

# LIVING FAITH

## THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### NOVEMBER 14, 2021



#### THE GOSPEL FOR TODAY (Mark 13:24-32)

“But in those days, after that suffering,  
the sun will be darkened,

and the moon will not give its light,  
and the stars will be falling from heaven,  
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in clouds” with great power and glory.  
Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds,  
from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.”

#### TAKING THE GOSPEL HOME

As the liturgical year comes to a close, we begin to hear readings that are of a certain style of literature, known as Apocalyptic, which means ‘dealing with the end times.’ In this particular Gospel passage, Jesus speaks of the end times as beginning with ominous sounding changes in nature: the sun will be darkened, the moon will not give its light, stars will fall from the heavens and the powers of heaven will shake. It all sounds quite scary!

Many of us look at the world today and we see the following: a global pandemic that will soon reach the two year mark; economic uncertainty resulting from the pandemic; political instability nationally and internationally; a rise in racism, prejudice and intolerance; an ongoing sexual abuse crisis that has hurt thousands of vulnerable persons and will have lasting impacts both locally and universally on the Church; crises of confidence in many of society’s institutions as the legitimate forces of justice and accountability call them to task, and the list goes on and on. It is an unsettling time to say the least!

The scripture scholar Dennis McBride, CSsR suggests that we must not lose sight of the end, namely that Jesus promises a vision of the future that looks beyond suffering and persecutions, and that offers us hope. We could see that our God is one who says, that even the most serious of conflicts will come to an end and peace will follow. With God, the God of the resurrection, there is life, not only eternal life, but life that is marked by the absence of suffering, pain, failure; it is a life of peace, calm, justice and of all things being made anew.

#### TALKING WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS

- What events cause you to question where God is in it all?
- What gives you hope, or reassures you that God is present, even in challenging times?

# Be Careful Whom You Follow

Jesus said to them: "Watch out that no one deceives you. Many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am he,' and will deceive many." Mark 13:5-6 (NIV)

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
J	D	S	L	H	V	Q	Z	N	R	P	E	B	I	O	C	Y	A	X	U	F	G	K	T	M	W

1. 12-9-2 \_\_\_\_\_
2. 26-18-24-16-5 \_\_\_\_\_
3. 9-18-24-14-15-9 \_\_\_\_\_
4. 2-12-16-12-14-6-12 \_\_\_\_\_
5. 21-18-25-14-9-12-3 \_\_\_\_\_
6. 12-18-10-24-5-7-20-18-23-12-3 \_\_\_\_\_
7. 26-18-10-3 \_\_\_\_\_
8. 23-14-9-22-2-15-25 \_\_\_\_\_

WARS NATION	DECEIVE END	EARTHQUAKES FAMINES	WATCH KINGDOM
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CANADIAN CATHOLIC ORGANIZATION  
FOR DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE  
FALL ACTION CAMPAIGN

Let's spread the word about putting *People and Planet first*



Development and Peace's 2021-2022 campaign, ***People and Planet First***, is calling for Canada and Canadian corporations not to be complicit in violations against the planet and its inhabitants. The easiest way to take action is to [sign the petition](#) calling on the government to implement a due diligence law that would require its companies to respect human and environmental rights in their overseas operations.

However, there are several other options available to you if you have already signed and want to continue your commitment! You can follow the latest campaign news on our [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#) pages and even [update your profile](#) to show the campaign colors. If you'd like to delve into the subject deeper, take the time to read our printable [backgrounder](#). And what about sharing the campaign video with your friends and family? Whatever you choose to do, thank you for helping to spread solidarity! <https://devp.org/en>

XVI Ordinary General Assembly  
of the Synod of Bishops  
“For a Synodal Church:  
Communication, Participation and Mission”



In preparation for the 2023 Synod, the whole Church is asked to respond to questions about consultation and decision-making in the Catholic Church. The Archdiocese of St. John's will soon be launching an online questionnaire aimed at guiding our reflection and gathering feedback. You may choose to respond to all or some of the ten (10) questions. All responses from the Archdiocese of St. John's will be collated and later combined with responses from across Canada, North America and the world, to move the Church forward on the journey of growing authentically towards the communion and mission that God calls the Church to live out in the third millennium.

What is “Synodality”?

In describing synodality, the *Vademecum* quotes the International Theological Commission:

First and foremost, synodality denotes the particular style that qualifies the life and mission of the Church, expressing her nature as the People of God journeying together and gathering in assembly, summoned by the Lord Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit to proclaim the Gospel. Synodality ought to be expressed in the Church's ordinary way of living and working.

And the *Vademecum* adds:

...synodality is not so much an event or a slogan as a **style** and a **way of being** by which the Church lives out her mission in the world.

## IN THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK

### TWO QUEENS: MARGARET OF SCOTLAND AND ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY



St. Margaret of Scotland, or Margaret of Wessex, was an English princess, one of three children, born in Hungary to Princess Agatha of Hungary and English Prince Edward the Exile around 1045. Margaret and her family returned to England in 1045, and she later married Malcolm Canmore III. Together, they had eight children, six sons and two daughters, all of whom were raised with deep Catholic Christian faith. They lived as a holy family, a domestic church.

Margaret's kind nature and good heart was a strong influence on Malcolm's reign. She softened his temper and helped him become a virtuous King of Scotland. Together they prayed, fed the hungry, and offered a powerful example of living faith in action. Margaret was placed in charge of all domestic affairs and was often consulted with state matters, as well. She promoted the arts and education in Scotland. She encouraged Church synods and was involved in efforts to correct religious abuses.

In 1093, Malcolm and their oldest son were killed during battle. Margaret passed away four days after her husband, on November 16, 1093. She was canonized in 1250.

St. Elizabeth of Hungary was born in 1207, a daughter of King Andrew II of Hungary and his wife Gertrude. When she was very young, her parents promised her in marriage to the future king of Thuringia. Her young life was far from happy; her mother was murdered when she was 6 years old, and when her betrothed died, she was married off to his younger brother. Elizabeth grew to become a very prayerful and charitable young woman. She married Ludwig and became queen in 1221, and the marriage was in every regard a happy and exemplary one. The couple were devotedly attached to each other. They had three children.

Ludwig proved himself worthy of his wife. He gave his protection to her acts of charity toward the poor. He trusted her to administer his kingdom during his absences, and she was both a wise ruler and good to the poor. She built a hospital to care for the sick, and was often found there, nursing them. Ludwig died in 1227, and Elizabeth joined the Third Order of St Francis, and spent her life caring for the poor and the sick, spending much of her inheritance on this work.

Elizabeth died at the age of 24 in 1231, and was canonized in 1235.

#### REFLECT AND DISCUSS...

- What inspires you in the lives of these two women?
- How might they speak to families today?