

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. DECEMBER 3, 2023

1st Sunday of Advent:

In the quiet anticipation of Christmas, a time of profound spiritual reflection and preparation unfolds within the Christian calendar. For many, it is a time marked by the lighting of candles, the joy of cherished traditions, and the vibrant chords of carols that herald the birth of a child in Bethlehem. This sacred season is known as Advent, a word that itself holds the promise of something extraordinary yet to come. But what is Advent, and why is it so significant in the lives of millions of Christians worldwide?

The Advent season is a four-week period before Christmas that celebrates the anticipation and coming of Jesus Christ, the Messiah. The origin of "advent" is from the Latin word *adventus*, which simply translates as "coming" or "arrival." Not only is the Christian meaning for preparing and celebrating the coming of Jesus Christ, his birth at Christmas, but also to celebrate the new life when someone accepts Jesus Christ as their Saviour, and lastly, the anticipation of Jesus returning again.

There are beautiful and rich traditions behind the celebration of Advent. Let's take a deeper look at the focus and themes of each week of Advent, and some of the traditions celebrated worldwide during the Advent season. May you find time to slow down this Christmas season, say "no" to the things that distract you from Jesus, and say "yes" to the gift that God wants you to experience.

The four candles of Advent represent the four Sundays of Advent, and they respectively symbolize hope, peace, joy, and love. (Extracts from internet).

THE CATHOLIC MOUNTAIN STAR

Please visit nelsondiocese.org or use the following link for the latest online edition.

<https://22.files.edl.io/c854/08/18/23/173826-6780f2a7-79d5-451e-8de7-a6a899eb7af1.pdf>

God's blessings

Fr. Thomas Kakkaniyil, Pastor of Elk-valley parishes

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

December 2 – 8

Saturday December 2	Mass at 5:00 PM	Intention for Repose of the Soul of Federick Gautreau
Sunday December 3	Mass at 11:00 AM	Intention for Health and Wellness: Delfina Figueira Requested by: Manda & John Hill
Sunday December 3	Mass at 1:00 PM	Intention for Elk Valley Parishes
Monday December 4	Mass at 9:30 AM	Intention for Repose of the Soul of Peggy Marasco Requested by: Jeannette & Tony Marasco
Tuesday December 5	Mass at 7:00 PM	Intention for Health and Wellness: Arin Martins Requested by: Paula & Joe Martins
Wednesday December 6	Mass at 11:00 AM at Rocky Mountain Village	Intention for Repose of the Soul of Helen Bachle
Wednesday December 6	Mass at 12:00 PM at Holy Family Parish	Intention for M.S.T
Thursday December 7	Mass at 7:00 PM	Intention for Repose of the Soul of Sharon Marasco Requested by: Jeannette & Tony Marasco
Friday December 8	Mass at 11:00 AM at Lilac Terrace	Intention for Repose of the Soul of Ellis Tunjic Requested by: Manda & John Hill

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

Fernie

Wednesday, December 20 at 12 noon Holy Mass

12: 30 pm Confessions for Holy Family, Fernie church and there after we will have holy Mass.

Sparwood

Reconciliation service Wednesday, December 20 at 7 pm. On any other day, you are welcome to have confession just 30 minutes before Holy Mass.

Services in the Elk Valley for Christmas and New Year 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



Sunday Celebrations: Feast of Holy Family

December 30, Saturday Holy Mass in Fernie at 5 pm

December 31, Sunday, Holy Mass in Sparwood at 9am

December 31, Sunday, Holy Mass in Elkford and 11 am

Feast of Holy Mary, Mother of God

December 31, Holy Family, Holy Mass at 5 pm

January 1, Sparwood at 9 am

January 1, Elkford at 11 am

January 1, Fernie at 5 pm

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. Sign-up sheet in the main entrance of the church for the next training session in Fernie. Please sign up.

Saturday, December 2nd, 2023, at 3:00 PM in Fernie

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

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

FINANCE REPORT

Contributions for the week of Nov 18,
2023

Actual: \$1,074.07
Budget: \$1,000.00
Variance: (+\$74.07)

Total Contributions YTD
\$48,669.51

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

December 2, 2023

Liturgical Reader
Anjelika 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!**