

Holy Family Parish, Fernie

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Holy Family Parish is organised together with St. Michael's, Sparwood and St. Bernard's, Elkford.

Sunday 6th November 2016

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

From the Parish...

Special Collection for Haiti Relief – This Weekend

This weekend we will be taking a special collection for the aid of those who suffered so badly after cyclone Matthew hit Haiti in October. This storm had a massive effect on the country; at least 545 people died and 128 people are missing according to official authorities, but other sources indicate a death toll of more than 1,000 people. Overall about three million people were affected:

- 175,000 people have been displaced and are living in temporary shelters;
- 1.4 million people require humanitarian assistance;
- 806,000 people face severe food insecurity;
- 1,412 new cases of cholera have been reported;
- 200,000 houses have been destroyed or seriously damaged.

Development and Peace is working with Catholic Relief Services (USA) and Caritas Haiti to assist the victims. Any money you give next weekend will go directly to these charities and a tax receipt will be supplied. Please mark envelopes 'Haiti', and cheques can be made out to the parish noting that it is for Haiti.

Homecoming Weekend – 20th November, Feast of Christ the King

This weekend and next you will find available invitation cards for you to take and give to others. Following on from the Pope's proclamation that this should be a year of mercy, a time to rediscover the love of God, a love that is not judgemental and backward looking, but is life-giving, a love that through mercy wants to move past any hurts and difficulties there might have been. Very particularly in this diocese we are being asked to celebrate a "Homecoming" weekend when we invite Catholics who do not usually come to church to return and join us on the weekend of 19th/20th November which is the Feast of Christ The King.

You are asked to give the invitation cards to Catholics who aren't currently active members of our worshipping community, this might be family members, friends or neighbours, but you might also think about work colleagues, fellow parents at the kindergarten, or whoever.

The prayer we will pray says, "We desire to reach out to all of them as you have reached out to us – with mercy." So let us pray that we will be a welcoming community and people will return.

New Carpets

In the next week we hope that our new carpets will be installed in the church, this is all part of efforts to keep our church up to standard. One thing that might not be fully appreciated is the danger of 'trip hazards' and a big part of the decision to replace the existing carpet is so we can ensure we do everything we can to avoid such hazards in our church. The last thing we want is anyone to hurt themselves.

The colours of the carpet have been chosen by a professional designer who is an expert in church renovation. We are incredibly fortunate to have parishioners who have worked very hard to find and apply for grants to help us with this project. As a result of this when we ask the parish for donations to cover the cost of this important improvement we only need to ask them for a relatively small proportion of the whole cost. Those who work with our finances are always trying to get the best deal they can for the parish, particularly looking at what other financial support is available. But most funding will require us to provide a certain percentage of the final costs, but please know that because of this each dollar you give will have a big effect.

We do thank those who have worked on this project. At the same time we ask parishioners to be generous so we can complete the funding of this project.

Mass Times

Sunday Masses:

Fernie:

5pm Saturday
9am Sunday

Also: Sparwood –

7pm Saturday &
11am Sunday

Elkford – 4pm Sunday

Weekday Masses:

*No weekday Masses this week
– please see note over the page.*

*Also: (This is the usual schedule
but please check the local
newsletter)*

St. Michael's, Sparwood –
10am Monday

St. Bernard's, Elkford –
11am Thursday

Lilac Terrace, Sparwood –
11am Friday

Fr. David writes...



This Week and Weekday Masses

Normally for Remembrance Day I am booked up a couple of years in advance to lead a service with one small Legion group or another, but with my recent move this year I haven't been asked to take a leading role in an Remembrance Day service. This gives me a very rare opportunity to attend a Remembrance Day service with my Dad. Dad is a veteran of the Royal Air Force and Remembrance Day is always very important for him. When I rang him and offered to take him to his local service I thought he was going to cry.

Also this week as I will be in the Lower Mainland I will pop over 'the line' to see my Uncle Jack who was widowed a few weeks ago. It will be really good to spend a bit of time with him.

All this means that I will be away this week from Monday to Friday so there won't be any weekday Masses. I don't plan to be away again until after Christmas.

BBC Radio 4

I really don't know how others survive without BBC radio, it is what I listen to so much. Today, for example, I was listening to a programme called "All in the Mind", a programme about mental health issues. On first sight this might not seem that enthralling, but there was a section about the use of language in relation to mental health issues. It gave the example of how we often refer to suicide; we often say, "They *committed* suicide". Suicide was decriminalised in Canada over forty years ago, yet we still say "committed" suicide as if it was still a criminal act rather than an illness. We 'commit' a crime; we suffer an illness. So we are encouraged to say, "They died by suicide".

I understand that suicide is one of the leading causes of death in Canada, particularly among men. On average about 4,000 Canadians commit suicide every year – that is equivalent to the population of a town the size of Sparwood! Suicide is usually the result of a combination of factors, including mental illness, especially depression, and addiction as well as the stress caused by financial difficulties and marriage breakdown, plus issues like a lack of social and medical support.

So we do pray for those who are affected by this issue; we pray for those who died and very much for those who lose a loved one. Certainly in future I will try to use the term "died by" rather than "committed".

Handouts

Over the last few weeks there have been a couple of handouts: one about cremations and the burial of ashes and one about when we stand and sit at Mass. If you didn't see these, spare copies are available at the back of the church on the table.

Joseph Rinaldi RIP

Many people will remember Joseph who died peacefully on Thursday in Kamloops. We are currently arranging to have a funeral for him here in Fernie, but it won't be this coming week, it is more likely in ten days time. We do pray for the repose of his soul and for his four kids and all his family and friends.

Also this Week...

Knights of Columbus Meeting – This Wednesday

There will be a Knights of Columbus meeting on Wednesday 9th November at 7:30pm in the Family Centre. All Knights please turn up if you can.

Reminder the Clocks Go/Went Back

If you are reading this on Saturday, please remember that the clocks go back tonight; if you are reading this on Sunday and wondering where everyone else is, please know that the clocks went back last night!

Ministries:

Saturday 12th November:

Eucharistic Minister:

Eunice Peterson

Reader:

Cathleen Sonntag

Greeters:

Patsy Caravetta and Frank Rambold

Sunday 13th November:

Eucharistic Minister:

Glenn Carter

Reader:

Adele Minto & Billie-Anne Kowalski

Greeters:

Jesse Mong and Family

Church Cleaning for this week:

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

Church Choir

Practices are held on Wednesdays at 7pm in the church. If anyone is interested in joining the choir please contact Rosanna at rosanna1@shaw.ca or text 250-423-7290.

Finance

Collections:

29th/30th October\$1767.60

World Mission Sunday.....\$ 305.00

Our Pilgrimage of Faith 2016:

Our Diocesan Goal.....\$11,600.00

Given to date\$ 1912.00

Church Restoration Phase 4:

Estimated cost.....\$32,000.00

Donations to date.....\$ 650.00

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.devp.org

Rachel's Vineyard:

www.rachelvineyard.org

Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops:

www.cccb.ca