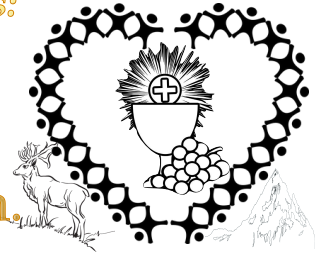


*Our Current Weekend Mass Schedule for the Elk Valley is:*

*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).*

11th/12th June 2022

Dear All,

## Happy Feast of the Holy Trinity!



This weekend we are celebrating one thing in particular... or are we celebrating three things in particular? I don't know. It is a good job that Deacon Stephen will be here to sort us out.

*(Note that in the picture to the left Christ is shown holding an 'orb' in the same way as the Queen did at her Coronation.)*

### Next Two Weeks

The next three items all refer to what is happening over the next few weeks while I am away from the Valley doing things with the CWL.



### *Catholic Women's League Conventions*

A lot of people will be very familiar with what the Catholic Women's League does at the local level in the parishes; often this is funeral lunches and fund raising activities for the parish. Our CWL in both Fernie and Sparwood are so valuable exactly because they do provide these services to the parish community. But the CWL is a lot more than this. At the end of this e-mail I will include a short piece that touches on the league's objectives and mission. I am sure that once you read that you will see why the organisation is coordinated at a national level and sees the importance of bringing together its members from across each diocese, from each province and from across Canada to meet, share ideas, and bond into a unified and powerful body of believers.

You might remember that a few weeks ago we had the Nelson *diocesan* CWL convention in Creston where CWL members from across our diocese came together and shared their experiences and heard about what is happening in other parishes in our diocese. This coming week the CWL has its *provincial* convention for British Columbia and Yukon in Maple Ridge near Vancouver, and as the Provincial Spiritual Advisor I will be part of that. Then in August we are delighted that this diocese will be hosting the *national* CWL convention and we will be welcoming to our diocese CWL members from across Canada. This will be in Kelowna in mid-August and I will be attending that convention as well.

## ***My Time Away from the Parishes***

I will be here for the first part of this week, but by Thursday I have to be in the Lower Mainland for pre-meetings to the convention. What is more, I have to have my talks and the liturgies for the convention all sorted and printed out. I will be away for two weekends, returning for the weekend of 2nd/3rd July. While I am away Fr. Marian will be here in my place.

Often during conventions the CWL executive – *of which I am a part* – will be on the go from very early in the morning to very late – working for fourteen or fifteen hours each day, and sometimes longer – so after the convention all the executive need a couple of days to recover. As Spiritual Advisor I also find it helpful to have some follow up meetings after a convention. Additionally, if during the convention I promise to do something, I try to do it ‘asap’ otherwise I forget or at least, forget what I was meant to be doing and why! So having a few extra days gives me a chance to follow up on these. Therefore after the convention I will be away for ten days, and some of this will be work and some will be down-time.

Obviously, being in the Lower Mainland I will be visiting with my family as well.

## ***Weekly Zoom Broadcast***

This weekend we will have our Zoom Masses as normal, with Deacon Stephen preaching. But for the following two weekends – 18th/19th June and 25th/26th June – there will be no broadcast Zoom Masses from either Fernie or Sparwood.

Fr. Marian will be celebrating the Masses in the Elk Valley, but as he doesn't feel too comfortable with ‘high tech’ stuff like Zoom broadcasts, he won't be broadcasting our Masses.



Previously when Fr. Marian was with us I broadcast a Mass from wherever I was – whether that was my brother's deck or from my camper. But this time I will be celebrating other Sunday Masses on the weekends that don't fit in with our Mass schedule, so won't be able to do a ‘remote broadcast’ Mass. This is a shame as I did enjoy these quiet Masses where it was just me, Thumper and our Zoom community. For at least one Mass while I am away I think I will be concelebrating with a Bishop, so I will have to try to remember how to do it properly!

### **Zoom Broadcasts**

- |                       |                                |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>11th/12th June</b> | <b>– Normal Zoom broadcast</b> |
| <b>18th/19th June</b> | <b>– No Zoom broadcast</b>     |
| <b>25th/26th June</b> | <b>– No Zoom broadcast</b>     |
| <b>2nd/3rd July</b>   | <b>– Normal Zoom broadcast</b> |



### **Weekly E-mails**

Looking realistically at my commitments next week, I am not going to have any time free from what I am doing with the CWL. So next week there won't be a weekly e-mail from me. After that, for the two following weekends, I am not sure.

