

# ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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7 August 2020

Dear Parishioners,

It has now been six months since I was first diagnosed with inoperable non small cell lung cancer in my lower right lung. I am very grateful for the many prayers and expressions of support I have received in this time. And the prayers seem to be working.

The results of the latest CT scan show that the tumor has been considerably reduced in size. In addition the CEA numbers which track the cancer through my blood are now at normal levels. The normal range is 0-5, and my latest number was 2.3. When I was first diagnosed that number was 55.

My treatment, an oral chemotherapy which I take twice a day, has had remarkably few side effects, the main ones being a slight swelling at times of my feet and a general fatigue. I find that if I focus strongly on whatever I am doing I can generally work through the fatigue although some days are better than others. Although this medication will not cure the cancer, for the time being it is made manageable. I attribute much of the success of the treatment to *your prayers* and I thank you from the bottom of my heart. Please keep them coming!

May God bless and keep you always,

*Father Alexander Drummond*

Fr. Alexander Drummond,  
Pastor