

# Welcome to the Roman Catholic Parish of the Elk Valley



## HOLY FAMILY PARISH FERNIE, BC

521 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue

Mailing Address:

PO Box 519, V0B 1M0

Parish Office: 250-423-6127

Pastor Office: 250-425-6444

Email: [fernie@nelsondiocese.org](mailto:fernie@nelsondiocese.org)

Website:

<https://holyfamilyfernie.ca>

## 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](mailto:sparwood@nelsondiocese.org)

Website: <https://stmichaelssparwood.org>

## 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 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

## 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.

## Mass Service

Sunday - 1:00 PM

Pastor: Fr. Thomas Kakkaniyil

[elkvalley.pastor@nelsondiocese.org](mailto:elkvalley.pastor@nelsondiocese.org)

## 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 24, 2023**

Advent has a twofold character: as a season to prepare for Christmas when Christ's first coming to us is remembered and as a season when that remembrance directs the mind and heart to await Christ's second coming at the end of time. Advent is thus a period for devout and joyful expectation. While not strictly a penitential season, the celebration of the Sacrament of Penance as it means to deepen conversion in us to receive both comings of Christ is advantageous for us, the Faithful. We are reminded too of our Lord's coming to each one of us at the hour of our death. We must be prepared for his coming, as the gospel tells us: "Blessed are those servants who are found awake when the Lord comes." This service of penance is meant to make us ready in mind and in heart for the coming of Christ, which we are soon to celebrate in the Solemnity of Christmas.

Lord our God, on the first day of creation, made the light that scatters all darkness. Let Christ, the light of lights, hidden from all eternity, shine at last on your people and free us from the darkness of sin. Fill our lives with good works as we go out to meet infant Jesus in our manger, so that we may give him a fitting welcome. Christmas is that day when we are in light. It is called the celebrations of Light and joy with much of hope expectation of our salvation. Merry Christmas to all of you!

As we approach both the fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas, **video 4** of the series titled "Journey through Advent" is now available on the CCCB website: in English: <https://www.cccb.ca/oec/journey-through-advent/>

Super emergency call (250) 498 7843

*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 23 - 29**

Saturday December 23	Mass at 5:00 PM	Intention for Repose of the Soul of Filomena Pallone Requested by John P
Sunday December 24	Mass at 9:00 AM	Intention for Repose of the Soul of Lena Tracey Requested by: Diane Seize
Sunday December 24	Mass at 11:00 AM	Intention for Elk Valley Parishes
Tuesday December 26	Mass at 7:00 PM	Intention for Health and Wellness: Arin Martins Requested by: Paula & Joe Martins
Thursday December 28	Mass at 9:30 AM	Intention for Marina Zielinski
Friday December 29	Mass at 11:00 AM at Lilac Terrace	Intention for M.S.T

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



### **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 Choir including children rehearsal.**

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



Sunday, December 24

Time: 11:00 AM

FINANCE REPORT

Contributions for the week of Nov 9, 2023

Actual: \$956.32  
 Budget: \$1,000.00  
 Variance: (-\$43.68)

Total Contributions YTD  
 \$52,436.14

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](mailto: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 23, 2023

Liturgical Reader  
 Colin Lynch

Sacristan  
 Lucrecia Lynch

Church Cleaners

December 25 – January 8

Angelika Pace & Sue Marcellus

**No Masses**

**Rocky Mountain Village**

Wednesday, Dec 27, 2023

Wednesday, Jan 3, 2024

Wednesday, Jan 10, 2024

**Holy Family**

Wednesday, Dec 27, 2023

Wednesday, Jan 3, 2024



## With the intention to achieve our donation goals

Holy Family Church is happy to share the QR know as Quick Respond Code  
This allows us to collect donations paperless and contactless.



### Instructions:

- Please find the displayed QR around inside the church in pews
- Use the camera in your electronic device.
- It would read the code and prompt you to follow instructions to complete the donation.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Holy Family



### Office of the Bishop

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Christmas 2023

*"They set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy." (Matthew 2.9-12)*

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Every Christmas, we read about the star that led the three Wise Men to Jesus. In times past and even today, stars serve as beacons to guide people on their way.

In a world where it is becoming more and more difficult to navigate, we need to remember that we have Jesus, "The Star" God sent us, to help guide and steer us on our life journey.

May Jesus, our "Star," shine brightly in your hearts and in your lives, not only to guide you, but also so that you too will be stars for others, especially those who have lost their way.

Merry Christmas everyone!

✠ Gregory J Bittman  
Bishop of Nelson