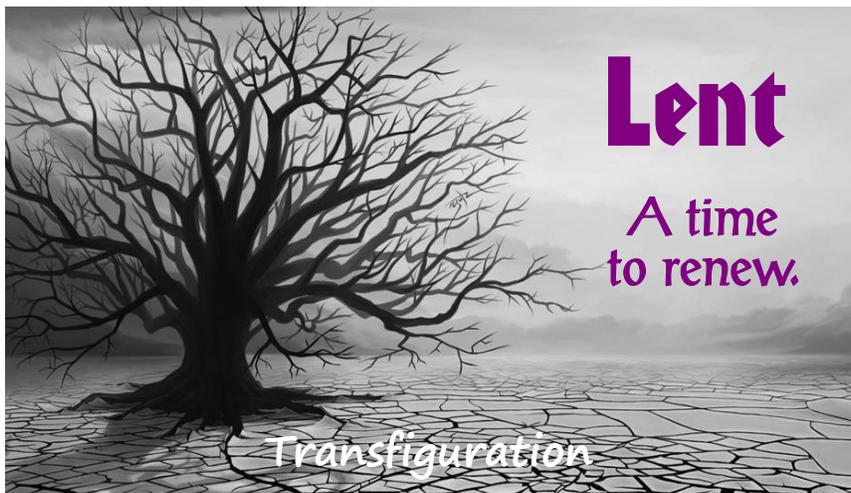




# St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073



## Second Sunday of Lent

February 28, 2021

*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,

At least one theme of the readings for this Sunday is that of obedience. The word comes from Latin and means 'listen.' Abraham is described by the LORD as having obeyed His command to sacrifice Isaac. Then in the Gospel, God the Father commands Peter, James, and John to listen to Jesus. Because 'obedience' and 'listen' are synonymous, we could say that the Father commands those disciples to obey Jesus. And we do not obey just for the sake of obeying. Certainly, it is the right thing to do with respect to God. We also get something out of it. Abraham is promised blessing. Because Jesus is glorified, we too are glorified for obeying and listening to him.

Kudos to the Knights, who served more than three hundred meals at their first fish fry of the season. It was encouraging to witness such participation by everyone who was present, especially considering the circumstances.

If you would like to participate in the Wednesday evening group that will review the Sunday readings with the online option, send me an e-mail for instructions and the link.

If you are interested in serving as a sponsor couple for those preparing for marriage, please contact me.

~ Fr. Andrew

## Parish Information

<b>Parish Phone</b>	515-367-2685
<b>Fr. Andrew Windschitl</b>	515-367-2685
<b>Parish General Email</b>	smhc@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Parish Fax</b>	515-367-7028
<b>Parish Web Site</b>	www.saintmaryhc.org
<b>Parish Facebook Site</b>	St. Mary's Holy Cross Parish-Elkhart
<b>Fr. Andrew Windschitl</b>	Fr.Andrew@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Sarah Baumberger - Bookkeeper</b>	sbaumberger@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Nicole Cory - Confirmation</b>	ncory@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Andrea Fisher - 7th-12th Ministry</b>	afisher@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Melissa Kahler - 7th-12th Ministry</b>	mkahler@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Barb Liske - Secretary</b>	bliske@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Geneveve Loraditch - PreK-6 RE</b>	gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Tracy Miller - PreK-6 RE</b>	tmiller@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Sue Schmidt - Music</b>	sschmidt@saintmaryhc.org

<b>Mass Schedule</b>	Tuesday	6:00pm	St. Mary
	Wednesday	5:30pm	Holy Cross
	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

**Reconciliation:** Saturdays 11:00am - Noon & 4:00-4:30pm; Tuesdays 5:15 - 5:45pm, in the **Cry Room**, or by appointment with Fr. Andrew.

