

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.

LENT: in the past and now:

We begin another season of Lent. Most of us will remember Lent as a more severe season than it seems to be today. The fasting required was more challenging: adults had to fast every day of Lent, and no meat at all during Lent. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday demanded full abstinence from meat as well as fasting. We made personal sacrifices, giving up many things that we really liked. And generally, we practiced self-denial on Sundays as well as on weekdays. We went to Church a lot more, whether to daily Mass, or Stations of the Cross, or for Adoration and prayer. Many feel that Lent today is much easier. We are encouraged to do positive things during Lent, so many don't give up much anymore. Most people don't find their life during Lent much different from their life in any other season. While many of the previous rules are removed, we are being challenged to observe the season of Lent with all seriousness, to take responsibility for our own spiritual growth. That is a lot harder than just following rules, but it also bears the potential of really making Lent a time to change our lives and truly become more Christlike.

After all, Lent is a beautiful time of the year to evaluate ourselves by walking through the way which Jesus walked. It really helps us to make ourselves stronger and courageous to face the challenges of our lives. Lent is a time to get into the desert of our life. It is a time to meet with our own self. It is a time to see our real picture. In the silence of our hearts, we will hear the whispering of our ego. They tell us who we are. William James (American Philosopher and Psychologist) once remarked: **"The time one spends in self-reflection and self-evaluation is the magic that saves one's life."** When did I meet with MYSELF last time? Lent is also a time to see our SELF as God sees it. In His light we see our true image.

Our life is like traveling on a freeway. On the way we see a number of 'Exits'. A person who takes all the exits will never reach the destination. Our life is made by the choices we make. We are free to make choices. Lent is a time to discover the 'Exits' on our way and decide which one is helpful and which are destructive. Let us dedicate ourselves to the blessings of daily prayer and ask God to be with us in the solitude of our heart. I pray for you all and your intentions and wish you a Graceful Season of Lent! **Fr. Jimmy**

The First Sunday of Lent

Saturday 3/8		First Sunday of Lent
4:00 p.m. St. Edward	† Dennis Biniek ~Shari Biniek	EM of HC: Joan Theisen, Jerry Theisen c, Karla Schneider c, Lector: Jeff Czech, Servers: Isaac Harren & Jacob Hartung, Ushers: Jim Wensmann & Justin Wensmann, Greeters: Volunteers, Gifts: Dennis & Diana Trettel
Sunday 3/9		
8:00 a.m. St. Francis	† Norbert & Helen Dehn ~ Jim & Julie Wensmann	EM of HC: Mary Jane Boeckermann, Chris Fuchs c, Alice Westrich c, Lector: Barb Moorman, Servers: Volunteers, Ushers: Mark Moorman & Syl Tschida, Gifts: Tom & Jeanette Gerads
10:00 a.m. St. Mary	For the People	EM of HC: Mike Klasen, Cindy Koehn c, Lisa Zabinski, Lector: Leonice Prokott, Servers: Riley Klasen & Wyatt Klasen, Ushers: Bob Blonigen & Mikel Nelson, Greeters: Walt & LeAnn Beneke, Gifts: Tom & Jan Kilian, Bank Deposit: Mike Klasen

Weekday Masses

Monday, 3/10	
6:30 p.m. St. Mary	Rosary & Chaplet of Divine Mercy
Tuesday, 3/11	<i>*Stations of the Cross following Mass</i>
6:00 p.m. St. Mary	† Luke Jacobs ~ Marvin & Shirley Wensmann
Wednesday, 3/12	<i>*Stations of the Cross following Mass</i>
8:00 a.m. St. Francis	† Marcellus & Frances Theisen ~Bob & Judy Theisen
Thursday, 3/13	<i>*Stations of the Cross following Mass</i>
8:00 a.m. St. Edward	† Arnie Molus ~ Carol Molus
Friday, 3/14	<i>*Stations of the Cross following Mass</i>
7:30 a.m. St. Mary	† Carol Koopmeiners ~ Lorene Koopmeiners



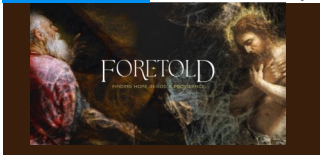
Adoration
2nd Tuesdays:
 St. Francis 8am -7pm
Thursdays:
 St. Mary's 12 noon - 9 pm.
First Fridays
 St. Edward's 12 noon-9 pm

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, Gary Larson, Helen Heisick, Geraldine George, Dee Booth, William Hill, Lorraine Frie, Rose Burg Rosemary Pundsack, Kevin Lampert, Pat Harren, Ron Schmidt & Sherry Schumer

