

# Fr. David John

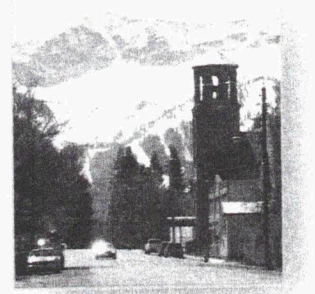
*Serving the Catholic communities of  
Holy Family Parish, Fernie, St. Michael's Parish, Sparwood  
& St. Bernard's Mission, Elkford.*

Tel: (250) 425-2327 (Sparwood) (250) 423-6127 (Fernie)

Holy Family Parish, Box 519, Fernie, B.C., V0B 1M0



*St. Michael's, Sparwood*



*Holy Family, Fernie*

December 2021

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

## **Fernie 2022 Pilgrimage of Faith Appeal**

To all of you who have in the past supported the Pilgrimage of Faith Appeal I want to say a big thank you. As I say this I am conscious that a good number of people have also been *very* generous by supporting the restoration of parts of our beautiful church over the last few years, and I also want to acknowledge the regular giving that is made by local parishioners, by our 'out of town' parishioners who regularly join us, and by others who visit less often. As always, thank you.

I started by mentioning not only the Pilgrimage of Faith but also our other fund raising efforts because I am aware that the generosity of people like yourself has done an absolutely marvellous job in protecting our church for future generations. I do hope that all those who have been so kind in their financial offerings will be able to look at the Holy Family Church and be really proud. This last year has not been easy for us as a faith community in many ways, and at times like this I really hope that seeing our building – *and the faith in the love of God that it represents* – will keep us strong and together.

When I look at the church I always think of the many Italians and many others who, more than a century ago, despite being in a strange land, despite often living in very poor conditions themselves and despite having so little money, set themselves about building our magnificent church. And, of course, the very many people, *both living and dead*, who have since then continued to treasure our building as a House of God.

Hopefully we are over the worst in terms of work needed on the church; but at some point we will have to turn our focus to the Fernie Family Centre! I just love seeing all the young families – *the kids and their Mums and Dads* – going in and out of the building all day. I am sure that in a different way – *but still and important way* – this building is a sign to the community of the Catholic history and presence in Fernie.

Because of Covid, this last year has been difficult in terms of keeping income up and expenses down, but we have constantly worked on this. And I know for many of our parishioners this last year has also been difficult in lots of ways. My hope is that, perhaps because of some of the hard times that Covid has brought, many people who live in or around Fernie will spend more time looking at the pattern of their lives and the path ahead and recognise a greater yearning for 'the other'. As a parish we want to be ready to respond to this and to be there with the Good News of God's love.

All this is a long winded way of saying that I really do hope that you will stay with us and help us as a parish with the opportunities that lie ahead.

But Holy Family Parish does not exist in isolation, it is part of the Diocese of Nelson, and through the diocese, part of the Universal Church. So it is important that we are also attentive in our support of some of the special functions of the Church that the diocese does in our name. The attached leaflet gives information about many areas of work and activities that the Pilgrimage of Faith Appeal funds within the diocese. Can I ask you to be generous in supporting this appeal.

In 2021 with Covid and with a lot of fundraising for the church building, we didn't reach the Pilgrimage of Faith goal, so no money came back to the parish. If in 2022 we *do* reach our goal, any money raised above and beyond our goal will come back to the parish and be used on specific projects that we are undertaking.

As I write this at the end of 2021, my *hope* is that 2022 will be a year when we will be able to feel a bit more comfortable when we gather and be more able to come together for social as well as spiritual events. Having said that, my *fear* is that there are further challenges ahead in terms of dealing with the pandemic, but we must hope that we, at the very least, will learn to live with this new situation.

With this in mind, I do hope that you have managed to maintain a certain rhythm of prayer in your daily life. During the year in Fernie it has been good that so many have felt comfortable coming back into the church for Mass, and I am pleased that a good number still regularly join us on-line. But at the same time I am also aware that we don't see a number of people who before the pandemic were regularly with us. Obviously things keep changing, but if you would like any help getting back into a routine of receiving Communion, please let us know and we will see what can be done.

So once again, can I thank you for your great generosity in the past to both the Pilgrimage of Faith and to the Parish, and ask you to continue to join with the other parishioners in again giving good support to this year's Pilgrimage of Faith Appeal.

