



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



**Father Todd Petersen**

507.227.2657

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Parish Secretary: Caren Buysse – 872.6346

Area Faith Website: [www.goodteacherafc.com](http://www.goodteacherafc.com)

Director of Religious Education: Corissa Van Keulen  
[goodteacherafcre@hotmail.com](mailto:goodteacherafcre@hotmail.com)

Deacon: Bruce Bot – 828.7012  
Jason Myhre – 829.2829  
Travis Welsh – 829.0986

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

St. Edward & St. Eloi Email:

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

FORMED: [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org)

St. Edward Facebook:

St. Edward Catholic Church

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

St. Edward & St. Eloi Office Mailing Address:

408 N. Washington St.  
Minneota, MN 56264

St. Eloi Facebook: St. Eloi Catholic Church

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

Bulletin Info due by Wednesday at 4 pm

Bulletin Coordinator: Ruth Bot

Bulletin Email: [bulletinsteds@gmail.com](mailto:bulletinsteds@gmail.com)

Hospitality Meals – Marlene Polejewski:  
828.5878

Catholic Charities: 1.866.670.5163

Facebook: One More Time Thrift Store

## *Sunday, December 3, 2023* *The First Sunday of Advent*

### *Monday, December 4*

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

### *Tuesday, December 5*

12:00 pm Convent Mass

(Frank, Delores, Richard, & Shirley Sussner)

3:00 pm Mass at Madison Ave. Apt. (Marjorie Naber)

### *Wednesday, December 6*

10:30 am Mass at St. Edward Grades 7 & 8

(Chris Hennen & Craig Ahmann)

• 10:00 am Confession before Mass

12:00 pm Convent Mass

(Gary Nuytten & deceased family & friends)

5:30 pm RE Grades 1 – 5

6:30 pm RE Grades 6 – 11

6:30 pm Women's Bible Study – Opening Your Heart

6:30 pm Adoration at St. Edward – All are invited!

### *Thursday, December 7*

12:00 pm Convent Mass (Leo & Isabelle Hennen)

5:30 pm Mass at St. Edward (Rosary Society)

### *Friday, December 8 – Immaculate Conception of Mary*

5:45 am TMIY (Knights' Hall)

10:30 am Mass at St. Edward Staff (Bernice Kloos)

12:00 pm Convent Mass (Jim Driemeyer)

5:30 pm Mass at St. Eloi

### *Saturday, December 9*

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

5:30 pm Mass at St. Edward (Barb Sumerfelt)

• 4:45 pm Confession before Mass

### *Sunday, December 10*

8:30 am Mass at St. Edward (Jerry & Pat Stoneberg)

• 8:00 am Confession before Mass

9:30 am Sunday FIRE "Monks, Virgins,  
and Hermits"

10:30 am Mass at St. Eloi (For the people)

• 10:00 am Confession before Mass

Dear Parishioners,

Welcome to Advent! This Advent is the shortest it can be, and on that note, Christmas season is also the shortest it can be as we will celebrate the Baptism of the Lord on Monday, January 8. Because of this, even more than most years, I encourage being more intentional about keeping Advent and avoiding too much of Christmas until December 25.

Advent is a time of spiritual preparation. It is marked by penance (while perhaps not as intense as Lent). Taking time to pray, to go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation, perhaps even fasting and almsgiving, are laudable practices. If we blur the seasons, by the time Christmas is here, have we already peaked our Christmas joy?

As we begin this new liturgical year, we begin a new year on the Lectionary Cycle – Cycle B. Most of our readings for Sundays will be from the Gospel according to St. Mark. This Gospel is shortest of all, and some suggested that it might be the earliest, though there is credible suggestions that St. Matthew's account was first.

St. Mark writes with a certain 'breathless' quality – he uses "immediately" and the word "and" so much that the Gospel comes across as a tale told quickly. St. Mark is often depicted as a lion – and because he roars into the Gospel, it seems to be a fair depiction.

This Friday is the Holy Day of Obligation for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary. As we celebrate the conception of the Blessed Mother in the womb of her mother, St. Anne, we celebrate the action of God in preparing her a most worthy Mother of the Son of God. Please see the bulletin for the Mass times.

With that, I am writing with ample warning. As Christmas falls on a Monday this year, we have a unique situation again. As we are obligated to attend Mass on Sunday (either anticipated on Saturday evening or Sunday typically), and on Christmas (either Christmas Eve or Christmas Day). The Christmas Eve Masses (4:30 pm at St. Eloi or 10:00 pm at St. Edward) meet the obligation only for Christmas, not the 4th Sunday of Advent. So, the situation might be that you attend Sunday morning and Sunday evening for 2 separate celebrations (and therefore could receive both times), or Saturday evening for the Fourth Sunday of Advent and Monday for Christmas or any other combination.

