



# 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)  
Religious Ed Coordinator: Tina Myhre  
[goodteacherafcre@hotmail.com](mailto:goodteacherafcre@hotmail.com)

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

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)

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

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 Coordinator: Ruth Bot  
Bulletin Email: [bulletinsteds@gmail.com](mailto:bulletinsteds@gmail.com)  
Bulletin Info due by Wednesday at 9 am

Catholic Charities: 1.866.670.5163  
Victim's Hotline: 1.800.422.4453  
Facebook: One More Time Thrift Store

## Sunday, December 5, 2021 The Second Sunday of Advent

### Monday, December 6 – St. Nicholas Day

12:00 pm Mass at St. Eloi Convent (Presider's intention)

### Tuesday, December 7

12:00 pm Mass at St. Eloi Convent (David Speltz)  
3:00 pm Apartment Mass – *residents only*  
(Harry & Maria Guza & family)  
6:00 pm Mass at St. Edward – Immaculate Conception

### Wednesday, December 8

10:30 am Mass at St. Edward (Rosary Society)  
• 10:00 am Confession before Mass  
12:00 pm Mass at St. Eloi Convent  
(Francis, Delores, Richard, & Shirley Sussner)  
1:30 pm Christmas Program Matinee  
5:30 pm Mass at St. Eloi – Immaculate Conception  
5:30 pm Supper at St. Edward – before the Christmas Program  
7:00 pm Christmas Program  
8:00 pm Teen Talk

### Thursday, December 9

7:00 am Mass at St. Edward (Stanley Rhode)  
• 6:30 am Confession before Mass  
12:00 pm Mass at St. Eloi Convent (Emil & Louise Goossens)  
5:00 – 7:00 pm Adoration at St. Edward

### Friday, December 10

5:45 am That Man Is You  
7:00 am Mass at St. Edward (Richard Kimpe)  
12:00 pm Mass at St. Eloi Convent (Presider's intention)

### Saturday, December 11

12:00 pm Mass at St. Eloi Convent  
(Ed, Marie Rose, Thomas, & Jessica Boerboom)  
5:30 pm Mass at St. Edward (For the people)  
• 4:45 pm Confession before Mass

### Sunday, December 12

8:30 am Mass at St. Edward (Pat & Jerry Stoneberg)  
• 8:00 am Confession before Mass  
9:30 – 10:30 Sunday FIRE in Knights' Hall  
10:30 am Mass at St. Eloi (Ed Buysse)  
• 10:00 am Confession before Mass  
7:00 pm Adoration at St. Eloi

Dear Parishioners,

Monday is the (optional) memorial of St. Nicholas, the Bishop who would become Santa Claus. He is so much more, and it is sad that the myth of Santa Claus is celebrated while the real St. Nicholas is largely forgotten.

St. Nicholas lived in the fourth century. He was orphaned by his wealthy parents during an epidemic, and he devoted the use of his inheritance to helping those in need. He provided dowries to the three daughters of a man who lost his fortune, saving them from prostitution. According to the legend, he threw the money down the chimney to land in the man's stockings or shoes, placed near the fireplace to dry out. (In art, he is depicted often with 3 purses or gold orbs to commemorate this).

There is a myth that he raised a boy who had been murdered and placed in a pickle brine. He made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, and when a storm threatened the ship, they were saved through his prayers. When Myra (in modern-day Turkey) needed a new bishop, he was selected. He preached the truth despite the threats of the Empire of the Arians (who denied the equality of the divinity of Christ to God the Father). According to legend, he was so angered by Arius at the council of Nicaea (325 A.D.), that he slapped Arius. The Council eventually defined that Christ was equal with the Father in the Holy Trinity, and that Mary was appropriately to be called the Theotokos (God-bearer) or Mother of God. He also was a force against the remain pagan elements of his time, tearing down shrines and temples to the pagan gods.

When he died on December 6, 343, he was buried in Myra, but later his remains were transferred to Bari (on the 'heel' of modern-day Italy). He is venerated as the patron of children and sailors, in addition to several cities and territories. He is especially venerated in Russia. While there are 'elements' in the modern image of Santa Claus (the red of a Bishop, the shape of his hat being similar to the bishop's mitre, etc.), St. Nicholas is so much more.

