

December 8, 2023
The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Solemnity

Father Kevin Tumback, Pastor All Saints Parish 2405 – 12 Avenue South Lethbridge, Alberta T1K 0P4

I have followed the progress of the East Lethbridge Catholic Parish Assessment Project (ELCPAP), and I am truly appreciative of the efforts of the various subcommittees with your regular status updates to me.

This project is important because we need to take concrete action now to move forward to address the current and future needs of East Lethbridge parish and to begin to heal the longstanding divisions within the parish. Our overall focus must remain on discerning those needs and identifying reasonable options to address them.

I understand that the Evaluation and Recommendations Committee is examining an immense amount of quality data collected and researched by the subcommittees and that this documentation is approaching 800 pages of material (before the inclusion of the City of Lethbridge 5-year plan).

I am also aware that the Building Condition Assessments for the existing three churches are critical for this project and that we will be delayed in receiving the final reports from the external engineering firm, which are anticipated by the end of January 2024. Then the receipt of the recommendations from the Parish Assessment Team will be submitted. The project plan indicates that the diocesan review process will take an additional 6-8 weeks to be completed.

While the process was designed to have recommendations submitted to me by December 31, 2023, it now appears that this milestone is no longer achievable. It is important to state, however, that the integrity of the steps in the process be completed in a thorough and comprehensive manner and therefore prudent to adjust the original project schedule timeline.

Thus, my revised expectation will be to announce the decision on the ELCPAP project based on the results and recommendation of the assessment on Divine Mercy Sunday, which is April 7, 2024.

I continue to pray for the parish and this important project. I thank the project teams for all of their work and look forward to receiving the Parish Project Team's recommendations in the new year.

Sincerely yours in Christ

₩William T. McGrattan Bishop of Calgary