

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-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN THE ORDINARY TIME



THE RICH MAN AND THE BEGGAR

The French have a story about a millionaire, who spent his days counting his gold coins. Beside his palace was a poor cobbler who spent his days singing as he repaired people's shoes. The joyful singing irritated the rich man. One day he decided to give some gold coins to the cobbler. At first the cobbler was overjoyed, and he took the coins and hid them. But then he worried about the coin and was constantly going back to make sure the coins were still there. Then he worried in case someone had seen him and might steal the coins. Consequently, he ceased to sing. Then one day he realized that he had ceased to sing because of the gold coins. He took them back to the rich man and said, "Take back your coins and give me back my songs." Inordinate attachment to riches can take away our freedom and joy.

READINGS AND LITURGY

Isaiah 25.6-10; Ps 23.1-6;

Philippians 4.12-14, 19-20; Gospel: Matthew 22.1-14.

From Isaiah's rich description of the abundance God intends to provide us for all time, to Paul's reminder that God constantly provides for our good, to Jesus' parable encouraging us in dramatic terms to accept God's feast rather than relying on ourselves alone, all of our readings lead us to celebrate being gracious receivers of God's generous love.

—Faith Catholic

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.

Welcome to Our Church!

*To all who mourn or need
comfort,
To all who are weary and need
rest,
To all who seek friendship,
To all who desire to grow in
Relationship with God,
To all who yearn to pray,
To all who need a Saviour,
And who ever will worship,
This Church of St. Mary's
opens wide its doors,
And in the name of
Christ our Lord, says:*

WELCOME!

HOW CAN I LIVE WITHOUT MY EXCUSES?

A middle-aged woman went to a distant monastery for her first weekend retreat in many years. When she arrived at the guest house, one of the monks approached her and surprised her with a brusque question. "Why not?" "That was the first thing he said," she relates. "He had never seen me before. I hadn't even said a word. "Why not?" he questioned. I knew he had me. After all, he was the retreat master." I brought up excuses: "It was a long trip.... I'm tired... the kids... the people I work with... not enough time... I guess it's my temperament." The retreat master took a long sword off the wall and gave it to the woman. "Here, with this sword, you can cut through any barriers you have." She took it and slipped away without saying a word. Back in her room, alone, she sat down and kept looking at the sword. She knew that what he said was true. But the next day she returned the sword. She muttered, "How can I live without my excuses?" (Brian Cavanaugh in "Tales of a Magic Monastery")



MASS

INTENTIONS

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
Tue	Oct 17	9:00 am	RIP Aline Pighin
Wed	Oct 18	9:00 am	RIP Tony Cue
Thu	Oct 19	9:00 am	RIP Wolfgang Betz
Fri	Oct 20	9:00 am	RIP Theresa Goudreau
Sat	Oct 21	7:00 pm	RIP Don Dellaire
Sun	Oct 22	9:00 am	Intentions for all our Parishioners
		11:00 am	RIP Viep Vu

UPCOMING EVENTS IN OCTOBER

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

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

Parish Movie Night on **Friday, October 27th at 6:30 PM. Please note date change**

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

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF APARECIDA PARISH POTLUCK DINNER



Our Lady of Aparecida Potluck is this 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.

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 ALTAR SERVERS



Thank you to all our Altar Servers and their families who were able to participate in our Altar Server Workshop in September!

We are very happy to also welcome several new members to our Altar Serving Team!

FRESH TO YOU FUNDRAISER



The Fresh to You Fundraiser is a great way to fundraise with healthy food choices while making a 40% profit for your school.

Here's What's in the Bundles



We love to eat fresh fruits and vegetables!

Bundle 1 - \$25
5 lb Red Beets
5 lb Pacific Premium Potatoes - Small
3 lb Carrots
3 lb Onions - Yellow

Bundle 2 - \$30
5 lb Pacific Premium Potatoes - Small
5 lb Red Beets
3 lb Carrots
1 lb Parsnips
283g Shallots

Our school is making a healthy choice in fundraising by selling top quality fruits and vegetables from BC.

