

Mass Times: Saturday: 7:00pm, Sunday: 9:00 am and 11:00 am— Tuesday to Friday at 9:00am

Reconciliation: Saturdays 6:15pm, Sundays 8:15 am or by Appointment.

Pastor: Father Aruldhass Lucas, SAC.

Mailing address: 1088 Gillett Street, V2M 2V3—Office hours: Monday to Friday 9:00am to 4:00pm

Website: stmaryspg.ca—E-mail: stmarys.parish@shawcable.com

We acknowledge that St. Mary's Parish rests on the unceded traditional territory of the Lheidli T'enneh



THE ROMAN
CATHOLIC DIOCESE
OF PRINCE GEORGE

Bishop: Most Rev.
Stephen Jensen



TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN THE ORDINARY TIME



HE SITS AS A REFINER AND PURIFIER OF SILVER

This verse puzzled some women in a Bible study and they wondered what this statement meant about the character and nature of God. One of the women offered to find out the process of refining silver and get back to the group at their next Bible Study. As she watched the silversmith, he held a piece of silver over the fire and let it heat up. He explained that in refining silver, one needed to hold the silver in the middle of the fire where the flames were hottest as to burn away all the impurities. The woman thought about God holding us in such a hot spot. The man said he not only had to sit there holding the silver, but he had to keep his eyes on the silver the entire time it was in the fire. If the silver was left a moment too long in the flames, it would be destroyed. The woman asked the silversmith, 'How do you know when the silver is fully refined?' He smiled at her and answered, 'Oh, that's easy — when I see my image in it.' If today you are feeling the heat of the fire, remember that God has His eye on you and will keep watching you until He sees His image in you.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for the intentions of: Brigitta Betz, Elmer Braun, Eldon Gauthier, Maria Levar, Beverly Stuart, Rizal Advincula, Grace Noblette, Minnie, Blair, and Korena Peters and family, Garry Kaulbach's daughter, Birdie Froment, Mia Savic and family, and Pam Meyer.



Happy Thanksgiving!

On behalf of St. Mary's Church, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and yours a wonderful Thanksgiving. Without a doubt, we could spend much time focusing on the many things going wrong, but I want to remind us of the tremendous importance and calling that we must be a people of Thankfulness! ***Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; His love endures forever.*** Psalm 106:1. I want you to know that God is always with you and will surely be your source of strength and comfort this year as He has been in years past. It seems so appropriate that before we get to "the most wonderful time of the year", that we take a few moments to express our thanks to God.

"May you celebrate Thanksgiving Day with love in your heart, prosperous vision in your mind, and gratitude in your being. Thanksgiving wishes to everyone!"

Father Aruldhass Lucas SAC

READINGS AND LITURGY

Isaiah 5.1-7; Ps 80.8-15, 18-19;

Philippians 4.6-9; Gospel: Matthew 21.33-43.

Isaiah sings of the vineyard that yielded wild grapes. Paul writes to the Philippians that they will have peace from God if they make their requests known to him and think about things that are worthy of praise. Jesus tells a parable about a vineyard whose tenants killed the landowners' servants and son. He tells the chief priests and elders that the kingdom of God will be taken from them and given to a people that will produce its fruit.

—Faith Catholic



MASS INTENTIONS

Sat	Oct 7	7:00 pm	Intentions for all our Parishioners
Sun	Oct 8	9:00 am	RIP Teresa Lee Charest
		11:00 am	RIP Thai Vu, Viep Vu, and Am Thai
Tue	Oct 10	9:00 am	RIP Karl Schulz
Wed	Oct 11	9:00 am	RIP Helem and Pat O'Reilly
Thu	Oct 12	9:00 am	RIP Dorothy Kearney
Fri	Oct 13	9:00 am	RIP Wolfgang Betz
Sat	Oct 14	7:00 pm	Intentions for all our Parishioners
Sun	Oct 15	9:00 am	RIP Teresa Lee Charest
		11:00 am	RIP John and Serafina Furtado

UPCOMING EVENTS IN OCTOBER

Our Lady of Aparecida Feast Mass on Thursday, October 12th at 7:00 PM. (No morning Mass on that day).

Potluck Celebration of Our Lady of Aparecida on Sunday, October 15th at 5:00 pm in the School Gym.

Parish Movie Night on Friday, October 20th at 6:30 PM.

Next Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, October 22 at 10:00 AM.

