

# 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:**

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P.O. Box 249, Upsala, MN 56384  
(320) 573-2132 : 238catholic@sytekcom.com  
Website: [www.238catholic.org](http://www.238catholic.org)

**Bookkeeper:** Randi Klasen

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

**Office Secretary:** Jessie Johnson

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

#### **RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE**

Confessions are 1/2 hour before all Masses.

Please see Mass Schedule on next page.

#### **PRAYER LINES**

SM- Karen Liebsch 573-4127

Kathy Koehn 573-2363

SF-Judy Theisen 573-2933

Joyce Koopmeiners 573-2728

SE-Sally Schleper 573-2127

#### **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.

#### **National Marriage Week**

The observances of **National Marriage Week** (Feb. 7-14) and **World Marriage Day** (Sun., Feb. 8) are an opportunity to focus on building a culture of life and love that begins with supporting and promoting marriage and the family. Our theme for 2026 is **"Man and Woman He Created Them: Together With Purpose."** To learn about Prayer, Couples Connection, Date night etc: visit: [usccb.org/topics/marriage-and-family-life-ministries/national-marriage-week](http://usccb.org/topics/marriage-and-family-life-ministries/national-marriage-week).

**Pray for marriages** every day during National Marriage Week. Pray for those who WANT to get married, those who are recently engaged, those experiencing struggles in their marriage, those who have entered the empty nest, those who are experiencing the loss of a spouse, our young adults who are beginning to date, and those who are facing trauma or major life transition in their homes and lives. It is more important than ever to spread the word and hope about the value of the institution of marriage. Marriage is the bedrock of our society. When that crumbles, our homes and families crumble, our children then struggle, and our communities deal with the ripple effect. Our nation grows weaker or stronger....tracking and tracing all the way back into each home, family, and marriage.

#### **What does the Church teach about Married Love?**

Marriage is more than a civil contract; it is a lifelong covenant of love between a man and a woman. It is an intimate partnership in which husbands and wives learn to give and receive love unselfishly, and then teach their children to do so as well. Christian marriage in particular is a "great mystery," a sign of the love between Christ and his Church (Eph 5:32). In the *Rite of Marriage* (1969) a man and woman are asked if they will love one another faithfully and totally—in short, if they will love as God loves. "Have you come here freely and without reservation to give yourselves to each other in marriage?" asks the bishop, priest, or deacon. "Will you love and honor each other as man and wife for the rest of your lives? Will you accept children lovingly from God, and bring them up according to the law of Christ and his Church?" These are different ways of asking the same basic question: Are you ready to accept this person, and all that may come from your union, completely and forever? ~Excerpts from: [usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe](http://usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe).

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**February 8, 2026**

The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time		
Saturday 2/7		
4:00 p.m. St. Francis	† Don Stiller	<b>EM of HC:</b> Janelle Roerick, Rosanne Voss C, Mary Jane Boeckermann c, <b>Lector:</b> Jim Scholz, <b>Servers:</b> Emmalyn, Carter & Brayden Harren, <b>Ushers:</b> Allen Herzog & Leroy Pflueger, <b>Gift Bearers:</b> Chad & Niki Koopmeiners, <b>Sacristan:</b> Jeanette Gerads
Sunday 2/8		
8:00 a.m. St. Edward	Special Intentions of Greg & Renee Wensmann	<b>EM of HC:</b> Jerry Theisen, Julie Weismann c, Jim Weismann c, <b>Lector:</b> Shari Biniek, <b>Servers:</b> Bethany Hartung & Jacob Hartung, <b>Ushers:</b> Donald Welinski & Jeff Czech, <b>Greeters:</b> Raymond Kokett, <b>Gift Bearers:</b> Dennis & Diana Trettel
10:00 a.m. St. Mary	For the People	<b>EM of HC:</b> LeAnn Beneke, Cindy Koehn c, Mike Klasen c, <b>Lector:</b> Mary Hollenkamp, <b>Servers:</b> Alayna Weber & Lauryn Weber, <b>Ushers:</b> Darren Lange & Mitch Lange, <b>Greeters:</b> Ripplinger Family, <b>Gift Bearers:</b> Andy & Linda Langner, <b>Bank Deposit:</b> Mike Klasen

