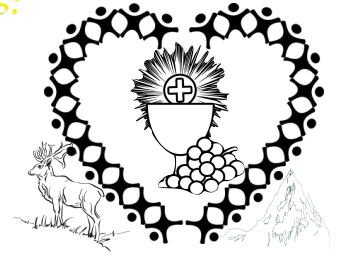


*Our Current Weekend Mass Schedule for the Elk Valley is:  
Fernie on Saturday evening at 5pm,  
Sparwood at 9am Sunday morning,  
and Elkford at 4pm Sunday afternoon.*

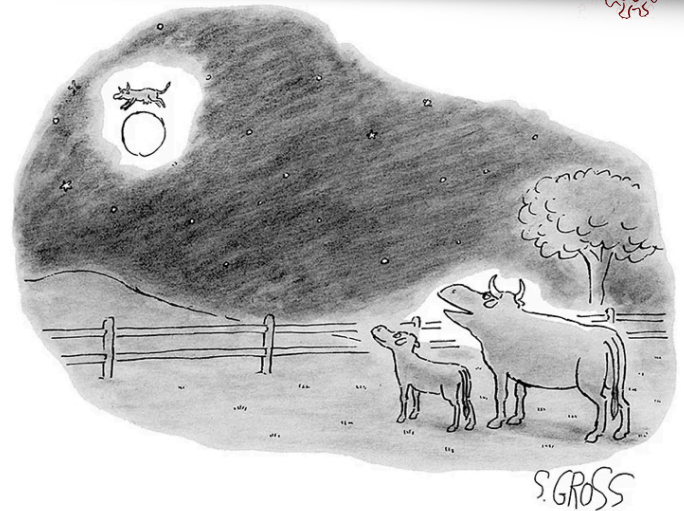


*The Sunday Mass is broadcast via Zoom from Fernie & Sparwood (see below).*

*8th/9th May – Sixth Sunday of  
Easter – Mother's Day Weekend*

## **Dear All,**

To all 'mothers', can I wish you a happy Mother's Day. And as I said on 'Mothering Sunday', to all those who take on the role of 'mother' in whatever shape or form, a happy day to you as well.



## **Bell Tower in Fernie**

Just a quick update as to what is happening with our bell tower in Fernie. As anyone who passes the church will know we have some magnificent scaffolding up around our bell tower; I must say, it is a work of art! *(See next page.)*

While we had the church roof replaced a number of years ago, the roof to the bell tower was the original from 1911. Inevitably it was leaking badly meaning that the wood around the bell was starting to rot. The new roof topping will match the other, smaller spire that we have *(see right)*.

The project is being funded from some of the parish's reserve funds and also from a very kind grant from 'Heritage BC', a charitable fund that supports culture across the province. Over the winter we applied for this grant, and with the support of many others including the Tobacco Plains First Nation, our building was recognised as a unique heritage land mark building.

*"Son, your mother is a remarkable woman."*



2022



The craftsmen engaged in the work renovation obviously see many buildings all across western Canada, but they were so moved by the beauty of our church that they made a donation out of their own pockets to this project! So to them and to the team who work so hard behind the scene finding and applying for grants and other sources of funding, a very big thank you. This project slightly crept up on us as the bell tower roof deteriorated quite suddenly, thus we had to take money from our reserves to cover the cost, so all donations are very gratefully accepted.

Our hope is that after the work is complete the bell tower with its bright metal roof will be an even more stunning sight on the Fernie skyline.



*Once I got used to the height, I actually had a lot of fun up the tower.*

## Our Youngsters

Last Wednesday we took the opportunity to take advantage of the rules that allow outdoor gatherings, and the Fernie catechism kids and their families came together for an outdoor Mass. This was held at the cemetery in Fernie (*left*). We so much wanted our youngsters to stay in touch with the celebration of Mass.

A number of them are going forward for Confirmation – when the rules allow us to do this. This weekend our kids along with many youngsters across our diocese will come together for an on-line Confirmation retreat. So we keep them in prayer as they give over this time to look at their faith and their place in the Church.

We also have a number of youngsters who are approaching First Communion, so we keep them in our prayers as well.

## And Finally...

As I write this late on Thursday night I am still feeling the buzz of going up the bell tower – which really was a lot of fun. I then had an hour long on-line meeting which I attended while sitting in the lovely warm sun by a pond as Thumper went from being unbelievably dirty to being clean, again and again and again. It really was a wonderful day! The Weather Network are now promising snow for the next four days – but that is life in the Elk Valley. With prayers,

*Fr. David @ Thumper*



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# Zoom Links

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## Link to Weekend Masses

To get the link to our two weekend Masses please send an e-mail to one of our parish offices with your name and you will then receive the link each week.

[info@holyfamilyfernie.ca](mailto:info@holyfamilyfernie.ca)

[ElkValleyRC@gmail.com](mailto:ElkValleyRC@gmail.com)

### **Chat:**

*Feel free to greet people via the chat when you join our broadcast,  
and if you are praying for anything particularly,  
do share this with others on the Chat.*

*Hopefully our “1A - Chat (Co-Host)” will pick this up and pass it on to me.*

### **Waiting Room:**

*Please note when you log on you will be put in a “waiting room”.  
Hopefully as soon as we see you waiting we will let you in.*

*If there is a bit of a delay, please just wait;  
the co-host or myself will be with you as quickly as we can.*