



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



**Father Todd Petersen**

507.227.2657

[tpetersen@dnu.org](mailto: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](mailto:cbuyssegoodteacherafc@gmail.com)

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

Deacons: Bruce Bot – 828.7012

Jason Myhre – 829.2829

Travis Welsh – 829.0986

St. Edward Facebook: St. Edward Catholic Church

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](mailto:goodteacherafc@hotmail.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)

**Sunday, April 7, 2024**

**Second Sunday of Easter ~ Divine Mercy Sunday**

**Monday, April 8**

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

**Tuesday, April 9**

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

**Wednesday, April 10**

10:30 am Liturgy of the Hours – Student Council will be leading

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

5:30 pm RE Grades 1 – 5

6:30 pm RE Grades 6 – 11

6:30 pm Women's Bible Study

6:30 pm Adoration at St. Edward

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

**Thursday, April 11**

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

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

**Friday, April 12**

5:45 am That Man Is You

7:45 am Convent Mass (Presider's Intention)

**Saturday, April 13**

11:00 am Convent Mass (Presider's Intention)

5:30 pm Mass at St. Edward (Jane Hennen)

**Sunday, April 14**

8:30 am Mass at St. Edward (For the People)

- 8:00 am Confession before Mass

- 10:30 am Mass at St. Eloi (Lori Brewers)

- 10:00 am Confession before Mass

- 11:00 am – 12:30 pm St. Eloi Soup & Chili Feed

Dear Parishioners,

Happy Resurrection! These last eight days, our liturgy has been in a sort of holding pattern – as we celebrate the Octave of Easter, we had a Gloria everyday, as well as special inserts in the Roman Canon (Eucharistic Prayer #1), the possibility of reciting the Sequence, and a return to much of the same Psalms in the Liturgy of the Hours as we did on Easter Sunday.

This Sunday, we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday, as our Lord displays His mercy time and again, especially in His interaction with St. Thomas. St. Thomas needed proof, and our Lord does not condemn him, but tells him to probe the wounds. It is mercy – as He is giving St. Thomas what he needs to come to faith. He continues to offer what we need for deepening our faith.

It is appropriate that we also mark this Divine Mercy Sunday with the celebration of First Communion for 15 of our children, as the Eucharist is our Lord's gift of an enduring presence as well as memorial sacrifice which draws us Calvary in our liturgy. Week after week (or more), we are drawn to the Lord's death and resurrection and are invited to faith as we receive His Body and Blood. Again, my prayer is that the joy and excitement of our children receiving Him for the first time may inspire us to a deeper love.

Thank you to all who had a part in making the Triduum so wonderful. This includes the liturgy committee, the sacristans, musicians, lectors, ushers, servers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, and Deacons, as well as those who attended. It was so good to see the churches full.

Last, thank you for your prayers as I leave for retreat this week. I hope to rest, pray, and allow the Lord to lead me.

In Christ,  
Fr. Todd



JESUS I TRUST IN YOU!

**IT'S DIVINE  
MERCY SUNDAY!**

"The soul that will go to confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment!"

– Our Lord to St. Faustina (Diary 699)

## ST. ELOI

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED	DIFFERENCE
Adult	\$1,775.00	\$2,110.00	(\$335.00)
Loose plate	\$65.00	\$146.00	(\$81.00)
Easter	\$3,536.00		
Year-to-Date	\$95,480.00	\$88,978.00	\$6,502.00

### ST. ELOI LITURGY SCHEDULE

#### Sunday, April 14 – 10:30 am

Sacristan: Cindy Nelson

Servers: Gregory & Mark Rabaey

Lector: Bernie DeCock

Musicians: Barb & Brad Hennen

Offertory Gifts: Rita Engels

Eucharistic Ministers: Darla Timmerman, Caroline Van Keulen

Ushers: Mike Monnet, Daren Van Keulen, Tim Van Keulen

## ST. EDWARD

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED	DIFFERENCE
Adult	\$1,686.00	\$4,830.00	(\$3,144.00)
Loose plate	\$ -	\$154.00	(\$154.00)
Online Giving	\$770.00	*Added to the adult envelope total	
Easter	\$6,742.00		
Year-to-Date	\$217,236.00	\$206,449.00	\$10,787.00