**Baptism:** Contact Fr. Andrew for a preparation program

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

## Mass and Lenten Offerings

### Tuesday, March 2

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

6:00pm Mass, St. Mary †Angela Imhoff  
~ followed by Adoration

### Wednesday, March 3

5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross †Jim & Margaret Shaw

### Thursday, March 4

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

### First Friday, March 5

9:00am Mass, St. Mary †Mary Jones  
~ followed by Adoration & Reconciliation

6:00pm Stations of the Cross, St. Mary

### Saturday, March 6

11:00am - Noon Reconciliation, St. Mary

4:00 - 4:30

pm Reconciliation, St. Mary

5:00pm Mass, St. Mary †Bill Devereux

### Sunday, March 7

8:00am Mass, Holy Cross †Lyle Carpenter

10:00am Mass, St. Mary †Lucille Schmidt

## 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!

## Masks Required in Parish Buildings

Bishop Joensen has extended the mask requirement at all public Masses, sacramental celebrations, and other events in Church buildings through Divine Mercy Sunday, April 11, at which time it will again be reconsidered. This decision corresponds to the recommendations of public health experts within the local medical community.

For Diocesan updates, resources and livestream Mass, go to <https://www.dmdiocese.org/resources/worship/coronavirus>.

## Temporary Solution Regarding Mask Wearing at St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

In consultation with the diocese, an additional Mass at Noon on Sundays is being offered for those individuals to whom an exemption applies (see the excerpt from the bishop below). This does NOT mean that the mask mandate is currently rescinded. It also does not mean that anyone with an exemption is necessarily barred from attending a different Mass time. It is certainly not an attempt to "exile" anyone. Rather, it is an attempt to facilitate respect for those who are anxious about others not wearing masks around them (and perhaps vice versa).

Excerpt from the bishop's statement: *This diocesan requirement applies to all those over the age of five, who do not have a medical or psychological condition prohibiting mask use. A personal preference opposed to mask use, or the belief that masks are not effective, does not qualify as a condition exempting one from mask use. If parishioners are unsure whether an exemption applies to them, they should consult with their pastor who can assist in discernment.*

**1 cross + 3 nails = 4 given**

## A Lenten Prayer



Lord Jesus,  
by Your Passion and Resurrection  
You brought life to the world.  
But the glory of the Resurrection  
came only after the sufferings of the Passion.

You laid down Your life willingly  
and gave up everything for us.  
Your body was broken and fastened to a Cross,  
Your clothing became the prize of soldiers,  
your blood ebbed slowly but surely away,  
and Your Mother was entrusted to the beloved disciple.

Stretched out on the Cross,  
deprived of all earthly possessions and human aid,  
You cried out to Your Father that the end had come.  
You had accomplished the work given You,  
and You committed into His hands,  
as a perfect gift,  
the little life that remained to You.

Lord, teach me to accept all afflictions  
after the example You have given.  
Let me place my death in Yours  
and my weakness in Your abandonment,  
Take hold of me with Your love,  
that same foolish love that knew no limits,  
and let me offer myself to the Father  
with You so that I may rise with You to eternal life.

*Amen.*

Stewardship Committee  
Meeting: March 8, 6:00pm, Ed Center  
Finance Council  
Meeting: March 16, 6:30pm, Social Hall  
Knights of Columbus  
Meeting: March 21, 7:00pm  
Parish Council  
Meeting: March 23, 6:30pm, Social Hall

## Lenten Scripture Study

Join with us to pray over and discuss the upcoming Sunday readings. We meet Wednesdays in the office area at 6:30pm for about an hour. Please bring your Bible. *We will social distance and wear masks.*

If you would like to participate in this with the online option, send an email to Fr. Andrew for instructions and the link.

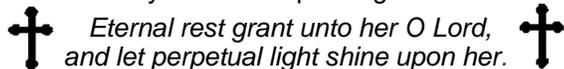
## Stations of the Cross

Retrace the final journey of Jesus Christ to Calvary. We invite you to join us for these powerful Stations each Friday of Lent, 6:00pm at St. Mary. Come walk with Jesus to Calvary.

