

News and Events



**Knights of Columbus
St. Gregory Council
Grand Knight Jeff Czech**



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 Klasek 320-248-3600 or Jeff Czech 320-630-2753.

Rural Catholic Young Adult Group: Jan. 18th

Join us on for prayer, topical information, discussions, and social activities for people ages 18 - 30 who are looking to socialize with other young adults. We meet at 7:00 p.m. at All Saints-St. Mary's, Holdingford on third Saturdays. Meetings include socializing, snacks, and games to follow. For more information contact Katie 423-2203 or Marissa 630-2433.

Vespers for Life On Sunday, January 19, at 3:30 p.m. at St. Anthony Church, in St.

Cloud, a Rosary for Life will take place prior to the 4:00 p.m. Vespers for Life. Bishop Patrick Neary will preside at the vespers service, which includes music, prayer, Scripture and reflection for the millions of children who have been aborted since 1973. Monetary donations will be accepted for Mother Mary's Fund to assist crisis pregnancy centers in the Diocese of St. Cloud. <https://stcdio.org/event/2025-vespers-for-life/>

March for Life The Office of Marriage & Family is coordinating rides to the events in St. Paul on Wednesday, January 22. This year, the diocesan bus will depart from the Cathedral of St. Mary in St. Cloud after the 7:00 a.m. Mass. All are encouraged to dress warmly and bring a bag lunch. Find bus information and reserve a spot at <https://stcdio.org/event/march-for-life-2025/>.

The Pierz Knights of Columbus will have a coach bus going to the 'March for Life' in St. Paul on January 22nd. The bus will pick up at Coborn's in Little Falls at 7:30 a.m. in their North parking lot.

Contact Dale Beierman 360-7100 to sign-up.

The Art of Conversation Gallery is now showing the January show "Winter & Resolutions". Located next to the Stearns Bank, Upsala the hours are Fri. 2-6pm, Sat. 10am-2pm & Sun. noon-2pm.



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->

Catholic Men's Conference Held at Saint John's University in Collegeville. This year's theme is "Dare to Hope, A Call to Prayer" with keynote speaker Father Scott Traynor from the Diocese of Sioux Falls in South Dakota. Find more details and registration information at <https://stcdio.org/event/2025->

Snow Ball Dinner

Holy Family School, Albany is having their Snow Ball Dinner and Auction on January 18th serving beef tips and pork chops. Cost \$30. Call (320) 845-2011.



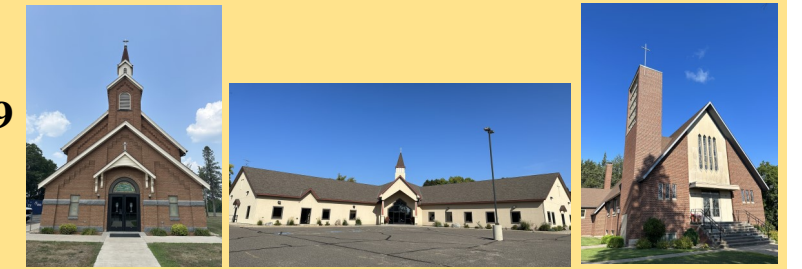
Are You Going to College Next Year?

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.

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 Klasek
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.

The Baptism of The Lord



Imagine the long-ago moment when St. John the Baptist looked up from the Jordan River and saw his cousin Jesus ready to be baptized along with everyone else. What happened in his mind and heart? One possibility is that he could have thought, *you are here to be baptized by me?* It is very likely there was profound silence, just the sounds of birds, the lapping water, and pilgrims visiting, and in this quiet John may have realized that Jesus was there to not only be baptized, but to unite his baptism with all the people who would be born across the centuries. The mystery is that Jesus is God, but he also came to earth to become one of us. This holy day was the continuation of Him fulfilling perfectly the Divine Will of God the Father, and in history only He, His Mother Mary, and St. Joseph accomplished this perfectly. As all Catholics know, the birth of a child changes everything, and each time Fr. Jimmy baptizes one of our children the story of a hero begins, a hero who must do their level best to emulate the Holy Family!

The Indelible Spiritual Mark


Our baptism in Christ *incorporates us in Christ* and *configures us to Christ* (Catechism 1272). In Jesus Christ, precisely as the only begotten Son of God, we are adopted as sons and daughters of God. This identity *in* and *because* of Christ is sealed on every Christian as an indelible (permanent and lasting) spiritual mark. So permanent and lasting is this ontological change that once baptism is given to an individual, it cannot be repeated, even when the person converts from another Christian denomination. Catholic-link.org

Baptism of the Lord

January 12, 2025

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 Bartkowiec 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

Weekday Masses

Monday, 1/13	<i>St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</i>	 <p>Adoration 2nd Tuesdays: St. Francis 8am -7pm Thursdays: St. Mary's 12 noon - 9 pm. First Fridays St. Edward's 12 noon-9 pm</p> <p>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 & Rose Burg</p>
6:30 p.m. St. Mary	Rosary & Chaplet of Divine Mercy	
Tuesday, 1/14		
6:00 p.m. St. Mary	† Deceased members of the Kilian Family	
Wednesday, 1/15		
8:00 a.m. St. Francis	† Melvin Pundsack	
Thursday, 1/16		
8:00 a.m. St. Edward	† Herbert Gerads	
Friday, 1/17	<i>St. Anthony, Abbot</i>	
7:30 a.m. St. Mary	† Walbert & Elizabeth Steuve ~ Pete & Judy Michels	