### ST. EDWARD LITURGY SCHEDULE

#### Saturday, April 13 – 5:30 pm

Sacristan: Claren Novotny

Servers: Eli Faris, Gabe Ludwikowski

Lector: Fred Rabaey

Eucharistic Ministers: Michael Ludwikowski

Ushers: Mike Longtin, Bruce & Cindy Novotny, Chuck Vlaminck

#### Sunday, April 14 – 8:30 am

Sacristan: Fran Sturm

Servers: Naomi & Declan Evjen, Elizabeth Garvey

Lector: Lisa Hennen

Eucharistic Ministers: Jo Coover

Ushers: Rick Bot, John Sumerfelt, Mike Vlaminck

## ST. EDWARD SCHOOL NEWS

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

Friday, April 12 – DEAR Day (Drop Everything And Read)

Friday, April 12 – PrimeTime – Grades 3 – 6 3:00 – 6:00 pm

Wednesday, May 1 – Grandparent's Day

### Sponsorship of St. Edward School

## 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)



## NOTICES

### CONGRATULATIONS, FIRST COMMUNICANTS

The following 2<sup>nd</sup> graders from St. Edward & St. Eloi will be receiving their First Holy Communion on Sunday, April 7.

Reese	Reece Guza	Kellan Noyes
Bottelberghe	Olivia Hennen	Briggs Sussner
Cruze Culver	Braxton Kesteloot	Ivy Thostenson
Alyssa Gorecki	Atreyu Lenderman	Hailey Thooff
Skyla Gorecki	Francis Myhre	Brenten
Sierra Gossen		Whortenburg

### PRAYER REQUESTS & PETITIONS

Please call the church office with the names of those who would benefit from prayers.

- ★ Jeremy Koelar – liver transplant
- ★ Etien Laleman
- ★ Bernie Moorse
- ★ Marilyn Pagel
- ★ Francis Rabaey
- ★ Fr. Tony Stubeda

### ROSARY INTENTIONS FOR APRIL

- ✚ For all youth who are facing major or minor life changes (Confirmation, graduation, summer work, etc.)
- ✚ For those who struggle to forgive
- ✚ For those who suffer depression or anxiety

### CELEBRATING "EASTERTIDE"

Guess what? It's still Easter. "Eastertide" we call it. The 50 days after Easter. Lent was only 40 days—plus those Sundays that came in between—but Easter is officially celebrated even longer than that. Up until Pentecost. A reminder of how crucial the Resurrection is to our faith. *Continue to celebrate by looking for Jesus in your life.*

It is amazing that Jesus's beloved followers didn't recognize Him at first on Easter. Mary, when she saw Him outside the empty tomb, thought he was the gardener. He walked with two of His disciples on the road to Emmaus, and they were clueless as to who He was, until He broke bread with them. The doubting Thomas wanted to see His wound before he would believe.

### ST. ELOI COF EASTER EGG HUNT – April 7

The Annual St. Eloi COF Easter Egg Hunt (and donuts) is planned for Sunday, April 7, after our 10:30 am Mass! Everyone is invited to come and have fun and fellowship.

### ST. ELOI SOUP & CHILI FEED AND SILENT AUCTION

#### Different day – Same time! Same place!

Sunday, April 14 11:00 am – 12:30 pm

Serving chicken wild rice soup and chili with crackers, bread stick, and bars. Silent auction bidding will close at 12:30 pm. Free bingo with small prizes awarded starting at noon. Everyone is invited to join us for great food, fun, and fellowship.

Matching funds provided by the Catholic Order of Foresters with proceeds to assist our parish student's Catholic education.

