



The Roman Catholic

Diocese of
Prince George

Wednesday Weekly

Quarterly Special Edition

March 29, 2023

**Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
April 2, 2023**

Drink from it, all of you; for this is my Blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sin.

-Matthew 26.14-27.66



Upcoming Important Dates

- **April 2, 2023: Palm Sunday**
- **April 6, 2023: Holy Thursday**
- **April 7, 2023: Good Friday**
- **April 8, 2023: Holy Saturday**
- **April 9, 2023: Easter Sunday**

Attachments

- **Deacon Matthew's Ordination Invitation**

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Stories from Our Communities

Site Development in Vanderhoof

Site development has been an ongoing project of the congregation of St. Joseph's Parish in Vanderhoof for the last ten years.

During the time that Fr. Doug was pastor from 2010 to 2014, there was a serious effort to realize the dream of having a Gathering Room with kitchen facilities for parishioners to enjoy after-Mass coffee and treats together. The Gathering Room was created successfully and is used extensively by the Parish to this day. The Rectory was also given a facelift the same year, and, though much of the work was contracted, volunteers chipped in where they were able, including with the installation of the kitchen cupboards and wood flooring.

Fr. Rene Antonio was the pastor of Vanderhoof from 2014 to 2016 and oversaw the renovation of the sanctuary of the Church in preparations for the 50th anniversary for September 2017. The renovations shifted the tabernacle to the centre of the sanctuary's back wall, where it is now highlighted by the additional lights and panelling which have helped make the sanctuary brighter.

With Fr. Pier Pandolfo's arrival in 2017, the need to address the use of the old school building became paramount. The Parish was able to negotiate a long-term contract with Carrier Sekani Services for running a HeadStart program, which allowed the parish to begin the process of repurposing the building, including renovations to make the old space suitable for new uses. The process has been an exciting one for the parish and has brought them the interest of the local artist community. Beautifying and renovating the building has been a mixture of professional and volunteer efforts.

More recently, generous donors and volunteers have made further projects within the Church building possible, for which the Parish and Fr. Pier are immensely grateful. A project to build and install kneelers in the church pews was recently completed, and book holders for the pews are now in the works. The parish will also be upgrading its "Parish Tree" bulletin, which is where a large tree painting (4X8) will be home to photos of the parishioners.

A Tale of Prince Rupert and Haida Gwaii

By Fr. Terry Brock

On Ash Wednesday, I travelled to Haida Gwaii for a funeral of a 98-year-old ten days shy of 99 years old woman from Masset. Eight years ago she said to me "I've been praying for a priest to come here for many years" and I told her that I would be committed to this mission every month. Until Covid came, I was faithful to that.

I celebrated Ash Wednesday Mass in the morning and then I headed over to the island via float plane. My plan was to return Friday morning. There is a saying, "if you want to make the Lord smile just tell Him your plans for tomorrow." So, the Lord had other plans for me as I was stuck on the island. This allowed me to celebrate Sunday mass for four people. The picture of the snow in front of Annunciation Church shows that there was a big storm when I was away and consequently parishioners would have had a hard time parking and therefore would not be coming to Mass in Prince Rupert. It seems to me that the Lord who sees everything planned it accordingly. So, I was able to celebrate Mass with the parishioners on the island Haida Gwaii. A Family from Columbia recently

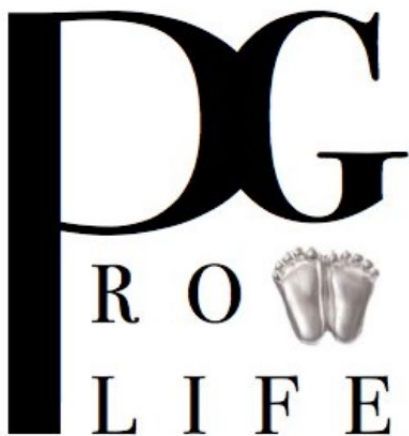


took up residence in Port Clement about 50 km south of Masset but because of the road conditions were unable to join us for the service.

The funeral drew about 200 people, 75% were Mennonites. There's a Mennonite connection in the family and consequently they came as far as Burns Lake for this service. I must say I was very impressed with the children and the joy and the strength of the young men who filled in the grave at the graveyard on a very, very cold and windy day. The wind coming off the ocean, made it extremely cold somebody said it was -16. I can attest to that, because I found it very cold, and I was bundled up.

Upcoming Events and Announcements

PG Pro-Life Society – Prayer Vigil on April 2, 2023



There will be a prayer vigil and gathering by the PG Pro-life Society on Sunday, April 2, 2023 at 2 p.m. for 1 hr. on the footpath by the intersection of Ferry and HWY16W.

This is to increase the Society's visibility within the community.

Please contact Richard Mansfield (Secretary) at 250-617-8748 (text) or 250-960-0926 (home) or Laura Fowlie 250-563-3874 for more details.

PG Share Hope Needs Your Help

The people of the city of Prince George have been amazing in the past year with contributions of money, time, and energy to help displaced Ukrainians. To date 65 families (197 people) have received assistance.

Homes are still required for incoming families and friends coming from war-torn Ukraine. Let us open our hearts and our homes to help. Two more families of five are coming soon, one in April.

If you have space, for a family of five (5) please send a private message to 778-349-7001 or email pg.sharehope@gmail.com for more details.

Also, hosts are needed to give assistance to those living independently to help with opening a bank account, going to Service BC to get medical cards and driver's license, to make medical appointments and register children in school etc.

The news coverage gives us a clear picture of the destruction in Ukraine. These people need our help to recover from devastation in their lives, and to give hope to their children.

Monthly Day of Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration

Emmanuel Hermitage invites you to a *Personal Date with Jesus* on **Tuesday, April 11, 2023** at the Domano Chapel, 6500 Southridge Ave. **Mass** will be celebrated at **7:30 AM** and the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed

from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM for a day of silent prayer and adoration. We will pray for the universal Church and the world, and for the people and needs of our Diocese. In particular we will pray for the protection of all human life, for all the sick, for vocations, for Peace in our world, and for the intentions of those participating in the day. Please mark your calendar on the second Tuesday of each month for *Personal Date with Jesus* days.

Invitation to Deacon Matthew's Ordination

Deacon Matthew Bellerive will be ordained to the priesthood on May 26th, 2023. Please see the attached invitation for details.

Diocesan-Wide Subscription for Formed

On March 31, 2023, the diocesan-wide subscription for the Catholic service "Formed" will be available for Catholics in all communities throughout the diocese.

Formed contains many resources for deepening your faith, including:

- Documentaries about the lives of the Saints
- Movies and shows for kids and the family
- Ebooks for Catholic topics and some classic literature
- Catholic Commentary on the hit-series "the Chosen"
- A series on Sacred Art
- Sacramental prep materials and much more

Instructions on how to sign-up for Formed on the diocesan subscription will be provided when available.

Want to share news in the Wednesday Weekly?

Email reception@pgdiocese.bc.ca by **NOON** on Tuesday.
Late entries will be published in the following week's edition. Please send in Word format.

To receive all diocesan news directly in your inbox or on your phone email reception@pgdiocese.bc.ca **OR TEXT** "pgd" to 514-900-0130 to join **Flocknote**. This is an email and text messaging tool created for churches, ministries, teams and other community organizations. It helps to communicate with the people by sending a simple text message. Please join us in keeping up with all the diocesan news.