With thanks,

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Fr. David". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Fr. David John.



# Our Pilgrimage of Faith Appeal

3665 Benvoulin Rd., Kelowna, BC V1W 4M7

*"The joy of the Gospel is for all people: no one can be excluded."*

*The Joy of the Gospel, 23, Pope Francis*

February 8, 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings and Peace in the Lord! As we begin a New Year, I am grateful for all the blessings and graces God has provided to the Diocese this past year, including your very generous support of the Pilgrimage of Faith Appeal. Times have not been easy over these many months of the pandemic, but your generosity remains undiminished.

Thanks to your financial assistance, we have been able provide numerous opportunities for people to come to know Jesus and His message of life and hope through Parish Catholic Christian Outreach, our Faith Formation Office, the Permanent Diaconate, our Catholic Schools and many other ways. In each and every way, we are continuing the work of those first Apostles, who were given the mission: *"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations."* (Matthew 28.19)

Please consider supporting the Appeal this year with a financial gift. Your donation not only helps your parish reach its goal, but can also provide funds to meet your local needs if your parish surpasses its Pilgrimage of Faith goal.

Like the Apostles, who faced my hurdles in their ministry, we must continue to proclaim the Gospel and bring others to Jesus. Your gift will make that happen.

Thank you in advance for your support.

God bless!

✠ Gregory J Bittman  
Bishop of Nelson



Our Pilgrimage of Faith Appeal  
3665 Benvoulin Road  
Kelowna BC V1W 4M7  
250-448-2725 ext. 240  
etransfer.pof@nelsondiocese.org

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Ot

Address: PO #

Postal Code: \

Email:

For POF  
Office

POF  
Use Only

**Pre-Authorized Payments** (incl. VOID cheque) Amount: \$50, \$100, \$150 or \_\_\_\_\_ per month for \_\_\_\_\_ months.  
To be withdrawn on (circle) 1st or 15th of the month.

**Etransfer to etransfer.pof@nelsondiocese.org** No password required. Funds deposited directly to the POF account.

Online at CanadaHelps.org (for credit card donors) NOTE: Canada Helps administration fee is 3.96%.

Cheque

Post-Dated Cheques; # cheques enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Cash

Total Amount of Gift: \_\_\_\_\_

Make cheques Payable To: The Roman Catholic Bishop of Nelson

Date rec'd

Payment

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Initials

\$ Enclosed

Donor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Parish: 408-Holy Family Fernie

**Contributions can be made using the following methods: (complete reverse side of this page)**

1. Cash or Cheque payable to The Roman Catholic Bishop of Nelson.
2. Direct Debit—Complete the authorization form located on reverse and include a void cheque.

**For 1 and 2 above: Please place in the collection basket at your parish or mail to your parish office.**

3. E-transfer to :

**[etransfer.pof@nelsondiocese.org](mailto:etransfer.pof@nelsondiocese.org)**

Please include your name, address and parish location in the message area. The funds are automatically deposited to POF and no security question/answer is required.

4. Credit card donations can be made online at [CanadaHelps.org](http://CanadaHelps.org) or via the "Donate Now" button on the Diocesan Website [www.nelsondiocese.org](http://www.nelsondiocese.org) which is administered through Canada Helps. An administration fee of 3.96% applies. Canada Helps issues their own tax receipts.

Charitable Registration No: 10809 4392 RR0002

Communications to "Our Pilgrimage of Faith Appeal" may be directed to:

**Diocesan Appeals Office**  
Catholic Pastoral Centre, 3665 Benvoulin Road,  
Kelowna, BC V1W 4M7  
250-448-2725 X 240 Fax: 1-866-964-3858  
[etransfer.pof@nelsondiocese.org](mailto:etransfer.pof@nelsondiocese.org)  
[www.nelsondiocese.org](http://www.nelsondiocese.org)  
General Inquiries: [appeals@nelsondiocese.org](mailto:appeals@nelsondiocese.org)

**Your support this past year has made possible:**

**Capital Development Rebates**

St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Revelstoke  
Canadian Martyrs Parish, Invermere  
Sacred Heart Parish, Kimberley  
Cathedral of Mary Immaculate, Nelson  
St. Michael Parish, Sparwood  
St. Bernard Mission, Elkford  
Holy Family Parish, Fernie  
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Nakusp  
St. Charles Garnier Parish, Kelowna  
Immaculate Conception Parish, Kelowna  
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, West Kelowna  
Holy Child Parish, Summerland  
St. John Vianney Parish, Penticton  
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Keremeos  
St. Edwards Parish, Lake Country  
Immaculata Regional High School, Kelowna  
St. Mary's Catholic School, Cranbrook  
Chancery Office, Kelowna