### COOKIES AND FELLOWSHIP – St. Eloi

Our cookie and fellowship tradition in our gathering space continues with your help. Would you be willing to bring 6 dozen cookies for a Sunday or two?

If you could bring cookies, please contact Sandy Nuytten at 829.9690 (or email her at [snuytten@frontiernet.net](mailto:snuytten@frontiernet.net)).

## **CCW SCHOLARSHIP**

The St. Edward CCW is again offering a scholarship to one (or more) 2024 graduating senior(s). The requirement is that you are a member of St. Edward Catholic Church.

Letters & applications have been sent to all qualified graduates; if you have questions or need more information, contact Ruth Bot (507.829.0514) or Jan Bot (507.401.1167).

## **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES – St. Edward School**

For the **2024-25 school year**, we are looking for a part-time music teacher, a part-time PE/Health teacher, and a full-time Montessori Guide. For the right candidate(s), the PE/Health or Music position could be combined with other open possibilities to create a full-time position, opening the candidate up to a benefits package including health insurance, life insurance, retirement, paid time off, meals and more.

### **Montessori Guide, PreK-K, Full time**

Qualifications: Associates Degree in Early Childhood Education and Six months related experience or Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education or equivalent or Montessori Certification

Applicants must be willing to be educated in the Montessori philosophy and methodology and have the ability and dedication to put the key concepts into practice.

### **PE/Health Teacher, PreK-8, Part-time**

Qualifications: Minimum: Bachelor's Degree  
Preferred: Bachelor's Degree in PE/Health Education with Minnesota Licensure.

### **Music Teacher, PreK-8, Part-time**

The holder of this position is responsible for our annual Christmas Pageant/Concert and a Spring Concert and weekly liturgical music planning.

Qualifications: Minimum: Bachelor's Degree  
Preferred: Bachelor's Degree in Music Education with Minnesota Licensure.

Interested candidates should include letter of interest, resume, and two references by mail or email to Jaci Garvey, Principal; St. Edward School, 210 W. 4<sup>th</sup> St.; Minneota, MN 56264 or [jgarvey@stedscatholicschool.com](mailto:jgarvey@stedscatholicschool.com).

## **TOTUS TUUS OPPORTUNITY THIS SUMMER**

Totus Tuus will be held at St. Edward, Minneota, from July 6-12. This is a perfect opportunity for the Confirmation Retreat requirement for the 2024-2025 RE class.

## **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES – St. Edward School**

For summer care, we are looking for a few new staff members to work as assistants. These employees need to be at least 15 years old, responsible and love to work with children.

## **SUMMER CARE – Summer, 2024**

St. Edward School will again be offering summer care from 7:15 am – 6:00 pm for children ages 5-12. It will begin Tuesday, May 28, and end on Friday, August 12. Contact the school to register.

## **YEAR OF WINNING**

Week 20 – Congratulations! The winner is ... Steve Hennen



## **AREA NOTIFICATIONS**

### **POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION – APRIL**

For the role of women ~

Let us pray that the dignity and worth of women be recognized in every culture, and for an end to the discrimination they face in various parts of the world.

<https://www.daily-prayers.org/popes-monthly-intentions/pope-francis-2024-monthly-intentions/>

### **DIOCESE OF NEW ULM EUCHARISTIC RETREAT OPPORTUNITY – April 13**

The Diocese of New Ulm will be hosting "A Biblical Walk through the Mass." It will be held Saturday, April 13, in Montevideo at the St. Joseph Catholic Church.

