

Welcome to the Roman Catholic Parish of the Elk Valley



HOLY FAMILY PARISH FERNIE, BC

521 4th Avenue

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>

Mass Services

Saturday - 5:00 PM

Wednesday 12:00 Noon

Except Dec 27, 2023

ROCKY MOUNTAIN VILLAGE

Wednesday 11:00 AM

Until Dec 20, 2023

Resume January 11, 2023

ST. MICHAELS'S PARISH SPARWOOD, BC

129 Centennial Square

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>

Mass Services

Sunday - 11:00 AM

Monday - 9:30 AM

Tuesday - 7:00 PM

Thursday - 9:30 AM

LILAC TERRACE

11:00 AM

The Holy

Rosary is prayed 30 minutes before Mass.

Confessions 30 minutes before Mass or by appointment.

ST. BERNARD'S MISSION ELKFORD, BC

800 Natal Road

Mailing Address:

PO Box 167, V0B 2G0

C/O St. Michaels Parish

Parish Office: 250-865-2711

Website: <https://stmichaelssparwood.org>

Mass Service

Sunday - 1:00 PM

Pastor: Fr. Thomas
Kakkaniyil

Fernie Office Hours
Wednesdays to Fridays

9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Bookkeeper

Tuesdays 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Pastor's Message December 17, 2023

1. As I have already brought to your attention, I would like to celebrate Holy Mass primarily for the Intentions of my parishioners when they are listed in the Bulletin. To list your Holy Mass in the Bulletin, please contact the parish office. Remember, Every Holy Mass celebrated for a prepaid Mass Intention and the benefits are used for the formation of future priests as well as priest's retirement benefits.
2. Please use official email address for the Elk Valley elkvalley.pastor@nelsondiocese.org
3. Super emergency call (250) 498 7843
4. **As we approach *Gaudete* Sunday, I am pleased to inform you that video 3 of the series titled "Journey through Advent" is now available on the CCCB website:**

<https://www.cccb.ca/oec/journey-through-advent/>

Fr. Thomas Kakkaniyil
Pastor of the Elk Valley Parishes



The training and installation of Extra Ordinary Eucharistic ministers, Lectors, Altar servers, Ushers, and musicians for a period of three years is an essential credential to continue your Voluntary service at least by March 2024.

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

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.

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

DECEMBER 16 - 22

Saturday December 16	Mass at 5:00 PM	Intention for Health and Wellness: Chris Johnson Requested by: Warren & Heather Johnson
Sunday December 17	Mass at 11:00 AM	Intention for Repose of the Soul of Crispina Landeros Requested by: Myriam Lopez Landeros
Sunday December 17	Mass at 1:00 PM	Intention for Health and Wellness: Chris Johnson Requested by: Warren & Heather Johnson
Monday December 18	Mass at 9:30 AM	Intention for Repose of the Souls of the Knorr Family Requested by: Jeannette & Tony Marasco
Tuesday December 19	Mass at 7:00 PM	Intention for Health and Wellness: Arin Martins Requested by: Paula & Joe Martins
Wednesday December 20	Mass at 11:00 AM at Rocky Mountain Village	Intention for Repose of the Soul of Helen Bachlet
Wednesday December 20	Mass at 12:00 PM at Holy Family Parish	Intention for Elk Valley Parishes
Thursday December 21	Mass at 9:30 AM	Intention for Health and Wellness: Ante Jukic Requested by: Manda & John Hill
Friday December 22	Mass at 11:00 AM at Lilac Terrace	Intention for Repose of the Soul of Ellis Tunjic Requested by: Manda & John Hill

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

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. [Reconciliation for children Dec 18 at 3:30 PM](#)



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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas Children Choir Practice

All the children are invited to join the Christmas choir practices.

Mondays
Time: 3:30 PM



FINANCE REPORT

Actual: \$1,411.42
Budget: \$1,000.00
Variance: (+\$411.42)

Total Contributions YTD
\$50,298.91

Pilgrimage of Faith
As of November 30, 2023.

Goal: \$21,650.00
Received: \$14,286.67

Needed to reach goal: (\$7,363.33)

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 16, 2023

Liturgical Reader
Theresa Cole-Smith

Sacristan
Lucrecia Lynch

Church Cleaners

December 11 – December 25

R. Rino, A. Harrison, and E. Hutchinson



Blessed Advent from Jerusalem

Advent is the beginning of the new liturgical year lasting four Sundays and ending on Christmas. It is a time to prepare our hearts anew for the coming of the birth of Christ. Christ was born in Bethlehem over 2000 years ago as a sign of his saving love for each of us. Celebrating his birthday each year gives us the chance to experience the power of his love and presence in our hearts so his love and life may be the model and inspiration for our own.

This prayer of Renee Swope, "The Manger of My Heart," expresses this mystery:

This Advent, Lord, come to the manger of my heart.

Fill me with Your presence from the very start.

As I prepare for the holidays and gifts to be given,

Remind me of the gift You gave when You sent Your Son from Heaven.

The first Christmas gift, it was the greatest gift ever.

You came as a baby born in a manger.

Wrapped like the gifts I find under my tree,

Waiting to be opened, to reveal Your love to me.

Restore to me the wonder that came with Jesus' birth,

When He left the riches of Heaven and wrapped Himself in rags of earth.

Immanuel, God with us, your presence came that night.

And angels announced, "Into your darkness, God brings His Light."

"Do not be afraid," they said to shepherds in the field.

Speak to my heart today, Lord, and help me to yield.

This is a beautiful prayer, but perhaps like me, many of you are wondering where is his light? In so many places around the world, and especially now in the Holy Land, the stories reveal more darkness than light. Faced with such tragedy and suffering, with no end in sight, it is easy to let the darkness seep into our hearts and to doubt God's presence. Yet, this Advent season needs to remind us that the reality of sin, evil and suffering can wake us up to trust more strongly what we know is true in our hearts. Love conquers all.

December 7th, 2023 - Notre Dame of Jerusalem Centre

By Fr. David Steffy, L.C., Chargé of the Holy See