

News and Events



**Knights of Columbus
St. Gregory Council
Grand Knight Jeff Czech
(320) 630-2753**

Mass for the Knights of Columbus Deceased members

Mass has been changed from Nov. 21, 2024 to Jan. 9, 2025

K of C Free Throw Contest



1st Level Contest at the local level will be on January 12th in the Upsala High School Gym for boys & girls ages 9 - 14. Contact Mike Klasen 320-248-3600 or Jeff Czech 320-630-2753.



**GUIDING STAR
CYCLE SHOW**

Guiding Star

Today it is more important than ever for young girls to have high self-esteem regarding the changes in

their bodies. Research shows it is better to prepare girls for these changes before the onset of puberty not just when they are in the middle of it. Participation in the Guiding Star Cycle Show Workshop helps girls value and respect their bodies in healthy ways as they move into their teenage years. Registration is now open for the Workshop on March 1st. Created for girls 9-12 years old. Cost \$50, Place: St. Mary's, Upsala, Time: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. There is a Parent Presentation the night before, Feb. 28th at St. Mary's 7-8:30 p.m. To learn more and register visit: GuidingStarProject.com/Cycle-Show. Contact: Roseanne Throener (320) 360-2196

Catholic Men's Conference

Date: Saturday, Feb. 22, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; Bishop Patrick Neary will celebrate Mass at 4:00 p.m. and attend the conference Location: St. John's University in Collegeville Key-note speaker: Father Scott Traynor, JCL, a priest in the Diocese of Sioux Falls, South Dakota. He is the Vicar for Lay and Clergy Formation. Various Workshops will be available, including topics for young men ages 15 and up.

Cost: \$40 or \$35/each for groups of 5, includes morning refreshments and lunch. Cost for young men ages 15 – 22: \$10, scholarships available for the first 50 registrants

Registration: deadline: Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2025 Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2025CMC>

Questions: Contact Janet at 320-258-7616 or janet.dusek@gw.stcdio.org. Visit <https://stcdio.org/event/2025-catholic-mens-conference/> for more information.



Festival of Families

Join other families from around the diocese to celebrate your Catholic faith. The day includes a free carnival, breakout sessions for children-teens-parents, lunch, service projects, bingo, Mass and more!

Breakout sessions for the whole family: Parent/caregiver Sessions –

Designed to address the needs of parents today, with multiple topics to choose from, pick two that meet your needs.

Teen Session –

Intended to engage teens in a different way, this fast-paced session provides an opportunity to encounter Jesus anew and strengthens their connections with one another.

Children Session –

Using the Vacation Bible School model, children will rotate through activities (bible story, snack, music, crafts, games, etc.) that bring to life their Catholic faith. Cost: \$25 per family (no matter the size). Visit: <https://www.stcdio.org/Festival-of-Families> to find out more and to register.

Women's Group: Monday- Jan. 6th

We would like to extend a welcome to all women in our parishes to come to our meeting at 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. at All Saints-St. Mary's, Holdingford.



Are You Going to College Next Year?

The Music Department at the University of Mary has a college choir that specializes in liturgical music. We are seeking singers that have a special skill and devotion to sacred music to come sing

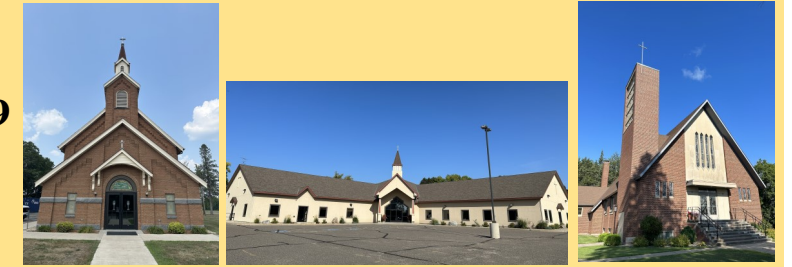
with us! We provide generous scholarships to students, just like college athletes, to come to Bismarck and share their musical gifts in service to God. Visit www.cappellaumary.edu to learn more.

Rural Catholic Middle Ages Singles Group: Jan. 11th

Join us for prayer, topical information, discussions, and social activities for people ages 30-60 who are looking to socialize with other single adults. We meet at 7:00 p.m. on the second Saturday of each month at All Saints-St. Mary's Church base-ment in Holdingford. Contact: Janel at 290-2877.

