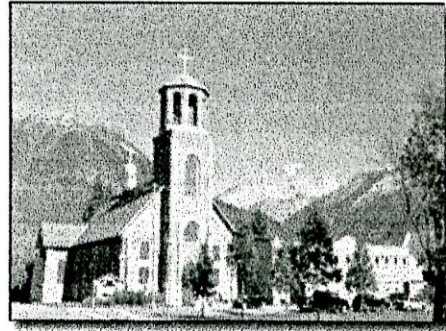


# Holy Family Parish, Fernie

Pastor: Fr. David John  
Secretary: Marilyn Gareau  
Church: 501 – 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Fernie.  
Parish Office: Family Centre, 521 – 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Fernie.  
Post: Box 519, Fernie, B.C., V0B 1M0  
Telephone: 250-423-6127  
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*Holy Family Parish is organised together with St. Michael's, Sparwood and St. Bernard's, Elkford.*

## 11<sup>th</sup> February 2018 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

### *From the Parish...*

#### Masses for Ash Wednesday

There are two Masses in Fernie this week for Ash Wednesday:

Holy Family, Fernie - 7pm Tuesday  
Rocky Mountain Village, Fernie - 11am Wednesday

In Fernie the catechism kids and their families will also be able to receive the Ashes on Wednesday at their usual class. If you can't make either of these you might try to travel to Masses in Sparwood or Elkford:

St. Michael's, Sparwood - 7pm Wednesday  
St. Bernard's, Elkford - 11am Thursday

#### CWL Meeting

This Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> February, at 1pm there will be a CWL meeting in the coffee room at the Fernie Family Centre.

#### Lenten Bun and Soup

Starting this Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February and running for the following two Thursday's – 22<sup>nd</sup> February and 1<sup>st</sup> March – there will be 'Bun and Soup' in the Fernie Family Centre from 11:30am to 1pm. Donations of soup, buns and baking will be greatly appreciated.

#### Seedy Saturday at the Fernie Family Centre

Seedy Saturday is happening on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February and we are promoting the Fernie Family Garden and fundraising with a bake sale. A few volunteers are requested to help out with the event, but most importantly we need volunteers to provide baking for the bake sale. A loaf, pie, dozen cookies, squares – anything delicious will help to raise money for the garden. We will also provide coffee and tea with some baked items to enjoy in a cafe-like setting. Baked items can be dropped off at the Fernie Family Centre Friday evening, or Saturday morning by 9am. Seedy Saturday is from 10am-2pm, come out to learn about the importance of seeds and many other gardening tips! For any further information check out the Wildsight website at <http://wildsight.ca/events/seedyaturday> or if you have questions please call Tanya at 250-430-7613.

### **Mass Times**

#### Masses for Sunday

Fernie:

5pm Saturday &  
9am Sunday

Also:

Sparwood:

7pm Saturday &  
11am Sunday

Elkford:

4pm Sunday

#### Weekdays Mass

7pm Tuesday in Church  
11am Wednesday at Rocky  
Mountain Village

The Sanctuary Lamp burns  
from Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> to Saturday  
17<sup>th</sup> February for  
Aldo Scarpelli,  
from wife Maria & family

**CWL Invited to the Luncheon for Volunteers**

CWL members are cordially invited to the Luncheon for Volunteers at the Seniors Drop-In on Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> February from 11:30am to 2pm. There will be door prizes. Please RSVP by Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> February to Sara Stewart by email [sara.stewart@fernief.ca](mailto:sara.stewart@fernief.ca) or phone 250-423-2234.

**Griz Days Garage Sale**

The date for the Griz Days Garage Sale is Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> March from 10am to 2pm at the Fernie Family Centre. Please mark your calendars. Please start bringing donations to recycle on Tuesdays or Fridays. Marilyn is in the office from 9:30am to 1:30 pm. Items may also be brought in the Friday night before the event from 6pm to 8pm.

**Finance**

<b>Collections:</b>	
3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> February 2018 .....	\$1462.50
<b>Pilgrimage of Faith:</b>	
Given to date.....	\$10,695.50
Our Diocesan Goal .....	\$10,200.00



**Ministries**

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February**

**Eucharistic Minister:**

Ewa Langer

**Reader:**

Lisa Westhaver

**Greeters:**

Patsy Caravetta & Frank Rambold

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February**

**Eucharistic Minister:**

Anne Majic

**Reader:**

Giselle Kitchen

**Greeters:**

Benny Mangone & Sam Caravetta

**Church cleaning this week:**

B. Coultry, G. Kitchen, C. Sonntag,  
R. Anselmo

***From the Diocese***

**Father George Pfliger RIP**

*We received the following from the Bishop on Thursday.*

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Father George Pfliger died and returned to the home of Our Father last evening, 7<sup>th</sup> February.

Father George was born on 7<sup>th</sup> January 1926. He joined the Capuchin Franciscan Order and was ordained to the Priesthood by Bishop Emmett Doyle on 11<sup>th</sup> June 1961. He came to the Diocese of Nelson in January 1983. He served as pastor in the following Parishes:

- Holy Family Parish, Fernie (July 1983);
- Christ the Servant Parish, Cranbrook, BC (August 1988);
- St. John Vianney Parish, Penticton;

- Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, West Kelowna, (1996);
- St. Anne Parish, Osoyoos (1998).

