



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: goodteacherafc.com
Religion Ed Coordinator: Tina Myhre
goodteacherafcre@hotmail.com

Deacon: Bruce Bot – 872.5465
Travis Welsh – 829.0986
Jason Myhre – 829.2829

Office Hours: 8:00 – 11:45 am 12:45 – 4:00 pm
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday

FORMED: formed.org (Z8Q2WJ)
St. Edward & St. Eloi Email:
cbuyssegoodteacherafc@gmail.com

St. Edward Facebook: St. Edward Catholic Church
St. Edward Website: stedschurch.com

Office Mailing Address:
408 N. Washington St.
Minneota, MN 56264

St. Eloi Facebook: St. Eloi Catholic Church
St. Eloi Website:
steloicatholicchurch.weebly.com

Bulletin Coordinator: Ruth Bot
Bulletin Email: bulletinsteds@gmail.com
Bulletin Info due by Wednesday at 9 pm

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

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2020 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Monday, December 21

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

Tuesday, December 22

12:00 pm Mass at St. Eloi Convent
(Emil & Louise Goossens)

Wednesday, December 23

10:30 am School Mass (Jane Louwagie)
• 10:00 am Confession before Mass
12:00 pm Mass at St. Eloi Convent (Steve Marczack)
8:00 – 9:30 pm Teen Talk

Thursday, December 24

11:30 am Mass at St. Eloi Convent
4:30 pm Mass at St. Eloi (For the parish family)
• 4:00 pm Confession before Mass
10:00 pm Mass at St. Edward
(For those who have died this year)
• 9:30 pm Confession before Mass
11:15 pm Mass at St. Eloi Convent

Friday, December 25

6:30 am Mass at St. Eloi Convent (Presider's Intention)
8:30 am Mass at St. Edward (For an end to the pandemic)
• 8:00 am Confession before Mass
10:30 am Mass at St. Eloi
(For family, friends, & benefactors)
• 10:00 am Confession before Mass
11:30 am Mass at St. Eloi Convent (Presider's Intention)

Saturday, December 26

12:00 pm Mass at St. Eloi Convent (Terry Swedzinski)
5:30 pm Mass at St. Edward (Ed VanOverbeke)
• 4:45 pm Confession before Mass

Sunday, December 27

8:30 am Mass at St. Edward
(For Laurence, Jen, Larry, & Dave Schmit)
• 8:00 am Confession before Mass
10:30 am Mass at St. Eloi (David Maertens)
• 10:00 am Confession before Mass
11:30 am Mass at St. Eloi Convent



New Year's Mass Schedule

Thursday, December 31, New Year's Eve
6:00 pm Mass at St. Edward followed by Adoration
Friday, January 1, New Year's Day
8:30 am Mass at St. Edward
10:30 am Mass at St. Eloi
January 2 & 3
Regular weekend Mass schedule

Dear Parishioners,

The fourth week of Advent is here already. Are you ready to receive your King? With so much going on in the world, I long for Him more than ever. I don't care about the gifts, the food, or any of the other trappings - I love just being with loved ones as we remember that Christ loved us enough to take on flesh for us and is born for our salvation. These last weeks have been personally challenging as my mom continues to recover from her illness with the virus. Thankfully, she is on the road to recovery, though is weak. Literally as she was released, her oldest sister (she's 90+) was hospitalized in another hospital. (At this time, she is holding her own, but with a number of serious pre-existing health concerns.) The celebration of Christmas with my mom and sisters is looking less likely due to this virus. But this year, like so much else, I will have to adapt the Christmas customs.

Some of the greatest Christmas stories might be appropriate to consider this year. One of my favorite stories is *The Christmas Carol* by Dickens. In this book, we encounter a miser, Scrooge, who has forgotten Christmas and indeed his own humanity. He has allowed the quest for wealth to consume him. Through the encounter with the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Future, he is converted to embrace Christmas. Or, consider the Grinch, who stole Christmas, who comes to understand that Christmas isn't about the stuff but about encountering people. Even Rudolph has a lesson for us - that we all have a role. Or, a Charlie Brown Christmas as Linus reminds us of the true meaning of Christmas, and even he lets go of his (security) blanket as he finds strength in Christ. This Christmas might be different for all of us, but we have the choice to embrace the true meaning of Christmas.

Perhaps all of this is a long way of saying that whatever our customs are, or were, whether we can keep them or not, nothing can keep us from celebrating the true meaning of Christmas. We have these last days of Advent to prepare. Let's focus on what truly matters.

