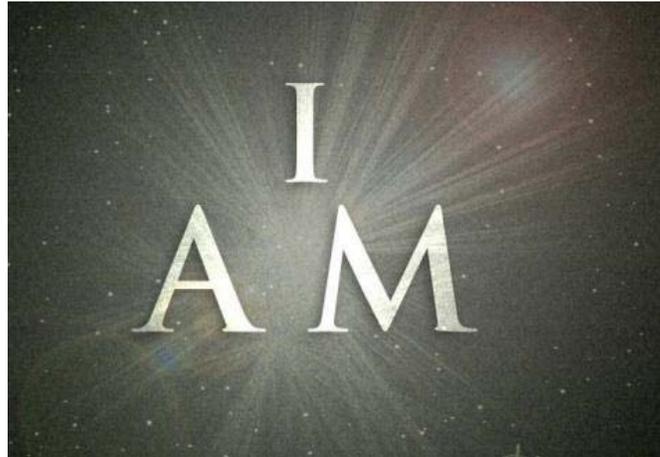




St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073



Fourth Sunday of Easter April 22, 2018

It is customary at St. Mary-Holy Cross after the final song, the assembly kneels and silently prays the "Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be" for the next person of our Parish who dies. Parishioners near death have expressed the comfort they experience knowing the Parish Community is praying for them. Please join us in this sacred prayer.

Dear Friends in Christ,

"The Times They Are A-Changin'" was a song written by Bob Dylan back in 1964, way before many from our parish were even born, but it is so true even today.

Fr. Dan is retiring and leaving the parish. Four other priests from our Diocese are retiring as well. Fr. Andrew Windschitl is coming as our new pastor. The Bishop retired/is retiring. What does all this mean to us?

Many, including myself, HATE change, but it is inevitable. Time marches on and we must move with it, scary as that may be. It's scary because we don't know the outcome of our future. We can either lament the changing of the guard, or we can look to the future with hope, trusting God for our welfare, and looking forward to the positives that come with change. We must strive to go through these changes with open minds and prayerful hearts. Can you imagine what was going through the minds of the Israelites facing their change as they walked on the floor of the Red Sea with walls of water on either side and the Egyptians hot on their trail? They had to be wondering how change was going to work out for them!

Let's get behind Fr. Andrew and give him our complete support as he leads us, just as the Israelites did with Moses. Let's pray for him!

Blessings, Deacon Terry

Parish Information

Parish Phone	515-367-2685
Fr. Dan Krettek	515-423-2888
Deacon Terry Schleisman	515-669-6158
Parish General Email	smhc@saintmaryhc.org
Parish Fax	515-367-7028
Parish Web Site	www.saintmaryhc.org
Parish Facebook Site	St. Mary's Holy Cross Parish-Elkhart
Fr. Dan Krettek	dkrettek@saintmaryhc.org
Deacon Terry Schleisman	tschleisman@saintmaryhc.org
Adult Faith Sharing	
Nicole Cory - Confirmation	ncory@saintmaryhc.org
Andrea Fisher - RE, 7th-12th	afisher@saintmaryhc.org
Stacie Hergenreter - PreK-6	shergenreter@saintmaryhc.org
Melissa Kahler - RE, 7th-12th	mkahler@saintmaryhc.org
Barb Liske - Secretary	bliske@saintmaryhc.org
Celeste Muehlenthaler - Music	cmuehlenthaler@saintmaryhc.org
Peter Relyea - Bookkeeper	prelyea@saintmaryhc.org

Mass Schedule	Wednesday	5:30pm	Holy Cross
	Thursday	8:00am	St. Mary
	First Friday	8:00am	St. Mary
	Saturday	5:00pm	St. Mary
	Sunday	8:00am	Holy Cross
		10:00am	St. Mary

Reconciliation: Saturdays 4:00 - 4:30p.m. St. Mary

Baptism: Contact the Parish Office about a preparation program

Marriage: Contact the Parish Office at least six months prior to the proposed wedding date

Priesthood and Religious Life: See Diocesan website at www.dmdiocese.org/vocations.cfm

Masses

Wednesday, April 25

5:30pm Holy Cross †Beryl, Ed & Dean Moreland

Thursday, April 26

8:00am St. Mary Tom Neel

Saturday, April 28

5:00pm St. Mary †George Meusburger

Sunday, April 29

8:00am Holy Cross For the Parish

10:00am St. Mary †Ron Hamm

Are You New To Our Parish?

We welcome you to our family of St. Mary-Holy Cross and invite you to become a member of our Parish! Please fill out a registration card found in the vestibule of St. Mary and Holy Cross or on our website. We are glad you are here!

† Pastoral Assistance

Please contact Fr. Dan Krettek, 515-423-2888, or Deacon Terry Schleisman, 515-669-6158, for pastoral assistance or if a family member is in a care facility, home-bound, or hospitalized, and they wish a visit.

