



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



Father Todd Petersen

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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 10, 2023 The Second Sunday of Advent

### Monday, December 11

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

### Tuesday, December 12

12:00 pm Convent Mass (Charles & Elizabeth Bot)

3:00 pm Mass at Madison Ave. Apt.  
(Albert & Margaret Callens)

### Wednesday, December 13

10:30 am Mass at St. Edward Grades 5 & 6  
(Armand Dandurand)

- 10:00 am Confession before Mass
- 12:00 pm Convent Mass (Bob & Florence Determan)
- 1:30 pm St. Edward Christmas Concert
- 5:00 – 6:30 pm Scholarship Meal before Christmas Concert
- 6:30 pm St. Edward Christmas Concert
- 7:30 pm Choir practice in St. Edward choir loft

### Thursday, December 14

7:00 am Mass at St. Edward (Mary Bernardy)

- 6:30 am Confession before Mass
- 12:00 pm Convent Mass (Lawrence & Regina Fox)
- 5:00 – 7:00 pm Adoration at St. Edward

### Friday, December 15

12:00 pm Convent Mass (Richard & Phyllis Bot)

### Saturday, December 16

- 12:00 pm Convent Mass (Special Intention K)
- 5:30 pm Mass at St. Edward (For the people)
- 4:45 pm Confession before Mass

### Sunday, December 17

- 8:30 am Mass at St. Edward (Louis & Mary Buysse)
- 8:00 am Confession before Mass
- 9:30 am Sunday FIRE "Baptizing the Barbarians"
- 10:30 am Mass at St. Eloi (Vic Monnet)
- 10:00 am Confession before Mass

Dear Parishioners,

Our Advent journey continues. We light another candle on the wreath, and we continue to prepare our hearts. I would like to point out the great good of going to the Sacrament of Reconciliation. I offer them before the daily Masses (with the exception of Wednesdays which are reserved for the St. Edward students).

Do not worry if it has been a while, and do not worry if you forgot how. Neither is a concern to me or any priest who is aware of the great mercy our Lord offers in the Sacrament. Also, don't be ashamed of your sins – we are all sinners, but shame is not of God and forces us to withdraw from Him. Shame, in the end, is the lie that "I am Bad." Guilt, on the other hand the awareness that I did a bad thing, but our Lord loves us and invites us to return. Also, do not be ashamed of repetitive sins.

I frankly do not remember any confessions, and if I do it is only if the Holy Spirit allows it for some good (like being able to offer some deeper help). But also, while not giving in to continued sin, the fact we are not sinning in other ways, or that we fall into the same temptations and sins, can be seen as a positive sign – as long as we are living with the Lord's grace. Just confess and keep growing in God's Grace.

On Tuesday of this week (December 12), we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Our Lady appeared to St. Juan Diego in 1535, just years after the Protestant reformation and the discovery of the Americas. The Church had a presence in Mexico, but conversions of the natives were rare. Juan Diego was one of the few, and indeed he was on the way to Mass when Our Lady first appeared.

After the apparitions, many came to the faith. Much of this is credited to the image that was imprinted on the tilma St. Juan was wearing on that fateful day when the Blessed Mother granted him a sign of her authenticity – roses that were out of season. As he dropped the tilma to reveal the roses to the Bishop, the image of our Lady was there – an image that is rife in symbolism to the natives – a pregnant virgin, a powerful woman who is greater than the sun (a god in their religion), and yet submissive to another.

There are so many other signs in this image. The stars are in the arrangement of that night, the reflection of the Bishop can be seen in the eye of our Lady (like real eyes would reflect), and the fact that the tilma is still intact, despite its humble makeup (agave fibers) which generally decay within decades, yet are intact almost 500 years later. Let us ask our Lady of Guadalupe for her intercession, and especially for the unborn.

