



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

**Father Todd Petersen**

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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](mailto:cbuyssegoodteacherafc@gmail.com)

St. Edward & St. Eloi Website: [www.goodteacherafc.com](http://www.goodteacherafc.com)

St. Edward School: [www.stedscatholicschool.com](http://www.stedscatholicschool.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

St. Edward School Facebook: St. Edward Catholic School

Director of Religious Education: Corissa Van Keulen

[goodteacherafc@gmail.com](mailto:goodteacherafc@gmail.com)

Bulletin Coordinator: Ruth Bot – [bulletinsteds@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.formed.org)

St. Edward Facebook: St. Edward Catholic Church

**Sunday, December 21, 2025**

**The Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**“Credo videre bona domini in terra viventium”**

*“I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living. Psalm 27:13*

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

### Monday, December 22

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

### Tuesday, December 23

12:00 pm Convent Mass (Edward & Catherine Parais)

2:30 pm Mass at the Apartment (Zona Laleman)

### Wednesday, December 24 – Christmas Eve

4:30 pm Mass at St. Eloi (For Peace in Our World)

10:00 pm Mass at St. Edward (For the people)

### Thursday, December 25 – Christmas Day

8:30 am Mass at St. Edward (For all family & friends)

10:30 am Mass at St. Eloi

12:00 pm Convent Mass (For the deceased)

### Friday, December 26

12:00 pm Convent Mass (Joe & Betty Claeys)

### Saturday, December 27

9:00 – 11:00 am Open Gym (Details under School News)

12:00 pm Convent Mass (Eric Hennen)

5:30 pm Mass at St. Edward (Karen Anthony)

- 4:30 pm Confession before Mass

### Sunday, December 28

8:30 am Mass at St. Edward

(Deceased family members of Frank & Becky Engels)

- 8:00 am Confession before Mass

10:30 am Mass at St. Eloi (Gary Nuytten & family)

- 10:00 am Confession before Mass

## Holiday Mass Schedule

**Wednesday, December 24 Thursday, December 25**

4:30 pm – St. Eloi 8:30 am – St. Edward

10:00 pm – St. Edward 10:30 am – St. Eloi

12:00 – Convent

**Wednesday, December 31 Thursday, January 1**

5:30 pm – St. Edward 8:30 am – St. Edward

10:30 am – St. Eloi

Dear Parishioners,

Happy Fourth Sunday of Advent! This final week—shortened this year by the celebration of Christmas on Thursday—can truly make or break our Advent observance. We can either finish well, spiritually prepared to celebrate the Incarnation of our Lord, born for us, or we can become lost in the many details and distractions of materialism that obscure the deeper meaning of the season. I hope, of course, that we end well.

The best way to celebrate Christmas is to keep Advent faithfully and then to pull out all the stops for our Christmas celebrations. While we rightly celebrate Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, these mark only the beginning of the Christmas season. The Twelve Days of Christmas begin on December 25 and conclude with the Feast of the Epiphany—traditionally January 6, now celebrated on the Sunday following January 1. While our secular culture is already eager to move on to the next holiday (it won’t be long before Valentine’s Day displays appear!), for us, the celebration is just beginning.

I know that some families have already held their Christmas gatherings, but the heart of the matter remains this: we celebrate because our Lord has come. He has taken flesh, been born of Mary for us, and He is our Savior.

As a brief side note, I recently listened to a podcast on Being Human that discussed a book about Our Lady of Guadalupe and the remarkable preparation—through ancient prophecies—that preceded her appearance to St. Juan Diego in 1531. The book, Guadalupe and the Flower World Prophecies, explores how deeply the Holy Spirit was at work in the cultures of the indigenous peoples long before the apparition itself.

This helps explain why nearly ten million indigenous people embraced the Catholic faith so rapidly afterward—so rapidly, in fact, that it initially raised questions even in Rome. At least the podcast, released on December 16, 2025, is worth a listen.

