

AUGUST 24, 2025

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Our Lady of Victory Parish

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



Tri - Parish Contact Information

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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>

PPC Chair: Ernest Jablonski` 780.789.2363
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: Bonnie Thomas 780-910-6312
Liturgy: Barbara Abel 780-985-3655

Mass Intentions for this week

Date		Intention
23	Sat	Thanksgiving for the Birthday of Greg Forchuk
24	Sun	Connie Schumacher - Personal Intentions
		Repose of the Soul of Renaud Hammond R.I.P.
26	Tue	Repose of the Souls of Riopel and Provost Family Members
27	Wed	Brannick Family - Living and deceased
		Repose of the Soul of Renaud Hammond R.I.P.
29	Fri	Donna Shroch - Personal Intentions
30	Sat	Thanksgiving for the Birthday of Marla Forchuk
31	Sun	Connie Schumacher - Personal Intentions

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

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time – August 24, 2025

1st Reading: Isaiah 66, 18-21

2nd Reading: Hebrew 12, 5-7, 11-13

Gospel: Luke 13, 22-30

Perceiving the Dignity of Others

The context of today's Gospel provides insight into Jesus' mission and His concern for each and every person. Note that Jesus was traveling toward the large and populous city of Jerusalem. But as He traveled, He passed through "towns and villages" and taught the people as He went. This might seem like a small detail, but it is also a significant one.

A city like Jerusalem was large and often had wealthy, influential, and "important" people. The less-populated towns had borders and often some form of local government. Villages were much smaller rural areas, often made up of poorer, less educated, less influential, and simpler people. One historian, Josephus, wrote that there were about 240 villages throughout Galilee at the time Jesus lived. It's interesting to note that Jesus wanted to teach everyone. He didn't care if they were wealthy and powerful people in the large city or peasant farmers and shepherds from the countryside. His mission was to all.

One thing this teaches us is that we, also, must have love and concern for everyone, regardless of their social status. Each and every person is equal in dignity. From the president of a large country, to the beggar in an alleyway, everyone deserves our respect and attention in an equal way.

Our fallen human nature experiences various forms of temptation. Among them are temptations for riches, power and prestige. For that reason, we tend to admire those who have obtained worldly success because we want it for ourselves. As a result, we tend to show greater respect for those who have achieved what we covet and give less attention to those who do not have that success. This, of course, goes to the heart of the problem.

When you think about the people whom you have encountered recently, what comes to mind? Perhaps your "encounter" was to read about someone's great success in the financial world. Or perhaps it was to read about someone's demise in another way. Perhaps a neighbor has done well and purchased a new car, or a friend got fired from a job. Whatever the case may be, it is important to consider the level of personal respect and love you show for each person. It must be equal. Worldly status cannot determine how we treat others. This is hard to avoid.

The teaching that Jesus gave to those in the towns and villages was an exhortation to holiness. "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough." And at the end of today's Gospel, Jesus says, "For behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last." The latter statement must have especially resonated with those who felt somewhat insignificant and unimportant in life. Those who felt like they were "last" would have received a certain hope. This tells us that God never measures us by our successes from a worldly standpoint. He measures us only on the level of our fidelity to His holy will. (mycatholiclife.com)

St. Maria Goretti - Devon - Urgently needed : Greeters especially for Sundays

Please phone the church office or Bernie 780-203-2708 to volunteer.

Thank you and may 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.