



The Roman Catholic

Diocese of  
Prince George

# Wednesday Weekly

*Quarterly Special Edition*

**December 18, 2024**

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent | December 22, 2024

*Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.*

-Luke 1:39-45



## Upcoming Important Dates

- **December 24, 2024: Christmas Eve, Beginning of the Jubilee of Hope**
- **December 25, 2024: Nativity of the Lord**
- **January 1, 2025: The Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God**

## Attachments

- [2024-25 Appeal Update Dec 18, 2024](#)
- [2024-25 Appeal Poster 11x17](#)
- [Appeal Pledge Forms 2024-25](#)
- [Called Together Brochure – 2024-25](#)
- [Pilgrimage Locations in the Diocese of Prince George Poster](#)
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## News from around the Diocese

### From Fraser Lake



wish them well and to pray for them and for their congregation. Parishioners, well wishers, and friends, along with neighbouring priests, Father Rene (Burns Lake) and Father Raju (Ft. St. James) joined with Father Prabha for the Holy Mass.

In October, to honour the month of Mary, the community of Fraser Lake also began to gather in the homes of various parishioners to pray the rosary.

On October 4, 2024, the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, there was a beautiful holy, Eucharistic celebration at the Franciscan Friary (Brother Walter and Brother Roy's cabin in Fraser Lake) to



### RIP – Sr. Jean Marie Lehtinen, OP

We recently received word that Sr. Jean Marie Lehtinen, OP died on Tuesday, December 10, 2024, in the 63<sup>rd</sup> year of her religious profession. She served in the diocese from 2005-2013.

*“Eternal Rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.”*

### Called Together Diocesan Appeal Update

Please find attached the most recent update for the Called Together appeal. This will be the last update provided until after the New Year.

### Christmas Closure of the Diocesan Pastoral Centre

The Diocesan Pastoral Centre will be closed starting December 24, 2024, and will reopen on January 2, 2025.

Staff must have their final timesheet emailed to Catherine Cosh no later than 9:00 AM on December 30, 2024, no exceptions. Any late submissions will not be paid until the next payroll period.

# Christmas & New Year Messages

## Holy Father's Message for the 58<sup>th</sup> World Day of Peace

On December 12, 2024, the Holy See published the Holy Father's Message for the 58<sup>th</sup> World Day of Peace, which takes place on January 1, 2025, the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. Pope Francis has chosen the theme "Forgive us our trespasses: grant us your peace."

Pope Francis' message can be read here:

<https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/peace/documents/20241208-messaggio-58giornatamondiale-pace2025.html>

Wishing You and Your Family  
a very Blessed Christmas

Christmas  
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## Pro-Life and Charity

### Rachel's Vineyard News Update

We continue our efforts to initiate this much needed healing ministry in the north. As a team we are now gathering regularly with the hope of a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat in Prince George in the not-too-distant future.

There are many ways that the people in our diocese can help without attending meetings.

PRAYERS are needed as prayer plays a big part in this ministry work. Prayers for those people who are suffering and are in need of healing, as well as prayers for those who are working as team members.

FINANCIAL help is also needed as many costs are involved in running a retreat and the initial cost of startup is steep. If you are able to help in this way, a donation of any kind would be greatly appreciated.

Donations can be sent to our Diocese office either by cheque or Auto Deposit e-transfer.

Cheques payable to: RCEC – DDF  
Specify "RV acct" on cheque memo.

Send to: Diocesan Pastoral Centre,  
6500 Southridge Avenue  
Prince George, B.C. V2N 5P9

Auto-deposit: e-transfer to [rachelsvineyard@pgdiocese.ca](mailto:rachelsvineyard@pgdiocese.ca)

Thank You to those who have been helping either by your time, finances or prayers.

With prayer and gratitude,

Adele Stewart, St. Mary's Parish

Father Michael, Christ Our Savior Parish

[rachelsvineyardpg@proton.me](mailto:rachelsvineyardpg@proton.me)

[mebomuiche@pgdiocese.ca](mailto:mebomuiche@pgdiocese.ca)

### CNEWA Canada Launches Emergency Appeal for Bethlehem

CNEWA Canada has launched an emergency appeal to raise \$340,000 to help provide employment, tuition assistance and other critical support to suffering families in Bethlehem. CNEWA will provide food baskets, medication and Christmas gifts for children to the poorest of families, as well as collaborate with six Christian elementary and secondary schools to provide tuition for 120 students. They will also collaborate with local institutions and municipalities in the Bethlehem Governorate to subsidize 280 jobs for the unemployed.

Please visit <https://cnewa.org/ca/> to learn more or make a donation.

## Prayer and Counselling

### Monthly Day of Eucharistic Adoration

Emmanuel Hermitage invites you to a Personal Date with Jesus on Wednesday **January 8th, 2025** at the Domano Chapel, 6500 Southridge Ave. Mass will be celebrated at 7:30 AM and the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM for a day of silent prayer and adoration. We will pray for the universal

Church and the world, and for the people and needs of our Diocese. In particular we will pray for the protection of all human life, for all the sick, for vocations, for Peace in our world, and for the intentions of those participating in the day. Please mark your calendar on the **SECOND WEDNESDAY of each month** for Personal Date with Jesus days.

