

Holy Family Parish, Fernie

Pastor: Fr. David John
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Holy Family Parish is organised together with St. Michael's, Sparwood and St. Bernard's, Elkford.

Sunday 31st July 2016 Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

From the Parish...

Fr. David writes... I feel that I ought to say something about the dreadful events in France this week with the murder in church of a French priest and the serious wounding of a parishioner. This event was so bad and so wrong. We do pray for the repose of the soul of Fr. Jacques Hemel and for the parishioner who was critically injured, but we also ask for God's gracious mercy on the souls of the two people who performed this horrible deed.

This attack comes after a number of other attacks on innocent civilians in France. We must remember that more than 230 people have been killed in terrorist incidents in France over the last 18 months with more than 700 injured. We pray for them all.

So while this latest attack is shocking, we must remember that part of the horror is that it was a murder of a priest while he was celebrating a normal daily Mass in his parish church. This does not mean that a church is an unsafe place to be; indeed it is worth remembering that terrorists in France have killed many more people while they were standing in the street, or in their office working, or in a supermarket shopping, or sitting in a restaurant and or watching a concert in a theatre.

And again we must put this in perspective, this number is dwarfed by the number of people killed in road accidents in France in the same period. So in France, which has slightly less road accident deaths per head of population than Canada, one is something like 20 times more likely to be killed in a car accident than in a terrorism event. Thus it is not the being in church or supermarket or cafe or theatre or office or fireworks display that is the most risky, statistically the drive to and from these events is more dangerous.

I say this so that people aren't made unnecessarily anxious. As I say, what happened was so bad because it occurred in a place that should be a place of peace. But we must constantly remember that there are so many people in the Middle East who every day fear for their lives because of their faith – or their sect within their faith. If we turn in on ourselves and become unnecessarily anxious about our own safety then we run the risk of forgetting to pray for those who are constantly persecuted for what they believe, and that would be evil prevailing.

Welcome

It was with great pleasure that on Saturday we celebrated the baptism of two of the next generation of the Gigliotti family. So we hold Mack and Tilly in our prayers along with their families.

Work Party needed at the Fernie Family Centre –

On Monday 8th August – *that is, a week on Monday* – at 10am we will be moving desks from the upstairs hall to the church basement. If anyone is available to help their assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Mass Times

Sunday Masses:

Fernie:

5pm Saturday
9am Sunday

Also: Sparwood –

7pm Saturday &
11am Sunday

Elkford – 4pm Sunday

Weekday Masses:

Holy Family Church –
9am Tuesday

Rocky Mountain Village –
11am Wednesday

Also (*but please see local newsletter for weekly variations*):

St. Michael's, Sparwood –
9am Monday

Lilac Terrace, Sparwood –
11am Friday

St. Bernard's, Elkford –
11am Thursday

At our morning Mass on Tuesday in Fernie – the day of the murder of Fr. Jacques – we used the prayers for the feast of St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr.

The opening prayer reminded us that this great saint prayed for those who killed him: *“Grant, Lord, we pray, that we may imitate what we worship, and so learn to love even our enemies, for we celebrate the heavenly birthday of a man who knew how to pray even for his persecutors.”*

Look forward to September...

Chautauqua and Fall Fair – In September

On Friday 9th and Saturday 10th September parishioners are invited to participate in a fundraising historical community Chautauqua and Fall Fair. All funds raised will go to the Syrian Refugee Family for Fernie Fund. On the Friday night from 3pm to 7pm Fernie residents including Mary Menduk and Shelby Cain, will be interviewed about their stories, and there will be reading from their works of prose and poetry; this will be at the Chautauqua Tent next to the Fernie Historical Museum. From 7pm to 9pm there will be a Old Time Family Street Dance with live music Hootenanny Style. During these two events we need volunteers to help out with the bar service and also to make pies to sell by the piece at the event. Please contact Cecila Roccamatisi at 250-423-8507 or Sharon Switzer at 250-946-6919 if you can help with this event. On Saturday morning the group will host a Pancake Breakfast for the community also at the Chautauqua Tent from 8:30am to 11am. Volunteers are needed to set-up, take-down and help cook and serve breakfast. Please contact Alan Westhaver at 250-423-4818 or Rob Greene at 250-423-9521 if you can help.

Pancake Breakfast – In September!

Looking way ahead to September, on Sunday 18th September there will be a parish pancake breakfast after our Sunday morning Mass in the Fernie Family Centre. So please mark this down in your diary now so you don't forget.



Our Pilgrimage of Faith



The Pilgrimage of Faith is the way that each individual member of this diocese can support the work of the diocese. All the Pilgrimage of Faith money goes to specific areas which include youth ministry, adult faith formation, Seton House of Prayer, First Nations ministry and many others similar noble ministries.

The deadline for donations to this years Pilgrimage of Faith is Friday 30th September. As of 26th July we have raised \$13,193.52 which means we still need another \$1,406.48 to reach our diocesan goal of \$14,600. Thank you for your generosity.

From the Local Area...

Elkford Mass

Not that many people go to Elkford for a weekday Mass, but if you happen to be there on a Thursday at 11am this is the new time of their weekday Mass.

La Cafamore Presents:

On Thursday 11th August there is a concert at Mountainside Community Church (across the highway from Tim Horton's). It starts at 7:30pm and is entitled, 'Classical Music from the Movies'. Tickets are \$15. "La Cafamore" is a group of three ladies from the West Kootenays who are very talented. Fr. David knows them very well and it should be a good musical evening.

From the Diocese and Beyond...

One Rock Youth Day 2016

In the year of Mercy the Diocese of Calgary is again hosting "One Rock", a festival of faith weekend event for youth, young adults & their families, at the Tsuut'ina Rodeo Grounds near Redwood Meadows. The festival will be on the weekend of 12th to 14th August, and people from the Diocese of Nelson are very welcome to be part of this. For more information visit www.onerock.ca.

Ministries:

Saturday 6th August:

Eucharistic Minister:

Colin Lynch

Reader:

Colin Lynch

Greeters:

Patsy Caravetta & Frank Rambold

Sunday 7th August:

Eucharistic Minister:

Rosalinda Pukalla

Readers:

A. Minto/Billie-Anne Kowalski

Greeters:

Jesse Mong & family

Church Cleaning for this week:

G & K Smith, G. Blakey, S. Penault

Finance

Collections:

23rd /24th July \$891.90

Pilgrimage of Faith (to date):

..... \$13,193.52

Our Diocesan Goal: \$14,600.00

To donate to the Fernie Refugee

Fund please go to our website:

www.holyfamilyfernie.ca and there is a link on the home page. You will receive a charitable receipt for any donation from Canada Helps.Org

Suggested Websites:

Diocesan Website:

www.nelsondiocese.org

Catholic Women's League:

www.cwl.ca

Knights of Columbus:

www.kofc.org

Development & Peace:

www.dev.org

Rachel's Vineyard:

www.rachelvineyard.org

Canadian Conference of Catholic

Bishops: www.cccb.ca