



St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073



Second Sunday of Lent

March 8, 2020

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,

Obviously, the coronavirus continues to make headlines. On Monday the bishop sent a message with the following points that we do well to heed.

- > Those who are sick should be (as always) encouraged to stay home from Mass and reminded that there is no "sin" in doing so - and, in fact, it represents an act of charity for the entire parish.
- > Reception of Holy Communion under either species (body or blood) is full Eucharistic communion with Christ.

On a lighter note, thanks to everyone who helped us go beyond the goal for bibles for those children who will receive Communion for the first time this year. This is the most important sacrament of initiation that anyone can celebrate, and I am edified by the support. I encourage anyone who wanted to donate but for whatever reason was unable to do so, and really everyone else to at least pray for these future first communicants. ~ 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
Sarah Baumberger - Bookkeeper	sbaumberger@saintmaryhc.org
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 - 4:30p.m. St. Mary, 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, March 10

6:00pm St. Mary †*Dorothy Gannon*
~ followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday, March 11

5:30pm Holy Cross †*Will & Mikey Carpenter*

Thursday, March 12

8:00am St. Mary †*Francis & Rosie Koch*

Saturday, March 14

5:00pm St. Mary †*Colleen Hindman and son, Lee*

Sunday, March 15

8:00am Holy Cross *For the Parish*

10:00am St. Mary †*Ralph & Neva Cory*

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Tuesdays, 6:30pm, St. Mary (following 6:00pm Mass)

Parish Council

Meeting: Tuesday, March 24, 6:30pm, Ed Center

Finance Council

Meeting: **Change of date:** Tuesday, **March 24**,
7:00pm, Ed Center

Stewardship Committee

Meeting: Monday, March 9, 6:00pm, Social Hall

Friends of St. Francis

Meeting: Date to be announced

Knights of Columbus

Meeting: Sunday, March 15, 7:00pm, Social Hall

Funeral Luncheon Call Leaders, Team 2
Cody Coffelt, Michele Hand, Shanana Roling

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 and Holy Cross or on our website. We are glad you are here!

† Pastoral Assistance

Please contact Fr. Andrew, 515-367-2685, for pastoral assistance or if a family member is in a care facility, homebound, or hospitalized, and they wish a visit.

Baby Bottle Campaign

InnerVisions HealthCare is a local unplanned pregnancy and STD medical clinic. Their mission is to empower women in vulnerable situations to choose parenting or adoption. Baby bottles are available; please take one, fill it with change, cash, or checks (made out to InnerVisions) and return it next weekend. If you have any questions, please contact Bryan Gonzalez at 515-280-4706. To learn more about the life-affirming work of InnerVisions HealthCare, please visit their website at www.ivhcare.org.

Thank You!

Thank you so much to everyone who sponsored a Bible! Your generosity is overwhelming. Each child's Bible is sponsored and we even had several extra donations! These will be used toward the children's candles and pinafores. Please continue to hold these children in prayer. Thank you for sharing in this journey with the children!

† How's Your Lent Going?

We hope you will consider forming your personal faith by participating in ongoing offerings ... Mass ... Stations of the Cross... Reconciliation ... Adoration ... and taking advantage of the reflection resources in the vestibule; there are booklets for all age groups.

The best math equation: 1 cross + 3 nails = 4 given.

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.

See Diocesan events, Parish Lenten events
and job openings at www.dmdiocese.org

Upcoming Events

†**Fridays during Lent, Stations of the Cross:** 6:00pm, St. Mary. Lenten meal on March 20 & April 3. Fish fry on March 13 & 27

†**Easter Vigil Choir practices:** Sundays, now through April 5 after 10:00am Mass, lasting one hour

†**Saturday, March 14:** Social Hall in use, 9am-3pm

†**Thursday, March 19:** Crafts, Games & Social Time, Social Hall, 9:30am

†**March 21/22 Weekend:** Maxwell Food Pantry Collection

†**Parish Lenten Reconciliation Service:** Sunday, March 29, 1:00pm, St. Mary

Music News

Sue Schmidt, coordinator

515-689-9949 / sschmidt@saintmaryhc.org

Easter Vigil Choir: Our practices are Sundays after 10:00am Mass for one hour now through April 5. All ages welcome! So...if you like to sing...come practice and sing with us for the Easter Vigil Mass on April 11 at 8:00pm. Please contact me if you would like additional information.

Fish Fry Fridays

The Knights of Columbus invite you to a fish fry before or after the Stations of the Cross on March 13 & 27, serving from 5:00-7:00pm in the Social Hall.

If you would like to help serve or clean up, we would love to have you. Please come any time after 4:30pm.

If you would like to donate a dessert, please sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0b4aa8a62da5fd0-desserts>

EDGE & High School Teens!