It begins with check-in at 8:30 am and concludes with the benediction at 4:30 pm. For more information call 507.233.5320 or see Diocesan Events at the New Ulm Diocese website. ([dnu.org](http://dnu.org))

### **AREA BREAKFASTS/DINNERS – New Date!**

#### **St. Mary Catholic Church, Cottonwood**

April 7, 2024 – Serving from 8:00 am – 12:00 pm  
Belgian Waffles, Sausage, Juice & Coffee

Free will offering to support St. Mary Youth Programs

#### **St. Mary Catholic Church, Tracy**

April 7, 2024 – Serving from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm  
Roast Beef & Pork Dinner with all the trimmings  
Adults: \$15 K-6<sup>th</sup>: \$5 PreSchool: Free

### **JACKPOT BINGO – ST. LEO CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Sunday, April 7, 2024 St. Leo Church Basement  
Warm-up games at 12:30 pm – Jackpot games at 1:30 pm  
Lunch starts at noon. Donation: \$15  
18 - \$50 games with \$200 and \$300 jackpots  
Proceeds will support Catholic education.  
Matching grant from Catholic United Financial.

### **HOLY REDEEMER CCW INVITES YOU...men & women**

...to our general gathering on Monday, April 22.

The evening includes a 5:30 pm Mass followed by a light meal & the speaker, Gavin Van Moer.

Gavin is a local author and speaker. His most recent book, *Shine Through the Darkness: Reignite Christ's Light in Your Life* will be the topic.

This was rescheduled due to weather.

### **NEW ULM DIOCESAN CCW CONVENTION**

The 63rd Annual New Ulm Diocesan Council of Catholic Women Convention will be held on Saturday, April 27, 2024, at the Church of St. Pius X in Glencoe, MN.

The theme for the convention is "*Be an Instrument of Salvation.*"

Our keynote speaker in the morning is Kelly Wahlquist. Kelly is the founder of the national women's ministry *WINE: Women in the New Evangelization* and the Director for the Catechetical Institute at The Saint Paul Seminary in the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. The title of her talk is "*Being Women in the New Evangelization.*"

In the afternoon Leonard and Yazmin Gutierrez will present on evangelization. Leonard is our Diocesan Director of Evangelization, and both served as FOCUS missionaries. Join other women of the Diocese for Mass and the presentation of the NUDCCW Woman of the Year, along with lunch, silent auction, and various exhibits and booth displays to fill the day.

All who attend are sure to be spiritually enriched.

Early bird registration deadline is April 15. Registration forms are available from your parish CCW president Mary Myhre or on our New Ulm Diocesan Council of Catholic Women website at nudccw.org.

Grow in your faith and connect with other faith filled women from the diocese! All women 18 years and older are welcome and encouraged to attend.

**DIOCESE OF NEW ULM EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS in BEMIDJI, LAKE ITASCA – May 17-19, 2024**

The featured speakers of this Congress are well-known Catholic theologians. This is an amazing opportunity right here in Minnesota!

The registration deadline states April 1, 2024; however, if you are interested, please use the link or QR code on the flyer below. There may still be room for you to attend.

If you have questions, feel free to contact Lisa Hennen – 605.391.2748.

**Grounded in Faith Together**  
**Three-Day (Gift) Pilgrimage to Bemidji • Lake Itasca • Watkins**  
**May 17 - 19, 2024**

Spiritual guidance by Fr. Bob Mraz & Fr. Shawn Polman

**May 17 - 18**  
**Star of the North Eucharistic Congress**  
**Sanford Center in Bemidji, MN**

Featured speakers are Bp. Andrew Cozzens of the Diocese of Crookston, Bp. Daniel Felton of the Diocese of Duluth, Bp. Robert Barron of the Diocese of Winona-Rochester, Fr. Mike Schmitz, and Sr. Jude Andrew Link, OP.

**May 19**  
**Launch of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage**  
**Lake Itasca**  
 Celebrate Pentecost Mass at the headwaters of the Mississippi River with Bp. Cozzens to begin the Marian Route Pilgrimage.

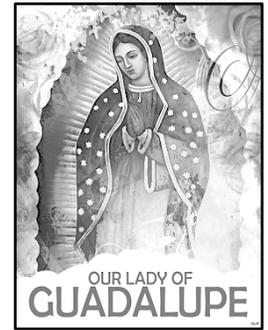
**May 19**  
**Ignite**  
**St. Anthony in Watkins**  
 Join Bp. Chad Zielinski at this Ignite Event which includes Eucharistic Adoration and dinner.

