

St. Edward Parish

North Plains, Oregon

August 30, 2020

Pastor

Fr. Michael Vuky
Cell 971-217-5335
mvuky@yahoo.com

Holy Eucharist to Sick & Shut-ins

Rita Nussbaumer 503-647-5262

Parish Office

Hours Mon-Thurs 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Office Phone 503-647-2131

Email Address

mail@stedwardnp.org

Mailing Address

PO Box 507
North Plains, OR 97133

Rectory Shipping Address

10990 NW 313th Avenue
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Office Manager Nancy Vandehey

n.vandehey@stedwardnp.net

Business Manager Fran Avery

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mail@stedwardnp.org
503-504-4441

Religious Education

Director Nancy Vandehey

Phone 503-647-2131
Cell 503-706-0641

Mission Statement

St. Edward is a welcoming Catholic Parish embracing God our Father, Jesus Christ His Son, and the Holy Spirit. We gather in **Faith** to give glory and praise to God as a worshipping community. We gather in **Hope** to educate, form and nurture spiritual growth of our individual parishioners, families, and community through the administration of the sacraments, catechesis, prayer and devotion and fellowship. We gather in **Charity** to provide social outreach in our works of mercy.

Parish Pastoral Council

Mitch Nussbaumer 2020-2023 (Chair)
Dian Duyck 2019-2022 (Vice Chair)
Kristina Heagh-Avritt 2018-2021
(Secretary)
John Reding 2020-2023
Bob VanderZanden 2018-2021
Patrick Weis 2019-2022

Confessions:

Saturday 4:30-5:15 pm

Masses:

Saturday Vigil Mass 5:30 pm

Sunday Morning Mass 9:15 am

Wednesday Morning Mass 9:00 am

Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

1st Wednesday of the month, following
9:00 am Mass, closes at 7:00 pm

Funeral Service

Contact the parish office before making any funeral arrangements involving St. Edward Church facilities. The office will involve Father Michael as soon as possible. Thank you.

Infant Baptism

Before scheduling a date for baptism, parents must be registered members of St. Edward Parish and attend a baptism preparation class. To register for a baptism class and for more information, contact the parish office. An appointment will be scheduled with Father Michael.

Matrimony

Couples are asked to contact the parish office. The office will then send a letter explaining parish policies and an information form to be filled out and returned. No date can be set until there is a conference with the parish priest, at least six months prior to the wedding.

Parish Hall Use

If any parish committee, ministry, or group is planning a meeting or gathering in the parish hall, it is important that you call Nancy in the parish office for availability.

Mass Intentions can normally be offered on Wednesday mornings and Saturday evenings. Please submit requests through the parish office. A suggested stipend is \$10.

Bulletin Announcements

The deadline is 12:00 pm on Tuesday for the following Sunday. Call the parish office or email mail@stedwardnp.org.

Dear Parishioners,

Continuing with our series on the Sacrament of Reconciliation in which last week we addressed the Scriptural foundation of the institution of the Sacrament, this week, I will address the issue of the most common anxieties, worries, misperceptions and reservations of why the faithful are not frequenting the Sacrament.

To begin, allow me to share the following statistical data. According to the Pew Research Center, out of the 25% or so of Catholics who attend Mass on a regular basis (3 Sundays out of 4 a month), only 38% of regular Sunday Mass goers fulfill the yearly obligation of going to confession. Yes, the obligation to at least once a year participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

To put it in perspective, if there are 1000 baptized Catholics registered, only 250 attend Sunday Mass regularly. Out of the 250, 95 participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation at least once a year. The question is why the seldom participation. Here are the following reasons that I have heard or have learned after consulting with my priest brothers (of course this is not an exhaustive list):

1. Some are intimidated or ashamed of what they have done and don't really want to say out loud to anyone especially a priest.
2. Some cite the not-so-convenient time offered in the parish for confession that either Saturday afternoon is inopportune to one's schedule or the time frame is too short.
3. Some worry about what the priest will think, will say, or there is a fear that the priest through recognition of a face or voice will know the penitent and treat the penitent different outside the confessional.
4. Some don't know what to do or say and are embarrassed that their last sacramental experience may have been when they were 8 years old preparing for First Holy Communion and lacked the consistent practice and catechesis on the Sacrament.
5. Some had a poor experience in the Sacrament that, instead of finding in the words of St. Alphonsus Liguori, a priest who is "a lion in the pulpit and a lamb in the confessional", it is quite the opposite.
6. Some perceive the Sacrament not so much as a sacred encounter with God but rather a spiritual forensic investigation of the soul that feels like a shake down.
7. Some have been given insufficient catechesis and formation that is neither ongoing or accurate.

