

# St. Edward Parish

## Pastor

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

## Parochial Vicar

Fr. Augustus Duruiheakor  
Cell 971-392-8449  
aduruiheakor@yahoo.com

## Pastoral Associate

Brian Meeuwsen  
Cell 503-828-5660  
meeuwsenbrian@gmail.com

## Holy Eucharist to Sick & Shut-ins

Brian Meeuwsen 503-828-5660

## Parish Office

**Hours** Tues-Fri 8:30 am - 1:30 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  
North Plains, OR 97133

**Office Manager** Nancy Vandehey  
n.vandehey@stedwardnp.net

**Parish Support Account** Lai McClure  
lmcclore@archdpdx.org

**Cemetery Sexton** Tony Montes  
mail@stedwardnp.org  
503-504-4441 text  
503-504-4442 voicemail

## Religious Education

**Director** Tammy Scheenstra  
tammy.scheenstra@hotmail.com  
Cell 971-245-9913

North Plains, Oregon  
March 9, 2025

## 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.

<b>Parish Pastoral Council</b>  Patrick Weis 2023-2026 (Chair) Dian Duyck 2023-2026 (Vice Chair) Lisa Thompson 2022-2025 (Recorder) Jaymi Yazzolino 2022-2025 Charlie Lucas 2024-2027 Leah Nussbaumer 2024-2027	<b><u>Confessions:</u></b>  Saturday 4:30-5:15 pm or by appointment, call/text Fr. Michael 971-217-5335 or Fr. Augustus 971-392-8449.  <b><u>Masses:</u></b>  Saturday Vigil Mass 5:30 pm Sunday Morning Mass 9:15 am Wednesday Morning Mass 9:00 am  <b><u>Adoration of Blessed Sacrament</u></b>  1st Wednesday of the month, following 9:00 am Mass, closes at 7:00 pm
<b><u>Funeral Service</u></b>  <i>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.</i>  <b><u>Infant Baptism</u></b>  <i>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 Brian Meeuwsen.</i>  <b><u>Matrimony</u></b>  <i>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 Pastoral Associate, Brian Meeuwsen, at least six months prior to the wedding.</i>	<b><u>Parish Hall Use</u></b>  <i>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.</i>  <b><u>Mass Intentions</u></b> can normally be offered on Wednesday mornings and Saturday evenings. Please submit requests through the parish office. A suggested stipend is \$10.  <b><u>Bulletin Announcements</u></b>  <i>The deadline is 12:00 pm on Tuesday for the following Sunday. Call the parish office or email mail@stedwardnp.org.</i>

## HAS JESUS CHRIST OTHER BROTHERS?

The issue of Mary having other children has been confusing and controversial both for Catholics and other members of our separated brethren. In one of our Clergy dinners, this issue came up that some members of Jehovah's Witness engaged with some of our Catholic members telling them that Mary had other children. Here is my little contribution to this issue.

Catholics love Mary because of the beautiful role she played in the work of human salvation. It was she whom God chose to be the mother of Jesus Christ, the God-Man. Since Jesus is both God and Man, Mary is therefore called the mother of God (The *Theotokos*. The Dogma of the **Blessed Virgin Mary** as the mother of God propounded in 431 A.D. at the Council of Ephesus). Therefore, the honor we give to Mary is the honor which the Bible says she should be given - "For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed (Luke 1:48). Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to Mary "Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb" (Luke 1:42). However, the Church does not say that Mary is the **Mediator** between God and humanity. No. That is the role of Jesus Christ, the Savior. Mary is one of those God has saved. She, being the mother of our Savior and God, Jesus Christ, is our mother, hence, we turn to her to pray for us (John 2:3, Acts 1:14).

Many people have been asking and saying that Mary had other children apart from Jesus Christ. Hence, Jesus had siblings according to them. Mary had NO other child except Jesus Christ the Savior, conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 1:18). This misconception about Jesus having other brothers is a result of the Evangelists (Matthew 12:46; Mark 3:31-35; Luke 8:19-21) referred to some people as the brothers of Jesus. The Church teaches that Mary has no other children and she is ever virgin after giving birth to Jesus. This is the reason for "The Dogma of Ever Virginity of Blessed Virgin Mary" propounded in 649 A.D. at the Lateran Council in Rome. Those referred to as brothers of Jesus are named as James and Joseph (elsewhere Joset, Mark 6:3), Simon and Jude (Matthew 13:55, Mark 6:3), yet a different Mary is mentioned as the mother of James and Joset (Matthew 27:48, Mark 15:40). Similarly, the Apostle Paul called James the Lord's brother (Galatian 21:19), but we know too from the Bible that James and John were sons of Zebedee (Mark 1:19).