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF Elmdale, Upsala and St. Francis : MARY & THE SAINTS ACC

Parish Office
308 South Main St., P.O. Box 249
Upsala, MN 56384
238catholic@sytekcom.com
320 573 2132



St. Edward's, Elmdale
St. Mary's, Upsala
St. Francis of Assisi, St. Francis

Pastor: Fr. Jimmy Joseph
(320) 573-2975 : triparishcom@gmail.com

Sister Mary Pat Burger :
St. Francis Rectory: (320) 573-2203

PARISH OFFICE:

308 South Main Street,
P.O. Box 249, Upsala, MN 56384
(320) 573-2132 : 238catholic@sytekcom.com
Website: www.238catholic.org

Bookkeeper: Randi Klasen

Hours: Tues. & Thurs. 8 am - 12 noon

Office Secretary: Jessie Johnson

Hours: Mon., Wed., Fri., 8 am.- 4pm

Please update the office if your phone or address changes.

RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE

Saturday: St. Edward: 3:30 pm - 3:45 pm

Sunday: St. Francis: 7:30 am - 7:45 am

St. Mary: 9:30 am - 9:45 am

PRAYER LINES

Karen Liebsch 573-4127 & Kathy Koehn 573-2363 (SM)

Judy Theisen 573-2933 & Joyce Koopmeiners 573-2728(SF)

Sally Schleper 573-2127 (SE)

MINISTRY TO THE SICK & HOMEBOUND

Holy Communion can be brought to you or a loved one at home. Please contact the Central Office if needed.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Couples need to begin preparations with Fr. Jimmy nine months in advance and must call him before setting the marriage date.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Contact the office before the desired date.

Epiphany

Magi, the mysterious figures from the East have long been the subject of stories and legends. Early on they were looked upon as royal figures. This may have been suggested by Psalm 72: "The Kings of Arabia and Sheba shall bring tribute; all kings shall pay him homage" but there is no actual indication that the Magi were kings.

The word 'Magi' is Persian and refers to priests who were thought to be able to interpret dreams and the stars. It is not known how many Magi there were but the fact that they gave three gifts to the infant Jesus gave rise to the assumption that there were three visitors. Various names were given to the Magi but the most commonly used (Melchior, Caspar and Balthasar) go back to the sixth century.

The coming of the Magi is one of the most beloved stories surrounding the birth of Jesus. Why is this? Perhaps because it is a kind of reversal. We usually think about God's goodness to human beings—as well we should. The story of the Magi is the other way around—the goodness of human beings to God. They brought gifts and gave them to the Son of God. We like the idea of that—we want to imitate it in giving gifts to others we love.

But what gifts can we give to the Son of God now? Well, Jesus said "As often as you did it for one of these least ones, you did it for me." (Mt: 25-40) He is asking us to serve one another.

20 + C + M + B + 25

Epiphany Blessing


This centuries old tradition asks for God's blessing for all who enter our homes. With chalk blessed by the priest, the head of the household writes this inscription above the door: 20 + C + M + B + 25. The number '20' is the first two digits of the new year, C,M,B represents the names of the magi-Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar (and also the Latin Phrase: Christus mansionem benedicat – May Christ bless the house.)

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 5, 2025

The Epiphany of the Lord		
Saturday 1/4		Epiphany of the Lord
4:00 p.m. St. Edward	† Stanley Czech	EM of HC: Neil Frieler, Peggy Frieler c, Karla Schneider c, Lector: Jerry Theisen, Servers: Isaac Harren & Jacob Hartung, Ushers: Jim Wensmann & Justin Wensmann, Greeters: Megan Wensmann & Volunteer, Gifts: Kris & Carrie Wensmann
Sunday 1/5		
8:00 a.m. St. Francis	For the People	EM of HC: Rebecca Schmidt, Alice Westrich c, Janelle Roerick c, Lector: Mary Jane Boeckermann, Servers: Owen & Lily Fuchs, Ushers: Bob Theisen & Craig Voss, Gifts: Pete & Joan Boeckermann
10:00 a.m. St. Mary	† Terry Theis	EM of HC: LeAnn Beneke, Cindy Koehn c, Mike Klasen c, Lector: Mary Hollenkamp, Servers: Riley Klasen & Wyatt Klasen, Ushers: Darren Lange & Mitch Lange, Greeters: Mikel & Julie Nelson, Gifts: Jamie & Jenny Leners, Bank Deposit: Mike Klasen

