

“Christ, our Paschal Lamb, has been sacrificed; let us feast with joy in the Lord.” (Gospel Acclamation for Easter Sunday).

Dear Friends, Easter presents us with the great mystery that the Resurrection comes *through* the Cross. As disciples of Christ, we are invited to follow this path, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me (Mt 16:24)”. Often, we think that after Jesus died and rose then our lives should be pleasant, comfortable, and easy. But our path is found in His footsteps, taking up our cross generously in union with Him.

This past year has brought many trials as we have endured the loss of beloved churches and the reorganization of parish communities. Many people have felt sorrow and frustration and have had to dig deep to find their foundation of faith. However, I am confident that God’s grace is poured out when we embrace these trials. These little crosses can lead us to the joy of new life on earth and eternal life in heaven. It is up to us to trust that God’s hand is at work in these trials. When we do this, we can even be joyful in our sufferings.

I have been with you only 6 months, but I am glad to walk with you together through these difficult times. Already we have seen many new signs of life in our newly amalgamated parish and a new joy in being together in Christ. With God’s grace we have confidence that we can rejoice in whatever comes: “Christ, our Paschal Lamb has been sacrificed; let us feast with joy in the Lord.” I wish you all a very blessed and happy Easter.

Yours in Christ.
Fr. James Fleming

SANCTUARY LAMP- For the week of April 9th – 15th the Tabernacle Sanctuary Lamp will burn for the repose of the soul of Madeline English. The Sanctuary Lamp in the St. Thomas of Villanova shrine will burn in Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Fatima for favours received. If you would like to have the Sanctuary Lamp lit for a deceased relative or friend or for a special intention, contact the parish office. The cost is \$5.00 per week.

PRAYERS FOR OUR SICK - Lord hear our prayer for those who are sick, recovering from surgery, aging and in need of our prayers, and for those who care for them, may they find strength and courage through their faith. **We Pray for** – Ed Broderick, Bertha Noseworthy, Glen Bursey, Sophia Ribble, Gerry Perry, Elizabeth Hayden, David Roche, Colby Chipman, Emily Kenny, Wayne Fitzpatrick, Jeffrey Hollings, Donna Power, Marjorie Melnik, Bernadette Dawe, Doreen Wiseman, Cara Coleman, John Power & Bessie Nugent.

VISITATION OF THE SICK:

Dear Parishioners, Fr. Fleming would like to begin regular visitation of the sick and homebound of our parish. If you or someone you know, would like to have a visit from the priest, please contact the parish office.

COULD GOD BE CALLING YOU TO BECOME A PRIEST?

A vocation discernment group, led by Fr. James Fleming, meets regularly on the last Sunday of every month. Single Catholic men, 18 years and older, who are open to considering a call to the priesthood are invited to attend. To register or find out more, please contact Fr. James Fleming at 834-9481 or vocations@rcsj.org

THANK YOU - a sincere thank you to those who donated towards the purchase of flowers for the altar during the Easter season.

<u>PARISH COLLECTIONS -</u>		April 1st & 2nd	
Sunday offering	-	\$2,938.00	Sunday off. loose - \$409.20
Dues	-	\$ 210.00	Easter Sun. offering - \$ 90.00
Initial offering	-	\$ 30.00	Good Friday env. - \$ 50.00
Maintenance off env.	-	\$ 40.00	Ash Wed. env. - \$ 20.00
Holy Thurs. env.	-	\$ 70.00	Dev. & Peace env. - \$115.00
Papal Charities env.	-	\$ 20.00	Archdiocesan assessment - \$ 35.00
Easter flowers	-	\$ 70.00	Donation - \$ 5.00
Food Bank	-	\$ 30.00	
Total	-	\$4,132.20	

Received with deep appreciation and gratitude.

MASS SCHEDULE:

		April 15 & 16		INTENTION	
Sat.	- April 15	-	4:00 pm	- Dawson Searle – David G. Ryan – Donna & Stanley Puddicombe	
Sun.	- April 16	-	9:30 a.m.	- All Parishioners	
		-	11:00 am	- Bernard, Madeline & David Lawlor & Lawlor & Stapleton families – Ray & Jean Lawlor	

PLEASE NOTE – There will be no weekday Masses for the next two weeks.

CATHOLIC WOMEN’S LEAGUE – The winner of the 50/50 Raffle Fundraiser for St. Thomas of Villanova CWL was Maureen Lewis of Harbour Main. A special thanks to all CWL Members and parishioners who sold tickets for this fundraiser. CONGRATULATIONS, Maureen. The prize has been claimed.

