



Summer NEWSLETTER

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For the most up-to-date information, visit our website. Find special events, news articles, a parish-wide calendar, information on our commissions and staff, and much more!

THE CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD
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GATHER AT ST. EDWARD

A rich tradition is set to continue at St. Edward, with the beginning of our new parishioner-led fall event, **Gather**. So many meaningful occasions in our lives begin when we join together with family and friends to celebrate. We celebrate our faith in the Eucharist at Mass, we celebrate milestones such as birthdays, baptisms, weddings and anniversaries, and yes, even when a loved one passes to new life—all centered around our parish family and our relationship with Jesus. **Gather** isn't just a "fall festival", it is a gathering together of all these things that matter to us, all that tugs at our heart strings, inspiring us to serve one another, to join together in worship and growth in our love of Jesus and His Church.

Gather to Celebrate! On September 15, we will celebrate life at St. Edward and all that it has come to mean for each of our families with a day-long event. **Gather** will kick-off with an outdoor Mass filled with lively and prayerful music at 10:30am. Mass will be followed by family activities on the lawn, large inflatables and games for young and old to create even more memories. You can be certain to enjoy a bounty of flavorful foods, drink and desserts throughout the afternoon. And don't forget to dive into the mouthwatering Nacho Experience and Beer & Wine Bar as you watch the Vikings take on the Packers on an oversized screen!

Gather to Serve! The **Gather** event celebrates our rich tradition of service to one another and our greater community by highlighting the many ways our ministries serve others. **Gather** provides an opportunity to serve on the committee, to celebrate with friends and to give your talent to build a wonderful parish fundraiser that sustains our ministries and parish needs. As a part of this effort, there will be a **Gather** raffle with some truly amazing prizes! Be sure to purchase your **Gather** raffle tickets to have a chance to win a Gourmet Dinner with Fr. Rick—a celebratory evening for ten family members and friends. The **Gather** raffle will also feature other special prizes including cash! Raffle and food & beverage tickets will be available for purchase in the foyer. Look for more information in the bulletin and be sure to purchase plenty of tickets for family meals, treats, beer and wine!

Gather to Share! At St. Edward there are many exciting initiatives that we see building up around us. **Gather** provides a practical way for us all to support our parish and its important ministries. You are invited to "Gather your stuff", for an Upscale Rummage Sale! This is a great way to clean out those closets, garages and storage units and bring quality used items for this great fund-raiser to take place all during the **Gather** event. Our **Gather** Upscale Rummage Sale is an opportunity to reach out to the entire community – invite your friends and neighbors to join in the worship, food and fun.

The **Gather** event is your event. Come Gather and Grow together.

CONTACT US: For information contact **Gather** chairs Michael Rubio or Wendy Cotter, or Donna Rubio in the parish office.

CELEBRATING OUR “SWEET” VOLUNTEERS

by Donna Rubio

Over 250 volunteers gathered for the annual Volunteer Celebration. Together with the parish, we celebrated Mass and a special blessing followed by dinner in the social hall. We are blessed to have so many volunteers creating and supporting the various ministries in the parish. These generous volunteers give of their talent to fulfill the mission of St. Edward—they are welcoming to all who enter the parish, share the love of Christ, and serve God with gladness. The impact they have here at St. Edward and beyond the campus, is immeasurable.

Volunteering makes a difference.

It is well known that volunteering is good for the soul; we receive more than we give. As part of the Volunteer Celebration, St. Edward volunteers were encouraged to share what they loved most about volunteering. A few of the responses are included below. Perhaps their words are similar to your own experience. Or maybe their words will inspire others to get involved!



Top: Volunteer recognition during Mass

Bottom Left: Dinner is served!

Bottom Right: DIY ice cream sundaes

The SWEETEST thing about volunteering is...

“...making new friends which makes the parish really home.”

“...being inspired by all those disciples around me here at St. Eds.”

