



The Queen pictured on Tuesday this week in Balmoral.

Telegram

To His Majesty the King, Charles III, Buckingham Palace, London

Deeply saddened to learn of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, I offer heartfelt condolences to Your Majesty, the Members of the Royal Family, the People of the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth.

I willingly join all who mourn her loss in praying for the late Queen's eternal rest, and in paying tribute to her life of unstinting service to the good of the Nation and the Commonwealth, her example of devotion to duty, her steadfast witness of faith in Jesus Christ and her firm hope in his promises.

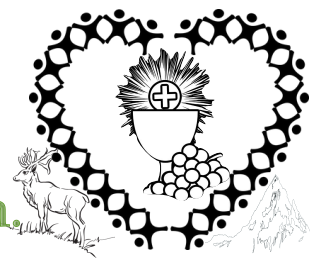
Commending her noble soul to the merciful goodness of our Heavenly Father, I assure Your Majesty of my prayers that Almighty God will sustain you with his unfailing grace as you now take up your high responsibilities as King. Upon you and all who cherish the memory of your late mother, I invoke an abundance of divine blessings as a pledge of comfort and strength in the Lord.

FRANCISCUS

From the Vatican, 8th September 2022

Our 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).

10th/11th September 2022

Dear All,

Obviously the news of the death of the Queen has overshadowed today (Thursday), and as the full meaning of this news slowly sinks in, it will be on the minds of many for some time. We have obviously known that this news was coming at some point, but honestly I still can't believe it. Like many of you, I have lived all my life with the Queen as the head of state, so I have not known the 'institution' of the monarch in any form other than Queen Elizabeth.

This afternoon my Dad gave me a lesson on how to sing "God Save the King". When Dad first joined the Royal Air Force, George VI was on the throne, so Dad has sung "God Save the King" many times on parade. He also was telling me of his memories of King George VI's death; a little glimpse into a bit of history.

Our task now is to hold our new head of state in our prayers. While I wonder if I will ever get used to calling Prince Charles, 'King Charles', I recognise that all his life he has worked very closely with the Queen, so with her death he not only loses his mother, but also his mentor and guide. So we pray that he will have a chance to grieve, that he will receive comfort and support at this time, and as he takes up his new role, that he will be open to God in the same way as the Queen always was.

But before we leave the Queen, I will print on the last page of this e-mail a prayer that I think is particularly beautiful. It comes from the Church of Scotland.



Diocese of Plymouth Environmental Policy

This week I said that I would include the policy document on the environment from my home diocese, but in light of everything I might just hold this for another couple of weeks. I don't want it to be lost in everything else that is happening.

My home diocese asked us to celebrate the weekend of 1st/2nd October as a special weekend of prayer for the environment, but I am away that weekend with the CWL at their half-yearly Provincial Executive meeting, so perhaps I will celebrate that Mass the week before on 24th/25th September, and I will put the Plymouth Environmental Policy in the weekly e-mail that weekend to fit in with that theme.



**Listen to the
Voice of Creation
SEASON OF CREATION 2022**

Thank You Deacon Stephen

Thank you to Deacon Stephen for preaching this last weekend. I loved the idea of us reaching up to God, but everything depends upon God taking our hands and raising us up to be with Him. Deacon Stephen will be back with us in October.

Masses this Weekend – Theme: Lost are Found

At the Sunday Masses this weekend I am going to use one of the Eucharistic Prayers for Reconciliation, as these are beautiful prayers and fit in so well with the readings. And while the death of the Queen might be on our minds, I feel that these Eucharistic prayers really encourage and lift our spirits.

In case you don't know, as well as the four Eucharistic Prayers we commonly use, there are also two for Reconciliation, two for use with Children, and one "for various needs", making nine in total. The theologian Fr. Edward McNamara has written that we should not think of these as nine different Eucharistic Prayers, but nine "versions of a single prayer that accentuate different themes."

The gospel this weekend is quite long and consists of three separate though very connected parables. These parables are, the parable of the lost sheep, the parable of the lost coin, and the parable of the prodigal son, (*or more accurately, the parable of the father with two sons*). In my sermon I will be looking at each of these parables in order.

And Finally...

Tonight, to honour the Queen, I have decided to cook myself a very British supper: 'Bangers and Mash'. So when I have finished this e-mail I will get cooking.

On Monday this week Thumper and myself had the following conversation:

Thumper: Is this day just an ordinary day without a special name?

*Me: Yes.
No! Labour Day.*

Thumper: Good. I like "No Labour Day"

And by the way, Thumper is not allowed on the bed!

With prayers,
Fr. David & Thumper





P.S.

Having finished this e-mail I started the task of making supper. ‘Bangers and Mash’ with Yorkshire pudding filled with gravy and mushy peas. Actually I don’t like mushy peas, but it is one of the dishes that everyone associates with Britain. *(Mushy peas are very popular in Northern England, but not so much in the South West where I come from.)*

One thing I should have done was read the recipe for the Yorkshire pudding before I started because it says, “*Let the batter rest at room temperature for a minimum of 30 minutes, or overnight (at least 12 hours) in the refrigerator.*” Cooking this plateful took well over an hour-and-a-half!

All I have to do now is decide what to do with the rest of the Yorkshire pudding *(right)*, a pile of mashed potatoes, a few sausages and a lot of mushy peas!



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.

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 everywhere 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, so please be conscious that others might have health vulnerabilities that you don't know about.

Everyone still needs to be careful.



Prayer in Memory of the Queen.

Church of Scotland.

Let us pray

Almighty God, our Queen is dead,
her long *life* is over
but You live forever!

Our Queen is dead,
her long *reign* is over
but You reign forever!

Our Queen is dead,
her *loving service* is over
but Your love abides forever!

We give You thanks that in the pattern of *Your* life, she shaped her life;
under *Your* sovereignty, she fashioned her reign;
in *Your* loving heart, she found wisdom and peace.

Forgive us when we didn't follow her example,
nor recognise the power of humble, Christ-like service.

Strengthen our resolve to find our home in Your heart
and to live seeking wisdom, humility and grace.

Lord, Your kingship surprises for it is found in a manger and on a cross,
and in this light all earthly monarchs may find the wisdom to rule
as Your servant, Elizabeth, did so memorably.

Enable us to imitate her ministry in the way we serve one another.

May she who reigned over us now live gloriously with You forever,
through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord – *Amen*.

