

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. Edward: 3:30 pm - 3:45 pm
Sunday: St. Francis: 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.

Bishop's Annual Appeal: Voices of Hope

This is Commitment Weekend for the Bishop's Annual Appeal! Through your generosity, diocesan programs continue to build the Kingdom of God here in Central Minnesota thanks to the dedicated service of our pastors, parish and diocesan staff, and volunteers who continue to do the work of Christ. Please keep them thriving by making a gift with your offering today in your parish collection or at www.stcdio.org/annualappeal.

Bishop Neary's Message

Dear brothers and sisters,

Our world is in desperate need of hope.

Hope isn't something that happens when everything is going right. Hope is what carries us through difficulties—because we have faith that God is present and working.

Enkindle Christ's voice of hope within your self. Embrace His love in the Eucharist and open your heart to the fire of the Holy Spirit.

Then by a voice of hope for others.

You can be hope for your community, for rural areas, for the next generation, and for our church. Answer Christ's call to walk with faith every day. Volunteer your time and talent at your parish or a one of our diocesan ministries.

And please, give faithfully to support this appeal. Your money will be used to support seminarians and vocations, for rural life ministries, Catholic education, respect for life at all stages, and to provide resources and training for lay minister.

Your community needs you to be a voice of hope. Thank you for answering that call.

I pray God will bless your sacrifice and enkindle hope in your heart. ~Bishop Patrick Neary C.S.C.

The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday 2/15		
4:00 p.m. St. Edward	For the People	EM of HC: Jim Wensmann, Julie Wensmann c, Jim Bartkowicz c, Lector: Jeff Czech, Servers: Isaac Harren & Jacob Hartung, Ushers: Raymond Kokett & Jim Czeck, Greeters: Volunteers, Gifts: Kris & Robyn Bartkowicz
Sunday 2/16		
8:00 a.m. St. Francis	† Evelyn Locnikar ~SF Christian Women	EM of HC: Syl Tschida, Mary Jane Boeckermann c, Brittany Harren c, Lector: Jane Keppers, Servers: Owen & Lily Fuchs, Ushers: Allen Herzog & Leroy Pflueger, Gifts: Brian & Jessica Donabauer
10:00 a.m. St. Mary	† Chester & Violet Westrich	EM of HC: Renee Scholz, Dave Scholz c, Mike Klasen, Lector: Chantelle Frie, Servers: Riley Klasen & Wyatt Klasen, Ushers: Bob Blonigen & Mikel Nelson, Greeters: Elmer Frie & Jan Kilian, Gifts: Jamie & Jenny Leners, Bank Deposit: Mike Klasen

Weekday Masses

Monday, 2/17	<i>Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order</i>
6:30 p.m. St. Mary	Rosary & Chaplet of Divine Mercy
Tuesday, 2/18	Please keep Fr. Jimmy in your prayers during his retreat this week.
No Mass	
Wednesday, 2/19	
No Mass	
Thursday, 2/20	
8:00 a.m. St. Edward	† Herbert Gerads
Friday, 2/21	<i>St. Peter Damian, Bishop & Doctor of the Church</i>
7:30 a.m. St. Mary	† Bill Pohlmann ~ Pat & Lisa Zabinski



Adoration
2nd Tuesdays:
 St. Francis 8am -7pm
Thursdays:
 St. Mary's 12 noon - 9 pm.
First Fridays
 St. Edward's 12 noon-9 pm

Pray for us: Jim Negen, Raymond Kurowski, Florence Kurowski, Pat Euteneuer, Roger Thell, Ron Dingmann, Kristy Brezinka, Kathy Hennek, Carol Langner, Judy Gerads, Millie Gerads, Alan Schumer, Marlene Vornbrock, Jim Koczur, Gary Larson, Helen Heisick, Geraldine George, Dee Booth, William Hill, Lorraine Frie, Rose Burg Rosemary Pundsack, Kevin Lampert, Pat Harren, Ron Schmidt & Sherry Schumer

Oh Lord, we pray, cleanse and renew us!

The Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday 2/22		
4:00 p.m. St. Edward	† Arnold Molus ~Adeline Molus	<i>The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle</i> EM of HC: Neil Frieler, Jerry Theisen c, Joan Theisen c, Lector: Jim Bartkowicz, Servers: Isaac Harren & Jacob Hartung, Ushers: John Kokott & Raymond Kokott, Greeters: Volunteers, Gifts: Pat & Kris Blonigen
Sunday 2/23		
8:00 a.m. St. Francis	† Dan & Rita Wensmann ~Jim & Julie Wensmann	EM of HC: Rosanne Voss, Rebecca Schmidt c, Janelle Roerick c, Lector: Jim Scholz, Servers: Emmalyn, Carter & Braden Harren, Ushers: Allen Herzog & Leroy Pflueger, Gifts: Allen & Renee Douvier
10:00 a.m. St. Mary	† Deceased members of the Frie Family	EM of HC: Cindy Koehn, Jan Kilian c, LeAnn Beneke c, Lector: Tom Kilian, Servers: Beau Ripplinger & Anne Ripplinger, Ushers: Patrick & Lisa Zabinski, Greeters: Mikel & Julie Nelson, Gifts: Elmer, Mary, Lorraine Frie Bank Deposit: Tom Kilian

God so loved the world that he gave his Only Begotten Son, so that all who believe in him may not perish, but may have eternal life.

