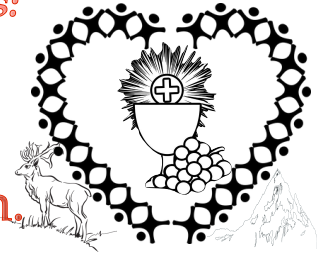


Our Current Weekend Mass Schedule for the Elk Valley is:

*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).

4th/5th June 2022

Dear All,

Happy Feast of Pentecost!

The next few weeks will be good! Firstly, after this weekend's feast of Pentecost we will be celebrating the Holy Trinity and then the Body and Blood of Christ – all feasts that take us to the heart of our faith.

What is more, next week we will have Deacon Stephen with us and he will be taking on the task of talking about the Trinity. After that we are still hoping that Fr. Marian will be with us for Corpus Christi, and then he will see us back into 'Ordinary Time'.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee

As I write this on Thursday evening we are well into our celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. We have had the 'Trooping of the Colours', a 'Flypast' by the Royal Air Force and the lighting of beacons across Britain.

We haven't received any direction from the Canadian Bishops about the celebration of the Jubilee, but back home the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales have laid out prayers to be said for our monarch to give thanks for her loyal service to Britain, Canada and the many other countries to which she is head of state. So at the end of Mass I will include the special prayer we have been given.

Also at the end of Mass instead of a closing hymn I will show a short video that includes some archive footage of the Coronation in 1953.



The Queen on Thursday this week

The parts of the Coronation I have taken are quite short but they are the more religious parts as I think it is worth reminding ourselves of the close connection there is in our monarchy system between our head of state and Christ.

You will see during the ceremony the young Princess Elizabeth being given first an ‘orb’ (*see right*). The sphere represents the globe and thus the whole world, and the cross above it represents Christ’s sovereignty over the world. The prayer that is said as the orb is given to the new monarch is,



“Receive this Orb set under the Cross, and remember that the whole world is subject to the Power and Empire of Christ our Redeemer.”

Then the Archbishop of Canterbury puts a ring on the monarch’s finger saying:

*Receive the Ring of kingly dignity, and the seal of Catholic Faith:
and as you are this day consecrated to be our Head and Prince,
so may you continue steadfastly as the Defender of Christ’s Religion;
that being rich in faith and blessed in all good works,
you may reign with him who is the King of Kings,
to whom be the glory for ever and ever. Amen.*

(Sadly this prayer was not part of the recording to which I had access.)

Two more items are then given to the Princess Elizabeth, a sceptre and a staff or rod (*see below*). These both represent authority in the same way as a crosier or ‘Bishop’s Staff’ does; on the top of one is a Cross that signifies God’s justice, on the other a dove that signifies God’s mercy. Again, this is made clear in the prayer,

*Receive the Rod of equity and mercy.
Be so merciful that you be not too remiss,
so execute justice that you forget not mercy.
Punish the wicked, protect and cherish the just,
and lead your people in the way wherein they should go.*



In our modern world there is a great tendency to separate the secular world from religion. And while the Church rightly has an understanding of the need to have a separation between Church and State, this does not imply that our faith should be separate from our society and the way we do things. Just as justice and mercy need to go together, so should faith and our daily lives.

Finally we have the crowning of the new monarch who then formally becomes Queen. I will quote one last prayer: the blessing of the Crown.

O God the Crown of the faithful:

Bless we beseech thee this Crown, and so sanctify thy servant ELIZABETH upon whose head this day thou dost place it for a sign of royal majesty, that she may be filled by thine abundant grace, with all princely virtues: through the King eternal Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

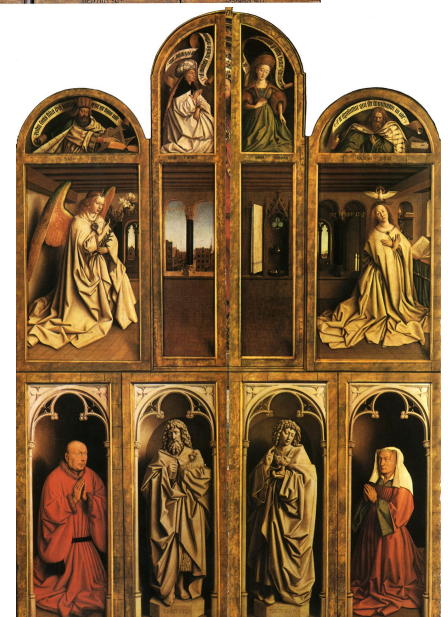
The crown represents God, and the wearing of it signifies being under God’s rule, exercising leadership through God’s grace; the Bishop’s mitre has a similar history.



