



St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073



Dear Friends in Christ:

If you have not already read it, you can see the inserted press release from the diocese about the assignment of Fr. Jim Kirby. Please pray for him and the parish as a whole. For what it is worth, I consistently pray for you and all. It is clear to me that the last week has been particularly stressful for many people and for varying reasons. I submit to you the prayer for peace that is often attributed to St. Francis.

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.
O Divine Master,
grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled, as to console;
to be understood, as to understand;
to be loved, as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Prayer is not necessarily about getting our way with God. What is most important is through it God gets His way with us.
~ *Father 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
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
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
	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 Adoration

Tuesday, May 3

5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross †Larry Pitts

Wednesday, May 4

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

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

Thursday, May 5

8:00am Mass, St. Mary †Fr. Gene Koch

First Friday, May 6

9:00am Mass, St. Mary †Mary Wilson

Saturday, May 7

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

5:00pm St. Mary †Bill Devereux

Sunday, May 8

8:00am Holy Cross †Lyle Carpenter

10:00am St. Mary People of the Parish

Easter Prayer

Loving God,

We rejoice now in the glory
of your resurrection,
celebrating your life with Easter joy.
We are filled with confident hope
and feel our spirits renewed within us.

Our hearts burn
with a new depth of love
as we see your light shine
in the darkness.

Lead us, Lord.
We are your people.
Amen.

Parish Council

Meetings: May 2 & 24, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Finance Council

Meeting: May 17, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Stewardship

Meeting: May 9, 6:00pm, Social Hall

Knights of Columbus

May 15, 6:40pm Rosary, SM, 7pm Mtg, Hall

New Birth by Water and the Holy Spirit

Celebrate with us in welcoming into our Faith

Hayes Douglas

Son of Andrew and Lindsay Farmer

who was baptized at our Parish.



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.

Easter Reflection Resources

We have *The Little White Book* and *The Word Among Us* available during these 50 days of the Easter Season.

Rice Bowl

Thank you to those participating in this year's Rice Bowl. Please return your donation next weekend. You are encouraged to count your donation and make a check out to the Parish with "Rice Bowl" on the memo line. Thank you.



High School Senior Recognition

During Masses next weekend we will recognize and have a blessing for our students who are graduating from High School. —Seniors, please contact the Parish Office by May 4 to let us know which Mass you will be attending.

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

Coming Events

- †**Sunday, May 1:** Coffee & donuts after 8am Mass, Holy Cross (no coffee & donuts at St. Mary in May)
- †**Saturday, May 7:** Wine & cheese after 5:00pm Mass
- †**Weekend of May 7/8:** Recognition of our High School Seniors at Masses — Buildings and Grounds collection
- †**Blood Drive:** Thursday, May 26, 3:00-7:00pm, Social Hall
- †**Vacation Bible School:** Tuesday, June 21 - Thursday, June 23, 5:00-7:30pm, St. Mary

Purchase a Flag for Holy Cross Cemetery

Again this year we will be installing new flags to add to the already 140 American flags that we display four times a year in Holy Cross Cemetery. Memorialize your special someone with a flag that will be flown on Memorial weekend, Fourth of July, Labor Day weekend and Veteran's Day. Your flag pole will be marked with a laser engraved tag that identifies the honoree and the donor. Price is \$200 which includes the flag and pole, identifying label, base installation, raising and lowering the flag and flag storage. A order form with instructions is included in this bulletin and available at both churches and on our website at <https://www.saintmaryhc.org/holy-cross-cemetery-committee>. **Orders and payment are due by May 15.** Contact Lynn Schreurs if you have any questions, 515-577-8147. A reminder that we only install new flags once a year prior to Memorial weekend.

Buildings and Grounds Collection

We take up this collection the first full weekend of each month so for May it will be next weekend.

