

St. Edward's Parish



January 9, 2022

PO Box 17002, Stn. Kelligrews, CBS, NL A1X 3H1

Phone: 834-2919 or 746-9563

Email: stedwardsparish@bellaliant.net

Website: stedwardsparish.net

Parish Office Hours: Mon to Fri, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm, 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Administrative Assistant: Helen Butler

Parish Administrator: Fr. Cosmas Iweru, S.D.V.

Letter to Parishioners - Recent Archdiocese Developments

See next page for Letter to parishioners from Parish Council and Finance

Dear Fellow Parishioners of St. Edward's Parish:

We regret to share disheartening news with you regarding the future of our Church and our Parish. We are discouraged and disappointed to inform you that the Archdiocese is advocating for the sale of all parish properties and proposing a merger of St. Edward's, Holy Family, Holy Rosary and St. Thomas of Villanova into one parish based at St. Thomas of Villanova.

On December 21st the Archdiocese met remotely with Parishes to explain its decision to abruptly file for bankruptcy protection in relation to the ongoing settlement process for the victims of abuse in the Archdiocese. This step involved immediately taking all funds from all parish bank accounts and leaving a cash equivalent of 45 days operating funds for each Parish to sustain itself (\$14,000 for St. Edward's). The funds in St. Edward's general bank account (~\$29,000) and investment account (\$496,000) were taken as part of this consolidation process.

On December 23rd, Parish Council and Finance Committee met to debrief on this meeting and discuss this action from the Archdiocese. The decision was made to communicate the implications of the bankruptcy declaration to our parishioners immediately following the Christmas Season. The ultimate message being that St. Edward's was in a "sink or swim" phase of the Archdiocese's Abuse Liability Settlement process.

On January 3rd, the Archdiocese sent a memo to four parishes: St Edwards, St. Thomas, Holy Family and Holy Rosary. The Archbishop proposes that these parishes amalgamate into a single parish based at St. Thomas of Villa Nova Church. He has asked to meet January 11th and wishes to know:

1. Whether one amalgamated parish in this area can be self-sustaining.
2. What means may exist in the communities to raise the funds required to acquire St. Thomas of Villanova Church for future operations.
3. Is there a viable alternative for providing pastoral ministry in this region of the diocese in the future?
4. Should Holy Rosary Parish in Portugal Cove be part of this amalgamation and, if not, with which parish/parishes should it be amalgamated?

Answers to such questions and their implications extend beyond the role of our Parish Council and Finance Committees. We need feedback from parishioners! Meetings will be held following mass this weekend on Saturday, January 8th and on Sunday, January 9th in the Parish Centre. If you are unable to attend, then please contact Helen in the Parish Office via email or phone or contact a Parish Council or Finance Committee member you know directly. Also, please pass along this information to any other parishioners of St. Edward's that you may know. It is important that we hear from many parishioners of our Parish on this matter.

Ron Lewis – Parish Council Chair

Francis Hayes – Finance Committee Chair

Weekday masses

Intentions are

Monday, 11:00 am - William, Elizabeth & Mary Ellen Dawe, Marie Halleran

Thursday, 11:00 am – Frank Picco, Angela Kelly, Harold Pennell

Friday 10:00 am – Loretta & James Quinlan, Peter & Marlene Duff

Weekend masses open to capacity of 50

Saturday – 5:30 pm

Sunday – 11:00 am

It is very important that you preregister to attend weekend masses. Call the office to book your space for the month of January, 834-2919. Vax Pass and photo id required.

Baptism Preparation Course

January 15, 2021 – 10:30 am call office to register 834-2919

Marriage Preparation courses

will be offered at the Archdiocese on **March 5, April 23, and May 7, 2022**. Participants can register for a course on one of these dates at the following link:

<https://rcsj.org/chancery/marriage-preparation/register>. Further information regarding, time, place, Covid regulations, etc., will be sent to couples upon registration.

2022 Envelopes

Please call the office to make arrangements to pick up your 2022 envelopes. Any donations received up to December 31st will show on your 2021 income tax receipt, after December 31st will go on your 2022 income tax receipt.

Extreme Weather Conditions

During the winter months when the schools are closed due to extreme weather conditions there will be **NO** Weekday Mass (the parish office will be closed as well). However, the intention for that particular Mass will be celebrated. If weekend Masses have to be cancelled due to weather conditions an announcement will be made over the radio stations and the parish website, www.stedwardsparish.net

Sunday Collection -Dec 15 - Dec 31, 2021	# of Env	Env Amount	Change	Total
Sunday Collection	128	1976.00	78.25	2054.25
Parish Maintenance	29	275.00		275.00
Dues	4	310.00		310.00
Food Bank	5	190.00		190.00
Initial Offering	2	10.00		10.00
World Mission	1	10.00		10.00
Special Offering	4	30.00		30.00
Advent Folder	1	2.00		2.00
Needs for Canadian Church	1	10.00		10.00
Christmas	45	1310.00		1310.00
Memoriam - Sgt Ned & Eliza Nugent, Mary & Vince Stapleton	1	100.00		100.00
Acknowledged with Thanks				\$4,301.25

Due to the Alert Level guidelines, we are not able to pass around the collection plate, you can contribute to the parish by dropping your envelope in the basket provided at the back of the church or by mailing your envelopes to the address at the right, you can drop your envelopes in the mailbox outside the office door. If you drop your envelopes at the office door, please ring the doorbell to notify the office that there is a drop off and it can be picked up immediately. **Please refrain from depositing your envelopes at the door outside of office hours.**

Recycling Fund Raiser

Please consider donating your beverage containers. If you wish to donate your beverage containers, you can do so by dropping your bags into the green bin next to the parish centre door. We ask that you drop off your recycling in this bin on Mondays if possible. This will give time to bring the bags to the depot and get a report for the bulletin. Please remember this is for beverage containers only (pop cans, juices boxes, liquor bottles, beer bottles) not milk cartons, soup cans or plastic containers. Please be careful as to what you put in the recycling bags. The containers must be cleaned and caps removed. Thank you to all who are contributing.

Parish Council Members

Fr. Cosmas Iweru, S.D.V., Ron Lewis – Chair, Mary Piccott – Secretary, Wayne Lacey, Madeline Cole, Deena Strang

Finance Committee Members

Fr. Cosmas Iweru, S.D.V., Francis Hayes – Chair, Ed Lawlor – Secretary, Tony Gilbert, Patricia Power, Phyllis Smith