Weekday Masses

Monday, 1/6			Adoration 2nd Tuesdays: St. Francis 8am -7pm Thursdays: St. Mary's 12 noon - 9 pm. First Fridays St. Edward's 12 noon-9 pm
6:30 p.m. St. Mary	Rosary & Chaplet of Divine Mercy		
Tuesday, 1/7	<i>St. Raymond of Penafort, Priest</i>		Pray for us: Jim Negen, Raymond Kurowski, Florence Kurowski, Pat Euteneuer, Roger Thell, Ron Dingmann, Kristy Brezinka, Kathy Hennek, Carol Langner, Judy Gerads, Millie Gerads, Marlene Vornbrock, Jim Koczur, Alan Schumer, Gary Larson, Helen Heisick, Geraldine George, William Hill, Lorraine Frie, Dee Booth, Rosemary Pundsack, Kevin Lampert, Pat Harren & Ron Schmidt
6:00 p.m. St. Mary *Anointing of the Sick	† Dennis Beuning		
Wednesday, 1/8			
8:00 a.m. St. Francis *Anointing of the Sick	† Donna Scholz ~St. Francis Christian Mothers		
Thursday, 1/9			
8:00 a.m. St. Edward *Anointing of the Sick	† Deceased Members of the St. Gregory the Great Knights of Columbus		
Friday, 1/10			
7:30 a.m. St. Mary	† Joseph & Irene Kohorst ~Lorene Koopmeiners		Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. (Is 60:1-6)

Baptism of the Lord

Saturday 1/11		
4:00 p.m. St. Edward	† Deceased members of the Don Biniek Family	EM of HC: Joan Theisen, Jerry Theisen c, Jim Bartkowicz c, Lector: Bill Boser, Servers: Isaac Harren & Jacob Hartung, Ushers: Donald Welinski & Jeff Czech, Greeters: Raymond Kokett & Volunteer, Gifts: Doug & Jackie Wolbeck
Sunday 1/12		
8:00 a.m. St. Francis	For the People	EM of HC: Brittany Harren, Chris Fuchs c, Colleen Harren c, Lector: Barb Moorman, Servers: Emmalyn, Carter & Brayden Harren, Ushers: Bob Theisen & Craig Voss, Gifts: Allen & Diane Herzog
10:00 a.m. St. Mary	Deceased members of the Kathleen Koehn Family	EM of HC: LeAnn Beneke, Lisa Zabinski c, Jan Kilian, Lector: Chantelle Frie, Servers: Alayna Weber & Lauryn Weber, Ushers: Bob Blonigen & Mikel Nelson Greeters: Randy & Jane Tretter, Gifts: Elmer, Mary & Lorraine Frie, Bank Deposit: Marvin Wensmann

All Cluster News

Religious Education

K-6: Reba Leither (leitherreba@gmail.com) (701) 426-1607
7-10: Randi Klasen (randiklasen@gmail.com) (320) 493-5624
Confirmation: Bob Vouk (320) 249-3398, Jenny Revermann (320) 249-9939, Confirmation Assistant: Katie Urbanski confirmation@tworiverscatholic.com

January 8th

Grades K-6: 6:30 p.m. Class, 2nd Grade: No lesson

Grades 7-10: No Class

Confirmation: Class at All Saints-St. Mary's

Children's Liturgy

We are having Children's Liturgy at the 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass at St. Mary's. Contact Chelsea Fuchs: fuchschelsea92@gmail.com if interested in joining in.



ONLINE CONTRIBUTIONS FOR DECEMBER

St. Edward: \$200	Sign-up for Online Contributions by filling out a form on our website or by contacting the Parish Office to have a form mailed or emailed to you.
St. Francis: \$305	
St. Mary: \$805	

WEEKEND COLLECTION 12/28/2024

St. Edward: Adult: \$1,013, Loose: \$98, Fall Collection: \$200, Fire Fund: \$100, Votive: \$42.75, Solemnity of Mary: \$10, Christmas: \$5,075, Christmas Loose: \$822.65 **Total: \$7,361.40**

St. Francis: Adult: \$515, Adult Christmas: \$3,185, Loose: \$473, Votive: \$152, Christmas Flowers: \$25, Donation: \$500, Solemnity of Mary: \$25, Fall Collection: \$75, **Total: \$4,950**
St. Mary: Adult: \$917, Adult Christmas: \$2,973, Loose: \$167, Christmas Loose: \$500, Votive: \$112.25, Christmas Flowers: \$5, Fall Collection: \$250 **Total: \$4,924.25**



Steubenville-St. Paul: 9-12th graders:

We are headed to the Steubenville Youth Conference in St. Paul on July 25-27, 2025! This is a weekend where high-schoolers are invited into a personal encounter of Jesus through the Sacraments, inspiring speakers, lively music, prayer, friends, fun, and more! It is a time for teens to deepen their relationship with Christ and grow in their Catholic faith. Scan code or check it out at www.youtube.com/watch?v=SJf8abg9UaA To reserve your spot contact Jim (320) 229-2898.



February 8th. Tickets will be available to purchase after 10:00 a.m. Mass or by contacting one of the organizers or the office starting next weekend January 12th. More details to come.

St. Mary's News

We will be taking down our Christmas Decorations after Mass today. Anyone willing to stay to help would be much appreciated.

St. Francis' News

Thank you! The Freeport State Bank wishes all of us their warmest greetings for a joyful Holiday Season. Thank you to President James J. Hemker and the Freeport Bank State Bank for their gift of \$1000!