Please note that despite the ongoing construction work at 6500 Southridge, there is (regular or provisional) car access to the Chapel and its parking lot. Just drive carefully following set indications inside the diocesan property. Thank you.

## Journey Through Advent

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops has announced the online weekly video series for this year's Advent season, which will present reflections on the Gospel readings for each Sunday leading up to Christmas.

This year's English spiritual reflections are delivered by the Most Reverend Frank Leo, Metropolitan Archbishop of Toronto.

The video series can be found on the CCCB website here: <https://www.cccb.ca/evangelization-catechesis-catholic-education/video-resources/journey-through-advent/>

## RAINBOWS Registration Open

Has your family or someone you know experienced a death, divorce, separation, or other painful transition? If so, our accredited site at St. Mary's Parish, Prince George, may have the grief support program for you.

Registration for our winter session, starting on January 16th, is now open.

Please visit [www.rainbowspg.com](http://www.rainbowspg.com) for all information and registration.

# Jubilee 2025

## Pilgrimage Locations in the Diocese of Prince George for the Jubilee 2025

Pope Francis has urged pilgrimages to Rome, local churches and shrines in the coming Jubilee 2025.

Since many cannot travel to Rome for a pilgrimage, bishops worldwide designated their cathedrals and shrines as special places of prayer for pilgrims.

**Three churches and a special place in the Diocese of Prince George are designated by Bishop Stephen Jensen as destinations for pilgrims (please see attached poster):**

- Sacred Heart Cathedral, Prince George
- Notre Dame Parish, Dawson Creek
- Sacred Heart Parish, Terrace
- Rose Prince Gravesite, Lejac

These churches and the Rose Prince gravesite will serve as places of pilgrimage within the diocese throughout the Ordinary Jubilee Year 2025. Jubilee pilgrimages offer the faithful the occasion to receive a plenary indulgence under the usual conditions: sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion, and prayer for the intentions of the Holy Father.

The Holy Father stated in the Papal Bull, *Spes Non Confundit*, “Pilgrimage is of course a fundamental element of every Jubilee event. Setting out on a journey is traditionally associated with our human quest for meaning in life. A pilgrimage on foot is a great aid for rediscovering the value of silence, effort and simplicity of life. In the coming year, *pilgrims of hope* will surely travel the ancient and more modern routes in order to experience the Jubilee to the full...In the particular Churches, special care should be taken to prepare priests and the faithful to celebrate the sacrament of Confession and to make it readily available in its individual form.”

The Jubilee of Hope will officially open on December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024, with the Pope opening the “Holy Door” in St. Peter’s Basilica.

In our diocese, Bishop Stephen Jensen will celebrate the 11:00 AM Mass at Sacred Heart Cathedral as the solemn opening of the Jubilee Year on Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Feast of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. It will be livestreamed *via* the cathedral Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/cathedralpg>.

NB: Parishes, please print the attached poster and make it visible to your parishioners. The size is A3 OR 420mm x 297mm, OR 11.69in x 16.54in.

## Jubilee 2025 Presentations at St. Mary’s, Prince George

St. Mary’s Parish in Prince George will be holding presentations and talks, followed by Holy Rosary and Confession, on the first Friday of each month during the Jubilee Year. Everyone is invited to attend these presentations. Please see the attached poster for the full schedule of presentations and presenters.

## Catechetical Resource on Plenary Indulgences during the Jubilee Year

Attached to this week’s Wednesday Weekly, please find the “Catechetical Resource on Plenary Indulgences during the Jubilee Year,” provided by the CCCB Jubilee Committee. It provides a summary of the Holy See’s Decree on the “Granting of Indulgence during the Ordinary Jubilee Year 2025 called by His Holiness Pope Francis.”



## Youth and Young Adult Events

### Rise Up National Conference

This year’s national conference for young adults—“Rise Up” by Catholic Christian Outreach—will take place in Calgary, Alberta, from December 29, 2024 to January 1, 2025.

Visit the website to learn more or to register: <https://cco.ca/rise-up/>

## 2025 Diocesan Youth Conference – Save the Date!

The 2025 Prince George Diocesan Youth Conference will take place from May 23 to 25, 2025. Mark your calendars! Registration will open in the New Year.



*The Next Wednesday Weekly will be  
January 8, 2025*

*Merry Christmas and Happy  
New Year!*

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### Want to share news in the Wednesday Weekly?

Email [reception@pgdiocese.bc.ca](mailto:reception@pgdiocese.bc.ca) by **NOON** on Tuesday.

Late entries will be published in the following week's edition. Please send in Word format.

### To receive all diocesan news directly in your inbox or on your phone

email [reception@pgdiocese.bc.ca](mailto:reception@pgdiocese.bc.ca) **OR TEXT** "pgd" to 514-900-0130 to join **Flocknote**. This is an email and text messaging tool created for churches, ministries, teams and other community organizations. It helps to communicate with the people by sending a simple text message. Please join us in keeping up with all the diocesan news.