



The Catholic Churches

St. Edward Elmdale St. Francis of Assisi St. Francis St. Mary Upsala

First Sunday of Advent
December 3, 2023

Pastor: Fr. Jimmy Joseph V.C.
Phone: (320) 573-2975 **Email:** 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

Phone: (320) 573-2132 **Website:** www.238catholic.org
Email: 238catholic@sytekcom.com

Bookkeeper: Randi Klasen
Hours: Tues. & Thurs. 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Secretary: Jessie Johnson
Hours: Mon., Wed., Fri., 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Please update the office if your phone or address changes.

RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE

Saturday: St. Francis: 3:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Sunday: St. Mary: 7:30 a.m. - 7:45 a.m.

St. Mary: 9:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

K-6: Reba Leither

(701) 426-1607 leitherreba@gmail.com

7-11: Randi Klasen

(320) 493-5624 randiklasen@gmail.com

Three Saints News

St. Edward's Fire Fund

Visit our website to see fire photos of the church and for the link to donate. Or, if you would like, you can send a check to the Parish Office for "The St. Edward's Fire Fund."

The "Thanks" Giving Tree

Thank you to those who took tags from the tree! There are a number of them left for the taking. Consider all you have been given and brighten the life of a child. Please remember: Gifts must be brought to church by Sunday, Dec. 10th

Upsala Senior Care Christmas

Thank you to all those who provided gifts to the residents of Upsala Senior living. All of the gifts on the wish lists were provided for. Thank you, also, to Diana Trettel who coordinated this for us!

Rural Catholic Middle Ages Singles Group: Dec. 9th

Join us for prayer, discussions and social activities for ages 30-60. We will be meeting at 7:00 p.m. at All Saints-St. Mary's Church Basement. Contact: Janel: (320) 290-2877.

Sign up for Online Contributions by filling out a form on the website, visiting the office or contact the Parish Office to have one mailed or emailed to you. Thank you!

November ONLINE CONTRIBUTIONS

St. Edward: \$375

St. Francis: \$405

St. Mary: \$590

Pray for us: Raymond Kurowski, Florence Kurowski, Margaret Carlson, Ken & Pat Euteneuer, Ron Dingmann, Kristy Brezinka, Donna Scholz, Kathy Hennek, Marjorie Lehner, Carol Langner, Judy Gerads, Rose Binek, Jim Negen, Marlene Vornbrock, Roger Thell, Alan Schumer, Gary Larson, Helen Heisick & Geraldine George



Advent
WEEK 1

Be watchful!
Be alert! You do not know when the time will come. (Mk 13:33)

Mass, Devotions & Events Schedule

Monday 12/4	St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church
No Mass	
Tuesday 12/5	
6:00 p.m. St. Mary * Anointing of the Sick	Steve Landowski ~Marvin & Shirley Wensmann
Wednesday 12/6	St. Nicholas, Bishop
8:00 a.m. St. Francis * Anointing of the Sick	Richard Boeckermann ~St. Francis Men's Society
Thursday 12/7	St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
8:00 a.m. St. Francis * Anointing of the Sick Noon-9:00 St. Mary	Special Intention Adoration
Friday 12/8 Holy Day of Obligation	Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
7:30 a.m. St. Mary 7pm St. Francis	Leona Burggraff-Borg ~Larry & Toni Nadeau For the People
Weekend Masses	Second Sunday in Advent
Saturday 12/9	St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin
10:00 a.m. Senior Living 4:00 p.m. St. Francis	Communion Service Brian Lange ~Beth Lange & Family
Sunday 12/10	
8:00 a.m. St. Mary 10:00 a.m. St. Mary	Bill Pohlman ~Kari & Ervin Hartung Matthew Whetzel ~Dennis & Carol Langner



ACC Advent Penance Service
December 10th from 2-5pm at
All Saints-St. Mary's, Holdingford.
4-5 priests will be available.

Vocation to the Priesthood

"Like a man away on a journey, he assigns each of us a task; be on the alert." Being chosen to serve as a priest or in consecrated life is an amazing work of the Lord. Ask the Holy Spirit and our Blessed Mother to help you recognize and be faithful to your vocation. Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocations office: Fr. Doug Liebsch 251-5001 Julie Jacobs- jjacobs@gw.stcdio.org

Faith Formation

Dec. 6th

K-6: Class 6:30 - 7:30 Water & Fire

2nd grade: Lesson 10

Dec. 8th at St. Francis

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass

Youth

Youth Director

We have a job opening for a Youth Director. Please fill out an application on the website, call the Parish Office or let Fr. Jimmy know.



Praise and Adoration: December 4th
Join the Holdingford parishes at 7:00 p.m. at All Saints - St. Mary's. There will be music and of course, **Jesus!**

ST FRANCIS' NEWS

December Ushers: Mark Moorman & Syl Tschida

Friday, December 8th – 7:00 p.m.

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

EM of HC: Brittany Harren

Colleen Harren (C) Janelle Roerick (C)

Lector: Jane Keppers

Servers: Volunteers

Gift Bearers: Kurt & Jackie Goebel

Saturday, December 9th – 4:00 p.m.

