# **IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH**

**Diocese of Prince George** 

## MARCH 27, 2022—4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

3285 Cathedral Avenue ~ Prince George, BC V2N 6R4

TELEPHONE: 250-964-4898 WEBSITE: <u>www.icparish.ca</u>

## OUR PARISH MISSION STATEMENT



We are a Catholic community nourished through the Word and the Sacraments. Striving to follow Christ, we reach out and welcome all, witnessing through loving actions in service, education, and celebration.			
OFFICE HOURS:	Monday to Friday	9:30AM - 3:00PM	
MASS TIMES:	Daily Sunday	Monday – Friday 9:00AM 9:00AM, 11:00AM & 7:00PM	
SACRAMENTS:	Baptism Reconciliation Marriage	Contact Parish Office Before Mass, or by appointment Contact Parish Office at least six months in advance	

BISHOP ~DIOCESE OF PRINCE GEORGE PASTOR ~ IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH Administrative and Pastoral Assistant Principal ~ Immaculate Conception School Most Rev. Stephen JensenEmail: sjensen@pgdiocese.bc.caFr. Chris LynchEmail: frchrislynch@yahoo.caMrs. Martha PrimusEmail: icparish@pgdiocese.bc.caMrs. Kathleen BarthEmail: icsoffice@cispg.ca

## PASTORAL MINISTRIES CONTACTS

FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIR:	Matt Brown	HOME VISITS:	Contact Parish Office
PARISH COUNCIL CHAIR:	Eva Gillis	CHILDREN'S MINISTRY:	TBA
Hospitality/Coffee Sunday:	Eva Gillis & Anita Santos		Sr. Michaela Linda Boudreau
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GRAND KNIGHT:	Dennis Fedyk	SOCIAL ACTION: Soup Kitchen	Sr. Michaela
K of C Meetings	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month	VOCATIONS:	Fr. Terry Brock

## This brother of yours was dead, and has come to life.



From the dawn of creation described in the *Book of Genesis*, the story of the Bible relates how God created the world to be a place of harmony. The garden of Eden is a beautiful symbol of this harmonious world. The Promised Land--as it's depicted in our First Reading this Sunday--also shows us a vision of what God has in store for the human family. There Joshua leads God's people into the "land of milk and honey."

Jesus captures God's dream for the world in the *Gospel* story today. It's the familiar story of the prodigal son, better titled "The Father Who Couldn't Forget." There our God is portrayed as the parent who waited day after day for his errant child to return. What a beautiful picture of God!

Throughout history--though human beings have strayed constantly, following their own ideas for happiness-- God has held fast to a dream of harmony, and made it come true with forgiveness. Jesus and Christians who seek to follow him embody that dream in our world today.

> From Father Greg Friedman, OFM Listen here to the Sunday Soundbites

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- Stations of the Cross (no Mass to follow) Fridays during Lent 7:00 PM
- Reflections During Lent Thursday mornings after morning Mass
- Development and Peace; Share Lent Collection: April 3, 2022
- Chrism Mass Tuesday, April 5, 7:00 PM at Sacred Heart Cathedral
- IC Parish Reconciliation Service Thursday, April 7, 2022. 6:30 PM
- Good Friday Collection for Holy Land April 15



#### **Coffee Sunday**

Spring has sprung and the restrictions are lifted. We will get back to gathering after Sunday morning Masses for coffee and conversation. This will begin Easter Sunday



and the following Sundays. Are you willing to give of your time one Sunday a month to provide hospitality? If so, please contact parish office at 250-964-4898 or email Anita <u>santosls@telus.net</u>

#### Peace and Development (D&P)–Share Lent

- The collection gathered on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent, Solidarity Sunday (April 3, 2022) is an opportunity to practice almsgiving while supporting the mission of D&P to help poor around the world. Or you can donate directly online at <u>devp.org/give</u>
- 2. Message from <u>Bishop Raymond's full message</u>.
- **3.** Sign the petition for strong laws to control Canadian corporations' behaviour abroad at <u>devp.org/act</u>.

See attached or <u>click here for 2022 Solidarity Calendar</u>. Print and follow the journey from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday.



#### Support Ukraine through CNEWA

The Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA) is a papal agency dedicated to addressing the needs of near-eastern countries and implementing solutions with and through the Church in those countries.

Donations for Ukraine can be sent to CNEWA the following ways:

- https://cnewa.org/ca/campaigns/Ukraine/
- Call 1-866-322-4441
- Or Send cheques to CNEWA (Catholic Near East Welfare Association) Canada, 223 Main Street, Box 80, Ottawa ON K1S 1C4

Or you can make your donation to Immaculate Conception parish. Please make cheque payable to <u>RCEC Immaculate Conception</u>. The parish will forward the donations collected. There will be a separate basket for the donations beside the regular donation basket.

We flee to the shelter of your mercy, O Virgin Mother of God. Do not reject our prayers of anguish, but free us from tribulation, O only pure and blessed one

## The Share Hope Refugee Sponsorship

<u>Committee</u> is working with\_a city-wide PG4Ukraine initiative.

Funds are being raised in coordination with efforts to help displaced persons and refugees fleeing from the war in the Ukraine. This will include the option to relocate to Prince George.

Donations can be made directly to the parish mark envelope or cheque with "**Share Hope Refugee Sponsorship Committee**." This is separate from the basket we have out for the Ukraine.

You can also donate through **CanadaHelps** using the **"Ukraine**" option on the Diocese of Prince George webpage located <u>here.</u>

The Committee is always looking for new members to join in their efforts.

For more information, contact Eva Gillis at 778-349-7001.

Link for the Diocesan Wednesday Weekly for March 23, 2022

## Diocesan Annual Appeal Receipts

If you have not received your Appeal Tax receipt from the diocese, please contact James Fowlie at **jfowlie@pgdiocese.bc.ca** or call our parish office. The Diocesan Finance Office is happy to send a new receipt by email or Canada Post.



#### Attention to Music ministers and those who like to sing:

You are welcome to join the Citywide Parish Choir for the Chrism Mass (Tuesday, April 5 at 7:00PM). Next choir practice will take place on Tuesday, March 29

at 7:00PM at Sacred Heart Cathedral in the choir loft. For more information, please e-mail <u>icparish@pgdiocese.bc.ca</u> or call Immaculate Conception Parish office at 250-964-4898.

### Walk for Life in Prince George - May 28, 2022

Advokate Life and Education Services is holding its first, in-person Walk for Life in Prince George. Walk for Life is a pro-life fundraising initiative which supports women through pregnancy counselling and resources, after-birth care, postabortion care, and community education.

The Prince George Walk for Life will take place on May 28, 2022 and starts at 12:30 PM at Lheidli T'enneh Memorial Park, 17th Ave, Prince George, BC, V2L 3X9.

Fundraise on your own or bring together a team to walk or run 5K or 10K and invite your friends and family to sponsor you. More details can be found on the website: <u>https://walkforlife.ca/</u>.

"In the past I always thought of gratitude as a spontaneous response to the awareness of gifts received, but now I realize that gratitude can also be lived as a discipline. The discipline of gratitude is the explicit effort to acknowledge that all I am, and have is given to me as a gift of love, a gift to be celebrated with joy."

Henri J.M. Nouwen,
Return of the Prodigal Son

