

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.net

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

lmclure@archdpdx.org

Cemetery Sexton Dan Puncochar

69modtop@comcast.net
503-706-1329

Religious Education

Director Tammy Scheenstra

tammy.scheenstra@hotmail.com
Cell 971-245-9913

North Plains, Oregon

March 1, 2026

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.

<p style="text-align: center;">Parish Pastoral Council</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dian Duyck 2023-2026 (Chair) Leah Nussbaumer 2024-2027 (Vice Chair) Lisa Thompson 2022-2025 (Recorder) Patrick Weis 2023-2026 Charlie Lucas 2024-2027 Karen Kemper 2025-2028</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Confessions:</u></p> <p>Saturday 4:30-5:15 pm or by appointment, call/text Fr. Michael 971-217-5335 or Fr. Augustus 971-392-8449.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Masses:</u></p> <p>Saturday Vigil Mass 5:30 pm Sunday Morning Mass 9:15 am Wednesday Morning Mass 9:00 am</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Adoration of Blessed Sacrament</u></p> <p>1st Wednesday of the month, following 9:00 am Mass, closes at 7:00 pm</p>
<p><u>Funeral Service</u></p> <p><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></p> <p><u>Infant Baptism</u></p> <p><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></p> <p><u>Matrimony</u></p> <p><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></p>	<p><u>Parish Hall Use</u></p> <p><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></p> <p><u>Mass Intentions</u> can normally be offered on Wednesday mornings and Saturday evenings. Please submit requests through the parish office. A suggested stipend is \$10.</p> <p><u>Bulletin Announcements</u></p> <p><i>The deadline is 12:00 pm on Tuesday for the following Sunday. Call the parish office or email mail@stedwardnp.org.</i></p>

Dear Parishioners,

My dear friend and classmate, Abbot Marion Nguyen, OSB, is an occasional contributor to Vatican News. When he was studying at San Anselmo in Rome pursuing his doctorate, he was invited to share his love for Sacred Scripture. Despite returning back to the United States, from time to time, he is asked to provide a reflection. And, of course, as his good friend, he leans upon me to review his drafts and provide constructive feedback. This submission, in my humble opinion, did not require much additions or subtractions. It is pretty spot on! Enjoy the read. ~ Fr. Michael

A Call to Seek and Listen

When we envision something beautiful, we sometimes feel as if we have already tasted it. Just as Jesus longed to bring about the kingdom (cf. Lk 12:49), we too may feel restless in our pursuit of deeper communion with God through our Lenten disciplines. Yet, true spiritual growth takes time. After all, what comes easily is often taken for granted - hence the saying, *“easy come, easy go.”*

If we cannot expect to reach our final goal at the very start of our Lenten journey, what can we hope for? The Gospel passage for this first week of Lent suggests that God invites, gives a glimpse, and offered counsel.

Both Augustine and Gregory saw the Transfiguration as a profound and intimate revelation, meant to strengthen the disciples' faith (cf. Augustine, *Sermon 78*; Gregory, *Homily 32*). This gift began with an invitation: *“Jesus took Peter, John, and James and went up the mountain to pray.”* The disciples made themselves available to be led by Jesus.

The Church Fathers interpret Peter as representing faith, James as hope, and John as love. This makes sense because these are the theological virtues - gifts from God that lead us back to Him. The mountain, traditionally understood as a sacred meeting place, reminds us that encountering God requires a willingness to rise above the ordinary.

The very fact that we are meditating on this passage shows that we have received God's invitation and are responding to it. We have begun the journey. As Jesus prayed, *“his face changed in appearance, and his clothing became dazzling white.”* In Matthew's account, his face shone *“like the sun”* (Mt 17:2). But who can look at the sun and not be blinded?

The light and glory of God are beyond human capacity to absorb - hence God declared, *“no man shall see my face and live”* (Ex 33:20). And yet, in Jesus, the disciples caught a glimpse of God's glory and lived. Scripture assures us, *“Search, and you will find”* (cf. Mt 7:7), because God is true to His word: *“You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart”* (Jer 29:13). But for now, we can only receive a glimpse, for we are not yet ready to bear the full force of divine glory (cf. Jn 16:12).

