMENT**

Radiating Christ's message of love and hope in the daily celebration of the Eucharist and incorporating it in our family

**PPC Chair:** Travis Schoenfelder 780-566-7417

**Finance Chair:** Matt Yarmuch 780-987-5470

**Liturgy:** Connie Schumacher 780-458-6487

**Catholic answers to Catholic questions**

**Q.** Why do we veil Crucifixes and Images during the last weeks of Lent?

**A.** Traditionally, the two weeks of "Passiontide" begin on the fifth Sunday of Lent. The first week is Passion Week, and the second week is Holy Week.

The traditional Gospel reading for this Sunday focuses on the increasing hatred against Christ from the Jewish authorities. They accuse Him of being a Samaritan, committing sorcery, blasphemy, and as being possessed by Satan. They don't think that Christ is "a good teacher." They think He is a demonic agent.

The old Gospel reading for Passion Sunday (5th Sunday of Lent) from the eighth chapter of Saint John's Gospel ends with these words: "They picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple." (John 8:59)

According to Saint Augustine, at this moment when "Jesus hid himself," Christ in fact became invisible by virtue of His divine nature. Saint Augustine writes: He hides not Himself in a corner of the temple, as if afraid, or running into a cottage, or turning aside behind a wall or column: but by His Divine Power making Himself invisible, He passed through their midst.

To help signify this mystery, Catholic statues and images are veiled with purple cloth beginning at the Vespers on the evening before Passion Sunday. Jesus "hides Himself."

The statues remain covered until the Gloria of Easter Vigil. This is the moment at which the fast of Lent ends and the glory of Easter begins. This unveiling reveals that Christ has revealed himself as risen and victorious.

It's also a pious custom for lay Catholics to cover blessed images and statues at home during Passiontide with purple veils.

Our Catholic Faith is so rich! Be sure to teach your children and grandchildren these beautiful and ancient traditions!



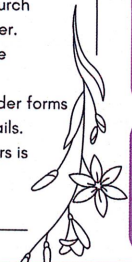
**Easter  
Flower Sale**

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 April 13th



**St. Maria Goretti - Food Bank and Carmelite Sisters' Drive**

We are collecting food items at the lobby. Please help us fill the baskets.

**St. Maria Goretti - Additional Sacristan volunteers are needed**

Please get in touch with Travis Schoenfelder t.schoenfelder15@gmail.com

**Greeters/Collection & Eucharistic Ministers Needed**

We desperately need people for this positions on both Saturdays and Sundays

Thank you and God Bless you.

**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.

## DIVINE MERCY - DID YOU KNOW?

What do St. John Paul II said about it

St. John Paul II stated: "Divine Mercy! This is the Easter gift that the Church receives from the risen Christ and offers to humanity at the dawn of the third millennium...."

The message of Divine Mercy is at the heart of the gospel. It presents the truth and the call of the gospel and is proclaimed by Pope John Paul II in his encyclical Rich in Mercy, as a message from God for our time.

### DIVINE MERCY - DID YOU KNOW?

Divine Mercy Sunday celebrates the merciful love of God shining through the Easter Triduum and the whole Easter mystery. The feast recovers an ancient liturgical tradition, reflected in a teaching attributed to St. Augustine about the Easter Octave, which he called "the days of mercy and pardon," and the Octave Day itself "the compendium of the days of mercy."

The Church must consider it one of her principal duties at every stage of history and especially in our modern age to proclaim and to introduce into life the mystery of Divine Mercy supremely revealed in Jesus Christ on the Cross.

### DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY APRIL 22, 2025

Following the 11:30 Mass there will be a Divine Mercy Celebration. The CWL will prepare a light luncheon.

Donations welcomed. **ALL PARISHIONERS FROM ALL PARISHES ARE INVITED.**

### Novena to Divine Mercy

The nine day Divine Mercy Novena can be made at any time but it is most especially made in preparation for the Feast of Divine Mercy **beginning Good Friday, April 18th and ending on the vigil of Divine Mercy Sunday, April**

**26th.** Some copies are available at the front foyer of the church or download from [thedivinemercy.org](http://thedivinemercy.org)

