

**ST. EDWARD'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
11123 Okanagan Centre Road East, Lake Country, BC V4V 1H3  
Phone 250-766-3146 Fax 250-766-3191  
Website <http://www.stedwardsparish.ca> Email [lakecountry@nelsondiocese.org](mailto:lakecountry@nelsondiocese.org)

**September 8, 2024**  
**23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*Jesus proclaimed the good news of the kingdom and cured every  
sickness among the people*

*Matthew 4.23*

**Pastor: Father Obi Ibekwe**

**PARISH OFFICE**

**Secretary: Pat Robinson**

**Office Hours: Tuesday to Thursday,**

**10:00 am to 3:00 pm**

**Bulletin Announcements by noon on Thursday**

**email: [wandawirth@telus.net](mailto:wandawirth@telus.net)**

**WEEKEND MASSES**

**Saturday: 6:30 pm**

**Sunday: 9:00 am**

**WEEKDAY MASSES**

**Tuesday – Mass at 6:00 pm**

**Wednesday and Friday—Mass at 10:00 am**

**Rosary at 9:30 am**

**Thursday - Mass at 10:00 am**

**CONFESSIONS**

**Saturday - 4:00-5:00 pm or by appointment**

**CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS  
EDUCATION**

**Noreen Dunn: 250-766-3303**

**MINISTRY COORDINATORS**

**Altar Society: Constance Gregory**

**(250) 765-2879**

**Benevolent Fund: Bob Sellinger, 250-766-5990**

**Greeters and Ushers: Maxine Joyce**

**[g.joyce@hotmail.com](mailto:g.joyce@hotmail.com)**

**Lectors (Readers): Sue Taylor**

**[jaytaylor@telus.net](mailto:jaytaylor@telus.net)**

**Eucharistic Ministers: June Bot**

**[bot.june@icloud.com](mailto:bot.june@icloud.com)**

**Music Ministry: Vera Gervais, 250-766-2250**

**Sacristans: Lily Oddleifson (250) 766-4390**

**PARISH COMMITTEES**

**Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)**

**Chair:**

**Parish Finance Committee (PFC)**

**Chair: Joe Pereira George**

**Liturgy Coordinator**

**Constance Gregory, 250-765-2879**

**Grounds and Building**

**Clive Halston**

**PARISH ORGANIZATIONS**

**CWL**

**Marian Podgornik, 778-480-6444**

**St. Edward's Men's Association**

**Michael Conyette [mconyette@hotmail.com](mailto:mconyette@hotmail.com).**

**Development & Peace**

**George & Karen Willoner, 250-215-5134**

**Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**IS 35:4-7A; PS 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10; JAS 2:1-5; MK 7:31-37**

Our readings today offer us a message of hope — God is with us and wants to heal us. May this message come ablaze in our hearts so that we might live with unwavering faith.

The Gospel presents us with the story of the profound physical healing of a deaf man with a speech impediment. People brought him to Jesus and begged for his healing. Jesus took the man off by himself, touched his ears and his tongue, then proclaimed, “Be opened!” Immediately he was healed.

This story in our Gospel overwhelms us with comfort and peace because we have a compassionate God who sees our physical needs. Yet if we reflect further on this reading, we see that God uses this moment of physical healing as an opportunity to restore something much deeper — our souls.

Oftentimes we are blind and deaf to God in our lives. We miss countless opportunities to see God working in our day-to-day moments — through our loved ones, our community, or even a stranger. We miss the quiet voice of Jesus in our hearts telling us to choose Him instead of sin, respond in love instead of anger, or care for someone else in a moment instead of ourselves.

These are how we need to be spiritually healed. And the scriptures remind us that God is with us and wants to heal us.

This week let us seek God to heal our souls and transform our hearts. Let us pray that our eyes and our ears might “be open” to His workings, words, and promptings in our lives.

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## PARISHIONERS OFFERINGS

*Thank you for your generous support of  
St. Edward Parish*

WAYS TO DONATE: Pre-Authorized debit forms are available by email or mail if you are interested in signing up for donations through the SAG program. Email or call the office 250-766-3146 for more information. Another way you can donate is to use an eTransfer from your online banking. All you have to do is create a new "payee" (eg. St. Edward Parish) and use the email [etransfer.stedwardswinfield@nelsondiocese.org](mailto:etransfer.stedwardswinfield@nelsondiocese.org). In the message box indicate that you want your donation to go to Sunday Collection. Regular offering envelopes will CONTINUE to be collected at Offertory at each mass. Extra envelopes will be available in the pews if you wish to use them, and still wish to donate with cheques or cash. You can also mail your Offerings to: St. Edward's Church, 11123 Okanagan Centre Road East. Lake Country, B.C. V4V 1H3. Please call or email our offices to register with our parish, or to arrange for Weekly Offerings Envelopes; 2024 envelopes will be available soon! We thank you for your continued charity to help us create the programs and cover the costs needed to run our parish.

