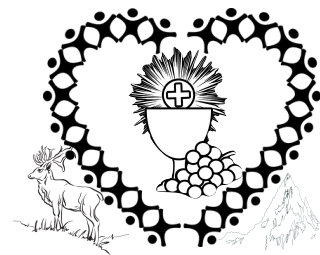


*Our Weekend Mass Schedule for the Elk Valley is:
Fernie on Saturday evening at 5pm,
Sparwood at 9am Sunday morning,
and Elkford at 4pm Sunday afternoon.*



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

27th/28th May 2023

*Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful
enkindle in them the fire of your love.*

*Send forth your Spirit
and they shall be recreated,
and You shall renew the face of the earth.*



Dear All,

Just one item this week, the letter over the page.

The Weekly e-mail is pausing for all of June!

Next Tuesday I fly off to Whitehorse for four days to meet the Catholic Women's League of the Yukon. It will be a busy few days, so I am not expecting to have time to produce a weekly e-mail for next weekend. The week after that I head off to Prince George for the CWL's Annual Provincial Convention, and this – *followed by nine days holiday* – will take me out of the parish for three weekends, so again I doubt that I will be able to produce the weekly e-mail during that time– which pretty much means that there probably won't be any weekly e-mails during June, but we will see.

Zoom Broadcasts

Similarly, for the three weekends of 11th, 18th and 25th June our Sunday Masses *won't* be broadcast via Zoom. Mass in the parish obviously continues as normal with Fr. Marian.

And Finally...

Thumper says that he is ready for the drive up to Prince George. And he is looking forward to meeting a lot of new friends during his week at the 'dogs only' hotel he is visiting just out side of Prince George.

With prayers, *Fr. David @ Thumper*





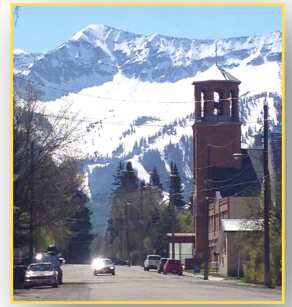
St. Michael's, Sparwood

Fr. David John

*Serving the Catholic communities of
Holy Family Parish, Fernie, St. Michael's Parish, Sparwood
& St. Bernard's Mission, Elkford.*

Tel: (250) 425-2327 (*Sparwood*) (250) 423-6127 (*Fernie*)

St. Michael's Parish, Box 167, Sparwood, B.C., V0B 2G0
Holy Family Parish, Box 519, Fernie, B.C., V0B 1M0



Holy Family, Fernie

27th May 2023

Dear Parishioners,

It is with great personal sadness that I have to announce that after the weekend of 8th/9th July Thumper and myself will be moving on to a new ministry beyond the Elk Valley. On the weekend of 15th/16th July you will be welcoming your new pastor who will come and take care of you.

The next few weeks will be for me a very busy time as I have to pack up all my stuff, and additionally, I am in Whitehorse this coming week giving a couple of talks for the Catholic Women's League and in June I will be attending the CWL's Provincial Convention in Prince George, so this – *along with nine days holiday* – will take me away from the parish for three weekends. Thus the 9th July might seem some way away but I am sure it will come all too quickly.

Immediately after leaving the parish Thumper and myself will be taking some time to do nothing! I haven't had a proper break – *where I haven't been on call to the parish* – since 2011!!! So I will really enjoy being off grid and off line for a month or so. My plans beyond that are a bit more vague as currently in my home diocese we are without a bishop, and I need the permission of my home diocese before I can make a permanent commitment to any future ministry. But I look forward to ministering quite soon in a parish either in Canada or back in Britain.

I want to thank everyone for their kindness to me. Over the last seven years we have been through a lot together – not least with Covid. Also, so many of you have been really kind in letting me be part of your lives, and for this I do have a great debt of gratitude.

Here there isn't room to mention everyone I would like to thank in the three parishes, but I am very grateful to all those who have given their time in so many different ways, whether that be through the parish councils, with the finances or in the offices; those who have put so much effort into creating our weekly liturgies; those who have cared for the spiritual wellbeing of our youngsters; those who have looked after different parish organisations; those who have been part of our on-line community, and those who have given their time quietly in the background. Also thank you to those who have financially supported the Church, we never take this for granted. And finally for those who have prayed for the Church in the Elk Valley, that is such an important ministry. Again, thank you.

With prayers,

Fr. David's Timetable for the Next Six Weeks

- Tuesday 30th May to Friday 2nd June:
Away for three days with CWL in Whitehorse
- Weekend 3rd & 4th June:
In the parish as normal.
- Weekdays Monday 5th to Wednesday 7th June:
In the parish as normal.
- Thursday 8th to Friday 30th June:
Away at CWL Provincial Convention in Prince George, followed by nine days holiday.
- Saturday 10th to Sunday 25th June:
Fr. Marian will be in the parish.
- Saturday 1st to Sunday 9th July:
In the parish as normal.
- Weekend 15th & 16th July:
First weekend for new priest.

June							July						
6							7						
2023							2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	29 May	CWL Whitehorse			1	2	3						1
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Prince George CWL Convention & Holiday							Fr. David Leaves New Priest Arrives						
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
							30	31					

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



Zoom Link – To Eastertide Sunday Masses

Link to Our weekend Masses (*it is the same link for both of our broadcast Masses*)

Topic: **Feast of Pentecost**

Date & Time: Saturday – 27th May – at 5pm Mountain time from Fernie

Sunday – 28th May – at 9am Mountain Time from Sparwood

To get the link to watch our two weekend Masses via Zoom 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.

Chat:

Feel free to send greetings 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 is still very much about

– also other viruses are about –

so please still be respectful of other people's space.

Some people might have vulnerabilities that we don't know about, and with a number of viruses going around, please continue to be careful, and please don't breathe over people. If someone at Mass wants a bit of space, we have a lot of it in our churches, so please be respectful.

Everyone still needs to be careful.