Like the disciples who climbed the mountain, have we made the effort to seek God with all our heart? When He has given us a moment of spiritual clarity, how have we responded? This miraculous vision did not last, despite Peter's pleading to remain. When the glimpse disappeared, the disciples realized they had gazed upon the face of God and, in their human weakness, they became afraid. But God did not desire their destruction. Instead, He reassured them with these words - words that hold no greater counsel: *“This is my chosen Son; listen to him.”*

Wisdom has always affirmed the power of listening to God: *“my son, be attentive to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. Let them not*

Pastor's Notes (continued)

escape from your sight; keep them within your heart. For they are life to those who find them, and healing to all their flesh.” (Prv 4:20-22; cf. RB Prol. 1; Dt 30:19-20; Is 55:3)

This wisdom is no longer just words on a page; it has taken flesh in Jesus. And He still speaks - inviting us, revealing glimpses of His glory, and guiding us through His word. The question is: Are we listening?

By Abbot Marion Nguyen, OSB of St. Martin Abbey, Lacey, Washington

This Week

Saturday, February 28th

High School Youth Group Lenten Service Project at Habitat for Humanity in Forest Grove 9:30am-1:30pm

Confession 4:30pm

Vigil Mass 5:30pm

Intentions: Thanksgiving Paes Family

Sunday, March 1st

Mass 9:15am

Intentions: Parishioners of St. Edward

Monday, March 2nd

Men of Conviction 7:00-8:30pm

Wednesday, March 4th

Mass 9:00am

Intentions: RIP Irene Florez

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 7:00pm

Religious Education (grades 1-5) 4:15-5:15pm at Visitation

Friday, March 6th

Soup and Stations of the Cross 6:00 Soup Dinner in the Visitation Parish Center followed by Stations of the Cross with Adoration/Benediction in the Church at 7:00pm

Saturday, March 7th

First Saturday Mass 9:00am at St. Francis of Assisi

Confession 4:30pm

Vigil Mass 5:30pm

Intentions: Parishioners of St. Edward

Sunday, March 1st

Mass 9:15am

Intentions: In Thanksgiving Paes Family

Offertory

Weekly contributions needed for budget goal:	\$4373.00
Offertory total for 2/21 & 2/22:	\$5427.75
Online total:	\$2853.13
Over/(Under):	\$3907.88

FORMED.ORG

To begin to utilize this Catholic Resource, go online to 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:

"Witness with Fr. Mary Patrick Briscoe, OP" leads a pilgrimage of the road to Calvary encountering the Good Thief to Pontius Pilate, Martha to Barabbas, and many other Biblical figures who were flawed, fearful, hopeful and deeply loved.

(Run Time: multiple episodes 5-10 minutes each)

Parish Lenten Gift

The Parish Pastoral Council has selected "I Thirst" by Mother Teresa which is complimentary and free. It can be picked up at the entrance of the church beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 18. One copy per parish family. Enjoy the read during the season of Lent!

~Fr. Michael

Friday Lenten Way of the Cross

School Stations:

Visitation - 3/13, 3/20 at 2:30pm and 4/3 at 1:00pm
St. Francis of Assisi - 3/6 at 2:00pm and 3/13, 4/3 at 10:30am

*Friday Soup and Bread Meal 6:00pm & Stations with Adoration/
Benediction 7:00pm:*

Visitation - 3/6, 3/20
St. Francis of Assisi - 3/13, 3/27

"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 to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. To fast means to eat one full meal; the other two meals that day 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)

Class meets Wednesday from 4:15-5:15pm at Visitation Convent.

Middle School Youth Group (Grades 6-8)

Meets Sunday, March 1 from 6:00-7:30pm at Visitation Parish Center.

High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12)

Meets Sunday, March 8 from 6:00-7:30pm at Visitation Parish Center.

Confirmation Preparation (Grades 7-12)

*Friday, April 10 at 6:00pm Walk Thru with candidate and sponsor.
Saturday, April 11 5:00pm Vigil Mass with Administration of the Sacrament of Confirmation with Bishop Steiner at Visitation Church.*

Mission Krewe 2026 St. Bernard Project, St. Petersburg, FL

Shamrock Breakfast Fundraiser Sunday, March 15 from 8:30am-12:00pm at Visitation Parish Center. Menu: pancakes, ham, scrambled eggs, fruit cup, OJ and coffee. Prices: adults \$12, children (ages 5-12) \$9 and immediate family \$45. Cash and check only.