Silhouette Stations of the Cross "actors" needed! We are looking for 4 - 10 teens willing to lead and participate in this moving presentation of the Station of the Cross. No need to be nervous or shy about the acting, we have plenty of time to rehearse and you are behind a screen. Rehearsal times are Sundays, March 8, 22 & 29 following 10:00am Mass until 1:00pm in the Youth Area and/or Social Hall, and on Friday, April 3 we have our final rehearsal right after school, then present the Silhouette Stations to the parish at 6:00pm. Please text or call Melissa Kahler, 515-290-2830, or Andrea Fisher, 515-240-5059, soon to sign up to help with this powerful experience.

Religious Education Preschool - 6th Grade

Coordinators

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

It was so wonderful to see all the children and families helping at the fish fry. Working, praying and eating together are amazing bonding experiences and the people of St. Mary-Holy Cross are very lucky to have so many opportunities for such fellowship. I'm told 550 people were served that Friday night, this is no small feat and it reminds me of how much can be accomplished when we come together as a community.

We have several more opportunities to work together this Lent. **Sunday, March 8, 3:00pm, Social Hall:** Families can come and help prepare food for those in need. We will deliver to Catholic Charities Emergency Family Shelter around 5:00pm. **Friday, March 20, 6:00pm:** The Religious Education program will lead Stations of the Cross this evening. We have lots of reading opportunities for those children in 4th-6th grade who would like to help. Please let one of us know if your child is interested in participating.

March 3/4 & 10/11 & 24/25: Regular Sessions

March 17/18: No Sessions- Spring Break!

Sunday, March 29: Sacramental Preparation: First Meditation. Children and parents meet in the Social Hall at 11:00am.

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, Grades 7 & 8

Wednesdays 6:00-7:30pm, Social Hall

Session: March 11

No EDGE March 18 due to Spring Break for area schools

No EDGE March 25 due to Confirmation session

Confirmation, Grades 9 & 10

Saturday, March 14: 9th Grade Family Potluck Dinner after 5:00pm Mass. Please RSVP and sign up for food items through signup genius that's already been sent out.

Wednesday, March 25: Confirmation Session 6:00-8:00pm, Social Hall

Can You Help Feed the Hungry?

We're still looking for volunteers to provide a Sunday evening meal for guests at Catholic Charities Emergency Family Shelter on the second Sunday of September, November and December. One or more families can volunteer to prepare and deliver a meal, although the shelter prefers that no more than five people actually be present at the house at a time. Volunteers can pay for the meal themselves, be reimbursed by the parish, or receive a Gift-In-Kind receipt that you can use for a tax deduction. *To volunteer or to find out more, please contact Lisa or Tim Kautza at kautza@netins.net or 515-964-7687.*

Church Sign

Start your day with gratitude.... End your day with thanks.

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Will Bates - a_k_bates@live.com
John Fisher - Johntfisher@sienafastener.com
Doug Jones - djones@bossard.com
Tim Loraditch - Tloraditch@gmail.com
John Roberts - jroberts@huxcomm.net
Stacey Rooney - Rooneyslg17@gmail.com

FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Dave Pottebaum, *President* - pottebaum5@msn.com
Heidi Ackerman - heidimdtmer@gmail.com
Diane Gannon - ddkgannon@gmail.com
Doug Jones - djones@bossard.com
Laurie Phelan - Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com
Sue Tollefson - suet@iowacubs.com

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Arlene Anderson - arlene@4andersons.com
Jacki Ausman - jackiausman@gmail.com
Kathy Gass - k.gass@mchsi.com
Beth Hart - mrsmathart@gmail.com
Kelly Hoffmeier - nkhoff@msn.com
Tammi McClain - tammimcclain71@gmail.com
Kris Sturtz - klsturtz@gmail.com
Sue White - charylmyron@q.com
John Zidon - jzidon@msn.com

CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Laurie Phelan, *Chair* - Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com
Karen Bellis - puzzlenuts@aol.com
Pat Bishop - pjbishop@midiova.net
Lowell Crouse - l3jl@windstream.net
John Freeman - johnfmingo@hotmail.com
Tracy Irwin - sammyjack@partnercom.net
Lynn Schreurs - lschreurs@msn.com
Larry Shaw - lshaw@tru-test.com
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

February 23 Budget Week 35

Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>
	\$6,741	\$5,730

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

<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
\$216,676	\$200,550	\$204,721

2019 Annual Diocesan Appeal

Success!! With your continued generosity we have met our assessment and even surpassed it a bit!

2020 Annual Diocesan Appeal

This Appeal gives us the opportunity to act together as a Diocesan family and support programs and services no single individual or parish can offer. Information and a pledge card have been sent to each household. Please prayerfully consider what you are able to give and mail your pledge directly to the Diocese. Every gift, regardless of size, is vital to the success of the Appeal. Please join us to continue God's work of spirituality, charity and education. Thank you.

