

# The Catholic Churches of

St. Edward  
Elmdale

St. Francis of Assisi  
St. Francis

St. Mary  
Upsala



**REPENT  
AND  
BELIEVE  
THE  
GOSPEL**  
MARK 1:15

## First Sunday of Lent February 21, 2021

Pastor Fr. David Grundman 320-309-4174 (cell)  
email – [frdgrund@gmail.com](mailto:frdgrund@gmail.com)

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

FAX: 320-573-9133

Central Office email: [238catholic@sytekcom.com](mailto:238catholic@sytekcom.com)

Web site: [www.238catholic.org](http://www.238catholic.org)

Diocesan web site: [www.stclouddiocese.org](http://www.stclouddiocese.org)

Elevate (Birthline) Hotline: 1-800-786-0200

St. Cloud Chancery: 320-251-2340

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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 Fr. David nine months in advance and must call him before setting a date.

Sacrament of Baptism: Contact the office before desired baptism date.

### 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, Paul Ampe (SM, in hospice, pancreatic cancer), Virgil Burg (SM, Alzheimer's in Nursing Home), Brayden Harren (SF, 7 years old, son of Andy and Brittany and grandson of Barry and Colleen; surgery to remove tumor at Children's Hospital), Young man with mental health issues

### WEEKEND COLLECTIONS

**St. Mary:** Adult \$1,214.00; Loose \$92.00; Choir \$100.00; Online \$430.00 - **\$1,836.00**

**St. Edward:** Adult \$557.00; Loose \$72.00; Central MN Catholic \$40.00; Online \$635.00 - **\$1,304.00**

**St. Francis:** Adult \$534.00; Loose \$80.00; Online \$355.00 - **\$969.00**



Tuesdays @ St. Mary's after 6pm Mass  
Wednesdays @ St. Francis after 8am Mass  
Thursdays @ St. Edward after 8am Mass  
Fridays - 8pm, alternating parishes:  
St. Francis – Feb. 26 & March 19  
St. Mary – March 5 & 26  
St. Edward – March 12

## Mass & Devotions Schedule Feb. 22 - 28, 2021

Monday: 2/22 *The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle*  
NO MASS SCHEDULED

Tuesday: 2/23 *St. Polycarp*  
St. Mary 6:00pm † Deceased Relatives of Charlie & Sandy Boeckermann  
6:30pm Stations of the Cross

Wednesday: 2/24  
St. Francis 8:00am Special Intentions  
- Gerry & Mary Jane Boeckermann  
8:30am Stations of the Cross

Thursday: 2/25  
St. Edward 8:00am † George Opatz  
8:30am Stations of the Cross  
St. Mary Noon – Adoration, 9pm - Benediction

Friday: 2/26  
St. Mary 7:30am Special Intentions  
- Dave & Renee Scholz

St. Francis 8:00pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday: 2/27  
St. Mary 4:00pm † Deceased Relatives of Edmund & Patricia Eggert

Sunday: 2/28 *First Sunday of Lent*  
St. Edward 8:00am People of the Parish  
St. Francis 10:00am † James Theisen  
- Bob & Judy Theisen

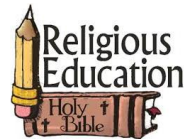
### Religious Education

#### Feb. 24:

Grades 1 – 6: Class 6:30 – 7:30pm

Grades 7 – 10: Class 7:30 – 9pm

Confirmation: Class 7:30 – 9pm @ St. Edward's Church



### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Praise the Lord as our young people will have an opportunity to receive Jesus on March 3<sup>rd</sup> during their regular class times. There are special graces when we receive this sacrament. Children and young people, please do not be worried as we know many of you have not received this sacrament for a long time due to the pandemic as we priests love helping you.

### First Reconciliation

Are you getting ready to receive Jesus on March 6<sup>th</sup>? This is an exciting time! Thank-you parents and teachers helping to prepare them. For their first confession, Fr David finds it helpful if the children come to him face-to-face as it is easier for him to assist them.

