

JANUARY 4, 2026

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



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

Our Lady of Victory Parish

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

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](http://www.caedm.ca)

St. Margaret Mary Parish

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 Schedule for this month

Saturdays

St. Maria Goretti - Devon	5:00 PM
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Sundays

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

NO WEEKDAY MASSES UNTIL FRIDAY JANUARY 30, 2025

Rev. Luan Vu will resume regular mass times beginning on Friday January 30th at 9:00 am at St. Maria Goretti - Devon

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

The Epiphany of the Lord – January 4, 2026

1st Reading: *Isaiah 60, 1-6*

2nd Reading: *Ephesians 3,2-3.5-6*

Gospel: *Matthew 2, 1-12*

The Star of Bethlehem

Why did God use a star to reveal the birth of the King of Kings to foreigners from the East? To Mary, Joseph, and even the shepherds, God sent an angel to announce the Good News. But to the Magi, He chose to use a medium they understood—a star.

The Magi, originally a priestly caste from Persia, were skilled in astrology, astronomy, dream interpretation, and other forms of wisdom and divination. The three Magi mentioned in Matthew's Gospel were clearly experts in astrology, carefully studying the night sky. On the night of Christ's birth, they made an extraordinary discovery: a new star had appeared in the sky. They knew it was a sign of great significance. According to their beliefs, the appearance of a new star heralded the birth of a new king.

This star was not just a celestial phenomenon; it symbolized the light of Christ breaking into the world, guiding all nations—Jew and Gentile alike—toward the Savior. Just as God drew humble Jewish shepherds to the newborn King, He also drew representatives of the Gentiles to adore Him, for Jesus came to save all of humanity.

The divine initiative to include the Gentiles was not a new concept but a fulfillment of a promise made to Abraham: "All the families of the earth will find blessing in you" (Genesis 12:3). The prophets and Psalms echo this theme, emphasizing that all nations will come to the Lord (Isaiah 2:2-4; Psalm 67). In Jesus' public ministry, we see His outreach to the Gentiles, a mission that continued in the early Church, as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles. At the time of Jesus' birth, however, the Jewish emphasis was primarily on being the chosen people. The story of the Epiphany reveals God's universal call to holiness from the very beginning of Jesus' life, establishing that His mission was for all people, not just for Israel.

Because of this universal call to holiness, we who believe in Christ and live our Catholic faith must avoid becoming isolated or insular, creating a small, self-contained world. Instead, we are called to live our faith in a way that is welcoming to all and engaged with the broader world, reflecting the universal mission of the Church. Being Catholic is not merely a cultural heritage; it is the spiritual means of eternal salvation that everyone needs. The word "epiphany" means "manifestation," and Christ must be made manifest to all, becoming the King of every soul.

As we celebrate the Epiphany, be open to the ways God might want to use you to share the light of faith with those who are not yet faithful Catholics. We must be like the star of Bethlehem, drawing others to Christ in ways they can understand and accept. This is best accomplished when we place ourselves at God's service, ready to be used as instruments of His grace. God alone knows how to draw all people to Himself, and when we offer ourselves to His service, He will inspire us and use us to be that shining light, guiding others out of darkness and into His marvelous light. (mycatholiclife.com)

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 next week

Date		Intention
3	Sat	Rhodes & Hills Family Members, Living & deceased
4	Sun	Repose of the Soul of Irene Rhodes R.I.P.
5	Mon	Repose of the Soul of Brett McDonell R.I.P.
6	Tue	Repose of the Soul of Larry Haz R.I.P.
10	Sat	Connie Schumacher - Personal Intentions
11	Sun	Connie Schumacher - Personal Intentions

In case of an emergency only - When the Office is Closed and you need to speak to a Priest

Please contact Rev. Mathewkutty Kunnel at **780.986.3253**

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.