The Second Sunday of Lent

Saturday 3/15		
4:00 p.m. St. Edward	For the People	EM of HC: Jackie Oldakowski, Neil Frieler c, Peggy Frieler c, Lector: Tracey Hartung, Servers: Isaac Harren & Jacob Hartung, Ushers: Mike Urbanski & Nick Schleper, Greeters: Volunteers, Gifts: Brent & Sandy Prokott
Sunday 3/16		
8:00 a.m. St. Francis	Special Intentions ~ Gerry & Mary Jane Boeckermann	EM of HC: Janelle Roerick, Rebecca Schmidt c, Chris Fuchs c, Lector: Mary Jane Boeckermann, Servers: Volunteers, Ushers: Mark Moorman & Syl Tschida, Gifts: Joe & Barb Fuchs
10:00 a.m. St. Mary	Deceased members of the Binek Family ~Mueller Family	EM of HC: Renee Scholz, Jan Kilian c, Volunteer c, Lector: Chantelle Frie, Servers: Beau Ripplinger & Anne Ripplinger, Ushers: Matt & Rhonda Ripplinger, Greeters: Nathan & Laura Ripplinger, Gifts: Randy & Donna Roske, Bank Deposit: Tom Kilian

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www.signup.formed.org. Enter parish zip code (56384). Enter your name and email address. You're in! Here you will find movies, talk series, daily prayer inspirations and kid's content.

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

March 12th

Grades K-6: Home Lesson, 2nd Grade: Lesson 3/4 review

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

Confirmation: 6:15 p.m. 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. If interested in joining in contact Chelsea Fuchs:fuchschelsea92@gmail.com.



NCYC 2025 will be November 20th –November 22nd. You can register by clicking the link on our website or contact Mike Klasen: 248-3600 mklasen486@gmail.com.

NCYC is sponsored by the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry for youth in grades 9-12. Youth and adults gathered with several US bishops to celebrate being Catholic. Participants enjoy Mass, prayer, reconciliation and adoration opportunities, workshops, exhibits, games, music, fellowship and service. Hundreds of youth from the Diocese of Saint Cloud have participated in this event in the past.

Invitation to a Day of Quilting and Fun! On Saturday, **March 15th** the St. Francis Sewing Circle will be hosting a visitors' day to work on quilts for our upcoming bazaar in the church basement. EVERYONE is welcome. We will have coffee and sweets ready by 9:00 am for sure, a lunch will be served around noon, and a afternoon snack later in the afternoon. Come for the whole day or just a few hours, whatever you feel you can. There will be multiple quilts set up for you to choose to work on. Please call Rosie Thell at 320-260-8989 with any questions or just to share your excitement that you will be there. You know there will be fun.

March is Food Share Month. We invite you to share your generosity by dropping off food items, personal hygiene items, or make a cash or check donation for the Morrison County Food shelf. Please see display in the St. Mary's gathering area for details. Thank you for helping those in our community.

ONLINE CONTRIBUTIONS FOR FEBUARY

St. Edward: \$200

St. Francis: \$405

St. Mary: \$805

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.

WEEKEND COLLECTION 3/2/2025

St. Edward: Adult: \$1,457, Loose: \$209, Easter Flower: \$120, Fire Fund: \$25, **Total: \$1,811.00**

St. Francis: Adult: \$1,295, Loose: \$83, Votives: \$72, Easter Flowers: \$70, Central MN Mag: \$80, Christian Mothers: \$50
Total: \$1,650

St. Mary: Adult: \$1,792, Loose: \$412.25, Easter Flowers: \$45,
Total: \$2,249.25

Save the Date!

The annual St. Mary's Fish Fry and Raffle is April 11th this year serving from 4-8:00 p.m. (cash raffle drawing at 7:30 p.m.). Tickets will be sold after every 10:00 a.m. Mass in Upsala and also at the St. Mary's parish office and Nelson Insurance. We would like each parishioner to buy or sell at least one ticket! \$100 each. Thank you for your support!



Journey with Jesus to Calvary

experience Holy Week in a new light. Don't miss this year's production at St. Francis of Assisi Church! Wed., April 9th-7:00 p.m., Fri., April 11th-7:30 p.m., Sat., April 12th – 7:30 p.m. and Sun., April 13th –1:00 p.m. There is no charge-Jesus already paid the price! Free Will donations will benefit the Religious Ed program.

Totus Tuus

Sign –up now for Totus Tuus! It is the week of July 6th-11th at St. Mary's Church in Upsala. Contact Shanna Dobmeier 733-0761 shannamaryd@gmail.com. You can find registration forms on our website or in the entry of our churches.