“...getting the chance to extend myself on the behalf of others! Knowing we're contributing to something bigger than ourselves!”

“...helping out new altar servers—because it gives me a warm and fuzzy feeling inside.”

NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION IS ON THE RISE

by Donna Rubio

There is a lot to consider when making the decision to register in a parish. Sometimes it's convenience of location, “*We just moved into the neighborhood.*” It could also be an event that was attended because another parishioner extended a simple invitation. Most often it is that feeling of welcome, “*We just feel at home here, love coming to Mass, and want to get involved in the different ministries.*” This past year the parish has become home to 34 new registered families each bringing their unique talents and gifts to share in the community.

Welcome home, we are glad you are here!

Volunteers are needed to join the Welcome team!

Beginning in the Fall, registration will take place at a monthly Meet and Greet event. These events will provide an opportunity for new parishioners to meet with Father Rick, staff, and learn from current parishioners about the different ministries in the parish. We also are looking for parishioners to host a family through their first year here at St. Edward. If you love meeting new people and would like to become a parish guide you are perfect for this ministry!

CONTACT US: If you are interested in joining the parish or volunteering on the Welcome team please contact Donna Rubio in the parish office.

LOVE IS IN THE AIR

by Donna Rubio

Did you know engaged couples spend 6-9 months preparing for the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony? They begin with an online inventory that helps to identify areas of strengths and areas of growth in their relationship. This inventory provides the topics that they will discuss and share with their marriage mentors. The couple also spend time together viewing the ‘Beloved’ videos available on the Formed.org website, attend a weekend retreat offered through the Archdiocese, and attend a Natural Family Planning class. Sound like too much preparation? Not at all when the couple is preparing for a life time together and entering into a sacramental marriage. The process is actually fun and provides a foundation for the couple and connects them to the parish. We have been blessed and honored to work with six couples this year and the trend is growing. In the next few months three additional couple will begin the preparation process.

Engaged couples preparing for marriage:

Nate Torrey and Nichole Olson

Tom O’Donnell and Renee Martinez

Justin Olson and Nadia Trejos

Weddings Celebrated:

Guillaume “Foley” and Linda Folefack

Ryan and Nicole Wiskerchen

Nick and Megan Stage

It is truly a joy to work with these couples. Marriage mentors are a very important part of this ministry. Mentors share their experience of married life and journey with the couple as they prepare for marriage.

CONTACT US: If you are interested in becoming a marriage mentor couple please contact Donna Rubio in the parish office.

NEW RCIA PROCESS BEGINS IN THE FALL

by Donna Rubio

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a restoration of the ancient practice of initiation into the Catholic Church. Preparation for the Sacraments of Initiation includes all aspects of parish life experienced through word, worship, community, and service.

The RCIA Journey of Faith is divided into four separate periods of time: Evangelization, Catechumenate, Purification & Enlightenment and Mystagogy. Throughout the RCIA Journey of Faith are three steps that are celebrated within the community. These steps are:

- The Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens
- The Rite of Election
- The Celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation

Who enters this process of the RCIA?

Anyone who is over seven years of age and is seeking baptism and wishes to become a member of the Catholic Church can enter the RCIA process. If you are interested in discovering more about the Church or would like information about becoming Catholic, we welcome you to join RCIA in the Fall.

Baptized Christians who are seeking to be received into full communion of the Catholic Church are also invited to contact our office. If you are already baptized in the Catholic Church, but have not completed the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation, please call for an appointment to discuss how we can help you complete the Sacraments of Initiation.

CONTACT US: If you are interested in more information about the RCIA process please contact Donna Rubio in the parish office.

OVERFLOWING WITH BAPTISMS

by Donna Rubio

Baptism is God’s most beautiful and magnificent gift... CCC 1216-1253

Baptism is the sacrament of faith. But faith needs the community of believers. It is only within the faith of the Church that each of the faithful can believe.

