



St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073



Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 24, 2021



Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 31, 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,

What follows is an explanation by St. Irenaeus of the Eucharist as the pure oblation (offering) of the Church.

We offer him what is his, and so we proclaim communion and unity and profess our belief in the resurrection of flesh and spirit. Just as bread from the earth, when it receives the invocation of God, is no longer common bread but the Eucharist, made up of two elements, one earthly and one heavenly, so also our bodies, in receiving the Eucharist, are no longer corruptible, for they have the hope of resurrection.

What a wonderful reminder of the privilege as well as responsibility we have every time we celebrate Mass!

About \$2,600 is due for the Annual Diocesan Appeal (ADA). If everyone gives even very little, it will add up. Thanks to those who have given what they can.

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

~ Fr. 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
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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

Mass Schedule	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 4:00-4:30pm in **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.

Priesthood and Religious Life: See Diocesan website at <http://www.vocationsonline.org>.

Mass and Adoration

Tuesday, January 26

6:00pm St. Mary *The Lebon Family*
~ followed by Adoration and Reconciliation

Wednesday, January 27

5:30pm Holy Cross †*Dick McGill*

Thursday, January 28

8:00am St. Mary †*Ken Cowman & Dorothy Smith*

Saturday, January 30

5:00pm St. Mary †*Donnie Smith*

Sunday, January 31

8:00am Holy Cross †*Jim & Margaret Shaw*
10:00am St. Mary *For the Parish*

Tuesday, February 2

6:00pm St. Mary †*Joe Ross*
~ followed by Adoration and Reconciliation

Wednesday, February 3

5:30pm Holy Cross †*Elsbeth Noel*

Thursday, February 4

8:00am St. Mary *The Lebon Family*

First Friday, February 5

9:00am St. Mary †*Elaine Barnwell*

Saturday, February 6

5:00pm St. Mary †*Bill Devereux*

Sunday, February 7

8:00am Holy Cross *For the Parish*
10:00am St. Mary †*Bernardine Gorman*

FAITH

doesn't always
take you out of the problem,

FAITH

takes you through the problem.

FAITH

doesn't always
take away the pain,

FAITH

gives you the ability
to handle the pain.

FAITH

doesn't always
take you out of the storm,

FAITH

calms you
in the midst of the storm.

Parish Council

Meeting: January 26, 6:30pm, Social Hall
Stewardship Committee

Meeting: February 8, 6:00pm, Social Hall

Finance Council

Meeting: February 16, 6:30pm, 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!

Masks Required at Mass

Bishop Joensen requires masks to be worn by everyone (unless medically exempt) at all Masses in every parish. This shows our love for others by protecting them. Our faith calls us to be Good Samaritans and to be mindful of the common good. **For Diocesan updates, resources and livestream Masses, please go to <https://www.dmdiocese.org/resources/worship/coronavirus>.**

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

Offering Envelopes for Children

These envelopes are being shipped. When they arrive we will set them out in the vestibule of St. Mary and in the entryway of Holy Cross. Children are encouraged to take an envelope packet, and on the paper provided, write their name by the number of the packet they have taken. We thank our young people for their support of the parish!

Snow Removal

We have 2+ months left for possibility of snow; could you help out with sidewalks and steps at St. Mary on the weekend and/or during the week? Sign up for time slot(s) at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409094ea4a722a2fb6-snow>. Thank you! Please contact Bill Schmitt, 515-291-8005, for more information.



It's Not Too Late to Save Lives!

Our blood drive is Thursday, January 28, 3:00 to 7:00p.m. in the Social Hall. This is a safe and easy way to serve others! Blood is always in short supply and especially now. Your donation of life-supporting blood will help save or sustain the life of three others. LifeServe Blood Center provides a disinfected and sanitized environment. The whole process will take less than an hour with the actual donation taking about 10 minutes. **LifeServe personnel and donors are required to wear a mask. Appointments are required for added safety.** To schedule your appointment sign up in the vestibule of St. Mary or go to <https://donor.lifeservebloodcenter.org/donor/schedules/drive/schedule/169798> to choose donation time and then log in or create an account. If you have difficulties or questions, please call the Blood Center at 800-287-4903 and mention the Elkhart Community Blood Drive on January 28.

We are offering "a pint for a pint" so come donate a pint and enjoy homemade soups at the canteen!

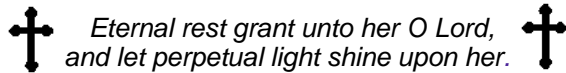
Contact Lisa or Tim Kautza (kautza@netins.net or 515-964-7687) if you would like to volunteer to help in the canteen or can provide cookies, bars or other snacks.

Would you be interested in being a lector at Mass? If so, or if have questions, please contact Fr. Andrew.



In Sympathy and Compassion

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Verna Rieder, mother of Pam Fopma, who passed away January 17, and for Pam and her family as they mourn her passing.



Religious Education

Preschool - 6th Grade Coordinators

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

We are so thankful to be back in the swing of our regular sessions. Listening to the children proclaim God's goodness fills our hearts with joy each week. Please remember to check the email you registered with or the remind app for any cancellations. We also report weather related cancellations to the news stations.

Regular Sessions: January 26/27 and
February 2/3 & 9/10

February 16/17: No sessions, please attend
Ash Wednesday Mass with your family.

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

Masks are required to be worn per the instructions from the diocese (unless medically exempt).

