

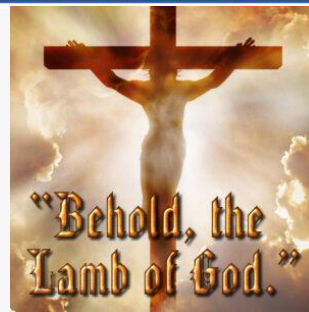
The Catholic Churches

of

St. Edward
Elmdale

St. Francis of Assisi
St. Francis

St. Mary
Upsala



2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 17, 2021

Pastor Fr. David Grundman 320-309-4174 (cell)

Sister Mary Pat Burger St. Francis Rectory 573-2203

CENTRAL OFFICE PO Box 249 Upsala, MN 56384

Office Hours 8am – 3:30pm

Mon. – Thurs. – Fri. *Modified*

Janice Wuebkers Office Manager

Tuesday at Royalton Church Office

Wednesday at Holdingford Church Office

Central Office 320-573-2132

FAX: 320-573-9133

Central Office email: 238catholic@sytekcom.com

Web site: www.238catholic.org

Diocesan web site: www.stclouddiocese.org

Elevate (Birthline) Hotline: 1-800-786-0200

St. Cloud Chancery: 320-251-2340

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (No classes until at least Feb. 1)

Chantelle Frie, Confirmation: 320-360-4796

Beth Lange, St. Mary/St. Edward, Gr 1-10: 320-630-8390

Niki Koopmeiners, St. Francis, Gr 1 - 10: 320-248-7553

RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE

Saturday St. Mary 3:15 – 3:45pm

Sunday St. Edward 7:15 – 7:45am

St. Francis 9:15 – 9:45am

Tuesday St. Mary 5 – 5:45pm

Also by appointment

PRAYER LINE

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

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

Sally Schleper (SE): 573-2127

MINISTRY TO THE SICK & THOSE WHO CANNOT GET TO CHURCH

Holy Communion can be brought to you or a loved one at home, please contact the Central Office, 573-2132

Sacrament of Marriage: Couples need to begin preparations with the priest nine months in advance and must call the Pastor before setting a date.

Sacrament of Baptism: Contact the office before desired baptism date.

Remember in prayer those in need of the Lord's healing and strength:

Raymond Kurowski, Ken Wielenberg, Don Maciej, Margaret Carlson, Rodney Bartkovicz, Brenda Wuebkers, Ron Dingman, Kya Bartkovicz, family of †Cindy Fleischhacker, family of + George Casazza (SE), Paul Ampe (SM, in hospice, pancreatic cancer), Ramona Heurung (SM)

WEEKEND COLLECTIONS

St. Mary: Adult \$1,356.00.00; Loose \$68.25; Votive \$50.00; Solemnity of Mary \$25.00; Online \$250.00 - **\$1,749.25**

St. Edward: Adult \$690.00; Loose \$66.00; Votive \$15.00; Online \$190.00 – **\$961.00**

St. Francis: Adult \$570.00; Loose \$254.00; Votive \$98.06; Solemnity of Mary \$25.00; Online \$255.00 - **\$1,202.06**

Lenten Eucharistic Adoration

"Lent is a special time of year that the Church gives us to fast, pray and give alms. It is also a time to open our hearts to God for deeper conversion. Members of our Three Saints Parishes along with surrounding parishes have the opportunity to attend weekly Eucharistic Adoration each Thursday of Lent at St. Mary's beginning February 18th. Adoration hours will be from 12noon – 9pm. In today's world, we need to create opportunities for the Holy Spirit to work. There is a force (devil) out there that will direct our families if we don't. Let's fill God's house with our presence! Please contact me (320-250-4688) to make a commitment and schedule your holy hour with our Lord." Tamara Lange

Mass Schedule

Jan. 18 - 24, 2021

Monday: 1/18

NO MASS SCHEDULED

Tuesday: 1/19

St. Mary 6:00pm ++ John & Barb Pick

Wednesday: 1/20 *St. Fabian & St. Sebastian*

St. Francis 8:00am † Elmer Kohorst

- Lorene Koopmeiners

Thursday: 1/21 *St. Agnes*

St. Edward 8:00am † Edward Jendro

Friday: 1/22 *Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children*

St. Mary 7:30am † Deceased Relatives of Edmund & Patricia Eggert

Saturday: 1/23 *St. Marianne Cope & St. Vincent*

St. Mary 4:00pm ++ Catherine & Leo Hartung

- Kari & Ervin Hartung

Sunday: 1/24 *3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time*

St. Edward 8:00am People of the Parishes

St. Francis 10:00am † Deceased Members of VanHoorik Family

- Judy Gerads



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

St. Mary 12 – 4pm First Wed. (2/3)