Share The Journey This Weekend

A Solidarity Prayer Walk: Become more aware of the needs of our neighbors through this spiritual journey in the Social Hall. Meditate amidst color photographic images and written reflections. The *Prayer Walk* is open until 8:00pm on Saturday and 8:00am-8:00pm on Sunday.

Visit with Sol Varisco about issues facing immigrants, refugees, migrants and people on the move, after 5:00pm and 10:00am Masses. Sol is the former Immigration Program Director of our Diocese and current Executive Director of Justice For Our Neighbors. 

World Day of Prayer for Vocations

 Today the Church throughout the world prays for vocations. Will you make a special effort to ask the Lord for more vocations to the priesthood and religious life?

- ~ Pray for the priests who have ministered to you throughout your life, both living and dead.
- ~ Keep our parish priests in your prayers this week.
- ~ Encourage your children, grandchildren, or other young people to consider a vocation as a priest or religious brother or sister.
- ~ Pray a rosary for more young men and women in our diocese to respond to God's call.

Sunday is Earth Day!

This year's focus is to end plastic pollution, including creating support for a global effort to eliminate single-use plastics along with global regulation for the disposal of plastics. Also, education of people about the health and other risks associated with the use and disposal of plastics, including pollution of our oceans, water, and wildlife, and about the growing evidence that decomposing plastics are creating serious global problems. Please do your part by reducing, reusing and recycling! 

Sunday Scripture Prayer and Study
Wednesday, April 25, 7:00pm, Conference Room

Meditative Prayer Time
Saturday, April 28, 8:00-9:00am, Office

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Thursday, May 17, 7:00pm, St. Mary

Cross Ministry Meeting
Sunday, May 6, 11:00am-12:30pm, Social Hall

Finance Council
Meeting: Wednesday, May 16, 7:00pm, Conference Room

Stewardship Committee
Meeting: Tuesday, May 8, 6:00pm, Office Area

Knights of Columbus
Meeting: Sunday, May 20, 7:00pm, Social Hall

Funeral Luncheon Call Leaders, Team 2
Tara Hantrods, Melissa Robinson, Jessica Ward

Coming Events

†**This Weekend:** *A Solidarity Prayer Walk*, until 8:00pm Saturday and 8:00am-8:00pm Sunday, Social Hall — *Share the Journey* presentation by Sol Varisco after Masses at St. Mary, Social Hall

†**Now thru Monday, April 23:** Collection of personal care items, cleaning items and diapers & wipes for refugee resettlement

†**Sunday, April 29:** Coffee & donuts after 8:00am Mass — *Altaration* Workshop, 11:00am - Noon, Social Hall.

†**Senior Citizen Breakfast:** Friday, May 4 after 8am Mass

†**Saturday, May 5:** Work Day at St. Mary, 9am to Noon (May 19 at Holy Cross) — Blessing of High School Seniors during Mass — After Mass: Wine and cheese, Social Hall and Blessing of Motorcycles & Riders, parking lot.

†**Sunday, May 6:** Blessing of High School Seniors during Masses

†**Blood Drive:** Thursday, May 31, 3:00-7:00pm, Social Hall

The Little White Book....the Easter Season

These books are available in the vestibule to help you enjoy six minutes a day in quiet prayer during the 50 days of the Easter season. Read a short Scripture passage and simply let God speak to you through the words, guiding you to reflection that sometimes seem to come from nowhere; but comes from God.

No Clothing Drive This Spring, But....

Our Youth attending the Steubenville Retreat this summer will be having a garage sale to help offset costs of the retreat. So keep them in mind as you do your spring cleaning. Collection of items begin in June.

Altaration Workshop

Please join us for our final workshop after 10:00am Mass next Sunday, April 29, in the Social Hall.

Senior Citizen's Breakfast

All Senior Citizens of our Parish are invited to this breakfast on Friday, May 4. We will gather in the Social Hall for food and fellowship following 8:00am Mass. RSVP to the Parish Office by Tuesday, May 1 if you are able to join us.

In Sympathy and Compassion

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Gary Shugar, father of Kameron Shugar who passed away last week, and for his family as they mourn his passing.

✠ Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord, ✠
and let perpetual light shine upon him.

Religious Education

PreK-6, Stacie Hergenreter, Catechetical Leader
shergenreter@saintmaryhc.org, 515-491-3876

Vacation Bible School (PreK-4th) - June 18-21. Please let me know if you would like to help with VBS this summer. It is such a fun experience to be part of with the kids!

I wanted to take a moment to write a thank you to all in the parish for allowing me to be the RE Coordinator for PreK-6th. This year has been such a year of growth for myself personally. I have never been in a role where I felt I have learned so much. The children are great teachers and I have loved interacting with them throughout the year.

As some of you may have heard when I introduced myself to the parish last year, I was excited and nervous about taking the role because my faith has always been held very close to my heart and essentially I have been very private. I felt personally compelled to be in this type of role because the world we live in today is becoming ever more challenging and I can't imagine trying to navigate it without my faith. To take that comment one step further, I can't imagine our children living a life without faith. Social media has made it very easy for many to access our children and to more often than not, make them feel bad about who they are versus lift them up.

