

Welcome to the Roman Catholic Parishes of the Elk Valley



HOLY FAMILY PARISH
FERNIE, BC

521 4th Avenue

Mailing Address:

PO Box 519, V0B 1M0

Parish Office: 250-423-6127

Pastor Office: 250-425-6444

Email: fernie@nelsondiocese.org

Website:
<https://holyfamilyfernie.ca>

Pastor's Email:
elkvalley.pastor@nelsondiocese.org

Pastor: Thomas Kakkaniyil
Mass Times

Saturday - 4:00 PM

Sunday 11:00 AM

Wednesday - Noon

ROCKY MOUNTAIN VILLAGE

Wednesday - 11:00 AM

Confessions 30 minutes before Mass
or by appointment.

Rosary 30 minutes prior to any Holy
Mass

Finance Council: Colin Lynch,
Angelika Pace, and Wayne Warner.

Property Manager: John Pallone.

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

Website: <https://stmichaelssparwood.org>

Pastor's Email:
elkvalley.pastor@nelsondioces.org

Mass Times

Saturday - 6:00 PM

Sunday - 9:00 AM

Monday - 6:00 PM

Tuesday 6:00 PM

Thursday 9:00 AM

Fist Fridays only 9:00 AM

Adoration & Benediction.

Friday - 11:00 AM

Mass at Lilac Terrace

The Holy

Rosary is prayed 30 minutes before
Mass.

Confessions 30 minutes before Mass
or by appointment.

ST. BERNARD'S MISSION
ELKFORD, BC

800 Natal Road

Mailing Address:

PO Box 167, V0B 2G0

C/O St. Michaels Parish

Parish Office: 250 -425-2327

Website: <https://stmichaelssparwood.org>

Pastor's email:
elkvalley.pastor@nelsondiocese.org

Mass Service

Sunday - 1:30 PM

Rosary is prayed 30 minutes before
Mass.

Confessions after Mass or by
appointment.

Fernie Office Hours

Wednesdays to Fridays

9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Bookkeeper

Tuesdays 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

3rd Sunday of Advent.

Pastor’s Message – December 15, 2024

This Sunday is Gaudete Sunday or Rejoice Sunday. It takes its name from the readings for today, particularly the second reading from Paul’s Letter to the Philippians’, “Rejoice in the Lord always. I say it again, rejoice.” One way of looking at this Sunday is to focus on the joy that Christmas brings to us, in two weeks’ time. Another way of considering this Sunday is, to focus in on the joy of the ancient Hebrews, as they heard their prophets tell them, that God is coming soon, and will remove his judgment against them.

Gaudete Sunday reminds us that this line of thinking is incorrect. We are not victims, flapping our wings trying to fly to no avail. We are not victims of whatever we think is happening around us. No, we are not victims, but we are victors. Why? Our God loves us so much, that He became One of us, and is One with us. He has showered us with His Grace. We sing “Joy to the World,” not just as a pleasant Christmas carol, but as a statement of our faith. We believe that God has brought joy to the world. We cannot allow anything, any circumstance, to steal this joy from us. Instead of succumbing to the “Woe is Me” attitude, focusing on the negatives of our lives, we need to see the bigger positive picture. We may not be full of Grace as Mary was, or we are not immaculately conceived, but we have received a great deal of Grace. We have been made children of God. Jesus calls us his brothers and sisters. We have received so much Grace, that God has transformed even the worst circumstances of our lives, in avenues of growth. How often I have done funerals where people have given eulogies saying how their loved ones grew closer to God throughout their sickness. A while back I anointed a man who was imminent. His wife told me that his last words were, “I love God.” Those were only his last words here. Through the Grace of God, he will have much to say for all eternity. Whenever I am asked to celebrate the sacrament of anointing the sick, I ask the person, whether they want to make a confession or not? Most of the people show their willingness to have either a long confession or a short confession. After the anointing, normally, I wish them to see again in Heaven with Jesus. Death is a reality which we all have to face at one time of our lives. For us Catholics, death is not the end of our lives, but it is the beginning of our lives with Jesus, in heaven. This Sunday reminds us that no matter what is going on in the world, or in our lives, God is in

control. Knowing that He is in control, brings us joy and happiness. May God bless you! +++ Amen. Fr. Thomas

1. Bishop Gregory Bittman has a medical problem that requires his immediate and full attention. He needs your prayers especially on December 17 & 18. Our Vicar General, Fr. Sebastian Puthenpura and our Chancellor, Fr. Cerlouie Jimenez, will fill in during his absence.

2. Both St. Michael’s Church, Sparwood and St. Bernard’s Church, Elkford has completed its Pilgrimage of Faith Goal. Thanks for your cooperation. Please do not donate to the POF, but to the parish account, please.