All Cluster News

Religious Education

K-6: Reba Leither (leitherreba@gmail.com) (701) 426-1607
7-10: Randi Klasen (randiklasen@gmail.com) (320) 493-5624
Confirmation: Bob Vouk (320) 249-3398, Jenny Revermann (320) 249-9939, Confirmation Assistant: Katie Urbanski confirmation@tworiverscatholic.com

Feb. 19th

Grades K-6: Home Lesson, 2nd Grade: Lesson 1/2 review

Grades 7-10: 7:00 p.m. Class

Confirmation: 6:15 p.m. Class at All Saints-St. Mary's

Children's Liturgy

We are having Children's Liturgy at the 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass at St. Mary's. If interested in joining in contact Chelsea Fuchs:fuchschelsea92@gmail.com.

Catholic Financial Matching Grant Breakfast: Sun., Feb. 23

Join us at St. Francis of Assisi (44055 State Hwy 238, Freeport, MN) for: sausage, scrambled eggs, pancakes, hash browns, sweet bread & beverages from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Free will offering. Proceeds to benefit the Rel. Ed. program. Catholic United Financial will give a matching grant of up to \$1000. If anyone would like to volunteer to help contact: Chad 293-7092.

SIGN UP FOR CALLED AND GIFTED - Saturday, March 8, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Church. Have you ever wondered "How can I follow Jesus' plan for my life in this time and place?" Come and discern the unique mission God has for you! Everyone has a charismatic gift that was given to them by the Holy Spirit. In this workshop, you will take the Spiritual Gifts Inventory and learn the signs and characteristics of 23 of the most common charisms. Discerning your spiritual gifts will support personal growth, ministry development, service to the community, and identify new leaders. This workshop is being led by Barbara Sutton and is open to both men & women. There is no cost to attend. Please contact Tamara Lange at 320-250-4688 to sign up.

Women's Group: Monday- Feb. 17th

We would like to extend a welcome to all women in our parishes to join our vibrant and uplifting group meeting at 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. at All Saints- St. Mary's in Holdingford. We meet in the first and third Mondays. Come join us!

ONLINE CONTRIBUTIONS FOR JANUARY

St. Edward: \$200

St. Francis: \$405

St. Mary: \$825

Sign-up for Online Contributions by filling out a form on our website or by contacting the Parish Office to have a form mailed or emailed to you.

WEEKEND COLLECTION 2/9/2025

St. Edward: Adult: \$1,175, Loose: \$177.10, Central MN Catholic: \$20, **Total: \$1,372.10**

St. Francis: Adult: \$1,370, Loose: \$80, Funeral Lunch: \$10
Total: \$1,460

St. Mary: Adult: \$1,010, Saturday Loose: \$231, Sunday Loose: \$228, Quilt Bingo \$4,859, Fall Collection: \$150, **Total: \$6,478**



GUIDING STAR
CYCLE SHOW

Guiding Star

Today it is more important than ever for young

girls to have high self-esteem regarding the changes in their bodies. Research shows it is better to prepare girls for these changes before the onset of puberty not just when they are in the middle of it. Participation in the Guiding Star Cycle Show Workshop helps girls value and respect their bodies in healthy ways as they move into their teenage years. Registration is now open for the Workshop on March 1st. Created for girls 9-12 years old. Cost \$50, Place: St. Mary's, Upsala, Time: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. There is a Parent Presentation the night before, Feb. 29th at St. Mary's 7-8:30 p.m. To learn more and register visit:

GuidingStarProject.com/Cycle-Show.

Contact: Roseanne Throener 360-2196.

Chrism Mass Choir Singers from across the Diocese of Saint Cloud are invited to join the diocesan choir for the Chrism Mass. The choir is open to middle and high school singers and adults. There will be rehearsals on Feb. 25th at 7:00 p.m.; March 8th at 10:00 a.m.; and March 22nd at 10:00 a.m. at the Cathedral. Interested singers should RSVP by filling out this registration form <https://forms.gle/KdDVNp4JZsHVVRJ8>.

St. Francis' News

Thank you

We would like to thank Fr. Jimmy, Fr. Virgil and Fr. David for all their prayers, support and visits. Also, thank you to the choir, lunch group, those who visited and sent cards, flowers & food. Thank you to anyone who may have helped Danny go home to Jesus! Thank you all so very much we will miss him. ~Rita & Katie

St. Francis CUF Matching Grant Breakfast: Sunday, Feb. 23rd

If anyone would like to donate items or cash towards the breakfast please contact Chad 573-5667 or Bob 573-2933. Men & boys of the parish are asking to help. 1st shift A-L 8-10:00 a.m. 2nd shift M-Z 10:30 to finished.

Thank you!

Journey with Jesus to Calvary

If you missed the planning meeting on Feb. 9th call 573-2933 and let Bob know if you planning to be in the play. We need help in all areas of the production. Thank you!

