



St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073



Third Sunday of Lent

March 20, 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:

This Sunday is the first day of spring. When visiting someone a few days ago, I was admiring the view of nature from this parishioner's living space. We discussed looking forward to the grass turning green and leaves growing on trees. It was not until after the visit that I recalled this part of Scripture, "So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth" (1 Corinthians 3:7). St. Paul actually wrote this about dissension in the Church at Corinth, not literally about grass and trees, even though that God gives the growth to both is true. No one person alone is responsible for the growth of their own and/or someone else's faith. It ultimately comes from God and in the end it is Him to whom we will make an account.

~ Father Andrew

Parish Information

Parish Phone 515-367-2685
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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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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

Sunday, March 20

1:00pm Reconciliation Service, St. Mary

Tuesday, March 22

5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross †Stephen & Michael Carpenter

Wednesday, March 23

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

5:30pm Mass, St. Mary †Dorothy Gannon

~ followed by Adoration

Thursday, March 24

8:00am Mass, St. Mary †Joe Rubendall

Friday, March 25

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

Saturday, March 26

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

5:00pm Mass, St. Mary †Jerry Hahn

Sunday, March 27

8:00am Mass, Holy Cross †Craig Hand

10:00am Mass, St. Mary †Mary Fisher

12:00pm Mass, St. Mary People of the Parish

Do You Want to Fast This Lent?

Pope Francis tells us how:

Fast from hurting words.... *and say kind words.*

Fast from sadness.... *and be filled with gratitude.*

Fast from anger.... *and be filled with patience.*

Fast from pessimism.... *and be filled with hope.*

Fast from worried.... *and have trust in God.*

Fast from complaints.... *contemplate simplicity.*

Fast from pressures.... *and be prayerful.*

Fast from bitterness.... *fill your hearts with joy.*

Fast from selfishness.... *and be compassionate.*

Fast from grudges.... *and be reconciled.*

Fast from words.... *be silent and listen.*

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.

Parish Lenten Reconciliation Service

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

Come experience the grace healing power of Christ!

How's Your Lenten Transformation?

We are starting the third week of Lent. How are you doing with your Lenten commitments you began on Ash Wednesday? Are you going strong or easing up? Are you struggling? Talk to God about it!

Liturgical Ministers

You are invited to assist us with our Palm Sunday Masses, Holy Week Services and Easter Sunday Masses. A sign up is in the vestibule at St. Mary and at Holy Cross or call the Parish Office to volunteer. Thank you for lending us your time and talents to enhance our Liturgies!

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 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, April 12, 6:00pm, Social Hall

Knights of Columbus

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

Coming Events

- † **This Weekend:** Collection for Maxwell Food Pantry
- † **Choir practices:** Sunday, March 20 after 10:00am Mass til Noon & Thursdays, March 24, 31 & April 7, 6:00-7:30pm
- † **Stations of the Cross:** Fridays during Lent, 6:00pm at St. Mary. Lenten meal: March 25 & April 8. Fish fry: April 1

Living Lent †

The Diocese has created Lenten Resources for families of all sizes and ages. Resources are available for families with little ones up to the teenage years. Find these materials at <https://www.dmdiocese.org/ministries-and-faith-formation/religious-education/parent-tools/family-faith-resources/lent>.

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 the link below or contact the office.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/188f_s1JAQh9LGHJpwbxL1CVqsJSYcN5WlksB44iBub/edit

2021 End-of-Year Statements

To minimize costs (and thus maximize your contributions), we do not automatically mail statements out. Please email Candy at bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org or contact the parish office, 515-367-2685, with a request to email or mail your statement to you. Thank you.

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.

March 23/25 - regular sessions
March 30/April 1 - regular sessions
April 3 - 11:00am First Communion special session
April 6/8 - 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 Session: 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 Gathering: March 30

COVID-19 Testing and Vaccines

Free COVID-19 testing is open to the public today (Sunday) from 9:00am to 2:00pm at the Catholic Pastoral Center (601 Grand Ave.). Vaccines and boosters are also available.

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. *Could you host Coffee & Donuts at St. Mary on April 3?*

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. With Holy Week and Easter coming up we have many opportunities for you to begin this ministry! Thank you for considering these requests.

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.*

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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PARISH TRUSTEES

Sheri Fogarty - fogarty929@gmail.com
Doug Jones - djones@bossard.com

PARISH AMBASSADOR TO CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Mike and Mary Winders - mwinde59@yahoo.com

Church Sign

Choice, not chance, determines destiny.

Weekly Collection Financial Update

	March 13	Budget Week 37	
		Received	Budget
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund		\$3,889	\$5,642
<i>Year to Date Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund</i>			
	Received	Budget	Last Year
	\$216,940	\$208,754	\$199,438

Collection for Ukraine & Eastern Europe to date: \$1,638.65

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.

Parish Goal	Pledge Total	Payments	Amt. Due
\$54,744	\$12,375	\$11,450	\$43,294

Rice Bowls

Overcoming Disaster. In Bangladesh, cyclones and other natural disasters are increasing—destroying farms, homes and more—making it difficult for people like Noornobi to earn a living and support their families. But Noornobi has learned new techniques to protect his land and income, enabling his niece and nephew to go to school. How can you care for creation to help the planet and our global family? Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more.

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

1 cross + 3 nails = 4 given.

Catholic Relief Services Collection

This Diocesan collection supports agencies providing relief to suffering people as well pastoral outreach and advocacy to improve lives. From Pope Francis: "Unless our hope translates into decisions and concrete gestures of concern, justice, solidarity and care for our common home, the sufferings of the poor will not be relieved, the economy of waste that forces them to live on the margins will not be converted, their expectations will not blossom anew. We Christians, in particular, have to organize hope[.]"

Collection envelopes are on the table in the vestibule/entryway. Please return them in the collection basket or mail to the parish office. Thank you for your continued generosity.

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.



Recycling plastic takes 88% less energy than making it from raw materials.

A Memorial Gift



We offer you the opportunity to remember a loved one by donating towards the flowers that will decorate our Churches this Easter season. A memorial list will be printed in a future bulletin. Donation envelopes are included with your tithe envelopes and are also available on the table in the vestibule/entryway.

Area Reconciliation Services

If you are not able to attend our service today (March 20), at 1:00pm, here is a list of other services 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

Christ Our Life Conference Speaker

September 24 & 25. **Matt Fradd:** A powerful motivational speaker, author and podcaster who is not afraid to challenge his listeners. Matt addresses current and critical topics in faith and today's culture. He has authored/co-authored several books, including "The Porn Myth" and "Does God Exist?" At the 2018 Christ Our Life Conference his straight-forward discussion was about the plague of porn. In his podcast, "Pints with Aquinas," Matt discusses a variety of stimulating topics with varying guests.

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.

Faith Sharing

Third Sunday of Lent, March 20

Theme: Lent calls us to conversion.

Reading I: Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15 • God's name is: "I AM WHO AM".

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12 • What is written about Moses is to help us.

Gospel: Luke 13:1-9 • Jesus says to repent.

Children: God wants your faith to result in good living. What steps can you take during Lent to make sure that happens?

Youth: What needs changing in your life? How will you invite God into that change?

Adults: What steps are you taking this Lent to make sure that your faith bears fruit in good works?

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 Windschitt 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!