



Good Teacher Area Faith Community St. Edward & St. Eloi Catholic Church



Father Todd Petersen

507.227.2657

tpetersen@dnu.org

Parish Secretary: Caren Buysse – 872.6346

Office Hours: 8:00 am – 12:15 pm 1:15 – 4:00 pm (Monday – Friday)

Mailing Address for St. Edward & St. Eloi:

408 N. Washington St.
Minneota, MN 56264

St. Edward & St. Eloi Email: cbuyssegoodteacherafc@gmail.com

St. Edward & St. Eloi Website: www.goodteacherafc.com

Deacons: Bruce Bot – 828.7012

Jason Myhre – 829.2829

Travis Welsh – 829.0986

St. Eloi Facebook: St. Eloi Catholic Church

Thrift Store Facebook: One More Time Thrift Store

Director of Religious Education: Corissa Van Keulen

goodteacherafc@hotmail.com

Bulletin Coordinator: Ruth Bot – bulletinsteds@gmail.com

Bulletin Info due by Wednesday at 4:00 pm

Hospitality Meals: Marlene Polejewski – 828.5878

Catholic Charities: 1.866.670.5163

FORMED: www.formed.org

St. Edward Facebook: St. Edward Catholic Church

Sunday, December 15, 2024

The Third Sunday of Advent – Gaudete Sunday

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Monday, December 16

12:00 pm Convent Mass (Presider's Intention)

Tuesday, December 17

12:00 pm Convent Mass (Parents of Francis & Grace Rabaey)

3:00 pm Mass at Madison Ave. (Charlene Callens)

6:00 pm Education Committee Meeting

7:30 pm Finance Council

Wednesday, December 18

10:30 am Mass at St. Edward Gr. 1 & 2 (Lincoln Lessman)

• 10:00 am Confession before Mass

12:00 pm Convent Mass (Linda Lindahl)

5:30 – 6:30 pm Religious Ed for Grades 1 – 5

6:30 – 7:30 pm Religious Ed for Grades 6 – 11

6:30 pm Women's Bible Study – church basement

8:00 – 9:00 pm Youth Bible Study – Knights' Hall

Thursday, December 19

7:00 am Mass at St. Edward (Bernie Moore)

• 6:30 am Confession before Mass

12:00 pm Convent Mass (Bernice Kloos)

Friday, December 20

No 7:00 am Mass at St. Edward

12:00 pm Convent Mass (Francis Rabaey)

Saturday, December 21

12:00 pm Convent Mass

(Shirley, Frank, Dolores, & Richard Sussner)

5:30 pm Mass at St. Edward (Joe Wambeke)

• 4:45 pm Confession before Mass

Sunday, December 22 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30 am Mass at St. Edward (LaVern Evers)

• 8:00 am Confession before Mass

9:30 am – No Sunday FIRE

10:30 am Mass at St. Eloi (Julia Claeys)

• 10:00 am Confession before Mass

Dear Parishioners,
Happy Gaudete Sunday! As we enter this third week, we mark it with joy and wearing of rose vestments. We are over halfway through the Advent season, with Christmas only 10 days away. Perhaps these last few days will be well used for preparing our hearts to receive Christ with deeper devotion and love this Christmas.

Some time ago, I was asked about our bell at St. Edward. Due to past mechanization, the bell (bought in 1913) was inoperable except for tolling. Fred Rabaey sought to get estimates and began a drive to collect money to replace the system. The amount of this project is about \$32,000 and the money has been collected. Thank you to all who contributed, and to Fred.

I sent in the proxy request (the Bishop and Vicar General need to give their vote to enter into a contract). I am relatively certain that this will be approved. We will seek to have this done in the spring or summer. When the renovations of the church are completed, hopefully we will be able to ring a call to worship!

We are beginning the process to look at the needs of the basement cafeteria/social hall of St. Edward. I have reached out to a brother priest for some input as to where to begin.

Related, we have signed the proxy to proceed with the storm windows of St. Eloi. All the funds needed for the project have been collected. We are aware of some repairs needed above in the sanctuary behind the ambo and above where the servers sit. We are seeking someone who repairs plaster and then we can paint. With that, we are nearing the end of needed major repairs at St. Eloi, though in reality, repairs never end.

All these projects are because of both your generosity, and because you recognize that the buildings and grounds require upkeep. Thank you!

In Christ,
Fr. Todd

Holiday Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve – December 24

4:30 pm – St. Eloi

10:00 pm – St. Edward

Christmas Day – December 25

8:30 am – St. Edward

10:30 am – St. Eloi

New Year's Eve – December 31

5:30 pm – St. Edward

New Year's Day – January 1

8:30 am – St. Edward

10:30 am – St. Eloi



Eucharistic Revival Information

REFLECTION ~ Think about this ...