With that, I will also write here that we are limited to 50% or 250 people, whichever is less, capacity at our Masses. In the past, the only Christmas Mass that was over the 250 number was the 4:30 pm Mass at St. Eloi. I encourage families that normally would attend that Mass to consider one of the others, especially the 10:30 am Mass at St. Eloi (an addition, from what I understand, to the typical Christmas schedule). Because I do not foresee issues except at that Mass, we are not having a sign up (Holy Redeemer, on the other hand, needs to do that because they are also limited to 250 when they normally have 1000+ at their Christmas Eve Masses).

In Christ,
Fr. Todd

MASS READINGS & PRAYERS FOR VOCATIONS

MONDAY, Dec. 21 – Pray for Fr. Msgr. John Richter, Fr. Keith Salisbury, Dcn. Barry Reindl, Josh Bot (Sem.)
Zephaniah 3:14-18, Luke 1:39-45

- *With whom should I share my experience of Jesus' presence in me and my life?*

TUESDAY, Dec. 22 – Pray for Fr. Bruno Santiago, OSB, Fr. George Schmit, Dcn. Steven Spilman, Adam Eberhard (Sem.)

I Samuel 1:24-28, Luke 1:46-56

- *What fears that provoke anger do I most need to eliminate?*

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 23 – Pray for Fr. Philip Schotzko, Fr. Paul Schumacher, Dcn. Ken Stalboerger, Nathan Hansen (Sem.)

Malachi 3:1-24, Luke 1:57-66

- *What defenses do I need to drop to allow God and others to change me?*

THURSDAY, Dec. 24 – Pray for Fr. Mark Steffl, Fr. Joseph Steinbeisser, Dcn. Michael Thoennes, James Herzog (Sem.)

2 Samuel 7:1-16, Luke 1:67-79

- *What most amazes me about the way Jesus chose to become human?*

FRIDAY, Dec. 25 – Pray for Fr. Bernard Steiner, Fr. Tony Stubeda, Dcn. Paul Treinen, Luke Miller (Sem.)

Isaiah 52:7-10, Hebrews 1:1-6, John 1:1-18

- *What could I do today to make Jesus more present in myself and to others?*

SATURDAY, Dec. 26 – Pray for Fr. Craig Timmerman, Fr. Paul Timmerman, Dcn. Travis Welsh, Nolan Meyer, Sem.)

Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59, Matthew 10:17-22

- *Which of the gifts of grace do I most need? And want?*

SUNDAY, Dec. 27 – Pray for Fr. Paul van de Crommert, Fr. Steve Verhelst, David Rabaey (Sem.)

Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3, Hebrews 11:8-19, Luke 2:22-40

- *What has the life-giving power of Jesus and God most meant to me?*

ST. ELOI NEWS

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED	DIFFERENCE
Adult	\$730.00	\$2,110.26	(\$1,380.26)
Loose	\$177.00	\$146.15	\$30.85
Commodity	\$1,500.00		
Year-to-date	\$55,525.95	\$51,727.91	\$3,798.04

ST. ELOI LITURGY SCHEDULE

Thursday, December 24 – Christmas Eve, 4:30 pm

Sacristan: Lila Schmidt

Altar Servers: Seminarians

Lector: Betsy Jo Kack

Eucharistic Minister: Caroline Van Keulen

Musicians: Barb & Brad Hennen

Ushers: Daren Van Keulen, Martin Hennen, Ron Sussner

Friday, December 25 – Christmas Day, 10:30 am*Sacristan:* Jeanne Schmidt*Altar Servers:**Lector:* Volunteer*Eucharistic Minister:* Volunteer*Musicians:**Ushers:* Volunteer**Sunday, December 27***Sacristan:* Darla Timmerman*Altar Servers:* Mark & Xavier Rabaey, Joseph Ries*Lector:* Mike Van Keulen*Eucharistic Minister:* Don Senden*Musicians:* John Rabaey & family*Ushers:* Daren Van Keulen, Martin Hennen, Ron Sussner**ST. EDWARD NEWS**

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED	DIFFERENCE
Adult	\$2,925.00	\$4,829.92	(\$1,904.92)
Youth	\$4.00	\$5.69	(\$1.69)
Loose	\$56.00	\$153.85	(\$97.85)
Online Giving	\$715.00	<i>*Added to the adult envelope total</i>	
Year-to Date	\$107,163.64	\$120,633.29	(\$13,469.65)

ST. EDWARD LITURGY SCHEDULE**Thursday, December 24 – Christmas Eve, 10:00 pm***Sacristan:* Volunteers needed; contact Caren if you*Servers:* would be willing to help out.*Lector:**Eucharistic Minister:**Usher:***Friday, December 25 – Christmas Day, 8:30 am***Sacristan:* Volunteers needed; contact Caren if you*Servers:* would be willing to help out.*Lector:**Eucharistic Minister:**Usher:***Saturday, December 26***Sacristan:* Claren Novotny*Servers:* Kaci & Kylie Callens*Lector:* Claren Novotny*Eucharistic Minister:* Claren Novotny*Usher:* Jackie Laleman**Sunday, December 27***Sacristan:* Cindy Novotny*Servers:* Robert & Joe Beisler*Lector:* Fran Sturm*Eucharistic Minister:* Diane Hennen*Usher:* Doug Janiszski**SISTERS OF MARY MORNING STAR NEWS**

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

January 5, 2021 – School will resume. Report cards will be sent home.

