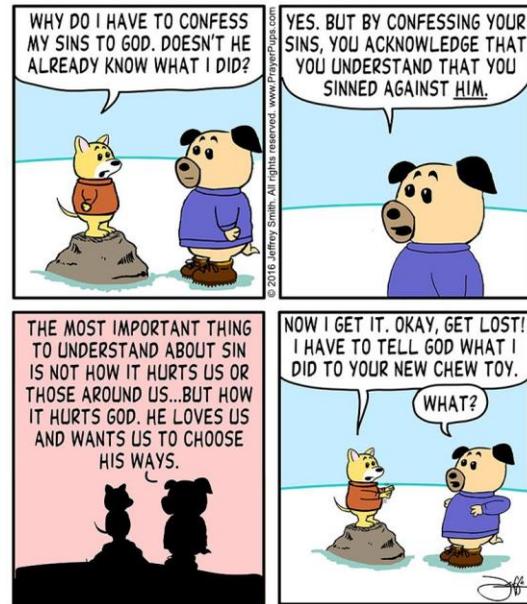


PRAYER PUPS BY JEFFREY SMITH



One week from today we begin the season of Lent, a time for more intense prayer and penance – personal sacrifice – to beg God’s healing grace for our lives and for the world.

The unimaginable tragedy that struck the community of Tumbler Ridge yesterday has traumatized us all. The most effective response we can offer for the intentions of the dead and the survivors, their families, the emergency responders, the parish community and town, is our own prayer and penance. In the providence of God, those are the tools entrusted to us that we can use to address suffering and help bring mercy and healing to all.

Today is the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. In the words of the familiar prayer, we turn to her “mourning and weeping in this valley of tears.” May we all unite our prayers to our Lady’s intercession to ask for God’s presence and mercy in our suffering world.

Bishop Stephen Jensen
February 11, 2026.



ST. JOSEPH’S PARISH
Vanderhoof, BC

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year A

February 15th, 2026

“Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.”



HOLY TRINITY
CHURCH MISSION
Saik’uz First Nation, BC

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EUCCHARIST

Saturday St. Joseph.....5:00 p.m.
Sunday St. Joseph.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday Holy Trinity.....12:00 noon
Tues & Thurs.....6:30 p.m.
Wed & Fri.....9:00 a.m.

RECONCILIATION

By appointment.

BAPTISM

Contact Father Pier for more information.

MATRIMONY

Please contact Father Pier for an appointment at least six months

In today’s gospel Jesus affirms that he has not come to abolish the Law or the Prophets but to fulfill them. Outward conformity to the law is insufficient. Jesus invites us to something more: a conversion of heart. This at times calls us beyond our current age’s sense of what is right or fair.

It can be tempting, when we are struggling individually or as a couple, to live our marriage as a contract rooted in laws instead of a covenant founded in love. Today’s Gospel reminds us that our marriage needs to go beyond the letter of any agreement: this beautiful sacrament calls us to share truthfully of our gifts and our brokenness. We are invited into a love without condition that leads us beyond the law to freedom.

This does not mean we do not make mistakes or that there is no struggle. By virtue of free will we wrestle with discerning true wisdom, for as Sirach says, “God has set before us fire and water to whichever we choose.” But God is not asking us to choose perfect conformity to rules. He wants us to know ourselves as beloved. Grounded in that deep knowing, we are compelled to love gratuitously. After all, as St. Irenaeus reminds us, the glory of God is the human person fully alive.

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PRAYER REQUESTS: For Brenda Antoine, Jason Aritolla, Mackie Basil, Julio Bonilla jr., Cooper Cursley, Evelyn Embree, Ronald Gilmore, Brent Gray, Ellen Haynes, Patrick Irving, Lisa Ketlo, Halli & Hunter Krawczyk, George LaBrash, Jennifer Lock, Wanda Miller, Della Morin, Eunice Nash, Virginia Power, Dorothy Ranck, Ian Scott, Madeline Scott, Vanessa Stewart, Gerry Theissen, Mike VanDusen, and for all who are ill or in need of God’s healing grace.

