# **IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH**

## Diocese of Prince George

## APRIL 17, 2022—EASTER SUNDAY

3285 Cathedral Avenue - Prince George, BC V2N 6R4 TELEPHONE: 250-964-4898 WEBSITE: www.icparish.ca



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:

MASS TIMES:

SACRAMENTS:

Monday to Friday 9:30AM – 3:00PM Daily Monday – Friday 9:00AM Sunday 9:00AM, 11:00AM & 7:00PM Baptism Contact Parish Office Reconciliation Before Mass, or by appointment Marriage 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
PARISH COUNCIL CHAIR:	Eva Gillis
Hospitality/Coffee Sunday:	Anita Santos
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GRAND KNIGHT:	Dennis Fedyk
K of C Meetings	$2^{nd}$ Thursday of the month

HOME VISITS: Contact Parish Office CHILDREN'S MINISTRY: TBA CHURCH Sr. Michaela ENVIRONMENT: Linda Boudreau SOCIAL ACTION: Sr. Michaela Soup Kitchen VOCATIONS: Fr. Terry Brock

According the the Scripture: Jesus must rise from the dead.

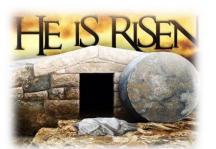


John 20.1-18





"There is no tale ever told," author J.R.R. Tolkien once wrote in an essay on storytelling, that people "would rather find was true."



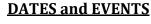
The Catholic author of

*The Lord of the Rings* was speaking of the story of Jesus. Today as we accompany Peter and the Beloved Disciple making their way to the tomb, we might echo Tolkien's comment.

Our faith--as St. Paul tells the Corinthians--rests on the truth of Jesus' Resurrection. But establishing that truth isn't a matter of science, history, or archaeology. It's a matter of faith. We call upon the Holy Spirit--present to the Church--to assist us. In the Easter *Gospels* we hear the witness of the first followers of Jesus: Jesus was risen; they had experienced him alive in their midst. Their testimony in the Spirit moves us to a faith-filled "Alleluia."

We live in a skeptical age. And yet in his essay, J.R.R. Tolkien pays tribute to the power of the Christian proclamation. He notes that there is no other story which so many skeptics "have accepted as true on its own merits." Our Easter *Gospel* is a *story of living faith* in which we are participants, and to which we are now witnesses.

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



• First Holy Communion April 23, 2022 2:00 PM

- Share Hope meeting Tuesday, April 26, 2022 St. Mary's Church 7:00PM
- Divine Mercy Sunday Celebration at Sacred Heart Cathedral-- Sunday, April 24 Confessions at 2:00PM, Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:00PM Mass at 3:15PM
- The Celebration of Fr. Chris's 25th Anniversary or Ordination June 3, 2022 Mass 7:00PM See invitation

Link for the Diocesan Wednesday Weekly for April 13, 2022

#### **Easter Blessings:**

A very Blessed Easter to all of you on behalf of the Parish Staff: Sr. Michaela, Jim, Martha, and myself.

Sincere gratitude to all those who have made our Triduum and Easter celebrations so beautiful: Linda and Sr. Michaela for the art and environment, the music ministries, all who ministered at the celebrations, and those who participated in the liturgies.

Congratulation to Patrick Plouffe, Jocelyn and Ryan Chowdrhy; and Samantha and Dustin Ruth who completed the Sacraments of Initiation at the Vigil. May they continue to grow in their faith, as we support them in prayer as a church community.

With my Easter prayers and blessings.

### Fr. Chris Lynch, Pastor

#### Why do we "have to" go to Mass?

Whether you're eight or eighty years old, at some point in life, you've probably struggled with the question,

#### "Why do I have to go to Mass?"

You may

- at times just not feel like going.
- not like the music or the homilies in your parish.
- think Mass is boring.
- try to convince yourself that you can pray just as well outdoors or in the comfort of your own home.

Even though you know that going to Mass is a good thing, you can talk yourself out of going by focusing on those reasons. At first, you may feel some guilt, but eventually, justify your decisions by convincing yourself that you are too: busy, tired, bored, or frustrated.

When this happens, you miss the great gift that God gives to us in the Eucharist.

What if you changed your attitude about going to Mass? What if you began to think of Mass as the time in the week and/or day to connect, in a special way, with God and with your church community? What if you made Mass a priority?

The effects of these positive attitudes may surprise you. Research studies show that people who go to Church every week are:

- Less likely to suffer from depression.
- Less likely to abuse drugs or alcohol.
- More likely to have a solid sense of right and wrong.
- More likely to have a longer and a happier life.

Please know you are always welcome here at Immaculate Conception and let us know if we can help you in any way.



Please join us for 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Presbyteral Ordination

## Father Chris Lynch

of

Ordination June 6, 1997 on Friday, the third of June two thousand and twenty two at seven o'clock in the evening.

Mass will be celebrated

A reception will follow in the Church Hall

Immaculate Conception Parish 3285 Cathedral Avenue Prince George, BC

Please RSVP to Martha Primus by May 27<sup>th</sup> call 250-964-4898 or email <u>icparish@pgdiocese.bc.ca</u>

"As the Father has loved mes so I have loved you; abide in my love." John 15.9



#### **Baby Bottle Campaign**

Sunday, May 8th to Sunday, June 19, 2022.

Please join in the Annual Baby Bottles Campaign sponsored by Advokate Life & Education Services. These baby bottles represent HOPE for vulnerable women and families in need.



By filling a bottle, you're taking part in literally changing and saving lives.

Bottles will be available May 24, 2022 Check out https://babybottles.ca/

DYC 2022 is right around the corner - May 6th & 7th

at Christ our Saviour Parish, here in Prince George! Open to all youth Gr. 7-12! Official registration and more info was released on Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup> Contact Lisa Farrell at <u>lvfarrell@pgdiocese.bc.ca</u>



We ask the risen Jesus, who turns death into life, to change hatred into love, vengeance into forgiveness, war into peace. - Pope Francis I



Since the pandemic many of our parishioners have not returned to church. Consequently, this has affected our finances, our expenses are greater than what we are receiving in the Sunday collections.

As you are aware the cost of everything has sky-rocketed, which has put an enormous burden on our expenditures.

Please think about increasing your offering if you have not done so for awhile. For those who have not been contributing, please be aware that what we provide as a parish community comes with many expenses. i.e. utilities, salaries, maintenance, insurance (which increased by 70%), church and office supplies etc. Thank you for your consideration.

### THIS IS OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY

