

St. Edward Parish

Pastor

Fr. Michael Vuky
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Parochial Vicar

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Pastoral Associate

Brian Meeuwsen
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Holy Eucharist to Sick & Shut-ins

Brian Meeuwsen 503-828-5660

Parish Office

Hours Tues-Fri 8:30 am - 1:30 pm

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Parish Support Account Lai McClure

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Cemetery Sexton Dan Puncochar

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Religious Education

Director Tammy Scheenstra

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North Plains, Oregon
March 15, 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,

On March 7, the Parish Pastoral councils for all three parishes, St. Edward, St. Francis of Assisi, and Visitation gathered for a day of recollection. This year, it was hosted at St. Francis of Assisi parish in order for the council members to take advantage of the plenary indulgence granted for this Franciscan Jubilee Year by Pope Leo XIV. It is such a blessing that we have a designated jubilee site so nearby, literally in our backyard.

The council members began the day of recollection with the 9:00am 1st Saturday Mass. Some took the opportunity for the sacrament of confession as it was available from 8:00-8:45am. After Mass, we gathered in the church basement for some fellowship which included some coffee and sweet breakfast treats. This gave everyone a chance to visit before our speaker, Alex Nelson, began his presentations.

Alex Nelson worked for the Archdiocese of Portland in the Chancery Office before branching off into the private sector. He addressed the following topic: Ministering to those suffering with brokenness, failure, and hurt especially those who have fallen away from the Church. The reason why he addressed this topic is because Archbishop Sample is starting throughout the Archdiocese a Parish Mission Renewal Initiative.

The four areas of Parish Mission Renewal are Clergy, Catholic Education, Liturgy/Worship and Parish Life. In the area of Parish Life, the Archbishop wants the Parish Pastoral Council to reflect, discern, and pray on how to advance the mission of the Church which is to bring Good News to our community and the world, that is, Evangelization.

Obviously, this topic provided some great insights of how the Parish Pastoral Council leadership can structure and organize programs as well as strengthen current ministries to those who find themselves away from the Church or find themselves on the margins. Jesus Christ devoted his proclamation of the Gospel to those who were the outcasts, the forgotten, the broken and the sinners. As our Lord said, "Those who are well do not need a physician, but the sick do. I did not come to call the righteous but sinners" (Mark 2:17).

There is a reason why one of the many titles associated with Jesus, he is referred to as the Divine Physician. Although there are many miracles in which he performs a physical healing of giving sight to the blind, curing of illnesses, healing the lame to be able to walk, and rising the dead to new life, Jesus also heals spiritually too. Notice that in the physical healing of the paralytic man, before he instructs the paralytic to rise and pick up his mat, what does he actually address first. He says, "Child, your sins are forgiven" (Mark 2:5).

Clearly, Jesus' primary concern is always the spiritual health, but more particularly, one's soul. For this reason, he addresses the gift of mercy to forgiveness of sins and then he focuses upon the physical healing next. Likewise, any Good News that is proclaimed should always focus first and foremost on the gift of God's mercy.

In fact, this is one of the initial points that Pope Leo XIV made early in his pontificate. At the *Regina Caeli* Address on May 11, 2025, Pope Leo said, "Evangelization in our time must be a dialogue of mercy, not a monologue of judgment." Pope Leo is reminding the Church that the proclamation of the Gospel is most effective when it begins with mercy. As the Parish Pastoral council members begin to examine our parish ministries and programs, it is through the lens of mercy that drives our Mission as well as renewal. Needless to say, the thoughts and reflections by Alex Nelson have provided much food for thought as we move forward in the coming months of pastoral planning.

Please continue to pray for the Parish Pastoral Council in our discernment process.

