



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

St. Edward School: 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@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 14, 2025

The Third Sunday of Advent ~ Gaudete Sunday

“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 15

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

Tuesday, December 16

12:00 pm Convent Mass (Robert Gritman)

2:30 pm Mass at the Apartment (Antone & Charlene Callens)

6:00 pm Education Committee Meeting

7:30 pm St. Edward Finance Council

Wednesday, December 17

10:30 am Mass at St. Edward Gr. 3 & 4 (Steve Przymus)

• 10:00 am Confession before Mass

12:00 pm Convent Mass (Jerry Langsweirdt)

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

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

Thursday, December 18

7:00 am Mass at St. Edward (Audrey Jerzak)

12:00 pm Convent Mass (Jim Driemeyer)

5:00 – 7:00 pm Adoration at St. Edward

Friday, December 19

6:00 am TMIY Knights’ Hall

7:00 am Mass at St. Edward (Terry Dolan)

12:00 pm Convent Mass (Leon & Marie Coudron)

Saturday, December 20

12:00 pm Convent Mass (Vinnny & Putts Boerboom)

5:30 pm Mass at St. Edward (Mark & Mary Ann Full)

• 4:30 pm Confession before Mass

Sunday, December 21

8:30 am Mass at St. Edward (Ron Boulton)

• 8:00 am Confession before Mass

9:30 am Sunday FIRE – *I disagree doesn’t mean “I hate you”*

10:30 am Mass at St. Eloi (Deceased Timmerman Family)

• 10:00 am Confession before Mass

Dear Parishioners,

We mark Gaudete Sunday, the Sunday of joy, as we cross the halfway point of this great season of anticipation and hope. The rose candle burns today because the Church pauses—just briefly—to let joy break into our longing.

Joy is the mark of a Christian. Yet we must remember that the joy we speak of is not the thin happiness the world offers, a joy that flickers when circumstances turn. Christian joy has depth. It has weight. As I have written, true mercy has teeth—and so does true joy. It is a joy capable of holding sorrow, disappointment, and uncertainty without collapsing. It is a joy grounded in the unchanging truth that Christ is near.

This is the joy the world cannot give and cannot understand. It is the joy that shines in the face of a person carrying a terminal illness who knows they are held securely in God’s love. It is the quiet but unmistakable joy of a freshly reconciled soul, unburdened and set free through penance and reparation. It is the joy of a student who finally grasps a difficult concept, or of a worker who surveys the fruit of long labor. It is the joy that comes whenever grace has been allowed to “do its work” in us.

This is Christ’s joy, His presence and His grace alive in our hearts. It cannot be bought or sold. While we can lose it, it is lost only when we choose to let go of Him who is our joy.

So, when St. Paul tells us, “Rejoice in the Lord always” (Phil 4:4), he is not asking us to pretend that nothing hurts or that nothing is wrong. He is reminding us that Christ is with us in the midst of all things—and that His nearness is the wellspring of Christian joy. To have a heart so rooted in Christ that it overflows with joy—this is the vocation of every Christian. The saints show us this again and again: joy that is steady, joy that endures, joy that witnesses to God’s faithfulness.

As we rejoice on this Gaudete Sunday, I would also like to invite you to join me in thanking God for Arnold Bot. Like his brother Raymond, Arnie generously arranged that both our churches and our school would receive gifts upon his passing. We are currently in the process of receiving these funds. At this time, our plan is to preserve these gifts carefully and responsibly so they may serve the mission of our parishes for many years to come.

May the joy of Christ—deep, resilient, and ever-new—fill your hearts this Advent.

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
St. Edward School Facebook: St. Edward Catholic School

St. Edward School Apparel Sale –

Store closes on December 15. Options include short & long sleeved t-shirts, crew & hooded sweatshirts, sweat pants, & stocking caps.

Use this link to check it out.

www.2arrowsapparel.com/collections/st-edward-school-store

SISTERS OF MARY MORNING STAR

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

Call 428.3919 to double-check Mass time.