In Christ,  
Fr. Todd



## ST. ELOI

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED	DIFFERENCE
Adult	\$1,245.00	\$2,110.26	\$865.26
Loose	\$159.00	\$146.15	\$12.85
Commodity			
Year-to-Date	\$39,815.90	\$51,097.09	(\$11,281.19)

### ST. ELOI LITURGY SCHEDULE

#### Sunday, December 17

Sacristan: Lila Schmidt

Servers: Leo Hennen, Toby Wambeke

Lector: Monica Senden

Musicians: John Rabaey Family

Offertory Gifts: Jason & Alia Thooft Family

Eucharistic Ministers: Ron Sussner, Caroline Van Keulen

Ushers: Mike Monnet, Brian Timmerman, Daren Van Keulen

## ST. EDWARD

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED	DIFFERENCE
Adult	\$3,585.00	\$4,829.92	(\$1,244.92)
Loose	\$133.00	\$153.85	(\$ 20.85)
Online Giving	\$1,423.00	*Added to the adult envelope total	
Commodity			
Year-to-Date	\$92,522.77	\$119,431.43	(\$26,908.66)

### ST. EDWARD LITURGY SCHEDULE

#### Saturday, December 16

Sacristan: Claren Novotny

Servers: Bryce & Kaitlyn Gorecki

Lector: Mary Ann Christensen

Eucharistic Minister: Jeff Buysse

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

#### Sunday, December 17

Sacristan: Joe Callens

Servers: Naomi & Declan Evjen, Elizabeth Garvey

Lector: Dylan Evjen

Eucharistic Minister: Seth Myhre

Usher: Richie Sorensen

## ST. EDWARD SCHOOL NEWS

Principal: Jaci Garvey Secretary: Trudy Banks  
jgarvey@stedscatholicschool.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 & NEW YEARS MASS SCHEDULE

#### Sunday, December 24

8:30 am St. Edward 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

10:30 am St. Eloi 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

4:30 pm St. Eloi Christmas (anticipatory)

10:00 pm St. Edward Christmas (anticipatory)

#### Monday, December 25

8:30 am St. Edward Christmas

10:30 am St. Eloi Christmas

#### Saturday, December 30

5:30 pm St. Edward

#### Sunday, December 31

8:30 am St. Edward

10:30 am St. Eloi

#### Monday, January 1

8:30 am St. Edward Mary, Mother of God

10:30 am St. Eloi Mary, Mother of God

### 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.

### CHOIR FOR CHRISTMAS EVE – St. Edward

There will be two choir practices for Sunday, December 24, at the 10:00 pm Mass. The practices will be:

Wednesday, December 13, at 7:30 pm in the choir loft.

Wednesday, December 20, at 7:30 pm in the choir loft.

### 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 [snytten@frontiernet.net](mailto:snytten@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 11 – December 17

† Nicole (Stiklestad) Marschall who is dealing with cancer

† Francis Rabaey

### **ONLINE GIVING – St. Edward**

There is an option for parishioners of St. Edward to give their weekly, monthly, or capital campaign donations online. The first of the year would be a great time to make this change. This is a safe and convenient way for you to make your donation to St. Ed's.

If you would like to sign up for this, here is the website:

<https://www.osvhub.com/st-eds-church/giving/funds>



### **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 Securities & Appreciated Assets**

Gifts of stock, bonds, mutual funds, and certain other property that have increased in value can result in even greater tax savings than gifts of cash. If you have owned such investments for longer than one year you can generally donate them to your parish and deduct their full current value, even if it far exceeds your original cost.

Congress has provided that in addition to regular tax savings, you also do not have to pay capital gains tax

when these assets are given to a qualifying charity. This "extra" tax savings is another reason why some choose to make their gifts this way.

You can also give assets to your parish that have decreased in value. You may receive a tax deduction of the incurred loss. The total amount of your loss and the charitable deduction may be more than the current value of the donated asset. To learn more about the benefits of charitable giving of assets, please contact Caren at the parish office.