## PILGRIMAGE OF FAITH

Our Pilgrimage of Faith Appeal is now underway in our parish for the year 2024 – We are grateful to all those who have donated. Every gift is important. Our parish commitment is \$18,050.00. Remember to fill out your pledge card and drop it along with a cheque/cash in the collection or donate via etransfer to: [etransfer.pof@nelsondiocese.org](mailto:etransfer.pof@nelsondiocese.org) or online via Canada Helps at Canada Helps: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/24360>. We have already received \$7,205.00. Thank you so much for your generosity.

**Anyone who is housebound and would like to receive Holy Eucharist, please inform the office and we will arrange to have someone bring it to you.**

### NEED A PRIEST?

*If you need a priest **for emergencies or end of life call**, please call the Catholic Chaplaincy phone at 250-878-1502. Regular hospital visits can be arranged by calling the church office during office hours to arrange a time for a priest to visit.*

## *Pastor's Message*

### **Change of Mass Time - Only for Saturday**

I am sorry to announce that we will be changing our Saturday Mass time to 6.30pm starting September 21. Thank you for your sacrifice and understanding. It's really hard to find replacement priests.

We will maintain our Sunday 9am Mass.

### **Fr. Biju's Father**

Fr. Biju left for India on September 5 to see his father who is very sick. His father who has been sick for quite sometime had a stroke last week. He is no longer able to speak. He had been longing to see his son but Fr. Biju was not able to go home in July because he was still waiting for his immigration papers.

Please keep Fr. Biju, his father and their family in your prayers.

Happy Sunday!

Your brother,  
Fr. Obi

## BC THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

This BC Thanksgiving Food Drive event has been held in British Columbia since 2006. This year is the 2nd year it will be held in Lake Country. St. Edwards Parish has been asked to participate in this year's food drive. All proceeds collected will go to our local Lake Country Food Bank.

Baskets will be provided for non-perishable food items, at the Saturday Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> and Sunday Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> masses for your contributions. Thank you in advance for your participation.

## ONGOING FUNDRAISING FOR ST EDWARD'S YOUTH

It's been quite a while since we've published a reminder that our parish has an account at the **Winfield Return-It Centre** at Lakewood Mall (#4 - 11852 Highway 97N). When you take your recyclables to this location you can request that the proceeds be added to the **account #103 for St Edward's Parish Youth!** They are open from Monday to Friday 8:30 am - 5:00 pm. Thanks in advance for supporting upcoming activities for the youth of our parish!

## MEN'S ASSOCIATION FUNDRAISER

The Men's Association has established an account at Lake Country Bottle Depot on Oceola Road, where if desired, parishioners could take beverage and alcohol containers that receive a full or partial deposit refund and designate it to the Men's Association of St. Edward's parish account #198. Funds accumulated there will be allocated to families and seniors in need and those who are working towards the betterment, growth, or solidarity of our community through activities such as Catholic faith development, faith retreats and camps.

## COLLECTION FOR THE NEEDS OF THE CHURCH IN CANADA

The annual Collection for the Needs of the Church in Canada will be held on 29 September 2024. This annual charitable initiative assists the Bishops in their ministry of accompanying, teaching, guiding, sanctifying and caring for the Church in Canada.

As part of their episcopal ministry, the Bishops will continue to work together on relations with Indigenous peoples, important doctrinal and ethical questions; ecumenical initiatives and interreligious dialogue; international relations; evangelization, faith education and catechesis; questions of social justice; responsible ministry, and the development of a culture of life and family.

We invite all Catholics to contribute locally to this collection to support the pastoral works of our Bishops.



Through a retreat program facilitated by mental health professionals and centered on Jesus Christ, Grief to Grace helps those who have endured neglect, physical,

emotional, sexual, and/or spiritual abuse in their family of origin, their community, from spouses/partners, and/or coworkers or supervisors, find healing and journey to wholeness. The next retreat in Canada is scheduled for September 24-28, 2024.

For the retreat website visit:

## SETON HOUSE FUNDRAISER

Monday, October 21, 2024- 6:30 p.m. Immaculata High School Gymnasium, Kelowna Featuring African Drummers, Cecelia's Classical Piano, Blakey Okanagan Irish Dancers, Nelson Diocese Clergy Choir, OLOL School Choir, Vic's Dance Band, Tony Serka, OLOL Parish Family Choir, The Filipino Dancers and more. Further information and ticket sales to follow.



