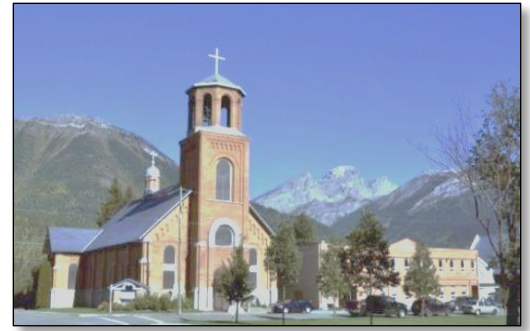


# Holy Family Parish, Fernie

Pastor: Fr. David John  
Secretary: Marilyn Gareau  
Church: 501 – 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Fernie.  
Parish Office: Family Centre, 521 – 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Fernie.  
Post: Box 519, Fernie, B.C., V0B 1M0  
Telephone: 250-423-6127  
Email: [info@holyfamilyferniefn.ca](mailto:info@holyfamilyferniefn.ca)  
Website: [www.holyfamilyferniefn.ca](http://www.holyfamilyferniefn.ca)



*Holy Family Parish is organised together with St. Michael's, Sparwood and St. Bernard's, Elkford.*

## 14<sup>th</sup> May 2017 Fifth Sunday of Easter

### *From the Parish...*

#### First Holy Communion

This Sunday morning we celebrate the First Holy Communion for six of our youngsters. This brings us great joy. They are:

Jorja Dion                      Olivia Luzny  
Mikaela Garlock              Keenan Lynch  
Matthew Langer              Wyatt Thurmeier

We do pray for them at all our Masses this weekend. After the Sunday morning Mass there will be a celebration in the Family Centre next door for our First Communicants and all are welcome to join us there.

### *From the Diocese...*

#### Retreat for Catechists

For those involved in children's programmes the diocese is planning a retreat on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June at Christ the Servant, Cranbrook. It will be a day of reflection and a chance to meet with fellow catechists. Registration deadline is Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May. For further information, contact Ann Matthews at 250-448-2725 ext. 270 or at [ann.matthews@nelsondiocese.org](mailto:ann.matthews@nelsondiocese.org).

#### World Youth Day 2019

World Youth Day in 2019 is taking place in Panama. The diocese are organising a group who will travel to this celebration. The dates are Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019, which might seem a long time away, but the cost is \$2643 (US), so you might want a bit of time to raise the money for this trip. So if you want to know more please contact the diocesan youth office at [250 448 2725 ext. 280](tel:2504482725)

## Ministries

### Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May

#### **Eucharistic Minister:**

Rob Lecavalier

#### **Reader:**

Colin Lynch

#### **Greeters:**

Willie Oryschak

### Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May

#### **Eucharistic Minister:**

Eva Langer

#### **Reader:**

Adele Minto

#### **Greeters:**

Benny Mangone &  
Sam Caravetta

#### **Church Cleaning for this week:**

S. Carter, L. & A. Westhaver

#### Finance

#### **Collections:**

6<sup>h</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> April .....\$1596.10

#### **Our Pilgrimage of Faith 2017:**

Given to date .....\$ 8,335.00  
*Our Diocesan Goal* .....\$11,600.00

## Mass Times

### Masses for Sunday

Fernie:

5pm Saturday &  
9am Sunday

Also:

Sparwood:

7pm Saturday &  
11am Sunday

Elkford:

4pm Sunday

### Weekdays Masses

Tuesday – 9am

Wednesday – 11am

Rocky Mountain Village

Sanctuary Lamp burns  
for Anna Rotella  
from 14<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> May  
from Vince Polcino.

And for

Francesco Scarpelli  
from 14<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> May  
from Assunta and family.

**Mother's Day** (...if you are celebrating your mother, or Mothers' Day if you are celebrating all mothers)

A happy Mothers' Day to all mothers, and more than that, I want to send blessings to all who fulfil the role of a mother!

"Mother's Day" is a secular and very commercially orientated North American creation. You probably know how commercialised Valentine's Day has become along with Halloween, and apparently some are also pushing to give a bigger profile to "Sibling's Day" and "Grandparent's Day"!

It is sad how this day has been changed to promote the commercial aspect because at its roots this Sunday was a wonderful day that both looked to the church as the mother of all of us – so this day celebrated the Church – and it looked to the whole role of mothering that many people beyond our biological mothers fulfil.

There are different versions of the history of this celebration but most recognise that it was originally celebrated on the fourth Sunday of Lent, also known as Laetare Sunday or Rejoice Sunday, and indeed "Mothering Sunday" is still celebrated on this day in Europe. Through the years this Sunday had become associated with mothers or mothering. This was partly because Lent was a time for pilgrimages, but if you couldn't do a major pilgrimage to a religious shrine you would instead visit your "mother" church – that is, the church where you were baptised or your local cathedral – and this Sunday was the day prescribed for that. Many of the wealthy would give their servants this day off so that they could travel to their 'Mother Church'. Some have suggested that this trip would often be made as a family or at least by people with their mother.

Additionally the image of motherhood also came into the liturgy as the introit for the day – that is, the Latin acclamation that was sung at the beginning of Mass – was:

*Rejoice, O Jerusalem: and come together all you that love her:  
rejoice with joy, you that have been in sorrow:  
that you may exult and be filled from the breasts of your consolation.*

A very similar version of this 'Entrance Antiphon' is still in our missals. But as it was said or sung in Latin few would understand it, but people would be told that they were honouring 'Mother Jerusalem'. Jerusalem as our mother is an Old Testament image which was in some ways superseded in Christianity by the image of Mary as our mother, and of course, Mary symbolising the Church.

Additionally flowers were not allowed in church during Lent except on this "Rejoice" Sunday, so on this day flowers would be taken to the Marian altar and 'given to our mother Mary'.

In the Church we celebrate the 'Motherhood' of Mary on 1<sup>st</sup> January; that is, we celebrate the fact that Mary was the biological mother of Jesus. In contrast the focus of the fourth Sunday of Lent was the role of *mothering* which is significantly different. *Motherhood* is a fact and hopefully it comes about as an act of love but it can also happen accidentally, and *motherhood* might not imply *mothering*. *Mothering* is something that many people do – this is particularly true today's where often both parents need to or decide to work, thus many grandparents take on a mothering role to grandchildren.



I very much like the idea of celebrating *mothering* as opposed to *motherhood*. Often when I have stood in church and have given a greeting to 'all mothers' I will see in the eyes of some ladies a moment of sadness because they were not able to have children. But in celebrating *mothering* we are celebrating something much more inclusive and something that a person does as a conscious decision, and something that is a wonderful act of self-giving love.

So to all who provide the gift of love to others in a motherly way, I do wish you every blessing today.