St. Francis' News

Journey with Jesus to Calvary

Rehearsal schedules are available in the back of church-Posters too. If you are interested in being in this year's production call Bob at 573-2933. We need sheep, townspeople, back stage and choir members. Main actors meet this Sunday & March 16th at 1:00 p.m. and March 22nd at 11:00 a.m. Costume fitting is on March 22nd from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

St. Francis Sewing Circle We are hosting a visitors' day in the basement on Saturday, March 15th. Please come and quilt if you can. If you can help in other ways by serving , making lunch, general hosting or providing items, please let Rosie Thell know 260-8989. Also, if you have a rolling chair, we could borrow for the day please leave in the church basement with your name on it.

News and Events



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

Regional Free Throw Winners

Morgan Ripplinger, Gabe Barthel, Ben Ripplinger and Cody Johnson will be going to State on March 29th in Osseo.

Exemplification

On March 15th Our council is hosting our exemplification. Men interested in becoming a Knight are welcome to attend at 11:00 a.m. at St. Edward's. Contact Jeff Czech 630-2753 or Jim Bartkowicz 360-2879. Families are welcome to attend. Fellowship to follow in the basement.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ST. GREGORY THE GREAT #12604

Breakfast

French Toast • Hash Browns • Scrambled Eggs
Ham • Sausage • Assorted Rolls • Coffee, Juice & Milk

**SUNDAY, MARCH 23
9:00AM-12:30PM**

**ST. STANISLAUS KOSTKA
CATHOLIC CHURCH, BOWLUS**

**RAFFLE DRAWING
HELD AT NOON**

- NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN -

**\$5 RAFFLE TICKETS AVAILABLE AT
THE BREAKFAST AS WELL AS:**

Langes • Farm Store
Jordies • Reis Lumber
Bowlus Gas

**FREE
WILL
OFFERING**

PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE COMMUNITY

(St. Edward, St. Mary's, Holy Cross Catholic Church, Mini Family Outing-Belle Prairie, Free Throw Contest & MORE)

ACC Penance Service March 23rd



All Saints-St. Mary's, Holdingford from 2-4:30 p.m. 5 priests will be available. Become free and forgiven on your Lenten journey!

Stations of the Cross

Tuesday-Friday after daily Mass beginning Thurs., March 6th through Wednesday, April 16th.

Holdingsford Firefighters Relief Association Breakfast:
Sun., March 9th Pancakes, sausage, ham, Hash browns & Caramel Rolls. 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Holdingsford City Center. Free Will Donation.

Pro-Life Rosary

Join us outside and inside of All Saints-St. Mary's to pray for Life. We will meet at 4-5:00 p.m. on Tuesdays in March 11th, 18th & 25th and in April 1st & 8th.



March 5th - April 18th. Bowls are in the entry of our churches to take home. Learn more at crsricebowl.org/donate.

Upcoming Seminary Visit: March 15th-17th

This visit will be at Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary. Men ages 16 and up are invited to join these impactful days with seminarians to engage in daily Mass, adoration, discernment talks, visits to a classroom, listening to seminarians, open gym and a night out with the seminarians of St. Cloud! When men meet real seminarians, all the stereotypes break down! It is a game-changer for their ongoing discernment.

Contact Father Doug. dougliesch@gmail.com or 533-0291.

Skywarn Spotting Weather Training: Sun., March 16th

Everyone is welcome to join us at St. Mary's from 2-4pm to learn about the weather. Contact: Tom Kilian 232-5705.



Lenten Retreat: March 22nd All Saints Christian Women are hosting this retreat from 8:30 -11:30 a.m. at All Saints-St. Mary's.

Main Theme: Retreat based on the Seven Sorrows of Mary Devotion

Retreat Intention: Loved ones who are not practicing their Catholic faith.

The retreat will consist of a short talk on the Seven Sorrows Devotion, a talk on "Hope", in this the Jubilee Year of Hope. We will pray the Seven Sorrows Rosary and Litany (bring your rosaries). We will have Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, then refreshments, lunch, and socializing to follow after 11:30 a.m. **(All are welcome to attend and there is no charge for this event).**

Palm Sunday:

April 12th, 4:00 p.m., St. Edward,
April 13th, 8:00 a.m., St. Francis &
10:00 a.m., St. Mary

Holy Thursday:

April 17th, 6:00 p.m., St. Mary
8:00 p.m., St. Francis

Good Friday:

April 18th, 12 noon, St. Mary
3:00 p.m., St. Edward

Holy Saturday Easter Vigil:

April 19th, 8:30 p.m., St. Edward

Easter Sunday:

April 20th, 8:00 a.m., St. Francis
10:00 a.m., St. Mary

Confirmation

April 9th
All Saints-St. Hedwig's
7:00 p.m.



Chrism Mass

April 10th
St. Mary's Cathedral
7:00 p.m.