### RECEIVING the GRACES of DIVING MERCY

To fittingly observe the Feast of Mercy, we should: Celebrate the Feast on the Sunday after Easter; Sincerely repent of all our sins; Place our complete trust in Jesus; Receive sacramental Confession; Receive Holy Communion on the day of the Feast; Venerate the Image of The Divine Mercy. Further details at [thedivinemercy.org](http://thedivinemercy.org)

### Mass Intentions for this week

Date		Intention
5	Sat	Rhodes & Hills Family members, Living & Deceased
6	Sun	Lynne & Richard Persson - Good health & Personal Intentions
9	Wed	Repose of the Soul of Lorraine Blanchette R.I.P.
11	Fri	Healing for Amber Serafinchan
		In honour of the Holy Spirit
12	Sat	Kirsten Rhodes & Connor as they prepare for their wedding
13	Sun	Thanksgiving for Connie Schumacher - Personal Intentions

**St. Margaret Mary Parish** 5120 50 Ave, Calmar, AB

PPC Chair: Barb Abel 780-985-3655

Finance Chair: Cheryl Hancar 780-980-3046

**Stations of the Cross - Every Tuesday after Mass at St. Margaret Mary**

## 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent – April 6, 2025

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 43, 16-21

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Philippians 3, 8-14

Gospel: John 8, 1-11

### Scandalized by Mercy

*Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. But early in the morning he arrived again in the temple area, and all the people started coming to him, and he sat down and taught them. Then the scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery and made her stand in the middle. John 8:1-3*

The scribes and Pharisees who brought this woman to Jesus also appeared to be scandalized by Jesus' mercy. Thus, the depths of mercy offered to this woman was one of many occasions in which Jesus was merciful to a point that was hard for the people to comprehend.

How about you? How far are you willing to go when it comes to mercy? It is easy for us to resort to condemnation when we see the sins of others. We might feel justified in condemning them and even obliged to do so out of a desire to condemn sin itself. But Jesus' action shows that the sin must not be equated with the sinner. Sin must be condemned and was condemned by our Lord when He said to this woman, "Go, and from now on do not sin any more." Though He condemned her sin, he did not condemn her: "Neither do I condemn you."


The mercy of God is incomprehensible. For example, recall that Jesus cried out from the Cross, "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do." Imagine the surprise that the first hearers of those words would have had. How could this man ask that God forgive the people who were murdering Him? Perhaps the only person who truly understood this prayer of mercy from the Cross was Jesus' own mother as she stood there gazing at Him with love.

An important lesson for us to learn from Jesus' depth of mercy is that, at first, it will most likely scandalize us also. Mercy to this extent is supernatural. It challenges our natural reason and calls us to a new way of thinking and relating to others. The only way to overcome the "scandal" we might feel in the face of God's mercy is to live it ourselves. Doing so will require that we put on new eyes to see sin, mercy and forgiveness through the eyes of God. If doing so shakes you to the core of your being, that might be a good sign.

*Are you allowing the apparent scandal of God's abundant mercy to transform you so that it is no longer a shock or scandal to you, but is experienced as good and holy and from the Heart of our God? Do you rejoice when mercy is offered to another? Or do you find yourself condemning? Allow the apparent scandal of God's mercy to challenge you so that you come to not only understand God's infinite mercy but also to act as an instrument of that mercy to everyone. (mycatholiclife.com)*

**WE WANT YOU IN IT!**

**TO CELEBRATE THE 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF ST. MARIA GORETTI & ST. MARGARET MARY CHURCH WE ARE UPDATING OUR CHURCH PHOTO DIRECTORY**



**APRIL 24, 25 & 26** SMG  
contact Travis @ 760-566-7437

**APRIL 29 & 30** SMM  
contact Barb @ 760-955-3659

please sign up to have your photo taken

<u>Holy Thursday</u>		
Our Lady of Victory	Thorsby	5:00 pm
St. Maria Goretti	Devon	7:00 pm
<u>Good Friday</u>		
Our Lady of Victory	Thorsby	11:00 am
St. Maria Goretti	Devon	3:00 pm
<u>Holy Saturday - Blessing of the Baskets</u>		
St. Maria Goretti	Devon	1:00 pm
<u>Holy Saturday - Easter Vigil</u>		
St. Maria Goretti	Devon	8:00 pm
<u>Easter Sunday</u>		
Our Lady of Victory	Thorsby	9:00 am
St. Margaret Mary	Calmar	10:15 am
St. Maria Goretti	Devon	11:30 am