



St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073



Second Sunday of Lent

March 13, 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:

Jesus never does anything for just himself and the Transfiguration about which we read in the Gospel this Sunday is no different. If the event were not different, he probably would not have taken Peter, John, and James up the mountain. Furthermore, St. Pope Leo the Great notes:

"The great reason for this transfiguration was to remove the scandal of the cross from the hearts of his disciples, and to prevent the humiliation of his voluntary suffering from disturbing the faith of those who had witnessed the surpassing glory that lay concealed."

All the apostles, even Peter and James, but not John, ran away at some point during our Lord's passion. They came back after the Resurrection and would eventually be martyred for him and the faith. What Jesus did by submitting to the Father's will for him and the rest of humanity became the model for every Christian, but are we listening to him?

~ Father Andrew

Parish Information

Parish Phone 515-367-2685
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Parish Fax 515-367-7028
Parish Web Site www.saintmaryhc.org
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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; after 9:00am First Friday Mass 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, March 15

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

Wednesday, March 16

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

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

Thursday, March 17

8:00am Mass, St. Mary †Reed Benenate

Friday, March 18

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

Saturday, March 19

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

5:00pm Mass, St. Mary †Mark Schmidt

Sunday, March 20

8:00am Mass, Holy Cross †Bill Jorgensen

10:00am Mass, St. Mary People of the Parish

2:00pm Reconciliation Service, St. Mary

Lenten Prayer

*Forgive those things I have done
which have caused you sadness,
and those things I should have done
that would have brought you joy.
In both I have failed
myself,
and you.
Bring me back to that place
where my journey began,
when I said that I would follow
the way that you first trod.
Lead me to the Cross
and meet
me there.
Amen.*

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.

Building & Grounds Collection

This weekend we have our second collection for Buildings and Grounds. We are pleased to announce the installation of the water softener for St. Mary's has been completed and we have already received positive feedback. We have also submitted an order for an American AED defibrillator. That unit will be installed as soon as possible. The next focus for the Buildings and Grounds funds will be to address the water and structural damage to the altar and steeple areas at St. Mary's. Working with the Diocese a structural engineer has been identified to assess the damage and provide a report outlining our repair requirements. The estimated cost for this work is \$2,000 and we are arranging to get this started. If you have any questions about this issue please contact someone on the Buildings and Grounds Committee or the Parish Council. Thank you for your support.

Parents!

It's not too late to pick up a booklet to guide your family on your Lenten journey. We also have booklets available for your children. Find them in the vestibule of St. Mary.

Covid Updates as of March 1

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 go to :

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

Parish Council

Meeting: March 22, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Finance Council

Meeting: March 21, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Stewardship

Meeting: March 14, 6:00pm, Social Hall

Knights of Columbus

Mar. 20: 6:40pm Rosary, Church, 7:00pm Meeting, Hall

*The Parish Office opens at Noon on Tuesday March 15;
St. Mary's Church building opens at 8:00am that day.*

Coming Events

- †**This Weekend:** Buildings & Grounds collection
- †**Stations of the Cross:** Fridays during Lent, 6:00pm at St. Mary. Lenten meal on March 25 & April 8. Fish fry on March 18 and April 1
- †**Choir practice:** Sundays, March 13 & 20 after 10:00am Mass for one hour. Future practices will be announced.
- †**March 19/20 Weekend:** Maxwell Food Pantry collection

Lenten Reconciliation Service

You are encouraged to attend our Service next Sunday, March 20, 1:00pm at St. Mary. Additional priests will be here to assist with individual confessions.

Come experience the healing power of Christ!

Stations of the Cross

Come pray these powerful Stations every Friday of Lent, 6:00pm at St. Mary, and follow Jesus on his way to Calvary.

*Following the Stations on March 25 & April 8
we will have a Lenten meal and fellowship.*



Fish Fry Fridays

Knights of Columbus dine-in Fish Fry on Fridays, March 18 and April 1, serving 5:00-7:00pm in the Social Hall. Price is a free-will offering. Take-out available. Join us!



Religious Education

Preschool - 6th Grade Coordinators

Geneveve Loraditch, gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org, 515-556-4150

Tracy Miller, tmiller@saintmaryhc.org, 515-520-7981

Thank you to those who sponsored a Bible for our First Communicants. We are excited to be able to gift each child with a personalized Bible as we ponder about the parables Jesus spoke with them.

Vacation Bible School: June 21-23, 5:00- 7:30pm.

This week, March 16/18 -no sessions, Spring Break

March 23/25 -regular sessions

March 30/April 1- regular sessions

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

Session: March 23, 6:00-7:30pm, Social Hall

No Sessions: March 16 & March 30

Purpose Confirmation Program

Wednesday, March 30: Session, 6:00-8:00pm, Social Hall

Friday, April 15: 7:00pm, Reading of the Passion at Good Friday Service, St Mary. **Looking for volunteers.**

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).

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

Gathering: March 23, 7:30-9:00pm, Youth Area

No Gatherings: March 16 & 30



Food Pantry Collection

Please bring non-perishable food items to Mass next weekend; we will also take up a monetary collection. Thank you for your continued generosity in sharing with those in need. Your donation will assist the Maxwell Food Pantry.

Try Something New!

How about leading the Stations of the Cross on Friday, April 8? We have a choice of booklets from which to read. For more information, please call the office. To volunteer please sign up in St. Mary's vestibule or call the office. Thank you!

Parish Scholarship for High School Senior

Our parish is pleased to announce a scholarship to be granted to a high school senior pursuing higher education! Money used to fund the scholarship was donated by parishioners, along with a generous donation from the Knights of Columbus. If you are interested in applying for this scholarship, please go to this link or contact the office,

https://docs.google.com/document/d/188f_sIJAQh9LGHJpwbxL1CVqsJSYcN5WlksB44iBubl/edit?usp=sharing.

1 cross + 3 nails = 4 given.

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 - Johntfisher@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

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John Zidon - jzidon@msn.com

CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Laurie Phelan, *Chair* - Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.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

2021 End-of-Year Statements

To minimize costs (and thus maximize your contributions), we do not automatically mail statements out. Please email bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org or contact the office with a request to email/mail your statement. Thank you.

Weekly Collection Financial Update

March 6 Budget Week 36

	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund	\$1,895	\$5,642

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

<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
\$213,091	\$203,112	\$193,023

Collection for Ukraine & Eastern Europe: \$1,438.65

2022 Annual Diocesan Appeal

Bishop Joensen is sending 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. Our assessment is \$54,744.

COVID-19 Testing and Vaccines

Free COVID-19 testing available at the Catholic Pastoral Center (601 Grand Ave.) on Sunday, March 20, from 9:00am to 2:00pm. Vaccines and boosters will also be available. Thank you to Medicap Pharmacy for providing the vaccine. Please spread word; this event is open to the public.

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.

Rice Bowls

Perseverance to Succeed: Raúl and Lilian have faced many challenges while trying to provide for their family and pursue their dreams in Guatemala. With support from Catholic Relief Services, they have been able to overcome these obstacles and grow their business while helping their community along the way. In what ways are you being challenged to serve others this Lent?

Rice Bowls are available at St. Mary and Holy Cross.

Additional Options for Tithing

Auto Debit: You designate a monthly dollar amount to be withdrawn from your account on the 15th or the 30th. For questions, contact Candy at bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org or find the form at church or on the home page of our website.

Online Giving: Available through Catholic Foundation of SW Iowa at <https://catholicfoundationiowa.org/make-a-donation/parishes-and-schools-relief/>. Choose *St. Mary-Holy Cross Elkhart* from the drop down to make your tithe donation. No fees! The Foundation sends gift receipts.



2.5 million plastic bottles are thrown away every hour in America.

Opportunities to Assist Your Parish

If you would like to host **Wine & Cheese** or **Donut Sunday**, please contact Barb at bliske@saintmaryhc.org or 515-367-2685. Thank You! *We currently do not have hosts for April 2 Wine & Cheese or April 3 Coffee & Donuts at St. Mary.*

We are looking for additional **lectors, ushers, and Host distributors** for our Masses. For questions or if interested in serving, please contact Fr. Andrew at Fr.Andrew@saintmaryhc.org. Thanks for considering this!

Healing Service

All are invited to attend a healing service at St. Ambrose Cathedral on the third Wednesday of each month (March 16) at 7:00pm. *"Come to me, all you are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."*

Area Reconciliation Services

If you are not able to attend our service next Sunday, here are others around the area:

Wednesday, March 23, 6:00pm, St. Augustin, Des Moines

Wednesday, March 23, 7:00pm, St. Theresa, Des Moines

Thursday, March 24, 7:00pm, St. Pius X, Urbandale

Sunday, March 27, 3:00pm, St. Mary of Nazareth, DM

Tuesday, March 29, 6:30pm, St. Joseph, Des Moines

Wednesday, March 30, 6:30pm, Assumption, Granger

Wednesday, March 30, 7:00pm, Sacred Heart, WDM

Thursday, March 31, 7:00pm, Ss. John and Paul, Altoona

Sunday, April 3, 1:00pm, St. John the Apostle, Norwalk

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 as well. 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, this information will be on the three major TV networks.

Faith Sharing

Second Sunday of Lent, March 13

Theme: Lent calls us to transform our lives.

Reading I: Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18 • God makes a covenant with Abram.

Reading II: Philippians 3:17-4:1 • Christ will transform us.

Gospel: Luke 9:28b-36 • As Jesus prayed, He was transformed.

Children: Jesus invites you to be close to him, to see him with clear eyes. What is Jesus like as a friend?

Youth: What do you most want God to help you with?

Adults: Sometimes we can see Christ with clear eyes, as the disciples did on that mountain. Share about such a time in your own life.

Germany and Austria

Visit CollinsTravel.biz and click on "Pilgrimages" or contact Jason at Jason@CollinsTravel.biz or call 309-781-5757

Space limited to 20 people



Cost: \$4,699 includes airfare, hotels, Passion Play tickets, all travel in Europe, entrance fees, breakfast, supper and tips

Hosted by Father Andrew Windschitl pastor of St. Mary / Holy Cross Parish, Elkhart Celebrant of trip's daily Mass

Jason Collins, Founder of Collins Travel and Pilgrimages and member of St. Francis Parish, WDSM Fourth Degree, Knights of Columbus

Join us for this Incredible Journey of Faith and Adventure to Germany and Austria July 15-25, 2022!

Things we'll see in Germany:

- World-renowned "Passion Play" - held every 10 years
- Historic Munich city center named after the Blessed Mother
- Beautiful, ornate Catholic Churches, many of which survived WWII
- Dachau Concentration Camp and Hitler's Eagle's Nest
- Neuschwanstein Castle

Things we'll see in Austria:

- Eucharistic Miracle location, Seefeld
- Salzburg Cathedral, survived bombing during WWII, and other churches
- Ancient salt mine on tour
- Spots of filming and inspiration on "Sound of Music" Tour
- Take tram ride into Austrian Alps
- ... and much more!