

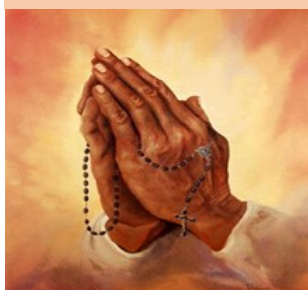
Join the party!

Celebrate the Grand Opening of the Catholic United Financial (120 10th Ave., St. Cloud) on Feb. 13th. A ribbon cutting ceremony begins at 11:15 a.m. and will include a light lunch, prize drawings and special guest, Bishop Patrick Neary. Free parking. Call-(877) 871-831 or visit www.catholicunitedcu.org.

Spring 40 Days for Life Campaign The next campaign takes place **February 14 - March 24, 2024** Find more details here: <https://stcdio.org/respect-life/forty-days-life/>. Protect life!

Saint Monica Prayer Retreat

Saturday Morning February 17th



Start your Lent out in Prayer! **Retreat Intention:** For all our loved ones who have fallen away from their Catholic Faith.

9-11:30a.m.
All Saints-St. Mary's

***Pray the Holy Rosary** We will pray the Rosary while viewing sites of the Sorrowful Mysteries as they exist today in the Holy Land. This is a unique pray-along devotional with scripture, narration, music and a video of the Holy Land sites.

***Power of Silence in Prayer and Everyday Life** Short talk by Deacon Dan

***Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament** (ends at 11:30 a.m.)

***Refreshment and fellowship**

Due to the accessibility for all, this retreat will take place in the basement of All Saints-St. Mary's. Handicapped access is around back of church. This event is Sponsored by the Christian Mothers/Women/Rosary Sodality and is Free. Grow in faith together!

Rural Catholic Young Adult Group: Feb. 17th

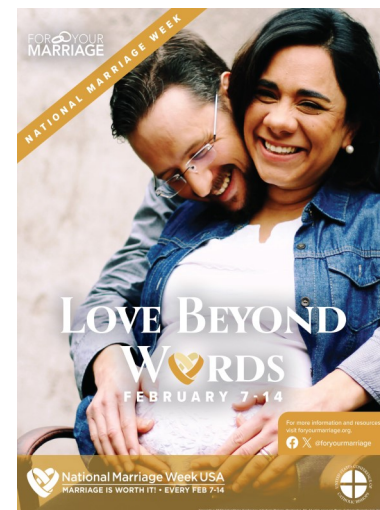
Join us for prayer, topical information, discussions, and social activities for people ages 18 - 30 who are looking to socialize with other young adults. We meet at 7:00 p.m. on 3rd Saturdays at All Saints-St. Mary's Church basement, Holdingford. Contact: Katie 423-2203 or Marissa 630-2433.

Spirituality Tap In: Feb. 20th

Fr. Patrick will speak about developing prayer habits in our next event at Tavern on First, Little Falls MN at 6:30 p.m. This event is sponsored by the Catholic Order of Foresters Insurance Society. Questions: Mike Rekta (320) 632-3642.

Attention All Singers!

Sign-up now to sing for the Chrism Mass, which will be at St. Mary's Cathedral on Thursday, March 21st at 7:00 p.m. Rehearsals will be on March 9th & 16th at St. Mary's Cathedral from 9-11:00 a.m. Contact Anne Cota at musicatstmaryscathedral@gmail.com or call (320) 251-1840. Singers are also needed for ordinations in June (1st & 8th).



World Marriage Day

Today, we honor the beauty of the marriage. Together, we thrive in love, faith, and unity. Let's cherish the journey of marriage, a path where we grow, learn, and support each other. Here's to the joy, strength, and blessings that come from walking hand in hand. Happy World Marriage Day!

Every Catholic community is invited to participate in an initiative called "Radiate Love", starting on World Marriage Day-February 11th-when couples all over the globe are called by God to invest in their relationships and let that love radiate out to the whole world, first and foremost in their own family. Visit: www.radiatelove.info.