EDGE Sessions: 6:00-7:30pm

No EDGE Jan. 27

Sessions Feb. 3 & 10

Feb. 17 EDGE, attend Ash Wednesday Mass with family

No EDGE Feb. 24

Youth Group Gatherings: 7:30-9:00pm

No gathering Jan. 27

Gatherings Feb. 3 & 10

No gathering Feb. 17, attend Ash Wednesday Mass with family

No gathering Feb. 24

Purpose (Confirmation Program)

Confirmation session: Wednesday, January 27. This session is in person at St. Mary in the social hall from 6:00-8:00pm.

10th Grade Saint Displays are due Wednesday, January 27.

Please watch your email with more information on the last half of our year of Confirmation prep.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sponsor a Bible

Help us put the Word of God in our First Communicants' hands. Cost is \$30 to sponsor one Bible and we have 28 that need sponsored. If you wish to sponsor a child please mail or drop off a check with Bible written in the memo to St. Mary or Geneveve and Tracy will be available after Mass on the weekend of February 6 & 7, with envelopes for those who wish to contribute in person. Thank you for prayerfully considering this lifelong gift to the children.



PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Doug Jones, *Chair* - djones@bossard.com
John Fisher - Johnfisher@sienafastener.com
Tim Loraditch - Tloraditch@gmail.com
John Roberts - jroberts@huxcomm.net
Stacey Rooney - Rooneyslg17@gmail.com

FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS

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

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Arlene Anderson - arlene@4andersons.com
Jacki Ausman - jackiausman@gmail.com
Beth Hart - mrsmathart@gmail.com
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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
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Mike and Mary Winders - Mwinde59@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

Weekly Collection Financial Update

January 17 Budget Week 29

Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund	Received	Budget
	\$11,005	\$4,860

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

Received	Budget	Last Year
\$165,804	\$140,940	\$180,129

2020 Annual Diocesan Appeal

Information and a pledge card have been mailed to each household. Please prayerfully consider what you are able to give and mail your pledge to the parish or donate online at <https://www.dmdiocese.org/giving/annual-diocesan-appeal-giving>, being sure to designate our parish for proper credit. Each gift is vital to reaching our assessment. Thank you.

Parish Goal	Pledge Total	Payments	Amt. Due
\$49,556	\$47,852	\$46,952	\$2,604

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

Feast Day of St. Blaise



We ask St. Blaise to protect us from all sicknesses of the throat. We will have a general blessing of throats during 5:30pm Mass at Holy Cross on February 3.

Thank You

Stewardship Committee and St. Mary-Holy Cross:

Many thanks to the Stewardship Committee for the assortment of Christmas gifts that were given to me. They were greatly appreciated. Wishing all a Happy New Year.

~ Peg Moreland

End-of-Year Statements

In order to save on postage, paper and printing expense, we will not be mailing year end donation statements to everyone. If you would like a statement, please email Sarah at sbaumberger@saintmaryhc.org or contact the office, 515-367-2685 with a request to print and mail (or email) a statement to you. Thank you.

Fish Fries Are Coming!

February 19, March 5 & 19
Drive-Thru only

More info to come in future bulletins!



CYC Registration Open

Campers will see new cabins, a renovated Dingman Lodge and increased number of staff for enhanced safety precautions. We're planning for the most amazing summer ever! Camp is open to 3rd-12th graders. For more information and to register, please go to stmcenter.com. *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.*

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 or www.stjosephcatholicdsm.org.

Preschool and Kindergarten Virtual Information Night: Tuesday, February 2, 6:00pm. Please contact the school office, schooloffice@stjosephcatholicdsm.org or call 515-266-3433 to receive the link for this event.

Agatha, Virgin and Martyr



Agatha is another of the early saints about whom most our knowledge is based on legend. She was born in Sicily, either Catania or Palermo, both of which claim her as a patron, and was martyred in Catania, most likely during the persecution of the Roman emperor Decius around the middle of the third century. Agatha dedicated herself to God and a life of chastity. When she refused the advances of a Roman consul, he denounced her as a Christian and subjected her to torture and indignities to change her mind. But Agatha's continued dedication to God and her calm acceptance of torture only infuriated her captors and they had her tortured and killed. Her memorial is celebrated on February 5.

Do you accept your sufferings with grace or do you tend to let everyone know that you are suffering?



The world uses over 500 billion plastic bags a year – that's 150 for each person on Earth.

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.



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.*

On The Radio

Tune in to Iowa Catholic Radio (1150 AM, 88.5 FM or 94.5 FM) most Fridays around 7:15pm to hear Fr. Andrew discuss that coming Sunday's Gospel. At 9:00am every Friday tune in for the Bishop's weekly radio show, "Making it Personal With Bishop Joensen."

Share the Gospel – use words if needed.

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, January 24

Theme: We are called.

Reading I: Jonah 3:1-5, 10 • They believed in God and proclaimed a fast.

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 • The time is short.

Gospel: Mark 1:14-20 • Come, follow me.

For Children: What do you think it was like for the people in today's Gospel to be called by Jesus? What did they have to give up in order to follow him?

For Youth: At the start of Jesus' ministry, Jesus invites people to "believe in the Good News." What are some ways that you could be more open to the truth and challenge contained within the Gospels?

For Adults: If someone asked you, "To what work has Jesus called you?" how would you answer?

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, January 31

Theme: Jesus has power over evil.

Reading I: Deuteronomy 18:15-20 • I will put my words into your mouth.

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 7:32-35 • I want you to be free of all worries.

Gospel: Mark 1:21-28 • He has authority over all creation.

For Children: Name some bad things that you want to pray that Jesus will take away from our world.

For Youth: Jesus freed the man from the unclean spirit within him. What do you hope Jesus will free you from? What is happening in the world that needs Jesus' help?

For Adults: What are the evils in today's world that you pray God will free us from?