In Christ,

Fr. Todd

PREPARE THE  
WAY OF THE  
**LORD**

## ST. EDWARD SCHOOL NEWS

Principal: Jaci Garvey Secretary: Trudy Banks  
jgarvey@stedscatholicschool.com Office: 872.6391  
St. Edward School: [www.stedscatholicschool.com](http://www.stedscatholicschool.com)  
St. Edward School Facebook: St. Edward Catholic School

### Winter Break

Last day of school – Tuesday, December 23  
School resumes – Monday, January 5, 2026  
**Open Gym** Saturday, December 27 9:00 – 11:00 am  
Children (ages 2 – 8) and their favorite adult

## 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 – Wednesday)  
6:15 – 8:45 pm (Thursday) 6:15 – 7:30 pm (Friday)  
5:00 – 6:00 pm (Sunday)  
Rosary: 7:15 pm (Friday)

IMMANUEL  
God with us

## ST. ELOI

Weekly	ACTUAL	BUDGETED	DIFFERENCE
Adult	\$870	\$1,923	(\$1,053)
Loose plate	\$271	\$192	\$79
Christmas	\$200		
Year-to-Date	\$50,317	\$59,077	(\$8,760)

### ST. ELOI LITURGY SCHEDULE

#### Wednesday, December 24 – 4:30 pm – Christmas Eve

Sacristan: Darla Timmerman  
Servers: Elise Hennen, Xavier Rabaey  
Lector: Steve Hennen  
Musicians: Barb Hennen & John Rabaey  
Parish Choir & Volunteers  
Offertory Gifts: Bernie & Julie DeCock  
Eucharistic Ministers: Mary Jo Bossuyt, Lila Schmidt  
Cup: Dan Sik, Ron Sussner  
Ushers: Galen Boerboom, Mike DeSutter, Trey Nelson  
Choir Loft: Martin Hennen  
Holy Family Procession: Gary & Nancy Crowley & grandchildren

#### Wednesday, December 25 – 10:30 am – Christmas Day

Sacristan:  
Servers:  
Lector:  
Musicians:  
Offertory Gifts:  
Eucharistic Ministers:  
Ushers:

Volunteers needed.

#### Sunday, December 28 – 10:30 am

Sacristan: Darla Timmerman  
Servers: Leo Hennen, Gregory Rabaey  
Lector: Monica Senden  
Musicians: Sisters  
Offertory Gifts: Elaine Brewers  
Eucharistic Ministers: Monica Senden, Corissa Van Keulen  
Ushers: Galen Boerboom, Mike DeSutter, Trey Nelson

## ST. EDWARD

Weekly	ACTUAL	BUDGETED	DIFFERENCE
Adult	\$4,045	\$6,654	(\$2,609)
Loose plate	\$211	\$192	\$19
Online Giving	\$1,456	*Added to the adult envelope total	
Commodity	\$2,556		
Year-to-Date	\$158,221	\$164,308	(\$6,087)

### ST. EDWARD LITURGY SCHEDULE

#### Wednesday, December 24 – 10:00 pm – Christmas Eve

Sacristan:  
Servers:  
Lector: Shannon Gossen  
Eucharistic Ministers:  
Ushers:

Volunteers needed.

#### Thursday, December 25 – 8:30 am – Christmas Day

Sacristan:  
Servers:  
Lector: Hilary DeVlaeminck  
Eucharistic Ministers:  
Ushers:

Volunteers needed.

#### Saturday, December 27 – 5:30 pm

Sacristan: Cindy Novotny  
Servers: Bryce & Kaitlyn Gorecki  
Lector: Eriann Faris  
Eucharistic Ministers: Fred Rabaey  
Ushers: Troy DeSmet, Jackie Laleman, Bruce & Cindy Novotny

#### Sunday, December 28 – 8:30 am

Sacristan: Joe Callens  
Servers: Naomi & Declan Evjen, Wyatt Guza  
Lector: Joe Callens  
Eucharistic Ministers: Jo Coover  
Ushers: Rick Bot, Joe Callens, John Sumerfelt, Mike Vlaminc

THE  
KING of Kings  
The King of Glory!

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR PARISH ...

### PRAYER REQUESTS & PETITIONS

Please pray that God will restore the health and spirits of the following people.  
If you know anyone who should be added to this list, contact Caren at the office.

