



St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073



Fifth Sunday of Lent

April 3, 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:

Thinking about what seems to be many windy days lately, I remembered Jesus' statement in Scripture, "The wind blows where it wills" (John 3:8). The rest of the verse is as follows, "and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes; so it is with every one who is born of the Spirit." This verse is part of Jesus' instruction to the Pharisee named Nicodemus who visits him. Nicodemus thinks that Jesus' exhortation to be born again means to literally be born again while Jesus refers to baptism. Even though we may have been baptized, for most of us it happened when we were babies. Lent grants us the opportunity to remember the dignity of being a child of God that comes with baptism and experience it anew at Easter.

- 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 Lenten Offerings

Tuesday, April 5

5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross †Patrick Phelan

Wednesday, April 6

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

5:30pm Mass, St. Mary †Tom & Bonnie Arndorfer
~ followed by Adoration

Thursday, April 7

8:00am Mass, St. Mary †Marge Cory

Friday, April 8

6:00pm Stations of the Cross and Chaplet of
Divine Mercy, St. Mary

Palm Sunday

(Procession for Masses begin outside, weather permitting)

Saturday, April 9

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

5:00pm St. Mary †Bill Devereux

Sunday, April 10

8:00am Holy Cross For the Parish
10:00am St. Mary †Sharon Dunbar



TRIDUUM SERVICES

Holy Thursday, April 14

7:00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper, St. Mary
Adoration after Mass until 10:00pm in the Social Hall

Good Friday, April 15

3:00pm Stations and Veneration of the Cross
Holy Cross

7:00pm Commemoration of the Passion of Jesus
St. Mary

Easter Vigil, Saturday, April 16

8:00pm Mass, St. Mary (no 5:00pm Mass)

Easter Sunday, April 17

Masses: 8:00am, Holy Cross
10:00am, St. Mary

Lenten Prayer

Your love,
which breathed this world into being,
established a covenant people,
brought them out of captivity
and into a promised land. Hallelujah!

Your love,
which from the moment of our birth
has known and called us by name
from out of this world's slavery
into the kingdom of God. Hallelujah!

Your love,
poured into the heart of Jesus
who endured the nails of our sin,
defeated death to rise again
and causes our hearts to sing Hallelujah!

Parish Council

Meeting: April 19, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Finance Council

Meeting: April 12, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Stewardship

Meeting: April 12, 6:00pm, Social Hall

Knights of Columbus

April meeting to be announced

New Birth by Water and the Holy Spirit

Celebrate with us in welcoming into our Faith



Warren LeRoy

Son of Dillon and Amanda Pitts

who was baptized at our Parish last weekend.

Are You New to Our Parish? Welcome

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.

Liturgical Ministers Needed!

Our need is urgent for ministers for our Masses next weekend through Easter Sunday. Please sign up at church or contact the Parish Office to volunteer. Thank you for lending us your time and talents to enhance our Liturgies!

Living Lent †

The Diocese created Family Lenten Resources; find them at <https://www.dmdiocese.org/ministries-and-faith-formation/religious-education/parent-tools/family-faith-resources/lent>.

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

Coming Events

†Choir practice: Thursday, April 7, 6-7:30pm, St. Mary

†Next Weekend: Food Pantry Collection

There's Still Time this Lent....

to form your personal faith by participating in the Stations of the Cross...Reconciliation...Eucharistic Adoration ...weekday Mass...using reflection resources. Let God's light shine in you, and through you to others in need.

Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Please join us to sing this Chaplet after the Stations of the Cross this Friday. This has become a parish Lenten tradition and is a meditative chant sung using a Rosary. We will gather for a meatless meal and fellowship following the Chaplet.

Religious Education

Preschool - 6th Grade Coordinators

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

First Communion families: We will have our 2nd special sessions Sunday, April 10 after 10:00am Mass. This is for at least one parent and child. Please come to the Social Hall and we will begin in opening prayer and divide into groups from there.

Registration for next fall will be coming out soon. Watch your emails for forms.

Vacation Bible School: Tuesday - Thursday, June 21-23, 5:00-7:30pm. Registration coming soon.

April 3 - 11:00am First Communion special session
April 6/8 - regular sessions
April 10- 11:00am First Communion special session
April 13/15- regular sessions
April 20/22- final class of the year

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

EDGE

Sessions: April 6 & 13, 6:00-7:30pm, Social Hall
— April 13 is last EDGE gathering

Purpose Confirmation Program

Confirmation interviews are underway. Please see the signups in your email to sign your child up for a time slot.

Saturday, April 9, 9:00-11:00am, Session for 10th graders and their sponsors only, AND Rite of Enrollment for the Sacrament of Confirmation at 10:30am (parents welcome for the Enrollment ceremony).

Wednesday April 20: 6:00-8:00pm, Final Confirmation Session for the year, Social Hall

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

Gatherings: April 6 & 13, 7:30-9:00pm, Youth Area

Buildings and Grounds Collection

This weekend we have our second collection for Buildings and Grounds. The funds collected will continue to be allocated to repair the water and structural damage to the altar and steeple areas at St. Mary's. A structural engineer has been hired and has inspected the damage. The engineer will provide us with a report outlining our repair options. If you have any questions about this issue please contact a member of the Buildings and Grounds Committee or the Parish Council. Thank you for your support.

Holy Week

The central days of our life as Catholic Christians are Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil/Easter. Why not make it a priority this year to attend all our services to commemorate the journey from Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, the Last Supper, to the Cross and to the Resurrection accomplished by Jesus on our behalf. These are sacred days which give purpose and meaning to all we do as Catholics.

