



# St Monica's Episcopal Church

7070 IMMOKALEE ROAD NAPLES FLORIDA 34119

*Where Christ's Light Shines*

## A Letter to Our Church Parish

Fr. Eddie's Farewell Set for June 27th, 2021

The Reverend Edward F.P. Gibbons, priest-in-charge, and his wife Alicia will be ending their time among us here at St. Monica's after the Sunday service on June 27th, 2021. Fr. Eddie began his ministry with us on July 20th, 2020, after the departure of our previous Rector.

His ministry was unlike anything that any of us had ever experienced. Not only were we in the middle of a pandemic, but the church services and attendance were declining thanks to COVID-19. Under his leadership we were able to continue the live streaming of our Sunday worship which helped keep the Parish connected during this past year. With his guidance we were able to open for limited attendance, all while following the CDC guidelines.

Fr. Eddie has taken us from having to wear masks to now having the option of not wearing a mask for those that are fully vaccinated. With his guidance we are continuing to move toward what we all remember to be normal.

Senior Warden Matt Devlin praised his work: "Fr. Eddie provided great leadership over a most difficult time. He took care of our needs spiritually and pastorally. He was clearly the right person to navigate our transition and we are grateful to him for all that he has accomplished."

In a show of appreciation, St. Monica's will host a farewell coffee gathering after both services on the weekend of Saturday June 26th and Sunday June 27th. For those that wish to thank Fr Eddie for his ministry among us and or provide an honorarium there will be an opportunity to do so at that time.

Matt Devlin; for the Vestry