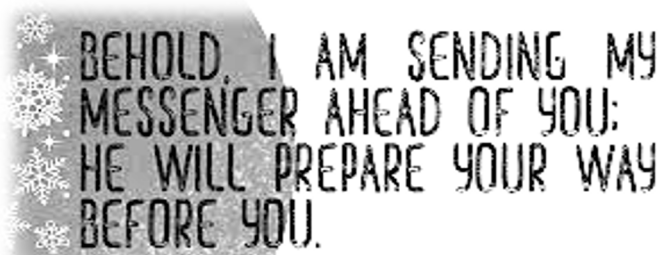
Vespers: 5:45 pm (Monday – Friday) 6:00 pm (Sunday)

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)



ST. ELOI

Weekly	ACTUAL	BUDGETED	DIFFERENCE
Adult	\$1,615	\$1,923	(\$308)
Loose plate	\$501	\$192	\$309
Commodity	\$		
Year-to-Date	\$48,976	\$56,615	(\$7,639)

ST. ELOI LITURGY SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 21 – 10:30 am

Sacristan: Arlene Buysse

Servers: Leo Hennen, Toby Wambeke

Lector: Mike Van Keulen

Musicians: John Rabaey

Offertory Gifts: Rob & Caroline Hennen Family

Eucharistic Ministers: Shirley Maeyaert, Sandy Nuytten

Ushers: Galen Boerboom, Mike DeSutter, Trey Nelson

ST. EDWARD

Weekly	ACTUAL	BUDGETED	DIFFERENCE
Adult	\$4,624	\$6,654	(\$2,030)
Loose plate	\$446	\$192	\$254
Online Giving	\$1,695	*Added to the adult envelope total	
Commodity	\$		
Year-to-Date	\$145,379	\$157,462	(\$12,083)

ST. EDWARD LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 20 – 5:30 pm

Sacristan: Claren Novotny

Servers: Jules Gossen, Audyn & Brisbyn Traen

Lector: Tim Gossen

Eucharistic Ministers: Jeff Buysse

Ushers: Troy DeSmet, Jackie Laleman, Bruce & Cindy Novotny

Sunday, December 21 – 8:30 am

Sacristan: Tina Myhre

Servers: Debbie Beisler, William Jones

Lector: Cynthia Moorse

Eucharistic Ministers: Kevin Swedzinski

Ushers: Rick Bot, Joe Callens, John Sumerfelt, Mike Vlaminck

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR PARISH ...

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH

Welcome to Bellamy, daughter of Jake Traen and Mariah Buysse, born on April 29, 2025, and baptized at St. Edward on Sunday, December 7, 2025.

Bellamy – “You are a child of God, wonderfully made, dearly loved, and precious in His sight. Before God made you, He knew you.” Psalm 139:13, 14

SYMPATHY FROM OUR PARISH

Prayers to the family of Helen Wambeke who passed away on Saturday, November 29. Her funeral was held on Friday, December 12, at St. Eloi.

“He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.” Revelations 21:4

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

ROSARY INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER

- ✚ For devotion to the Christ Child
- ✚ That the grace of Christmas will draw family members together in lasting bonds of love
- ✚ For a deeper understanding of the incarnation (that the Son of God became human in the person of Jesus Christ) and looking ahead to Christ's second coming.
- ✚ For a deeper personal relationship with Jesus that is nourished by the Word of God and prayer.

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.

THANK YOU

The Minneota Assisted Living residents would like to send out a big thank you to the St. Edward CCW who made or delivered Christmas cookies, brought prizes, helped with bingo, and visited with them this past Sunday. Everyone had a wonderful time, and it was appreciated so much! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

There is a need for volunteers to lead the Holy Rosary on Sunday mornings. Substitutes are needed for Saturdays and Sundays as well.

There are resources available to help you out. Contact Fr. Todd or Caren at the church office.

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 under "Religious Education – Sunday FIRE" if you're not able to join us.

CHRISTMAS DECORATING AT ST. EDWARD

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

The plan is to decorate on Sunday, December 21, after the 8:30 am Mass. If you can only help for 15 minutes or the entire hour, that's great! "Many hands make light work."

COAT DRIVE – St. Edward CCW

The St. Edward CCW will be hosting a coat drive for the Marshall Food Shelf this year until the weekend of December 12 & 14.