January 6, 2021 – School Mass led by the 3rd & 4th grades.

St. Edward Student Council is organizing a monetary collection for United Community Action in Marshall, specifically for aid to the homeless. Please leave donations in the box at the back of church or drop off at the school. Thank you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS**BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT**

Due to the Christmas and New Years falling on Friday, information for the bulletin needs to be turned in on Tuesday, December 22, & December 29, by 4:00 pm.

2021 ENVELOPES

St. Edward donation envelopes are in the basement ready to be picked up. St. Eloi donation envelopes are in the back of church ready to be picked up. If you can deliver any envelopes to friends and family, that would be great.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIASPlease help decorate the parish of St. Edward 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 Sunday collection basket.

Thank You!

CHRISTMAS DECORATING

The St. Edward Liturgy Committee would appreciate assistance decorating for Christmas. The plan is to decorate on Sunday, December 20, after Mass. If you can only help for 15 minutes or the entire hour, that's great! "Many hands make light work."

COVID GUIDELINES FOR MASS ASSISTANTS

Lectors –

- Arrive early to look over readings and announcements. Take the book to the ambo, then be seated in your pew. No procession.
- Announcements are read at the beginning of Mass. Return to your pew.
- Return to the ambo for the scripture readings. Return to your pew after the alleluia before the gospel reading.
- Return to the ambo to read the petitions (unless there is a deacon).

Eucharistic Ministers –

- If there is a deacon present, a Eucharistic Minister is not needed.
- Wear a mask (mandatory) and sanitize your hands before distributing communion (no gloves may be worn).
- Come up to the altar to receive communion after the *Our Father*.
- A small table will be placed at each communion station with a corporal, an ablution bowl, a purificator, and hand sanitizer. The ablution bowl and purificator are available so that you dip your fingers in the dish or use the purificator to ensure there are no particles of the Blessed Sacrament on your fingers before disinfecting your hands.
- Take your place next to the communion station. People will remove their masks as they approach. They can receive Holy Communion as usual. If you sense that your fingers have made contact with a person's hands or mouth, pause, place the ciborium on the corporal, dip your fingers in the dish or use the purificator and hand sanitizer. This may be repeated as often as necessary. It is not necessary to use hand sanitizer between each communicant unless you make contact with the communicant.
- Holy Communion cannot be received in the hand if someone is wearing a glove. Ask them to remove the glove or they may receive it on the tongue.

Ushers –

- Arrive early.
- Wear a mask; use hand sanitizer.
- Assist people to find open pews; maintain spacing.
- Count the parishioners present. Record it on the clipboard in the confessional.
- Missalettes are on the tables by the doors. They are not to be returned if someone takes one. If one is returned to the table, it needs to be thrown away.

- Bulletins will be placed on the tables by the doors for people to pick up.
- There are collection baskets on the tables, also, for envelopes or donations. Keep an eye on them. The envelopes will be collected and brought to the Sacristy after Mass and put in the banking bag.
- Make sure the church and bathrooms are thoroughly sanitized after each service – including doors, pews, and surfaces. There are four spray bottles in the sacristy; lightly mist the pews – it should be dry in 10-20 seconds. It will take 4-5 sprays per pew. Do the front/top and seat of the pew. Mist the inside of the doors. Just spray and let air-dry.
- Throw anything left in the pew away.

Thank you for assisting with these essential ministries!

NOTICE TO ST. ELOI PARISHIONERS

Those of you who have been observant have noticed that we are only using half of the front steps. The steps on the east side are deteriorating. If you look you will see corroding rebar and concrete and the steps are hollow. With widening cracks, this is a safety issue.

The replacement of these steps was not part of the Capital Campaign, but they will need to be replaced soon. We are creating a fund (formerly the elevator fund) for the replacement of these steps which will cost around \$39,000. Please consider an end-of-year special gift, perhaps of grain, stocks or bonds, or cash contributions.

Please do so by contacting the parish office or sending your donation designated for the steps to the office or in the collection basket. Especially those that did not contribute to the St. Eloi Capital Campaign, here's your chance to step up. All donations are welcome.