Sharing our Eucharistic Journey Men's Conference

Saturday, Feb. 24th at St. Francis Xavier, Sartell 8:30 a.m. -3:15 p.m. Sign-up at: <https://stcdio.org/event/catholic-mens-conference-2024/>

Valentine's Banquet: Feb. 17th

You are warmly invited to the Word of Life Church's 34th Annual Valentine's Banquet at 6:00 p.m. Music by Esther Rabenberg. Cost: \$20 per person. Payable at the door. RSVP by Feb. 15th. (320) 573-4450 or rachijetup@msn.com. (3328 1st Ave. W., Upsala)



Give to the Bishop's Annual Appeal!

Help us to:

Foster vocations & strong families
Instruct all ages in our Catholic Faith
Share the Good News

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. Francis: 3:30 pm - 3:45 pm
Sunday: St. Mary: 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 AND 40 DAYS FOR LIFE

40 Days for Life, beginning on Ash Wednesday (February 14), is a focused pro-life campaign with a vision to access God's power through prayer, fasting and peaceful vigil to end abortion. The campaign mission is to bring together the body of Christ in a spirit of unity during a focused 40 days of peaceful activism with the purpose of repentance, to seek God's favor to turn hearts and minds from a culture of death to a culture of life.

Our Catholic faith tradition encompasses seven basic themes for the 40 Days for Life. They help us to prioritize and evaluate our choices.

- **Dignity of the Human Person** – All people are sacred, made in the image of God.
- **Family & Community Participation** – The human person is both Sacred & Social. When one suffers, we all suffer.
- **Rights & Responsibilities** – People have a fundamental right to life, food, shelter, health care, education and employment.
- **Option for the Poor** – The moral test of society is how it treats its most vulnerable.
- **Dignity of Work** – The economy exists to serve people, not people to serve the economy.
- **Solidarity** – We are called to work globally for justice and peace.
- **Care for God's Creation** – We show our respect for the Creator by our protection of the planet and all beings.

Lent is an observance lasting 40 days starting on Ash Wednesday and ending just before Easter Sunday. The purpose of Lent is to focus on Jesus' sacrifice on the cross and the miracle of His Resurrection. The celebration of Lent is not a commandment but an opportunity to renew our faith and live peacefully.

This year, the season of Lent invites us to do our best to live our Vocations. Regardless of where we work and what we do, make sure that our ethics, our morals and our values shine bright and be witnesses to all around us. What Jesus did for the Apostles, he wishes to do for all of us: The Lord wants us to follow Him more closely and more dearly. This Lent, the Lord wants to offer us more grace. Blessings and Peace to all of you!

Fr. Jimmy

The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 11, 2024

Weekend Masses: The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time		
Saturday 2/10	<i>St. Scholastica, Virgin, World Marriage Day, World Day of the Sick</i>	
4:00 p.m. St. Francis	†David Voss	(SF) EM of HC: Bob Theisen, Judy Theisen c, Alice Westrich c, Lector: Rebecca Schmidt, Servers: Volunteers, Gifts: Dan & Rita Lange, Ushers: Allen Herzog & Leroy Pflueger
5:15 p.m. St. Mary	†Marietta Mueller	(SM) EM of HC: Jan Kilian, Dave Scholz c, Renee Scholz c, Lector: Mary Hollenkamp, Servers: Beau Ripplinger & Anne Ripplinger, Ushers: Darren Lange & Mitch Lange, Greeters: Nathan & Laura Ripplinger, Gifts: Andy & Linda Langner, Bank: Mike Klasen
Sunday 2/11	<i>The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	
8:00 a.m. St. Mary	For the People	(SE) EM of HC: Jim Bartkowitz, Joan Theisen c, Peggy Frieler c, Lector: Tracey Hartung, Servers: Volunteers, Ushers: Mike Urbanski & Nick Schleper Greeters: Raymond Kokett, Gifts: Scott & Carla Van Wienen
10:00 a.m. St. Mary	†Walbert Stueve	(SM) EM of HC: Cindy Koehn, Chantelle Frie c, Amanda Lampert c, Lector: Leonice Prokott, Servers: Emily Ripplinger Ushers: Beau Ripplinger & Nathan Ripplinger, Greeters: Randy & Jane Tretter, Gifts: Elmer, Mary & Lorraine Frie, Bank: Judy Michels

