

The Catholic Churches of

St. Edward
Elmdale

St. Francis of Assisi
St. Francis

St. Mary
Upsala



Second Sunday of Advent

December 5, 2021

Pastor: Fr. David Grundman (320) 309-4174 (cell)
Email: frdgrund@gmail.com
Sister Mary Pat Burger –St. Francis Rectory (320) 573-2203
Randi Klasen –Bookkeeper Hours: Tues. & Thurs. 8 am -noon
Jessie Johnson –Secretary Hours: Mon., Wed., Fri., 8 am -4 pm
CENTRAL OFFICE 308 S. Main Street, P.O. Box 249,
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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Chantelle Frie -Confirmation 360-4796 chantellefrie@gmail.com
Reba Leither -Family Formation, Gr. K-6 leitherreba@gmail.com
Tamara Lange -Gr. 7-10 250-4688 tlange44@yahoo.com

RECONCILIATION Schedule

Saturday: St. Francis -3:15-3:45 pm,
Sunday: St. Edward-7:15-7:45 am, & St. Mary - 9:15-9:45 am
Tuesday St. Mary -5- 5:30 pm

Bulletin deadline is on Wednesdays at noon

Upcoming Masses

Christmas Vigil

Dec. 24 at 4:00 pm SF & 5:00 pm SM

The Nativity of the Lord

Dec. 25 at 8:00 am SE & 10:00 am SF

Solemnity of Mary -Vigil

Dec. 31 at 4:00 pm SM

The Solemnity of Mary Mother of God

Jan. 1 at 9:00 am SE

Up Jerusalem! Stand upon the heights: look to the east and see your children gathered from the east and the west at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that they are remembered by God.
~Baruch 5:5



Over 80 Blessings for December

Geraldine George 12/6 SE

Arnold Molus 12/16 SE

Wilfred Voss 12/31 SM



Fr. Theis' Birthday was November 29th! Birthday wishes can be sent to: 304 Sinclair Lewis Ave., Sauk Centre, MN 56378

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

Raymond Kurowski, Ken Wielenberg, Margaret Carlson, Brenda Wuebkers, Ron Dingman, Kristy Brezinka, Ramona Heuring, Arnold Scholz, Irene Lashinski, Frank Gerads, Lorene Koopmeiners, Linus & Marjorie Lehner, Marlene Vornbrock, Brayden Harren, (SF, Chemo in St. Paul), Bruce Wolters (rehab), Millie Spring (chemo, 1 1/2 years old), Rudi Cazeau (cancer, for a happy death), Judy Gerads (SF, cancer), Bobby Pierskalla (St. Wendel), Joe Schumer (SM, cancer, moved to Riverside Assisted Living in Royalton, Joe Korman (SE, hospitalized), Geri Klimek (Covid, hospitalized)

families of all the +deceased

WEEKEND COLLECTION November 28, 2021

St. Edward: Adult: \$895, Loose: \$51, Votive: \$67, Thanksgiving \$240, Loose Thanksgiving: \$92, Christmas Flowers: \$80 Total: **\$1,425**

St. Francis: Adult: \$665, Loose: \$56, Thanksgiving: \$615 Christmas Flowers: \$20 Total: **\$1,356**

St. Mary: Adult: \$2,208, Loose \$246, Votive: \$28.75, Thanksgiving: \$217, Loose Thanksgiving: \$141, Christmas Flowers \$50, Fall Collection: \$275, Total: **\$3,165.75**