**Parish Level Youth Ministry**

Immaculate Conception Parish, Kelowna

**Other**

Live Stream Equipment  
Catholic Schools, Catholic Mountain Star  
Vocations, Permanent Diaconate  
Lay Training, Faith Formation  
Seton House, Marriage Tribunal  
Our Lady of Pentecost Summer Institute  
Parish Catholic Christian Outreach  
Pension Assistance to Priests  
And more.

Please contact the Diocesan Appeals and Special Projects Office for information on funding possibilities for your parish or school.

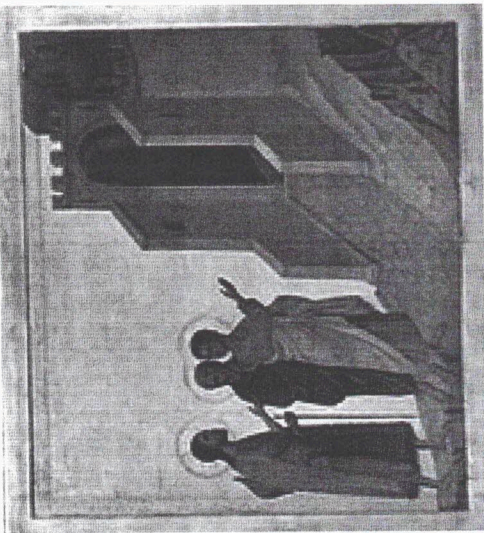


# Diocese of Nelson

## Our Pilgrimage of Faith Appeal 2022

### Walking with Jesus Our Hope and Our Salvation





Thank you to everyone who gave generously to the 2021 Pilgrimage of Faith Appeal. With much success we have met the many challenges of the past year head on. All members of our parishes, young and old, have worked tirelessly and contributed in some way with new and innovative ideas on how to face each obstacle.

Your continued contributions to the Pilgrimage of Faith Appeal have assisted with capital development rebates to the parishes and schools for much needed improvements. Faith Formation has introduced the Franciscan at Home online platform and many of the churches are now live streaming masses as an ongoing service for shut-ins. In person programs are restarting at Seton House of Prayer and many other programs have been held outdoors. We look forward to 2022 with great hope.

Please continue your financial support into 2022 as your participation is essential to our success.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, Greetings and Peace in the Lord! Thanks to your wonderful generosity, our Diocese has been blessed in many ways, especially through the Pilgrimage of Faith Appeal. Even with the lingering difficulties of the pandemic, you have not wavered in your support. Thank you.

Along with the capital development rebates, we have been able to fund some new initiatives, like Parish CCO (Catholic Christian Outreach) and live-streaming equipment for some of our parishes.

The goal for this year's Appeal remains at \$565,000. I am confident that we can reach it again, if not exceed it.

Following Pope Francis who said, "Find new ways to spread the word of God to every corner of the world," we must continue to proclaim the Gospel and bring others to Jesus. Your donation will do just that. Please prayerfully consider offering a financial gift to the 2022 Appeal.

May God bless you abundantly for your generosity!

Thank you in advance for your support.

✠ Bishop Gregory

**2022 POF Goal: \$565,000**



Our Pilgrimage of Faith Appeal  
 3665 Benvenuto Road  
 Kelowna BC V1W 4M7  
 250-448-2725 ext. 240  
 appeals@nelsondiocese.org

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Other Legal Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Pre-Authorized Payments (incl. VOID cheque)  
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 Online at [CanadaHelps.org](http://CanadaHelps.org) (for credit card donors) NOTE: Canada Helps administration fee is 3.96%  
 Cheque  
 Post-Dated Cheques; # cheques enclosed \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cash

Make cheques Payable To: The Roman Catholic Bishop of Nelson  
 Charity Registration # 108094392RR0002

I'd like help setting up a Planned Gift (Bequest, Life Insurance, Securities)  
 I have included a faith-based gift in my Will  
 I'm planning a Bequest to my Parish

Donor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount of Gift: \_\_\_\_\_