*Would you like to lead us in the Stations of the Cross on March 5, 19 or 26? We have various books that can be used. A sign up is in the vestibule at St. Mary or contact the office to volunteer. Thank you.*

## In Sympathy and Compassion

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Angela Imhoff, niece of Steve and Marion Panyan, who passed away last week. She is at peace with our Lord; may her family find strength and comfort as they mourn her passing.



## Religious Education

### Preschool - 6th Grade Coordinators

Geneveve Loraditch, [gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org), 515-556-4150  
Tracy Miller, [tmiller@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:tmiller@saintmaryhc.org), 515-520-7981

Congratulations to the children who enrolled for their First Communion this past week! We are very excited to begin this journey with you!

As we begin this season of Lent, we encourage you to get your purple prayer cloth out and make a special space as a reminder to set apart this time for extra prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

March 2/3- Regular Sessions  
March 9/10- Regular Sessions  
March 16/17- No Sessions- Spring Break  
March 23/24- Regular Sessions

## S.T.O.R.M. Report

### Grades 7-12 Coordinators

Melissa Kahler, [mkahler@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:mkahler@saintmaryhc.org), 515-290-2830  
Andrea Fisher, [afisher@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:afisher@saintmaryhc.org), 515-240-5059

### Grades 9 & 10, Confirmation Coordinator

Nicole Cory, [ncory@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:ncory@saintmaryhc.org), 515-313-3014

### EDGE: 6:00-7:30pm, Social Hall

March 3 & 10: Sessions  
March 17 & 24: No sessions (Spring Break, Confirmation session)  
April 7: Final EDGE session for 2020-2021

### YOUTH GROUP: 7:30-9:00pm, Youth Area

March 3 and 10: Gatherings  
March 17 & 24: No gatherings  
April 7: Gathering

### Purpose (Confirmation Program)

Wednesday, March 24, 6:00 - 8:00pm: Confirmation Session, Social Hall at St Mary.

## Fish Fry Fridays!



Join the Knights of Columbus for their drive-thru Fish Fry this Friday. Cost is a free will offering. Next Fish Fry is March 19.

Menu: Choice between: Fried Tilapia -or- Baked Cod  
and each meal includes Baked Potato, Sweet Corn,  
Coleslaw, Macaroni and Cheese and Dinner Roll

If you are going to the Stations of the Cross first, please skip the line and park in front of the church.

✠ For Pastoral assistance, please contact Fr. Andrew at 515-367-2685 or [Fr.Andrew@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:Fr.Andrew@saintmaryhc.org).

## Prayer Partners



Children preparing for their First Holy Communion officially enrolled this past week. Please keep them in your prayers as they anxiously await this exciting moment in their faith journey. If you'd like to promise to pray for one of these children, please take a bookmark with their name on it. These will be on display after each Mass this weekend.

## PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Doug Jones, *Chair* - [djones@bossard.com](mailto:djones@bossard.com)  
John Fisher - [Johnfisher@sienafastener.com](mailto:Johnfisher@sienafastener.com)  
Tim Loraditch - [Tloraditch@gmail.com](mailto:Tloraditch@gmail.com)  
John Roberts - [jroberts@huxcomm.net](mailto:jroberts@huxcomm.net)  
Stacey Rooney - [Rooneysl17@gmail.com](mailto:Rooneysl17@gmail.com)

## FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Heidi Ackerman, *Co-President* - [heidimdittmer@gmail.com](mailto:heidimdittmer@gmail.com)  
Sue Tollefson, *Co-President* - [suet@iowacubs.com](mailto:suet@iowacubs.com)  
Larry Davis - [larryedavis57@gmail.com](mailto:larryedavis57@gmail.com)  
Diane Gannon - [ddkgannon@gmail.com](mailto:ddkgannon@gmail.com)  
Doug Jones - [djones@bossard.com](mailto:djones@bossard.com)  
Laurie Phelan - [Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com](mailto:Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com)

## STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Arlene Anderson - [arlene@4andersons.com](mailto:arlene@4andersons.com)  
Jacki Ausman - [jackiausman@gmail.com](mailto:jackiausman@gmail.com)  
Beth Hart - [mrsmatthart@gmail.com](mailto:mrsmatthart@gmail.com)  
Kelly Hoffmeier - [nkhoff@msn.com](mailto:nkhoff@msn.com)  
Tammi McClain - [tammimcclain71@gmail.com](mailto:tammimcclain71@gmail.com)  
Kathy Petersen - [katherine@huxcomm.net](mailto:katherine@huxcomm.net)  
Kris Sturtz - [klsturtz@gmail.com](mailto:klsturtz@gmail.com)  
Sue White - [charylmyron@q.com](mailto:charylmyron@q.com)  
John Zidon - [jzidon@msn.com](mailto:jzidon@msn.com)

## CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Laurie Phelan, *Chair* - [Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com](mailto:Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com)  
Karen Bellis - [puzzlenuts@aol.com](mailto:puzzlenuts@aol.com)  
Pat Bishop - [pjbishop@midiaowa.net](mailto:pjbishop@midiaowa.net)  
Lowell Crouse - [l3jl@windstream.net](mailto:l3jl@windstream.net)  
John Freeman - [johnfmingo@hotmail.com](mailto:johnfmingo@hotmail.com)  
Tracy Irwin - [irwin@partnercom.net](mailto:irwin@partnercom.net)  
Lynn Schreurs - [lschreurs@msn.com](mailto:lschreurs@msn.com)  
Larry Shaw - [shawcattle13@gmail.com](mailto:shawcattle13@gmail.com)  
Mike and Mary Winders - [Mwinde59@yahoo.com](mailto:Mwinde59@yahoo.com)

## PARISH TRUSTEES

Sheri Fogarty - [fogarty929@gmail.com](mailto:fogarty929@gmail.com)  
Doug Jones - [djones@bossard.com](mailto:djones@bossard.com)

## PARISH AMBASSADOR TO CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Mike and Mary Winders - [Mwinde59@yahoo.com](mailto:Mwinde59@yahoo.com)

## Weekly Collection Financial Update

February 21 Budget Week 34

Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund	Received	Budget
	\$1,389	\$4,860
Year to Date Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund		
Received	Budget	Last Year
\$189,270	\$165,240	\$205,937

If you would like a year end statement, please email Sarah at [sbaumberger@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:sbaumberger@saintmaryhc.org) or contact the office, 515-367-2685 with a request to print and mail (or email) statement to you.

## 2020 Annual Diocesan Appeal

Parish Goal	Payments	Outstanding Pledges	Refund
\$47,078*	\$47,502	\$450	\$424

\* Adjusted goal due to 5% reduction by Diocese.

Considering switching over to automatic withdrawal from your bank account for your tithing? Please contact Sarah Baumberger, [sbaumberger@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:sbaumberger@saintmaryhc.org), for additional information or find the form in the vestibule or on our website's home page, <https://www.saintmaryhc.org/>.

## Jesus Asks Us to Feed the Hungry

Our parish has been preparing a meal for the families at the shelter on the second Sunday of each month for a couple of decades. We are in need volunteers for July and December. One or more families can volunteer to prepare and deliver a meal. Covid precautions are taken; meal providers do not enter the shelter and masks are to be worn. Volunteers can pay for the meal themselves, be reimbursed by the parish, or receive a Gift-In-Kind receipt for a tax deduction. Please share your love with some families who are experiencing unexpected and dire changes to their lives. To volunteer or to find out more, please contact Lisa or Tim Kautza at [kautza@netins.net](mailto:kautza@netins.net) or 515-964-7687.



## Thank You!

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Huxley Food Pantry, I thank you for your generous donation of \$471.20. This past year has been especially challenging not only due to our move but due to the pandemic. Some clients we haven't seen since last March and we've had very few new clients. We have been grappling with how to best serve the clients we do have. Fortunately, congregations like yours, individuals and businesses have continued to donate both food and money. Your generosity is very much appreciated! Sincerely,

Jackie Rasmussen, Pantry Director

## 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. Please contact the Parish Office with their address.

## 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](mailto: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.*

## Winter Weather Cancellations

If North Polk School is in session and cancel, dismiss early, or cancel evening activities due to weather, events here at the parish are cancelled. In most instances, Masses - both daily and weekend - will not be cancelled, so please use your own judgment. If we need to cancel weekend activities it will be on the three major TV networks and WHO radio.

