

Report to Provincial Synod 2024
Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador

- 1. Please provide a brief description of your diocese at this time, including statistics for Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials for the most recent year for which you have prepared statistics.**

The Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador is comprised of 38 parishes with 69 congregations and is located on the Avalon Peninsula and most of Labrador.

Statistical Information: 2023

Baptisms	275
Marriages	68
Burials	585

- 2. Describe in detail any initiative by churches and members of the diocese that is producing real hope for the time in which we live.**

Diocesan Strategic Plan – *Set Sail: Charting the Course for Christ’s Church.*

Launched in 2023 this strategic plan is focused on getting people, congregations, and parishes back to the foundational understanding of who we are as Anglican Christians and our shared ministry through our Baptismal Covenant.

The Plan has four ***Ships***:

Deepening Relationships
Transforming Discipleship
Renewing Stewardship
Engaging Partnerships

In 2024, parishes have been asked to prioritize the first two “ships” of the vision so that individuals can continue to grow and develop who they are as faithful Anglicans. With that foundation firmly rooted yet always evolving, goals for 2025 will address the last two “ships” of the vision. For more information visit

<https://anglicanenl.net/set-sail-strategic-plan/>

Sowing Seeds - Growing Community is an initiative of the Diocese and is overseen by a local parish. This ministry is addressing the growing demand on local food banks to provide nutrition to those who find themselves turning to food banks for the most basic necessity of life – food. This farming initiative is utilizing one acre of Diocesan land with the assistance of local farmers and volunteers. More land is available for future expansion of this community ministry. This farming ministry will produce fresh produce which will be offered, free of charge to local food banks for distribution.

Indigenous Ministries and Advocacy is a ministry that is enriching the lives of people and parishes. This ministry aims to teach, share, and reflect upon the lives, stories, and gifts of our indigenous siblings in Christ. A Lay Canon has been appointed to this ministry and works with the Diocese and parishes in areas of Truth and Reconciliation, Mapping the Ground We Stand On, Indigenous Cultural Diversity Workshops, and other speaking engagements.

Creation Care and Stewardship is a ministry focused on the intersection of sustainability and environmental awareness. Through the implementation of a variety of programs and initiatives, the Creation Care Team intends to promote sustainable stewardship. This team led by a Canon for Creation Care and Stewardship assists parishes with resources about climate advocacy, worship, and the relationship between environmental awareness and faith. For more information and to read the newsletter *New Leaf* visit <https://anglicanenl.net/creation-care-stewardship/>

St. Lawrence Thrift Shop is an initiative of a local parish fulfilling an identified community need for clothing, household items, etc. in their local area. This ministry provides affordable items and helps fund their food bank, school scholarships, and breakfast programs.

Ecumenical Partnership with the Ukrainian Catholic Church

In the past year, several Ukrainian citizens have made a new home in Newfoundland and Labrador. Those who arrived from the Ukrainian Catholic Church faith needed a spiritual home for worship. A local parish opened its doors and offered hospitality to this faith group and now they use an Anglican Church once a month at no charge to pray and build community in a new land.

3. Despite our limited resources of time, energy, and money, our relationships among dioceses of the Province continue to be important. Have you any thoughts about ways to gather and support one another within our Province?

As parishes and dioceses have utilized more and more online technologies, this will be a way to keep us connected. Perhaps, focused areas of ministry that we share in common may be a way to continue our work and ministry together.