If dying to ourselves in order to worship God at Mass is hard for us, then it is all the more so for children. There are many opinions about what parents should and should not do during the liturgy. Instead of offering a list of dos and don'ts, it may be helpful to reflect on how enriching the Mass can be for little ones.

Although children below the age of reason are not bound to attend Mass like the rest of us, there is much value in taking them while they are little. It is highly beneficial for children to learn early on that the Mass is not a secondary aspect of our lives but the highest way of worshipping and encountering God.

Years of insistence on silence and reverence at Mass will teach them many virtues necessary for encountering him in their daily lives. But this will only occur if they are constantly exposed to the liturgy.

For parents, this entails much work, from explaining to their children what happens at Mass to periodically taking them to the back of the church when things get a bit chaotic. But it also requires a certain level of tolerance from the faithful. If we are only satisfied when things are completely quiet, then we are failing to form the next generation of faithful believers. Let us look kindly at the parents who are trying their best to bring their little ones to Christ.

Let us pray.

Lord, your sufferings bear proof of your infinite love for us. May we learn to treasure the life that you have gained for us through your passion and death and remember our worth by remaining in your presence. We ask this in your most holy name. Amen.

ST. EDWARD SCHOOL NEWS

Principal: Jaci Garvey Secretary: Trudy Banks
jgarvey@stedscatholicschool.com Office: 872.6391

December 11 – 5:30 pm Meal before Christmas Program
6:30 pm Christmas Program

Sponsorship of St. Edward School

November 26 –

SISTERS OF MARY MORNING STAR

St. Eloi Convent Masses at 12:00 pm (Noon)

Call 428.3919 to double-check Mass time.

Vespers: 5:45 pm (Monday – Friday) 6:00 pm (Sunday)

Adoration: 6:15 – 8:15 pm (Monday – Thursday)

6:15 – 7:30 pm (Friday) Rosary: 7:15 pm (Friday)

Eucharistic Adoration: 5:00 – 8:15 pm (Sunday)

GAUDETE SUNDAY

The history of Gaudete Sunday is deeply rooted in Christian tradition. The observance dates back to the medieval period when the church recognized the need to balance the penitential nature of Advent with moments of joy and hope. The third Sunday of Advent serves as a brief respite from the more somber aspects of the season, allowing believers to rejoice in the imminent arrival of the Christ child.

ST. ELOI

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED	DIFFERENCE
Adult	\$1,180.00	\$2,110.00	(\$930.00)
Loose plate	\$260.00	\$146.00	\$114.00
Christmas	\$100.00		
Year-to-Date	\$45,014.00	\$52,043.00	(\$7,029.00)

ST. ELOI LITURGY SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 22 – 10:30 am – Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sacristan: Darla Timmerman

Servers: Evan & Elise Hennen

Lector: Laura Hennen

Musicians: Sisters

Offertory Gifts: Donnie & Julie Schuelke

Eucharistic Ministers: Shirley Maeyaert, Sandy Nuytten

Ushers: Corey Kack, Mark Nelson, Tim Van Keulen

ST. EDWARD

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED	DIFFERENCE
Adult	\$1,735.00	\$4,830.00	(\$3,095.00)
Loose plate	\$162.00	\$154.00	\$8.00
Online Giving	\$1,115.00	*Added to the adult envelope total	
Commodity	\$2,071.00		
Thanksgiving	\$355.00		
Year-to-Date	\$124,784.00	\$130,514.00	(\$5,730.00)

ST. EDWARD LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 21 – 5:30 pm – Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sacristan: Mary Ann Christensen

Servers: Bryce & Kaitlyn Gorecki

Lector: Mary Ann Christensen

Eucharistic Ministers: Deb Thooft

Ushers: Rod & Ross Abraham, Don Gorecki, Luke Gorecki

Sunday, December 22 – 8:30 am – Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sacristan: Ruth Bot

Servers: RJ & Reed Sorensen

Lector: Kevin Swedzinski

Eucharistic Ministers: Neal Bot

Ushers: Rick Bot, Doug Janiszski, John Sumerfelt

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR PARISH ...

PRAYER REQUESTS & PETITIONS

Please pray that God will restore the health and spirits of the following people. Ask God to draw near to them and let them feel His gracious presence.