We are looking for coats for all ages of men, women and children and they are looking for coats, hats, mittens, scarfs and large size boots. Please make sure they are clean and not in need of repairs.

Boxes will be in the back of church for your donations.

Thank you for your support and generosity as we help those in need. Questions can be directed to Bonnie Laleman at 507.828.5703.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

It's that time again! 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.

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 4 – Congratulations! The winner is ... Marie Kloos



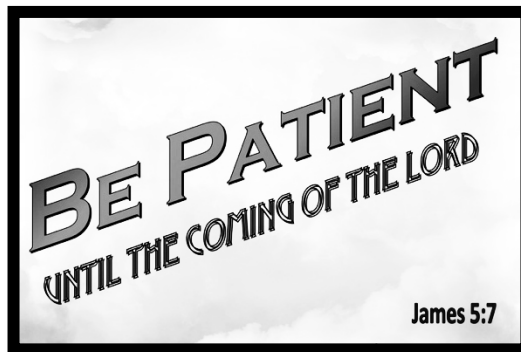
HAPPENINGS in our Diocese & Beyond ...

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. 15: In memory of Tom Swedzinski by Madeline

Dec. 16: For a special intention by Diane Christopherson

Dec. 17: In memory of Clarence Louwagie by Pat

Dec. 18: In memory of Joanne Lanners
by Cletus & Lorraine Lanners

Dec. 19: In memory of the Vroman Family – Shorty, Idalie,
Mary, Rosemary, Josephine, Donald, & Richard
by Allen Battle III

Dec. 20: In memory of Gary & Jason Timmerman by Pat

Dec. 21: In memory of Linda Oftedahl by Terry 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.



December 14
Third Sunday
of
Advent
(Gaudete Sunday)

As we light the third candle
 on the Advent wreath,
 we take a moment to reflect
 on the peace and joy of Christmas.

*I am baptizing you with water,
 but one mightier than I is coming.
 I am not worthy to loosen
 the thongs of His sandals.
 He will baptize you with
 the Holy Spirit and fire.*

Advent Word Find

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

John the	Prophets	Waiting	Candle	Light
Baptist	Emmanuel	Advent	Wreath	Mary
Anticipation	Darkness	Carols	Weeks	Love
Patriarchs	Prepare	Purple	Jesus	Hope
Reflection	Promise	Sunday	Peace	Joy

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 3 of Advent

"And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them." (Luke 2:20)

Pray the Advent Prayer for Week 3

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.

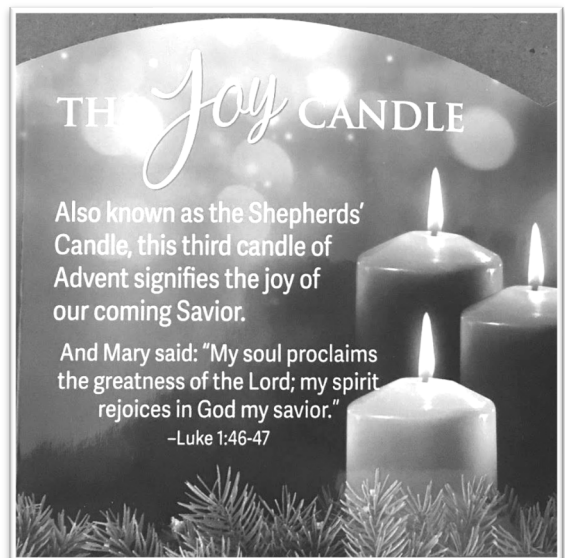


Reflect on Week 3 of Advent

What concerns, joys, worries, and prayers do you want to bring to Jesus this Christmas?

Advent Family Activities

Sunday, Dec. 14 – Make a phone call to a friend or family member who needs Christmas cheer.
 Monday, Dec. 15 – Take a family Christmas picture.
 Tuesday, Dec. 16 – Order a poinsettia in memory of or in celebration of a loved one from the church.
 Wednesday, Dec. 17 – Attend the St. Edward Christmas Concert.
 Thursday, Dec. 18 – Help wrap presents.
 Friday, Dec. 19 – Make a gingerbread house.
 Saturday, Dec. 20 – Move Mary & Joseph closer to the Nativity.



peace
 BE WITH YOU