You are invited to be a part of an important pro-life witness on Sunday, October 6, 2024 from 2-3 pm at <insertlocation>. At this location and hundreds of others across North America, we will form a "Life Chain," bearing signs with messages like "Abortion kills children" and "Adoption: a loving option" and there we will pray silently for the hour. Everyone is welcome to peacefully, publicly, and safely call upon our community to protect human life. Simply show up and follow the directives of the local organizer. Let's advocate for the innocent; as Christ Himself reminds us, "Whatever you do to the least of these, you do to me" (Mt 25:40).

## 110<sup>TH</sup> WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

On behalf of the Migrants and Refugees Section of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, the General Secretariat is forwarding to you the attached Message from His Holiness Pope Francis for the occasion of the *110<sup>th</sup> World Day of Migrants and Refugees*, which will be celebrated on Sunday, 29 September 2024. This year's theme is "God walks with his people".

In preparation for the special day, the Dicastery has launched a communication campaign and the first video of a series is available on the media channel, YouTube:

In English: <https://youtu.be/k5lyibguPRE?si=nE27QzW5RPMvP5Pr>

Likewise, the Dicastery has produced resources which can be consulted and downloaded from its website at the following link:

In English: <https://www.humandevlopment.va/en/news/2024/giornata-mondiale-migrante-e-rifugiato-2024-tema-messaggio-papa.html>

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
+Bishop Greg



# 2ND ANNUAL MEN'S FALL Retreat

Join the Knights of Columbus for our 2nd annual Men's Fall Retreat, where you will have the opportunity to deepen your faith and connect with your brother's in Christ. Through talks, reflection, group discussions, adoration, and prayer, You will leave with a renewed sense of purpose and a strengthened connection to your faith.

**GUEST SPEAKERS**  
Fr. Sebastian Puthenpura  
Deacon Rod Attwell

**SPACE LIMITED  
REGISTER TODAY!  
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: OCT 12TH.**

**26** October 2024 | Seton House of Prayer

**COST \$30 | INCLUDES MEALS  
REGISTRATION: PANDOSY2558@GMAIL.COM**



**Men's Retreat 2024: Perfect Storms**

The Men's Retreat 2024: Perfect Storms | September 20–22, 2024, at Rockridge Canyon in Princeton, BC. This year's theme is "Perfect Storms." Through inspiring talks, the Sacraments, and outdoor adventures, Jake Khym (founder of Life Restoration Ministries) and Sam Blair (retired US Navy SEAL) will guide us through a prayerful weekend, helping us receive the perfect and transforming love of Jesus amidst life's storms. Registration opens July 13, 2024. For more information and to register, go to [liferestoration.ca/mens-retreat](http://liferestoration.ca/mens-retreat).

Have you thought about leaving a legacy? For more information or assistance contact the Diocesan Appeals Office at the Catholic Pastoral Centre. phone: 250-448-2725 ext. 240, Email: [plannedgiving@nelsondiocese.org](mailto:plannedgiving@nelsondiocese.org)

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

The Mass is the central act of worship in the life of a Catholic. It is about spending time with God, offering ourselves to Him, giving Him thanks, and receiving His graces and blessings.

We are currently in need of more volunteers for the various liturgical ministries. If you are at all interested in joining any of our groups and would like more information, we would encourage you to contact the individuals below:

- Greeters and Ushers: Maxine Joyce at [g.joyce@hotmail.com](mailto:g.joyce@hotmail.com)
- Altar Society: Constance Gregory (250) 765-2879
- Lectors (Readers): Sue Taylor [jaytaylor@telus.net](mailto:jaytaylor@telus.net)
- Eucharistic Ministers: June Bot [bot.june@icloud.com](mailto:bot.june@icloud.com)
- Sacristans: Lily Oddleifson (250) 766-4390

It is a tremendous blessing and very rewarding to serve in this way. Please prayerfully consider joining our teams.

**MADE FOR THIS MOMENT**

The Okanagan Pregnancy Care Centre Annual Banquet - September 26th, 2024. Evangel Church, 3261 Gordon Drive, 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm. Doors open at 5:30 pm. Tickets are \$30 per person, or a table of 8 for \$240. Banquet Tickets are now on sale! You can contact us at 250-763-2112 to purchase your tickets.



**Living Well Counselling Services**  
Laura Loewen  
Registered Clinical Counsellor  
#13395  
13375 Shoreline Drive, Lake Country, B.C.  
[www.livingwellcounsellingservices.ca](http://www.livingwellcounsellingservices.ca)  
[laura@livingwellcounsellingservices.ca](mailto:laura@livingwellcounsellingservices.ca)  
778-581-HELP (4357)

**Springfield**  
Here for You.

JOHN  
3:16

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