Weekday Masses

Tuesday 2/13 6:00 p.m. St. Mary	†Loretta Renneker ~Tom & Jeanette Gerads	<i>I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation. (Ps 32:1-2)</i>
Wednesday 2/14	<i>Ash Wednesday</i>	
8:00 a.m. St. Francis	†Arnold Voss	(SF) EM of HC: Bob Theisen, Judy Theisen c, Volunteer c, Lector: Jim Scholz, Servers: Volunteers, Gifts: Volunteers, Ushers: Allen Herzog & Leroy Pflueger
6:30 p.m. St. Mary	For the People	(SM) EM of HC: LeAnn Beneke, Mike Klasen c, Christine Weber c, Lector: Chantelle Frie, Servers: Alayna Weber & Lauryn Weber, Ushers: Darren Lange & Mitch Lange, Greeters: Shawn & Amanda Lampert, Gifts: Tom & Theresa Lange, Bank: Tom Kilian
8:00 p.m. St. Francis	†Herbert Gerads	(SF) EM of HC: Chris Fuchs, Brittany Harrenc, Janelle Roerick c, Lector: Mary Jane Boeckermann, Servers: Volunteers, Gifts: Dan & Sarah Roerick, Ushers: Allen Herzog & Leroy Pflueger
Thursday 2/15 8:00 a.m. St. Francis & Stations of the Cross	Thanksgiving for the Czech Family	Adoration 2nd Tuesdays: St. Francis of Assisi 8am -7pm Thursdays: St. Mary's 12 - 9 pm.
Friday 2/16 7:30 a.m. St. Mary & Stations of the Cross	†Rich Boeckermann ~G&MJ Boeckermann	

Weekend Masses: The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday 2/17		
4:00 p.m. St. Francis	For the People	(SF) EM of HC: Brittany Harren, MJ Boeckermann c, Collen Harren c, Lector: Jane Keppers, Servers: Volunteers, Gifts: bob & Sharon Thell, Ushers: Allen Herzog & Leroy Pflueger
Sunday 2/18		
8:00 a.m. St. Mary	†Don, Rita & Brian Wensmann	(SE) EM of HC: Julie Wensmann Ted Lewandowski c, Jim Wensmann c, Lector: Jeff Czech, Servers: Volunteers, Ushers: John Kokett & Raymond Kokett Greeters: Volunteers, Gifts: Scott & Jen Wensmann
10:00 a.m. St. Mary	†Chester & Violet Westrich	(SM) EM of HC: Amanda Lampert, Renee Scholz c, Dave Scholz c, Lector: Kim Koehn, Servers: Beau Ripplinger & Anne Ripplinger, Ushers: Matt & Rhonda Ripplinger Greeters: Dave & Mary Hollenkamp Gifts: Nathan & Laura Ripplinger, Bank: Marvin Wensmann

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

All Cluster News

Faith Formation:

February 11th - 17th
K-6: Home Lesson: Lenten Activity
2nd gr: lesson 1 & 2 review
All: Attend Ash Wednesday Mass

Pre-Lent Potluck & Dance: Feb. 11th

Join in with All Saints, Immaculate Conception and St. Columbkille to celebrate with food and music from 2-5:00 p.m. at the American Legion in Holdingford. Music by the Gene Ostendorf Band. Chicken Strips, Fries, lemonade & coffee provided. Bring your favorite dish to share!

Matching Grant Fundraiser St. Francis Catholic United Council #296

Everyone is welcome on Sunday, February 25th. Serving 9:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Free will offering. Sausage, Scrambled Eggs, Pancakes with choice of toppings, Hashbrowns, Sweet Bread & Beverages. All you can eat! St. Francis of Assisi Church Basement 44055 State Hwy 238, Freeport, MN Take out available. Proceeds go to the St. Francis Rel. Ed. program. Catholic United Financial will give a matching grant of up to \$1000.

