

WELCOME TO THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISHES OF THE ELK VALLEY

Holy Family Parish

St. Michaels's Parish

St. Bernard's Mission

521 4th Avenue

Fernie, BC

Mailing Address:

PO Box 519, V0B 1M0

Parish Office: 250-423-6127

Pastor Office: 250-425-6444

Email: fernie@nelsondiocese.org

Website:

<https://holyfamilyfernie.ca>

129 Centennial Square

Sparwood, BC

Mailing Address:

PO Box 167, V0B 2G0

Parish Office: 250-425-2327

Pastor Office: 250-425-6444

Email: sparwood@nelsondiocese.org

Website:

<https://stmichaelssparwood.org>

800 Natal Road

Elkford, BC

Mailing Address:

PO Box 167, V0B 2G0

C/O St. Michaels Parish

Parish Office: 250-865-2711

Website:

<https://stmichaelssparwood.org>

Mass Services for the Elk Valley

Pastor: Father Thomas Kakkaniyil

HOLY FAMILY PARISH

Saturday - 5:00 PM

Starting on Nov 29th

Wednesday - 12:00 Noon

ROCKY MOUNTAIN
VILLAGE - FERNIE

Wednesday 11:00 AM

ST. BERNARD'S MISSION

Sunday - 1:00 PM

ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH

Sunday - 11:00 AM

Monday - 9:30 AM

Tuesday - 7:00 PM

Thursday - 9:30 AM

LILAC TERRACE - SPARWOOD
11:00 AM

The Holy

Rosary is prayed 30 minutes
before Mass.Confessions 30 minutes before
Mass or by appointment

PASTOR'S MESSAGE. NOVEMBER 19, 2023

Dear Friends,

Importance of Holy Mass and reception of Holy Communion in our lives

The month November reminds us of our dear and near departed ones who were once very close to us. We celebrate all saint's day as well as all souls day on November 1 and 2. If you believe in the power of Holy Mass, try to offer it for your departed dear ones, if possible.

I try to offer Holy Mass intentions for the members of the parishes for their important days as: marriage anniversaries, birthdays either of the dead or of the alive which is the biggest gift we can offer to them. It is more valuable than thousands of dollars in our bank accounts for our lives, for our security and services.

God's blessings

Fr. Thomas Kakkaniyil, Pastor of Elk-valley parishes

1. Holy Family Parish, Fernie will have Holy Mass on all Wednesdays at 12 noon from November 29, Wednesday.

2. I am thankful to all of you who are responding positively to my request of special donation towards the Pilgrimage Faith Appel. The Parish of Fernie has to go a long way to reach their goal and save tax free money. Congratulations to members of Sparwood and Elkford parishes who are receiving back money from the pilgrimage of Faith. Remember, every dollar we collect above the diocesan goal is returned to the parish tax free.

3. Both parishes of Holy Family Fernie, Saint Michael Sparwood and St. Bernard Elkford have already started the catechism classes. If you are looking for one in your parish for your children, please contact the office and send your children to the catechism classes.

4. Synodal church is the church which is able to accommodate everyone with any differences of mind sets to the main community of the church as Jesus was able to accommodate every one of the society. Winds of change are blowing in the Church. The journey ahead is a mission! For the breath of the Lord's Spirit to be truly upon us there are several important things which must be done immediately, individually, and collectively.

These include:

- To read, pray over, reflect/study, to write/speak/ preach about the Synodal document; to discuss it in our communities/parishes /institutions; to organise Seminars/workshops on it; to popularise it.
- To have the openness and the willingness to internalise and actualise the document at every level; it should NOT be just another document.
- To ensure that there is dialogue and discernment before arriving at decisions; listening to each other is fundamental for a meaningful synodal process.
- To make our parish/diocesan councils, communities and congregations, institutions, and initiatives, participative in attitude and actions, where collegiality is paramount.
- To address the relevant issues and see how best the proposals can be implemented.
- To enhance the role of the laity (particularly women) in all decision-making processes
- To look for practical ways of addressing clericalism and patriarchy and how best transparency and accountability can be mainstreamed in Church governance.

On 19 March 2022 (Feast of St Joseph) the ninth anniversary of the formal inauguration of his pontificate, Pope Francis published Praedicate Evangelium (Preach the Gospel), his new constitution for the structure of the Roman Curia. It was a reform that was promised at the beginning of his pontificate. The Synodal journey and particularly the document which has emerged after the first phase of the Synod of Bishops is Pope Francis' commitment (like that of his predecessor Pope John XXIII to allow the winds of change to blow into the Church). Pope Francis made this very clear when, presiding at the concluding Eucharist of the Synod on 29 October, he said in his homily, "Brothers and sisters, the General Assembly of the Synod has now concluded. *Continue next page.*