Wednesday is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We recall how God preserved the Blessed Mother from the moment of her conception from original and personal sin – done through a singular act of grace that she was given salvation from that first moment by Christ, who was to be born through her. It is a Holy Day of Obligation. Please note the Mass schedule in the bulletin.

Next Sunday, December 12, is the anniversary of the apparition of our Lady of Guadalupe. Our Sunday FIRE will entail a video on the apparition, and I hope that many will either

attend in person or take the opportunity to watch the video on their own to learn about it, and why it matters.

One thing that I like to point out – before the apparition, the friars had little success in leading the natives of Mexico to Christ – in the tilma of St. Juan Diego, they saw the Blessed Mother as one of them, leading them to God. Millions were converted to the faith, even as in Europe, millions were leaving the Catholic faith and beginning to reject the Blessed Mother.

In Christ,  
Fr. Todd

## ST. ELOI

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED	DIFFERENCE
Adult	\$3,381.46	\$2,110.26	\$1,271.20
Loose	\$214.00	\$146.15	\$67.85
Commodity	\$		\$
Year-to-Date	\$51,314.82	\$48,889.19	\$2,425.63

## ST. ELOI LITURGY SCHEDULE

**Wednesday, December 8 – 6:00 pm**

**Feast of the Immaculate Conception**

*Sacristan:* Darla Timmerman

*Servers:* Kate & Evan Hennen, Joseph Ries

*Lector:* Steve VanKeulen

*Eucharistic Minister:* Lila Schmidt & Monica Senden

*Musicians:* Johnn Rabaey family

*Offertory Gifts:* Justin & Katie Hjermstad

*Ushers:* Corey Kack, Mark Nelson, Tim VanKeulen

**Sunday, December 12**

*Sacristan:* Cindy Nelson

*Servers:* Xavier Rabaey, Tyler Welsh, Leo Hennen

*Lector:* Dylan Kack

*Eucharistic Minister:* Gene Bossuyt

*Musicians:* Barb & Brad Hennen

*Offertory Gifts:* Nick & Jill Jay

*Ushers:* Corey Kack, Mark Nelson, Tim VanKeulen

## ST. EDWARD

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED	DIFFERENCE
Adult	\$4,905.00	\$4,829.92	\$75.08
Youth	\$3.00	\$5.69	(\$2.69)
Loose	\$141.00	\$153.85	(\$12.85)
Thanksgiving	\$460.00		
Online Giving	\$445.00	*Added to the adult envelope total	
Year-to-Date	\$99,787.38	\$109,666.62	(\$9,879.24)

## ST. EDWARD LITURGY SCHEDULE

**Saturday, December 11**

*Sacristan:* Mary Kampa

*Servers:* Noah & Niara Gorecki, Gabe Sterzinger

*Lector:* Mary Kampa

*Eucharistic Minister:* Michael Ludwikowski

*Ushers:* Charlie Callens, Jerry Kloos, Mike Longtin



**Sunday, December 12**

*Sacristan:* Fran Sturm

*Servers:* Ian Myhre, Elizabeth Garvey, RJ Sorensen

*Lector:* Fran Sturm

*Eucharistic Minister:* Becky Engels

*Ushers:* Mike Vlaminck

## SISTERS OF MARY MORNING STAR

St. Eloi Convent Masses at 12:00 pm (Noon) on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday

Call 428.3919 to double-check the time.

Vespers: 6:15 pm Adoration: 7:30 – 8:30 pm

## ST. EDWARD SCHOOL NEWS

Principal: Jaci Garvey

Secretary: Trudy Banks

Office: 872.6391

Food shelf collection continues through December 10

December 8 @7 pm – Christmas Concert with meal before

School Sponsorship – December 12 – Cecilia Rabaey



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ALL SOULS DAY – Candles to be picked up**

There are several candles from the All Souls Day Mass in the back of church that need to be picked up. They are in memory of Francis Arends and Jeanette Hoberg.

**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS – St. Edward & St. Eloi**

Please help decorate the parishes of St. Edward & 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. Please indicate St. Edward or St. Eloi. Thank You!

