

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 25, 2023

Dear Friends,

Services in the Elk Valley for Christmas and New year 2023.

Sacrament of Reconciliation or Confession.

As advent is an important feast for us Christians, we need to spiritually prepare ourselves for the coming of our Lord in our lives. To help you in receiving Jesus with a clean heart, we will have Reconciliation services in all the two parishes of Fernie as well as Sparwood. There will be the service of an extra priest if you need a change.

Day and Time: Wednesday, December 20 at 12 noon Holy Mass and 12: 30 pm Confessions for Holy Family, Fernie church and there after we will have holy Mass. In Sparwood there will be a reconciliation service at 7 pm. On any other day, you are welcome to have confession just 30 minutes before Holy Mass.

Sunday services: December 23, Saturday at 5 pm in Fernie.

December 24, Sunday at 9 am in Sparwood.

December 24, Sunday at 11 am in Elkford.

Christmas Eve Celebrations:

December 24, Sunday, Fernie at 5 PM

December 24, Sparwood at 9 pm

Christmas Day Celebrations:

December 25, Monday, Sparwood at 9.30 am.

December 25, Monday, Elkford at 11am

December 25, Monday, Fernie at 5 pm

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. Both parishes of Holy Family and Saint Michael have already started the catechism classes. If you are looking for your children to have catechism, please contact the office and send your children to the catechism classes.

3. There will be a training and installation of Extra Ordinary Eucharistic ministers, Lectors, Altar servers, Ushers, and musicians for a period of five years.

Anyone interested to render their services in these positions may please attend this training session for an hour.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE. NOVEMBER 25, 2023

Holy Family Church Fernie, on November 29 at 12.30 pm
Holy Family Church Fernie on December 2 at 3 pm

St. Michael's Church Sparwood on December 5 Tuesday at 6 pm

St. Bernard's Church, Elkford on December 3, Sunday at 2pm.

4. Since there is much workload on both Parish secretary and Bookkeeper, Marina Zelensky will take care of the bookkeeping of all the three parishes and Lucricia will take care of the bulletins for all the three parishes. In bulletins, we will try to keep Just the parish news of all the three parishes. You are free to search in Google for any further world news and liturgical news. This will help us to have a unified bulletin for all the Elk valley parishes.

Intervention of Pope Francis at the 18th General Congregation of the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops

I like to think of the Church as God's faithful people, saint and sinner, a people convoked and called with the force of the beatitudes and of Matthew 25.

Jesus, for His Church, did not take up any of the political schemes of his time: not the Pharisees, nor Sadducees, nor Essenes, nor Zealots. No "closed corporation"; He simply takes up the tradition of Israel: "You shall be My people and I will be your God".

I like to think of the Church as this simple and humble people who walk in the presence of the Lord (the faithful people of God). This is the religious meaning of our faithful people. And I say faithful people so as not to fall into the many ideological approaches and schemes with which the reality of the people of God is "reduced". Simply faithful people, or also, "God's holy faithful people" on the way, saint and sinner. And this is the Church.

One of the characteristics of this faithful people is its infallibility; yes, it is infallible in credendo ("In credendo falli nequit", says LG 12) Infallible in believing. And I explain it like this: "When you want to know what Holy Mother Church believes, go to the Magisterium, because it is in charge of teaching it to you; but when you want to know how the Church believes, go to the faithful people".

An image comes to mind: the faithful people gathered at the entrance of the Cathedral of Ephesus. The story (or legend) goes that the people stood on both sides of the road to the Cathedral as the Bishops in procession made their entrance, and in chorus they repeated: "Mother of God", asking the Hierarchy to declare that dogma to be true which they already possessed as

PASTOR'S MESSAGE. NOVEMBER 25, 2023

the people of God. (Some say that they held clubs in their hands and showed them to the bishops). I don't know if it is history or legend, but the image is valid.

