

St Edith Stein Parish (St.ES) begins celebration of Sunday liturgy at St. Margaret Mary (St.MM) Church in Cumberland beginning on Sunday July 1st, 2018.

Frequently Asked Questions

What was the result of the most recent survey of June 3, 2018?

1. Please indicate your preference on when to move St.Edith Stein to St. Margaret Mary for celebration of our weekly liturgy:

July 1st move 56%	September 1st move 44%
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2. While you are able to avail yourself of any of the Masses offered on the weekend, would you prefer to have the 11:30 designated as a St. Edith Stein Parish Mass?

Yes 27%	No 71%
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3. If you indicated Yes, would you prefer to have all ministries at this Mass handled by St Edith Stein parishioners or would you prefer to share our gifts and talents at all of the Masses?

Yes - prefer to have a dedicated SES Mass with SES ministries - 27%	No - prefer no dedicated mass - 71%
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When did the Archbishop approve the formation of two parishes into one?

- Archbishop Prendergast was informed of the results of the survey of June 2017.
- January 2018 SES council **passed** a motion to join the parishes St. Margaret Mary and St. Edith Stein with the intent of forming one new parish, under a new name, encompassing the current territories of both. (This new Church is to be located on the recently purchased land on Old Montreal Rd., Cumberland)
- January 2018 SMM council was informed that Fr Gerard received an email from the Archbishop regarding the possibility of this amalgamation. It was moved and accepted that Father Gerard will create a letter formally stating this intention on behalf of both parishes' pastoral councils.
- This letter was added to the agenda of the February 2018, Presbyteral Council.
- In March 2018, we received an official letter From the Archbishop indicating that after consulting with the Presbyteral Council, he has approved the future amalgamation of the 2 parishes as stated above.
- Further direction was sought about the possible move of St. Edith Stein to St. Margaret Mary Church.
- Auxiliary Bishop, Christian Riesbeck on behalf of Archbishop Prendergast responded to Fr. Gerard's letter as follows:

If the St. Edith Stein Community prefers to transition to a different venue for their weekly Sunday Mass, then we are not opposed. In fact, it might even be advantageous if St. Edith Stein worshipped at St. Margaret Mary as it would be an opportunity to unify the two communities under one roof as they prepare to establish a new Parish community with a new church building nearby.

Please proceed as you fit, and please advise English Pastoral Services and the Chancery of any changes.

Why move in July instead of September?

- Parish Council decided to move in July to afford more time in acclimatizing to St.MM ahead of September when our combined parishes will be busy as we begin a new pastoral year.

What benefits are there for making this move now?

- With the summer months and the shortage of priests it is becoming more difficult to schedule or find replacement priests for 2 parishes.
- A wider choice of summer Mass times: 4:00 pm Saturday; 8:30, 10:00 and 11:30 am on Sunday.
- We get a chance to see what works and what does not as we move together and make decisions about our future as a community.
- St Margaret Mary's parish is air conditioned and more comfortable during the summer months.

What are the changes being made at St Margaret Mary Church to accommodate St Edith Stein?

- An additional Sunday Mass has been added at 11:30 am.
- Parking has been expanded

Will parishioners of have a choice of masses?

- Yes - parishioners of either parish are welcome to attend mass time of their preference.

So then, St. ES parishioners are “not” expected to take the 11:30 am as their only Mass?

- That is correct. Parishioners are free to attend the mass of their choice.

St.E.S. and St.M.M. parish ministries - will they be merging as both parishes are using the same church?

- **Yes!**

I am involved in a parish ministry at St.ES / St.MM. Will I be able to continue in this ministry at St.MM?

- **Yes and we encourage you to do so!**
- A meeting has been called for **Wednesday, June 13, 2018 at 5:00 pm** at St. MM for the various **ministries of both parishes** to come together and discuss the path forward. We will need these ministries for all Masses, including the new 11:30 am Mass.

Will there be a dedicated Mass time just for St.ES?

- At this time the consensus is that there will not be a specific mass for St.ES. For the immediate future please note **that Mass intentions for St.ES** parishioners will be announced at the 11:30 am.

What will be the name of the new parish?

- This is unknown at this time although it is agreed that we should petition the archdiocese to establish a new name as soon as possible.

Where will the new church be built?

- On a six acre plot of land just North West of the Cumberland Heritage Village Museum on Old Montreal Road.

Was St.E.S. consulted about the land purchase?