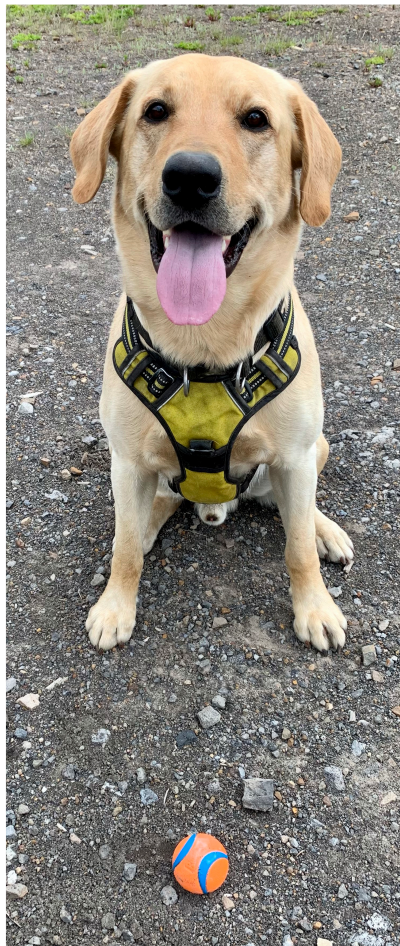
*Here is the issue:* I have ten days away from the parish after the CWL convention and some of these will be work and some will be time off. I know myself too well, if I don't cancel the weekly e-mail I will sit down on my days off and spend most of the time putting something together, trying to make it better and better, putting extra bits in it about the CWL's objectives or about my understanding of holidays, or whatever! I so easily fill any available time doing things like this.

So this weekend all is normal, but for two weeks after that, we are not quite sure!

### **And Finally...**

Thumper is really looking forward to our time away. I was trying to collect a few things together that I thought I might forget, so Thumper decided that he too would collect together what he wanted to take with him. So he got his favourite stick, he got one of his balls and he got his food bowl, and you can see him praying that I remember to take his dog food!

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

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**11th/12th June – Normal Zoom broadcast**

**18th/19th June – No Zoom broadcast**

**25th/26th June – No Zoom broadcast**

**2nd/3rd July – Normal Zoom broadcast**

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

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

### 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.*

### 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.***





# The Catholic Women’s League of Canada

It is worth just having a little look at the objectives of the CWL:

*The objectives of the League shall be to unite the Catholic women of Canada:*

- *to achieve individual and collective spiritual development*
- *to promote the teachings of the Catholic church*
- *to exemplify the Christian ideal in home and family life*
- *to protect the sanctity of life*
- *to enhance the role of women in church and society*
- *to recognise the human dignity of all people everywhere*
- *to uphold and defend Christian education and values in the modern world*
- *to contribute to the understanding and growth of religious freedom, social justice, peace and harmony*

And the Leagues ‘Mission Statement’ is:

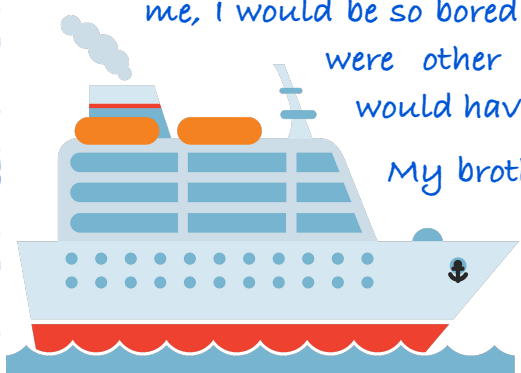
*“The Catholic Women’s League of Canada calls its members to grow in faith, and to witness to the love of God through ministry and service.”*



## Holidays

I have to say that I am not good at taking time off – partly because I so enjoy my work and what I do that I don't see it as work. While I like having time away from people, I love looking at the liturgy, at the scriptures, at the Church and the world. So if I stop and clear my time of everything else, I inevitably find myself looking at the rite of coronation for a monarch, or ancient Hebrew, or how Platonism has influenced Christian thought, or the writings of C.S. Lewis, or whatever. And I get so excited over this that I want to share it by including it in a sermon or a talk I have been asked to give, so my mind goes back to the parish and the CWL.

The classic image of a holiday is sitting on a hot beach; but for me, I would be so bored so quickly! And if there were other people around me, you would have to pay me to stay there.



My brother in his great generosity keeps offering to take me on a cruise ship; but the thought of being trapped in a confined space with thousands of other people with no chance to escape is my definition of hell!

One of the holidays I most enjoyed was when I went to Northern Sweden. (This was before I had a dog.) I loaded up my car with my mountain bike, my kayak, my camping gear and a lot of food, I got a ferry from Britain to Norway, and I drove up through Norway and all those fjords to Northern Sweden and a cabin I had rented. I had about three weeks in the cabin and during that time I spoke to no one, had no internet or phone, there wasn't even any radio signal. Honestly, I didn't want to come back!

My view of a perfect holiday – a heavenly holiday – is to be in some rugged and remote place with Thumper with no one else about, and to go for walks, to play in streams and to be left alone! There are many names that describe this, but one of my favourite names for this is "Being in the Elk valley"!

Now in fairness, it can also be called "Being in the Slocan valley", "Being in Northern B.C." or "Living in Cornwall, England". I feel I have been incredibly blessed in the places I have lived and worked and I think that I have been living a 'holiday' and all the time I am waiting to be asked to do a proper job!