RETURN TO AUTOMATIC DONATIONS – We are pleased to announce that our Parish will again be able to process automatic donations from your bank account. To sign up for automatic withdrawals you are required to complete a Pre-authorized Debit Form which is available at the entrance to the church. Please complete the form and return to the parish office.

IMPORTANT PLEASE NOTE - Effective April 1st anyone writing a cheque to the parish please write to **St. Edward's Parish**. Thank you.

REMINDER – to those who are using envelopes from 2022 please discontinue using them as the envelope number you are using could possibly be used by another parishioner for 2023. Envelope boxes are available at the entrance of the church. Thank you.

OFFICE CLOSED – The parish office will be closed Monday, April 10th in observance of Easter Monday; it will reopen Tuesday, April 11th @ 8:30 am.

50/50 TICKETS - Knights of Columbus is selling a \$ 25.00 50/50 ticket. Potential prize of \$125,000. Parishioners who are interested in a ticket can contact Len Furlong 834-3842 ljpp_44@hotmail.com or Ray Johnson - 689-4777 rayjohnson262@gmail.com or Steve Dray -834-8628 sdray@nl.rogers.com **Deadline April 15, 2023.**

MINISTRIES:

Saturday, April 15 - 4:00 pm

1st R - Dave Kenney
2nd R & IP - Lorna Clark
Usher - Daisy Carroll – Jim Woodrow
EM - Cheryl Donovan-White
Sacristan - Anne Petten

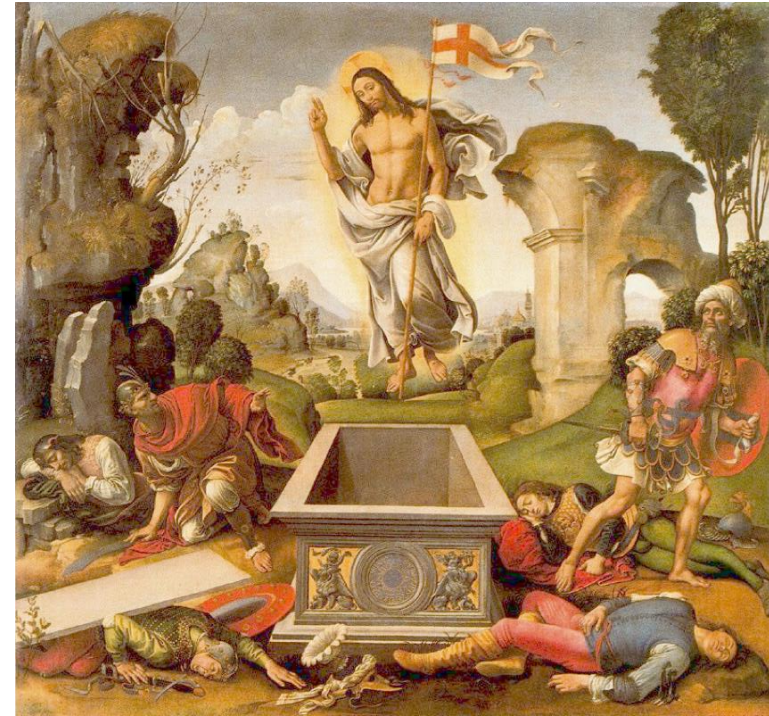
Sunday, April 16 - 9:30 am

Lector - Gerald Morrissey
Usher - Ray Rossiter
EM - Carol Barron
Sacristan - Steve Dray

Sunday, April 16 - 11:00 am

Lector - Marguerite Greene
Usher - Tracey Barron &
EM - Pat Burton
Sacristan - Myrna Power

**EASTER SUNDAY
APRIL 9, 2023**



WELCOME TO ST. EDWARD'S PARISH
Box 13048, Topsail Station
CBS, NL A1W 2K1
834-9481 834-5680 (fax)
Email- villanovaparish@nl.rogers.com
Website- <http://www.stthomasofvillanova.ca/>



Parish Priest – Fr. James Fleming
Administrative Assistant – Jennifer Hutchings
Finance Council Chair – Steve Dray
Parish Council Chair – Dave Locke
Liturgy Committee Chair – Monika Behr

OFFICE HOURS
Monday – Friday – 8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Closed daily 12 -1 pm