

**Saint James Church**  
2607 27 St  
Vernon, BC V1T 4W1

**Our Lady of the Valley**  
10102 Middleton Drive  
Coldstream, BC

**St. Benedict's**  
122 Head of the Lake  
Rd, Vernon, BC

**St Theresa's Church**  
11365 Westside Road  
Vernon, BC

**Sacred Heart Church**  
2202 Park Ave  
Lumby, BC V0E 2G0



**Mass Times**  
5:00 pm Saturday  
8:30 am Sunday  
7:00 pm Sunday



**Mass Times**  
10:30 am Sunday



**Mass Times**  
12:00 pm Sunday  
1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday



**Mass Times**  
12:00 pm Sunday  
2nd & 4th Sunday



**Mass Times**  
5:30 pm Saturday  
9:30 am Sunday

## CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR'S Greeting

My dear parishioners and visitors,

I sincerely ask all of you to please accept my Christmas message and card in this 4th Sunday of Advent's bulletin as my personal Christmas and New Year's greeting and best wishes to each of you. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year filled with God's abundant blessings.

May each of us deeply experience God's divine, amazing love through the birth of the Infant Jesus, according to Saint John: "For God so loved the world that he gave us his only begotten Son..." (John 3:16) and "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly" (John 10:10).

I am so grateful for the prayers, support, and love that you give to me and to one another. Let us generously share that love, support, and prayers with everyone in every day of our lives.

I am looking forward to celebrating Christmas and New Year masses with all of you and everyone is welcome.

		OLOV	St James
December 24th	Wednesday	5:00 pm	7:00 pm 9:00 pm
December 25th	Thursday	10:30 am	8:30 am 12 noon
December 31st	Wednesday	5:00 pm	7:00 pm
January 01st	Thursday	10:30 am	8:30 am

Sincerely yours,  
Fr. Peter Hoan Nguyen

## SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

In preparation for your marriage celebration at the Catholic Church, please contact the office **at least 6 MONTHS** prior to your requested wedding date.

## MERRY CHRISTMAS



## NOTES/REMINDER

- **Office Closed**—December 24, 25 and 26 (Wed-Fri)
- **Children's Liturgy**— now on a break for the holidays and will return on January 11, 2026
- Christmas and New Mass Schedule—see detail inside
- Dec 24—8am—morning mass **NO ADORATION** 24 & 25
- **Tax Receipt 2025**—FIA all donations must be received by Dec 29. Any donations received after the 29th will go towards the 2026 tax receipts

**St James School**  
2700 28th Avenue  
Vernon, BC V1T 1V7

Melanie Inzunza — Principal  
(250) 542-4081  
Ascend Catholic School Online

www.stjamesvernon.com  
office@stjamesvernon.com  
www.rcdk.org/ascend-online-school



### MASS INTENTIONS—Dec 22-28

Dec 22	Mon	8 am SJ	CWL Intentions	INT
Dec 23	Tues	8 am SJ	Private Intention	INT
Dec 24	Wed	8 am SJ	Greg Quaedvlieg	RIP
		5pm OLOV		
		7pm SJ		
		9pm SJ		
Dec 25	Thurs	8:30 am SJ	SJ Parish Families	INT
		10:30 am OLOV	OLOV Parish Families	INT
		12 noon SJ		
Dec 26	Fri	8 am SJ	Patrick Heaney	RIP
Dec 27	Sat	9 am SJ	Ann Jubenvill	RIP
		5 pm SJ	Consuelo Rita Roca Dacanay	RIP
Dec 28	Sun	8:30 am SJ	SJ Parish Families	INT
		10:30 am OLOV	OLOV Parish Families	INT
		7:00 pm SJ	Mrs Aparecida D'Agosto	RIP

### OFFICE

Telephone:	250-542-1276	www.rccv.org
Email:		stjamesvernon@rcdk.org
Office Hrs.	8 am—2:pm	Mon-Tues-Thurs-Fri
	Closed	Wednesday