### Weekday Masses

Monday, 2/9	
6:30 p.m. St. Mary	Rosary & Chaplet of Divine Mercy (No Mass)
Tuesday, 2/10	<i>St. Scholastica, Virgin</i>
6:00 p.m. St. Mary	† Richard O'Hotto
Wednesday, 2/11	<i>Our Lady of Lourdes</i>
8:00 a.m. St. Francis	† Arnold Voss ~ St. Francis Men's Society
Thursday, 2/12	
8:00 a.m. St. Edward	† Diane Magdziarz ~ Retka Family
Friday, 2/13	
7:30 a.m. St. Mary	† Gene & Lashinski ~Julie Hilary Burg



**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:** Dee Booth, Pat Euteneuer, Roger Thell, Kristy Brezinka, Carol Langner, Judy Gerads, Millie Gerads, Marlene Vornbrock, Jim Koczur, Gary Larson, Helen Heisick, Geraldine George, Kevin Lampert, William Hill, Lorraine Frie, Pat Harren, Devota Nilson, Rosemary Pundsack, Ron Schmidt, Dave Hollenkamp, Shailyn Welinski, Bob Blonigen, Ken Welle, Jan Kilian, Sherry Schumer, Leonard & Eileen Koroll

*Care for the needy and your light shall break forth like the dawn.*

### Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday 2/14		<i>Sts. Cyril, Monk, and Methodius, Bishop</i>
4:00 p.m. St. Francis	For the People	<b>EM of HC:</b> Bob Theisen, Judy Theisen c, Syl Tschida c, <b>Lector:</b> Barb Moorman, <b>Servers:</b> Evan Welle, <b>Ushers:</b> Allen Herzog & Leroy Pflueger, <b>Gift Bearers:</b> Lloyd & Judy Lashinski, <b>Sacristan:</b> Bob Theisen
5:30 p.m. St. Mary Special Valentine's Mass	In thanksgiving for marriage	<b>EM of HC:</b> Cindy Koehn, LeAnn Beneke c, Mike Klasen c, <b>Lector:</b> Tom Kilian, <b>Servers:</b> Riley Klasen & Wyatt Klasen, <b>Ushers:</b> Darren Lange & Mitch Lange, <b>Greeters:</b> Volunteers, <b>Gift Bearers:</b> Jamie & Jenny Leners, <b>Bank Deposit:</b> Mike Klasen
Sunday 2/15		
8:00 a.m. St. Edward	† Frank Jendro ~ Ione Brezinka	<b>EM of HC:</b> Karla Schneider, Jim Bartkowicz c, Jackie Oldakowski c, <b>Lector:</b> Jerry Theisen, <b>Servers:</b> Bethany Hartung & Jacob Hartung, <b>Ushers:</b> Derek Biniek & Scott Biniek, <b>Greeters:</b> Volunteers, <b>Gift Bearers:</b> Brian & Tracey Hartung
10:00 a.m. St. Mary	† Rich Boeckermann	<b>EM of HC:</b> LeAnn Beneke, Renee Scholz c, Lisa Zabinski c, <b>Lector:</b> Chantelle Frie, <b>Servers:</b> Anne Ripplinger & Emily Ripplinger, <b>Ushers:</b> Nathan Ripplinger & Matt Ripplinger <b>Greeters:</b> Mikel & Julie Nelson, <b>Gift Bearers:</b> Elmer Frie & Mary Frie, <b>Bank Deposit:</b> Nathan Ripplinger

## All Cluster News

### Religious Education

K-6: Reba Leither ([leitherreba@gmail.com](mailto:leitherreba@gmail.com)) (701) 426-1607  
K-6: Beth Lange ([bethlange83@gmail.com](mailto:bethlange83@gmail.com)) (320) 630-8390  
7-10: Randi Klasen ([randiklasen@gmail.com](mailto:randiklasen@gmail.com)) (320) 493-5624  
**Confirmation:** Bob Vouk (320) 249-3398, Jenny Revermann (320) 249-9939, Confirmation Assistant: Katie Urbanski (320) 423-2203 or [confirmation@tworiverscatholic.com](mailto:confirmation@tworiverscatholic.com).