Knights-Turkey Supper Fundraiser, on Sunday, October 29th at 5:00 PM.



ANNUAL PARISH TURKEY DINNER

The Knights of Columbus are hosting the Annual Parish Turkey Dinner on Sunday, October 29th at St. Mary's Hall. Doors open at 5:00 PM and dinner will be served at 5:30 PM. You can buy your tickets with your favorite Knight or at the Parish Office. Cost for tickets: Adults, \$15.00, Kids from 6-10, \$7.00.

ST. MARY'S PARISH COUNCIL

The St. Mary's Parish Pastoral Council is meeting this Tuesday, October 10th at 7:00 pm.

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL ENVELOPES

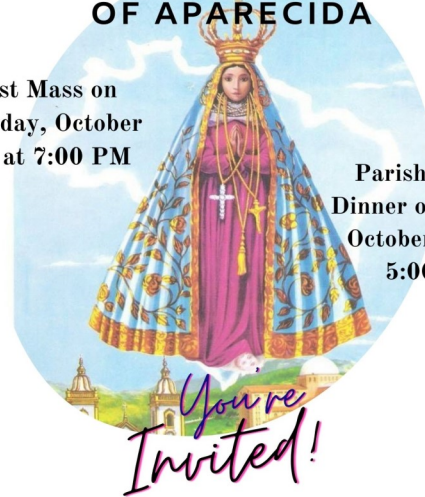
If you have not picked up your Diocesan Appeal Envelopes from the back of the church by this weekend, they will be mailed to your home address. Kindly receive them and continue to support the Diocesan Appeal.

St. Mary's PARISH **FEAST**

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF APARECIDA

Feast Mass on
Thursday, October
12th at 7:00 PM

Parish Potluck
Dinner on Sunday,
October 15th at
5:00 PM



OUR PARISH, OUR MOTHER

OUR CELEBRATION, OUR STRENGTH

"Pour your blessings on us, Our Lady of Aparecida, and help us to overcome difficulties. May your love accompany us, and your holiness enlighten our hearts."

1088 Gillett St. Prince George, BC. V2M 2V3

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF APARECIDA PARISH POTLUCK DINNER

Our Lady of Aparecida Potluck on Sunday, October 15th at 5pm in the St. Mary's School Gym.

If your last name starts with **A to L** please bring a main dish, and if your last name starts with **M to Z** please bring a salad, appetizer or a dessert.

If you are gluten free please bring a gluten free dish.




62nd ANNUAL CHARITY APPEAL

[Click here](#) For Council 5246

WIN \$100,000 in prizes including a 2023 Toyota RAV4 Hybrid Grand Prize

PRIZES

1 st Prize	2023 Toyota RAV4 Hybrid	
2 nd Prize	\$30,000	4 th Prize \$5,000
3 rd Prize	\$10,000	5 th to 14 th \$1,000 each! --> Early Bird Draws

TICKETS

1 for \$5
10 for \$25
50 for \$50

Limited Tickets!
BUY TODAY for Council 5246
Total Prizes \$100,000



Sales Oct 1, 2023 to Dec 16, 2023, 8pm
Early Bird Draws

Oct 9 (2x\$1000), Oct 23 (2x\$1000), Nov 6 (2x\$1000)
Nov 20 (2x\$1000), Dec 2 (2x\$1000)
Main Draw Saturday December 16, 2023, 8:01pm

An annual charity appeal of the Knights of Columbus (BC) Charity Foundation
WORKING TOGETHER TO MAKE OUR COMMUNITIES BETTER
Thank you for your Support!

For general inquiries call 604-216-7272 BC Gaming Event License #: 144568
Chances are 1 in 410,000 (total tickets for sale) to win a grand prize. Actual odds depend on number of tickets sold. 19+ to play.
Problem Gambling Help Line 1-888-795-6111 www.bcreponsiblegambling.ca Know your limit. Play within it.
Winners are responsible for cost associated with delivery/claiming of prizes.

CWL IS LOOKING FOR DONATIONS

The CWL is looking for the following donations to bake pies for their annual craft fair:

Fresh or frozen fruit, lemon pie filling, and sugar.

Please drop off donations to the St. Mary's Parish Office between office hours: Monday 9am-3pm, Tuesday-Friday 9am-4pm.