### St James

Daily Mass	Mon-Fri	8:00 am
	Saturday	9:00 am
Reconciliation	Saturday	9:30-10:30 am
		4:00-4:45 pm
Eucharistic Adoration	Mon—Thursday	9 am—9 pm
@ St Benedict	1st Friday	10 am
4 Mysteries of the Rosary	1st Saturday	7:30-8:40 am



### Next Sunday's Readings:

**December 28, 2025**

Sirach 3.2-6, 12-14  
Ps 128.1-2, 3-4, 4-5 (R.1)  
Colossians 3.12-21  
Matthew 2.13-15, 19-23



### Quote from St. John Vianney

*"Nothing is harder to bear than those things which would our self-love; but if we thought of the humiliation suffered by Jesus Christ at Bethlehem, should we ever dare to complain?"*

### SERRA CLUB of KAMLOOPS DIOCESE

Holy Hour—for Vocations

45. Restoration, sanctification, transformation, reparation and salvation are the graces being poured out graciously upon us with each Holy Hour we make. ("Letters to a Brother Priest")



### Last Sunday's Offertory

### EFT (Nov) Electronic Fund Transfer

### PAD (Dec) Pre-Authorized Debit

St James	\$ 5155	\$ 685	\$ 5775
OLOV	\$ 3041	\$ 1390	\$ 4043
St Benedict	\$ 45	\$ 40	



### Pastoral Care Ministry

If you are in the hospital, in the homes, please phone the office at 250-542-1276 or email at stjamesvernon@rcdk.org for Pastoral Care.



### Catholic Book Club

On January 07, 2026 we will start our first book of the New Year, **He Leadeth Me** by Fr. Walter Ciszek. We will discuss the first 4 chapters. Meet at 9 am in the Monsignor Miles Hall. All are welcome

### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please contact the Parish Office at least 6 WEEKS prior to your requested date to ensure time for your preparation.

### Faith In Action Campaign 35 "Pilgrims of Hope" THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

	Assessment	Actual
St James	\$ 41546	\$ 51060
OLOV	\$ 24520	\$ 34261
St Benedict's	\$ 1887	\$ 4300



*We have successfully met our assessment goal for Campaign 35. Please continue to give! Any contributions received beyond our assessment goal will directly benefit our parishes.*

*Thank you Fr Peter*

<b>Pastor</b>	Rev Fr Peter Nguyen	250-542-1276
<b>Parochial Vicar</b>	Fr Henry Nwaimo	250-214-4060
	Sacred Heart, Lumby and St Benedict/St Theresa	250-547-9070
<b>Permanent Deacon</b>	Deacon Paul Murphy	778-212-2020(call or text)
<b>Diocese Kamloops Office</b>	635A Tranquille Rd Kamloops, BC V2B 3H5	250-376-3351



## The Twelve Days of Christmas Lyrics: Meaning and History

The 12 days of Christmas in Christian tradition signify the time between the birth and the arrival of the **three wise men**, also known as the Magi. It starts on December 25, which is celebrated as **Christmas Day**, and lasts until January 6, which is the **Epiphany**, also referred to as Three King's Day.

