

# NOVEMBER 28, 2021 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**Mass will stream live on Sunday at 10:30 am through [www.caedm.ca](http://www.caedm.ca)**



## **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](http://www.smgparish.ca)**

Pastor: **Rev. Arun Rodrigues, SAC**  
Pastor's E-mail: arunrodik@yahoo.co.in  
Assistant: Roger Barba

Office Hours: Mon - Wed & Fri. 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM (Thursday - CLOSED)  
**Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton—<https://www.caedm.ca>**

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

**PPC Chair:** Guy Giroux 780.940.2751  
**Finance Chair:** Richard Hoffman 780-789-3094  
**Liturgy:** Rosemarie Zurek 780-789-3622

**PPC Chair:** Deona Johnson 587-990-0524  
**Finance Chair:** Matt Yarmuch 780-987-5470  
**Liturgy:** Madelon Lefebvre 780-987-3009

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

## **Advent Penitential - Reconciliation**

***Friday December 10th at 6:45 pm***  
***St. Maria Goretti—Devon***

### **PLEASE NOTE**

**Office will be Closed: Thursday December 9 to Friday December 17**

### **Cemetery Contacts:**

**Our Lady of Victory - Thorsby:** Mark Bendoritis - 780.985.3779 and/or Rod Kuzio - 780.789.2423  
**St Francis:** Ed Naprawa - 780.789.2195 and/or George Cygan 780 918 3412  
**St Charles - Warburg:** Jack Penner - 780.848.2293  
**Holy Trinity - Nisku:** Ron Chamulka 780.955.8031  
**St. Margaret Mary - Calmar:** Barb Abel 780-985-3655 and/or Cheryl Hancar 780-980-3046

# NOVEMBER 28, 2021

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**Jeremiah 33:14-16**

**1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2**

**Luke 21:25-28, 34-36**

Today we begin the season of Advent and with this, we begin the new liturgical year. On this day the church invites us to be ready and prepared to receive the Lord. In the liturgical calendar, the season of Advent means a joyful waiting, waiting for someone with love. During this season we anticipate and await the coming of Jesus. There are three aspects of Jesus' coming into the world. Firstly, we look at the past as we anticipate the celebration of the birth of Jesus in History that took place 2000 years ago. Secondly, we look to the present as we prepare ourselves to receive him in our daily lives. We accept him in the Word and in the sacrament of the Eucharist. Thirdly, we look into the future and await his coming at the end of times in majesty and glory to judge the world. Therefore, the focus of Advent is by no means limited to just Christ's first coming.

Today's three readings from the Holy Bible prepare us to be spiritually uplifted according to these three goals of the Season of Advent.

In the First Reading Jeremiah preaches to a Jerusalem that was shaky and insecure. Such conditions prevailed because the kings Jeremiah confronted refused to heed his call for repentance. They neglected the God of Israel and instead looked for security in the earthly resources available to them, chiefly, alliances with other nations. While warning the people of Israel of the destruction in store for them, the prophet looks ahead to a brighter future. The basis for such a promise is God's faithfulness to promises made long before. To Abraham and his offspring, God had promised to bless them that they would be as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. Further, God was now promising that a righteous Branch would spring up from the descendants of King David, the righteous one executing justice and righteousness in the land. The prophet tells the people that they will have a just king and his policies will bring security to the kingdom and bring them to the right relationship with God.

Today's Second Reading, St. Paul in his first letter to the Thessalonians gives sound advice as to how people should prepare themselves. Paul looks forward to the final coming of Jesus. Paul invites all to welcome Jesus into their lives in the here and now which should take place every day. By it the followers of Jesus must both acknowledge his First Coming in Bethlehem and prepare for the Second Coming at an unknown future date. The important task for them is that they live holy lives. This reading reminds us that as the Lord comes into this world the community should abound in love for one another. Again the reading asks to be fully prepared with hearts so placed, holy, and blameless before our God and Father.

The Gospel of today speaks in special terms of the end of the world and what we refer to as the Second Coming of Jesus at the end of time. Luke speaks on the Lord's prophesy and how we must prepare ourselves to meet it. Because the final end is generally spoken of in the future tense, there is a real problem of general complacency. The feeling is that there is still plenty of time to prepare and that there is nothing to get excited about in the here and now. Luke argues against that attitude. No human being knows when the final end will take place and the Son of Man will appear. Therefore, one must be prepared for this possibility at all times. Each day should be lived as if it were the last. The emphasis here is on preparedness and not on undue anxiety.

Our waiting for Jesus is a moment of joy and expectation and not a tension-filled situation. Therefore, here in the season of Advent let us live by faith, walk in hope, and be renewed in love so that when Jesus comes at the end time to be our judge, we shall not merely know him, but come to him as a friend.

We have a little poem by an anonymous soldier who wrote on prayer:

I asked God for strength that I might achieve – But I was made weak that I might learn humbly to obey. I asked for help that I might do greater things – I was given infirmity that I might do better things. I asked for riches that I might be happy – I was given poverty that I may be wise. I asked for all things that I may enjoy life – I was given life that I might enjoy all things. I got nothing I asked for – But everything I had hoped for. Despite myself, my prayers were answered. I am among all men most richly blessed.

HAVE A BLESSED SEASON OF ADVENT

Fr. Arun