In this ‘conversation of the Spirit,’ we have experienced the loving presence of the Lord and discovered the beauty of fraternity. We have listened to one another and above all, in the rich variety of our backgrounds and concerns, we have listened to the Holy Spirit. Today we do not see the full fruit of this process, but with farsightedness we look to the horizon opening up before us. The Lord will guide us and help us to be a more synodal and missionary Church, a Church that adores God and serves the women and men of our time, going forth to bring to everyone the consoling joy of the Gospel. Brothers and sisters, I thank you for all that you have done during the Synod and for all you continue to do. Thank you for the journey we have made together, for your listening and your dialogue. In expressing my gratitude, I would also like to offer a prayer for all of us: may we grow in our worship of God and in our service to our neighbour. To adore and to serve. May the Lord accompany us. Let us go forward with joy!” The ball is now in the court of each one of us: the answer is not blowing in the wind; it is living in the hearts and lives of all women and men of goodwill. In each one of us! The winds of change are blowing, and we pray on our knees, Fill the Earth, Bring It to Birth, And Blow, Where You Will. Blow, Blow, Blow till I Be, The Breath of The Spirit, Blowing in Me. Article from Fr. Cedric Prakash is a human right, reconciliation & peace activist/writer. Contact: cedricprakash@gmail.com

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

November 18 – 24

Saturday	November 18	Mass at 5:00 PM	Intention for Repose of the Soul of Steve Domin Requested by: Mike Delich
Sunday	November 19	Mass at 11:00 AM	Intention for Repose of the Soul of Peggy Marasco Requested by: Rosa & Santo Rocca
Sunday	November 19	Mass at 1:00 PM	Intention for Ephraim May
Monday	November 20	Mass at 9:30 AM	Intention for Health and Wellness: Janet Zielinski Requested by: Zielinski Family
Tuesday	November 21	Mass at 7:00 PM	Intention for Health and Wellness: Arin Martins Requested by: Paula & Joe Martins
Wednesday	November 22	Mass at 11:00 AM at Rocky Mountain Village	Intention for Repose of the Soul of Helen Bachlet
Thursday	November 23	Mass at 9:30 AM	Intention for Health and Wellness: Diane Seize Requested by: St. Michael’s Prayer Warriors
Friday	November 24	Mass at 11:00 AM at Lilac Terrace	Intention for Repose of the Soul of David Small Requested by: Zielinski Family

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank You

The forty parishioners who gathered for the Potluck enjoyed a good meal, conversation and got to know each other better. Father Thomas was the Guest of Honor! Father comes from the state of Kerala, India which is often considered the most beautiful region of India with its palm lined beaches, Ghats Mountain ranges, coffee, tea, and spice plantations. Father enjoys fishing, walking, and reading. History is Father’s favourite genre. Father has enjoyed all his pastoral assignments in Canada. Father says,

“I see people as being good. Having this attitude, it is returned to me!” Sam Caravetta who is ninety-one, was Baptized in Holy Family Church and has been the longest practicing parishioner. The Hills from Penticton are Holy Family’s newest members. The couple are delighted to be close to their grand children who live in Sparwood. The Hills, Pat Moore and Sam won the door prizes which were pumpkin pies.

Proposed Christmas Masses for Sunday, Christmas, and new year schedule

Dear Friends,

This year we will have to follow the last year's schedule for Christmas and New year masses in all the three parishes as it is an important feast for all the three churches. Not only that, I need some volunteers to drive me to Fernie and Elkford as I am a little scared of driving because of the accident. The probable time that I am considering accommodating every parish:

Advent and Reconciliation **Fernie**, Wednesday, Dec 20 at 12:00 Noon

Fernie	Saturday, December 23 at 5:00 PM			
	Christmas Eve Sunday, Dec 24 5:00 PM	Christmas Day Monday, Dec 25 5:00 PM	New Year's Eve. Sunday, Dec 31 5:00 PM	New Years Day. Monday, Jan 1 5:00 PM
	Saturday, December 30 at 5:00 PM			

Advent and Reconciliation **Sparwood**, Wednesday, Dec 20 at 7:00 PM

Sparwood	Christmas Eve Sunday, Dec 24	Christmas Day Monday, Dec 25	New Year's Eve Dec 31	New Years Day. Jan 1
	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM

Elkford	Christmas Eve Sunday Dec 24	Christmas Day Monday 25	New Year's Eve Dec 31	New Years Day. Jan 1
	11:00 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM

Thank you for your understanding.

Fr. Thomas

Fernie Catholic Women's League Presents the 5th ANNUAL

Italian Christmas Bake Sale

Scalilli \$20 per plate Pizzelle

Taking orders until last week of November
 Options are email orders and etransfer which can be made to: cwlholyfamilyferniebc@gmail.com
 or cash upon pick-up at Fernie Family Centre 521-4th Avenue
 call 250-423-6127 for phone orders

FINANCE REPORT

Contributions for the week of Nov 4, 2023

Actual: \$484.17.00
 Budget: \$1,000.00
 Variance: (-\$515.83)

Total Contributions YTD
 \$46,285.44

Pilgrimage of Faith
 As of October 31, 2023
 Goal: \$21,650.00
 Received: \$12,756.37

Needed to reach goal: (\$8,893.63)

e-Transfer for Holy Family
etranfer.hfpcfernie@nelsondiocese.org

All your donations are greatly appreciated. There are other methods to use for donation including e-Transfer and SAG (Stewardship (Pre) Authorized Giving. Enquire at the office for more information.
 Thank you for your kindness.

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

November 18, 2023

Liturgical Reader Mike Delich	Sacristan Lucrecia Lynch
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November 25, 2023

Liturgical Reader Anne Majic	Sacristan Volunteer
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Church Cleaners

November 13 – November 27

Lina Campisi and Maria Scarpelli

Our churches are open to those without any viral symstoms.

But Covid is still a real threat - Thus caution is needed!