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faith resources art prints*
Catholic content
250-524-0333
saitomaggie@gmail.com

‘To go where no one has gone before.’ Today’s readings build upon last week’s focus on expectations. Living the Christian life requires a deep sense of responsibility and a desire to go beyond the minimum of the law. Spiritual maturity and integrity lies somewhere between deadening legalism and a casual approach that mocks the rules and takes pride in “getting away with it.” We are given the freedom to act responsibly. We pray for the wisdom to discern what that means and to live accordingly.

Homework: Read (1King3:10f) ‘It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked for wisdom. And God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself wisdom to discern what is right, behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days.”

VOCATION -To Be Holy: The Baltimore Catechism listed the question ‘Why did God make me?’ and the answer ‘To know Him, to love Him, and to serve Him in this world, and to be happy with Him in the world to come.’ The Vatican Council in the document “Lumen Gentium” (On the Church) described that the main vocation of God’s children is to be holy. A person’s vocation is the answer to God’s call. The Church recognizes four ways to follow God’s call: the single life, the married life, and the priesthood and religious consecrated life.

Priesthood: The ministerial orders of the Roman Catholic Church are those of bishop, presbyter (more commonly called priest in English), and deacon. The ordained priesthood and the common priesthood (or priesthood of all the baptized faithful) are different in function and essence. The Catholic Church teaches that when a man participates in priesthood, he participates in the priesthood of Christ Himself. Through the Sacrament of Holy Orders, those have become priests participate in Christ’s priesthood; they act in persona Christi Capitis, in the person of Christ, the Head of His Body, the Church.

Diocesan Priest and Religious Priest: The male members of religious orders who are ordained priests or deacons constitute what is called the religious or regular clergy, distinct from the diocesan or secular clergy.

Feb17: Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper: Our annual Shrove Tuesday supper is here again ... come out and support this parish event in preparation for Lent.

Feb18: Ash Wednesday – services at St. Josephs at 9 and 6:30 and at Saikuz at 12noonish.

WE ARE COLLECTING PALMS from last year to be burned and used for ashes.

ALPHA1: 5 participants explored the question ‘Is there more to life than this’ and were challenged to answer the big questions of life, Why am I here? Next week: who is Jesus? Pray for this gathering.

LHC Life Healing Choices: next offering of the course is October 2026; pray always for those with addictions.

Transformed lives, transforming community: mission statement for evangelization;

Intimate encounter with God through an open heart: mission statement for prayer;

PARISH ACTIVITIES: Feb17 – Shrove Tuesday, 5pm start

PARISH ACTIVITIES: Feb18 – Ash Wednesday

QUIET PARISH HEROS: those who volunteer in cleaning our facility

CWL ROSARY INITIATIVE

Have old or broken rosaries?

If you have loose beads, broken pieces, or parts of rosaries you’d like to donate, please give them to the CWL for repurposing.

If you have a rosary, you’d like repaired, connect with Connie Wallace, our local rosary expert.

Donated pieces may be used to repair rosaries, create new ones, or support this ongoing project.

Thank you for helping keep these sacred items in use

CWL Prayer Cards Initiative

Prayer cards are available at the back of the foyer by the CWL box.

Write your prayer intention and place the card in the box.

Members of the CWL and/or the Prayer Circle will pray for these intentions.

If you would like to take part in this prayer initiative, please connect with your CWL

2025 DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL – CALLED TOGETHER

Parish Goal: \$13,952

Actual to Date: \$15,480

Rachel’s Vineyard – Serving the North

OUR NEW WEBSITE IS NOW IN OPERATION!

www.rachelsvineyardpg.ca

SPRING WEEKEND RETREAT FOR 2026: May 22 – 24, registrations now being accepted.

For Further information on this Healing Ministry, please refer to our website.

Confidentiality Assured.

THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE IN OUR DIOCESE WHO HAVE SUPPORTED OUR WORK IN 2025!