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, March 14, 5:00pm, St. Mary

Announcer	Cory Schoening
Lector	John Zidon
Cup Bearers	Lisa & Cory Schoening
Host Distributor	Diane Cronk
Altar Servers	Kaden Gilligan, Jessica Schoening, Daniel Schoening
Ushers	Brodie, Angie & Drew Gilligan, Tom Bowman
Cantor	Drew Hanlon
Accompanist	Lorrie Hanlon

Sunday, March 15, 8:00am, Holy Cross

Announcer	Dawn Beukema
Lector	Doug Heger
Cup Bearer	Jon Hand
Altar Server	Aiden Phelan-Ruden
Ushers	Brett Beukema, Sandra Hunter
Cantor	Drew Hanlon
Accompanist	Lorrie Hanlon

Sunday, March 15, 10:00am, St. Mary

Announcer	Joe Dunham
Lector	Lori Dunham
Cup Bearers	Carol Weber, Nicole Cory
Host Distributor	Garrett McClain
Altar Servers	Sawyer Smeltzer, Caleb Coffelt
Ushers	Jacki & Tom Ausman, Dennis Schmidt, Thom Hamm, Merle Olberding
Cantors	Terri Hamm, Shirley Robinson
Accompanist	Mary Ortmann

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Money Counters

March 8: Carol Weber, Sue White

March 15: Dawn Reynolds, Carol Weber

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Note of Appreciation!

We began working on the 8th/9th grade overnight retreat in January and meet almost weekly through the month of February. We had a team of 20+ teens and adults who worked diligently on planning, preparing, practicing, designing, decorating and for various elements of the retreat. The team's hard work and dedication to leading the young church has been a huge blessing! Without these devoted leaders we would not be able to hold a retreat for our parish family. The awesome teens and adults that worked on the *Into the Dark Retreat* were: Megan & Jennifer Theulen, Julia & Grace Fisher, Aubrey, Abbey, Emma, Weston & Joel Kahler, Brayden Bartleson, Avery Fricke, Sophie & Kelly Hoffmeier, Grace Johnson, Brooke Kiley, Lilli Hasbrouck, Garrett Jones, Andrew Ausman, Bridget & Perry Smith, and Melanie Stoner. We are so grateful for your time and talents! Thank you to all the EDGE families who donated food and drinks for the retreat; your generosity is appreciated! Thanks again, *Melissa Kahler & Andrea Fisher*



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, contact Barb at 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.*



The Great Pacific Garbage Patch is around 1.6 million square kilometers – bigger than Texas.

Pilgrimage to Germany and Austria

Act fast - just a few spots left! Join Father Andrew for this incredible Journey of Faith and Adventure July 24 - August 2, 2020. Newly added site: Hitler's Nazi Eagle's Nest. Some of the things we will do: *In Germany*, watch the world-renowned "Passion Play", explore historic Munich city center, visit Dachau Concentration Camp, tour Neuschwanstein Castle and experience famous Hofbrauhaus. *In Austria*: Eucharistic Miracle location in Seefeld, ride to majestic alps mountaintop, explore gorgeous resort town of Seefeld, exciting tour of Salzburg salt mine, nostalgic Sound of Music tour and discover the unique and beautiful Salzburg. This trip includes daily Mass, confession and time for shopping and relaxation! Cost is \$4,699. Includes round-trip coach airfare, transportation in Europe, breakfast, lunch and dinner, museum fees and local guides. View www.CollinsTravel.biz for full itinerary. Questions? Email Jason@CollinsTravel.biz or call 515-850-6133.

Winter Weather Cancellations

Whenever North Polk School is cancelled, dismissed early, or evening school activities are cancelled due to weather, classes, meetings and activities here 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 and WHO radio.

School Bus Driver Opening

St. Joseph Catholic School in Des Moines is looking for a bus driver for the 2020-2021 school year. This is a part-time job with excellent compensation. Morning route is approximately 6:45-8:15am and the afternoon route is 2:45-4:15pm. The schedule starts August 24 and should end before Memorial Day. You work only when school is in operation. Please consider this opportunity if you have a CDL or are interested in applying for the license. If you are interested, please contact Ervin Rowlands at erowlands@stjosephschoolsm.org or call the school at 515-266-3433.

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Second Sunday of Lent, March 8

Theme: Transfiguration - with the Spirit of Jesus living within us, we will be transformed.

Reading I: Genesis 12:1-4a • I will make of you a great nation.

Reading II: 2 Timothy 1:8-10 • God has called us to a holy life.

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9 • Get up! Do not be afraid!

Question for Children: Share about a time when you felt especially close to God or Jesus.

Question for Youth: Have you ever had a "mountain top" experience where you felt exceptionally close to God? How was your life changed by that experience?

Question for Adults: Perhaps this reading calls us, not to cling to the familiar, but to leave the comforts of the parish and reach out to the world around us. In your community or neighborhood, who is waiting to hear the Good News?