For the Jews, the term "brother" is used for a co-religionist or a near relation. For example, Paul addresses the Corinthians as: "And so, brothers, I was not able to talk to you as spiritual people." Obviously, the whole Christian community in Corinth was not of the same father and mother with Paul. Abram called Lot his brother (Genesis 13:8) but we know from the Scripture that they were really not brothers (Genesis 11:27). In Nigeria, where I come from, we also know that people with a claim to one ancestor call themselves brothers and sisters. Read the following passages from the Holy Scripture where the word "brother" is used - Matthew 5:22, 7:3-4, 18:15, 28:10; Acts 2:29, 3:17, 7:1-2, 9:17. In most of these places, you will see the word "brethren" used.

As we have begun our Lenten Fast, Prayer, and Almsgiving, we can dedicate praying the Rosary, asking Mother Mary to intercede for us and for PEACE in the world. Mary has been our most powerful Intercessor and the Mother of the Church (John 19:24-27). She has no other child except Jesus. May our Mother Mary pray for us in this Lenten Season.  
~Fr. Augustus, Parochial Vicar

## Offertory

Weekly contributions needed for budget goal:	\$4373.00
Offertory total for 3/1 & 3/2:	\$3155.00
Online total:	\$1095.50
Over (Under):	(\$122.50)

## This Week

### Saturday, March 8th

**High School Youth Group** service project 9:00am-1:00pm

**Women's Bible Study** 10:00am in the parish hall

**Confessions** 4:30pm

**Vigil Mass** 5:30pm

*Intentions: Parishioners of St. Edward*

### Sunday, March 9th

**Mass** 9:15am

*Intentions of Matilda Makombe (Happy Birthday)*

**Adult Faith Formation** 5:00-6:00pm Adoration/Benediction,  
6:00-7:30pm Hospitality/Presentation/Talk

### Monday, March 10th

**Men of Conviction** 7:00-8:30pm in the parish hall

### Wednesday, March 12th

**Mass** 9:00am

*Intentions: RIP Jane Vaandering*

**Religious Education (grades 1-5)** 4:00-5:15pm

### Friday, March 14th

**Simple Soup Supper** 6:00pm at St. Edward Parish Hall

**Stations of the Cross** 7:00pm at St. Edward Church

### Saturday, March 15th

**Women's Bible Study** 10:00am in the parish hall

**Confessions** 4:30pm

**Vigil Mass** 5:30pm

*Intentions: Parishioners of St. Edward*

### Sunday, March 16th

**Mass** 9:15am

*Intentions: RIP Seraphine Paes*

**Adult Faith Formation** 5:00-6:00pm Adoration/Benediction,  
6:00-7:30pm Hospitality/Presentation/Talk at Visitation

## Adult Faith Formation on the Gospel of Luke with Brian Meeuwsen

Sunday, March 9 & 16

5:00-6:00pm Adoration/Benediction with confession (Visitation church)  
6:00-7:30pm Hospitality/Presentation/Talk (Visitation school)

## Shamrock Breakfast and Bake Sale

The High School Youth Group is hosting a breakfast and bake sale on Sunday, March 16 from 8:30am to noon at the St. Edward Parish Hall. The sale will raise money for their Mission Trip to Calgary in June. The menu will include: pancakes, ham, scrambled eggs, fruit cup, coffee and orange juice. Prices are as follows: adults \$12, children ages 5-12 \$9, immediate family \$45.

## FORMED.ORG

To begin to utilize this Catholic Resource, go online to [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org) and select "Enter code" link. Input the Parish Code: HWNN8P to create your own personal login and password and begin enjoying the FREE content.

### **Pick of the Month**

Fr. Michael's Pick:

"How to Lent"

Sometimes, it feels like Lent is just about giving up chocolate. But deep down, we all desire to do something more for Lent - we just don't know how to do it. "How to Lent" is a new series from the Augustine Institute that aims to equip Catholics with the tools to understand and practice the pillars of Lent: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Guided by Solenne Santiago and with the help of priests and religious, this series will challenge our preconceived notions about Lent, laying out a roadmap for entering the season of purpose.  
(Run Time: each episode 12-15 minutes)

### **Friday Lenten Soup (6:00pm) & Stations with Adoration/Benediction (7:00pm)**

March 14 & April 4 (St. Edward)

March 21 & April 11 (Visitation)

March 28 (St. Francis of Assisi)

### **Friday School Stations**

March 14, March 21, April 4, April 11 - 2:30pm & April 18 - 1:00pm  
Visitation

March 14 & April 11 - 11:00am & April 4 - 2:00pm  
St. Francis of Assisi

### **"Fasting and Abstinence Regulations" for the Archdiocese of Portland**

- All Catholics 14 years and older must abstain from meat on Fridays of Lent, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
- All Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are asked to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. To fast means to eat one full meal; the other two meals that days should be less than the normal amount unless they are already at a minimum for good health. Eating between meals is not permitted; however, liquids including coffee, milk, and fruit juices are allowed.