- ★ Kay Drown
- ★ Etien Laleman
- ★ Jeremy Koelar
- ★ Grace Rabaey
- ★ All cancer patients

GREETINGS

I am overwhelmed with gratitude and excitement as I stand before you today as the new music teacher at St. Edward Catholic School, Minneota. My name is Patrick Nkansah, and I am deeply honored to join this vibrant Catholic community, all the way from Ghana.

As a devout Catholic, I am thrilled to be part of a school that shares my values and faith. I am excited to contribute to an institution that nurtures the minds, hearts, and spirits of its students.

To the entire St. Edward Catholic School family, I extend my sincerest thanks for welcoming me with open

arms. It is a privilege to be part of a community that values education, faith, and service.

To the Minneota Catholic community, I am touched by your warmth and kindness, which have made my transition seamless and reassuring. Your support motivates me to give my absolute best.

To my colleagues, it is a joy to join such a passionate and dedicated team. I look forward to learning and growing with you as we work together to shape the future of our students.

To our principal, I thank you for trusting me with this role. Your leadership inspires excellence, and I am grateful to be part of your vision for this school.

As a Catholic educator, I believe that music has the power to inspire, to uplift, and to bring us closer to God. I am thrilled to share this passion with our students and explore the wonders of music together.

Thank you once again, and Merry Christmas!

Patrick Nkansah

CHRISTMAS DECORATING

The St. Edward Liturgy Committee would appreciate assistance decorating for Christmas. The plan is to decorate on Sunday, December 22, after 8:30 am Mass. If you can help for 15 minutes or the entire hour, that's great! "Many hands make light work."

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Please help decorate the parish of St. Edward and St. Eloi for the Christmas season by donating towards poinsettias as a remembrance or in honor of a loved one.

Place your name along with the memorial names and your donation marked *Christmas Flowers* on the envelope and place in the collection basket. Thank You!

SAN LUCAS TOLIMAN MISSION

The Advent and Christmas season is a wonderful time to remember the San Lucas Toliman Mission with a monetary donation. Please make a check out to Friends of San Lucas and put House Construction in the memo line.

These checks may be dropped in the collection basket.

GIFT IDEA

A wonderful gift idea for your favorite coffee drinker is coffee from Guatemala. The coffee is \$12.00 per bag, either ground or whole bean. It is fair trade coffee and by purchasing it, you are helping the coffee farmer earn a wage that can support his family.

Contact Margrit Rabaey (507.828.1756) if interested.

THANK YOU

Thanks from the residents of the assisted living facility for the ladies that came to decorate on December 8. It was greatly appreciated.

GENTLE REMINDER...

Please check the kitchen for any of your containers. They have been multiplying again and need to be picked up by their owners.

ROSARY SOCIETY MEMBERS REMINDER

Your 2025 Rosary Decade assignments are in the back of church. Please pick them up.

YEAR OF WINNING

Week 4 – Congratulations! The winner is ... Mary Schreiber



HAPPENINGS in our Diocese & Beyond ...

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION – DECEMBER

For Pilgrims of Hope ~

Let us pray that the coming Church Jubilee Year 2025 strengthens us in our faith; helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in the midst of our lives, transforming us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

FCCLA PROJECT – WoMen's Rural Advocacy Program Collection

Olivia Claeys is working on a community service project for FCCLA. She is collecting items for people who have experienced trauma, harassment, human trafficking, and sexual assault.

Some of these items are diapers, bath products, chapstick, hair brushes, ibuprofen, silverware, towels, pillows, and/or kitchen supplies. There will be a box in the back of church where items can be dropped off.

Email questions to fcclafundraising@mpsvikings.net.

A NEW FREE MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCE

At Southwest Health and Human Services, we are deeply committed to the well-being of our community, recognizing that mental health is a critical component of overall health.

We understand the diverse challenges individuals face, and we are excited to announce the launch of CredibleMind on November 15, 2024, a free comprehensive online resource tailored to meet the mental health needs of everyone in our community.

Explore this resource [here](#).



God of joy,
it is in Your love
that we find lasting joy.
Teach us to find joy
in the gift of Your Son,
who came into this world with nothing,
yet gave us everything.
May His joy fill our hearts
and overflow to all we encounter.
Amen.

Radio Rosary

- Dec. 16: In memory of Margaret Doom by Jack & Terry Hennen
 Dec. 17: In memory of Vin & Judy Bot & Pam Haukom by their family
 Dec. 18: In memory of Joanne Lanners by Cletus & Lorraine
 Dec. 19: In memory of Ralph Leifgen by Leonard & Marian Louwagie
 Dec. 20: In memory of Brian Timmerman by Jerry & Caroline Van Keulen
 Dec. 21: In memory of Vin & Judy Bot & Pam Haukom by their family
 Dec. 22: In memory of Henrik Weverka by Michael & Lorraine Weverka

To schedule a radio rosary, send intentions to
 Radio Rosary, 2787 Cty Rd 24, Cottonwood, MN 56229 OR
 call Karla at 507.828.0397 or Coreen at 507.531.7348.

