



Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

The Right Reverend Samuel Rose, B.A, M.Div (Hon)
Bishop of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador

CHURCH HOUSE
22 Church Hill
St. John's, NL A1C 3Z9
Telephone: (709) 576-6697
Fax: (709) 576-7122
Email: bishop@anglicanenl.net

Letter to the Diocese on the Disestablishment of the Parish of St. Michael & All Angels 31 August 2023

My dear beloved in Christ,

I write to advise that, after much prayerful deliberation and with a heavy heart, as Diocesan Bishop, I will be requesting approval from the Diocesan Executive Committee for the disestablishment of the Parish of St. Michael and All Angels in St. John's effective 31 August 2023 as per our Diocesan Constitution Chapter 4.15 (page 4).

My decision comes after calling a special Congregational Meeting on 8 July 2023. With the challenging financial realities of the Parish, there was a consensus from those in attendance that there was no option moving forward in continuing to be a parish in the Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland & Labrador.

As your Bishop, this has been one of my most difficult decisions thus far in my ministry. I deeply love the Parish of St. Michael and All Angels. It has been part of my life since 1997 when I worked alongside Father Andrew Hall as a Queen's College student. Then, as a Deacon, I served with Father Christopher Snow until being called to be the Associate Priest in 2007 and Rector in 2009. My journey together with the Parish of St. Michael's from St. Clare Avenue to Carnell's Chapel and ultimately to Kenmount Terrace has profoundly impacted my life and ministry. I have so many happy memories of the faithful people of St. Michael's, and I thank God for those who remain and those who have gone on before us to receive their heavenly reward.

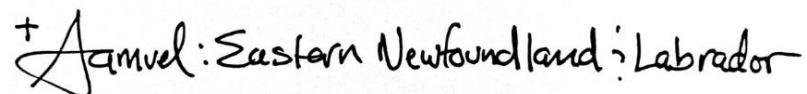
I am also profoundly thankful for the Rector, Father Jonathan Rowe, who has exhibited tremendous grace and dignity throughout this challenging process. I thank God for his ministry and faithfulness in serving the Parish of St. Michael's for over eight years. I ask for your continued prayers and love for Fr. Jonathan and his family as they find time for sabbatical rest, renewal and discernment.

Our staff at Church House will continue to do the administrative work in the operation of the Parish until all necessary obligations have been completed.

I conclude with the Prayer of St. Michael the Archangel, who we turn with confidence and enables us by his gracious protection to serve God more and more faithfully every day:

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

With my deepest love and affection,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "+ Samuel: Eastern Newfoundland; Labrador". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small cross symbol at the beginning.

The Right Rev. Samuel Rose
Bishop of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador