



St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073



The Most Holy Trinity

June 7, 2020

Dear Friends in Christ,

On this Sunday and the next, we ease our way back into ordinary time by celebrating special solemnities, this one being that of the Most Holy Trinity. It is fitting that it follows the Easter season, a time during which we come to know what God *did* for us. Now we come to what God *is like*. The *Catechism* tells us that the Trinity is the most central mystery of our faith. Consider how seriously the Church takes it: we invoke it when we celebrate Baptism, the first sacrament that any Christian receives, and we also invoke it before every prayer. However, how conscious are we really of what we are saying and doing? We do well to remember that not only is God three unified and at the same time distinct persons and however hard it is to fathom the Trinity, He is so benevolent that He still allows us access to His inner self. Stay tuned regarding the solemnity next Sunday, as it develops this theme.

Even though you probably heard about this, it is worth reiterating: we are headed back to daily Mass. The bishop is allowing us to resume as early as this Thursday, the 11th. The parish council and I have been working on the logistics of spacing and liturgical practice. Please exercise prudence concerning your health and if you attend, to what extent you interact with others. Modifications will be made to the liturgy, some of which will likely be clear and some of which will be communicated at that time. We are also allowed to go ahead with smaller liturgies for first Communion, which are being planned. Right now, there is indication that we may get back to Sunday Mass toward the end of the month. However, that is not definitive. -Fr. Andrew (See Bishop Joensen's full announcement on back page of this bulletin.)

Parish Information

Parish Phone	515-367-2685
Fr. Andrew Windschitl	515-367-2685
Fr. Andrew Windschitl	Fr.Andrew@saintmaryhc.org
Sarah Baumberger - Bookkeeper	sbaumberger@saintmaryhc.org
Nicole Cory - Confirmation	ncory@saintmaryhc.org
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Geneveve Loraditch - PreK-6 RE	gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org
Tracy Miller - PreK-6 RE	tmiller@saintmaryhc.org
Sue Schmidt - Music	sschmidt@saintmaryhc.org

Email	smhc@saintmaryhc.org
Fax	515-367-7028
Web Site	www.saintmaryhc.org
Facebook	St. Mary's Holy Cross Parish-Elkhart

Reconciliation: By appointment only with Fr. Andrew.

Baptism: Contact Fr. Andrew for preparations.

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 & Mass Intentions offered by Fr. Andrew

Tuesday, June 9	†Jim & Margaret Shaw
Wednesday, June 10	†Dorothy Gannon
Thursday, June 11 8:00am St. Mary	†Lowell Brendeland
Saturday, June 13	†Cecelia Morton & Son Mike
Sunday, June 14	For the Parish

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

We Are Here to Help!

If you are homebound, at high risk, caring for family, or know someone who is, and are in need of help with errands, picking up prescriptions or groceries, etc., please contact Fr. Andrew or the parish office. Also, if you are willing to help in some way, please email Barb.

Private Prayer in Church

St. Mary's Church is open for private prayer from 8:00am to 8:00pm Monday through Friday and from 10:00am to 8:00pm on Saturday and Sunday.

Change in Parish Practice

If necessary for you to come to the parish office, please contact Fr. Andrew or staff ahead of time to be sure someone is here, or make an appointment. Phone messages and email are checked frequently.

See the diocesan website at

<https://www.dmdiocese.org/resources/worship/coronavirus>
for livestream Masses, updates and resources.



Welcome To Our New Members!

We welcome to our Parish family returning members

Jeff and Lynda Baker and children Alexia and Dylan who live in Bondurant.

Kaitlyn (Baker) Osborn and husband Zachary who live in Adel.

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 form found in the vestibule of St. Mary and on our website. We are glad you are here!



90th Birthday's!

The family of **Jeanne Carpenter** invite you to share in her 90th birthday celebration today, June 7th by sending her a card to brighten her day! Her address is 2785 1st Ave S, Apt 224, Altoona, IA 50009.

The family of parishioner **Kenny Stevens** invite you to help him celebrate his 90th birthday on Saturday, June 13th by sending him a card on his milestone birthday! Kenny's address is 110 NW Georgetown Blvd., Unit 3, Ankeny, IA 50021.

Problems? Don't Facebook seek God's face and book.

A Prayer For Medical Scientists and Researchers

God of wisdom,
Bless medical scientists and researchers
around the world
With insight and skill, dedication and fortitude,
As they combat coronavirus,
So that their work yields knowledge and
understanding,
Speedily finding a vaccine,
treatments and deterrents to its spread.

Source of life,
Grant public health and government officials
The strength to act swiftly and decisively,
With compassion and understanding,
In service to humankind,
Fighting this outbreak
And the other diseases that still plague the planet,
Diseases threatening the lives of our brothers
and sisters,
Nations and communities,
Young and old.
Rock of Ages,
Bring an end to disease and suffering,
So that all may know
Your compassion and Your grace.
Praised are You, God, healer of flesh,
maker of wonders.

Amen.

Annual Collection for Holy Cross Cemetery Maintenance

Traditionally, we have an annual collection to cover the maintenance requirements for the cemetery during the Memorial Day weekend Masses (annual expenses usually exceed \$3000). Because we have been prohibited from having weekend Masses and Memorial Day Mass, we were unable to collect these donations. If you are able to support this funding, please send your donation to Barb at the parish office and be sure to identify it as "Holy Cross Cemetery donation". Thank you.

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 at 515-367-2685 or bliske@saintmaryhc.org. *If the request is not for you, please ask permission of the one it is for to be on our prayer chain.*

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.

Religious Education

Preschool - 6th Grade Coordinators

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

We hope your summer break is off to a good start. June has brought with it nicer weather and the news of Mass resuming soon. With all the confusion and turmoil in the world we can feel pretty helpless, but we have a very tangible way to make a difference in this world. We can go to Mass. It might not sound like much, but uniting our prayers to the ultimate sacrifice of Jesus is the most powerful thing we can do. Daily Mass resumes June 11. Watch for updates from Father Andrew on what this will look like for St. Mary Holy Cross Parish. We look forward to seeing your families at Mass!

Our next Meditation for First Communion and Sacramental Prep is this Wednesday, June 10 from 6:00-7:15pm. Please continue to keep the children preparing for First Communion in your prayers. We will also have a meditation on Wednesday, June 17.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

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

Graduating Seniors: The Parish has a gift for you; please pick yours up from the table near the cry room.

Confirmation: We will have one more at home lesson before our unconventional year wraps up. Please watch for that to come this week.

10th Grade Parents: Please respond to the emails you've received from me regarding Liturgy info that our parish needs to complete our Sacramental records. Thank you to those of you that have already responded. Please watch your email with updates regarding the Confirmation Liturgy.

Hello S.T.O.R.M. Family!

Hard to believe it is already June! Please know you are all still in our thoughts and in our prayers. We hope you are enjoying the sun shine. Continued prayers for you health and safety!

We are going to continue to share Catholic apps, websites or blogs once a month. This month we encourage you to check out the app called Reimagining The Examen-Loyola Press. This app offers an unique prayer experience that is tailored to your needs and mood. We hope this app will help you to continue to grow in your faith.

Please join us in saying the prayer below. We ask that you pray this at least once a day for the unity and healing for all during this tumultuous time.

Please let us know if there is any way we can assist you!

God Bless, *Nicole, Andrea and Melissa*

*Heavenly Father,
we praise you for sending your Son
to be one of us and to save us.
Look upon your people with mercy,
for we are divided in so many ways,
and give us the Spirit of Jesus to make us one in love.
We ask this gift, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Doug Jones, *Chair* - djones@bossard.com
Will Bates - a_k_bates@live.com
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John Roberts - jroberts@huxcomm.net
Stacey Rooney - Rooneyslg17@gmail.com

FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Dave Pottebaum, *President* - pottebaum5@msn.com
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Doug Jones - djones@bossard.com
Laurie Phelan - Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com
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CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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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

May 31	Budget Week 48	
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund	Received	Budget
	\$4,502	\$5,730

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

Received	Budget	Last Year
\$281,921	\$275,040	\$282,173

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	\$35,422	\$31,262	\$18,294

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 home page in the lower right hand corner.

Greetings from Me and My House!

I wanted to take this opportunity wish everyone well. I hope that you and your loved ones are healthy. If there is anything that you need, no matter how small it seems—please don't hesitate to reach out to SMHC, we are here to help. I want to also talk about what's happening outside of our doors this past week. Our country is kind of a mess these days. I don't know about you but I'm struggling to watch the news or even stay current on what's happening because there is just so much and it's hard to stay positive.

It's okay to turn the news off if you need to. It's okay to give yourself a break from it all. And you don't have to feel guilty about it. We can't pour from an empty cup, it's so important to take time to rejuvenate yourself and re-evaluate what's going on. And then, after you've done that—jump back in the game.

No cupcakes and rainbows this time around, I am just going to say it exactly how it is. We are a wasteful, selfish, distracted, and sinful society and we've had a wakeup call. We all know that God allows evil and suffering because it's part of the deal. There is no Sainthood without sins. We can't openly love Him and have a relationship with Him unless it's on our accord. But, the other side of that is hate. We can't have one without the other. And it'd be great if someday we could erase it from the world entirely—but that's not realistic. In the words of St. Therese of Lisieux, "The world is thy ship, not thy home". This is not our final destination. And although living our physical lives is short compared to our eternal home, how we choose to leave our footprints in the dirt is an important part of a much grander scheme.

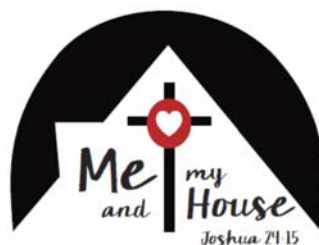
Living our lives here on earth is somewhat of a test and as of late, we've been seeing some very unexpected times. We weren't prepared for a virus like COVID and having to live a new normal in the wake has been challenging. But to add to that, we have a rising civil movement in its early stages. A virus is one thing, but to turn on the news and see people hurting others and intentionally destroying our neighborhoods is not only tragic, but scary. The difference between COVID and civil matters is that we've seen the latter before. It's easy to look back in history and see the effect of discrimination on our society. We can look back and see what brought positive changes and what only exasperated the problem.

In short, because I could talk about this for a very long time—I'm urging everyone to play their part. Violence is not the answer and will not bring the changes that need to happen. I implore everyone to exercise your rights as an American. Please contact your leaders and find out their stance on the things that are important to you. There are definitely reforms that need to take place and we can make that happen through the channels we have, let your representatives know that we can no longer sit back and allow hate and brutality and ask them what they intend to do about it. Peacefully protest the human on human hate and help to bring down the walls that are dividing us. Please go vote for people with like minded morals and values.

This past Sunday was Pentecost. And much like the Holy Spirit descended onto the Apostles in a tiny room, when they felt lost and fearful of the world around them, let it wash over us now. Let it open our minds like the wind that blew the shutters open. Let the ground shake with our recompense and reverence as we unite as one people of God and His church. Let us go forward with fire on our tongues and love in our hearts. This is not a "certain group of people" kind of problem, this is a "human race" kind of problem. You might be thinking you can't contribute to the solution, but no act of kindness or righteous action is too small. Go and love thy neighbor as God commanded.

Until next time, be happy, healthy, and safe.

Email joshua2415smhc@gmail.com with any thoughts, ideas and opinions you have.



Online Giving

Thank you to those who have used this type of tithing!

We currently offer online giving through the Catholic Foundation of Southwest Iowa by using this secure link: <https://catholicfoundationiowa.org/make-a-donation/parishes-and-schools-relief/>. Use the drop down menu and choose *St. Mary/Holy Cross Parish-Elkhart* to make your donation which will be credited as tithes, and will appear on your year end statement. No fees! The Foundation will send all gift acknowledgement letters. Thank you for considering using this for your tithing.

The Story of Plastic

You're Invited! Join Iowa Interfaith Power & Light and the Interfaith Green Coalition of Central Iowa for a free screening at home of *The Story of Plastic* and a special panel discussion on June 20 at 1:30pm using Zoom. We are thrilled to announce that our panelist will be Ciji Mitrisin, Stephanie Kellogg Heifner, and Elizabeth Sheldon who will provide insight and wisdom around the documentary and what actions we can take.

Due to physical distancing and keeping everyone safe at this time, we will not be able to watch the documentary together. Instead, you will be sent a link to watch it from the comfort of your own home. Make sure to block out 90 minutes to watch the documentary before the day of the panel discussion. When you register, you will get a confirmation email with the Zoom login information for the panel discussion on June 20 at 1:30pm. Due to the limited number of documentary views, two weeks before the panel date you will receive a second email with the link to view *The Story of Plastic*. Go to <https://iowaipl.salsalabs.org/thestoryofplastic/index.html> for more information on the event, read a little about our panel, and register today!

SAYWHAT? Every three months, Americans throw enough aluminum in the landfills to build our nation's entire commercial air fleet.

Transitional Diaconate Ordination

Please keep in your prayers Brad Robey, Jake Epstein and Reed Flood who will be ordained to the transitional diaconate this Friday, June 12 at St. Ambrose Cathedral. The ordination will be livestreamed on the Diocese of Des Moines Facebook page at Facebook.com/DMDiocese at 5:00pm. This is the last major step before their ordination to priesthood.

Catholic Youth Camp Cancelled This Summer

For an informational video, please go to <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=551613985540292>.

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

The Most Holy Trinity, June 7

Theme: The mystery of the Trinity - Father, Son, Holy Spirit.

Reading I: Exodus 34:4-6, 8-9 • A merciful, gracious God.

Reading II: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 • Mend your ways.

Gospel: John 3:16-18 • God so loved the world that he gave his only Son.

Question for Children: When have you heard your inner voice or conscience guiding you to do what is right?

Question for Youth: How would you describe your relationship with God the Father, Jesus and with the Spirit?

Question for Adults: If you were to encourage fellow parishioners to live as a "community of love," which is how we define the Trinity, how would you advise them to live?



Bishop Provides Update on Regathering for Mass

Dear Friends in Christ,

With your pastors and clergy in the Des Moines Diocese throughout these pandemic weeks, we have received and shared your appeals, groans, and longing for the resumption of communal celebration of sacraments. I hope it brings relief, peace, and joy for you to receive these much-awaited notifications that follow upon due consultation with our regathering task force and select clinicians. As always, the decision to proceed with liturgical celebrations (presuming that the faithful socially distance from one another, wear masks, and that parishes can observe cleaning guidelines) rests with the local pastors.

Dallas, Polk, and Warren County Parishes are now permitted to enter Phase 1 (weekday Masses) as early as Thursday, June 11th. Pastors may elect to wait until a later date, such as Tuesday, June 16th or beyond, to begin Phase 1 operations. Given the larger number of parishes, the greater population density, and the prospect of a resurgence as businesses and other venues open and people congregate with less caution, I ask that you await the "green light" for entry into Phase 2 (weekend Masses), but barring any contraindications, Dallas, Polk, and Warren Counties can expect to resume Phase 2 weekend liturgies on June 27-28th.

There is no present determination of when we will enter Phase 3 (social gatherings of 50 or less), but it will almost certainly not be until July.

It needs be said again that the Sunday Mass obligation remains suspended, and that vulnerable persons and those who interact with them do well to stay home, even as this poses a continued sacrifice on their part. Please await your own parish's resumption of Masses, and remember that during Phase 1 and 2, an occasional presence at Mass, and not daily, makes it possible for more parishioners to attend Mass in safe fashion. Practicing these self-disciplines is a grace-filled act of charity for others, who equally hunger for our Eucharistic Lord. There is an attached discernment tool that is a regular reminder to all of us of our need to be honest with ourselves about our health status and our need to be charitable toward others.

Oh, to have finally passed over to this place of greater refreshment and healing, where we can partake again of the fruits of the Resurrection and Pentecost. Let us go rejoicing—with continued vigilance and care for each other—to the House of the Lord!

Faithfully in Christ,

Most Rev. William M. Joensen, Ph.D.