

The Catholic Churches of

St. Edward
Elmdale

St. Francis of Assisi
St. Francis

St. Mary
Upsala

"We saw his star at its
rising and have come to
do him homage."



Epiphany of the Lord

January 3, 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

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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.

Mass Schedule

Jan. 4 - 10, 2021

Monday: 1/4 *St. Elizabeth Ann Seton*
NO MASS SCHEDULED

Tuesday: 1/5 *St. John Neumann*
St. Mary 6:00pm † Mary Ziegler
Anointing of the Sick

Wednesday: 1/6 *St. Andre Bessette*
St. Francis 8:00am † Norbert Roering
Anointing of the Sick

Thursday: 1/7 *St. Raymond of Penafort*
St. Edward 8:00am † Don Bartkowicz
Anointing of the Sick

Friday: 1/8
St. Mary 7:30am † Dave Schneider
Anointing of the Sick (Donated landscape rocks)

Saturday: 1/9
St. Mary 4:00pm †† Elaine & Mark Schumer

Sunday: 1/10 *Baptism of the Lord*
St. Edward 8:00am People of the Parishes
St. Francis 10:00am † Audrey Pflueger

THANK YOU!

Thank you!!

Thank you to everyone who so generously made donations to the churches in 2020!! Contribution statements should be mailed by the end of the week.

Epiphany House Blessing

Blessed chalk will be available after Mass this weekend at all three parishes and copies of the Epiphany House Blessing. If all the copies are gone, there is a link on the website.



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

Raymond Kurowski, Ken Wielenberg, Don Maciej, Margaret Carlson, Rodney Bartkowicz, Brenda Wuebkers, Ron Dingman, Kya Bartkowicz, family of †Ty Poppenhagen, family of †Irene Stern, family of †Cindy Fleischhacker

Over 80 Blessings! (January)

Gene Harren (1/8)

Ramona Heurung (1/12)

Janet Yurczyk (1/26)

WEEKEND COLLECTIONS

St. Mary: Adult \$1,062.00; Loose \$152.50; Christmas \$4,440.00; Immaculate Conception \$5.00; Online \$160.00 - **\$5,819.50**

St. Edward: Adult \$3,255.00; Loose \$108.00; Votive \$21.00; Christmas \$6,007.00; Flowers \$40.00; Abuse Settlement \$200.00; Religious Retirement \$10.00; Online \$560.00 - **\$10,201.00**

St. Francis: Adult \$1,006.00; Loose \$112.00; Solemnity of Mary \$150.00; Christmas \$3,218.00; Online \$160.00 - **\$4,646.00**

Epiphany: A fourfold feast

The Feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ is one of the oldest Christian feasts. *Epiphany* comes from a Greek verb meaning "to reveal," and all of the various events celebrated by the Feast of the Epiphany are revelations of Christ to man. Epiphany originally celebrated four different events, in the following order of importance: the Baptism of the Lord; Christ's first miracle, the changing of water into wine at the wedding in Cana; the Nativity of Christ; and the visitation of the Wise Men or Magi. Each of these is a revelation of God to man: At Christ's Baptism, the Holy Spirit descends and the voice of God the Father is heard, declaring that Jesus is His Son; at the wedding in Cana, the miracle reveals Christ's divinity; at the Nativity, the angels bear witness to Christ, and the shepherds, representing the people of Israel, bow down before Him; and at the visitation of the Magi, Christ's divinity is revealed to the Gentiles—the other nations of the earth.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION



St. Mary 12 – 4pm First Wed. (1/13)

St. Edward 12 – 4pm First Fri. (1/8)

St. Francis 7am - 8pm 2nd Tues. (1/12)

Benediction follows Adoration in all parishes

THREE SAINTS NEWS

Sing Psalm and Alleluia

"In talking with a few of the musicians, it has been decided that from now until Ash Wednesday (Feb 17), we will continue singing the Responsorial Psalm and Alleluia. It is so hard to know what the Good Lord is wanting for our liturgies. The people are asked to "watch and listen" to the choir rather than sing along due to the fear of the droplets spreading. Let us continue to storm Heaven with our prayers that our lives can return back to normal." Fr David

Suggestion for Lectors

"With the pandemic, it has been very challenging for you to know what I prefer. No doubt Fr Theis and myself are very different. I had been hoping that the virus would not be around this long and we would have had a workshop. Until things can return back to normal for our Masses, would you consider a minor change? Near the end of the Creed, please make your way up to the podium/lectern. At that time, you can get prepared with the petitions. Once I pray a brief intro prayer for petitions, you can immediately begin praying the petitions. Thus, we will not have to wait for you to walk up from your pew." Fr David

First Friday Visits

"Forgive me for not informing you last week, but with January 1st falling on Friday, I will be coming to your home this coming Friday, January 8th. I am hoping that some of your schedules will allow me to come Thursday afternoon. I am excited to hear if Santa brought you many gifts which will tell me whether you have been naughty or nice this past year!" 😊
Fr David

Suspension of in-person gathering

Bishop Kettler has stated that until Feb. 1 that all faith formation classes, committee and council meetings and all in-person social gatherings "pose the greatest risk of spreading the virus". He will continue to monitor the virus situation. Continue to pray for our children and young people along with their parents as this no doubt is most overwhelming for them.