## HOSPITALITY MEALS

If you know someone who is ill, had surgery, or a new baby, please let Marlene Polejewski (872.6042) know and a meal will be delivered to their home.

**ST. EDWARD SCHOOL ~ Christmas Concert & Meal**

The Christmas Concert will be held on Wednesday, December 8, at 7 pm. All are invited to attend!

There will be a pulled pork meal before the concert in the church basement. It will be from 5:30 -7:00 pm. Free will offering with proceeds supporting scholarships for our seniors next spring.

## RAFFLE TICKET WINNERS

Please pick up your fall festival raffle winnings from the church office. Tom Abraham, Michelle DeSmet, Kurt Fier, Julie Janiszkeski, Jenalyn Longtin, Stacey Longtin, & Paul Swedzinski.

### MINNEOTA AREA MISSION TRIP – Christmas Baking

The Minneota Area Mission trip will be doing their annual Christmas baking fundraiser. The baking will include lefse, Belgian cookies, and Oreo truffles. Order form is below. Orders will be taken until December 5 and the baking day is on December 12.

Order Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Lefse (3 sheets/bag) \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$5.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_

Belgian cookies (12) \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$5.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_

Oreo truffles (8) \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$5.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL = \_\_\_\_\_

**Orders due December 5, 2021** – drop off at Hope Lutheran or call Emily Hennen (828.6797). Orders may also be turned into your church or to Emily at the public school.

Baking day is Sunday, December 12, 2021. Orders will be ready to be picked up late that afternoon.

Delivery in Minneota or Ivanhoe \_\_\_\_\_ (circle your option)

Pick-up at Hope \_\_\_\_\_

## OTHER INFORMATION FOR OUR AREA

### CATHOLIC UNITED FINANCIAL COUNCIL #307

The annual Christmas dinner and meeting will be held on Sunday, December 12, 2021 at 12 noon at the St. John Cantius Church Basement, Wilno.

All adult & student members of Council #307 and spouses of members are invited to attend this Christmas Social. Cost of the meal is \$5 with the council paying the remainder.

If you will be attending the meal, we ask that you RSVP by Saturday, December 4, so that we may plan for food accordingly. Please RSVP to Cheryl Downing (605.695.7630), Merlin Downing (507.694.1209), or Kevin Downing (605.695.8601).

### VIRTUS TRAINING

A new VIRTUS Training Session has been added for Tuesday, December 14, 2021, from 6:30–9:30 p.m. at the Church of Ss. Peter and Paul in Ivanhoe.

Please ask individuals needing a new VIRTUS account to register online through the diocesan website at <https://www.dnu.org/safeenvironment/> by clicking on the large red button in the left margin of the main Safe Environment web page.

Individuals with existing pending accounts that did not previously register for a session should log back in to

their new VIRTUS account using the user ID and password they created to register at this time. Users may also change their session decision online if needed. If you need assistance registering someone, please contact Sherry Kalow at [skalow@dnu.org](mailto:skalow@dnu.org).

### 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 – Dec. 12 Michael Speltz 515.707.7046
- **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



### Radio Rosary – Week of Dec. 6 - 12, 2021

**Dec. 6:** For all souls in purgatory by Bob Buysse

**Dec. 7:** In memory of Helen Clark by Dick VanDorpe

**Dec. 8:** For the living and deceased members of St. Edward's Altar Society

**Dec. 9:** In memory of the Charles & Elizabeth Bot family by their family

**Dec. 10:** In memory of Margaret Adam by Jeanne & Marvin Louwagie

**Dec. 11:** In memory of Diane Buysse by Lorraine & Michael Weverka

**Dec. 12:** In memory of George Louwagie by Armella Deutz & friends

To schedule a radio rosary, call Carol Louwagie: 507.532.6081

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

#### Monday, December 6

Fr. David Breu  
Fr. Eugene Brown  
Dcn. Rick Christiansen  
James Herzog (Sem.)

#### Wednesday, December 8

Fr. Michael Doyle  
Fr. Cornelius Ezeiloaku  
Fr. Fred Fink  
Nolan Meyer (Sem.)