CWL-RAFFLE TICKETS

The CWL will be selling raffle tickets at the back of the church after every Mass until the Craft Fair on November 4th and 5th. The tickets are \$5 each and the proceeds go to the maintenance of the St. Eugene Room and the gym. Thank you for your support.

2023-24 ANNUAL CALLED TOGETHER AND HEALING AND RECONCILIATION APPEAL UPDATE

We have made some progress over the past week, reaching more than 18% of our diocesan goal with almost \$50,000 pledged and over \$43,000 already received. In addition, the Healing and Reconciliation appeal has reached over 4,000.

A number of parishes have been making good progress, with Sacred Heart Cathedral over 31% and Sacred Heart Parish (Terrace) at almost 22%. Immaculate Conception Parish (PG), St. Mary's (PG), St. Joseph's (Smithers), and Our Lady of Peace (Chetwynd) have all added to their totals to get them over the 10% mark toward their total combined goal.

We are grateful to all those who have already contributed, both financially and in prayer. We know that things are more challenging for many parishioners this year due to inflation and we appreciate your generosity even more because of this greater sacrifice.

If you have not yet contributed to our appeals, we ask that you prayerfully consider doing so. There are many people throughout the diocese who depend on the funds raised through the appeal and who are confronting the difficulties of increasing costs as well. Your support is so very important to meeting those needs.

As always, please continue to pray for the many needs throughout the diocese.

ROSARY COAST TO COAST- OCTOBER 13

Light a candle, pray with your family and friends, or join an online livestream event at 3100 Weston Road, Toronto. Recitation of the Holy Rosary, chaplet of the Divine Mercy, consecration to Mary in song, and a brief reflection. There is no better time to be on our knees and implore God for mercy on our families and country!

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/3731333108>

Meeting ID: 373 133 3108

+13017158592,,3731333108# US (Washington DC)

+13126266799,,3731333108# US (Chicago)

CANADA NEEDS OUR LADY PUBLIC ROSARY

On **October 14th**, thousands of Catholics will be taking part of a growing number of faithful Catholics who believe in Our Lady of Fatima's message and attend her request to pray the Rosary. Our nation desperately needs conversion and the Rosary is the one prayer the Mother of God asked us to pray in order to obtain the change of hearts.

A public Rosary for Canada will be held along HWY 16 West and Ferry Ave, along the paved walkway by the southern side of the School District Offices. It will take place on October 14th at 12 noon. Come with your family and friends to join in prayer for the conversion of Canada.

WOMEN'S PERSONAL RETREAT

Sts. Therese of Lisieux, Teresa of Avila, Catherine of Siena, and Hildegard of Bingen...who are these women? They are our sisters-in-Christ and the only four female doctors of the Catholic Church. This fall we are offering a women's personal retreat to learn from these amazing women and their love for Jesus Christ.

The retreat book, *Set the World on Fire: A 4-Week Personal Retreat with the Female Doctors of the Church*, will be used and we will gather in-person for prayer, sharing and companionship. There will be 5 bi-weekly sessions starting Saturday, **October 14 from 1 to 2 pm (following dates are Oct. 28, Nov. 11, Nov. 25, and Dec 9)**.

Cost of the retreat is \$26, which pays for the book. Please contact the St. Mary's Parish secretary to register at 250-564-4097. If you have any questions, please contact Natalie Vogt at natalie.saindon@gmail.com.

MONTHLY DAY OF EUCHARISTIC EXPOSITION AND ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Emmanuel Hermitage invites you to a Personal Date with Jesus on **Tuesday, October 10, 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.

RETURN TO SPIRIT RECONCILIATION SERIES

A "Roots of Reconciliation" workshop, the first session of a Return to Spirit series focusing on reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, will take place at UNBC from **October 10th to 13th**. Please, see the posters on the bulletin board in both entrance of the Church for more information.

GRIEF TO GRACE RETREAT

Through a retreat program facilitated by mental health professionals and centered on Jesus Christ, Grief to Grace helps those who have endured neglect, physical, emotional, sexual, and/or spiritual abuse in their family of origin, their community, from spouses/partners, and/or coworkers or supervisors, find healing and journey to wholeness. The next retreat in Canada is **October 24 – 28, 2023** in Kelowna. For more information please email griegtograncelowna@gmail.com or make a confidential call to 250-808-6403.