Based upon the above lists, which again, is not an exhaustive list but some of the great observations that I over heard some of my brother priests whom I polled come up with great frequency, here are our common responses and reactions:

- Regarding points #1 and #3: Priests, in general, are absolutely amazed by the humility of the penitent to confess those sins that they struggle with because we, as priests who frequent the Sacrament understand from our own participation that it is not easy to confess to another and tell them what was done wrong. There is great joy when someone participates in the Sacrament as well as love for the penitent because there is nothing more, we priests want than for someone to no longer feel burdened or have a lack of peace. So, on behalf of my brother priests, please don't feel intimidated, scared, fearful, or worried that we are going to think anything less of you or treat you differently.
- Regarding point #2: Saturday confessional times in slots of 30, 45, or 60 minutes during the afternoon are sometimes not the most opportune times for the busy and hectic schedule of family life. But what I like to point out is that next to those printed times, there is a line that states "by appointment." What I have experienced in this COVID-19 world is that "by appointment" has been a great asset. I realize that pre-COVID-19, some were reluctant to make an

- appointment due to not bothering the priest or desiring to go with anonymity. But if the COVID-19 environment has taught anything, we need that social connection and interaction. A priest is never ever too busy to hear a confession whether it is drive-thru, outside, or anywhere in fact. So always feel that you are important; the celebration of this Sacrament is important. Just call, text, email and it will be made available to you.
- Regarding point #4: a priest is always more than happy to walk you through the celebration of the Sacrament. You can always express that you are a bit rusty. For this reason, some confessionals have a "cheat sheet" available. Finally, there is always that anxiety of having the Act of Contrition memorized. Let me assure you, priest don't treat the Act of Contrition as a final exam of whether you know it by heart or not. We are only concerned that the prayer is recited as it is an essential part of the celebration of the Sacrament for validity. You can bring in a copy, we have a copy available and we can always ask you to repeat after us.
- Regarding point #5: if you have had a poor experience in the confessional, on behalf of myself and all my brother priests, we apologize as the Sacrament is a sacred encounter with God. As St. John writes, "God is love"; it should always be a sacred encounter of love, kindness, compassion, and gentleness. We apologize for failing you.
- Regarding points #6 and #7: the celebration of the Sacrament especially the confession itself should never feel like a "shake down" or bright light in one's face interrogation. With that said, next week's installment will address how to prepare for a good confession such as examination of conscience, sorrow, firm personal amendment, how to confess and acts of penance.

Blessings,
Fr. Michael

Offertory Collection

Weekly contributions needed for budget goal:	\$4373.00
Offertory total for 8/22 & 8/23:	\$1963.00
Online total:	\$1680.00
Over (Under):	(\$700.00)

Live Streaming of Masses

The Archdiocese of Portland will continue to live stream the 11:00 am Sunday Mass from The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception every week until the gather restrictions have been lifted. Go to <https://archdpdx.org/live-masses>.

St. Edward/St. Francis of Assisi/Visitation is also live streaming the 10:00 am Sunday Mass in Verboort every week. Download Zoom.us, enter Meeting ID: 993 4497 4746, password HolyMass.

Monthly Wednesday Eucharistic Adoration

Eucharistic Adoration occurs on the 1st Wednesday of each month. It will begin again on September 2 from 9:30 am to 6:30 pm (please note: due to Fr. Michael's schedule, September 2 Benediction/Reposition will occur 30 minutes earlier than normal at 6:30 pm).
Come join us.

FORMED.ORG

We have renewed our annual subscription. Please add this FREE Catholic resource as part of your media platform. Go online to www.formed.org and select "Enter code" link. Input the Parish Code: **HWNN8P** and create your own personal login and password to begin enjoying the free content.

If you have any problems logging in or accessing your account, please contact Julia, Parish Care for FORMED, parishcare@formed.org or call 1-844-367-6331 and provide the Parish Code **HWNN8P** under our registered name St. Francis of Assisi, Banks, Oregon for all three parishes.

Pick of the Month

Fr. Michael's Pick:
"FORMED Now! The Power of Bad News"

Dr. Tim Gray, President of Augustine Institute and Dan Burke, former President and CEO of EWTN, discuss why we give so much attention to bad news rather than the good. As humans, we are motivated by love and fear. However, the current media and the news cycle feeds only on fear that can cause worry, anxiety and angst. My hope is that you find their thoughts and observations insightful. You will never listen to the news ever the same again. Run Time: 30 minutes.