**Registration Includes Congress Ticket, Food, Bus Transportation, and Hotel**

For details use the QR Code or visit:  
<https://form.jotform.com/232387276489068>

Deadline 4/1/2024 For more information contact: Roxanne Felder @ 612-396-0727

**Prayer of the Nine-Month Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe**



O Virgin Mother of God, we fly to your protection and beg your intercession against the darkness and sin which ever more envelop the world and menace the Church. Your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, gave you to us as our mother as He died on the Cross for our salvation. So too, in 1531, when darkness and sin beset us, He sent you, as Our Lady of Guadalupe, on Tepeyac to lead us to Him Who alone is our light and our salvation.

Through your apparitions on Tepeyac and your abiding presence with us on the miraculous mantle of your messenger, Saint Juan Diego, millions of souls converted to faith in your Divine Son. Through this novena and our consecration to you, we humbly implore your intercession for our daily conversion of life to Him and the conversion of millions more who do not yet believe in Him. In our homes and in our nation, lead us to Him Who alone wins the victory over sin and darkness in us and in the world.

Unite our hearts to your Immaculate Heart so that they may find their true and lasting home in the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. Ever guide us along the pilgrimage of life to our eternal home with Him. So may our hearts, one with yours, always trust in God's promise of salvation, in His never-failing mercy toward all who turn to Him with a humble and contrite heart. Through this novena and our consecration to you, O Virgin of Guadalupe, lead all souls in America and throughout the world to your Divine Son in Whose name we pray. Amen.

**CHRIST IS RISEN!**  
**He is Risen, Indeed!**

**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 – April 6 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

**JOIN THE NINE MONTH NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE – Raymond Leo Cardinal Burke**

Our Lady has not forgotten her children: her care for us is as strong today as it was 500 years ago. There is real, miraculous, and transformative peace in the protection of Mary's Mantle. To this end, Cardinal Burke is calling upon all Catholics to join him in a significant Novena seeking Our Lady's intercession. Here is the link for more info. <https://novena.cardinalburke.com>

This began on March 12 and will continue until December 12, 2024. Please use the following prayer daily.

**Radio Rosary**

- Apr. 8: In memory of Emil Sik by David & Diane Hennen
- Apr. 9: In memory of Ernie Bossuyt by Bernice Bossuyt
- Apr. 10: In memory of Mary Ann Buysse by Ardyce Louwagie
- Apr. 11: In memory of Vin & Judy Bot & Pam Haukom by their family
- Apr. 12: For the intentions of Marian Louwagie by the St. Clotilde Choir
- Apr. 13: In memory of Jane Hennen by Ernie Hennen & family
- Apr. 14: In memory of Diane Caron by Doug & Laurie Gregoire

To schedule a radio rosary, call Carol Louwagie at 507.532.6081

**PRAYER CALENDAR FOR VOCATIONS –  
PRIESTS, DEACONS, & SEMINARIANS**

**Monday, April 8**

Msgr. Doug Grams  
Fr. John Goggin  
Brent Sundve (Sem.)

**Tuesday, April 9**

Fr. Nathan Hansen  
Fr. Tony Hesse  
Fr. John Hayes  
Noah U'Ren (Sem.)

**Wednesday, April 10**

Fr. Jeff Horejsi  
Fr. Ron Huberty  
Matt Wood (Sem.)

**Thursday, April 11**

Fr. Jeremy Kucera  
Fr. Denny Labat  
David Rabaey (Sem.)

**Friday, April 12**

Msgr. Eugene Lozinski  
Fr. Mark Mallak  
Brent Sundve (Sem.)