### Meaning of Each Gift in the '12 Days of Christmas'

1. **A Partridge in a Pear Tree**—the partridge in a pear tree represents Jesus, the Son of God, whose birthday we celebrate on the first day of Christmas. Christ is symbolically presented as a mother partridge, the only bird that will die to protect its young.
2. **Two Turtledoves**—these twin birds represent the Old and New Testaments. So, in this gift, the singer finds the complete story of the Christian faith and God's plan for the world. The doves are the biblical roadmap that is available to everyone.
3. **Three French Hens**—these birds represent faith, hope, and love. The gift hearkens back to **1 Corinthians 13**, the love chapter written by the Apostle Paul. It also represents the **Holy Trinity**: The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
4. **Four Calling Birds**—one of the easiest facets of the song's code to figure out these fowl are the four Gospels—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.
5. **Five Gold Rings**—The gift of the rings represents the first five books of the Old Testament, known as the Torah or the Pentateuch. Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy.
6. **Six Geese a-Laying**—these lyrics can be traced back to the first story found in the Bible. Each egg is a day in creation when God "hatched" or formed the world. God created the heavens and the earth, God created the sky and seas, God created the land and plants, God created the sun, moon, and stars, God created fish and birds and God created land animals and man.
7. **Seven Swans a-Swimming**—It would take someone quite familiar with the Bible to identify this gift. Hidden in the code are the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit: Prophecy, Ministry, Teaching, Exhortation, Leading and Compassion.  
  
As swans are one of the most beautiful and graceful creatures on earth, they would seem to be perfect symbol for spiritual gifts.
8. **Eight Maids—a—Milking**—As Christ came to save even the lowest of the low, this gift represents the ones who would receive his word and accept his grace. Being a milkmaid was about the worst job one could have in England during this period; this code conveyed that Jesus cared as much about servants as he did those of royal blood. The Eight Maids represent the 8 Beatitudes, from **Matthew 5:3-10**:

Blessed are...the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Those who mourn: for they shall be comforted. The meek: for they shall inherit the earth. Those who hunger and thirst for righteousness: for they shall be filled. The merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. The pure in heart: for they shall see God. The peacemakers: for they shall be called children of God. Those who are persecuted for righteousness sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

9. **Nine Ladies Dancing**—the nine dancers were really the gifts known as the fruit of the Spirit. The Fruits of the Spirit include: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self-control

10. **Ten Lords A-Leaping**—this is probably the easiest gift to understand. As lords were judges and in charge of the law, this code for the Ten Commandments was fairly straightforward to Christians.

1. Thou shall have no other gods before me
2. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image
3. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain
4. Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy
5. Honor thy father and mother
6. Thou shalt not kill
7. Thou shalt not commit adultery
8. Thou shalt not steal
9. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor
10. Thou shalt not covet

11. **Eleven Pipers Piping**—this is almost a trick question, as most think of the disciples in terms of the dozen. But when Judas betrayed Jesus and committed suicide, only eleven men carried our the gospel message. Therefore, the Eleven Piping signify the 11 Faithful Disciples: Simon (who He named Peter), Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James (son of Alphaeus), Simon, who was called the Zealot, Judas (son of James), and Judas Iscariot was later replaced with faithful Matthias.

12. **Twelve Drummers Drumming**—the final gift is tied directly to the Catholic Church. The drummers are the 12 points of doctrine in the Apostles' Creed.

- I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
- I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
- He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.
- He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
- He descended into hell. On the third day, He rose again.
- He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
- He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
- I believe in the Holy Spirit,
- The holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints,
- The forgiveness of sins,
- The resurrection of the body,
- And the life everlasting

#### Sources:

*Christianity.com*  
*Crosswalk.com*  
*Wikipedia.org*

## Congratulations to the Winners of the CWL Quilt Draw

The Dragon Fly Quilt was won by Brian Usher. The Rainbow Fantasy Quilt was won by Sue Wall.

Thanks to the many people who supported this fund raiser at Parish events and the CWL Christmas Tea and Bazaar. A huge "Thank You" to Eva Lopianowski for her donation of these beautiful quilts. We raised over \$850.

All proceeds will go to St. James School for upgrades to the playground equipment.



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## Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter and St. Paul



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## Culos & Co.

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Robert M. Culos  
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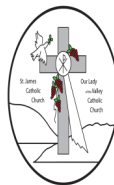


## Vernon & Area Pro-Life Society

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Office: 250-545-5520  
3105C 31st Ave

Donations - the store accepts good quality clothing, household items, books, etc.  
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Store volunteers needed. For \$20.00 yearly become a member. If you need help or support for you and your child, please call the office.



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-know our faith and vocation  
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