Father George retired at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, West Kelowna in September 2003 and, later, moved to St. John Vianney Parish, Penticton and, finally, to Kelowna. He entered nursing home several months ago and has experienced a long decline in health.

The Mass of Christian Burial for Father George Pfliger will be celebrated at St. Pius X Parish, Kelowna, BC at 11am this Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February. Father George's body will be received at St. Pius X and prayers will be celebrated at 6pm this Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February. There will be opportunity to view Father George's remains and to visit after the prayers on Thursday evening as well as before the funeral on Friday morning.

We ask you to keep Father George in your prayers.

Fraternally in Christ,

+John Corriveau, OFM<sup>Cap</sup>, Bishop of Nelson

## Ash Wednesday & Lent



**Ash Wednesday is one of the most important holy days in the liturgical calendar.  
Ash Wednesday opens Lent, a season of fasting and prayer.**

### Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday takes place 40 days before Holy Week, and is not only held as a very special day by Catholics but by many other Christians as well.

Its origins come from ancient Jewish tradition. When humans got above themselves and forgot God, or tried to take on the role of God in the world, prayer, fasting and the wearing of ashes was a sign of correction. **Prayer** was a turning back to God to praise God and listen to God; **fasting** was a way to put ones own needs second to the need to commune with God; and by the **wearing of ashes** the first followers of God remind themselves that, but for the grace of God, we are only dust and no more.

### Ashes

The practice of wearing of ashes on the head symbolises that we are made from the elements of the earth – *dust* – and it is only the presence of God’s life-giving Spirit within us – *God’s breath* – that makes us human. As the priest applies the ashes to a person’s forehead, he speaks the words: “Remember that you are dust, and unto dust you shall return.”

Ashes are made sacramental by the blessing of the Church, they help us develop a spirit of humility and sacrifice, they are a way to humble our hearts and reminds us that life passes away on earth and only God is eternal.

Ashes also symbolise grief, the grief which comes about when we recognise that our sin distances us from God, causes divisions in the Church community, and more generally, creates disharmony in our world. God is about wholeness, our divisions are a cause of grief.

While the ashes symbolise our brokenness, they are also a reminder of God’s grace and mercy. God’s divine mercy is of utmost importance during the season of Lent and the Church calls on us to seek that mercy throughout Lent with reflection, prayer and penance.

Priests rightfully administer ashes during Mass and all are invited to accept the ashes as a visible symbol of penance. Anyone is welcome to receive the ashes, Catholic or otherwise, if they want to show sorrow. The ashes are made from palm branches that were blessed at the previous year’s palm Sunday Mass.

It is important to remember that Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting so big meals are highly inappropriate. Instead the meals of that day should not include meat and should at the very least be modest in size and style. Many people give up at least one meal on Ash Wednesday.

After receiving the ashes one can wear them as a sign to yourself and others that this is a special day, or one can wash the ashes off. In some cases, ashes may be delivered by a priest or a family member to those who are sick or shut-in.

## **Masses for Ash Wednesday**

Here in the Elk Valley there are four Masses for Ash Wednesday:

- |                                |   |                |
|--------------------------------|---|----------------|
| Holy Family, Fernie            | - | 7pm Tuesday    |
| Rocky Mountain Village, Fernie | - | 11am Wednesday |
| St. Michael's, Sparwood        | - | 7pm Wednesday  |
| St. Bernard's, Elkford         | - | 11am Thursday  |

If for some reason you can't get to the Mass in your local church you might think a good way to start Lent might be by making the effort to travel to one of the other Masses in the area. Cranbrook also has a number of Masses for Ash Wednesday.

## **Lent**

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Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Season of Lent. It is a season of penance, reflection, and fasting which prepares us for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday, through which we attain redemption.

What one gives up or what extra tasks one takes on for Lent must be a personal decision and will be different for every individual. Obviously it might not be just one thing. While sharing what one is doing for Lent might encourage others and help one keep the discipline, ones Lenten resolutions should not become a point of competition or boasting, thus if people want to share what they are doing that is fine, but perhaps you might think twice before asking others what they are doing – it might be very personal.

While it is very good to take on extra tasks through Lent, there is still something special about giving up something. It can often be a more regular reminder of the special season we are in than an extra task that is done only once a day or once a week.

Also prayer must be part of the season, and if this is matched to some sort of reflection, all the better. And hopefully this reflection might lead one to want to celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation; as one is renewed in prayer one sees one's life more clearly and wants to be at rights with God and the community.

If you think you haven't got time in your busy life to take on some extra prayer, simply ask yourself how many TV adverts you watch in a day? Watching adverts is wasted time; prayer is life-giving time. There are many things that add nothing to us as whole human beings that we can give up, and always lots of things that will bring us nearer to God that we can take on. Many people are surrounded by sound – the TV, radio and music is everywhere; the devices that produce these sounds do have off switches; Lent might be a time to switch off!

Although many in North America have forgotten, the Church still asks us to give up meat on Fridays. A good Lenten discipline might be to restore this practice in ones life.

I do wish you wholesome and rejuvenating Lent,

*Fr. David*