The Ghent Altarpiece by Jan van Eyck – 1432

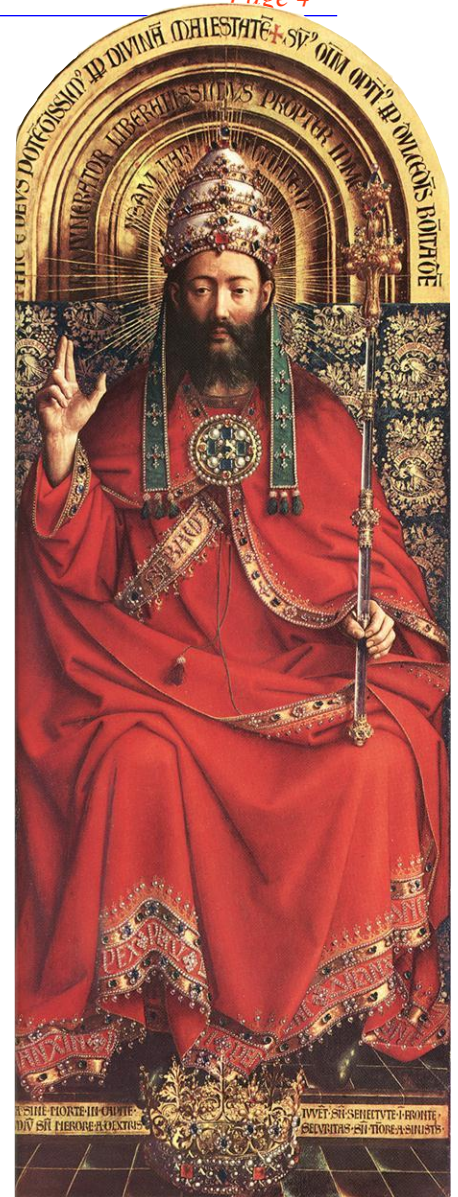
Last Sunday I mentioned a painting that is in St Bavo’s Cathedral in Ghent, Belgium. This work is a series of paintings on wood panels (*above*). The panels hinge so that the four outer pictures on each side fold in on the four inner pictures. Then, when the work is closed, on the outside there are eight additional paintings (*right*).

While those who are interested can ‘google’ this work and find out more – *there is a flood of information on it* – my eye was drawn to the picture of God the Father in the centre of the inside panels. He is holding a sceptre and is crowned with a Papal crown but has a crown at his feet to show that he is the ‘King of Kings’ [and Queens!] (*see next page*).





*Above is the whole work in place in the Cathedral in Ghent.
Right is the central figure of God with a crown at his feet.*



And Finally...

Last week I showed Thumper being most perturbed when he found a bear had pooped in the middle of the road. This week we had another interesting moment: we were at the Roosevelt Cemetery south of Grasmere and right on the Canadian–US border. Thumper had been in the car for some time and when he got out to play ball he needed to do his business; like a good boy he sneaked away, went under a fence and into the bush... that is, into the United States, and he pooped there. I was going to crawl under the fence and go over and pick it up, but after



a moment's thought decided not to. That was probably a good decision.

Thumper now wants to know what wolves and coyote have to do when they want to cross the border?

With prayers,

*Fr. David
& Thumper*

Our churches are open to those *without* any Covid symptoms.
But Covid is still a real threat – thus caution is needed!



Zoom Links – To Our Sunday Masses

Link to Our Sunday 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

ElkValleyRC@gmail.com

Audio Only

Don't forget, if you don't have the internet but have a phone you can still listen to Mass via a phone call to our Zoom link.

Again, e-mail the office for the link for this.

Chat:

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

Normally there is "IA - Chat (Co-Host)" who watches the chat for any problems or prayer intentions. If you don't want everyone to see your message you can send your message directly and it will remain private.

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; we will be with you as quickly as we can.

And for those who are attending church in person, be careful:

Covid is very much still about and people still have vulnerabilities. Therefore please continue to be careful when you are in church and continue to sanitise your hands; wear a mask if you wish and always think of the good of others. As you move about in church you might come within a 'breath distance' of others, and be conscious that others might have health vulnerabilities that you don't know about.

Everyone still needs to be careful.