**Saturday, April 13**

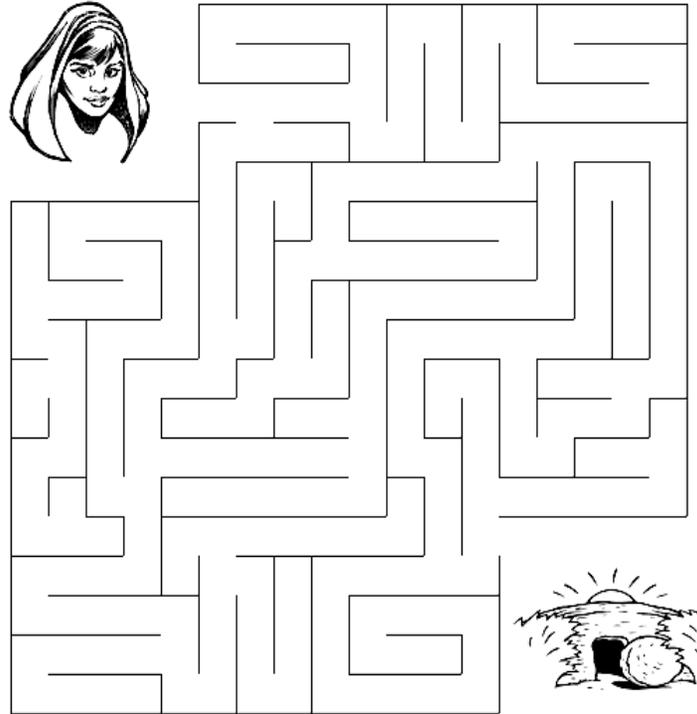
Fr. Brian Mandel  
Fr. Jerry Meidl  
Dcn. Tony Grack  
Noah U'Ren (Sem.)

**Sunday, April 14**

Fr. Andy Michels  
Fr. Robert Mraz  
Dcn. John Hansen  
Matt Wood (Sem.)

*"Then I will give you shepherds  
after My own heart, who will feed  
you knowledge and  
understanding." Jeremiah 3:15*

*Guide Mary to the Tomb*



**Jesus Appears To The Disciples**

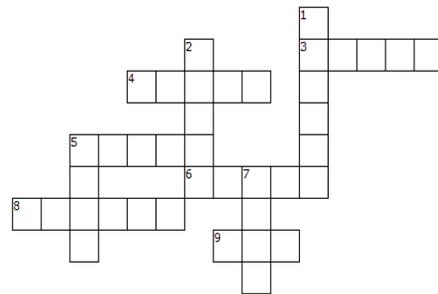
R	E	R	E	C	E	I	V	E	E	S	S	M	T
F	F	D	S	S	I	D	E	D	D	I	E	A	O
H	E	J	E	S	U	S	E	N	D	I	L	R	G
R	A	B	A	B	S	T	A	S	T	O	P	K	E
K	R	E	T	I	V	H	S	I	E	B	I	S	T
B	O	L	B	L	E	S	S	E	D	N	C	N	H
D	R	I	O	E	D	A	O	C	E	A	S	W	E
R	J	E	J	O	M	I	S	S	V	I	I	R	R
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L	S	E	T	T	R	I	M	S	N	C	I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

STOP  
HANDS  
NAIL  
PEACE  
FORGIVE  
SINS  
TOMAS  
BLESSED  
SIDE  
RECEIVE  
LORD  
JESUS  
MARKS  
SPIRIT  
BREATHED  
HOLY  
TOGETHER  
DOORS  
DISCIPLES  
WRITTEN  
FEAR  
SENDING  
BELIEVE  
EVENING

**Believe It or Not!**

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it." John 20:25

Based on John 20:19-31 (NIV)