Come pray the Rosary! We will be gathering together this Monday to pray the Rosary for our country and for world peace. Meet at St. Mary's Church at 6:30 pm. This will be ongoing (every Monday) until further notice. All are welcome! "The Rosary is the weapon for these times." -St. Padre Pio

WEEKEND COLLECTION

Jan. 28, 2024
St. Edward: Adult: \$920 Loose: \$140, Funeral Lunch:\$50, Central MN Catholic: \$40, Fire Fund: \$25
Total: \$1,175
St. Francis: Adult: \$2,215, Loose: \$97, Votive: \$187.75, Funeral Fund: \$50, Candles:\$72 **Total: \$2,621.75**
St. Mary: Adult: \$2,046, Loose \$229, Funeral Fund: \$10, Church of Europe: \$100, Central MN Catholic: \$20, Quilt Raffle: \$4,928.50 **Total: \$ 7,333.50**

Knights of Columbus St. Gregory Council

Questions on any of these events: Jeff Czech, Grand Knight (320) 630-2753

District level Free Throw Contest:

Feb. 11th 12:30 p.m Registration and contest begins at 1:00 p.m. in the Upsala School Gym. Hosted by the Knights.

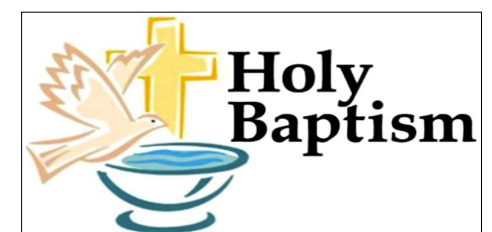
Exemplification/Initiation:Feb. 12.

If you are interested or know of someone interested in becoming a Knight please join us at Our Lady of Lourdes, Little Falls at 5:30 p.m.

Chili Cook-off: Feb. 18th:

Bring your favorite Chili and join in the taste testing to find out who has the best! This will be after the 10:00 a.m. Mass in North Prairie. Proceeds go to benefit Elevate. Annual Knights of Columbus Breakfast and Raffle: March 24th at St. Stanislaus, Bowlus. Serving from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Raffle at noon.

St. Mary's News



Clara Ann Lombard
Daughter of of Joshua & Paige
February 11, 2024
St. Mary's, Upsala

Smelt & Fish Fry

It's time once again to prepare for our annual St. Mary's Fish Fry & Raffle! SAVE THE DATE! It's Friday, March 22nd 4-8pm (cash raffle drawing at 7:30pm). We are now selling raffle tickets! They will be available at the Parish Office, Nelson Insurance, and after 10am Mass @ St. Mary's on Sundays. Once again, we would like each parishioner to buy or sell at least one raffle ticket! Tickets are \$100 each. Thank you for your support!

St. Francis' News

"**Thank you** to the St Francis Parish for the scholarship money that I recently received. It was put towards my tuition at Ridgewater College. Thank you for the support and prayers. ~Carter Roerick

St. Francis 2024 Funeral Group chair & co-chairs

#1 Rosie Thell - Sharon Thell **#2** Jackie Goebel - Mary Jane Boeckermann **#3** Joan Boeckermann - Rosanne Voss **#4** Joan Gerads - Brenda Klein. Group books returned have been updated, group 1 co-chair, group 2 chair & co-chair have packets to pick up with your books. Group 4 is up to serve for next event.

Thank you

Arnold Voss' family wishes to extend a heartfelt thank you to Father Jimmy, Father Bob, our church community (especially Mass helpers, choir, funeral lunch group), Mother of Mercy Senior Living, Moments Hospice and the Miller Carlin Family for all the wonderful care given to our dad before, during and after his passing. We gratefully appreciate all the kindness shared with our family during this time. God Bless you all. Craig & Rosanne, Steve & Patty Voss families.

St. Francis CUF Matching Grant Breakfast: Feb. 25th.

If anyone would like to donate towards the breakfast please contact Chad 573-5667 or Bob 573-2933. Men & Boys of the parish are asked to help. 1st shift M-Z 8-10:30 a.m., 2nd shift: A-L 10:30 until done, Thank you.

Journey with Jesus to Calvary

If you want to be a part of this year's performance either on stage or in the choir call Bob 573-2933. Practice for the main actors starts on Feb. 4th at 11:00 a.m. Practice schedules can be picked up in back of church.

Performance dates are:

Wed., March 20th at 7:00 p.m.
Fri., March 22nd at 7:30 p.m.
Sat., March 23rd at 7:30 p.m.
Sun., March 24th at 1:00 p.m.