## Register for Catholic Youth Camp

Register now for your best summer ever at [stmcenter.com](http://stmcenter.com). Camp is open to 3rd-12th graders. *Our Parish will contribute \$100 of the fee to CYC for each child of our Parish who attends. Please notify Barb in the office when you have registered your child.*

## Get Your Copy of *The Catholic Mirror* Online

Our source of trustworthy news about the Catholic Church and our local faith communities is now available online. Email [communications@dmdioocese.org](mailto:communications@dmdioocese.org) with your name and parish/town to get the digital version, or go to [www.dmdioocese.org/catholic-mirror/digital-version](http://www.dmdioocese.org/catholic-mirror/digital-version). We are committed that every registered Catholic household gets *The Catholic Mirror* every month; and now you can choose how to receive it!



Recycling cardboard only takes 75% of the energy required to make new cardboard.

## Holy Hour

Pope Francis gave a transformative witness to the power of prayer, Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction in an extraordinary blessing televised across the world. The strength of that call to have faith in the time of crisis is a sign of what a Eucharist-centered Church can offer the world. Bishop Joensen encourages us to renew our focus on the Eucharist as he hosts a Holy Hour at St. Ambrose Cathedral on Mondays 5:00 to 6:00pm, which you can watch at [Facebook.com/dmdioocese](https://www.facebook.com/dmdioocese).

## Lenten Mission & Retreat

The Diocese of Des Moines has partnered with one of the nation's top spiritual facilitators to bring us this virtual event, *Jesus: A Companion in Our Suffering* on March 4 & 11 from 6:30 to 8:30pm. Live music at 6:30pm with the mission at 7:00pm. Register for this free event at <https://www.dmdioocese.org/2021LentenMission>. It will be via ZOOM and you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the retreat. For more information contact John Gaffney at [jgaffney@dmdioocese.org](mailto:jgaffney@dmdioocese.org).

## St. Joseph Catholic School

**Registration for the 2021-2022 school year is open.** Please call or email and schedule your tour today! For additional information please contact Jodi Halligan at 515-266-3433, [jhalligan@stjosephcatholicdsm.org](mailto:jhalligan@stjosephcatholicdsm.org) or [www.stjosephcatholicdsm.org](http://www.stjosephcatholicdsm.org).

## Date Night

Saturday, March 6, 7:00 - 8:00pm in St. Cecilia's Church (Ames) and livestreamed at <https://youtu.be/v7HnUx0BZnc>. Presentation is "*Joseph, Most Chaste Spouse*". The Marriage of Mary and Joseph has been called the summit from which holiness spreads all over the earth. What virtues of St. Joseph allowed him to fashion such sublime union with the most blessed of women? How can I embrace those virtues for the flourishing of my own marriage?

All adults from the area are invited to join us in-person or via livestream. For more information/questions, please email [DateNight@StCeciliaParish.org](mailto:DateNight@StCeciliaParish.org) or contact Deacon Ron at 515-441-0480.

## Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

### Second Sunday in Lent, February 28

Theme: *Seeing Jesus*

*Reading I:* Genesis 22:1-2, 9, 10-13, 15-18 • Because you trusted me, I will bless you greatly.

*Reading II:* Romans 8:31-34 • Who can be against us?

*Gospel:* Mark 9:2-10 • He was transfigured before their eyes!

*For Children:* Name or draw a picture of a time you knew that Jesus was with you.

*For Youth:* The disciples had a very intense experience of Jesus on the mountain. Have you ever had a "mountain top" experience? What was it like for you?

*For Adults:* In what ways does Jesus speak today, ways in which you can truly "listen to him?"