Mass, Devotions & Events Schedule

<u>Tuesday 12/7</u>	<i>Vigil Mass-Immaculate Conception</i>
6 pm St. Mary	+Randy Panek
<u>Wednesday 12/8</u>	<i>The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary –Holy Day</i>
8 am St. Francis	+Deceased members of the Wagner/Voss families
12 noon St. Edward	For the People
7 pm St. Mary	+ Anna Schulte
<u>Thursday 12/9</u>	<i>Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin</i>
8 am St. Edward	+Ray Jendro ~ Joan Jendro *Anointing of the Sick
<u>Friday 11/10</u>	
7:30 am St. Mary	+Elaine & Mark Schumer *Anointing of the Sick
<u>Weekend Masses</u>	<i>Third Sunday of Advent</i>
<u>Saturday 12/11</u>	
4 pm St. Francis	+Irene Harren~ Hilary & Julie Burg
9-10:30 am	First Reconciliation Retreat
<u>Sunday 12/12</u>	
8 am St. Edward	For the People
10 am St. Mary	+Ty Poppenhagen ~ Amy Poppenhagen
2-5 pm St. Mary	ACC Penance Service

Faith Formation

Family Formation: Dec 8 from 6-7pm

Grades K-6 along with all parents, we hope that you can join us at 5:15pm for a light dinner. "Cross My Heart" will be our lesson.

Three Parish Youth Choir will be singing: Dec 8 at 7pm

Rachel Prom will be playing piano at St Mary's! They will be signing autographs after Mass! The upper grades will also be helping out with various ministries. Youth, be ready to answer some of Fr David's questions during his homily! Remember Immaculate Conception is a holy day of obligation.

NCYC Youth Testimonies at Mass: Dec 12 at 10am

Come to St Mary's and listen to Katie Jensen (SM) and Emily Blonigen (SE) speak about their experience! Join them and all the youth who went to Indianapolis for a social following the Mass (see pictures/slideshow).

Area Church Gatherings

Community Covenant Church: Dec 11th 8:30-11:30am

A carousel of Christmas cookies, breads, candies and more seasonal favorites sold by the pound. You select the varieties and amount of Christmas treats. Preorder Lefsa, Baklava, Spritz, Wrapped trays/baskets by calling 573-2672.

A huge Thank You

to the parishioners of St. Edward's and St. Mary's Churches for your generous contributions to our Fall Collection Fundraiser. To date St. Edward's has collected \$5,045 and St. Mary's has collected \$9,030! You can still help support our parishes and donate to the Fall Collection by returning the envelope mailed out in your weekly offering. We cannot express enough our gratitude for the amazing generosity of our parishes!

ST EDWARD'S NEWS**Sun., Dec. 12, 8:00 am Third Sunday of Advent****EM of HC:** Dorene Czeck **Lector:** Adeline Molus**Server:** Isaac Harren**Ushers:** Jeron Wensmann & Jim Czeck**Greeters:** Jim & Julie Wensmann**Gift Bearers:** Steve & Kathy Blonigen**ST FRANCIS' NEWS****Sat., Dec. 11, 4:00 pm Third Sunday of Advent****EM of HC:** Judy Theisen**Lector:** Holly Keppers**Server:** Volunteers**Ushers:** Bob Theisen & Dan Lange**Gift Bearers:** Russ & Gina Boeckermann**"Across MILES for Millie Spring"**

Entry from Nov 26 from her CaringBridge Site (check out their awesome pics): "Grateful - We are grateful for Millie's medical team and modern medicine that is helping Millie fight her battle against cancer. Thankful - We are so thankful that we were all home together for Thanksgiving. Blessed - We are beyond blessed by the love, support, prayers, meals, and cards that have been sent from family, friends, and strangers near and far. We know we aren't in this alone, thanks to all these constant and consistent reminders. Thank you!"

"Brayden is a Superboy"

Brittany: "Brayden is scheduled to start his 6th cycle of chemotherapy this last week (Nov 30), if all his blood work and labs come back high enough. He will have one more cycle in January and then all his chemotherapy will be done. Both of the last cycles are less aggressive, so we anticipate him tolerating it very well. Also, Brayden's next MRI is scheduled for mid-January, so we are praying for good results. We are thankful he has been feeling so well and that we get to spend the holidays together with family."

