

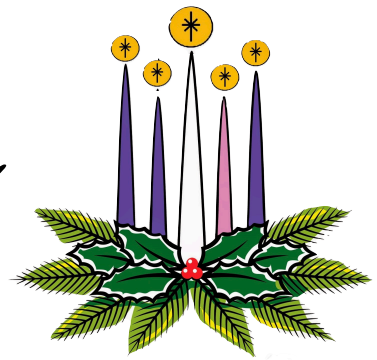
Our Current Weekend Mass Schedule for the Elk Valley is:  
 Fernie on Saturday evening 7pm,  
 Sparwood at 9am Sunday morning,  
 and Elk Valley at 4pm Sunday afternoon.  
 The Sunday Mass is broadcast via Zoom from Fernie & Sparwood.

See Christmas Weekend Schedule



24th/25th December 2022

Dear All, merry  
 Christmas



As I write this we are in the last stages of preparation for the big day. Most importantly, I have had a dry run of making the mint sauce to go with the lamb on Christmas Day (left) and it worked out very nicely. And I have bought my sprout for Christmas dinner, though it was difficult choosing which one to get (right).





Really I have nothing for this weekly e-mail, except Thumper wanted to have his picture out there at Christmas.

### Thumper's Christmas

This week I asked Thumper what he would really like for Christmas, and he said that he would like to sit in my chair – *which he is not allowed to do* – wrap himself up in my special blanket – *which he certainly is not allowed to do* – and go to sleep. I had to tell him that there was no chance that that would happen.

We agreed that he could play ball at Christmas and he seemed quite pleased – even if he doesn't really know which day is Christmas Day, but playing ball any day works for him.

### And Finally...

I know that some cold weather is heading towards the parts of the United States, and I think this week a lot of it must have passed by my front door on route (*right*). It's been cold!

Can I finish by saying a big thank you to everyone who has sent me Christmas greetings, I am very grateful for all the kindness that people have expressed.

So I do wishing you all a warm as well as a Happy and Holy Christmas, and promise you my 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 Christmas Masses

**Link to Our Christmas Masses** (*it is the same link for all three of our Masses*)

**Topic:** **Christmas “Mass during the Night”**

**Date & Time:** Saturday – 24<sup>th</sup> December – at 5pm Mountain time from Fernie  
– at 10pm Mountain time from Sparwood

**Topic:** **Christmas “Mass at Dawn”**

**Date & Time:** Sunday – 25<sup>th</sup> December – at 9am Mountain Time Sparwood

***Note: these are the only Masses that will be broadcast via Zoom.***

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.*

### **Chat:**

*Feel free to send Christmas greeting via the chat when you join our broadcast, and if you are praying for anything particular, do also share this with others.*

### **Those who are attending church in person, be careful:**

**Covid and *other viruses* are still about  
and some people still have vulnerabilities.**

On Christmas Eve in particular our churches will probably be a bit more crowded than normal, so please continue to be careful 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.***



# *Services in the Elk Valley for Christmas 2022 and New Year 2023*

## **Sacrament of Reconciliation or Confession**

*Due to the number of Christmas services we have, confession **will not** be available either before or after any of the Christmas Eve or Christmas Day services.*

### *Services for Christmas & New Year*

#### *Christmas Eve*

Fernie at 5pm\*

Elkford at 8pm

Sparwood at 10pm\*

#### *Christmas Day*

Sparwood at 9am\*

Fernie at 11am

#### *New Year's Eve (Saturday)*

Fernie at 5pm\*

#### *New Year's Day (Sunday)*

Sparwood at 9am\*

Elkford at 4pm

*\*indicates Masses broadcast via Zoom*

### *Extra notes:*

While our Christmas Eve Masses are usually well attended, our Christmas Day Masses often attract less people, so these will be a solemn but simple proclamation of the birth of Christ. Thus Christmas Eve will be a big celebration, and Christmas Day more quiet and reflective.

*On Christmas Eve* the sermon at all the Masses will be short, and we hope to have a number of Eucharistic minister's available so Communion can be distributed in a timely manor. So hopefully if we have visitors who only visit us once a year, these Masses shouldn't be too taxing!

*On Christmas morning*, we will be singing carols. There will be sheets available with carols on them, and if anyone wants a particular carol sung: Great – You lead off and we will follow!

*For New Year*, our weekend schedule will follow our normal weekend pattern.