#### Friday, December 10

Fr. Lawrence Hansen  
Fr. John Hayes  
Sam Rosemeier (Sem.)

#### Sunday, December 12

Fr. Aaron Johanneck  
Fr. Jeremy Kucera  
Dcn. Tony Grack  
Josh Bot (Sem.)

#### Tuesday, December 7

Fr. Pat Casey  
Fr. Jim Devorak  
Dcn. Tim Dolan  
Luke Miller (Sem.)

#### Thursday, December 9

Fr. John Goggin  
Msgr. Doug Grams  
Fr. Richard Gross  
David Rabaey (Sem.)

#### Saturday, December 11

Fr. Tony Hesse  
Fr. Jeff Horejsi  
Fr. Ron Huberty  
Tanner Thooft (Sem.)

**BEFORE I WAS BORN,  
GOD CHOSE ME AND  
CALLED ME BY HIS  
MARVELOUS GRACE.**

GALATIANS 1:15

## ADVENT

### DARKNESS AND LIGHT

Advent candles readily demonstrate the strong contrast between darkness and light, which is an important biblical image. Jesus referred to himself as the "Light of the World" that dispels the darkness of sin: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life" (John 8:12).

Human history spanned long ages shrouded in the darkness of sin before our prophesied Savior would finally make his appearance to free us from its dominion. As the Messiah's "Advent" (or "coming") draws nearer another candle is lit, with each candle dispelling the darkness a little more. Thus, the Advent wreath helps us to spiritually contemplate the great drama of salvation history that surrounds the birth of God Incarnate, who comes to redeem the human race and make all things new (Rev. 21:5).

It also reminds us that, as Christians, we're meant to shine the light of Christ in this world. As Jesus tells us,

You are the light of the world ... let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:14-16)

### WEEK 2 Lighting the Candle

Light two candles and sit for a moment in silence.

*Christ our Hope,*

*Illuminate our hearts with your grace.*

*Enlarge our visions so that we recognize our kinship with all the people of the world.*

*Help us to give to others in ways that meet their deepest needs.*

*We await your coming with gratitude.*

*Amen.*



December 8, The Feast of the Immaculate Conception –  
What is it?

The Immaculate Conception refers to the condition that the Blessed Virgin Mary was free from original sin from the very moment of her conception in the womb of her mother, Saint Anne. We celebrate the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary—her birth—on September 8; nine months before that is December 8, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

**Friday, December 24 –**

**Christmas Eve**

12:00 pm – Convent Mass

4:30 pm – Mass at St. Eloi

10:00 pm – Mass at St. Edward

**Saturday, December 25 –**

**Christmas Day**

8:30 am – Mass at St. Edward

10:30 am – Mass at St. Eloi

NO 5:30 pm Mass at St. Edward

**Sunday, December 26 – Mass of the Holy Family**

8:30 am – Mass at St. Edward

10:30 am – Mass at St. Eloi

5:30 pm – Mass at St. Edward (possibility)

**Friday, December 31 – Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**

5:30 pm – Mass at St. Eloi

**Saturday, January 1 – Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**

8:00 am – Mass at St. Edward

5:30 pm – Mass at St. Edward – Epiphany

**Sunday, January 2 – Epiphany**

8:30 am – St. Edward

10:30 am – St. Eloi



### A Messenger Sent from God

It is written in Isaiah the prophet: "I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way."

Mark 1:2 (NIV)

Based on Mark 1:1-8 (NIV)



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

LOCUSTS	PATH	GOSPEL	VOICE	PROPHET
CALLING	HONEY	STRAIGHT	CHRIST	JOHN
REPENTANCE	PREACHING	RIVER	JESUS	DESERT
JORDAN	SANDALS	BAPTIZE	MESSENGER	CONFESS



## ***St. Edward Catholic School***

*Fr. Todd Petersen, Pastor \* Jaci Garvey, Principal*

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Dear St. Edward School Parishioners,

December 2, 2021

I write to you this year with so much news! 2021 has been a year of progress and just as importantly, we are looking forward to 2022!

