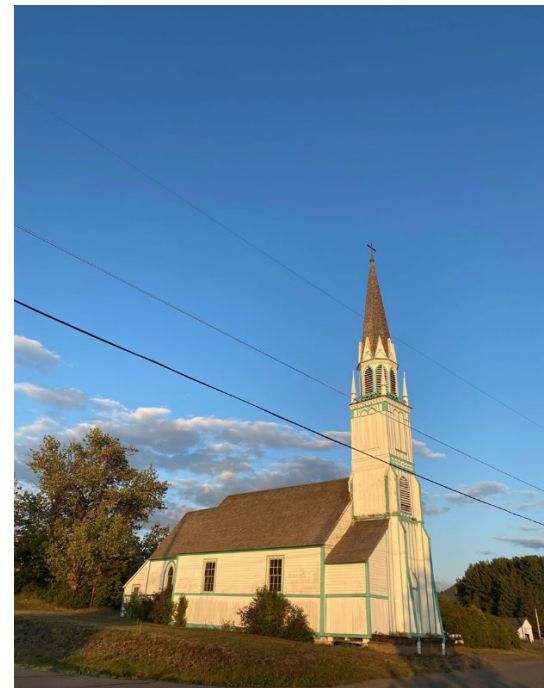


The church was built in 1873 and is the third oldest church in BC and the first permanent Catholic mission north of Williams Lake. The church and its nearby graveyard are valued for their associations with Carrier First Nations and with Father Adrien Gabriel Morice. Father Adrien Gabriel Morice was a France-born missionary priest of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate who ran a printing press for prayer books and a newspaper for the Carrier people, out of a cabin beside the church.

The church was built by George Blanchett and the Dakelh people and sits by the shores of Nak'al Bun (Stuart Lake) on Lakeshore Drive, once the wintering village of the Nak'azdli Whut'enne. The Catholic cemetery is nearby which has headstones written in Carrier syllabics, a Dènè writing system adapted by Father A.G. Morice to write the Carrier language. Father Morice served as a missionary priest of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate in Fort St. James from 1885 to 1904. His cabin still stands today behind the church where he printed Carrier Syllabic Prayer Books and his newspaper the Dustl'us Nawhulnuk.

Father Morice adapted a Dene writing system of symbols to represent the Carrier language. He is recognized as being the first person to make extensive transcriptions of material in an Athabaskan language. The historic church was in steady use until 1951, and still holds mass service during the summer months.

*Some information taken from Heritage BC website [Our Lady of Good Hope Catholic Church and Father Morice printing House, Fort St James - Heritage BC](#) and [Our Churches | Nak'azdli Whut'en \(nakazdliwhuten.ca\)](#)



**SESQUICENTENNIAL
JUBILEE (150TH ANNIVERSARY)
CELEBRATION**

**OUR LADY OF GOOD
HOPE CHURCH**

**OCT. 1, 2023, FORT ST.
JAMES, BC**

WELCOME TO
OUR LADY OF GOOD HOPE



**Procession of Mother Mary from Cottonwood to Our Lady of Good Hope at 10:00 am.
Holy Eucharistic Celebration at 10:30 am, by Most Rev. Bishop Stephen Jensen.
Potluck luncheon to follow at Nak'al Bun School.**

**The Congregation of Our Lady of the Snows Parish
Joyfully invites you to celebrate with us this milestone event.**

Please RSVP to Fr. Raju at 100 Church Drive, Fort St. James, BC V0J 1P0 or email: pnalaparaju@pgdiocese.ca

Ph: 250 996 8343