EM of HC: Rebecca Schmidt

Rosanne Voss (C) Mary Jane Boeckermann (C)

Lector: Jim Scholz

Servers: Volunteers

Gift Bearers: Andy & Brittany Harren

A Big Thank You to Gerald, Julie and Alex for the fall decorations. They looked great all season.

St. Francis Bazaar Meeting: Dec. 7th

Please join us at 7:30 p.m. to discuss new options for our Church Bazaar.

ST. EDWARD'S NEWS

Sunday, December 10th 8:00 a.m. (at St. Mary's)

EM of HC: Julie Wensmann

Volunteer (C) Jim Wensmann (C)

Lector: Jim Bartkowicz

Servers: Volunteers

Ushers: Donald Welinski & Jeff Czech

Greeters: Volunteers

Gift Bearers: Bob & Ione

New Missalette and Hymnal for 2024

You will notice starting next week for the First Sunday of Advent St. Edward's will have a new resource for our Missalette and Hymnal. There are some factors taken into consideration for this change. I want to explain them for your benefit.

First with the fire at St. Edward's our books that we had at the church would not be fit for use any longer due to smoke damage. Second, while we are worshipping at St. Mary's, we have the Seasonal Missalette to use as well as the Gather 3rd Edition hard-cover hymnal. I understand that it is less than desirable to handle two books. Third, we are not using the TV screens as we do not have someone to operate them. Fourth, with the accompaniment books being lost at St. Edward's, I did not have music that correlates to the music in the Missalette (sometimes the translations or words are different).

To help remedy some of the issues we are facing, we have decided to pursue an all-in-one resource for the time being. The book is called Breaking Bread from OCP (Oregon Catholic Press). Some of the benefits of this book include:

- *Missalette and Hymnal in one book format.
- *Printed once per year to save shipping costs.
- *Soft cover (not so heavy)
- *Service Music that we use for Psalm and Gospel is what we use currently so music readers can follow.
- *Has most music we already know, brings old favorites back, and provides many new options to us.

WEEKEND COLLECTION November 26th 2023

St. Edward: Adult: \$765 Loose: \$118, Thanksgiving:

\$35, Thanksgiving Day: \$107, Thanksgiving Loose:

\$ 188 **Total: \$1213**

St. Francis: Adult: \$620, Loose: \$52, Thanksgiving: \$965,

Flowers: \$105 **Total: \$1742**

St. Mary: Adult: \$1,084.18, Loose: \$134, Votive: \$62.50,

Thanksgiving: \$85, Flowers: \$10.00 **Total: \$1,375.68**

New Missalette and Hymnal for 2024 (continued)

*Temporary solution: We will be able to bring books to Elmdale when the church opens up. Also not as expensive as hard-cover books at this time giving us the opportunity to re-evaluate options in future. (Though hard covers are more cost-effective in the long-run.)

*This book or books with similar music from the same publisher are in other local parishes: Holdingford, Swanville, St. Mary's in LF, Sauk Centre, others...

As for the St. Mary's Community, since they generally use the TV screens, they may already be using music from this book or the current books we have, and they are not beholden to one publisher with their OneLicense options. If you have questions, please let me know. Michael Retka, 320-232-5898.

ST MARY'S NEWS

Sunday, December 10th– 10:00 a.m.

EM of HC: Chantelle Frie

Amanda Lampert (C) LeAnn Beneke (C)

Lector: Mary Hollenkamp

Servers: Emily Ripplinger

Ushers: Beau Ripplinger & Nathan Ripplinger

Greeters: Matt & Rhonda Ripplinger

Gift Bearers: Andy & Linda Langner

Bank Deposit: Marvin Wensmann

Notes from Fr. Jimmy

Feast of the Immaculate Conception: Dec. 8, Friday

On December 8, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which references Mary's conception in her mother's womb without the stain of Original Sin. Since Blessed Virgin Mary is the Patroness of the United States, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception is the Patronal Feast Day of our Country and it is a Holy Day of Obligation.

Advent

We are entering into the powerful season of Advent, a season to prepare with awe and gratitude for the Feast of the Incarnation of Jesus, born to us as our Lord and Savior. A season to prepare for His return at the end of time. It is also a moment to remind ourselves that our individual judgment day is coming, the moment when we will be called to give an account for all the love God has shown us and the gifts He has given us during our lifetime.

We need this Advent to pray for strength. The Holy Spirit has taught the Church that to prepare for Christ, we must:

*Pray the Holy Mass with so much love that Mass, the Eucharist becomes the center of our lives. Thus, we have the word, "Christ-Mass." The Catechism of the Catholic Church No. 2181 teaches us: "The Sunday Eucharist is the foundation and confirmation of all Christian practice. For this reason, the faithful are obliged to participate in the Eucharist on days of obligation, unless excused for a serious reason (for example, illness, the care of infants) or dispensed by their own pastor. Those who deliberately fail in this obligation commit a grave sin."

*Be immersed in repentance and express this by Advent Confession.

*Abide in God's word and share His word. This is the origin of Christmas cards.

*Do penance, especially fasting. This is the connotation of the Advent color, purple.

*Do good deeds, especially almsgiving. This is the origin of Christmas gift-giving.

Christ is coming in a new way this Christmas. Let us not deny that Greatest Gift. I wish and pray that you all have a Blessed Advent that will lead us to a Joyful Christmas!

Fr. Jimmy