LIVING AS CATHOLICS IN CHALLENGING TIMES

The Diocese of Prince George invites you to **Dr. Ralph Martin's public presentation on October 17, 2023, 7:00 PM at the Diocesan Pastoral Centre**. The presentation will also be made available **LIVESTREAM via ZOOM** for those who cannot come to the Pastoral Centre. Please see the posters on the bulletin boards in both entrance of the Church, for more detail.

"**Living as Catholics in Challenging Times**" is the focus of Dr. Ralph Martin's presentation. He will speak with us on his perspective on the clash between culture and Church, and insights in response to this clash.

As the culture we live in becomes more hostile to Christ and the Church many Catholics feel disoriented. What makes the situation even more challenging is that there are divisions, competing voices and confusion even within the Church. Dr. Martin will identify some of these issues and provide guidance about how to keep our heads clear and our hearts at peace in the midst of our current situation.

Feast of Our Lady of Aparecida

Three hundred years ago, October 12- Early on the morning of October 12, 1717, three Brazilian fishermen set out on the waters of the Paraíba River, which ran through their village. They were charged with providing the fish for the banquet that would be held a few days later in the village of Guaratinguetá on the visit of the Count of Assumar, Don Pedro de Almeida, Governor of the Province of São Paulo, and Minas Gerais, as he travelled to the town of Vila Rica. The three fishermen – Domingos Garcia, Filipe Pedroso, and João Alves – had had no luck that morning; they had been fishing for hours without catching anything. They had almost given up when João Alves decided to give it one more try. He cast his net into the river and slowly began to draw it in. There was something there, but it wasn't a fish... it seemed to be a piece of wood. When they pulled it out of the net, they saw that it was a statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary, with the head missing.

The miraculous catch- João cast his net into the waters once more, and pulling it in, he found another piece of wood which proved to be the statue's head. As if in response to strange instinct, he cast his net a third time into the river. When he tried to pull it in, he found it was full of fish. Now his companions cast their nets as well, and likewise found themselves overwhelmed with an abundance of fish.

Popular veneration- Over the course of the next few days, the three fishermen cleaned and re-assembled the statue, and Filipe Pedroso placed it in his humble abode. Soon after, news of the miraculous catch spread to the neighboring villages, and day-by-day more of their countrymen came to honor the Blessed Virgin and pray the Rosary. They gave her the name "Nossa Senhora da Conceição Aparecida," that is, Our Lady of the Appeared Conception.

As time went on, the crowds became so large that there was no longer room in the little hut. A small chapel was built, and later, in 1737, a larger one. Soon witnesses began to tell of many graces that were received from Our Lady, and of the many miracles that took place at the sanctuary.

The new church - In 1846 work began on a new church, which was completed in 1888. In 1904, the statue of Our Lady of Aparecida was crowned by order of Pope St Pius X. In 1930, Pope Pius XI declared Our Lady of Aparecida to be the Patroness of Brazil.



Pope Francis Visit to the Basilica- The Successor of Peter, Pope Francis visited the Basilica of Our Lady of Aparecida in 2013. During the World Youth Day in Rio, on July 24, 2013, Pope Francis went on a pilgrimage to the shrine of Aparecida. He said, "I had the joy and the grace," of praying at the feet of the Madonna, "entrusting my pontificate to her."

At St. Mary's Parish- since Mother Mary is the patron of our parish it is good to celebrate this month with love and prayers. October is the Month traditionally dedicated to the Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Through this celebration of the feast of our lady of Aparecida in our parish we are also coming closer to Mother Mary, the Immaculate Conception, through our prayers and Sacraments, seeking her powerful protection and intercession.

PRAYER OF OUR LADY APARECIDA - SHORT VERSION

"Dear Mother, Our Lady Aparecida, You who love us and guide us every day, You who are the most beautiful of Mothers, whom I love with all my heart. I ask you once again to help me achieve grace. (Tell me what grace you want to achieve) I know that you will help me, and I know that you will always accompany me, Until the time of my death. Amen."

Wishes and Prayers- Celebrate this significant occasion with your family and friends by sharing with them warm Lady of Aparecida Day wishes and images.

Don't forget to thank her and ask her to grant your wishes to you. Wish everyone a joyful feast of our Lady of Aparecida Day. The occasion of the feast of our Lady of Aparecida Day is all about coming together and celebrating Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception with great zeal and enthusiasm.

Many blessings to everyone on the feast of our Lady of Aparecida Day.