- The opportunity to purchase the land came before St. MM parish in late 2016 and an agreement was entered into. The purchase of the land was finalized in November 2017, after the due diligence was completed. The land purchase came with a substantial donation from the vendor. In the spring of 2017 the invitation was made to St. E.S., while the due diligence was being completed. In June 2017 St. E.S. accepted the invitation of St. M.M. to join St. M.M. in this exciting new endeavor.

When will the new church under the new name be built?

- Projected timelines are that the new church could be built within 5 to 10 years from now.

What happens to Ste. Felicité once St.ES moves?

- Ste. Felicité will carry on as before.

Who services the Catholic Schools in our area like St Patrick in Rockland and St Francis Xavier in Bourget?

- As before St. Patrick's schools will continue to be served by the clergy, Fr Gerard Monaghan, Fr John White, Dn Tom Donohue and Dn Kevin Foley. St. Francis Xavier will continue to be served by Fr. John and the Pastor of Pendleton. Furthermore, our Knights of Columbus is made up parishioners of St. M.M., St. E.S. and Our Lady of Divine Love, Pendleton, thus they do wonderful ministry in both St. Patrick's and St. Francis Xavier.

Will the New Church be advertised as an English Church, and still have Saturday, 4:00pm Mass as a bilingual Mass?

- Yes the 4:00pm Saturday Mass will continue to have an French component, where the Psalm and Second readings are usually done in French.
- At times there may also be a hymn in French.

Seniors who no longer drive but would enjoy attending Mass wonder will there be an effort to accommodate seniors?

- This has been identified as a need for both St.E.S. and St.M.M. Although no plans are firmly in place this is something the joint council hopes to explore in further detail. Some ideas are to investigate the possibility of a hiring a bus to developing a shuttle system among the driving parishioners.

Will all social events be offered to both parishes?

- Yes this is the intention although the logistics and times will need to be established.

St.E.S. moving on July 1st to St.M.M. Church. Will we have to move all items which belong to St.E.S. immediately?

- We have a good relationship with the Ste. Felicité community. Out of respect for their premises it would be good for us to remove our parish items by the end of June if possible.

Envelopes for St.E.S. parishioners - will we still be able to use them?

- Yes we will continue to use the envelopes and keep separate the funds from each parish. It has not been determined just when or if we are able to combine our resources. This may only occur after we come under one roof and one name.

St.E.S. Building Fund - will it be merged with St.M.M. Building Fund?

- At some point yes, but it is not known when. The councils need to explore this with the archdiocese.

Additional background information

Survey of June 2017 Analysis:

- ❖ 73 responded to the survey; 37 people and/or couples added their names to their survey responses.
- ❖ From Neutral to Support Fully - 93% of the responses are positive to joining with SMM to form a new parish.
- ❖ Results were:

Not at all	Somewhat	Neutral	Supportive	Support Fully
4%	3%	16.4%	23.2%	53.4%

See a copy of the survey from June 2017

St Edith Stein Parish Survey

It has come forward recently that St Margaret Mary's (SMM) church in Cumberland will become somewhat land locked as the new roadway emerges from Trim road to Caanan road. As a result SMM has taken proactive steps to purchase land in order to build a new church. SMM has extended an invitation to St Edith Stein (SES) parish to join them in this venture in building a new church under a new name. With this in mind, we would like your opinion.

Facts:

1. SES has approximately 70 active parish families.
2. Over a 17+ year span SES has saved approximately \$300,000 to put towards building a church.
3. Building a new church would cost minimum \$3 - 5,000,000.
4. Shortage of priests - Many parishes have to share a priest, as we do and many priests have two or three assignments. Also, 65 yrs old is the average age of the clergy in the Archdiocese of Ottawa. This means that there will be more reallocations of human resources and consolidations of parishes within this Archdiocese.
5. SMM has purchased 6 acres of land across from the Cumberland Museum.
6. The distance from Rockland to Ste Felicity **or** to the proposed new location is equidistant (approximately 11 kms either way).
7. The Archbishop has acknowledged that this is a reasonable invitation and given the circumstances in the Archdiocese, it is a logical direction for us to explore. Ultimately, the decision to amalgamate rests with the Archbishop.

There is straight forward invitation that has been made by St. Margaret Mary Parish.

The parish council of St. Margaret Mary has extended an invitation to St. Edith Stein Parish to join them in forming a new parish with a new name that both communities can call home. The location would be across from the Cumberland Museum.

Question: - Taking the above information into consideration, are you willing to support establishing a new parish with SMM? (circle one)

Not at all	Somewhat	Neutral	Supportive	Support Fully
1	2	3	4	5

Comments / concerns / etc. (use the back of the page if needed)

Fr. Gerard is open to your interests and willing to discuss with you directly, should you prefer.