



Lazarus had never been much of a morning person



Portrait photographer
and Custom Frame Shop
Print Lab passport or id photos
WALLACE STUDIOS
wallacestudios.ca Phone: 250.567.3979

Remedy Rebuild /
SaMaArtStudio-
Magdalena Saito
Local herbalist & apothecary
faith resources art prints*
Catholic content
250-524-0333
saitomaggie@gmail.com

WorkBC Employment Services
Looking for work? Looking for Workers?
Come see us at 139 First Street East for
all your employment needs!
(250) 567-5785.

This program is funded by the Government of Canada
and the Province of British Columbia.



ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH
Vanderhoof, BC

PASTOR: Rev. Pier Pandolfo
1-250-614-3220

Parish Phone: (250) 567-9151
Parish Fax: (250) 567-9115

2994 Burrard Ave.
P.O. Box 1429
Vanderhoof B.C V0J 3A0

E-mail: stjosephsp93@gmail.com
Website: stjosephsvanderhoof.ca

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

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, Art Wiens and for all who are ill or in need of God's healing grace.

5th Sunday of Lent

Year A

March 22, 2026

"Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength."



HOLY TRINITY
CHURCH MISSION
Saik'uz First Nation, BC

At funerals, we often hear St. Paul's admonition not to grieve "as others do who have no hope" (1 Thes 4.13). Grief is natural, but even in grief, we have hope. The prophet Ezekiel and his people were exiled in Babylon, grieving the loss of their homeland. Ezekiel assured them of God's presence and God's promises: his people will be delivered and will return home. People died, new generations were born; the exile continued. Exile felt like death. Exile felt like death. Ezekiel offered hope: God's restoration would be like coming back to life, coming out of the grave.

The Gospels were written many years after Jesus' death and resurrection. People died; new generations were born. Even the great leaders of the faith eventually died. What was the fate of those who died? In today's Gospel, when Jesus says that Lazarus will rise again, Martha affirms that he will rise on the last day. But Jesus goes further, declaring that he himself is the resurrection and the life.

Sadness, loss, death are realities in all lives. We grieve. But we do not despair. We hope and trust in new life. Each Lent, we face the reality of suffering and death. But we do this with Easter faith, looking forward to the resurrection, for death is not the end of the story.

c Living with Christ/Novalis/ Bayard Presse Canada. Used with Permission

Jesus the hope that gives new life. Hope is about the goal, where we would like to be in the future. The power of the Lord is revealed in the story of Jesus' authority over life and death and we are reminded of our great hope through our baptism into Christ. In Ezekiel we hear the Lord say, "I will open your graves and have you rise"; Paul to the Romans amplifies this with "the one who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also"; and finally the Gospel creates a simple, touching human scene of family loss and grief, into which comes this stupendous revelation, "the dead man came out." **Homework:** every new baby you see, pray "Lord, let me bring hope and transformation."

Lent Conversion Stories (Water, Light, Life)

Man raised to life. Our story of conversion continues today when we learn how to ask Jesus for the hope to see new life in the many deaths we are experiencing. We can die physically, emotionally, intellectually, and spiritually. Lazarus was physically dead and Jesus prayed 'Come out'. Mary was emotionally tired, and remain at home. Martha and Mary were intellectually and emotionally dead as they say to Jesus, 'If you had been here, our brother would not have died. The power of Jesus raised up all three spiritually, intellectually, emotionally, and physically. The words of Jesus 'Unbind him and let him go' are the invitation to his church to participate in raising ourselves and our neighbors to new life. One possible list of 'deaths' is provided by Fr. Ron Rolheiser in his book 'The Holy Longing': death of Youth, Dreams, Relationships, Health, Status, and Image of God. The solution is always the same: the hope of the Paschal Ministry to move from death to new life in the power of the Holy Spirit. Our deaths continue to keep people in prison, in chains, in detention camps. To be like Jesus and break down these prisons, let us hope 'bravely'.

March 22 SOLIDARITY SUNDAY: reserved for the 5th Sunday of Lent, it remembers the work of DEVELOPMENT and PEACE, an organization of the Canadian Catholic Bishops for Social Justice. Visit devp.org to follow up on our presentation during mass of the symbols of the theme 'On Track For Justice', a theme focusing our efforts on building bridges of solidarity.

March 22: 4pm: 'Development and Peace RICE DINNER: in the gym

March 23 Reconciliation Service: preparation aids available in church foyer

Mass Cancelled: weekday mass for March 26, 27 CANCELLED

Holy Week: March 29 to April 5: pick up schedule in church foyer

ALPHA6: 10 participants on the question of the Bible explored how it is a word from a loving God to teach, correct, and train God's children; next week: How does God guide us? Pray for this gathering.

LHC Life Healing Choices: 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: **March 22 Development and Peace RICE DINNER (4pm start in gym)**

PARISH ACTIVITIES: **March 23 Reconciliation Service: 6:30pm**

PARISH ACTIVITIES: **March 24 Reconciliation Times: 4-6, 7-8pm**

PARISH ACTIVITIES: **March 25 Feast of Annunciation: masses at 9am and 6:30pm;**

PARISH ACTIVITIES: **March 26,27 : Weekday Mass CANCELLED**

PARISH ACTIVITIES: **6:30 Fridays: Stations of the Cross**

Diocesan ACTIVITIES: **March 26: 7pm, CHRISM Mass, Sacred Heart Cathedral**

QUIET PARISH HEROS : those repainting the Church interior

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: \$18,772

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!

Check out the diocesan website for more information on happenings in the diocese. www.pgdiocese.bc.ca