St. Edward 12 – 4pm First Fri. (2/5)

St. Francis 7am - 8pm 2nd Tues. (2/9)

Benediction follows Adoration in all parishes

YOUTH NEWS

Religious Education at Home

Work is being done on the website to provide videos and assignments to go with students' religion books. Check the website for updates.

Virtual Middle School Youth Rally

The rally is for youth in grades 6-8 on January 31. Contact Niki or Beth with questions.

www.238catholic.formed.org (Google Chrome)

THREE SAINTS NEWS

What Mass Means: How Sacrifice and Real Presence Are Life-Changing

The whole point of the Vatican II renewal, is that our liturgical sharing in Christ's dying and rising is meant to transform us individually and communally. The implications are huge!

Thursday, January 28, Webinar presentation from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Event is Free. Registration is required (register at least five days in advance of the event); please visit

www.collegevilleMN.com/theologyday, call 320-363-3560, or email theologyday@csbsju.edu to register.

Stations of the Cross

This is a powerful devotion to reflect on the passion of Christ. Many graces flow taking each one of us deeper into the love of Jesus. We also become more aware of our sinfulness and how we can stand up to those unhealthy behaviors. Fr David is praying and discerning as to what days and times might work best for our Three Saint's Parishes. If you have any thoughts on this matter, please reach out to him.

Palm Sunday

Our diocese is planning to make palms available! Pray that all will go as planned with Holy Week. Simply crazy how last year no palms were allowed to be made available.

Lector Reminder

"As usual please remain in your pews until the priest completes the Opening Prayer. As the people respond, "Amen", please come forward for the first reading. The only change is when we are reciting the Creed and we near the end (I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church ...), please begin to come forward. Coming up early will allow you extra time to prepare to lead the petitions. Please ask me if you have any questions before Mass." Fr David

Sing Psalm and Alleluia

"From now until Ash Wednesday (Feb 17), we will continue singing the Responsorial Psalm and Alleluia. With the likely changes for our choirs beginning the First Sunday of Lent, it will be interesting to see how everything unfolds. Stay tune 😊." Fr David

Updates from Bishop's Office

Choirs and vocal ensembles may return to rehearsals beginning Jan. 18 under certain parameters. Additionally, "protocols for small vocal ensembles to return to singing during Mass are currently being formulated with the intention of granting permission for groups of up to six vocalists to resume ministry beginning with the First Sunday of Lent," Bishop Kettler wrote.

The Office of Worship will host an evening Zoom meeting in the near future for music ministers during which the protocols and best practices will be discussed. Congregational singing, however, is still not permitted. Also, choirs/vocal ensembles are still not permitted to sing during any public event or liturgy until further notice.

Interested in becoming Catholic?

"In light of this pandemic, everything is thrown in disarray. RCIA classes generally have started in most parishes a few months ago. I am curious if there are people interested in becoming Catholic or receiving Holy Eucharist and/or confirmation? Please let me know ASAP." Fr David

ST. MARY'S NEWS

Sat., Jan. 23 – 4pm

EM of HC: Renee Scholz *Lector:* Jan Kilian

Greeter: Rosemary Mehr

Ushers: Darren Lange & Mitch Lange

Statue of Mary

Does anyone know the history of our Mary statue in the entrance of our Church? It is an outdoor statue and is currently being refurbished and painted by a local artist. Please contact Fr David if you have any information.

Belated Happy B-day

Ramona Heurung celebrated her birthday this past week January 12th. It would be awesome if she would get some birthday wishes: 920 SE 4th Str, Rm 345, Little Falls, 56345 (c/o St Otto's Care Center).