- ★ Kay Drown
- ★ Francis DeSmet
- ★ David Fier
- ★ Harper Gravely
- ★ Missy Hennen
- ★ Jeremy Koelar
- ★ Vincent Laleman
- ★ Julie Noyes
- ★ Doug Sik
- ★ Joanne Sturm
- ★ Brenda Verschelde

### ST. ELOI ~ CHOIR MEMBERS NEEDED!

Please join the choir at the 4:30 pm Christmas Eve Mass at St. Eloi! We will meet in the choir loft at 3:45 pm and sing traditional Christmas hymns prior to Mass.  
Questions? Text Barb Hennen at 507.828.0331

### ST. EDWARD ~ CHOIR INFORMATION

There is no "formal" choir this year; however, all voices interested in leading carols before and during the 10:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass are welcome to come and sing. Please be in the choir loft, ready to sing by 9:40 pm. Music will be provided.

### CHRISTMAS DECORATING AT ST. EDWARD

The St. Edward Liturgy Committee would appreciate assistance decorating for Christmas.

We are decorating today, Sunday, December 21, after the 8:30 am Mass. Please help out for either 15 minutes or the entire time. "Many hands make light work."

### THE 2026 ENVELOPES ARE READY TO BE PICKED UP!

Envelopes for 2026 are in the church basement. Please pick up your envelopes; and if you, see someone else's that you could deliver, please do so. Thank you!

### CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Please help decorate St. Edward and St. Eloi for the Christmas season by donating towards poinsettias as a remembrance 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.

### CALENDARS FOR 2026

The church calendars for 2026 are in the back of church. Feel free to pick one up for yourself and a friend.

### EXODUS 90 – For all interested men

Men – do you desire to be a better husband, a better father, and a better man for others – check out Exodus 90.

Exodus 90 is a spiritual exercise for men based on Christ's roadmap to freedom: prayer, self-denial, and fraternity. It starts on January 5, 2026, and ends on April 5, 2026, Easter Sunday.

You can check it out for yourself at Exodus90.com. If interested or for more information contact, Joseph Callens at 507.828.2894 or [joseph.callens67@gmail.com](mailto:joseph.callens67@gmail.com).

### KITCHEN ANGELS FOR ST. EDWARD SCHOOL

We would like to create a group called "Kitchen Angels."

The purpose of this roster is to be contacted should we need to prepare donated produce for the school lunch program or do a little extra cleaning in the food preparation area. Our School Head Cook, Cynthia Moore, will be supervising these activities

Enrolling in the Kitchen Angel roster does not mean you're obligated to take each case or peel each vegetable. You would be contacted by e-mail or called, when produce is donated and helpers needed, and if you're interested/available, you would respond back to volunteer for a couple of hours.

Please let Cynthia or the school (872.6391) know if you have any questions and/or if you're interested in joining this roster!

### SUNDAY F.I.R.E. (Families Involved in Religious Education – Adult & Older Teen Faith Formation)

We meet Sundays from 9:30 – 10:30 am in the Knights' Hall in Minneota. Video links and schedule can be found on [goodteacherafc.com](http://goodteacherafc.com) under "Religious Education – Sunday FIRE" if you're not able to join us.

### BUS DRIVERS WANTED!

The school is looking for a few part-time bus drivers to take students to Dawson & Clarkfield each day and to drive for occasional field trips.

If you are interested in helping out or know someone who would, please contact Jaci Garvey.

### YEAR OF WINNING

Week 5 – Congratulations! The winner is ... Lana DePestel

### HAPPENINGS in our Diocese & Beyond ...

#### POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION – December

For Christians in areas of conflict ~

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

<https://www.popesprayer.va/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/ENG-HOLY-FATHERS-PRAYER-INTENTIONS-2025-DEF.pdf>

#### 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 27** Janell Laleman 507.828.9351

(Eucharist for the shut-ins will be every other week.)

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

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

#### Radio Rosary

Dec. 22: For all the deceased members of Catholic United Financial Council #307 of Wilno

Dec. 23: In memory of Helen Marotzke  
by Leonard & Marian Louwagie

Dec. 24: In memory of Gene Thooft by his family

Dec. 25: In memory of Gene Thooft by his family

Dec. 26: In memory of Vin & Judy Bot & Pam Haukom  
by their family

Dec. 27: In memory of Harriet Tholen by Terry Hennen

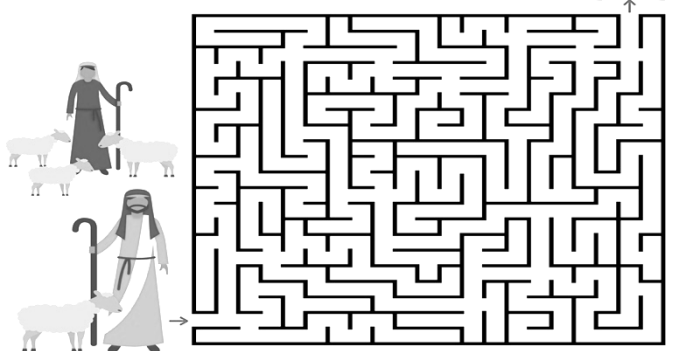
Dec. 28: In memory of Marvin Welu by David & Diane Hennen

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.