Catholic Youth Camp

Growing in faith and courageous discipleship; making and strengthening friendships; fun and food! Find out more or register at <https://stmcenter.com/>. *Our parish pays \$100 of each fee; please email office when registered.*

**Congratulations to these students
who will be receiving Holy Eucharist
for the first time Sunday afternoon.**

Please keep them in your prayers.

Hadley Arp	Jax Life
Sawyer Arp	Elias Malanaphy
Tyson Arp	Brock McClannahan
Brendan Babbitt	Brodey McCoun
Aubrie Barslou	Jack Pottebaum
Aubrey Conover	Sebastian Rafferty
Cameron Cornelius	Harper Rasmussen
Jackson Cory	Luke Renoe
Jacksyn Eidahl	Asher Sample
Elsa Green	Stella Schierbrock
Ronan James	Taylie Sporrer
Eleanor Kovacevich	Kate Swanson
Gaius Kuenzel	



Religious Education

Preschool - 6th Grade Coordinators

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

Thank you all for such a wonderful year! We are so blessed to get to spend this time with your children. We look forward to next year! Registration forms have been emailed out; you can also find them on our website or on the table at church. Please turn in your registration as soon as possible so we can start preparing for next year! Forms can be emailed to bliske@saintmaryhc.org, mailed to the office or dropped off at the office.

We hope you plan to join us this year for *Summer With The Saints!* Our Vacation Bible School will be held June 21-23 from 5:00 to 7:30pm. We need volunteers to make this a great experience for the children, so please consider helping out! Teens are welcome to help too!

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

Purpose Confirmation Program

Friday, May 20, 6:30pm, Confirmation Liturgy Rehearsal
Dinner for sponsors and teens.

Saturday, May 21, Confirmation Liturgy. Teens to be there by 12:50pm, Liturgy begins at 2:00pm.

Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who helped make our Fish Fries so successful this year. Those who ate and contributed generously, those who helped serve, those who brought desserts to share, and most of all, those who helped make the delicious fresh bread. Because of all of your generosity, we will be able to financially support our Parish, and a few other local charities. Thank you. We look forward to many more successful and delicious years to come!

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 - Johnfisher@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
Beth Hart - mrsmathart@gmail.com
Kelly Hoffmeier - nkhoff@msn.com
Tammi McClain - tammimcclain71@gmail.com
Kathy Petersen - katherine@huxcomm.net
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@midiaowa.net
Lowell Crouse - l3jl@windstream.net
John Freeman - johnfmingo@hotmail.com
Tracy Irwin - irwin@partnercom.net
Lynn Schreurs - lschreurs@msn.com
Larry Shaw - shawcattle77@gmail.com
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

**Is the sound of your prayers
louder than the noise of your problems?**

Weekly Collection Financial Update

April 25	Budget Week 43	
	Received	Budget
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund	\$4,614	\$5,642
<i>Year to Date Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund</i>		
Received	Budget	Last Year
\$255,940	\$242,606	\$233,214

2022 Annual Diocesan Appeal

Please consider how you are able to help support the work of the Diocese and return the pledge card sent by Bishop Joensen, by mail to the parish office or dropped in the collection basket at Mass. If donating by check, please make it out to the Diocese of Des Moines. You can also donate at <https://www.dmdiocese.org/giving>; choose our parish from the "Designate" dropdown.

Goal	Pledged	Paid	Unpaid Pledges	Amt. Due
\$54,744	\$39,960	\$37,335	\$2,675	\$17,409

Thank you to those who've already donated so generously!

Are You Being Called?

Have you ever wondered how many volunteers it takes to....

Make our three Weekend Masses successful?

- * Lectors: 3
- * Host Distributors: 2
- * Altar Servers: 7
- * Ushers: 10
- * Musicians: at least 6

Host Wine & Cheese and Donut Sunday each month?

- * Donut Sunday at Holy Cross: 2
- * Wine and Cheese at St. Mary: 4
- * Coffee & Donuts at St. Mary: 4

Help with or donate at our Blood Drives?

