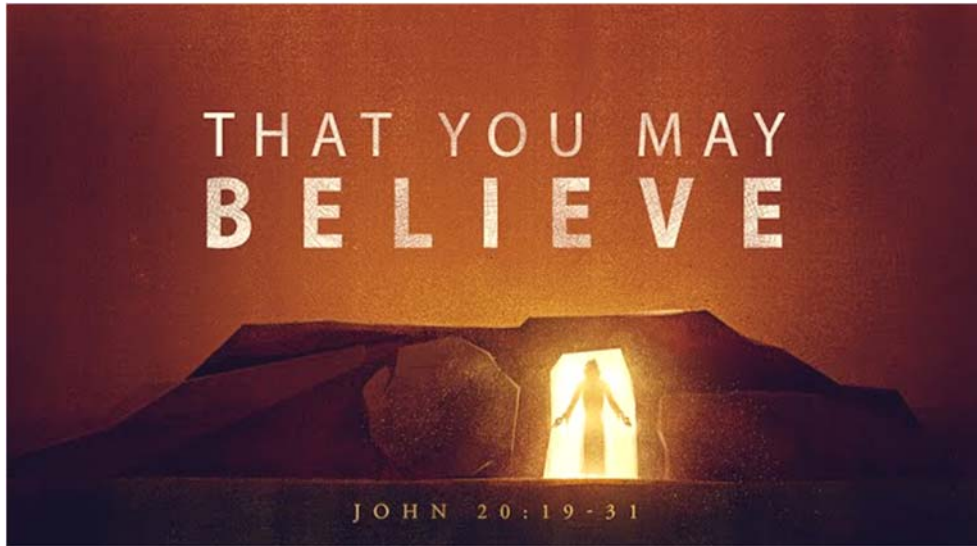




St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073



Second Sunday of Easter Divine Mercy Sunday April 24, 2022

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 penitential season of Lent is about six weeks long while the Easter season is about seven weeks long. This can be a reminder to us of a couple things. One, that repentance of sin, to which Jesus constantly calls us, is necessary to experience the glory of the Resurrection. Second, that same glory surpasses the disgrace of sin. God's love and grace are always more powerful than anything that stands in opposition to them.

~ Father Andrew

Parish Information

Parish Phone	515-367-2685
Fr. Andrew Windschitl	515-367-2685
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. Andrew Windschitl	Fr.Andrew@saintmaryhc.org
Nicole Cory - Confirmation	ncory@saintmaryhc.org
Andrea Fisher - 7th-12th Ministry	afisher@saintmaryhc.org
Melissa Kahler - 7th-12th Ministry	mkahler@saintmaryhc.org
Barb Liske - Secretary	bliske@saintmaryhc.org
Geneveve Loraditch - PreK-6 RE	gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org
Tracy Miller - PreK-6 RE	tmiller@saintmaryhc.org
Sue Schmidt - Music	sschmidt@saintmaryhc.org
Candy Zidon - Bookkeeper	bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org

Mass Schedule	Tuesday	5:30pm	Holy Cross
	Wednesday	5:30pm	St. Mary
	Thursday	8:00am	St. Mary
	First Friday	9:00am	St. Mary
	Saturday	5:00pm	St. Mary
	Sunday	8:00am	Holy Cross
		10:00am	St. Mary
	4th Sunday	12:00pm	St. Mary

Reconciliation: St. Mary: Wednesdays 4:45 - 5:15pm and Saturdays 4:00 - 4:30pm; or by appointment.

Baptism: Contact Fr. Andrew

Marriage: Contact Fr. Andrew at least six months prior to the proposed wedding date.

Priesthood/Religious: www.vocationsonline.org

Mass and Adoration

Sunday, April 24

Divine Mercy Sunday Celebration, St. Mary

3:00pm Divine Mercy Chaplet, Adoration, Reconciliation

4:00pm Mass *People of the Parish*
followed by potluck and fellowship

Tuesday, April 26

5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross †Mary Beth Bump

Wednesday, April 27

4:45 - 5:15pm Reconciliation, St. Mary

5:30pm Mass, St. Mary †Isaac Beying
~ followed by Adoration

Thursday, April 28

8:00am Mass, St. Mary †John & Ann Breen

Saturday, April 30

4:00 - 4:30pm Reconciliation, St. Mary

5:00pm St. Mary †George Meusburger

Sunday, May 1

8:00am Holy Cross †Mike Phelan

10:00am St. Mary *People of the Parish*

First Eucharist Masses

12:00pm St. Mary *Our First Eucharist Students*

2:30pm St. Mary *Our First Eucharist Students*

Easter Prayer

Dear God,

*The resurrection of Your Son
has given us new life and renewed hope.
Help us to live as new people
in pursuit of the Christian ideal.
Grant us wisdom
to know what we must do,
the will to want to do it,
the courage to undertake it,
the perseverance to continue to do it,
and the strength to complete it.*

Amen

Parish Council

Meeting: April 26, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Finance Council

Meeting: May 17, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Stewardship

Meeting: May 9, 6:00pm, Social Hall

Knights of Columbus

April 24, 6:40pm Rosary, Church,

7:00pm Meeting, Social Hall

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 or Holy Cross or on our website. We are glad you are here!