ST. EDWARD'S NEWS

Sun., Jan. 24 – 8am

EM of HC: Jim Wensmann *Lector:* Adeline Molus

Greeter: Megan Wensmann

Ushers: Jeron Wensmann & Jim Czeck

Thanks to Frieler Farms

You are amazing in donating five Christmas trees along with two Advent wreaths! Know that your gift was most greatly appreciated. May God bless your business and family for all your kindness and generosity.

Cemetery Improvements

Donations have been minimal the past few weeks for 'Cemetery Maintenance'. Check out the cemetery in Sobieski which has statues of Sacred Heart and Blessed Virgin, crucifix, map, asphalt driveways, ribboning, gated entry along with a U.S. flag. The only estimate we have is \$6000 for the road. I think the good people of St Edward's can reach a goal of \$10,000. Work will begin this spring.

Gone Home to Jesus

+ George Cassaza - 68 has completed his journey and was buried this past week in our cemetery. He lived in Upsala and was formerly of Brooklyn, New York. We had about 30 people in attendance. It was said of him: "The kindest person that I have ever met." He was close friends of the Geraldine George family from Elmdale. This summer his family from New York and New Jersey plan to pay their respects along with a prayer service.

ST. FRANCIS' NEWS

Sun., Jan. 24 – 10am

EM of HC: Joyce Koopmeiners

Lector: Barb Moorman

Greeter: Gerry Boeckermann

Christmas Decorations

Thanks to all who helped make our Christmas season most special. Do you know who built our two nativity scenes? Gene and Irene Lashinski shared their gifts and talents by building these beautiful stables some years back. Thank you for your many years of faithfulness and love for our Catholic faith. A huge thanks to everyone who helped decorate the church and outside for Christmas. Everything looked awesome! Also, thanks to all those who donated towards the Christmas flowers. And a big thanks to all those who helped take everything down on Sunday. May God bless all of you!

NOTES FROM FR. DAVID

This weekend's Gospel features Jesus calling His first disciples. The invitation is welcoming and intriguing: "Come, and you will see." How are we called by Jesus? Jesus has called us on this weekend in the middle of January and so we have come together to listen to God's word (also those watching Mass on TV/internet) and to receive our Lord in the Eucharist. How is Jesus speaking to us today?

Our diocese will join all dioceses of the United States in observing a Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children. On January 13, 1984, President Ronald Reagan issued a proclamation designating January 22 as the first National Sanctity of Human Life Day. (January 22, 1973, was the day the U.S. Supreme Court legalized abortion-on-demand in all 50 states.) Churches around the United States use the day to celebrate God's gift of life, commemorate the many lives lost to abortion, and commit themselves to protecting human life at every stage. The protection of human life and promotion of human dignity are core tenets of Catholic and social teaching rooted in Scripture. This month we pray in a special way for an end to abortion. I hope that your schedule allows you to join us for our 7:30am Mass on Friday. Mass will be kept to 30 minutes as I know many of you have to be at work.

Bishop Kettler: "While the situation with COVID-19 is showing continued signs of improvement, we are still waiting to see what impact holiday travel and multi-household family gatherings during the Christmas season may have on infection rates," he wrote Jan. 6. "Health officials also are monitoring the progress of a variant of the virus that is not yet widespread in the U.S. but is reportedly more easily transmitted."

The Minnesota Department of Health reported 2,165 new cases January 10. The seven-day averages have declined substantially after peaking in November, when the state averaged more than 7,000 cases per day for a time. Approximately 130,000 Minnesotans have now received the COVID-19 vaccine. MDH said Jan. 9 it had identified the new variant of the virus in five Twin Cities metro-area residents.

"I will make another assessment in the middle of the month and give you as much lead time as possible to make any adjustments regarding protocols," Bishop Kettler said. "Again, my hope is that we can return to in-person gatherings after Feb. 1, but I encourage you to plan for a variety of possibilities for conducting activities, including faith formation, in light of the present uncertainties surrounding this virus. This would include planning for in-person, hybrid and distance-learning options."

Men's Conference will not be taking place as usual due to the COVID-19 virus. However, this will be virtual: February 27 from 9am-12noon. As Lent begins, this retreat/Bible Study will have five presenters who will facilitate reflection opportunities on the Sunday Gospels of the Lenten season: www.stedio.org/mensconference21 or contact Jan at (320) 258-7615. The cost is free. This will be a great opportunity for our men to deepen their faith life.