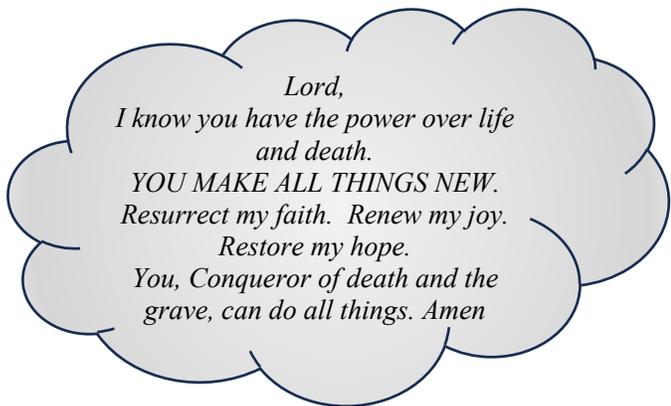
**ACROSS**

- To be in a state of pleasure, satisfaction, joy or delight
- Free from conflict; getting along with others; opposite of war
- To be undecided or unbelieving that something is true
- The body parts at the end of the arms
- Not open
- To break God's law

**DOWN**

- The disciple who would not believe without seeing
- To believe in something for which there is no proof
- An entrance into a building or room
- A thin piece of metal with one pointed end and one flat end which you hit with a hammer

PEACE	DOOR	HANDS	FAITH	HAPPY
NAIL	THOMAS	CLOSED	SIN	DOUBT



# Eucharistic Miracle of TURIN

ITALY, 1640



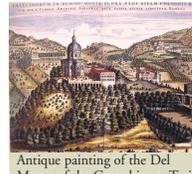
During the invasion by Count Harcourt's army, the soldiers entered the Church of St. Maria del Monte and killed many civilians. The lives of the Capuchin friars, however, were spared. A French soldier succeeded in opening the tabernacle which contained a ciborium with several consecrated Hosts. Flames of fire miraculously blazed out to envelop him - burning his face and his clothing. The door of the tabernacle which is adorned with agate and lapislazuli or blue stones still shows the imprint of the soldier's scorched hand.



The Capuchin Church of the Monte



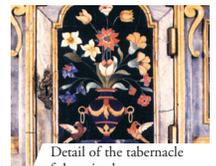
Interior of the Church



Antique painting of the Del Monte of the Capuchins at Turin



Ancient painting exhibited in the Church portraying the miracle



Detail of the tabernacle of the miracle

In 1640, the French army of Count Harcourt crossed the River Po and advanced to the Capuchin Friars' Church of the Monte. Friar Pier Maria da Cambiano, a Capuchin friar, describes in great detail the Eucharistic miracle that occurred during the French troops' occupation of the Church of Santa Maria del Monte.

*The region of Piedmont* was overrun with foreign troops. After Casale Monferrato was liberated from the Spaniards, the French advanced to Turin. On May 6, 1640 they arrived at Chieri, on the 7th at Moncalieri, and on the 10th they finally reached Turin. Having occupied the left bank of the Po River, they launched an offensive attack and gained control of the bridge. From there they advanced to the Capuchin Monastery of the Monte. However, it was not that

secure a position. On the morning of May 12, they launched a double attack on the trenches. They were twice repelled. On the third assault, however, our troops were compelled to lay down their arms and flee with the civilian population to seek shelter and safety in the sanctuary of a holy place the church.

The invaders, nevertheless, entered the church and slaughtered the men and women, the young and the old, civilians and troops alike; even those who braced themselves onto the altars or who took refuge in the arms of the Capuchin friars. They pleaded for their lives and for their freedom. None of the friars were wounded but their hearts were distraught at the sight of so much bloodshed and carnage. The soldiers trashed sacred vessels and vestments

and they sacked the friary since the refugees had stored some of their household items and furniture for safe keeping. And after, in the church itself (too horrible to recount!) they committed brutal acts of debauchery!

As if all that were not enough, a French soldier, who was an unbeliever, climbed onto the altar and forced open the tabernacle to seize the ciborium and the sacred Hosts it held in order to desecrate the Hosts. And then, a miracle!! A flame of fire blazed out of the ciborium directly onto the sacrilegious Frenchman; it scorched his uniform and his face! The terrified soldier threw himself to the floor screaming and asking God's forgiveness. The church was suddenly filled with dense smoke. Between the terror and the astonishment felt by all, the vandalism ceased!