ONE MORE TIME THRIFT SHOP

Thank you for the generous donations and continued support from the shoppers during the month of November. The thrift store did well!

Profits for November: \$1,314.08

Pies sold: 115 Profit: \$1,115.00

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Thank you to everyone who donated snacks to the Religious Ed program. The kids enjoyed them and appreciate getting a little snack after school before RE class.

If you would like to contribute to our snack program, there are about 13 kids each week starting on January 6, 2021. Donations can be left in the parish office, church basement, or cry room or contact Tina.

December 23 and 30 will be the Christmas break with no class for our religious ed students. Classes will resume on January 6, 2021.

SCRIP

Rather than running out at the last minute to buy those Christmas gifts, why not pick up Scrip gift cards? Wrap them up or drop them in the kids' stockings! Remember to purchase gift cards to use when you go out & do your regular shopping! Smaller denominations will be available for purchase at the church office.

Questions? Contact your Scrip committee members:

Julie Pohlen 507.828.7392
Laura Hennen 507.428.3254
Ronni Vlaminc 507.829.6091
Caren Buysse 507.872.6346

SUNDAY OFFERING

Please continue financially supporting both St. Edward and St. Eloi. Drop off donations in the mail slot on the west side of Knights' Hall.

St. Edward parishioners, to donate online, use this link:

<https://www.osvonlinegiving.com/4628>

If you have questions, contact Caren at the church office.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCH AT LARGE

Radio Rosary – Week of December 7-13, 2020

Dec. 21: In memory of Leo, Isabelle, Ralph, Sharon & Eric Hennen by their family
Dec. 22: In memory of Henrich Weverka by Mike & Lorraine Weverka
Dec. 23: In memory of Ernie & Jane Louwagie by their 500 card club
Dec. 24: In memory of Clarence McLaughlin by Mike & Lorraine Weverka
Dec. 25: For all the sponsors of the Radio Rosary
Dec. 26: In memory of Jane Louwagie by the St. Clotilde Choir
Dec. 27: In memory of Mary Timmerman by the Verly family

To schedule a Radio Rosary –
Call Carol Louwagie: 507.532.6081

“See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.”

I John 3:1

The New Ulm Diocese has asked that the following prayer be said while preparing for our next Bishop.

Almighty God,
Who by the Holy Spirit moves the hearts of Your people,
Direct the counsels of those who are appointed to choose a bishop for the Diocese of New Ulm.
That we may be given a pastor who in faithfulness and wisdom shall lead your people in the way of holiness.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us.

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 – Call the church office 872.6346
- **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



ADVENT WEEK 4 THE CANDLE OF LOVE

As a follower of Jesus you wear a distinguishing mark.
Is it visible?

You wear His love.

“By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another” (John 13:35).

When Jesus came to this earth, He brought a special kind of love. This love is unselfish, compassionate, unconditional. He loves us just as we are. Our condition is irrelevant to His love. It is a love that picks us up just where we are in life and carries us further than we could ever go on our own.

He gives us His love so we can give it away in the same unselfish, compassionate, unconditional way He gave it to

us. He tells us this love will be our trademark. It will distinguish us as followers of Jesus.

Your actions reflect Jesus to the world around you. You can choose to offer love or to hold it back. In situations where it is hard to offer love, ask Him to give you an abundance of His own in your heart so you are able to give it away.

As you move into Christmas this week, be reminded of the distinguishing mark you carry as a follower of Jesus. Ask for His love to be evident in your words and actions as you interact with others. Seek to bring unity and balance into relationships or situations. Listen to people with sincerity and interest. Ask for a graciousness that comes from His Spirit as you mingle with those in your circle.

Wear the love of Jesus as your distinguishing mark as His follower.

Here is a prayer to help you do that.

Father God, Thank you for Your generous love to me. Thank you that You see the abundance in my life rather than all the shortfalls I have. Help me to offer that same gracious love to those I mingle with this Christmas season. Pour Your love into my heart so I can give it away. May they know I am a follower of Jesus by my love. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.



Area Christmas Masses

**Canby, Ivanhoe, Lake Benton,
St. Leo, Tyler, & Wilno**

Christmas Eve:

2:00 pm Sts. Peter & Paul,
Ivanhoe

3:00 pm St. Leo

4:00 pm St. Peter, Canby

4:00 pm St. John Cantius, Wilno

6:00 pm St. Dionysius, Tyler

6:00 pm St. Peter, Canby

Christmas Day:

8:15 am St. Genevieve, Lake Benton

9:00 am St. Peter, Canby

10:00 am St. John Cantius, Wilno