Fr Jerry Mischke's B-day

Your former pastor from St Edward's and St Mary's (1975-1985) will be celebrating his 83rd birthday! No doubt that he would love to hear from you: 308 3rd St. S. Sauk Rapids, 56379. His words of wisdom for you: "Be gentle with yourself." He is a good friend of Fr David as he speaks most fondly of his time in your parishes.

ST. MARY'S NEWS

Sat., Jan. 9 – 4pm

EM of HC: Chantelle Frie *Lector:* Brian Lange

Greeter: Elmer Frie

Ushers: Duane & Rosie Harren

Adoration Next Week

With + Cindy Fleischhaker's visitation taking place from 4-6pm in the church, we will have adoration the following week: Wednesday, January 13th from 12noon until 4pm closing with benediction.

+ Cindy Fleischhaker Went Home to Jesus

Join us Thursday, January 7th at 11am for her funeral. As stated in her obituary, "She was blessed with five children who became her entire world. She loved going to Mass and adoration".

Apologies to family of + Irene Stern

With the confusion of Christmas, our bulletin getting printed early along with a few other challenges, her funeral was not properly announced. Her funeral and burial took place December 28th. From her obituary: "Bob and Irene were involved in the efforts to establish a Catholic church in Upsala now known as St. Mary's. Irene led life by example teaching religious education classes for 20 years."

Thank you JoAnne

Thank you for your years of ministry in the area of Finance Council. Know that it was most greatly appreciated. As her term has ended, we need someone to step forward as this is a three-year term. We meet quarterly along with our Trustees. Perhaps you know of someone who is gifted in this area? Please contact Fr David.

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

ST. EDWARD'S NEWS

Sun., Jan. 10 – 8am

EM of HC: Dorene Czeck *Lector:* Tracey Hartung

Greeter: Sally Schleper

Ushers: Bob Brezinka & Ralph Schleper

Adoration Next Week

Since January 1st fell on Friday, we will have adoration the following week: Friday, January 8th from 12noon-4pm closing with benediction. There are many graces if you are able to come spend time with Jesus.

Thank you Tracey Hartung

As Tracey's term has ended, we need someone from our parish to come forth for the ministry of Finance Council member. As she has given herself most wonderfully in this ministry, is the Lord calling you or do you know of someone who is gifted in this area? Please contact Fr David. The pay's not much but the retirement benefits are out of this world!



ST. FRANCIS' NEWS

Sun., Jan. 10 – 10am

EM of HC: Mary Jane Boeckermann

Lector: Mary Jane Boeckermann *Greeter:* Dan Lange

NOTES FROM FR. DAVID

Living in an age well before the internet or social media, the magi from the East relied upon a single star as a sign that a king had been born. The heavens revealed to these learned foreigners that a matter of great importance had occurred in Judea. This weekend we celebrated the revelation of the birth of our Lord to the outside world, to us (Feast of Epiphany). The light over the little town of Bethlehem has revealed the light of the world to the ends of the earth.

Praise the Lord for all who helped our Christmas Masses exceed my expectations. From the most beautiful decorations, spirit-filled music, ministers faithfully helping out (we had Mass servers for 4 of the 5 Masses) along with great Mass attendance! In light of the Covid-19 virus, it was most difficult to know how many Masses were needed as some churches had the people make reservations beforehand. The Holy Spirit helped guide our three parishes and all who wanted to come and celebrate Christmas. Everyone had a place to sit comfortably.

Thank you, thank you, thank you for all the gifts, cards and prayers you have given to me. You truly went above and beyond. I feel most blessed to be here as your pastor. I pray that we will be together for a good number of years. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year ... remember to continue to wish people a Merry Christmas as the season does not end until the Baptism of Our Lord on January 10th!

In January issue of 'The Central MN Catholic' (monthly magazine), Fr Tom Knoblach has an article entitled: 'Vaccines and ethical consideration in light of COVID-19'. I read though it and it seems that our Church is encouraging that we get the vaccine. The two vaccines (Moderna and Pfizer) do not have ethical concerns of using tissues from the two aborted fetuses some 60 years ago. He concluded, "with a significant portion of the population still at risk, accepting a proven and safe vaccine is justified as a moral good, an act of solidarity and charity and arguably a work of mercy." Bishop Kettler has also been encouraging people to receive the vaccine.

With the pandemic, the priest retreat which generally takes place this week at King's Retreat House in Buffalo has been cancelled. This has been a grace-filled time for many priests to come together following this busy time of the year. Each year, canon law requires that priests annually attend a retreat. Currently, I am undecided when and where I will "retreat" as I am not too excited about doing a virtual retreat. Please remember to pray for all priests as it is most challenging to know how best to provide for your needs during these times.

FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK

January 3, 2021

LEARN

FORMED NOW! HOW TO PRAY

Whether you are a veteran in the spiritual life or are just beginning, start this year off right by recommitting yourself to prayer! Join Drs. Tim Gray and Elizabeth Klein as they discuss ways to kickstart your prayer life this year!

