

Living the Joy of the Gospel!

Encountering Christ on our daily road to Emmaus.



Prince George Diocesan Assembly Oct 1-3, 2014.

They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?" -Luke 24:32

This year, we will explore as a Diocesan family the practical ways we can all live the call of Pope Francis to encounter Christ daily and be his JOYFUL MISSIONARY DISCIPLES in our world. Our goal is to combine inspiration with practical workshops that can make a real difference in people's lives, families, schools, parishes, and communities.

Our Presenters:

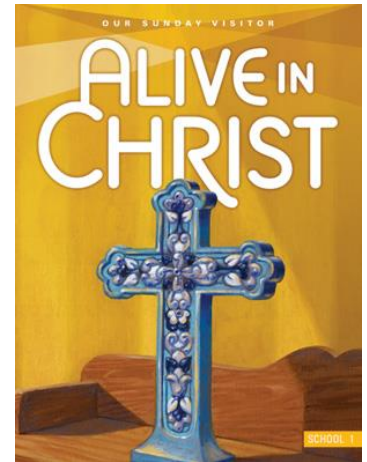


Deacon Ralph Poyo (Wednesday and Thursday)

Ralph is a married Catholic Permanent Deacon & director of New Evangelization Ministries. He is an inspirational & dynamic keynote speaker for young people, adults, clergy & educators. He is particularly gifted in interactive youth & adult leadership formation and will speak on Living the Joy of the Gospel... *Our call to be joyful missionary disciples today.*

The Alive in Christ Team (Thursday)

A seminar and practical workshops by presenter Matt Summers with the Alive in Christ team for teachers, clergy, & parish catechists on implementing and using our new catechetical resources... *"helping children to know, love, & serve the Church."* aliveinchrist.osv.com



Our Path Ahead (Friday)

Our Diocese is called to be a family of faith, hope, & love. It is important to come together & explore the question...How can we more fully live God's plan to be Joyful Missionary Disciples in this diocese? We will hear from Bishop Stephen, Chris Dugdale Superintendent-CISPG, as well as Fr. Jack Michalchuk & John Connelly who will give a special presentation from the Office of Evangelization and Catechesis. Every one of us has a role to play in renewing our families, parishes, and diocese!



Interactive Workshops: (Thursday)

We are also planning numerous other engaging workshops on a variety of subjects for educators, clergy, youth ministers, & laity in general, from the perspective of the school and the parish. Details will be given at the Assembly.



All are WELCOME! Participation in this assembly is strongly encouraged for all principals, clergy, teachers, Directors of Religious Education, catechists, youth ministers & those engaged in ministry in the diocese. We also welcome all other young adults and adults who would like to participate, whether they are involved in ministry or not.

Cost: The cost is \$55.00 per person and this includes snacks, lunch, and continental breakfast with muffins, fruit and coffee. Lunch on Friday and dinners are on your own with several restaurants within walking distance of the site.

NEW Location: All events will take place at the **Diocesan Pastoral Centre** (across from Walmart) 6500 Southridge Avenue, Prince George.

Accommodations: Rooms are available at the **Domano Retreat Centre** on site - first come, first serve. Book these on your own at **drc@pgdiocese.bc.ca** or phone (250)-964-4475. There are also many hotels/motels available in the area at a reasonable cost.

Equalization Payments: For those who qualify for an equalization offset payment please keep all original gas and other incurred expense receipts. The process of reimbursement will be sent out prior to the Diocesan Assembly Conference.

How to Register: *The registration process is simple...*

Option 1: Email, fax, or call Teresa Phillippe in the Office of Evangelization & Catechesis at the Diocese Pastoral Centre.

Email: **teresa@pgdiocese.bc.ca**

Phone 250-964-4424 ext. 242 Fax 250-964-2101

Provide Teresa with your...

name, address, phone number, email & Parish/School name.

Teresa will send a registration confirmation. *You can drop off or mail your registration fee in advance or pay on arrival. You must register if you are attending.*

Option 2: Complete the attached registration form & send together with a cheque made out to the Diocese of Prince George at \$55.00/person to:

The Diocese of Prince George
Diocesan Assembly
6500 Southridge Avenue
Prince George, BC V2N 5P9

2014 Prince George Diocesan Assembly:

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Parish/School Name: _____

Send registration form together with a cheque or money order made out to the Diocese of Prince George for \$55.00/person to:

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TENTATIVE Schedule: Live the Joy of the Gospel!

Wednesday Oct 1

6:00-7:30 pm Registration & Social
7:30 **Session 1 Welcome & Keynote** by Deacon Ralph Poyo
8:30 Wine and Cheese Social

Thursday Oct 2

8:30 am Continental Breakfast and Coffee
9:00 **Session 2 Prayer & Keynote** by Deacon Ralph Poyo
10:10 Break
10:30 **Session 3 Introduction to Alive in Christ**
Catechetical Program by speaker Matt Summers and team for all participants.
11:00 **Session 4 Interactive Workshops:** These will be selected by participants on site as the details and variety are still being finalized. For teachers & those involved or interested in faith formation, the Alive in Christ team will also do an in depth session at this time. (Parish and school tracks)
12:15 pm Lunch: provided on site.
1:30 **Session 5-6 Interactive Workshops:** including continued coverage for teachers, clergy, & catechists for the Alive in Christ catechetical program as well as other options.
3:30 **Free Afternoon and Evening**
7:00 **Optional Evening Prayer Event** with Deacon Poyo for youth, young adults, and participants. Will be at a local parish to be announced.

Friday Oct 3

8:30am Continental Breakfast and Coffee
9:00 **Session 7: Prayer & The Path Ahead**
An interactive keynote/Q & A with the Office of Evangelization & Catechesis.
10:15 Break
10:45 **Mass** with Bishop Jensen followed by Closing Remarks.

*****The Alive in Christ Team will be available Thursday after the workshops and Friday Mass for those who would like more time with them*****



We offer the following for personal reflection as a preparation for the Diocesan Assembly. These are the opening words of Pope Francis in his Apostolic Exhortation The Joy of the Gospel...

"THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus. Those who accept his offer of salvation are set free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness and loneliness. With Christ joy is constantly born anew. In this Exhortation I wish to encourage the Christian faithful to embark upon a new chapter of evangelization marked by this joy, while pointing out new paths for the Church's journey in years to come.

A JOY EVER NEW, A JOY WHICH IS SHARED

The great danger in today's world, pervaded as it is by consumerism, is the desolation and anguish born of a complacent yet covetous heart, the feverish pursuit of frivolous pleasures, and a blunted conscience. Whenever our interior life becomes caught up in its own interests and concerns, there is no longer room for others, no place for the poor. God's voice is no longer heard, the quiet joy of his love is no longer felt, and the desire to do good fades. This is a very real danger for believers too. Many fall prey to it, and end up resentful, angry and listless. That is no way to live a dignified and fulfilled life; it is not God's will for us, nor is it the life in the Spirit which has its source in the heart of the risen Christ.

I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them; I ask all of you to do this unfailingly each day. No one should think that this invitation is not meant for him or her, since "no one is excluded from the joy brought by the Lord". The Lord does not disappoint those who take this risk; whenever we take a step towards Jesus, we come to realize that he is already there, waiting for us with open arms. Now is the time to say to Jesus: "Lord, I have let myself be deceived; in a thousand ways I have shunned your love, yet here I am once more, to renew my covenant with you. I need you. Save me once again, Lord, take me once more into your redeeming embrace".