Help us:

- meet our school's fundraising goals
- support healthy choices
- support local growers and producers

Fundraising Dates: Orders due Wednesday, October 18, 2023

Fundraising Coordinator: Caroline Mereski

ST. MARY'S YOUTH GROUP

Our next Youth Group is on the Feast of St. Luke on Wednesday, October 18th! We invite all youth in grades 7—12 to join us! We will be meeting at St. Mary's in the School Gym from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

A PRAYER FOR PEACE

O God, merciful and strong, who crush wars and cast down the proud, be pleased to banish violence swiftly from our midst and to wipe away all tears, so that we may all truly deserve to be called your children. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

EVENING PRAYER FOR PEACE IN THE HOLY LAND

On October 12th, Bishop Jensen shared with the priests of the diocese a letter from Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzaballa, Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, and president of the Assembly of Catholic Ordinaries of the Holy Land. In Cardinal Pizzaballa's letter, he speaks of the reality of the "destruction", "death", "sorrow" and "political and military crisis" that is occurring in the Holy Land and he asks, on behalf of the bishops of the Holy Land, that all parishes and religious communities "hold a day of fasting, abstinence, and prayer" so that the world may "deliver to God the Father our thirst for peace, justice and reconciliation." In keeping with this request, parishioners of the Prince George city parishes are invited to gather at Sacred Heart Cathedral at 5:30 p.m., Friday, October 20th, for Evening Prayer (which will include Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration, and the recitation of the Holy Rosary). Parishioners who are able are also invited to dedicate that day to fasting and abstinence.

Evening Prayer for Peace in the Holy Land

(Eucharistic Adoration, praying the holy rosary, a day of fasting and abstinence)



Sacred Heart Cathedral
Friday, October 20, 2023, 5:30 PM

SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL
ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PRINCE GEORGE

LIVE @cathedralpg

FM Radio 102.5

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. If you are unable to use the QR code on the poster to sign-up, here is the link to register: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/living-as-catholics-in-challenging-times-tickets-725492546737?aff=oddttdcreator>
"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.




62nd ANNUAL CHARITY APPEAL

Click here For Council 5246

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

PRIZES

1st Prize	2023 Toyota RAV4 Hybrid
2nd Prize	\$30,000
3rd Prize	\$10,000
4th Prize	\$5,000
5th to 14th	\$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.bccresponsiblegambling.ca Know your limit. Play within it.
Winners are responsible for cost associated with delivery/claiming of prizes.

RIGHT TO LIFE SOCIETY OF PRINCE GEORGE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

You are warmly invited to attend the AGM of the Right to Life Society of Prince George (formerly the Prince George Pro Life Society) on Tuesday, October 24th, at 7:00 PM at the Overcoming Faith Christian Centre (4520 Wheeler Road).

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

We are grateful to everyone for the tremendous support we have received since our last update. We have now reached 39% of the diocesan goal in pledges with almost 26% already received. In addition, our Healing and Reconciliation Appeal has raised almost \$8,000 with all the funds received.

A number of parishes made significant progress toward reaching their combined goal. Sacred Heart Cathedral and St. Mary's (PG) have both reached 44% with St. Joseph's in Vanderhoof slightly behind at 43%. Notre Dame has surpassed 30%, Sacred Heart Parish (Terrace) and Immaculate Conception (PG) have reached 29%, and St. Joseph's in Smithers has hit 24%. Many other parishes have been rapidly gaining ground as well.

We are very thankful for the participation and support from everyone. We know that with inflation making it harder for everyone, it's even more of a sacrifice to contribute this year. As our smaller parishes, missions and ministries are encountering the same challenges in meeting rising demands while confronting rising prices, we are ever more grateful for your sacrifice.

Please remember to continue to pray for the many needs throughout the diocese and, if you are able, please prayerfully consider providing your financial support.

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.