Fr. Juan Jose's Pick:
TBA

This Week

Saturday, August 29th

Confessions by appointment only

Vigil Mass 5:30 pm

Intentions: RIP Dale VanderZanden

Sunday, August 30th

Mass 9:15 am

Intentions: Parishioners of St. Edward

Mass 5:00 pm

Intentions: Living & Deceased Members of the Altar Society

Wednesday, September 2nd

Mass 9:00 am

Intentions: RIP Michael McDermott

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Benediction/
Reposition at 6:30 pm

Saturday, September 5th

Confessions by appointment only

Vigil Mass 5:30 pm

Intentions: Parishioners of St. Edward

Sunday, September 6th

Mass 9:15 am

Intentions: RIP Marvin Nussbaumer (Anniversary of Death)

New: Face Covering Requirements

Face coverings are legally required at indoor gatherings, including in churches, per statewide directive. All who are 5 years and up must wear face coverings in church in Phases 1 and 2 of reopening. Those are excepted who perform activity that makes wearing a mask "not feasible," like the presider (throughout Mass) and the lectors (while reading). Singers and musicians are not excepted (they must wear face coverings even when singing). Exceptions are also made for people with disabilities or diagnosed medical conditions that preclude them from wearing masks. In these few cases, special seating accommodations should be made so those unable to wear masks have seating in a cry room or choir loft away from the rest gathered. Children 2 and under should not wear masks. Wearing a face covering at church is not optional. Churchgoers cannot be allowed entrance without a mask. The pastor and door monitor must strictly enforce this requirement. By archdiocesan requirement, masks must still be used by ministers when distributing Holy Communion. A presider *may* wear a mask throughout Mass.

USDA Food Box Program

A USDA grant has made it possible for Oregon families to receive FREE produce, dairy or combo boxes that are distributed at selected Archdiocese of Portland Catholic Churches, other faith-based organizations, local food pantries, civic organizations and homeless shelters.

As the COVID-19 pandemic extends into the summer months, more and more Oregonians are struggling to meet their basic need of food security. Many others struggle with isolation and can't travel to their local grocery store. The USDA food box program ensures that lack of financial resources, transportation, and isolation do not create a barrier to fresh food.

The USDA has partnered with Pacific Coast Fruit to provide 275,000 food boxes per month in our region. In order to make that happen, Pacific Coast Fruit has partnered with Archdiocese of Portland to distribute boxes to the needy of our state through August 28, 2020. USDA may elect to extend the program depending upon program success and available remaining funds.

For more information, please go to <https://evangelization.archdpx.org/usda-food-box>.

Religious Education

Grades 1-5 Including 2nd Grade Sacramental Prep for 1st Holy Communion and Confession

Please contact Nancy Vandehey (St. Edward) at 503-647-2131, Lynda Hertel (St. Francis of Assisi) at 503-799-5952, or Genelle Duyck (Visitation) at 503-887-8878 to register. Once you register, this will help us to assign cohorts (of less than 10) with a designated location to meet. Or if you family would like digital/online instruction, we will provide texts, online videos, and live streaming options.

Middle School Youth Group (grades 6-8)

Please contact Laura Nevis at 503-575-5608 or email Inevis@farthing.com to register. Once you register, beginning September 13, 2020 and every 2nd Sunday of the month, the group will meet in Visitation church 6:00-7:00 pm for a liturgical celebration with teaching lesson with Fr. Michael. Live streaming via Zoom meeting will be available for those who are interested in participating virtually.

High School Youth Group (grades 9-12)

Please contact Laura Nevis at 503-575-5608 or email Inevis@farthing.com to register. Once you register, this will allow us to divide the teens into cohorts and assign each cohort a designated Sunday once a month to meet in Visitation church 6:00-7:00 pm for a liturgical celebration with teaching lesson with Fr. Michael. Live streaming via Zoom meeting will be available for those who are interested in participating virtually.

High School Youth Confirmation

Those entering 9th grade this 2020-2021 school year or older are invited with their parents to attend a virtual meeting via Zoom on Wednesday, September 16 at 6:00 pm. Please contact Laura Nevis at 503-575-5608 or email Inevis@farthing.com to register.

RCIA

Interested in Exploring the Catholic Faith or know someone who is? Having questions or aren't sure? Or are you ready to start the process of beginning Catholic? Then call Fr. Michael at 971-217-5335 or email mvuky@yahoo.com.

Expanding to Love and Serve Campaign

Due to COVID-19 guidelines, we are waiting to reschedule the neighborhood meeting. Then we will be able to be assigned a hearing date with the City of North Plains Planning Commission. If you have any questions, please contact Fr. Michael, Dick Vandehey (Chair), Dick Krueger (Vice Chair), or Bob VanderZanden (Vice Chair).