Please plan accordingly to meet both the obligations (Saturday evening or Sunday Morning for the Fourth Sunday of Advent, and

Sunday evening – Christmas Eve and Monday – Christmas Day). Note that the Feast of Mary, Mother of God, typically a holy Day of Obligation as well, will not be obligatory this year as it falls on Monday.

In Christ,

Fr. Todd



## ST. ELOI

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED	DIFFERENCE
Adult	\$4,183.00	\$2,110.26	\$2,072.74
Loose	\$157.00	\$146.15	\$10.85
Commodity			
Year-to-Date	\$38,411.90	\$48,237.34	(\$9,825.44)

### ST. ELOI LITURGY SCHEDULE

#### Friday, December 8 – Immaculate Conception – 5:30 pm

Sacristan: Darla Timmerman  
 Servers: Xavier & Mark Rabaey  
 Lector: Mike Van Keulen  
 Musicians: John Rabaey Family  
 Offertory Gifts: Mike & Julie Speltz Family  
 Eucharistic Ministers: Beth Brewers, Shirley Maeyaert  
 Cup: Mary Jo Bossuyt, Linda Oftedahl  
 Ushers: Mike Monnet, Brian Timmerman, Daren Van Keulen

#### Sunday, December 10

Sacristan: Cindy Nelson  
 Servers: Gregory Rabaey, Tyler Welsh  
 Lector: Steve Hennen  
 Musicians: Barb & Brad Hennen  
 Offertory Gifts: Ron & Angela Fischer-Sussner  
 Eucharistic Ministers: Mary Jo Bossuyt, Lila Schmidt  
 Ushers: Mike Monnet, Brian Timmerman, Daren Van Keulen

## ST. EDWARD

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED	DIFFERENCE
Adult	\$2,603.00	\$4,829.92	(\$2,226.92)
Loose	\$140.00	\$153.85	(\$ 13.85)
Online Giving	\$480.00	*Added to the adult envelope total	
Commodity			
Year-to-Date	\$88,804.55	\$111,985.39	(\$23,180.84)

### ST. EDWARD LITURGY SCHEDULE

#### Thursday, December 7 – Immaculate Conception – 5:30 pm

Sacristan: Cindy Novotny  
 Servers: Tom & Tim DeSmet  
 Lector: Tim Gossen  
 Eucharistic Minister: Michael Ludwikowski, Mary Myhre,  
 Nate Welsh  
 Ushers: Volunteers

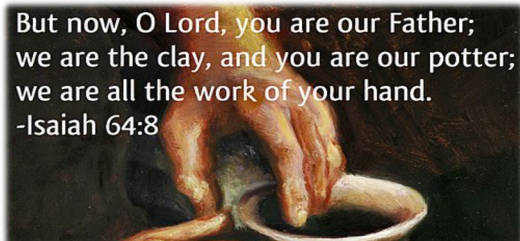
#### Saturday, December 9

Sacristan: Margrit Rabaey  
 Servers: Sam & Charlie Myhre  
 Lector: Fred Rabaey  
 Eucharistic Minister: Margrit Rabaey  
 Ushers: Mike Longtin, Bruce & Cindy Novotny, Chuck Vlaminck

#### Sunday, December 10

Sacristan: Fran Sturm  
 Servers: RJ & Reed Sorensen  
 Lector: Joe Callens  
 Eucharistic Minister: Terry Van Keulen  
 Usher: Richie Sorensen

But now, O Lord, you are our Father;  
 we are the clay, and you are our potter;  
 we are all the work of your hand.  
 -Isaiah 64:8



## ST. EDWARD SCHOOL NEWS

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

December 13 – Christmas Concert at 1:30 pm AND 6:30 pm  
 There will be BBQ pork sandwich meal before the 6:30 performance. Proceeds benefit scholarships for graduates of St. Edward.

## 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)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ROSARY INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER

- ✠ For devotion to the Christ Child
- ✠ That the love of Mary and the Christ Child may be a source of strength for every mother
- ✠ That fathers will model Joseph in practicing their faith so they will lead by example

### CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

It's nearing the time of year the liturgy committees will be decorating St. Edward and St. Eloi for Christmas. Please consider helping out by donating the cost of a poinsettia 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 an envelope and place it in the collection basket.

### CHRISTMAS DECORATING

The St. Edward Liturgy Committee would appreciate assistance decorating for Christmas. Decorating will take place on Sunday, December 17, after 8:30 am Mass. If you can only help for 15 minutes or the entire hour, that's great! "Many hands make light work." Christmas decorations will be taken down after the 8:30 am mass on January 7, and help will be appreciated that day also.

### CCW SERVICE PROJECT

Volunteers needed for Christmas decorating, cookie baking, and visiting with the residents of the Minneota Assisted Living facility on Sunday, December 3, from 2:00 – 4:00 pm.