† For Pastoral assistance, please contact Fr. Andrew at 515-367-2685 or Fr.Andrew@saintmaryhc.org.



Easter Flowers

We received these additional memorials:

In Memory of:

Jeanne Carpenter *Carpenter & Shaw Families*

Mary Ann Cory *Ira Cory, Chan & Kate Cory*

Elizabeth Mitchell *Scott Mitchell and Ira Cory*

Dave & Char McHone *McHone & Canney Family*

and Friends

Jerry & Deborah Zenkner

Easter Reflection Resources

We have *The Little White Book* and *The Word Among Us* available during these 50 days of the Easter Season.

Covid Updates

From Bishop Joensen: Masks are optional for the faithful and clergy during Mass and other indoor activities and are no longer required for the distribution of Holy Communion. Everyone is encouraged to discern the use of masks based on their own health and potential immunity to COVID-19.

If you wish to receive Communion on the tongue, please receive from Fr. Andrew (he sanitizes after each).

Masks and hand sanitizer are available.

Diocesan updates:

<https://www.dmdiocese.org/resources/worship/coronavirus>

Coming Events

† **Parish celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday:** April 24 beginning at 3:00pm, St. Mary and Social Hall

† **Sunday, May 1:** Coffee & donuts after 8am Mass, Holy Cross (no coffee & donuts at St. Mary in May)

† **Saturday, May 7:** Wine & cheese after 5:00pm Mass

† **Weekend of May 7/8:** Recognition of our High School Seniors at Masses — Buildings and Grounds collection

† **Blood Drive:** Thursday, May 26, 3:00-7:00pm, Social Hall

† **Vacation Bible School:** Tuesday, June 21 - Thursday, June 23, 5:00-7:30pm, St. Mary

Rice Bowl

Thank you to those participating in this year's Rice Bowl. Please return your donation next weekend. You are encouraged to count your donation and make a check out to the Parish with "Rice Bowl" on the memo line. Thank you.

Blood Drive



Sign-up to donate your valuable and much needed blood! Reserve your preferred time today on the sign up in the vestibule of St. Mary or at www.lifeservebloodcenter.org. Appointments are required. There's no substitute for YOUR blood. It only takes about 30 – 45 minutes from check-in to check-out and you get to enjoy beverages and homemade treats at our canteen. Our drive is 3:00 – 7:00pm on Thursday, May 26 at St. Mary.

Can't donate, but want to help? We welcome homemade treats and wonderful volunteers to tend the canteen. Contact Lisa and Tim Kautza, kautza@netins.net; 515-964-7687.

Buildings and Grounds Collection

This collection is the first full weekend of each month so in May it will be the 7th & 8th.

Religious Education

Preschool - 6th Grade Coordinators

Geneveve Loraditch, gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org, 515-556-4150
Tracy Miller, tmiller@saintmaryhc.org, 515-520-7981

Registration is open for 2022-23 school year. We would like for the forms to be turned in by **May 1**. This should help us as we prepare for next year! The classes will stay the same as they were offered this year. Please be sure to register right away to get the class time you would like.

It has been such a beautiful year this year serving your children. It is a privilege for us and we look forward to doing it again next year! If you are interested in serving as a Catechist or an assistant in the classrooms, please mark it on your registration and we will be in contact with you in May!

Vacation Bible School is also open for registration. Space is limited, so be sure to register right away if you would like to participate. The dates are Tuesday - Thursday, June 21-23. Please also consider volunteering to help in some fashion for VBS, all help is greatly appreciated.

April 24- 11:00am First Communion special session

April 28 & 29 - optional First Communion retreat,
9:00am to 3:00pm

April 30- First Communion Retreat, with
First Reconciliation

May 1 - First Holy Communion Masses, Noon & 2:30pm

S.T.O.R.M. Report

Grades 7-12 Coordinators

Melissa Kahler, mkahler@saintmaryhc.org, 515-290-2830

Andrea Fisher, afisher@saintmaryhc.org, 515-240-5059

Grades 9 & 10, Confirmation Coordinator

Nicole Cory, ncory@saintmaryhc.org, 515-313-3014

Purpose Confirmation Program

Friday, May 20, 6:30pm, Confirmation Liturgy Rehearsal
Dinner for sponsors and teens.