#### **Donor Advised Fund**

Did you have an event that resulted in higher taxable income this year? Maybe it was the sale of a business, company stock, or other appreciated asset. Or maybe your income is just higher this year. A donor advised fund can allow you to receive a charitable deduction for your giving this year, while providing you the flexibility to use it for charitable giving over time. For more info on how to set up a Donor Advised Fund, please 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 3 – Congratulations! The winner is ... Stacey Longtin

#### **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/>

#### **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 it for \$15.

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 11**

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

**Tuesday, December 12**

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

**Wednesday, December 13**

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

**Thursday, December 14**

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

**Friday, December 15**

Fr. John Nordick  
Fr. Brian Oestreich  
David Rabaey (Sem.)

**Saturday, December 16**

Fr. Jerome Paulson  
Fr. Sam Perez  
Brent Sundve (Sem.)

**Sunday, December 17**

Fr. Todd Petersen  
Fr. John Pearson  
Dcn. Mark Kober  
Noah U'Ren (Sem.)

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

**Radio Rosary**

- Dec. 11: In memory of Phyllis Bot by her family
- Dec. 12: Sponsored by the Ivanhoe Knights of Columbus
- Dec. 13: In memory of Diane Buysse by Bob & family
- Dec. 14: In memory of Clarence Louwagie by Pat Louwagie & family
- Dec. 15: In memory of Vin & Judy Bot & Pam Haukom by their family
- Dec. 16: In memory of Doug & Jane Louwagie by Greg & Diane Louwagie
- Dec. 17: In memory of Doug & Jane Louwagie by Phyllis & Ken Persoon

To schedule a radio rosary, call Carol Louwagie at 532.6081

**ADVENT - Coming, Hoping, Longing, Loving, Offering, Preparing, Praying, Pondering, Purifying, Rejoicing, Redeeming, Waiting**

**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 16 Bruce Bot 828.7012

**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 Second Advent Candle**

As we progress through the spiritual journey of Advent, the **second Sunday traditionally symbolizes the virtue of Faith**. The second purple candle that is lit on this day is known as the "Bethlehem Candle." Reflecting on the journey of Mary and St. Joseph to Bethlehem during the weeks leading up to the first Christmas is a good way to remain in a spirit of humble reflection and penance.

As the second 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*

O King of all nations, Jesus Christ, only joy of every heart, Come and save your people.

**JOHN THE BAPTIST**

A J M S Q P B Q H R J J V T K K F B W V J X S L  
A C N J G U A P S W C H M P M F B W H Q K E P V  
Z S S E N R E D L I W E K H A E G C S H X D Z N  
O U T S F V L K X F M A K U F Q L Q A Q W Z G F  
F S R R X J E M W C U V L Y I S J V V C H M N S  
K V R E T A W H T E N E C A F Y G X V T N M N V  
J D Z Z R M I U F S Q N P O K D O V E B W C S Q  
D H O B A I K X K E S H H K T C C G N C Q L H M  
J G U L A J A J B B Q I D T L E B R E H T A E L  
C G M B Q P G H P E C X E F Z X V M H H O M T O  
C L I M Y K T W L A W P B L J P L E A S E D Z T  
P Z U L H J X I D E C Y L C Z I T P C T T A I Q  
G D T Y G E H S Z H M M I N U U A Z X K Q H D C  
S W P W A S O S N E R A J O R D A N R I V E R E  
C R V Y U U X O N M I M C H K Y K S B G I R P W  
S H F E H S Z N H K J T Q S S F C G B W Y N C G  
B L G N C L I R U T Z W Z J C I J Y J E J O Y D  
Z L J O J U O B P F S Z G O A V F F E R C Z T A  
D V H H F R B C K I T J R Q M N S S T T V N O W  
S X N T I W O Z U T V C S L N H X S S H X P K P  
M I M S W K Q I E S H W W D V O J R R X T J L F  
B H K K I M G S M B T K D Y C J C W Q H G R T F  
Y M U J U P E P W H M K O K K P E P S R F L  
O E S I S V Z A M H G W Q S U U A U Y T F U B K  
SON WILDERNESS LEATHER BELT SKY LOCUST  
PLEASED WATER JORDAN RIVER JOHN JESUS  
HONEY CAMEL HAIR DOVE BAPTIZE HEAVEN