If anyone has miniature Christmas trees, door decorations, window décor, etc. they would like to bring in to help the residents decorate their rooms that would be terrific. Check out the Thrift Store for decorations – they have a good supply.

Also, anyone who likes to bake or cannot be there on that date, please feel free to bake some Christmas cookies that can be shared with the residents while we visit. This is such a great way to renew or start a new friendship and spend time with people who really love visitors.

Anyone interested in helping please call/text Lisa Hennen at 605.391-2748. There will also be a "take down" of the

decorations at a future date in January 2024, at which time you can revisit residents and collect your decorations as they do not have room to store them in their apartments. Thank you!

### **BOXES OF JOY**

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Boxes of Joy project in terms of gifts and time. We were able to pack up 80 boxes. WOW! They have been shipped and are on their journey of being processed and being sent to the children. Thank you for your generosity!

### **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS – ST. JOSEPH ON DISPLAY**

Every few years the Knights of Columbus selects an icon of a saint whose patronage is particularly inspiring to Knights and their communities. Each jurisdiction receives one of these icons which travel from council to council and serve as the centerpieces for prayer services in parishes throughout the Order.

This year St. Joseph has been chosen. Because of his special role as foster-father of the Child Jesus, St. Joseph has merited singular privileges in heaven unmatched by any saint except the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The St. Joseph Icon will be on display from December 3 – 10, 2023, at St. Edward.

### **BLOOD DRIVE AT KB'S BALLROOM – December 12**

Give Blood—Help Save Lives! Red Cross Blood Drive December 12, 2023, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm at KB's Ballroom. All donors will receive a \$10 Amazon gift card by email. To make an appointment go to "redcrossblood.org" or phone 1.800.733.2767 or Mary Jo at 507.532.3003.

### **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)).

### **COFFEE AND ROLLS – St. Edward**

Coffee & rolls is schedule for the first Sunday of each month. Please contact Tina Myhre if you would be willing to sponsor and help with any of the following dates: January 7, February 4, or March 10.

All donations go to your cause.

### **PRAYER REQUESTS & PETITIONS**

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

#### Week of December 4 – December 10

† Nicole (Stiklestad) Marschall who is dealing with cancer

### **YEAR-END GIVING**

The end of the year is not far away, and it is time to start thinking of strategies to maximize the tax benefits of year-end giving. Federal tax laws and many state laws make it possible to reduce or eliminate taxes on gifts to charities like your parish, diocese, schools, and other ministries. Remember that only gifts made by December 31, can help reduce the amount of taxes you owe next April.

Please consult your professional tax advisor for tax strategies for your personal situation.

#### **Gifts of Cash**

The most popular way to give to charity is still by cash or check. Gifts completed by December 31, will qualify for

tax deductibility for the current tax year. Gifts of cash qualify for up to one-half of your adjusted gross income (AGI). You must receive an acknowledgement for gifts of \$250 or more. For more information about giving gifts of cash, please contact Caren at the parish office.

#### **Gift of Grain**

Farmers can qualify for income and self-employment tax savings on raised grain if the unsold grain is gifted to your parish. The grain must be delivered to an elevator and the actual storage ticket should be given to the parish. To qualify for the tax savings, it's critical that the parish sells the grain and not the person gifting the grain. To learn more about the benefits of charitable giving of grain, contact Caren at the parish office.

### **EXODUS 90**

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 ninety-day program that gets us back to the fundamentals of the Christian faith: prayer, self-denial, and fraternity. It starts on January 1, 2024, and ends on March 31, 2024, Easter Sunday.

You can check it out for yourself at [Exodus90.com](http://Exodus90.com) or use the QR code. If interested or for more information contact, Joseph Callens at 507.828.2894 or [josephcallens67@gmail.com](mailto:josephcallens67@gmail.com)

We start Jan. 1, 2024:

[MenOfExodus.com](http://MenOfExodus.com)



### **YEAR OF WINNING**

Week 2 – Congratulations! The winner is ... Susan Pohlen

### **SAVE THE DATE (St. Eloi plans ahead!)**

Freewill Soup and Chili Dinner sponsored by St. Eloi Catholic Church on Sunday, April 7, serving from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm. There will also be a silent auction and free bingo for kids with prizes.

Proceeds go to Religious Education Program and Catholic School Subsidies.



### **AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

For the persons with disabilities ~

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

<https://popesprayerusa.net/2022/02/14/pope-francis-reveals-2023-prayer-intentions/>

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

Sunday, December 3, 2023 St. Leo Church Basement  
Warm-up games at 12:30 pm – Jackpot games at 1:30 pm  
Lunch starts at noon. Donation: \$15 per ticket  
18 - \$50 games with \$200 and \$300 jackpots  
Proceeds will support Catholic education.