Saturday, May 21, Confirmation Liturgy. Teens to be there by 12:50pm, Liturgy begins at 2:00pm.

S.T.O.R.M. Youth Group

Gathering: April 27. Join us for Mass/Adoration at 5:30-6:15pm. If your schedule doesn't allow for you to attend Mass/Adoration, please join us for a meal and gathering from 6:30-9:00pm in the Youth Area.

Prayer Chain

If illness or a crisis strikes your family or friends, please don't hesitate to contact us so members of our Parish may offer prayers for those in need. For requests or to participate in our Prayer Chain, please contact Barb, bliske@saintmaryhc.org / 515-367-2685.

If the request is not for you, please ask permission of the one it is for to be on our prayer chain.

Prayer Shawl

A prayer shawl is a soft warm reminder for people going through a rough time that you are not alone and that we are praying for you. If you know someone that could use the comfort of a prayer shawl or are interested in helping make them, please contact Dona Cowman at 515-383-4482 or racefans@iowatelecom.net.

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

John Roberts, *Chair* - jroberts@huxcomm.net
Doug Jones - djones@bossard.com
Tim Loraditch - Tloraditch@gmail.com
Tammi McClain - tammimcclain71@gmail.com
Larry Sauer - sauerld@outlook.com
Celia Shedd - hoyhill@partnercom.net

FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Heidi Ackerman, *Co-President* - heidimdittmer@gmail.com
Sue Tollefson, *Co-President* - suet@iowacubs.com
John Fisher - Johnfisher@sienafastener.com
Diane Gannon - ddkgannon@gmail.com
Doug Jones - djones@bossard.com
Bill Rooney - 1rooneybill@gmail.com

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Arlene Anderson - arlene@4andersons.com
Beth Hart - mrsmathart@gmail.com
Kelly Hoffmeier - nkhoff@msn.com
Tammi McClain - tammimcclain71@gmail.com
Kathy Petersen - katherine@huxcomm.net
Kris Sturtz - klsturtz@gmail.com
Sue White - charylmyron@q.com
John Zidon - jzidon@msn.com

CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Laurie Phelan, *Chair* - Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com
Karen Bellis - puzzlenuts@aol.com
Pat Bishop - pjbishop@midiaowa.net
Lowell Crouse - l3jl@windstream.net
John Freeman - johnfmingo@hotmail.com
Tracy Irwin - irwin@partnercom.net
Lynn Schreurs - lschreurs@msn.com
Larry Shaw - shawcattle77@gmail.com
Mary Winders - mefothergill@yahoo.com

PARISH TRUSTEES

Sheri Fogarty - fogarty929@gmail.com
Doug Jones - djones@bossard.com

PARISH AMBASSADOR TO CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Mike and Mary Winders - mwinde59@yahoo.com

**It's hard to get into shape spiritually
if you only work out on Sunday.**

Weekly Collection Financial Update

April 17	Budget Week 42	
	Received	Budget
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund	\$11,869	\$5,642
<i>Year to Date Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund</i>		
Received	Budget	Last Year
\$251,326	\$236,964	\$230,505
Holy Land Collection: \$520		

2022 Annual Diocesan Appeal

Please consider how you are able to help support the work of the Diocese and return the pledge card sent by Bishop Joensen, by mail to the parish office or dropped in the collection basket at Mass. If donating by check, please make it out to the Diocese of Des Moines. You can also donate at <https://www.dmdiocese.org/giving>; choose our parish from the "Designate" dropdown.

Goal	Pledged	Paid	Unpaid Pledges	Amt. Due
\$54,744	\$27,535	\$26,785	\$750	\$27,959

Thank you to those who've already donated so generously!

Cards for Home-Bound and in Care Facilities

If you know someone who might like to receive cards from parishioners, please ask them if we may put their address in the bulletin so cards can be sent.

Additional Options for Tithing

Auto Debit: Please consider using this type of tithing. You designate a monthly dollar amount to be withdrawn from your account on the 15th or the 30th. If you have questions or would like to begin ACH, please contact Sarah at sbaumberger@saintmaryhc.org or find the form on the table at church or on the home page of our website.

Online Giving: This is available through the Catholic Foundation of SW Iowa with this secure link: <https://catholicfoundationiowa.org/make-a-donation/parishes-and-schools-relief/>. On the drop down choose *St. Mary/Holy Cross Parish-Elkhart* to make your tithe donation. No fees! The Foundation sends gift receipts.