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Meets Sunday, March 1 from 11:45am-12:30pm in the St. Francis of Assisi church basement on "Sacrament of Holy Orders." Please reach out to Fr. Michael at mvuky@yahoo.com or text 971-217-5335 for all inquiries and questions.

Adult Faith Formation (adults 18 or older)

Lenten Mission "Confronting the Noonday demon: How anxiety robs your Joy" with Fr. Peter Tynan, OSB March 24-26, 2026 at St. Edward church. 5:00pm Eucharistic Adoration/Benediction with confession available, 6:00pm presentation/talk.

All questions concerning Religious Education for youth (grades 1-12) and Adult (OCIA) programs, please contact Tammy Scheenstra at 971-245-9913 or tammy.scheenstra@hotmail.com.

"Hoist Hope" Capital Campaign Phase II

Hall Project Progress Update: Concrete slab, steel columns and beams and foundation drains are complete. Lumber has been delivered and framing walls ongoing.

Please consider in following the dedication of these donors and offering a new pledge or modifying your existing pledge. Also, annual RMD donations are a source of consistent funding as each penny and dollar gets us closer to our goal of already received and pledged \$3,301,969.71.

If you have additional questions, please contact Fr. Michael, Dick Vandehey (Chair), Dick Krueger (Vice Chair) or Bob VanderZanden (Vice Chair).

Lenten Morning Retreat

Join Catholic speaker **Dina Marie Hale, founder of Faith Moments**, for a Lenten Retreat on **Saturday morning, March 7** from 8:30am-noon at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Sherwood. Retreat theme, "We are Companions of Jesus Carrying Our Cross."

Together we'll make a pilgrimage of the heart and mind into the Holy Cross that has redeemed the world. The morning begins with a Healing Mass at 8:30 followed by a light breakfast then our Lenten Retreat at St. Francis of Assisi Church, Sherwood.

A free will offering will be taken.

St. Francis Catholic Church is located at 15651 SW Oregon Street, Sherwood, OR 97140. For more information dinamarie.org.

Lenten Day Retreat

Join Catholic speaker **Dina Marie Hale of Faith Moments** for a Lenten Day Retreat at The Grotto, **Friday, March 20**, from 8:15am-2:30pm in the Grotto Conference Center. Retreat theme, "Companions of Jesus Carrying Our Cross." Together we'll make a pilgrimage of the heart and mind into the Holy Cross that has redeemed the world. To celebrate the Franciscan Jubilee Year, we'll encounter St. Francis of Assisi and explore his love of the Cross. The day includes conferences, Mass, confession, lunch and time to explore the peaceful Grotto grounds.

Registration is required at dinamarie.org. The Grotto is located at 8840 NE Skidmore Street, Portland, OR 97220.

Knights of Columbus Council 1634 Lenten Food Drive

The Knights of Columbus is organizing a Lenten Food Drive. Bins will be located in the vestibule of the following parishes. All donations go to support St. Vincent de Paul Hillsboro (St. Edward), Banks Community Food Bank (St. Francis of Assisi), and St. Vincent de Paul Forest Grove (Visitation). Donations begin February 15 (before Ash Wednesday) until March 29 (Palm Sunday).

For more information, please see flyer on the bulletin board in the church vestibule.

Parish Pastoral Council Nominations

There are two possible positions open. I invite all of you to prayerfully discern who you believe would be a faithful servant in an advisory role for the pastoral and sacramental care of the parish. Below I have included the qualifications:

- ◆ *In full communion with the Catholic Church, i.e., baptized Catholic and member of the parish (CCL 512).
- ◆ One who exhibits good faith, morals, and prudence (CCL 512).
- ◆ One who nourishes a deep prayer life and exhibits an active faith life.
- ◆ One who is able to collaborate effectively with others.
- ◆ One who values consensus, is open to the new ideas, and can set aside personal agendas to listen.
- ◆ One who can discern.
- ◆ One who can study, reflect, and recommend practical conclusions.

Please drop off your nominations to Nancy Vandehey at the parish office or call her at 503-647-2131 or email n.vandehey@stedwardnp.net. The deadline is Monday, March 2nd, 2026 at 1:00pm.