Couples and families have come to St. Edward seeking the Sacrament of Baptism for 18 infants and children this year! Please consider joining the Baptism Ministry and experience the overflowing grace as these little ones are received into the Church.

CONTACT US: If you are interested in having your child baptized or if you would like to become part of the Baptism Ministry please contact Donna Rubio in the parish office.

Question: *How can you tell if there is a Baptism during Mass?*

A: Dip your fingers into the baptismal font. The water is warmed so the little ones are not startled by cold water.



Faith Formation

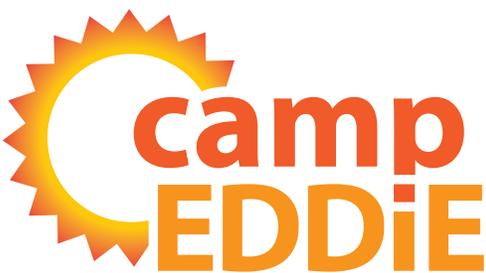
SUMMER MISSION TRIP

by Patrick Smalley

This June, high school students traveled to New Orleans to work with an organization called St. Bernard Project, which was founded after hurricane Katrina to help rebuild the New Orleans area with housing that was affordable. We worked on a variety of projects involved in building new, affordable homes including: installing sheetrock, mudding, painting, and sanding. During our free time, we had the opportunity to celebrate Mass at St. Louis Cathedral in Jackson Square, the oldest Catholic Cathedral in continual use in the United States. We also explored the city and learned about the culture in Louisiana. This week-long mission trip was a great opportunity for service, and an eye-opening experience of social justice issues.



*Top: Sightseeing in the Garden District
Middle Left to Right: Sanding; Sheetrocking;
The group posing in front of St. Louis Cathedral
Bottom Left to Right: This home, located in the Lower 9th Ward, is one of two houses benefitting from our work; Accommodations for the group provided by Molly's House, part of Trinity Episcopal Church.*



August 19-23, 9am-4pm

NEW THIS SUMMER

by Nicole Smalley

A day camp at St. Edward for kids entering grades 1-5 | As summer winds down and we get excited for Faith Formation to begin again join us for a week of games, Bible stories, music, and so many special surprises. Kids can come for a full or half day and if you can't make it for the whole week, no problem! There are leadership opportunities for middle and high school students. Visit our website for all the details and registration! Of course, as always, friends are welcome!

CONTACT US: For questions or information contact Nicole Smalley at nsmalley@stedwardschurch.org.

Faith Formation



Left to Right: 2019 Confirmands celebrated with Fr. Rick and Archbishop Hebda in the Cathedral of St. Paul; MEA theme night in 2018 was “Flannel Fest”

LOOKING FORWARD TO FALL

by Nicole Smalley

With the Faith Formation program year fast approaching, do you ever wonder “*What happens on a typical Wednesday night in Faith Formation?*”

5:30pm: Acts 29 Leaders Meet for Dinner

Acts 29 leaders are high schoolers who volunteer with grades 6-9. Although the book of Acts ends with chapter 28, these students are “writing the next chapter” by continuing the mission of the first disciples. As we share a meal together we discuss what it means to be a leader as well as our night ahead.

6:30pm: Groups Begin!

Elementary schoolers are in grade-specific classes led by their amazing teachers—adult volunteers who receive prepared lesson plans to bring faith alive for our kids. Students dig into their Bible, play games, make crafts and attend special large group events once a month; like a Christmas play, or walking the footsteps of Jesus during Holy Week.

Middle schoolers gather in the auditorium. Grades 6-8 are together for games to connect with other students and leaders (because having fun together opens doors for relationships to go deeper). There is also a teaching and grade specific small groups led by Acts 29 high schoolers who lead conversations about applying faith to everyday life.

Confirmation is for 9th graders and meets in the youth room. We seek to engage the heart and mind as to allow teens to develop an active, mature faith life: a relationship with God that has been informed not only by tradition but through personal reflection, as well. Acts 29 students minister to their peers, guiding them through this Sacrament.