### This Week's Classes

**Confirmation class:** All Saints-St. Mary's, Holdingford  
Wed., February 11th, 6:15 p.m. All Saints-St. Mary's  
**7-10 Gr class:** St. Mary's, Upsala  
Wed., Feb. 11th, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

### Children's Liturgy

10:00 a.m. Mass at St. Mary's. If you would like to join contact:  
Chelsea Fuchs: [fuchchelsea92@gmail.com](mailto:fuchchelsea92@gmail.com)

### Youth Group

Sunday, February 22nd 5:00-6:30 p.m., at St. Mary's. All 8-12th graders are welcome to come for Fun, Food & Faith! Bring a friend!

### Super Bowl Watch Party

The Youth Group will be joining Covenant Church to watch the Super Bowl along with games and food. Sunday, Feb. 8th at Community Covenant Church.

**Castaway Retreat** for Grades 9-12, Friday-Sunday, March 20-22 near Detroit Lakes, MN. An energizing experience filled with prayer, skits, talks, music, and more faith-growing opportunities. Come together with 350 others to strengthen your relationship with God! If interested, text Jim at 320-229-2898 for more details and to be sent an Interest Form to be completed by Feb. 8th. Scan for more information and to watch the promo video.



There will be a Mass on Saturday, Feb. 14th before the Valentine's Meal. Tickets are sold out but anyone is welcome to attend Mass.



Coming to the Valentine's Mass & Meal?  
Be a sweetheart and bring an item for the food shelf.

### Rural Catholic Middle Ages Singles Group: Feb. 14th?

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 basement in Holdingford. Contact: Janel at 290-2877.

### WEEKEND COLLECTION 2/1/2025

**St. Edward:** Adult: \$1,403, Loose: \$160, Fire Fund: \$50, Central MN Catholic: \$20, **Total: \$1,633**

**St. Francis:** Adult: \$325, Loose: \$130, Votive: \$189.86, **Total: \$644.86**

**St. Mary:** Adults: \$1,829, Loose: \$386.75, Votive: \$177 **Total: \$2,392.75**

### Stewardship as a Way of Life:

*"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."* Mt 5:16

The generosity of being a good steward of your gifts has a positive effect on people, and it is contagious! Good works encourage more good works. Generosity is a by-product of a grateful lifestyle. The more we recognize God's gifts, the more we want to share them. Good stewards recognize that God is working through them, and they don't put themselves above the people they have been called to help.

### St. Mary's News

**SAVE THE DATE** for the St. Mary's Fish Fry & Raffle! It's Friday, March 27th 4-8pm with the cash raffle drawing at 7:30pm. We will be starting to sell the raffle tickets soon!

### St. Edward's News



#### Valentine Celebration



All are welcome to come down for coffee & rolls after the 8:00 a.m. Mass on February 15th. Enjoy!

### St. Francis' News

**Thank you!** Elevate would like to extend their sincere thanks to the St. Francis Christian Women for supporting women, youth and families with 41 items given from the Baby Shower for Jesus!

### St. Francis Catholic United Financial Matching Grant Breakfast

will be held on Sunday, February 22nd, serving from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The men and boys of the parish are asked to help again, M to Z from 8 - 10:30 a.m. and A to L from 10:30 a.m. to finish. Thank you again for your dedicated service to our parish and support of our Religious Education program. If anyone would like to make a donation beforehand, please contact Bob (320-573-2933) or Chad (320-293-7092).

### Journey with Jesus

We have started rehearsing for Journey with Jesus. The main actors with speaking parts will meet on Sunday, Feb. 15th at 1:00 p.m. If you could like to be a part in this year's production as an actor, choir member or just help out. Call Bob at 573-2933. Performances are:  
Wednesday, March 25th at 7:00 p.m.  
Friday, March 27th at 7:00 p.m.  
Saturday, March 28th at 7:30 p.m. and  
Sunday, March 29th at 1:00 p.m.

## News and Events



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

**Meeting:** Our next meeting is on Feb. 10th at St. Edward's, Elmdale. If anyone has question or items for the agenda, please call Jeff: (320)630-2753.

**Chili Cook-off** will be on Feb. 15th in North Prairie following the 10 a.m. Mass. Please invite other family members and friends to the event. Prizes will be given. Bring your favorite/best chili. Proceeds go to Elevate.