### Youth News

#### Youth Gathering in Indianapolis

NCYC 2021 will be taking place in November 18 -20! Are you interested? Please contact Mitch and Brooke Lange or Sara and Matthew Herzog. Visit the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry's event site at <https://nfcym.org/featured-events/ncyc/>

### Over 80 Blessings! (March)

Phyllis Vornbrock (3/6)  
Karen Liebsch (3/9)  
Rita Schiller (3/10)  
Don Stiller (3/13)  
Lorene Koopmeiners (3/16)  
Claude Yurczyk (3/16)  
Joe Schumer (3/20)  
Delores Gerads (3/22)  
Evelyn Locnikar (3/26)  
Don Biniek (3/27)  
Arnold Czech (3/28)  
Richard O'Hotto (3/31)



### THREE SAINTS NEWS

#### **“Prayers of the Rosary” Cards**

With the Lenten season beginning the K of C Council St. Gregory the Great is providing “Prayers of the Rosary” cards in the entrances of our churches. They are at St. Edward’s, Elmdale; St. Mary’s, Upsala; St. Stanislaus Kostka, Bowlus; and Holy Cross, North Prairie. You are welcome to pick them up anytime when the churches are open. God bless and a prayerful Lenten season.

#### **Bishop’s Annual Appeal**

Thank you to everyone who responded with a gift for ministries supporting our lives. If you haven’t made a gift, there are envelopes in the entrances of our churches or [www.stcdio.org/annualappeal](http://www.stcdio.org/annualappeal). Together let’s meet the goal given for each of our parishes: SE: \$5,966; SF: \$5,412; and SM: \$5,978.

#### **2021 Catholic Men’s Conference**

Our Men’s Conference will be held virtually on Saturday, February 27 from 9:00 am-noon. For more information or to register online visit: [www.stcdio.org/mensconference21/](http://www.stcdio.org/mensconference21/).

#### **40 Days for Life**

Our parishes are invited to help fill the hours on Thursday afternoons from 1 to 7pm for the prayer vigil at Planned Parenthood. If you have questions or would like to sign up for an hour at Planned Parenthood, please call/text Marilou @ 320.247.9838. Choose Life signs at the vigil site.

#### **Elevate Pregnancy and Family Resource Center**

This a life affirming nonprofit organization dedicated to helping women and families to choose life and reach their full potential through encouragement, education and empowerment. There are wonderful fliers in the entrance of our churches, so please give them out to others. Thanks to the St Francis Christian Women for helping to bring about a greater respect for the sanctity of human life.

#### **Volunteer for “Helping Hands”**

“To date, there has been no rush of volunteers coming forth for this ministry. 😊 This is a beautiful opportunity to work alongside other Christian denominations such as Gethsemane, Word of Life, Community Covenant, Community Country Church in Holdingford, etc. Us Pastors will be meeting March 4<sup>th</sup> at St Mary’s and I am expected to have someone in place by then. Before I forget, I will give you two dollars if you take this position! 😊” Fr David

#### **Safe Haven Sunday**

“March 6-7 in all the parishes in our diocese and most likely throughout our States there will be an emphasis on this pandemic of pornography. Did you know that 47% of families in the United States reported that pornography is a problem in their home? Pornography uses increases the marital infidelity by more than 300%. I ask myself, what I am doing, or our parishes doing, to help stand up to this terrible evil? We will have 25 books available in each of our churches entitled: [Connected: How Strong Family Relationships Lead To Internet-Safe Kids.](#)” Fr David

#### **Catholic Relief Services Collection**

Please mark your calendars: March 13-14 Jesus in Disguise. This is an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of vulnerable people around the world and right here at home. This collection supports organizations that provide housing for victims of natural disasters and educational opportunities for refugees displaced by war, etc. SE has a special envelope dated March 7 and SM has one dated March 28 while SF does not have a special envelope.

### ST. MARY’S NEWS

#### **Sat., Feb. 27 – 4pm**

*EM of HC:* Cindy Koehn      *Lector:* Brian Lange

*Greeter:* Rosemary Mehr

*Ushers:* Robert Maciej & Bob Blonigen

#### **The 5th Annual St. Mary’s Smelt/Fish Fry and Raffle for 2021 is ON!**

Friday, March 26th 4-8pm. This year, because of restrictions, the meal will be CARRY-OUT ONLY. Cash raffle at 7:30pm. (Winners will be announced on Facebook and our church website [238catholic.org](http://238catholic.org)). We will have 250 raffle tickets for sale at the price of \$100 each. Raffle tickets will be available at the St. Mary’s parish office, Nelson Insurance, and also from DJ Prom. We will also have a table set up in the back of church after weekend Masses for people to pick up or purchase raffle tickets. Please keep in mind that this is the main fundraising event for St. Mary’s Catholic Church each year. It would be great if each family sold or purchased one ticket. We ALL need to get involved and help make it a success!