My ultimate goal is to see all of us assist in instilling a strong sense of faith in our children. We need to help them see beauty in their uniqueness and to strive to be good human beings. When I was growing up I often would ask myself what would Jesus do. I still ask this question often in hopes of making good decisions.

I ask that we all be brave and wear our faith humbly and outwardly. Allow our children to see us pray, see us look to God when we are uncertain, let them see us give praise for the gifts in our lives and assist them in embracing the unique person God made them to be.

God bless all of you!

Grades 9 & 10, Nicole Cory, Confirmation Coordinator
ncory@saintmaryhc.org, 515-313-3014- texts welcome!

Sunday, April 29 - Altaration Workshop after Mass, followed by a regular session, 11:00am to 1:30pm

Sunday, May 6 - Final session, after Mass, 11:00am-1:30pm

Grades 7-12, Melissa Kahler, Youth Coordinator
mkahler@saintmaryhc.org, 515-290-2830

EDGE/Youth Group Families and Friends,

Thank you for another blessed year of ministry! We had a wonderful group of young people and adults who participated in our many sessions and activities of EDGE & Youth Group this past year. We have grown in our relationships with Christ and with each other during a very busy year. I look forward to what summer and the next school year will bring. Please watch the bulletin, social media, emails and SM-HC website for summer activities for the teens. Thank you parents for your continued support of Youth Ministry and for encouraging your teens in their faith journey. Blessings, Melissa

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Garrett McClain - 515-685-2314 -Alleman- gjmccclain69@gmail.com
Sheri Olson - 515-967-5663 - Bondurant - lowasher@gmail.com
Cory Schoening - 515-964-7403 - Ankeny-cschoeni@nationwide.com
Mark Schmidt -515-402-9949-Ankeny-mark1.schmidt@centurylink.net

FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Shaun Magill, *Co-President*-515-205-3934-shaunkrismagill@gmail.com
Dave Pottebaum, *Co-President*-515-710-8932-pottebaum5@msn.com
Karen Bellis - 515-360-1465 - Ankeny - puzzlenuts@aol.com
Doug Jones - 515-367-4402 - Elkhart - djones@bossard.com
Laurie Phelan - 515-201-6111- Maxwell - Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com
Rita McClain - 515-249-6841 - Bondurant - mcclainrj@hotmail.com
Sue Tollefson - 515 208-0536 - Cambridge - suet@iowacubs.com

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Arlene Anderson - 515-967-6770 - arlene@4andersons.com
Nicole Cory - 515-313-3014 - ncory@saintmaryhc.org
Paula Garoutte - 515-306-6633 - paulasongbird@msn.com
Beth Hart - 515-515-306-4916 - mrsmatthart@gmail.com
Kelly Hoffmeier - 515-975-7865 - nkhoff@msn.com
Tammi McClain - 515-290-3904 - tammimcclain71@gmail.com
Sue White - 515-967-2996 - charylmyron@q.com
John Zidon - 515-967-3367 - jzidon@msn.com

CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Laurie Phelan, *Chair* - 515-201-6111 - Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com
Karen Bellis - 515-360-1465 - puzzlenuts@aol.com
Pat Bishop - 515-387-1391 - pjbishop@midiaowa.net
Lowell Crouse - 515-387-9530 - l3jl@windstream.net
John Freeman - 641-363-4462 - johnfmingo@hotmail.com
Tracy Irwin - 515-771-3071 - sammyjack@partnercom.net
Lynn Schreurs - 515-577-8147 - lschreurs@msn.com
Larry Shaw - 515-720-3587 - lshaw@tru-test.com
Mike and Mary Winders - 641-227-3346 - Mwinde59@yahoo.com

PARISH TRUSTEES

Anne Davis - 515-967-7477 - annedavis06@gmail.com
Joe Dunham - 515-967-5118 - joedunham11@msn.com

PARISH AMBASSADOR TO CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Anne Davis - 515-967-7477 - annedavis06@gmail.com

Weekly Collection Financial Update

April 15 Week 42

	Received	Budget
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Guests	\$ 6,624	\$ 5,234

Year-to-Date

	Received	Budget	Last Year
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Guests	\$220,648	\$219,813	\$216,709

Rice Bowl: 145.49 to date

2018 Annual Diocesan Appeal

Please prayerfully consider what you are able to give to this Appeal. Pledge cards are in the pews and can be returned in the collection basket at Mass or to the parish office, or you may donate on the Diocesan website: <http://www.dmdiocese.org/ada-online-giving-instructions.cfm>. Everyone's participation is need! Thank you.

Parish Goal	Pledge Total	Payments	Balance Due
\$ 53,806	\$ 16,485	\$ 15,060	\$ 38,746



Parish

Our workdays are Saturday, May 5 at St. Mary and Saturday May 19 at Holy Cross, from 9:00am to Noon. Come help keep everything in working order and looking good! If you can't come the entire time, come as long as you can!