#### **HOLY REDEEMER COOKIE WALK**

Holy Redeemer CCW will host the 11th Annual Cookie Walk on Saturday, December 9. It will be held from 8:30 - 10:00 am at Carlin Hall in Holy Redeemer Church.



Purchase a new bucket for \$17 and fill with assorted cookies and treats. Bring back a previously purchased bucket and fill for \$15. You may pre-order a filled bucket for \$17.

There will be fresh baked rolls, coffee, and assorted beverages. To pre-order, please call or text 507.476.0851 or 507.828.8949.

**CATHOLIC UNITED FINANCIAL COUNCIL #307**

Catholic United Financial Council 307 will hold their annual Christmas Party and Meeting on Sunday, December 10, 2023, at 12:00 p.m. in the St. John Cantius Church Basement.

A traditional Christmas dinner will be served at noon followed by a meeting. Please RSVP to Cheryl Downing 605.695.7630 or Merlin Downing 507.694.1209 by December 3, so we know how many people to expect.

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE – December 16, 2023**

Join in a one-day pilgrimage from New Ulm to LaCrosse, WI to visit the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

*Saturday, December 16 7:00 am – 7:30 pm*

This cost is \$50 and includes a light breakfast, lunch, & dinner. Travel will be by coach bus.

For more information, check out this link:

[www.dnu.org/2023-pilgrimage-to-shrine-of-our-lady-of-guadalupe](http://www.dnu.org/2023-pilgrimage-to-shrine-of-our-lady-of-guadalupe).

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

**Monday, December 4**

Fr. Josh Bot  
Fr. David Breu  
Dcn. Russ Blaschko  
Brent Sundve (Sem.)

**Tuesday, December 5**

Fr. Eugene Brown  
Fr. Pat Casey  
Dcn. Bruce Bot  
Noah U'Ren (Sem.)

**Wednesday, December 6**

Fr. Jim Devorak  
Fr. Mike Doyle  
Dcn. Rick Christiansen  
Matt Wood (Sem.)

**Thursday, December 7**

Fr. Cornelius Ezeiloaku  
Fr. Fred Fink  
Dcn. Tim Dolan  
David Rabaey (Sem.)

**Friday, December 8**

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

**Saturday, December 9**

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

**Sunday, December 10**

Fr. Jeff Horejsi  
Fr. Ron Huberty  
Dcn. Arthur Abel  
Matt Wood (Sem.)

*“Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men.”  
Colossians 3:23*

**Radio Rosary**

Dec. 4: Sponsored by the Ivanhoe Knights of Columbus

Dec. 5: In memory of Leon & Marie Coudron by Tom & Madeline Swedzinski

Dec. 6: In memory of Phyllis Bot by the Richard Bot family

Dec. 7: In memory of Vin & Judy Bot & Pam Haukom by their family

Dec. 8: In memory of Yvonne Wartner by Marian & Leonard Louwagie

Dec. 9: In memory of Doug & Jane Louwagie by Marian & Leonard Louwagie

Dec. 10: In memory of Allan Van Keulen and his deceased relatives by his family

To schedule a radio rosary, call Carol Louwagie at 532.6081

**SACRAMENTS OF THE CHURCH**

**Baptism, Marriage, Anointing of the Sick, Becoming Catholic** – Call the church office: 872.6346

**Eucharist to Shut-ins:**

St. Eloi – Sandy Nuytten 829.9690

St. Edward – December 9 Jason Myhre 872.6803

**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 – 828.7012

**Lighting the First Advent Candle**

This candle has traditionally been referred to as "**Prophet's Candle**" reminding us that Jesus is coming. The theological virtue of HOPE is at the center of the first week of Advent. This is the virtue practiced by the prophets and the entire Jewish race for 4,000 years, as they waited in expectation for the promised Savior. And it is the virtue each Christian must practice throughout his or her lifetime and is so well defined in the Act of Hope: "...I hope to obtain forgiveness of my sins, the help of Thy grace and life everlasting."

We embark on our Advent journey as we light the first purple candle. As the first candle is lit, the following prayer may be said:

*O God, Rejoicing, we remember the promise of your Son. As the light from this candle, may the blessing of Christ come upon us, brightening our way and guiding us by His truth.*

*May Christ our Savior bring life into the darkness of our world, and to us as we wait for His coming. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen*

**Advent Wreath**

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

EMMANUEL	JESSE	BETHLEHEM	ANGEL	LIGHT
HOPE	GREEN	EVERGREENS	GOD	CANDLE
WREATH	SUNDAY	CELEBRATE	SAVIOR	CHRIST
CHRISTMAS	MESSIAH	ISAIAH	ADVENT	JESUS
PREPARE				