**Annual Knights of Columbus Breakfast & Raffle** will be on March 22nd.

**Seminary Visit: Feb. 12th-14th:** Fr. Doug Liebsch will be leading this unique opportunity to be immersed in an environment where everyone you encounter seeks to give their life to Jesus and follow him wherever he leads. <https://stcdio.org/vocations>.

**Mardi Gras: Feb. 15th:** Come celebrate with us! The Old Time Country Boys will be playing at the Holdingford Legion from 2-5:00 p.m. Chicken Strips, Fries, lemonade, coffee and water provided. Bring a dish to share.

**Bringing families together to celebrate their Catholic faith.**

**Festival of Families**

**Sunday Feb. 22 | 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

**St. Francis Xavier Church, Sartell**

Diocese of SAINT CLOUD

**Festival of Families: Sun., Feb. 22nd:** Join other families from around the diocese to celebrate your Catholic faith. The day includes a carnival, sessions for children-teens-parents, lunch, service projects, Mass and more! 9am -3pm at St. Francis Xavier Church, Sartell. Cost per family is \$25. <https://stcdio.org/event/2026-festival-of-families>

**Rural Catholic Young Adult Group: Feb. 21st** 7:00 p.m. at All Saints-St. Mary's, Holdingford. Contact: Katie (423-2203) or Marissa (630-2433) to join us.

### **Reboot-A Life Changing Event**

Chris Stefanick will be the speaker on Wednesday, February 11, 2026 at this high-energy , 2 hour event that will awaken your faith, reignite your joy, and equip you with tools to live the life God created you for: A Life of JOY! This is perfect for ages 12 & up. The event takes place at the Wadena Memorial Auditorium (249 Dayton Ave. S.W., Wadena) Tickets can be purchased at <https://buytickets.at/reallifecatholic/1765324>.

### **Natural Family Planning**

Capture the Romance! This month we celebrate Saint Valentine's Day. Natural Family Planning (NFP) can bring romance to married love!

**Alexandria** on Monday, Feb. 16th & March 16th at 6:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Church. Contact Jill and Isaac Uphus (320) 290-8751 or at [uphus.nfp@gmail.com](mailto:uphus.nfp@gmail.com).

**Little Falls** on Tuesday, March. 3rd at 7:30 p.m. at the NFP Office in the Unity Specialty Center of St. Gabriel's Hospital. Contact Mary at [bontjesmary@yahoo.com](mailto:bontjesmary@yahoo.com) or call the Little Falls NFP Office at 631-5660.

**Sauk Centre** on Thursday, Feb. 19th & March 19th at St. Paul's Church or CentraCare Health Sauk Centre Hospital. Contact Jill & Isaac Uphus at [uphus.nfp@gmail.com](mailto:uphus.nfp@gmail.com) or (320) 290-8751.

**St. Cloud** on Thursday, Feb 26th & Monday, March 16th at 6:30 p.m. at the Office of Marriage & Family. Contact Sheila Reineke at [omf@gw.stcdio.org](mailto:omf@gw.stcdio.org) or (320) 258-7609. All classes are approximately 1½ to 2 hours long. \*Most insurance plans cover the cost of NFP!

### **Calling all young men grades 9-12 for an Andrew Dinner:**

**Feb. 26th** Young men grade 9-12 are invited to join the bishop and area priests in learning more about what the life of a priest is like. There will be time for prayer, games, and tons of food! Invite your own priest to join you and please consider attending. You can sign up at the bottom of our vocations page: <https://stcdio.org/vocations/>

**Grow in Faith at the Men's Conference** Deepen your personal relationship with God and find practical habits to strengthen your hope at the upcoming Catholic Men's Conference on Saturday, February 28, 2026. This event is open to all men, whether practicing Catholics or those seeking to deepen their faith. Discover how to live as a man of hope in today's world. <https://stcdio.org/event/catholic-mens-conference-2026/> or contact Jan at [jan.zylla@gw.stcdio.org](mailto:jan.zylla@gw.stcdio.org) 320-258-7615



*Hearts of*  
**MERCY**  
*Agents of Compassion*



**The Bishop's Annual Appeal** Commitment Weekend is on February 14th & 15th. Your gift changes lives by helping to form Pastoral Leaders, Missionary Disciples and Agents of Compassion. Please consider your gift for next weekend. Annual Appeal letters will arrive at your home this week. Bring yours to Mass or pick up an envelope at church.