3. Special attention and action needed for Holy Family Church: Holy Family is in need of \$ 9,562. 27 dollars for pilgrimage of faith goal in the month of December and \$26000/= for insurance in the month of January 2025. If all of you could pay more attention to this and give your Sunday collections on this behalf, that will be an additional generosity from your part.

4. Christmas and New Year’s masses are mandatory for every faithful.



**Christmas and New Year Mass Times
in the Elk Valley**

	Fernie	Sparwood	Elkford
Tue, Dec 24	4 pm	6 pm	
Wed, Dec 25	11am	9 am	1.30 pm
Tue, Dec 31	4 pm	6 pm	
Wed, Jan 1, 2025	11 am	9 am	1.30 pm



5. "Dying with Christ – Living with Hope" about combatting Euthanasia: <https://cmdacanada.org/dying-with-christ-living-with-hope/>. This link will give more about Euthanasia



6. Let me thank Eldos Thankachan, the owner of the Independent Store, Fernie, for the donation of poinsettias for Christmas Celebrations at Holy Family Church, Fernie.

7. Last Saturday there was a bad accident of collision of car with a gasoline truck on Highway 43, at Sparwood. One of the families from Elkford was travelling to Sparwood. Sandra had surgery, and she is okay. Marlette Ramos died at the spot. Condolences and prayers for the family of Alex Ramos.

Fernie Community Choir



Friday, December 20. 7:00 PM
Holy Family. Doors open at 6:30 PM
Tickets available
At the door or at Scotiabank

Mass Intentions

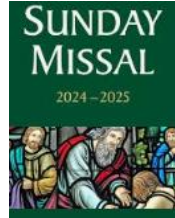
Saturday, Dec 14. For all souls in purgatory.

Sunday, Dec 15. For M. S. T.

Wed, Dec 18 @ Rocky Mountain. For M. S. T.

Wed, Dec 18. For all souls in purgatory.

Sunday Missals 2024- 2025 Available



Sunday Missals 2024 – 2025 Available at the Parish office. By Donation.




Coffee and Light Snacks
Sunday Mass

Dec 15
After 11 o'clock mass
All Welcome

Volunteers

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact the Parish Office. fernien@nelsondiocese.org



Sacraments

We are happy to assist you. Contact the Parish Office via email fernien@nelsondiocese.org and we will reply to your email request accordingly.

Fernie Catholic Women League. Next Meeting.



Second Tuesday of each month
7:00 PM. Church's Hall

The Fernie Family Garden Recycling Program

Holy Family Parish would like to inform you about the outgoing fundraising recycling program.



Everyone is welcome to participate and support the Fernie Family Garden.



Beer/Pop/Juice/Water
Bottles and Cans

Where: Shed beside the church. Place the recycling by the shed

Warning. Snow Falling from Roof

From the Diocese

Journey through Advent 2024. Videos



CANADIAN CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

[You Tube Videos](#)

Web site
[Click here](#)

Chalice Christmas Gift Catalogue



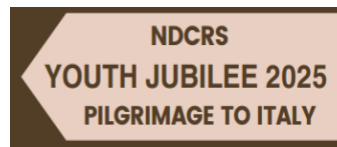
Chalice, a Catholic, Canadian charity, invites you to share the blessings



of Christmas with children in the developing world.

To order gifts, please call 1-800-776-6855 or visit [Chalice](#)

Pilgrimage to Italy July 23 – Aug 6, 2025



Sponsored by The Nelson Diocese Renewal Services (NDCRS). Book Now

[2025 Youth Jubilee Pilgrimage Rome Flyer.pdf](#)



Donate to Holy Family

Finance Report

Contributions for the week of

November 23, 2024

Actual: \$589.94

Budget: \$1,000.00

Variance: (-\$410.06)

Total Contributions YTD

\$48,577.44

e-Transfer for Holy Family

etransfer.hfpfernie@nelsondiocese.org



Volunteer Schedule

Saturday, December 14, 2024, 4:00 PM

Liturgical Reader
Anne Majic
Sacristan
Volunteer

Sunday, December 15, 2024, 11:00 AM

Liturgical Reader
Marilyn Bruschetta
Sacristan
Volunteer

Saturday, December 21, 2024, 4:00 PM

Liturgical Reader
Adele Minto
Sacristan
Bob Sumka/Volunteer

Sunday, December 22, 2024, 11:00 AM

Liturgical Reader
Angelika Pace
Sacristan
Volunteer

Church Cleaners

December 9 to December 23, 2024

Gary Smith & Kathy Smith

Donate to Holy Family Pilgrimage of Faith

etransfer.pof@nelsondiocese.org

etransfer.hfpfernie@nelsondiocese.org



Pilgrimage of Faith 2024.

Goal: \$20,000.00

Received, October 2024. \$10,437.73

Variance: \$9,562.27