There is much talk in the news about student achievement and learning loss. I am ecstatic to report that our students have not experienced that phenomenon. Our standardized test results from the Spring of 2021 and again in the Fall of 2021 show that our students continue to lead their peers in the areas of Language Arts, Math and Science. St. Edward School continues to uphold its long standing reputation for excellent academic achievement.

We are also happy to report that we are fully staffed with not only dedicated employees but several dedicated volunteers. Four staff members received six days of training in August to become certified in Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. This is a religious education program that leads children to Christ by encouraging relationship with him. We began implementing this program in the fall of 2019 and were able to open our own atrium in the Fall of 2020. At this point we offer religious education in this manner for our preschool through 2nd grade students. When we have our prayer time I am always amazed at the depth of the children's faith.

I have a very long list of things that we did get to do last year, but in the end, they are the things that we always get to do; they just seemed extra special because most of the world was on lockdown while we continued with our little traditions - albeit in a modified way.

I am so excited to share with you an opportunity that we have been given by the Richard M. Schultz Family Foundation; they have offered us a \$25,000 matching grant opportunity in order for us to invest in initiatives over and above what our current budget will allow. Their goal is to help us achieve excellence in new ways and to grow our enrollment.

The education committee and I have been working to determine the best use of funds raised. We have narrowed the plan down to three important projects. If funds are not received to complete all projects, they will be prioritized at that time.

- The first project includes revitalization of the gym space to include new bleachers (\$9,350) and a new floor (\$9,500).
- The second is refurbishing the middle school plumbing, which is largely original to its 1958 construction. This project would come in three phases; the first would include prepping the boys and girls' bathroom for renovation (\$12,500), the second includes replacing the sewer stacks (\$7,500) and the third includes finishing the project. This includes completely renewing the middle school girls and boys bathrooms, making two bathrooms on the main level ADA accessible, replacing the classroom sinks and a new water fountain/bottle filler in the middle school (\$48,500).
- The final project we need to fund is that of a very part time marketing position for the school. As we know, Catholic school enrollment numbers are down, we are no exception. This is confusing to me in that St. Edward School continues to provide the same quality academic foundation that we always have. Why would families not want that for their children? We believe that a marketing position, once initially funded, would

pay for itself by increasing our enrollment numbers and thereby increasing our tuition numbers. Our goal is to increase enrollment by 10% each year.

While we completely understand that these initiatives far exceed what can be provided by a \$25,000 matching grant, we are praying that your generosity will help us to exceed the initial \$25,000 needed to attain a \$25,000 match.

Here are the specifics. The Richard M. Schultz Family Foundation requires that we reach our goal of raising \$25,000 by December 31st, 2021. They also require that in order for a contribution to count it must be from donors who have increased their giving from prior years or new donors. The good news is that we have ~\$8,300 of the required \$25,000 already pledged by new or increased donors!

As in years past, you may sponsor the school for a day. (Each day is equal to its day number - January 10th = \$10 and December 31st = \$365.) If we find sponsorship for every day of the year, we will raise \$66,795. Or, you may simply choose to give any amount of your choosing.

For your sponsorship, we will pray for you, a loved one you have donated in memory of, or your special intention. Your name, your loved one's name or your special intention will be listed on our school calendar and in the bulletin so all who see it may pray as well. Donations can be completely anonymous, if you so choose.

Please prayerfully consider supporting our school in this way. If you would like to sponsor our school for a day you can: 1) complete the submission form included in this letter and return it and your donation to: St. Edward School, 210 W. 4<sup>th</sup> St., Minneota, MN 56264 or: 2) go to our website [www.stedscatholicschool.com](http://www.stedscatholicschool.com) and click on the "Online Giving" button to submit your information.

May God Bless,

Father Todd Peterson, Pastor

Jaci Garvey, Principal

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I, \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ would like to sponsor  
Name Address  
St. Edward School.

_____	_____	_____
Date	Amount	In Memory of/In Honor of/Special Intention For
_____	_____	_____
Date	Amount	In Memory of/In Honor of/Special Intention For
_____	_____	_____
Date	Amount	In Memory of/In Honor of/Special Intention For
_____	_____	_____
General Donation	Amount	In Memory of/In Honor of/Special Intention For