### HELP THE SHEPHERDS FIND BABY JESUS

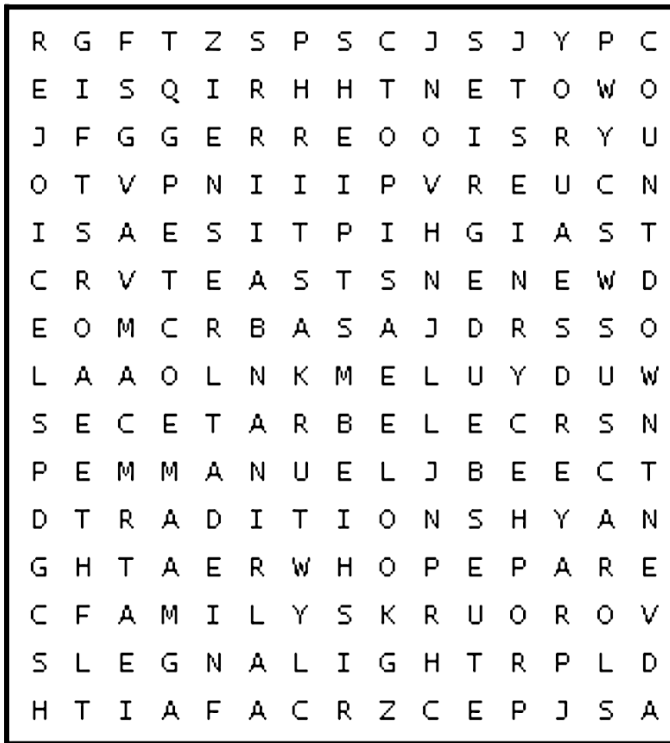
"Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us." And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger.

LUKE 2:15B-16





## Advent Word Find



Advent	Christmas	Gifts	Manger	Rejoice
Angels	Countdown	Hope	Nativity	Shepherds
Blessings	Decorations	Jesus	Peace	Spirit
Candle	Emmanuel	Joy	Prayer	Stories
Carols	Faith	Light	Prepare	Traditions
Celebrate	Family	Love	Prophecy	Wreath

## Advent Wreath Blessing & Activities

Dear Jesus, as we light the candle(s) on this Advent wreath, may the light of your presence bring joy to our hearts. Bless our family and our friends and be with all those who are in need this holiday season. Amen.

### Scripture for Week 4 of Advent

"And the angel said to them, "Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:10-11)

### Pray the Advent Prayer for Week 4

Dear Jesus, may the light of your love always shine in our hearts. As Christmas draws closer, we marvel at your great love for us. Let your love transform every aspect of our lives and touch everyone we encounter. Our hearts are open to you, Jesus. Amen.



### Reflect on Week 4 of Advent

On a scale from 1-10, how would you rate your joy this Advent? How might God be inviting you to open yourself up to the joy of the season?

## Advent Family Activities

Sunday, Dec. 21 – Walk through the neighborhood to see the Christmas lights.

Monday, Dec. 22 – Watch *The Polar Express* & drink hot chocolate.

Tuesday, Dec. 23 – Say a prayer for some of the people who sent your family a Christmas card.

Wednesday, Dec. 24 – Move Mary & Joseph in the Nativity.

Thursday, Dec. 25 – Happy Birthday, Jesus!

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT prayer

*Eternal Father, we thank you for the gift of your Son Jesus Christ who is to be born in our hearts this week. As the Blessed Virgin Mary humbly accepted to bear your Son, help us Lord to the bearers of your Good News and submit our entire being to the service of your Word. Lord, use us for your glory! We ask this through Yours Son Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever, Amen*



*peace*  
BE WITH YOU