7:45pm: Younger Groups End and Base Camp Begins

Base Camp is a youth group open to all 10-12th graders. We worship through music, hear testimonies, learn from relevant biblical teaching and connect with one another. Base Camp is meant to take students deeper in their faith through practical teaching and help students think Biblically in response to the issues they face in the world.

Faith Formation begins on Wednesday, September 18! Visit our website and sign up: stedwardschurch.org/faith-formation/registration. On our website, you will also find an online calendar with all our Faith Formation events AND a place to sign up for our monthly Faith Formation eNews—this is the best way to stay up to date with program information, special events, resources and more!

CONTACT US: For questions or information about Faith Formation, Birth to Grade 8, contact Nicole Smalley at nsmalley@stedwardschurch.org. For questions or information about High School & Adult Faith Ministries contact Patrick Smalley at psmalley@stedwardschurch.org.

Faith Formation Online Registration is live August 1!

Faith Formation is more than just Wednesday nights, we also offer:

SUNDAY SCHOOL

[Four and Five-year-olds]

NURSERY

[Infants to Three years]

Nursery and Sunday School offered during most 10:30am Masses.

Learn more at the Open House at 11:30am on September 8!

ADULT OPPORTUNITIES

Guest speakers on the second Sunday of each month after 10:30am Mass, retreats, Bible studies, FORMED—our online resource for the whole parish, volunteering as a teacher, working on projects in the resource room and more!

Faith Formation



As I have grown older, I have come to appreciate the beauty of the Catholic Church. The idea that the Catholic Faith has been handed down to generations for centuries is so beyond just our moment in time. I teach because these kids are our next generation, the future of our faith. If we don't hand it down to them, who will? Some may say teaching is something I do for church, to give of my time and talent; that may be true but it is not without reward, I have received so much more than I have put in.

- Parent Volunteer

I really like how we got to take time out to do fun games that is like trivia for church. I also like that we are taught as one big group but then split into smaller groups

- 8th Grade Student

St. Eds is always a safe and comfortable place for me. Older Acts 29 members kind of took me in and were a big reason I feel so comfortable at church. So I want to do the same for the younger kids at St. Eds. That is why I love to volunteer in the nursery, middle school and Confirmation. Base Camp is always so fun too! The leaders create such a enjoyable atmosphere and encourage me to further my relationship with God.

- 12th Grade Student

I really liked being with my small group leaders. They were easy to talk to and made me see faith in a new way.

- 7th grade Student

I enjoy being a part of St. Edward's Faith Formation as both a parent and a volunteer teacher! The team and volunteers at St. Ed are among the best I've ever worked with. Serving with people who genuinely care about our children and engage them in exciting and fun ways makes all the difference in my experience as a parent and as a teacher. Weekly small group lessons give us the flexibility to really examine where each child is at in their faith and allows us to meet them there and help them grow. Monthly large group lessons showcase the amazing creative talents of our Faith Formation leadership where children are dazzled with activities that bring bible stories to life such as service night, a Christmas Story play, or Easter's A Walk with Jesus. You just know God's hand is at work when a child is eager to speak up and share with you something that happened during the week that relates to a lesson we've covered! It shows you just how much they are engaging and learning and that's when you know your intention to serve is being met!

- Parent Volunteer



Ministry Highlights



NEW PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS CHOSEN

Serving on the Parish Council is a ministry and those who serve are called to represent Christ to all whom they meet in all aspects of life. Earlier this summer, the parish took part in a Parish Council Member Discernment process. As a final step, three names were selected by ritual during Pentecost Masses: John Cotter, Michele Cowling and Randy Jenniges. These three new members will join continuing members Mike Barg, Steve Madej, Patsy Murphy, Mike Soderlund and Co-Chair Bob McBeath. The Parish Council resumes their service and leadership to the community of St. Edward with meetings beginning in August.