Thank you for considering one of these for your tithing.

Elizabeth Ann Seton, Mother and Religious

1774-1821

Elizabeth Ann Bayley Seton was born in New York City on August 28, 1774. Her father, Dr. Richard Bayley, was a professor in the medical school of what is now Columbia University. Her mother, and later, her stepmother, were staunch Episcopalians who instilled in her an appreciation of prayer and the Scriptures.

At nineteen, Elizabeth married a wealthy businessman, William Magee Seton, with whom she had five children. In the first years of her marriage, Elizabeth plunged into social work and in 1797, helped to found the Society for the Relief of Poor Widows with Small Children.

In 1803, her husband's business failed and William contracted tuberculosis. They went to Italy hoping to effect a cure, but he died shortly after they arrived. Elizabeth remained in Italy for some months, and observed Catholicism in action through a compassionate couple with whom she was staying. She became convinced that the Catholic Church led back to the Apostles and to Christ. After her return to the United States in 1805, she became a Catholic. This angered her family and friends; in turn, they rejected her and left her without support.

To provide for herself and her children, she opened a school in Boston. In 1809, the rector of St. Mary's seminary in Baltimore invited her to open a school there. Shortly thereafter, Elizabeth founded a religious community along with four companions. The sisters opened a school for poor children in Emmitsburg, Maryland, which was the beginning of the Catholic parochial school system in the United States.

In 1813 Elizabeth and eighteen other women took vows in a new order, the Sisters of Charity, the first American religious society. The order spread throughout the US and numbered some twenty communities by the time of her death.

She became the first American-born saint when she was canonized by Pope Paul VI in 1975. She is honored by a Memorial on January 4th.

Accepting our faith sometimes leads to rejection by those we love. Remembering that God loves both us and those who have forsaken us can help to ease the pain of rejection. We must learn to pray not just for those who love us and accept us, but also for those who have turned their backs on us.

*Have you prayed for those who have rejected you?
Have you forgiven them?*



Recycling plastic saves twice as much energy as burning it in an incinerator.

The Bishop Drumm Retirement Garage Sale

This sale will be held every Thursday from May 5 until September 29 at the garage at the rear of the property located at 5737 Winwood Drive in Johnston from 8:30am to 12:30pm. Donated clothing, shoes, household goods and furniture may be dropped off each Thursday during the sale or by contacting Helen Thull at 515-669-4621.

Please no computers, printers, old TV sets or baby car seats.

St. Luke's Blue Red Mass

On Thursday, May 19, at the regularly scheduled 5:30pm Mass, St. Luke the Evangelist (1102 NW Weigel Drive) will celebrate a special Mass to not only remember first responders who made the ultimate sacrifice, but to thank the women and men who serve and protect us each day and to pray for their safety. There will be representatives from several area law enforcement, fire and EMS departments and Dispatch centers present. Refreshments will be served in the gym after Mass. Come and show your support! For more information, contact Tom at ankenyjudges@gmail.com.

World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Join the universal Church on Sunday, May 8, to publicly fulfill the Lord's instruction to, "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). While appreciating all vocations, the Church concentrates its attention this day on vocations to the ordained ministries (priesthood and diaconate), consecrated life in all its forms (male and female religious life, societies of apostolic life, consecrated virginity), secular institutes in their diversity of services and membership, and to the missionary life.

Pilgrimage with the Bishop

Join Bishop Joensen in Rome October 18-28 for nine nights in Italy, seeing Assisi, Florence, Pompeii and Rome. Enjoy daily Mass at local churches and basilica. In the Eternal City, we will specifically visit the North American Pontifical College, attend papal audience, join the Scavi Tour, and so much more. For pricing and more information please call Gary Portuesi our travel agent at 646-767-0089.

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Second Sunday of Easter/Divine Mercy Sunday, April 24

Theme: Receive the Holy Spirit.

Reading I: Acts 5:12-16 • The number of women and men who came to believe increased steadily.

Reading II: Revelation 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19 • I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever.

Gospel: John 20:19-31 • After eight days Jesus came in and stood among them.

Children: Jesus appeared to the disciples even though they were afraid and locked in the closed room. How can you show Jesus to another person this week by how you act?

Youth: Thomas didn't believe because he hadn't seen Jesus with his own eyes. How hard is it for you to believe in God without being able to see God? How do you see God in the words and actions of others?

Adults: Jesus said: "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." Give one example of how you will show your belief in Jesus - how you are being sent forth.