News and Events



**Knights of Columbus
St. Gregory Council
Grand Knight Jeff Czech
(320) 630-2753**

Chili Cook-Off Winners:

First place - Ron Bentfield, **Second place** - Heather Kokett, Jim Czech **Third place** - Ember Borash, Ann Borash, Ben Borash. Donations from the cook-off will be going to Elevate.

K of C Free Throw Contest

Reminder: District Level Contest will be on **February 16th** in the Upsala High School Gym. Hope to see you there as we do need 18 Knights. Please wear your blue shirts and arrive shortly after 12 noon.

Catholic Men's Conference: Feb. 22nd

Knights are encouraged to attend. If you are interested in coming in as a group, please contact Mike Nix (320) 360-5681.

Totus Tuus Team Members

We are Looking for college students who are ready to take their faith to the next level! Apply to be a Totus Tuus team member! Totus Tuus offers an intense summer of growing in and sharing your faith with the younger generation. Complete your application today! <https://stcdio.org/vocations/totus-tuus/leaders/>.

Ash Wednesday:

March 5th, 8:00 a.m., St. Francis,
6:00 p.m., St. Mary
8:00 p.m., St. Edward

Palm Sunday:

Saturday, April 12th, 8:00 p.m., St. Edward
Sunday, April 13th, 8:00 a.m., St. Francis
10:00 p.m., St. Mary

Holy Thursday:

April 17th, 6:00 p.m., St. Mary
8:00 p.m., St. Francis

Good Friday:

April 18th, 12 noon, St. Mary
3:00 p.m., St. Edward

Holy Saturday Easter Vigil:

April 19th, 8:30 p.m., St. Edward

Easter Sunday:

April 20th, 8:00 a.m., St. Francis
10:00 a.m., St. Mary

Stations of the Cross

Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays after daily Mass beginning Thurs., March 6th through Wednesday, April 16th.

Franciscan Sisters host Soup Supper: Sat., Feb. 22nd

The Franciscan Sisters of Little Falls will host an all-you-can-eat Soup Supper fund raiser from 4:30-7 p.m., at St. Francis Convent, Little Falls. Four varieties of homemade soup—Chicken Wild Rice, Beef Barley, Bean & Ham and Tomato Basil—will be served along with buns, bars and beverages. As an added treat, the St. Francis Ukulele Orchestra will be playing in the west entrance to welcome guests to the supper! Tickets available at the door: Adults—\$12, Children 5-12—\$5, Children under 5—Free! Contact 632-2981 or info@fslf.org.

Pray with the Poor Clare Sisters during the Jubilee Year

In commemoration of the 2025 Jubilee Year "Pilgrims of Hope," the Poor Clare Sisters have scheduled 12 opportunities to pray with their community, in addition to the daily Mass at 7 a.m. in the chapel at the St. Clare Monastery (421 S. 4th St., Sauk Rapids). Praying with the Poor Clare Sisters is one of the 24 practices promoted in the Jubilee Passport. The next Divine Mercy Chaplet will be celebrated on Fri., **Feb. 28th** at 7:00 a.m. For more information on the Jubilee Year, visit <https://stcdio.org/jubilee-2025-pilgrims-of-hope/>.

The Resurrected Artists Present: Don't Mention My Name Dinner*Theatre

Come see our own Bob Theisen at Shady's Sunset Bay in St. Anna! *Evening Dinner Theatre: Fri. & Sat., Feb. 21st & 22nd and Feb. 28th & March 1st. Dinner 5:30 p.m., performance 7:30 p.m. *Afternoon Dinner Theater: Sun., Feb. 23rd: Dinner, 12 noon, performance 1:30 p.m. **Menu Selection:** Walleye, Shrimp, Ribeye, or Chicken Breast. Reservations required for all Dinner Theatre Performances. Call 845-7738 for tickets \$38 (non-refundable). Sunday Matinee: Sun., March 2nd. at 1:30 p.m. Regular Sunday chicken buffet available starts at noon. Performance 1:30 p.m. Tickets \$8:00 at the door. (No reservation necessary for the March 2nd show).

Taize Prayer Service: Feb. 25th Join us at 5:30 p.m. in the Chapel Gathering space (116 8th Ave. SE, Little Falls. All are welcome! Contact Linda: 632-0680.

Catholic Mardi Gras Party: March 2nd The Old Tyme Country Boys will be playing at the Holdingford Legion on Sunday from 2-5:00 p.m. Chicken strips, fries, lemonade, coffee & water provided. Bring a dish to share!

Upcoming Seminary Visit: March 15th-17th

This visit will be at Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary. Men ages 16 and up are invited to join these impactful days with seminarians to engage in daily Mass, adoration, discernment talks, visits to a classroom, listening to seminarians, open gym and a night out with the seminarians of St. Cloud! When men meet real seminarians, all the stereotypes break down! It is a game-changer for their ongoing discernment.

Contact Father Doug. dougliebsch@gmail.com or 533-0291.

Skywarn Spotting Weather Training: Sun., March 16th

Everyone is welcome to join us at St. Mary's from 2-4pm to learn about the weather. Contact: Tom Kilian 232-5705.