ST MARY'S NEWS**Sun., Dec. 12, 10 am Third Sunday of Advent****EM of HC:** LeAnn Beneke **Lector:** Chantelle Frie**Server:** Beau Ripplinger & Anne Ripplinger**Ushers:** Darren Lange & Mitch Lange**Greeters:** Rosemary Mehr & Rosie Harren**Gift Bearers:** Jamie & Jenny Leners**Bank Deposit:** Tom Kilian**Three Saints News continued****Religious Retirement Fund**

Remember your special envelope for our retired religious brothers and sisters next weekend (Dec 11/12). Since 1988, donation to this fund have helped hundreds of U.S. religious communities address their retirement-funding shortages. Like you, senior religious have offered their lives in service and prayer. Rising health-care costs and decreasing income make it a struggle for communities to care for their aging members.

Knights of Columbus Family Christmas Potluck will be on December 12th after the 10am Mass in **Bowlus** Grand Knight, Jeff Czech (320) 630-2753

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick: Dec 11/12

Those unable to attend weekday Masses, Fr David will make this sacrament available at all Masses next weekend. For those who are elderly or serious ill and have not been anointed in the past thirty days, please be open to receiving Jesus. This will take place at the end of Mass.

Daughters of Isabella's meeting

Our Lady of Lourdes' church basement at 1:00 PM on December 6. Note time change. All ladies are welcome.

Three Saints News continued**ACC Committee Members Needed**

Thank you for submitting nominations. People will receive a phone call and ask if they are interested. We really need people to step forward and consider this ministry. Please contact the office or call Fr David if you would like to nominate yourself or others. It is vitally important that we make known to the diocese that each of our parishes are dynamic and wanting to grow. In entrances of our churches, there is a rough draft of our bylaws and constitution. The new members will be chosen from a hat on the Dec.18/19 weekend Masses.

Communal Penance Service: Dec 12th 2-5pm

We will be blessed to have five priests hearing confessions at St Mary's. The confessional to the right as you enter our Church has a screen or face-to-face. The sacristy will be face-to-face. The main office will have a screen or face-to-face. In the sanctuary, two priests will be face-to-face. Know that our priests will help you if you get forgetful or nervous.

Fr Virgil Helmin Helping Out on Dec. 2-8 If there is an emergency please call him at 320-293-6220.

Notes from Fr David

Quite likely you have a long checklist of things that you need to do before Christmas, which is now only three weeks away. But is "repentance for the forgiveness of sins" on that list? It ought to be, for this is exactly what John the Baptist called for in preparation for the Lord's coming. Know that as priests, there is no greater joy than listening in on your conversation with God and giving you God's forgiveness. By your coming to confession helps make us priests holy!

This week (Dec 8) is a holy day of obligation as special graces are available. We all received a "call" in baptism. That "call" is remarkably similar to the Blessed Virgin Mary's, whose calling we recall in our Gospel. Like Mary, we are called to bear Christ to the world. Let us respond as Mary did: "May it be done to me according to Your word."

We had a great Thanksgiving at Word of Life Lutheran Church. They were so very appreciative of our support. Thanks to Carol Lampert for helping out. Thanks to those from our communities who enjoyed this delicious meal. The numbers were down from two years ago when they hosted this for the first time. No doubt Jesus wants all denominations to work together even more. Please consider supporting Community Covenant with their bake sale.

Thanks for all your prayers. I am at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help in New Franken, WI which is near Green Bay until Dec. 7. Thanks so much for the many petitions you gave as there is a petition box here at the Altar. The past year, I have deepened my love for our Blessed Mother. She is so powerful and present when we come to her. Each Hail Mary we pray is simply saying to Our Mother, 'I love you'.

Listen to a few testimonies of people receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation: "When the priest speaks the words 'your sins are forgiven, go in peace,' every time I feel light-headed, as if all my sin is being extracted and then this feeling of happiness and grace follows you wherever you go." Another: "As Father prays the prayer of absolution...I feel the weight of the world lift off my shoulders and am filled with joy! I feel healed, cleaned and renewed." My prayer for Advent is that each and every one will come to Jesus in this beautiful sacrament. I try to go to confession every two weeks. The graces that pour forth are more than you could ever imagine!