The faithful people, the holy faithful people of God, have a soul, and because we can speak of the soul of a people we can speak of a hermeneutic, of a way of seeing reality, of a conscience. Our faithful people are conscious of their dignity, they baptize their children, they bury their dead.

We members of the Hierarchy come from that people, and we have received the faith of that people, generally from our mothers and grandmothers, "your mother and grandmother" Paul tells Timothy, a faith handed down in a feminine dialect, like the mother of the Maccabees who spoke "in dialect" to her children. And here I like to underline that, among God's holy and faithful people, the faith is transmitted in dialect, and usually in the feminine dialect. This is not only because the Church is Mother and it is precisely women who best reflect her; (the Church is woman) but also because it is women who know how to wait, who know how to discover the resources of the Church, of the faithful people, who risk beyond the limit, perhaps with fear but courageous, and in the light and shade of a day that is beginning, they approach a tomb with the intuition (not yet hope) that there may be some life.

The woman of God's holy and faithful people is a reflection of the Church. The Church is feminine, she is a wife, she is a mother.

When ministers go too far in their service and mistreat the people of God, they disfigure the face of the Church with macho and dictatorial attitudes (it is enough to recall the intervention of Sr. Lilibian Franco). It is painful to find in some parish offices the "price list" of sacramental services in the manner of a supermarket. Either the Church is the faithful people of God on the way, saint and sinner, or it ends up being a company of various services. And when pastoral workers take this second path, the Church becomes the supermarket of salvation and the priests' mere employees of a multinational corporation. This is the great defeat to which clericalism leads us. And this is very sad and scandalous (it is enough to go to ecclesiastical tailor's shops in Rome to see the scandal of young priests trying on cassocks and hats or albs and lace-covered robes).

Clericalism is a whip, it is a scourge, it is a form of worldliness that defiles and damages the face of the Lord's bride; it enslaves God's holy and faithful people.

And God's people, God's holy faithful people, go forward with patience and humility, enduring the scorn, mistreatment, and marginalization of institutionalized clericalism. And how naturally we

speak of the princes of the Church, or of episcopal promotions as career advancement! The horrors of the world, the worldliness that mistreats God's holy and faithful people. **Pope Francis**

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

November 25 – December 1

Saturday	November 25	Mass at 5:00 PM	Intention for Repose of the Soul of Helen Bachlet
Sunday	November 26	Mass at 11:00 AM	Intention for Repose of the Soul of Peter Zielinski Requested by: Zielinski Family
Sunday	November 26	Mass at 1:00 PM	Intention for Elk Valley Parishes
Monday	November 27	Mass at 9:30 AM	Intention for Marina Zielinski
Tuesday	November 28	Mass at 7:00 PM	Intention for Health and Wellness: Arin Martins Requested by: Paula & Joe Martins
Wednesday	November 29	Mass at 11:00 AM at Rocky Mountain Village	Intention for Repose of the Soul of Helen Bachlet
Wednesday	November 29	Mass at 12:00 PM at Holy Family Parish	Intention for M.S.T
Thursday	November 30	Mass at 9:30 AM	Intention for M.S.T
Friday	December 1	Mass at 11:00 AM at Lilac Terrace	Intention for M.S.T

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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: cwlholyfamilyferniefc@gmail.com
or cash upon pick-up at Fernie Family Centre 521-4th Avenue
call 250-423-6127 for phone orders

Baked Items will be available for pick up the first week of December.

FINANCE REPORT

Contributions for the week of Nov 11,
2023

Actual: \$600.62
 Budget: \$1,000.00
 Variance: (-\$399.38)

Total Contributions YTD
 \$48,517.01

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.hfpfernie@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 25, 2023

Liturgical Reader
 Anne Majic

Sacristan
 Volunteer

December 2, 2023

Liturgical Reader
 Angelika Pace

Sacristan
 Lucrecia Lynch

Church Cleaners

November 27 – December 11

Regina Vinge & Grace Hughes

Our churches are open to those **without** any viral symstoms.

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