## Religious Education

### **Religious Education (Grades 1-5)**

*Meets Wednesday from 4:00-5:15pm in the parish hall.*

### **Middle School Youth Group (Grades 6-8)**

*Lenten service project 5:30-8:00pm Friday, March 14 Soup and Stations at St. Edward. Please sign up with Tammy Scheenstra.*

### **High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12)/Mission Krewe Calgary, Alberta 2025**

*Sign up to volunteer at one of the two shifts for the Shamrock Breakfast Fundraiser Sunday, March 16 8:30am-12:00pm at St. Edward.*

### **Confirmation Preparation (Grades 7-12)**

*HS Confirmation Candidates Service Project 5:30-8:00pm Friday, March 7 Soup and Stations at St. Francis of Assisi, Roy. 9:00am-1:00pm Saturday, March 8 Tuality Habitat for Humanity at Rose Mobile Home Park in Cornelius. MS Confirmation Candidates Service Project 5:30-8:00pm Friday, March 14 Soup and Stations at St. Edward. Please sign up to volunteer and confession time with Tammy Scheenstra.*

### **OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)**

*Rite of Election with Bishop Smith 2:00pm Sunday, March 9 at St. Mary's Cathedral, Portland.*

**All questions concerning Religious Education for Youth (grades 1-12) and Adult (OCIA) programs, please contact Tammy Scheenstra, 971-245-9913 or [tammy.scheenstra@hotmail.com](mailto:tammy.scheenstra@hotmail.com).**

### **Parish Lenten Gift**

The Parish Pastoral Council has selected Bishop Robert Barron's Lenten Gospel Reflection which is complimentary and free. It can be picked up at the entrance of the church beginning on Ash Wednesday, March 5. One copy per parish family. Enjoy the read during the season of Lent!  
~Fr. Michael

## **"Hoist Hope" Capital Campaign Phase II**

Pledge cards and donations are still needed to reach our Estimated Total Funding of the project. Our total received so far is \$2,730,339.71 in cash donations and committed pledges over a 5 year period. The parish community is invited to make an additional commitment pledge which will hopefully help us reach our goal. Please prayerfully consider reupping or making a new Pledge Commitment to our "Hoist Hope" Capital Campaign Phase II. Projected groundbreaking is still Spring of 2025 with completion of the expansion by Winter 2026.

For questions, please call the parish office at 503-647-2131 or email at [maill@stedwardnp.org](mailto:maill@stedwardnp.org).

## American Red Cross Blood Drive

St. Edward will be hosting a blood drive on Thursday, April 24 from 1:00-6:00pm in the parish hall.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter: NorthPlainsComm to schedule an appointment.

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting [RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass](http://RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass) to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.

\*\* Come give 4/14 to 4/30 for a Red Cross T-shirt, limited quantity plus a chance to win \$5K prize: [rcblood.org/hope](http://rcblood.org/hope)

## Volunteers Needed for Mama Meals

The Mama Meal ministry serves women and families of our parish who have recently had a baby by bringing them home cooked meals during this time of transition. As a mama meal volunteer, you sign up to prepare one meal for each family. This usually ends up being around 2 meals per year. If you would like to be notified when there is a new parish family to assist in this way or just to receive more information about the ministry, please contact Lisa Thompson by phone or text at 503-544-1042 or by email at [lisaswaja@gmail.com](mailto:lisaswaja@gmail.com)

\*\* If you are expecting and would benefit from receiving meals after having your baby, please reach out to Lisa Thompson.

## Lenten Day Retreat at The Grotto A Spiritual Oasis for the Jubilee Year with Retreat Leader Dina Marie Exploring Our Call: Walking with Christ Fri., April 4 | 8:30am-2:30pm



### Retreat Location:

**The Grotto Conference Center**  
The National Sanctuary of Our Sorrowful Mother  
8840 NE Skidmore St.  
Portland, OR

**Registration Required at:**  
**[dinamarie.org](http://dinamarie.org)**

**Your Retreat Leader:**  
**Dina Marie Hale**  
founder of FAITH MOMENTS™



# Vocations Information Night



**Are you interested in learning more about vocations  
to the priesthood, the single, married, or  
consecrated life?**

Single, Catholic men and women between the ages of 20 and 40  
years are invited to join others who are seeking information about  
their "call."

Day

January 19

February 23

March 16

April 27

May 25

June 22

July 20

Presentation

Religious Brothers

Religious Sisters

Consecrated Virgins

Diocesan Priests

Religious Priests

Marriage

Bocce Ball Tournament

6:30pm – 7:30 pm at the Motherhouse of the  
Sisters of St. Mary of Oregon  
(Beaverton: Corner of TV Hwy and Murray)

**We believe:**

- All are called to holiness.
- Everyone has a vocation.
- Possibilities are married life, single life, consecrated life, and ordained ministry.
- One vocation is not better than another – BUT one is best for you...providing you with the best way to love and be loved.

**For more info, please contact:**

Fr. Rito Guzman, MSpS, at St. Matthew Parish in Hillsboro. 503.648.1998 ext. 260  
[rguzman@stmatthewhillsboro.org](mailto:rguzman@stmatthewhillsboro.org)

Sr. Charlene Herinckx, SSMO, at the Sisters of St. Mary of Oregon Motherhouse. 503.805.6201  
[srcharleneh@ssmo.org](mailto:srcharleneh@ssmo.org)