SACRAMENTS OF THE CHURCH

Baptism, Marriage, Anointing of the Sick, Becoming Catholic Call the church office: 507.872.6346

Eucharist to Shut-ins:

- St. Eloi – Sandy Nuytten 507.829.9690
 St. Edward – **December 28** Margrit Rabaey 507.828.1756
 (Eucharist for the shut-ins will be every other week.)

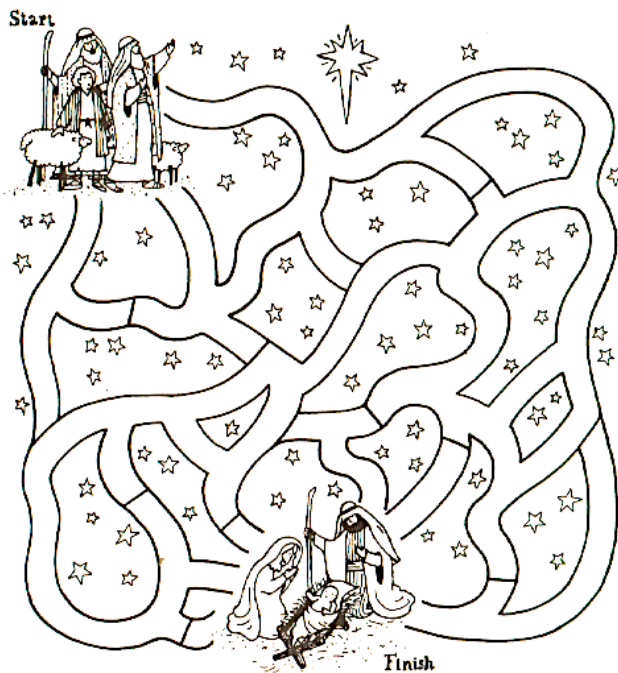
Baptism Prep: To set up a baptism date, call Caren at the office. Check the church website for Godparent requirements.

RCIA: If anyone is interested in joining the Catholic church or learning more about the church, contact Deacon Bruce Bot – 507.828.7012

ADVENT WEEK THREE – FAMILY ACTIVITIES

1. Call a friend or family member who needs Christmas cheer.
2. Try to be more thoughtful of others.
3. Find a quiet spot to sit for a few minutes and let God love you.
4. Speak kindly to everyone you see today.


Help the shepherds find the path to Jesus.




ADVENT

J	V	H	E	A	V	E	N	S	O	G	J	O	Y
I	I	S	R	E	J	U	S	T	N	I	R	R	L
D	N	S	P	O	F	L	O	W	E	R	S	A	
P	D	T	H	N	D	R	E	J	O	I	C	E	M
A	I	R	U	N	O	N	B	L	I	N	D	I	E
T	C	A	N	S	M	F	E	I	K	D	E	A	D
I	A	N	G	P	S	U	A	L	G	L	O	R	Y
E	T	G	R	I	D	E	T	E	P	R	P	J	R
N	I	E	Y	R	O	P	N	E	D	S	E	C	P
C	O	R	T	I	R	K	I	N	G	D	O	M	T
E	N	S	E	T	O	A	A	G	S	E	E	K	S
E	M	O	O	L	B	R	A	N	S	O	M	E	D
E	T	S	I	T	P	A	B	I	U	O	S	S	L
C	F	I	G	R	M	E	S	S	E	N	G	E	R

- | | | | |
|----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| GLORY | SEEK | KINGDOM | DEAD |
| SPLENDOR | BAPTIST | HEAVEN | VINDICATION |
| BLOOM | MESSENGER | DEAF | REJOICE |
| PATIENCE | JOY | JUST | SING |
| HUNGRY | LAME | MUTE | RANSOMED |
| SPIRIT | BLIND | STRANGERS | FLOWERS |




GAUDETE SUNDAY



The Third Sunday of Advent is called *Gaudete Sunday*, the day when we light the pink candle on the Advent wreath (hence the 'pink candle' Sunday). Rose vestments are worn to emphasize our joy that Christmas is near.

Gaudete means "rejoice". This day reminds us of the joy that is to come, and serves, amid this season of penance, as a kind of 'break' when we recall the hope we have because of the coming of Our Lord Jesus.


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