### **Library Committee**

To date, we have received no interest in this ministry. These are your parishes as the Lord continually invites you to consider ways in which you can help build up our faith communities.

#### **Prayers Answered**

“I am three weeks post open heart surgery ... lots of fear ... but when it came down to it while laying on the operating table waiting for the surgeon to stop my heart, all I felt was peace, so thank you to each of you because you helped make that happen.” Lori Momany (daughter of Larry and Mary Erickson, SM)

### ST. EDWARD’S NEWS

#### **Sun., Feb. 28 – 8am**

*EM of HC:* Julie Wensmann      *Lector:* Adeline Molus

*Greeter:* Raymond Kokett

*Ushers:* Jeron Wensmann & Jim Czeck

#### **Cemetery Maintenance**

Thanks for another \$600 which came in the previous week. Most likely this was someone’s stimulus check. Thank you, thank you, thank you. It’s been asked, how much a statue might cost like the ones in the Sobieski Cemetery? Remember that spring and this cemetery project is fast approaching.

### ST. FRANCIS’ NEWS

#### **Sun., Feb. 28 – 10am**

*EM of HC:* Joyce Koopmeiners

*Lector:* Rebecca Schmidt      *Greeter:* Bob Theisen

### NOTES FROM FR. DAVID

Forty days from now we will find ourselves at the foot of the cross. How can we prepare ourselves for this? Jesus’ words at the beginning of His ministry are apt: “Repent and believe in the gospel.” Let us ask ourselves how we have sinned. Let us feel remorse for those times we have fallen short. Let us resolve to turn back to God and live out the gospel in our day-to-day lives. Let us find ourselves able to approach the cross forty days from now with profound gratitude for what our Lord has done for us.

Welcome back choir and vocal ensembles beginning this weekend under certain guidelines. It has been difficult for everyone, but especially with your music ministry no doubt this pandemic has been most challenging for you. As a priest, I find myself forgetting how to sing the various parts as it is coming up on one year since I sang them. Lord only knows how long it will be before we are allowed to sing the various Mass parts. Please note that congregational singing still remains prohibited until further notice.

Bishop Kettler: “*Regarding the season of Lent, the usual penitential regulations apply. However, if a person is ill for any reason or taking care of someone who is, they are dispensed from Lenten disciplines and sacrifices. The illness and care a person are providing are their Lenten sacrifice.*” To experience Lent with love means caring for those who suffer or feel abandoned and fearful because of the COVID-19 pandemic. In these days of deep uncertainty about the future, let us keep in mind the Lord’s words: “Fear not, for I have redeemed you” (Isaiah 43:1).

Beginning Ash Wednesday, there will be a change taking place in the opening prayer of the priest: “... the conclusion of this prayer is to omit the word “one”. The words “one God, for ever and ever” are simply replaced with “God, for ever and ever”. There is no mention of “one” in the Latin. The Cardinal Prefect has pointed out the importance of affirming this Christological truth amid the religious pluralism of today’s world.

This is very holy time of year. Lent is a time to reflect on where we are with God. Lent is a time to reflect upon how might I grow in my Catholic faith? Please note the various opportunities to deepen your faith with Stations of the Cross, Adoration and Sacrament of Reconciliation, etc. Many of your personal devotional practices are so grace-filled. First and foremost, the graces of the Eucharist are par excellence by far such as attending daily Mass.

With our Smelt/Fish Fry and Raffle taking place near the end of March, each and every one in our three parishes are strongly encouraged to take part. As numbers continue to diminish, the only way for each of our parishes to remain vibrant is to come together as Three Saints Parishes. In fact, the Diocese is asking us to reach out even more and work more closely with the Holdingford area parishes.