

JANUARY 25, 2026

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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>

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

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time – January 25, 2026

1st Reading: *Isaiah 8:23–9:3*

2nd Reading: *1 Corinthians 1:10–13, 17*

Gospel: *Matthew 4:12–23*

God's Permissive Will

When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee... From that time on, Jesus began to preach and say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Mt 4:12, 17

When John the Baptist emerged on the scene, he proclaimed his message with fearless conviction. His central call was one of repentance and baptism for the forgiveness of sins, urging the people to prepare for the coming of the Messiah. Yet John did not shy away from addressing the moral and spiritual corruption of his time. He famously denounced the Pharisees and Sadducees as a "brood of vipers," rebuking their hypocrisy and lack of genuine repentance. John also boldly condemned Herod Antipas for violating Jewish law by divorcing his wife and marrying Herodias, the wife of his half-brother, Philip. This marriage not only violated Mosaic Law but also reflected Herod's ambitions to consolidate power and status. John's fearless denunciation of sin, even among the powerful, ultimately led to his arrest and eventual martyrdom.

This historical context surrounding John's arrest is crucial because it helps us understand God's providence—how He permits certain evils to occur in order to bring about a greater good. Jesus Himself later affirmed John's greatness, saying, "Among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist" (Matthew 11:11). If the Son of God declared John's greatness shortly after John's arrest, why didn't God miraculously free him from persecution? The answer lies in John's mission. He had fulfilled his primary role: preparing the way for the Lord, the "Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world" (John 1:29). Once John's mission was complete, God permitted him to seal his testimony with his own blood, offering his life as a martyr for the Lord and for the Truth that sets all people free.

Reflect today on John's arrest and consider how you might have reacted if you had been one of his disciples. From an earthly perspective, martyrdom is difficult to comprehend or accept, especially in our own lives or in the lives of those we love. Though John's arrest and subsequent martyrdom likely brought fear and grief to his disciples, shaking their sense of security, from an eternal perspective, John's martyrdom was his greatest act of witness. It fulfilled his mission by pointing his disciples—and all of us—toward the true Prophet and Messiah, Jesus Christ. John is forever glorified in Heaven, and in the end, that is all that truly matters. As we honor John's unwavering faith, seek to embrace God's permissive will in your own life. Even in the face of suffering or evil, trust that God, in His providence, can bring about a greater good if we surrender ourselves fully to Him. (mycatholiclife.com)

Mass Intentions for next week

Date		Intention
24	Sat	Chelsea & Thor Quaranta - Personal Intentions
25	Sun	Repose of the Soul of Marilyn Rhodes R.I.P.
27	Tue	Margaret Harmer - Health and Well-being
28	Wed	Connie Schumacher - Personal Intentions
29	Thu	Repose of the Soul of Bill Bates R.I.P.
30	Fri	Andrea Lichtner - Personal Intentions
31	Sat	Agnes Allen - Personal Intentions
		Heather & Laurier Blanchette - Personal Intentions
1	Sun	Heidi Sokalski - 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.