WORSHIP

Get Involved in the Mass

Are you being called? Are you looking for a way to give back? We have a vibrant group of dedicated volunteers that serve at all liturgies and we would love for you to join! By sharing your gifts with others, you will receive more than you give. We would be honored to have you take an active role in the liturgies at St. Edward.

There really is something for everyone! Opportunities include:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Altar Servers | Art & Environment |
| Children's Liturgy | Choir & Music |
| Eucharistic Ministers | Greeters & Ushers |
| Lectors | Linen Care |
| Sacristans | Worship Technology |

CONTACT US: Call the parish office at 952-835-7101 to find out how you can share your talents.

PASTORAL CARE

Get In On the Action

Would you like to be a part of a ministry that makes a real difference in other's lives when they need it most—and your own? Consider becoming a Stephen Minister!

Stephen Ministers are members of our parish who provide one-to-one caring ministry to people experiencing grief, divorce, loneliness, job loss, hospitalization, and many other life difficulties. Stephen Minister training equips you to do an excellent job as a Stephen Minister as well as to improve the quality of all your relationships.

Once equipped, Stephen Ministers are prayerfully matched with people who are going through a stressful time or life difficulty. A Stephen Minister meets with this person once a week for about an hour to listen, care, encourage, and pray. The Stephen Minister brings Christ's presence into the person's life and also experiences Christ in the other person. It's really a life-changing ministry for both the care receiver and the Stephen Minister.

CONTACT US: If you would like to learn more about how to become a Stephen Minister, or have questions about Pastoral Care, please call Mia Ah Sani in the parish office at 952-835-7101.

Need to speak with someone? Contact a member of our staff!

Parish Staff

Phone: 952-835-7101 extensions listed below

Pastor

Fr. Rick Bankerx234

Parish Administrator

Beth Schorlex222

Administrative Assistant / Receptionist

Sue Kruchtenx200

Bookkeeper

Megan Contyx208

Director of Communications

Celeste Morrisx201

Director of Community Life

Donna Rubiox219

Director of Facilities & Maintenance

Steve Brownx224

Director of Faith Formation: Birth to Grade 8

Nicole Smalleyx210

Director of High School & Adult Ministries

Patrick Smalleyx211

Director of Liturgy

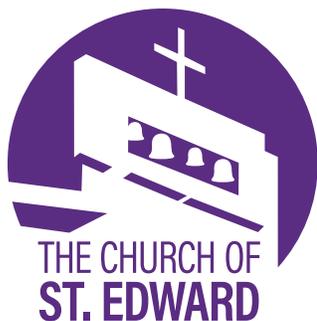
Mary Kay Hirdx217

Director of Music

Craig Walkerx231

Director of Pastoral Care/Social Justice Coordinator

Mia Ah Sanix223



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ST. EDWARD CELEBRATES WORSHIP ENHANCEMENTS



Over the summer of 2019, St. Edward has been blessed to implement significant worship technology enhancements in our worship space. If you've been at St. Edward in the last couple of months, you couldn't have helped but notice many changes. Our music ministry area has relocated from the back corner to a newly constructed area adjacent to the altar on the right side of the front. Projection screens are mounted on both sides of the worship space and are serviced by ceiling mounted projectors and new cameras. Our sound system is all new featuring state of the art technology including world class Meyer speakers. These updates prepare St. Edward to better deliver the Word of God to our community and beyond.

The music area relocation included moving the console for our amazing Austin pipe organ, our beautiful Mason & Hamlin grand piano, as well as our band and choir. Our music ministry helps lead the music portion of our worship and can accomplish that more effectively from our new location. The pews removed from the front of the worship space to accommodate this move have been relocated to the former music ministry area so that there is no loss of seating.

Finally, you will notice a new control booth constructed at the back of the worship space. From this location we will have control of the audio and video systems. The sound system can also be controlled remotely from an iPad in the music area.

This wonderful upgrade to our worship space is the result, in part, of a special gift from the estate of one family. We are very grateful for their generosity.