Blessings,
~Fr. Michael

This Week

Saturday, March 14th

Confession 4:30pm

Vigil Mass 5:30pm

Intentions: RIP Archuleta Family

Sunday, March 15th

Mass 9:15am

Intentions: Parishioners of St. Edward

Shamrock Breakfast 8:30am-12:00pm at Visitation Parish Center hosted by Mission Krewe

Middle School Youth Group 6:00-7:30pm at Visitation

Monday, March 16th

Men of Conviction 7:00-8:30pm

Tuesday, March 17th

Cemetery Committee Meeting 6:30pm

Wednesday, March 18th

Mass 9:00am

Intentions: RIP Madeline Trujillo

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

Friday, March 20th

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 21st

Confession 4:30pm

Vigil Mass 5:30pm

Intentions: Parishioners of St. Edward

Sunday, March 22nd

Mass 9:15am

Intentions: RIP Michael Basile

Offertory

Weekly contributions needed for budget goal:	\$4373.00
Offertory total for 3/7 & 3/8:	\$2993.00
Online total:	\$2525.51
Over/(Under):	\$1145.51

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)

Friday Lenten Way of the Cross

School Stations:

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

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

Visitation - 3/20
St. Francis of Assisi - 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.

St. Edward Cemetery

The St. Edward Cemetery Committee is looking to fill the secretary position both during meetings and in the office (can be the same or different individuals). Office work entails updating cemetery forms upon request, recording plot sales, maintaining files, filing & scanning, mailing invoices as requested.

Please call Dan Puncocar at 503-706-1329 or Leah Nussbaumer at 503-809-6352 with any questions.

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 15 from 6:00-7:30pm at Visitation Parish Center.

High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12)

No meeting Sunday, March 22 & 29. Enjoy Spring Break!

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 15 from 11:45am-12:30pm in the St. Francis of Assisi church basement on "Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick and Suffering." 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: Walls framed and exterior sheeting installed. Trusses set with on-going roof sheet being installed. Catch basin units are on-site and grease trap installed. Kitchen sub-committee meeting with our kitchen supplier, Rose's Equipment & Supply.

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 \$3,361,304.71.

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

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

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.

Cemetery Committee

The next Cemetery Committee meeting will be Tuesday, March 17th at 6:30pm at 30780 NW Highland Court (former location of "The Hub" gatherings).

Knights of Columbus Council 1634 Lenten Food Drive

The Knights of Columbus is hosting a Lenten Food Drive. Bins are 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 for the food drive will be accepted until March 29 (Palm Sunday). For more information, please see flyer on the bulletin board in the church vestibule.

St. Edward Benefit Tea

St. Edward is holding our annual **BENEFIT TEA** on Saturday, April 18, 2026. Doors open at 11:00am at THE VISITATION PARISH CENTER, VERBOORT, OR. Join us for Traditional Tea, specialty sandwiches, homemade scones with lemon curd and Devonshire cream, and delectable desserts. There are many raffle and a few oral auction items.

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE ST. EDWARD BENEVOLENCE FUND, CREATED TO SUPPORT INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES FACING HARDSHIPS.

Tickets are \$30 each or sponsor a table and invite your friends! Please contact Crystal VanderZanden at 503-680-1640 to reserve tickets.

SSMO Foundation Speaker Series

Support from the Sidelines: A Parent's Guide to Building Food and Body Confidence at Home

Monday, March 16
6:30pm via Google Meet
Presented by Greta Jarvis, MS, MPH

The SSMO Foundation is geared up for our second education Speaker Series event of the month. Join us as we tackle the topic of nutrition and fostering a healthy mind and body relationship for our student athletes and growing children.

Greta Jarvis, MS, MPH joins the Valley Catholic community online to share with parents how to support their children in meeting their nutritional needs while nurturing healthy relationships with food, body, and self. Learn how families can play a pivotal role in fostering body image resilience and healthy eating behaviors across the lifespan.

Register for webinar at <https://ssmo.org/event/speaker-series/>

Save the date for the 91st Annual Archbishop's Seminary Tea

Benefitting the education of seminarians preparing to serve in the Archdiocese of Portland, Oregon.

**April 22, 2026
3-6pm
Portland Golf Club**

5900 SW Scholls Ferry Road, Portland, OR 97225

For more information about the event and how to purchase tickets or make a donation, please visit seminarytea.org or email seminaryteacommittee@gmail.com.