- * 10 helpers and about 50 blood donors

Give of your time and talents!

If you would like to learn more or volunteer for any of these, please contact the parish office, bliske@saintmaryhc.org / 515-367-2685.

Blood Drive



Sign-up to donate your valuable and much needed blood! Reserve your preferred time today on the sign up in the vestibule of St. Mary or at www.lifeservebloodcenter.org. Appointments are required. There's no substitute for YOUR

blood. It only takes about 30 – 45 minutes from check-in to check-out and you get to enjoy beverages and homemade treats at our canteen. Our drive is 3:00 – 7:00pm on Thursday, May 26 at St. Mary. Can't donate, but want to help? We welcome homemade treats and wonderful volunteers to tend the canteen. Contact Lisa and Tim Kautza, kautza@netins.net; 515-964-7687.

Additional Options for Tithing

Auto Debit: Please consider using this type of tithing. You designate a monthly dollar amount to be withdrawn from your account on the 15th or the 30th. If you have questions or would like to begin ACH, please contact Candy at bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org or find the form on the table at church or on the home page of our website.

Online Giving: This is available through the Catholic Foundation of SW Iowa with this secure link: <https://catholicfoundationiowa.org/make-a-donation/parishes-and-schools-relief/>. On the drop down choose *St. Mary/Holy Cross Parish-Elkhart* to make your tithe donation. No fees! The Foundation sends gift receipts.

Thank you for considering one of these for your tithing

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Formation for Adults

Begins June 25-26 at St Augustin Catholic Church in Des Moines. This catechist formation seeks to:

- Present the methodology and guiding principles of the CGS for the 3–6-year-old child.
- To explore the religious nature and the most vital religious needs of the 3–6-year-old child.
- To meditate on the Biblical and Liturgical themes presented to the 3–6-year-old child.
- To broaden your ability to observe and learn from the child, to listen to the Scriptures with the child, to deepen your own enjoyment of God.

For more information, contact Mary Heinrich at 515-321-9440 or maryheinrich@cgsusa.org.



The world produces more than 14 million tons of Polystyrene (plastic foam) each year.

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.*

Change of Information?

Moved? Had a baby? Dropped your landline? New email? Please email the parish office with any changes so our records can be as accurate as possible.

Thank you!

Christ Our Life Conference Speaker

September 24 & 25. **Keith Nestor:** Possessing a great love of Jesus, Keith served as a pastor and youth pastor for over 20 years in the United Methodist Church, the Assemblies of God and the Evangelical Free Church. In 2017 Keith boldly followed the path to which Christ was calling him. He resigned his position and joined the Catholic Church. An accomplished speaker and Executive Director of Down To Earth Ministries, his book, "The Convert's Guide To Roman Catholicism," tells of the challenges and joys of the faith Keith now calls his own.

Movie Reviews

Want a Catholic take on a movie?

See www.catholicnews.com/movies.cfm.

Counseling Available

Catholic Charities has licensed, professional therapists working with clients of all faiths and backgrounds who are addressing depression, anxiety, stress, marital issues, relationship problems, child behavior problems, trauma, abuse and more. Therapy is available in Des Moines and Ankeny. Set up an appointment by calling 515-237-5045 or emailing sfister@catholiccharitiesdm.org.

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Third Sunday of Easter, May 1

Theme: Jesus feeds us so that we can feed and serve others.

Reading I: Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41 • We are all witnesses to all this.

Reading II: Revelation 5:11-14 • The Lamb that was sacrificed is worthy to be given power, wealth, glory, and blessing.

Gospel: John 21:1-19 • Jesus stepped forward, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish.

Children: Jesus asks Peter three times if Peter loves Jesus. What one thing can you do this week to show Jesus your love?

Youth: Jesus asked Peter three times to "feed my sheep." Who are you being called to help in your life right now?

Adults: Christ continues to feed us as his disciples, even after his death and resurrection. How does the Eucharist feed your faith?