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 - mrsmatthart@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
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Lynn Schreurs - lschreurs@msn.com
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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

**Jesus never promised us a rose garden,
but He does promise to go through the thorns with us.**

Weekly Collection Financial Update

March 27	Budget Week 39	
	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund	\$2,629	\$5,642

Year to Date Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund

<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
\$229,815	\$220,038	\$212,512

Catholic Relief Services Collection To Date: \$25

2022 Annual Diocesan Appeal

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

<u>Goal</u>	<u>Pledged</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Unpaid Pledges</u>	<u>Amt. Due</u>
\$54,744	\$27,210	\$26,310	\$900	\$28,434

Holy Thursday Adoration

We have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 10:00pm in the Social Hall following this Mass on April 14. Please sign up so someone is present at all times.



1 cross + 3 nails = 4 given.

Palm Sunday and Easter Vigil Processions

For Palm Sunday Masses we will gather outside for the blessing of palms and then process into Church. The Easter Vigil at St. Mary will also begin outside. In case of inclement weather, we will begin Masses at St. Mary in the Social Hall and Mass at Holy Cross in the Church.

A Memorial Gift



We offer you the opportunity to remember a loved one by donating towards the flowers that will decorate St. Mary and Holy Cross Churches this Easter season. A memorial list will be printed in a future bulletin. *Donation envelopes are included with your tithe envelopes and also available on the table. Please return your donation by next Sunday, April 10.*



Food Pantry Collection Date Change

Our April Food Pantry Collection is next weekend; a week early due to the regular weekend being Easter. Please bring non-perishable food items to Mass; we will also take up a monetary collection. Thank you for your continued generosity in sharing with those in need. Your donation this month will assist Impact Community Action Partnership in Ankeny.

Still Time to Sign-Up for Lent

Time is running out to fulfill your Lenten pledge to sign-up to donate your valuable and much needed blood. Reserve your preferred time today in the vestibule at St. Mary Church or online at www.lifesevebloodcenter.org. Appointments are required. We're on our way to set a new parish record for appointment sign-ups in a year's time. Our January drive filled all available time slots for appointments!! But more is needed for people needing surgeries, giving birth, and for anemia, blood disorders, cancer treatments, serious burns, etc. There's no substitute for YOUR REAL human 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 to say nothing about the conversation with our wonderful volunteers. We look forward to seeing you at our drive 3:00 – 7:00pm, 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.

Divine Mercy Sunday

April 24 at St. Mary's Church and Social Hall

3:00pm: Divine Mercy Chaplet, Adoration & Confessions

4:00pm: Mass (Ad Orientum, with Latin elements)

5:00pm: Potluck Dinner and Fellowship

Winter Weather Cancellations

Whenever North Polk School is cancelled, dismissed early, or evening school activities are cancelled due to weather, classes, meetings and activities at the Parish will be cancelled. In most instances, Masses - both daily and weekend - will not be cancelled, so please use your own judgment. If the need to cancel weekend activities arises, it will be on the three major TV networks.



Only 23% of disposable water bottles are recycled.

Rice Bowls

Making A Difference: Hunger impacts millions of people world wide. How is your community working to address hunger or other injustices locally and globally? Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more.

Rice Bowls are available on the table.

Preserving Our Parish History

Recently, Laurie Phelan approached the Parish Council about the history of Holy Cross Church. Larry Sauer met with Laurie to discuss what action we might take to preserve the history of our parish past, present and future. We currently have two history books, one from 1875 – 2000 for Holy Cross and one from 1885 – 1985 for St. Mary's. That is twenty-two years ago for Holy Cross and thirty-seven years ago for St. Mary's. Each year our elder parishioners, who have a wealth of information, are passing without having been asked to share what they know about our past. At the Pastoral Council meeting on March 8, 2022, it was decided that our parish should begin to document, in writing and visual imagery, the history of our parish past, present and future. With that in mind we are looking for three to five parishioners, young and old, who would like to join a work group to be involved in this most important endeavor. If you are interested, please contact Larry Sauer at sauerld@outlook.com / 515-710-2421 or Laurie at laurie.c.phelan@gmail.com.

Parish Scholarship for High School Senior

A scholarship will be granted to a high school senior pursuing higher education! Money donated to fund this was donated by parishioners and the Knights of Columbus. If you are interested in applying for this scholarship (due April 17), go to this link or contact the office: https://docs.google.com/document/d/188f_sIJAQh9LGHJpwbxL1CVqsJSYcN5WlksB44iBubl/edit.

Community Service Day

On Saturday April 23, the Confirmation students will team up with the Knights of Columbus for their 4th annual Spring Community Service Day. The rain makeup date is April 30. If you or someone you know are looking for some help with yard work or anything outside of the house, please fill out the form in the vestibule and drop it in the provided box. We will not be offering help inside of homes this year to limit contact with homeowners. You are also welcome to contact Nicole Cory at 515-313-3014 or Doug Jones at 515-238-4745.

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Fifth Sunday of Lent, April 3

Theme: Jesus' love and forgiveness offer true freedom.

Reading I: Isaiah 43:16-21 • God makes a new way for us.

Reading II: Philippians 3:8-14 • Freedom is knowing Jesus.

Gospel: John 8:1-11 • Who is without sin and can throw the first stone.

Children: How does the Sacrament of Reconciliation help us experience God's forgiveness?

Youth: Who among your family and friends do you need to forgive so that you can heal a broken relationship and experience newness?

Adults: Against whom do you hold prejudices? Who do you believe is a greater sinner than yourself?