The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday 1/18		<i>Week of Prayer of Christian Unity begins</i>
4:00 p.m. St. Edward	† Arnold Molus ~Carol Molus	EM of HC: Jim Wensmann, Julie Wensmann c, Jim Bartkowiec c, Lector: Jeff Czech, Servers: Isaac Harren & Jacob Hartung, Ushers: Mike Urbanski & Nick Schleper, Greeters: Volunteers, Gifts: Mark & Kaye Nienaber
Sunday 1/19		
8:00 a.m. St. Francis	For the People	EM of HC: Judy Theisen, Rosanne Voss c, Syl Tschida c, Lector: Jane Keppers Servers: Owen & Lily Fuchs, Ushers: Bob Theisen & Craig Voss, Gifts: AJ & Pam Welle
10:00 a.m. St. Mary	† Herman, Theresa, Luke & Maynard Sobania ~Russ and Gina Boeckermann Family	EM of HC: Jon Leither, Renee Scholz c, Dave Scholz c, Lector: Kim Koehn, Servers: Emily Ripplinger & Lilli Leither, Ushers: Beau Ripplinger & Nathan Ripplinger, Greeters: Matt & Rhonda Ripplinger, Gifts: Mitchell & Brooke Kingston, Bank Deposit: Judy Michels

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 15th

Grades K-6: Home Lesson, 2nd Grade: No lesson

Grades 7-10: 7:00 p.m. 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.

Winter Junior High Lock at the YMCA!

Attention parents of 6th graders. The diocese of St. Cloud offers an overnight winter lock in at the YMCA on January 26th. The cost will be \$40. There will be Mass for students on Saturday and students will have free reign over the YMCA! It is a blast. If you would like to sign your 6th-8th grader up for the lock in please text me (Reba) at 701-426-1607.

For more information: <https://stcdio.org/event/25-middle-school-winter-spectacular-lock-in/>.

Save the Date

Totus Tuus, a summer Catholic youth program dedicated to sharing the Gospel and promoting the Catholic Faith through evangelization, catechesis, Christian witness, and Eucharistic worship will be the week of July 6th-11th at St. Mary's Church in Upsala. Shanna Dobmeier is our coordinator again this year! Thank you, Shanna! (320) 733-0761 shannamaryd@gmail.com



All Things New:

Honoring the past, inspiring the future

Preparatory work continues for the diocesan-wide pastoral planning process. We invite you to pray the All Things New Prayer found at www.stcdio.org/planning or by scanning the QR code. Anyone interested in applying to be a planning facilitator can contact

Brenda Kresky (320) 529-4611 brenda.kresky@gw.stcdio.org

WEEKEND COLLECTION 1/5/2025

St. Edward: Adult: \$925, Loose: \$73, Fall Collection: \$100, Fire Fund: \$210, Funeral: \$214, Solemnity of Mary \$435, Christmas: \$200, New Year's Eve: \$193 **Total: \$2,350**

St. Francis: Adult: \$1,340, Christmas: \$245, Loose: \$261, Funeral: \$70, Solemnity of Mary: \$185, **Total: \$2,101**

St. Mary: Adult: \$1,755, Loose: \$137.83, Solemnity of Mary: \$568, Loose: \$89, Fall Collection: \$175, Funeral: \$185, **Total: \$2,909.83**



The St. Mary's Valentine Mass & Meal will be held on February 8th beginning with Mass at 5:30 p.m. Tickets (\$70 per couple) will be available to purchase after 10:00 a.m. Mass or by contacting one of the organizers or the Parish office.

St. Edward's News

Christmas Decorations

We will be taking down our Christmas decorations on Monday, January 13th at 1:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to stop in to help.

St. Francis' News

Thank you to the family of Evelyn Locnikar who donated the picture in the front entryway of church. Take a moment to look and see if you can recognize any of the parishioners from years ago.

St. Francis Men's Society

We will have a meeting on Wed., Jan. 29th at 8:00 p.m. to plan the Matching Grant Breakfast (Feb. 23rd). The Men's Society is always looking for new members. The dues are only \$2.00 a year. Come to the meeting and join or just to help plan the breakfast.

Christmas Decorations

We will be taking down the Christmas decorations after Mass today, Sunday, Jan. 12th. Please stay to help if you can. Whatever we do not get down on Sunday will come down on Monday at 1:00 p.m. Many hands makes everything go faster!

Baby Shower for Jesus

The last weekend to donate gifts for the Christian Mothers' 'Baby Shower for Jesus' will be Jan 18th & 19th. Thank you for all who have given-your generosity is very appreciated!



Wesley Mark Wiechman
 Son of Jeron & Kelly
 January 12, 2025
 St. Francis of Assisi